



HERE'S WHAT THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE HAD TO SAY ON. APR. 25, 2008 ABOUT LEE LEFFINGWELL

"UNSPECTACULAR", "LEFT MANY ENVIRO/PROGRESSIVES FEELING LET DOWN, IF NOT BETRAYED" "DISAPPOINTED US", "TOO-EASY SURRENDER"

AND ABOUT JENNIFER KIM:

"NOT PROVEN VERY EFFECTIVE", "ALOOF", "LOST THE TRUST AND RESPECT", "INEFFECTIVENESS"

VOTE FOR JASON MEEKER & RANDI SHADE

EARLY VOTING HAS BEGUN. FOR A LIST OF LOCATIONS & HOURS VISIT: www.co.travis.tx.us/county_clerk/election/20080510/early.asp TOGETHER, WE CAN CLEAN UP CITY HALL

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY RICK CULLETON IOII W. ANDERSON LANE AUSTIN, TEXAS 78757

Something for everyone!

LL WEEKEND "LON GREAT SEATS STILL AVAILABLE FOR ALL SHOWS

FRIDAY, MAY 2 The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley

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7:30 PM | MICHAEL & SUSAN DELL HALL

Join us before the show for milk and cookies and a surprise toy provided by Whataburger, from 6-7:30PM on the Long Center's CityTerrace. Kids, come get your picture taken with a Flat Stanley! (Reserved for ticket patrons only.)

SATURDAY, MAY 3 THE MUSIC OF LED ZEPPELIN A ROCK SYMPHONY

> 8 PM | MICHAEL & SUSAN DELL HALL A 50 piece orchestra and a full rock band perform Led Zeppelin's classic songs in a brilliant combination of passion and power!



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7 PM | MICHAEL & SUSAN DELL HALL

UNIVISION Join us for the Long Center's family-friendly iFIESTA DEL MARIACHI! from 3-7 pm on the City Terrace. The festivities conclude with a performance by the Grammy-winning band featuring some of the most talented musicians from Mexico and the United States.

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MAY 20, 2008 3 Redneck Tenors

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JULY 13, 2008 Kidz Bop Live!™

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TICKETS: 474-LONG (5664) ONLINE: TheLongCenter.org Tickets also available at the 3M Box Office at the Long Center. Groups 20+, call 457-5161.

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austinchronicle.com/chronic

of a local institution, plus more sonic landscaping

PICTURE IN PICTURE: Film CRITICS BITE back and parking-lot jet-pack shenanigans

CHRONIQUE: AUSTIN LEATHER represents and **TIE SKIRTS** that don't bind at **JAZZFEST**, plus more loose threads from our improbable design blog

EARACHE!: GIRLIE ACTION laments rats and the closing

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

THE GAY PLACE: This week: GAY NOLA & GALVESTON WRAP UP. Plus: The Kates & friends keep your finger on the gay pulse. That finger.

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For this week's Web extras and more Web exclusives, go to: austinchronicle.com/webextra.

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The Immersion Method

Dream double bills and the great and simple pleasure of film viewing

BY LOUIS BLACK

"Remember, they did it for the love ... but they were not above the money."

There are good movies and there are great movies. To some, there are "movies" and then there are "films," though this distinction has always struck me as pedantically crippled – much like saying there are "cars" and there are "automobiles." There are mediocre films and there are those that are offensively bad. Hours can be spent in making distinctions or analyzing films in ways that range from easy generalizations to those nitpickers who write 30-page essays on "Hegemony and Counter Hegemony in The Godfather Trilogy" or "Objecting to Objectification: Re-Viewing the Feminine in The Silence of the Lambs" (both real essays). Films meant to entertain are forced to ride through the hazardous white-water rapids of criticism, obsessive revisionist theorizing, critical obsession with just how negative writing can get, detailed ideological readings, and reviews offering consumer ratings based on the film's "enjoyment" factor. Often they get chewed up or torn apart for reasons not even of their own making.

Fortunately for me, although I've been writing on films for too many decades to enumerate without severe embarrassment, I've never lost the emotional immediacy of watching a film, even those I've seen any number of times. Any kind of critical appraisal or intellectual analysis happens later; when watching a film, I am in the film. Certainly the experience has changed: Having seen thousands of films, I find that those eureka moments of unexpected joy no longer spray forth like a firehose. Instead, they come rarely - though that often makes them more joyous.

What I'm trying to get at here is basic and simple. In the midst of assessing films, dealing with them qualitatively, or essaying their greater meaning within the culture they were created for, the true pleasure remains in watching movies - sinking into them, regardless of their quality or meanings, in a way that allows them to define the world that you are in for their duration. In abandoning oneself while ignoring critical standards or concern about meaning, there is the great and simple pleasure of viewing.

All of the above is by way of saying there has been a recent, coincidental confluence of events that brought to mind two of my favorite country music films.

Bud Shrake is a great writer and a Texas treasure. Whether penning novels, sports stories, films, or biographies, Shrake is a craftsman whose wit is matched by his keen observations about people. An anthology of great Shrake writing, Land of the Permanent Wave, has just been published. If you're not familiar with Shrake's work, quickly get yourself a copy. If you are, well then you've probably already gotten one.

Easily my favorite work of Shrake's is the 1984 film Songwriter, starring Willie Nelson (who is getting intense media coverage now because of Joe Nick Patoski's book and Nelson's 75th birthday - see last week's Books and Music sections for more on Shrake, Patoski, and Nelson), Kris Kristofferson, Melinda Dillon, and Rip Torn. It was shot in Austin; Richard Pearce started out directing but was replaced by Alan Rudolph. This is a film that regularly earns 21/2-star ratings or is praised as a fine goodold-boy comedy or an interesting country music story. Treating it so lightly misses the many aspects of its greatness, from really capturing its characters and the country music lifestyle to what being on the road is like (regardless of musical genre) to its wonderful performances. The genius of the film, however, is Shrake's marvelous script.

Once I had to prepare a reel of great clips from Songwriter. Watching the DVD, I was planning on noting a couple of the best scenes that featured the strongest dialogue. I ended up jotting down notes on more than

half the script. I kid you not. Proving the point, here are just some of those notes (this is just a small selection from that effort):

'Songwriter'

02:50 singing "Who do you screw to get out of this place?

05:10 V.O. cont. "He did it for the love but was not above the money."

09:00 "Doc, you loved me about 10 percent of the time; hated me 10 percent of the time." Willie: "I never hated anybody."

14:00 Rip Torn walking through house to wife: "I wish the vision of how beautiful you are could be painted on the Great Wall of China" ... continuing to his wife telling the baby "Some day you'll grow up and beat the hell out of ...'

27:00 Kris to Willie "Do you deliberately make it harder just so you can stay inter-

34:40 Melinda to Willie "I bet you haven't picked up a guitar and written a song in so long you've forgotten how to."

44:20 Kris on phone in bed "Is there something weird there I should know about?" up to where he admires himself in the mirror although a sleeping mask covers his eyes so he can't really see himself.

53:00 Exchange between Kris and Willie "But you are a songwriter and you can't say you wrote something you didn't write unless you really wrote it.'

1:01:20 Rip Torn goes into motel room. Finds his wife in bed with a band member (Stephen Bruton) ends with

1:02:20 Willie "I under estimated you" Rip "All you sons of bitches do."

"All you sons of bitches do!" A truly great line that I use all the time - but you need to see the film to really get it.

The reason to evoke Songwriter now is not just because of the superb new Shrake anthology and the publication of Patoski's biography, Willie Nelson: An Epic Life. Both are notable and glowing achievements but not the root cause. As long as, if not longer than, I've dreamed about a double bill of American Graffiti and Dazed and Confused or showing Clutch Cargo cartoons with a Sam Fuller triple bill, I've dreamed of the perfect country music double bill. Obviously Songwriter would be one of the movies. The reason for this reverie is that the other, Darvl Duke's Payday, a 1973 film starring Rip Torn, has just been released on DVD.

Torn's performance as country singer Maury Dann is so on-target and brilliant that to try and explain the why and how of it would be foolish. Torn plays a George Jones/Merle Haggard-type country singer who plays the back-road and small-town honky-tonks. Traveling in a station wagon, he's hoping for his break: Some of his songs are getting some radio time, and he has a shot at a Grand Ole Opry appearance. But his life is the smoke, beer, pool, neon, other men's wives, and very loose groupies with which he lives out his motto: "You only pass this way once, so grab everything you can."

There may be film scenes as great as the one here in which Dann and band visit his mother's house to go hunting, but I doubt there are all that many that are greater.

One could go out on the road for months or read a lot of books to try to get some idea of what the working musician's life can be like. Far more entertaining and just as informative would be to watch a double bill of Songwriter and Payday.

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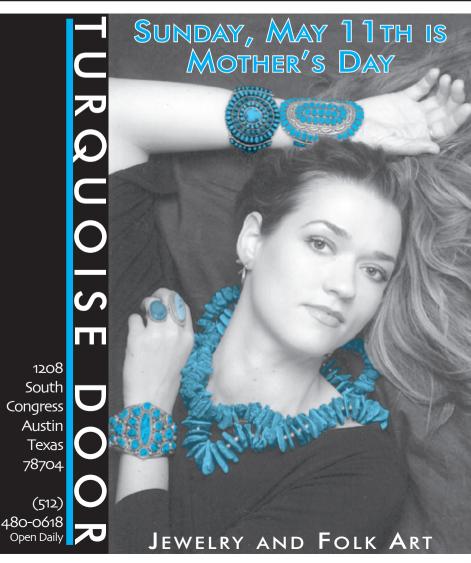






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'Chronicle' Endorsements – May 10 municipal elections

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 council members - environmentally engaged and politically pragmatic and enabling effective programs that enable greener redevelopment, reduce solid waste, conserve water and energy, and preserve shoreline open space along Lady Bird Lake. He has labored to improve mental-health-care programs, sought ways to improve public safety while eliminating staffing inequities, and worked to turn Capital Metro in a more progressive direction.

Leffingwell disappointed us on some issues in his first term - a too-easy surrender on Advanced Micro Devices, questionable support for the Northcross neighborhood against the Wal-Mart project, a too-modest water conservation plan and a number of smaller issues left many enviro/ progressives feeling let down, if not betrayed. Some of us believe that a more proactive council could have derailed the Wal-Mart, but we are unpersuaded that Leffingwell should bear the blame for that complex defeat.

Leffingwell also fought to reclaim power from city staff: defending the city auditor, increasing oversight of the spending, pushing for singlemember districts, and other reforms. 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

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.

Incumbent Jennifer Kim has demonstrated "heart in the right place" advocacy of community values, a scrappy independent voice, and a good voting record on affordable housing, small business, and Asian-American concerns. And she's supported environmental protection and responsiveness to neighborhoods. But Kim has not proven effective at advancing new council policies that make a real difference. She's not a good team player, she's been somewhat aloof from citizens, and she lacks political instincts and skills. As a result, she has lost the trust and respect of most council colleagues and of staff and community members who previously supported her and has failed to build the relationships and demonstrate the consistency of vision that an elected official must have to carry water on important issues.

Randi Shade deserves serious consideration, but her campaign has not clearly defined her platform beyond the need for "change." Her positions are similar to Kim's, so the question returns to effectiveness. Shade has called for joint councilnonprofit 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. Her strongest asset is her reputation for building consensus and hammering out workable solutions in government, business, and nonprofit groups. But Shade is unproven as a policy-maker and has no voting record on city boards or commissions.

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.

The May 10 municipal ballot will include three City Council seats, plus three school bond propositions, with school district and ACC trustee seats also in play. We offer abbreviated versions of our editorial board endorsements here. The full versions are available online. — The Editorial Board

TRAVIS CO. EARLY VOTING: April 28-May 6

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 LOCATIONS

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

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
Flesta Mart, 3909 N. 1-35
Flawn Academic Center (Undergrad
Library), West Mall, UT campus
Travis Co. Courthouse.

Travis Co. Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe ACC Campus, 1212 Rio Grande ACC Business Ctr., 5930 Middle

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

SOUTHEAST Dan Ruiz Public Library, 1600 Grove (M-F, 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-5pm) Fiesta Mart, 5510 S. I-35 ACC Riverside Campus, 1020 Grove

SOUTHWEST ACC Pinnacle, 7748 Hwy. 290 W. Randalls, 6600 MoPac S. Randalls, 9911 Brodie

WEST Randalls 2303 RR 620 S Randalls, 3300 Bee Caves Rd. Bee Cave City Hall, 4000 Galleria

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

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

7811 Rockw

ACC Northridge, 11928 Stonehollov NORTHWEST Randalls, 10900-D Research HEB, 7301 FM 620 N. (temporary

building in parking lot) NORTHEAST

MT Supermarket, 10901 N. Lamar (M-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., noon-Farms Loop (just off Pecan St.), Pflugerville

EAST Parque Zaragosa Rec. Ctr., 2608 Gonzales (M-F, 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-5pm) Northeast Health Ctr., 7112 Ed

PRIDAY, MAY 2
NW Rural Comm. Ctr., 18649 FM 1431, Jonestown, 10am-6pm
Dell Children's Medical Ctr., 4900 Mueller, 8am-noon
Del Valle ISD Admin. Bldg., 5301 Ross, 9am-6pm Austin City Hall. 301 W. Second. first floor, 9am-5pm Heritage Pointe, 1950 Webberville Rd., 2-5pm

SATURDAY, MAY 3

Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird, 10am-6pm Mitchie's Fine Black Art, 6406 N. I-35, 10am-6pm Volente Vol. Fire Dept., 15406 FM 2769, 10am-6pm Goodwill, 1015 Norwood Park, 10am-6pm

SUNDAY, MAY 4

Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird, noon-6pm Goodwill, 1015 Norwood Park, noon-6pm

Parsons House, 1130 Camino La Costa, noon-2pm Govalle Care Center, 3101 Govalle, noon-2pm Englewood Estates, 2603 Jones, 4-6pm Lovalton of Austin, 5310 Duval Rd., 4-6pm

Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon, 2-6pm South Rural Comm. Ctr., 3518 S. FM 973, Del Valle, 9am-noon NW Rural Comm. Ctr., 18649 FM 1431, Jonestown, 10am-6pm Brackenridge Hospital, 601 E. 15th, 9am-noon Stephen F. Austin Bldg., 1700 Congress, 8am-6pm

TUESDAY, MAY 6 Winters Bldg., 701 W. 51st, 9am-6pm LBJ Bldg., 111 E. 17th, 9am-6pm Heritage Park Center, 2806 Real, 9am-noon Brighton Gardens, 4401 Spicewood Springs, 2-5pm Conley-Guerrero Senior Ctr., 808 Nile, 9am-noon Seton Northwest, 11113 Research, 2-6pm

Place 4: Laura Morrison

Robin Cravey, Cid Galindo, and Laura Morrison are all highly experienced, and all have worked directly with council and staff on workable policy initiatives.

Overall we believe Morrison's solid engineering and business background make her a pragmatic choice. 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. Morrison's leadership on the city's McMansion task force demonstrated her talent for tailoring city policies to reflect valid citizen concerns. In sum, we believe that as a consensus-builder who's strong on progressive issues, and with pragmatic experience across the entire city, Morrison is the best Place 4 addition to the currently sitting council.

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

Harrison Keller says ACC needs to form partnerships with school districts to ensure that high school students are more strongly challenged and prepared before they ever get postsecondary education. Keller is the research director for the House of Representatives, hired by none other than Speaker Tom Craddick, and has authored papers for the Texas Public Policy Foundation pushing the notion of tying public-school funding directly to student performance. He insists he is no

ideologue – but his associates are ideologues of the worst sort, and we've seen the Lege use variants on his concepts to punish educators rather than help them.

Tim Mahoney's history in liberal politics squares better with our general outlook, but he failed to inspire us. Mahoney speaks generally of community outreach and selling the idea of ACC to Austin and prospective students, giving a picture of someone running for office not because he is driven by a goal but because he wants to serve and this was what was available. 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 this one, in North Central Austin, is contested. 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. 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, and she seems to know 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 education, special programs, and expansion.

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. Propositions 1 and 2 reflect unavoidable costs. mandated by federal, state, or city agencies, or provide funding to replace crumbling infrastructure or to build more classrooms. If they don't pass, the district will instead have to pay for them out of the maintenance and operations budget.

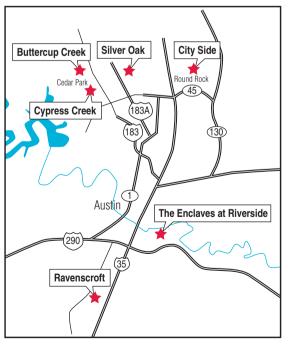
The three parts of Proposition 3 - a longawaited performing arts center, expansion of Anderson High, and land for another anticipated high school - are more a matter of choice. Voters should decide whether this list resolves urgent problems or whether Prop. 3 can wait for another day ... again. If all three propositions pass, they will add an additional maximum of \$17 per year per \$100,000 of appraised property value.

The Chronicle strongly endorses Propositions 1 and 2, and Proposition 3 only a little





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Why 'Cravey' Over Morrison?

I read the "'Chronicle' Endorsements" [News, April 25] and was surprised to see that you picked Laura Morrison over Robin Cravey in Place 4. Everything you wrote about Cravey made him seem like the natural choice for Chronicle readers. I feel I've wandered into an alternative universe when you pick an engineer, and the Statesman goes with the environmentalist.

Can you tell us who makes the pick for your paper and how you arrived at this one?

Jim Cullers

[News Editor Michael King responds: The Chronicle editorial board (for endorsement purposes) included the publisher, News editors and managing editor, and News staff (in all about 10 people, with multiple perspectives). We meet with and report on the viable candidates, we meet together and via e-mail, we discuss and argue and debate, we make the best consensus choice we can among the candidates, and then draft an endorsement that we can all subscribe to. In the particular case of the Place 4 seat. we would refer readers to our full endorsement (posted online) and simply add that we don't think it's fair to either of these candidates (or the others) to reduce the entire discussion to "an engineer" vs. "an environmentalist."]

Bravo, Virginia!

Dear Editor,

Bravo, Virginia! How bizarre to encounter kids and strollers in the Hilton Ballroom at the annual Texas Hill Country Wine & Food Festival, basically a cocktail party with an abundance of free-flowing alcohol present ["Food-o-File," Food, April 18]. It was nice to see the signs prohibiting strollers in the tents at the Georgetown event. We were tripping over them last year.

Thanks for voicing an opinion held by many

Graham Weldon

What About Electric Timers?

Dear Editor.

In January, I accidentally overlooked paying my Austin utilities bill and in February received one for \$434 (average \$217 per month).

As I am extremely mindful of conserving energy, I called Austin Energy, enraged. An unidentified agent there told me, "Nothing will raise your bill quicker than your water heater."

Determined to correct this, I went to Lowe's in search of their most superefficient water heater, only to have a young man tell me: "Don't waste the money. Just put an electric timer (\$59) on the one you have now."

I decided to take the gamble and paid an electrician \$75 to install the unit, for a total investment of \$134. I set it to turn on at 4am and turn off at 6am, daily.

My March bill plummeted to \$80.25. I was astounded.

Why wouldn't timers be a mandatory inclusion on water heaters? My investment (\$134) nearly paid for itself the first month, saving me about \$120. This one action could become one of the greenest things we do.

It is inconceivable to consider how much \$120 times one million Austinites would come to, but it'd be a bunch for sure.

Hope someone in authority who can investigate this further will read this and take action. My unit was installed next to my breaker box so that I could open and reset the on/off times until I got it perfect.

Jim Lacev

Rush Is the Best

Dear Editor,

This was probably my 15th Rush show, from the first time I saw them on Hemispheres back in 1979, and they are absolutely, undeniably, the most consistent, entertaining, and talented stadium band ever ["Natural Science," Earache! Music blog, April 24]! Don't argue with me, I'm a pirate, and I will run ye through! Aarrgghhh.

Captain Phleabag

Only State Facts ...

Dear Editor.

I would like to point out a few key misconceptions Sofia Resnick printed about Joshua Bingaman's coffee shop, Progress ["Deliciously Ambitious," Green Crush! feature, April 18]. The

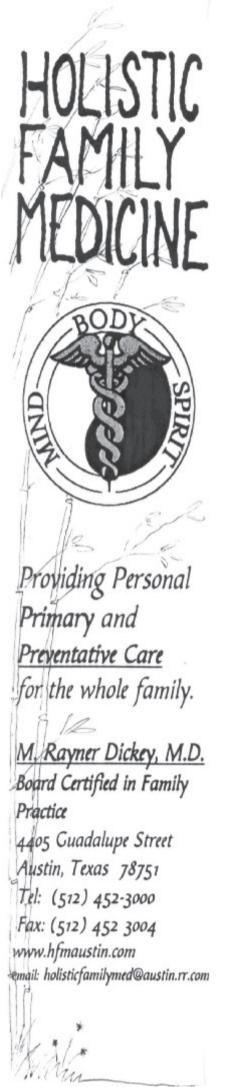
continued on p.12





















first misconception is that the compostable cups he uses are doing the planet any favors. Factually, there are no commercial composters in Texas. Those "green" corn and paper compostable cups being used are going straight to the trash, because there are no landfills around to actually compost them. In order to compost these biodegradable cups, they must be at a temperature of 180 degrees for three days straight. Not sure it gets that hot in Texas. This may be a reason Whole Foods decided against corn plastic in the end. Or perhaps they realized corn is a valuable resource to use when the end result is conservation. I also find it interesting that Progress is receiving a pat on the back for being so "green," yet recycling is not mandated there. If Progress really wanted to make a concerted effort in the recycling department, perhaps the owner could go an extra step in "keepin' it green" by supporting a local collective like Ecology Action and mandating all materials be recycled within his cafe. EA picks up all of Cafe Mundi's recycling twice a month for a minimum price, which is what makes both of those organizations so great for the environment. Since Ecology Action was also mentioned in the article, I think it could also be a great idea to fact-check and ask the collective if it is true that Progress employees take the recycling regularly on their bikes. Overall, I feel the article was well-written and The Austin Chronicle did Earth Day justice in providing awareness on important environmental issues we face and showcasing environmentally friendly local businesses. However, it is also important to only state facts ... not romantic illusions that

owners occasionally enjoy projecting. Still in love with the Chronicle, Krissi Trumeter



Doesn't Like Shade

I attended a City Council candidate forum where Place 3 challenger Randi Shade said that she had not been recruited by toll road lobbyists and developers to run. Regardless of whether she was recruited by them, her list of supporters and fundraisers should be cause for concern.

Her supporters and fundraisers include a who's who of Real Estate Council of Austin bigwigs, developers, contractors, and toll road interests. Included are: Paul Bury, former president of RECA and development engineer; Brian Cassidy, who represents toll road authority Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority and is a RECA officer; Gary Farmer of Take on Traffic, a big toll road lobbyist: Don Martin, also of Take on Traffic and a developer; Kirk Rudy, of Endeavor Real Estate Group and former RECA president; Pete Winstead, formerly of the Texas Turnpike Authority and former RECA president; and Mike Weaver, RECA board member and contractor.

At the candidate forum I attended, Shade arrived late because she had been attending a fundraiser hosted by the folks mentioned above.

It is obvious that toll road and development interests are backing Shade and would rather

have a council member that listens to them rather than neighborhoods and citizens' groups

[Katherine Gregor replies: Jennifer Kim's 2005 campaign finance reports show that she accepted campaign contributions in that race from a majority of those Mr. Thayer cites: Paul Bury, Brian Cassidy Gary Farmer, Don Martin, and Pete Winstead, as well as Kirk Rudy's Endeavor partners. Based on available information. Kim did not refuse their contributions in her re-election campaign; rather, their support was not offered. Pete Winstead is listed as a supporter but not a contributor to Randi Shade's campaign. Mr. Thayer is listed as a contributor to

Congrats on Earle Coverage

Kim's re-election campaign.]

If I served as city editor of the Austin American-Statesman, I'd be kicking my ass after reading Michael King and Jordan Smith's take on Ronnie Earle (whom I know) before I assigned Statesman reporters to write his history ["District Eternity," News, April 11]. Congratulations.

Robert Heard

continued on p.14

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Sidewalks Need to Be a Priority

Dear Editor

No matter how tight the city budget may be, Austin needs a deadline, funding, and staff to finish the sidewalk and crosswalk system. Vertical, mixed-use, transit-oriented development, New Urbanism, and the Climate Protection Plan will all be ineffective without a complete, well-maintained pedestrian system. Austin also needs some temporary pedestrian space while the sidewalks are being finished. Perhaps we need pedestrian lanes in the streets.

The city budget will be tight this year. Usually, whenever money is tight, pedestrian and bicycle funding is cut. The rationale, I guess, is that hardly anyone in Austin walks or bicycles for transportation anyway.

Yet somehow cars managed to kill 24 pedestrians in Austin last year. How is this possible, if nobody walks here?

The truth is that, actually, everyone in Austin is a pedestrian. The pedestrians killed by cars each year include people who step out of disabled cars to seek help, people who "drive everywhere" but are just crossing the street, children waiting for school buses, people walking bicycles with flat tires, people in wheelchairs, and so on

With money tight and gasoline expensive, more people are willing to walk instead of drive for trips of half a mile or less. But without any pedestrian space at all on most streets, people will just keep driving those half-mile trips.

If we really want to solve our problems and not just dream of castles in the air, we need a deadline, staff, and funding for finishing the pedestrian infrastructure.

> Yours truly, Amy Babich





Perry on Pre-K Funding?

Pre-K Now's new report, "Leadership

Matters," rates each governor's commitment to

prekindergarten education. For the first time in

four years, the number of governors proposing

Dear Austin Chronicle,





increases in pre-K funding declined. The struggling economy this year gave voters a good look at their governor's true pre-K colors. While many states are facing deficits, some governors showed that they recognize pre-K's value not only to children and families but to the longterm economic success of their states. These

governors understand that young children's minds cannot wait for budget surpluses.

A bipartisan group of 17 state executives chose to protect and grow pre-K investments. Their proposed increases total \$261 million and would make pre-K available to nearly 60,000 more 3- and 4-year-olds across the nation.

The states whose governors proposed pre-K funding increases are: Alabama, Alaska Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania Tennessee, and Virginia. Also, the mayor of Washington, D.C., proposed an increase.

In the minority are four governors who proposed cuts in pre-K funding. These are the governors of California, Idaho, Rhode Island, and South Carolina, Governors in five other states proposed flat funding for pre-K: Arizona, Delaware, Kentucky, Missouri, and South Dakota.

Where is Texas? What is Gov. Rick Perry's

Sincerely, Jerry R. Grammer, Ph.D.

Stay Informed

Dear Editor,

With the release of Ben Stein's new documentary, Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed, it is an indication that the debate over intelligent design is neither simple nor easily understood [Film Listings, April 25]. Whether or not you believe in intelligent design theory, it is hard to avoid the controversy swirling around it. With public school teachers strongly opposed to having it in the biology curriculum and evangelical fundamentalists advocating for equal time, students are stuck in the middle. I personally don't feel that I.D. theory should be allowed in schools, with the exception of private schools or higher-

continued on p.16



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Austin Chronicle

education institutes. It really only becomes an issue when the topic slips into the public school curriculum, where it surely has no place. I think it's important for people to remain educated and aware of the current debate. But more importantly, parents need to be aware of what their children are learning in school. Get involved. Stav informed.

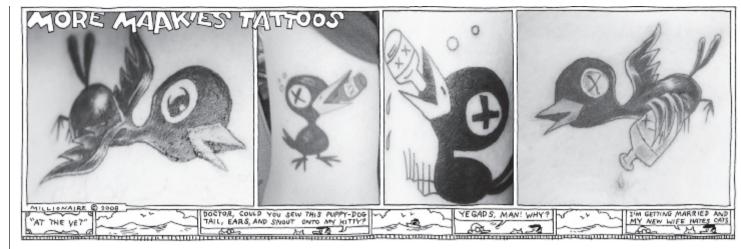
Patricia Moden

Worse Than Hillary and Obama

Re: Save Our Springs' Bill Bunch and Austin Chronicle News Editor Michael King: Oh, will you two please stop it! You are worse than Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama. It's obvious you both want Austin to be a better place, so can we put "the things you do wrong" away and talk about the things we can do right? Sure, Bunch's letter was passive-aggressive, but King's response was downright mean ["Postmarks." April 18]. As for the merits, I for one have many times wondered why council consistently votes against the wishes of their constituents. I mean, were they really considering allowing billboards to be built on 360 and other scenic highways? Who the hell would be for that except deep-pocketed business interests? I'm sure people would be interested in a local publication's explication

austinchronicle.com/postmarks

UPDATED DAILY



of such seemingly dubious intentions. And if Bunch is the only one asking for a return to this, maybe he's just the only one who's been around long enough to remember how it used to be (and care). And I am so frustrated with the tired old "pull it out of a bag and slap it on" environmentalists' insult that we are arrogant and self-righteous (others include hippie and tree hugger). How dare we tell you what you could be doing to maintain the earth's beauty and habitability? Leaving aside the argument that many environmentalists are experts in the field and may only be applying scientific findings to common sense, could your real beef be that environmentalists ask you to do something that no major political figure has asked of the American people since Jimmy Carter (and we can see where that got him); and that is to sacrifice, to do something that involves looking beyond yourself for a minute to other beings on this planet, present and future? That would

include speaking the truth, however bitter it

Kelly Davis

Austin's Dumping Ground

Dear Editor,

Why must my neighborhood be Austin's dumping ground?

Why shouldn't Austinites share our community responsibility to care for the less fortunate?

As Chronicle readers may know, a new lowincome and homeless resident housing development has been proposed in the Windsor Park neighborhood at 5908 Manor Rd. Readers may not realize that Windsor Park is already doing its part to provide this type of housing. According to 2007 Austin census data, my neighborhood supports approximately 115 Section 8 households. By contrast, other Austin neighborhoods to our west host drastically fewer: Hyde Park has only

four Section 8 households, and Tarrytown has none. Why must my neighborhood bear our community's burden while more privileged neighborhoods neglect to do their part?

Windsor Park residents are proud of our beautiful homes, our proximity to Downtown, and our vibrant and diverse community. We're also proud to give a second chance to those in need. But we're tired of bearing that responsibility for all of Austin. Local residents voted 53-1 against an amendment to our neighborhood plan that would allow the low-income and homeless housing development at 5908 Manor Rd. I urge city officials to respect my neighborhood's wishes, and I encourage Austinites to share our community's responsibilities to help the less fortunate.

> Sincerely, Sarah Norris Windsor Park homeowner

> > continued on p.18

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Bike Laws Make No Sense

The laws pertaining to bicycles do not make sense with the reality of bike-riding in a city, as human-powered vehicles following car laws can be dangerous. Instead of bikes following the same laws as cars, bikes should have laws that take into account the lower speeds and human power of the bikes. Bikes should have the rightof-way at yield signs, should treat stop signs as yield signs, and should treat stoplights as stop signs. It is often safer for a bike to go before the crush of cars at a stop sign, and it makes no sense for a bike to stop at a stop sign when there are no cars coming. Precedent can be found in boating laws that treat different-powered boats differently. Sailboats do not follow the same laws as powerboats. Bicycles should have the same kind of preferred status that sail has to power in the boating world.

Tom Cuddy

Live Version of 'Monopoly'

Austin has become a real live version of Monopoly. There remains increasing pressure on locals to "sell out" their homes to the highest bidder. The disappearance of familiar surroundings accompanied with the lure of money makes selling out very enticing. The almighty, worthless dollar has enslaved our city government and turned Austin into a lame caricature of California. Contrary to popular belief, it is this that has sparked concerned interest and passion in the upcoming local elections - not the carnivalesque presidential race. What a joke Austin has become, with an egocentric mayor who uses Earth Day as a career booster and flocks of overpriced IKEA condos appearing smack in the middle of our poverty-stricken Eastside. There's no time for finger-pointing. Three City Council seats are up for grabs, and local elections are just two weeks away. In an effort to regain control of our city's future, we must vote out all incumbents. It will be interesting to see if the (free) local, liberal press remains unchanged as the city it represents descends into permutation.

> Always. Colette Michalec

Environmental Ethics

Dear Editor.

Your Green Crush issue was welcome and overdue. It may be the only time an enviro has made the cover.

Katherine Gregor's Austin Climate Protection Plan story ["Cool Austin, Cool Planet," News, April 181 references welcome local progress on the issue, but Austin Energy and the city face many internal challenges on program implementation. First, many city field employees don't have an environmental ethic and needlessly idle vehicles and leaf blowers and wastewater without any consequence. Second, the city does not promote their own programs well enough. I have worked closely to support AF, the Parks & Recreation Department, and the Fleet Department initiatives, and progress is uneven. An activist mentality is needed. The plug-in hybrid initiative does have an activist element to it. The standard and unimaginative promotional efforts of tabling and direct mail will not be enough. Third, there are rarely economic incentives and never disincentives for managers and employees based on the effectiveness for environmental programs. Fourth, the CoA should only help facilitate ACPP's community

plan and then quickly refocus their attention to municipal operations.

The Municipal Buildings – Sustainability update states: "Initiative to ensure minimum Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver (level) for city buildings, greater consistency, etc." This was already accomplished by Council Resolution (No. 000608-43) passed in June 2000. An update from the city manager's office last year said every CoA project since then has met this mark and some such as City Hall have exceeded it.

The Energy Efficiency Retrofit Task Force is meeting bimonthly instead of the stated biweekly. The second part of what the ordinance will do is uncertain based, in my opinion, on a lack of commitment to the original goal setting and unfamiliarity among the task force participants to each other.

Finally, the fleet component of the Municipal Plan is flawed. The CoA had in their possession dedicated compressed natural gas garbage trucks well before they had a fueling station for them. Currently, they are waiting on an ethanol (E85) refueling station for already received E85 capable vehicles.

Most importantly, the adoption of corn-based ethanol (E85) as a major fuel source for Austin Police Department cruisers last year will help wreak havoc with world food supplies. Buying APD cruisers that are dedicated to run on gasoline, but which get greater miles per gallon, would have been a better decision for the climate, as I advocated to the city in 2007.

Regards. Scott Johnson Original member, Green Building Task Force (1999-2001)

Alternate, CoA Energy Efficiency Retrofit Task Force (2008) [Editor's note: Scott Johnson's lawn mower pro-

gram was also featured in the Green Crush issue. See "The Outdoorsy Type" for more.]

Unnecessary Risks

Emergency plea to all Austin bike riders: I was surprised to see a cyclist ride around the warning sign on the Lamar Street bridge and continue across on the same narrow walkway where a rider tragically died a few years ago, prompting construction of the bridge next to the vehicle bridge. Before I had gotten over my initial surprise, I saw yet another rider do the same thing - ride around the sign and across the bridge at 5pm, in heavy traffic. Please do not take such risks when taking a route only a few minutes longer will provide a safe route across this dangerous location. (I'm not a bike rider, but I don't want to lose any more riders.)

Pedestrian Access Denied

Dear Editor.

I was very disappointed to learn that Sheryl Cole convinced a majority of the City Council to block pedestrian and bicycle access to a new development in Hyde Park. I thought our city leaders were supposed to promote alternative transportation. I thought this was supposed to be a more bike-friendly, pedestrian-friendly town. How can they deny pedestrian access to mothers pushing strollers? How can they endanger children on bicycles? I just don't see justification for Hyde Park and Sheryl Cole to block already existing pedestrian and bicycle access.

Sebastian Wren

austinchronicle.com/postmarks

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news

- **24** ELECTION 2008
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Dogs, dog lovers, and dog-loving City Council candidates gathered outside City Hall Wednesday as FixAustin.org released its report card on the council contenders (see www.fixaustin.org for results). Two of the group's favored candidates - Laura Morrison (seated) and Randi Shade - attended the event.



QUOTE **OF THE WEEK**

"We have now had more than 30 DNA exonerations in Texas – more than any other state in the nation. These ... exonerations are clear and convincing evidence that our criminal justice system is broken."

- Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, announcing a May 8 meeting at the Capitol with criminal justice experts

HEADLINES

- Brakes slammed all over town Tuesday, over news that Gov. Rick Perry had tapped his chief of staff, Deidre Delisi, to head the Texas Transportation Commission, over the objections of Austin Sen. Kirk Watson and countless others.
- The Place 1 race borrows a slapstick scene from the Keystone Cops: see p.24.
- Barack Obama denounces "divisive and destructive" comments of his former pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah
- The merry month of May brings bicyclists out in force; see p.34.

NAKED CITY

Bus riders packed the Capital Metro boardroom Monday to protest the closure of the Capitol transfer hub and the elimination of the Silver 'Dillo. The state ordered Cap Metro to close the Capitol stop, but though they cited security as the main reason, some speakers insinuated that the move was really more about keeping the unwashed masses away from the front of the Capitol. As evidence of an ulterior motive, speakers pointed to the state's rejection of viable alternatives presented by Cap Metro. "That stop belongs to us," said Susana Almanza of People Organized in Defense of Earth and Her Resources. "I've never seen the governor ride the bus." Cap Metro is also cutting three 'Dillos including the Silver 'Dillo, which serves the Eastside to shift resources to the two remaining Central 'Dillos, increasing frequency to five-minute intervals. Some said they see this as a slight to the working poor in an effort to appease tourists and condo-dwellers. The board is expected to vote on the proposed changes in May after a series of follow-up community meetings. - Justin Ward

- Do you care about the future of parks in Austin? Then make your voice heard on Thursday, May 1, at City Hall meetings scheduled to gather community input on the city's next Parks & Recreation Department director. In a welcome move, City Manager Marc Ott has initiated a national search for the position. In a resolution, the Parks board had requested that Ott consider national as well as local candidates and include community input in the hiring process. The leadership of our next director could be critical for Austin, as the city wrestles with growth and development pressures and revisits comprehensive planning. "A great parks system is a key community value, so personally. I think we need someone who can do it justice," said Parks board member Danette Chimenti. "We need somebody with a vision, who will be a strong advocate for parks and green space. With so many things going on in this city, that can easily get lost." At the public meeting, citizens can recommend the desired characteristics, knowledge, and experience they believe the new director should have. Staff will use the input in developing a recruitment profile to attract candidates. Thursday's City Hall meeting times: 4-5:30pm in City Council Chambers; 6-7:30pm in the Boards and Commissions Room.
- The search for a new Austin Independent School District superintendent has begun - but not with a search for actual superintendents. Monday, the AISD board of trustees voted to invite executive recruitment agencies to send in bids to be the lucky firm to help the district's Superintendent Search Process Committee look for a replacement for current Superintendent Pat Forgione. Tenders will be accepted until May 21, and the board hopes to recommend a contractor on June 16: At that point, the district will be actively recruiting its new chief. But don't worry if this seems to be a slow process: Forgione does not retire until June 30, 2009.

- Richard Whittaker continued on p.23

POINT AUSTIN

The Way We Were

In Austin's politics of nostalgia, the truth is a frequent casualty

BY MICHAEL KING

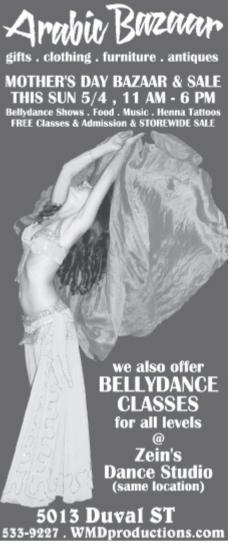
Well, the city's silly season - otherwise known as campaign time – is definitely in high gear.

While the Place 1 race (aka the Jason Meeker Campaign Comedy Circus) has featured the lion's share of looniness (see "Place 1: Who's on First?" by Lee Nichols, p.24), the other races are not without manufactured melodrama. Notably, last week the Place 3 race (Jennifer Kim vs. Randi Shade) featured the sort of timewarp two-step that so often marks Austin politics, as the Kim campaign attacked Shade for allegedly expressing a politically incorrect opinion ... about a film ... about an environmental episode ... that happened 15 years ago.

The backstory is as funny as the immediate argument. In February, Brian Rodgers, leader of the Stop Domain Subsidies charter amendment campaign (coming to a November election near you), had a conversation with newly announced candidate Shade, primarily about the proposed amendment, which Shade considers ill-advised. As it happened, Shade had recently seen The Unforeseen, Laura Dunn's documentary about the 1990s fight over development, Barton Springs, and the Save Our Springs Ordinance. The film came up in the conversation, and (as both people confirmed to me this week) Shade said it was a shame that some compromise couldn't have been worked out before the Legislature enacted House Bill 1704 (vetoed by Ann Richards in 1993, signed by George W. Bush in 1995), which essentially grandfathered every possible suburban development plat ever committed to napkin prior to the city's passage of SOS.

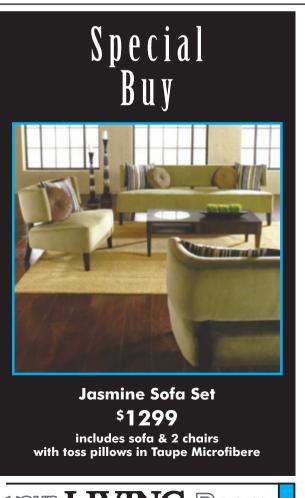
As each recalls it now, Shade's comments were on the order of the eminently inarguable and quite forgettable, "It's too bad things turned out as they did." But Rodgers thought the sentiment might be an indication of Shade possibly being naive or "too willing to compromise" on environmental matters, and reported the conversation that way to others, notably his colleagues on the Better Austin Today PAC. Two months later (April 17), at a Real Estate Council forum and in a subsequent press release, Kim sprung the conversation on Shade this way: "You told Brian Rodgers we should have negotiated SOS instead of passing SOS. Why do you feel this way?" A somewhat puzzled Shade rejected Kim's tendentious version of the conversation, adding that she was talking about the legislative action, not SOS, and regretting that somehow the city couldn't have persuaded the Lege to back down: "That the will of the citizens [of Austin] ... was basically taken by legislative process."

continued on p.22









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She Said What?

After this exchange, the Kim campaign circulated a letter signed by five "Austin environmentalists" (Gus Garcia, Bill Bunch, Brigid Shea, Robin Rather, and Ann Kitchen) denouncing Shade for, as they put it, telling the forum, "She thought the City should have compromised with developers instead of passing the SOS ordinance." The first problem with that declaration is that even in their own attached "transcript" (see the whole letter online) of her forum statement, Shade said no such thing. Indeed, Kim's transparent attempt to trap Shade into taking such a position failed miserably. That didn't matter to these paragons of historical virtue, who claimed she said it anyway. In normal parlance, that's called a "lie," and it's a peculiarly incompetent one. But what's a little misrepresentation in the name of Barton Springs, especially at campaign time?

Shade insists that she supported SOS then, and she supports it now, and that she was regretting only the city's inability to stop HB 1704. Indeed, it took three years for lobbyist

Dick Brown to ramrod the grandfathering law, finally succeeding only because of the 1994 Bush ascension. Other than Richards, in those years Austin essentially had no chance at the Capitol; but it is hardly an indication of environmental treason to express the 15-year-old wish that things had turned out differently.

It's frankly absurd that former lawmakers Garcia and Kitchen should pretend to be "stunned" at Shade's innocuous reflections on "the importance of compromise." Shea and Rather have been read out of the environmental movement so often for impure thoughts you'd think they might know better by now. As for Bunch, he's on record multiple times dismissing the entire current council as environmentally regressive and corrupt, so who knows why he would sign a dishonest campaign letter on behalf of the Place 3 incumbent?

The Confidence Man

Also amusing in this little charade is the role played by The Unforeseen, Dunn's engaging, heartwarming, but thoroughly maudlin - and politically naive - history of the fight to save

Barton Springs. It's hardly surprising that a viewer like Shade, coming fresh from that film, would express nostalgic regrets for what might have been. Dunn seems to have fallen completely in love with her main character (the only person granted a life history), Circle C developer Gary Bradley. Bradley is allowed to deliver a lachrymose eulogy for his mother (!) and is portraved sympathetically as a Horatio Alger hero who tragically overreached.

That ain't just me talking; it was the opinion generally shared by the reviewers, most of whom don't know Bradley's real, hard-nosed, scorched-earth history. And it's apparently also shared by Shea, who, in an April 24 Statesman op-ed, blistered Dunn and the film for misrepresentations and omissions, particularly of Bradley's role in delaying the SOS election to enable even much more unregulated development in the watershed. "No one is asking for endless minutia," wrote Shea, "just the truth." (In the film, Bunch does describe Bradley as "a con man of the highest level," but it hardly makes a dent on Dunn.)

> Having watched the film twice, I pretty much agree with Shea - that The Unforeseen is emotionally inspiring, but fundamentally misleading, about what actually happened (and is happening) to Barton Springs and Austin. Alas, the SOS Alliance has eagerly wrapped itself in the aura of this Terrence Malick-Robert

Redford High Romantic environmentalism, using the film as a fundraiser and supposedly to educate the "unengaged, uninformed newcomers" to Austin that Bunch now blames on the SOS website - along with (roughly in this order) the City Council, the whole community. foreign wars, Wall Street, K Street, and The Austin Chronicle – for despoiling the Springs.

It does make one wonder: If The Unforeseen is wrong on Gary Bradley, but SOS actively promotes The Unforeseen as "powerful" and 'amazing" and "challenging," does that mean Bunch and SOS are guilty of having incorrect thoughts about Barton Springs?

The Kim campaign better get on that, right away.



What's a little

misrepresentation in

the name of Barton

Springs, especially at

campaign time?

The Kim campaign letter from "Austin environmentalists" is available online with this column at austinchronicle.com.

BESIDE THE POINT

We're in the Money ... Not!

BY WELLS DUNBAR

"Does anybody think we're not in a recession?" economist Jon Hockenyos asked the City Council last week at its first work session concerning the upcoming 2008 budget. And as one might deduce from the rhetorical query, the implication wasn't exactly good news. With regard to the mortgage meltdown and tightening credit markets, seemingly unresponsive to interest cut after cut, Hockenyos - delivering a national and local economic outlook - said credit is the economy's fuel, "and right now, the tank is pretty dry."

Yeah, yeah, we know - gas prices are a pain, too.

That national slowdown has had limited but noticeable impact here, where he predicted some Downtown condo or hotel projects wouldn't get built. While the population, jobs. and tourism keep increasing, all housing development indicators are down, except that little thing called - ahem - price.

Lucky us.

Tougher news, if at all possible, came during the city's economic outlook and financial forecast. Projections of local sales-tax revenues which amount to 28% of the city's general fund - were overshot dramatically; instead of the estimated 7.5% growth, the numbers had come in at 4.7% and now, following a month of negative revenues, stand at an increase of 3.8% for the year. In order to get a sense of the city's total potential revenues for the new budget year, budget officer Greg Canally prepared three projections (with each property-tax rate including an extra penny to pay for the 2006 bonds):

- Scenario 1, with the "effective" property tax (lower than last year's rate, but bringing in the same amount of revenue, due to rising property values) and 3% sales-tax growth;
- Scenario 2, "nominal" property tax (the current rate, 40.34 cents) and 3.5% sales tax growth: and

• Scenario 3, the "rollback" property tax (the nominal rate, plus an 8% increase in the operations and maintenance portion of the tax rate - 27.30 cents of the total 40.34 cent rate; the rest covers debt obligations) and an optimistic 4% sales-tax projection (see graph).

But even under this last, most bullish projection, revenues - \$620.7 million - are surpassed by the city's expenditures - \$641.3 million - leaving a \$20.6 million deficit. Not exactly chump change.

While this was only a preliminary meeting, a few themes emerged. With the United Way restructuring its mission, leaving local social service agencies in need of funding, Mike Martinez called for "more transparency" and a more rigorous set of benchmarks for agencies to meet. "I get the sense we've created a sense of entitlement," Martinez said, at least hinting diminishing expectations.

Additionally, with a relatively low propertytax rate (compared to other Texas cities), Austin has developed an unusual dependence on sales tax - an imbalance council wishes to correct. "We have too low a [property] tax rate to support a city this size," said council's revered budget oracle and Mayor Pro Tem Betty Dunkerley, who is retiring before the 2008 budget's adoption. To her, Austin's "abnormally low" tax rate - bound by state law capping any increase at the rollback rate – puts the city in a "very scary situation."

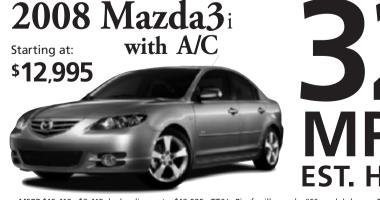
So much for shopping ourselves outta this one.

After the budget session and last Thursday's regular meeting, council's off this week, but fallout continues from last week's vote against providing bicycle and pedestrian connectivity between Hyde Park and a new development off 51st, counter to Planning Commission recommendations. It's continuing to work the local blogosphere into a tizzy - albeit a seemingly well-deserved one, for once.

Comment to BTP at wdunbar@austinchronicle.com.

	Sales Tax Growth	Property Tax Rate	Total Revenue (in millions)	Total Expenditures (in millions)	Deficit (in millions)
Scenario 1:	3.0%	39.82¢ ("effective")	\$604.5	641.3	(36.8)
Scenario 2:	3.5%	41.34¢ ("nominal")	\$618.0	641.3	(23.3)
Scenario 3:	4.0%	41.39¢ ("rollback")	\$620.7	641.3	(20.6)







The Harry Ransom Center at UT has acquired a rare 16th century Bible, the Plantin Polyglot. Center Director Thomas F. Staley called the purchase, paid for by private donations, the center's "single most important rare-book acquisition in the past two decades." Polyglot Bibles were a tool for scholars to compare different texts and translations side-by-side in one volume. While 1,200 copies were printed between 1568 and 1572 in Antwerp, Belgium, by publisher Christopher Plantin for King Philip II of Spain, there is no record of how many remain. The Plantin edition includes four languages: Aramaic. Greek, Hebrew, and Syriac, with translations and commentary in Latin, the standard language of academics of the time. In addition to being a landmark work in the history of textual study of the Bible, the edition is widely regarded as the defining work of one of Europe's greatest printers. Two of the eight volumes will be on display to the public in the Ransom Center lobby until Sunday, May 4.

County Clerk Dana DeBeauvoir said she is committed to a point-by-point review of the county's eSlate machines, in the wake of a federal whistleblower's lawsuit alleging that Hart InterCivic overpromised and underdelivered on the machines. The organization Vote Rescue was on hand at Tuesday's Commissioners Court meeting to provide copies of Hart technician William Singer's lawsuit, which alleges that Hart stretched reports of the performance of the eSlate in Ohio in order to secure its share of the \$4 billion set aside in the Help America Vote Act. DeBeauvoir said she's not yet willing to pull the plug on the machines but would if she found significant problems in light of the lawsuit's allegations. Vote Rescue would prefer the county return its machines and choose to count ballots by hand. - Kimberly Reeves

BEYOND CITY LIMITS

- The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday approved an Indiana law requiring would-be voters to present a photo ID at the polls; a decision that no doubt will encourage efforts for a similar law in Texas in next year's legislative session. In a 6-3 decision, the court ruled that even though there was no evidence of voter impersonation presented, the state's interest in preventing fraud outweighed the burden that such a law would place on citizens. Republicans pushed a similar bill through the Texas House last year, only to have it blocked in the Senate after a rancorous fight. Democrats contend that such a law would impede voting in groups less likely to have a photo ID, such as minorities, women, and the elderly - groups that also tend to vote Democrat. The ruling "is a victory for democracy in our nation, and I'm pleased that the court agreed with the vast majority of Texans who want to protect the sacred American principle of 'one person, one vote,'" said Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst. "With this legal challenge now behind us, I look forward to passing a fair voter ID law in Texas next year that fully protects the voting rights of all U.S. citizens registered to vote in Texas." But Rep. Rafael Anchía, D-Dallas, vowed to continue his fight against it: "Just because an Indiana law is minimally constitutional doesn't mean it's great policy in Texas.' - Lee Nichols
- Blaming the biofuel ethanol for skyrocketing food costs, Gov. Rick Perry last week asked Washington for a 50% waiver from the federal Renewable Fuel Standard, which, among other things, mandates the production and use of ethanol made from corn. Perry, in a press release, said the RFS' impact on corn prices is "significantly affecting Texans' family food bill" and devastating the state livestock industry. "There are multiple factors contributing to our skyrocketing grocery prices," Perry said, "but a waiver of RFS levels is the best, quickest way to reduce those costs." In targeting ethanol instead of oil and its rapidly rising prices - which affect oil-dependent food producers and Texas commuters alike - Perry may be throwing the baby out with the bathwater. Ethanol has its drawbacks, but as Russel Smith of the Texas Renewable Energy Industries Association points out, to assume corn ethanol is anything more than a transitional renewable fuel is a mistake, and its use, backed enthusiastically by President George W. Bush, is among the limited factors offsetting the United States' dangerous foreign-oil addiction. The RFS includes benchmarks for nonfood ethanol production, and just this week. UT researchers announced a noncrop biofuel production breakthrough. With oil prices expected to keep increasing and,

as Bush noted this week, worldwide oil demand "rising faster than supply" (peak oil anyone?), Perry seems to ignore the greater economic peril of Texas' ever-growing auto dependence, which he's done little to mitigate.

- Daniel Mottola





Larry Combest) Bryan Daniel and Libertarian Lillian Simmons in the election. "Texas' progressive bloggers decided to put our money where our mouse is." said Capitol Annex owner and TexBlog board member Vince Leibowitz. Handily for Maldonado, the endorsement comes with a \$5,000 check and "massive online outreach."

Creationist education in Texas took a blow, as Dallas-based fundamentalist school the Institute for Creation Research has failed to get degree-granting powers. The school, which teaches the Bible as literal scientific truth, wanted to provide a master's degree in science education for "quality-trained science educators who can teach in those private schools that select or invite a creation science perspective." But in its April 24 meeting, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board denied the request because the proposed course failed to reach board standards. It based its decision on Section 61.301 of the Texas Education Code, dealing with the state's responsibility when it comes to "fraudulent or substandard college and university degrees," and the sections of the board's own standards demanding that a course reflect "the breadth of knowledge of the discipline taught." The institute called this "a blow to academic freedom," and the Christian conservative Houston Area Pastor Council said, "It's time to take this issue seriously or admit that we don't care whether our children, our society, and our nation are trained and dominated by baal."





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Place 1 Who's on first ... and who's paying for it?

With friends like Rick Culleton, Place 1 City Council candidate Jason Meeker may not need any enemies.

For the third week in a row, Culleton - not a candidate - has been the most controversial player in the current City Council Place 1 campaign. Last week, Culleton, the owner of Discount Electronics and former treasurer of Meeker's campaign, ran more ads expressing his preferences in the May 10 election. This follows two previous ads in the Chronicle that, by omitting language identifying who paid for the ads and seeming to have a connection with his corporation, appeared to violate state law and drew a formal ethics complaint from a supporter of Place 1 incumbent Lee Leffingwell (see "Complaint Filed Against Meeker," April 18).

The new round of ads, both in the Chronicle and on television, raised even more eyebrows partly for their message, partly for yet more legal issues. The message included a cannon blast against a candidate one might have assumed Culleton would support. Like the earlier ads, the new ads (print and television) criticize Leffingwell and support Meeker. But they also attack Place 3 incumbent Jennifer Kim and advocate for challenger Randi Shade. That's surprising on its face. because both Meeker's and Culleton's forays into city electoral politics grew from their activism with Responsible Growth for Northcross, which is fighting the construction of a Wal-Mart at the moribund mall (Meeker was RG4N's spokesman and Culleton is a financial supporter). Since Kim has declared herself staunchly in RG4N's corner, the ad was a shock.

"I guess everyone had kind of misunderstood why I was doing this," Culleton says. "It's not that I'm a Jason Meeker supporter, I barely know Jason. I got to know him through the RG4N mess. But that just made me pay attention to what our City Council was doing, and I didn't like what I saw. ... The issues that I have with some of these council members are not related to that at all.

"I don't think her votes have represented small business in the way that she said she was small business when she ran for office in the first place. I don't like the way that she tends to ignore the issues and constituents. Just to give you an example, during RG4N ... when I e-mailed and called every council member, I got responses from everyone [except Kim]. I might not have liked what they had to say, but I at least got a response. When I would e-mail Jennifer Kim, I never got a response from her. When I would call her office, I would never get a call back. Yet the e-mail address that I e-mailed her from was added to a spam list to invite me to some picnic she was putting on."

Kim said she was surprised by Culleton's ad, "because I've been very supportive of RG4N, including my campaign manager [Paige Hill, who] is one of the founders of RG4N, and according to them, I've been a helpful council member on this issue, and I'm still working with them on it." Kim pointed out that at an April 8 RG4N candidate forum, she easily won a straw poll of attendees, with Shade coming in third behind another challenger, Ken Weiss.

"His credibility is quite questionable," Kim said of Culleton, referring to the complaints surrounding the ads. "Everyone that wrote me a letter on that issue got a response, a standardized response that I sent back to many, many people. ... Whether or not his spam filter got it or something, that could be his problem. Technology is not a perfect thing."

Shade, for her part, didn't exactly jump for joy at receiving Culleton's endorsement - in fact, she issued a press release last Friday distancing herself from him. "I want to make clear that I have never met with or talked to Mr. Culleton about mv campaign, and have no previous association with him," the statement read.

"I think that was the appropriate response for her," Culleton replied. "One, it was accurate - we don't know each other and haven't spoken. My support came a little bit later, because I wanted to see a little bit more of what she was about. Yes, I wanted Jennifer Kim out of there, but I wanted to make sure we had a good replacement. Now I think Randi is a good replacement. ... My involvement in this has become somewhat controversial, and I'm sure she didn't want to get wrapped up in that mess."

Then there are the legal issues. First, Daily Texan photographer Michael Bicknell complained that his photo of Leffingwell and Kim in the Chronicle ad - doctored to make it appear the candidates are standing in front of a Wal-Mart, when in fact they were announcing a city service for low-income residents - which Culleton designed himself and provided to the Chronicle ready for print, was used without permission (an apparent violation of Bicknell's copyright). Moreover, the TV version of the ad used another unauthorized photo, this time a head shot of Meeker by Chronicle photographer John Anderson. When Anderson made phone calls to complain about that unauthorized use, he learned that the TV ad was produced by Stanford Research, the consulting firm of Jason Stanford. That raised further questions, because last we knew, Stanford was Jason Meeker's campaign manager; his involvement appeared to violate the ban on independent expenditures being coordinated with campaigns. But, we were surprised to learn. Stanford and Meeker officially parted ways about a month ago. Meeker says poor fundraising made him decide to cut costs, and he's now managing his own campaign.

In fact, he sounded genuinely surprised when told of Stanford's involvement: "Could you repeat that for me?" After taking a moment, Meeker said, "These are third parties doing things with their own political agendas. Some of it helps me; some of it hurts me. Clearly, they are interested in defeating Lee Leffingwell and Jennifer Kim. But it's not solicited or endorsed by me personally or my campaign officially."

For his part, Stanford said he has no concerns about the legality of his working for Culleton, and he was apologetic about the photographs, the use of which he blamed on a young assistant "raised in the Internet age" and therefore not familiar with copyright laws.

That isn't good enough for Leffingwell: "The fact that Jason Meeker's former campaign manager has been working with Jason Meeker's former campaign treasurer to run a \$20,000 negative campaign benefiting Jason Meeker makes a mockery of Austin's campaign finance laws," he said in a statement. "I don't think anyone would believe that Jason Stanford and Rick Culleton quit Jason Meeker's campaign on one day only to decide to run an expensive negative campaign benefiting Jason Meeker on the next day.'

It wasn't good enough for Shade either, who distanced herself even further from Culleton. Noting that at one point her own campaign manager, Mark Nathan, had briefly retained Stanford's services, she released another state-



GRADING THE CAMPAIGN ADS

With council candidates' TV commercials airing in earnest as of last weekend, the Chronicle grades them on their merits, "artistic" and otherwise. - Wells Dunbar

Cid Galindo: Expanding on the ad he's been running for more than a month, Galindo's clip now trumpets "The Galindo Plan," directing viewers to his website to read up on his congestion-clearing proposal for town centers scattered along the SH 130 corridor. Unremarkable but sticks to the issues.

Lee Leffingwell: The Place 1 incumbent steers clear of specifics, preferring to highlight his Austin connections while jogging along the hike and bike trail. "We've got a lot to be thankful for here, but we've also got a big responsibility, because the future of this city is just too important to be left to chance" is as heated as it gets. An homáge to David Lynch's The Straight Story?

Grade: B+

Jennifer Kim: She "opposed tax giveaways to corporate shopping malls!" She "voted against all the toll roads!" Featuring talking heads and a blank background, Kim focuses solely on the issues. She highlights her refusal to accept the council pay raise - which she's getting aired-out for in Rick Culleton's pro-Jason Meeker ad. Her "I'm sure not perfect" closing line seems a little forced. If anyone's capable of thinking she's perfect, it's Kim!

Grade: B

Randi Shade: Claiming that "we need an attitude adjustment at City Hall," this clip shows Shade waiting in line at the Alamo Drafthouse, restaurants, and the airport, underscoring Kim's airport security snafu last year. "I'll wait in line with you at the airport," ain't exactly "Change we can believe in," or "Morning in America."

Grade: C+

Laura Morrison: This clip has generated some controversy for Morrison's statement that the city is "rushing to sell the last 5 acres of prime city land on Lady Bird Lake to build more high rises," accompanied by a trio of bombed-out towers you'd call the Beirut Arms. For neighborhood lovers, it's akin to the Republicans (or Hillary, for that matter) putting Osama in an ad.

Grade: C-

Jason Meeker & Randi Shade: Where to begin? This unsolicited ad from Meeker supporter Rick Culleton slams Leffingwell over the Las Manitas fund, but neglects to mention he voted against the loan, and attacks Kim for increasing council pay without mentioning she refused the raise. This ad plays fast and loose with the facts. Plus, tying Shade to Meeker does the former more harm than the latter good.

Grade: F

See more with Laura Morrison on her campaign ad, at the Chronicle election blog, at austinchronicle.com/newsdesk.

ment on Tuesday reading, "while I appreciate Mr. Culleton's support, I am making a public appeal to request that he and Mr. Stanford please discontinue their campaign on my behalf. It's critically important that voters trust my integrity, and any appearance of a link between my campaign and their independent effort is unacceptable to me. I will also be returning Mr. Culleton's unsolicited campaign contribution."

Add to the list of dissatisfied: Mike Blizzard, a public relations consultant who filed the ethics complaint regarding the first two ads. "[I]t may not even be necessary for Meeker to be personally aware of this activity for him to be implicated in this." Blizzard wrote to the Chronicle. "These people worked for him and represented him. They are part of his campaign and he's ultimately responsible for his campaign's actions." - Lee Nichols

Place 3 Sour grapes?

Jennifer Kim's re-election campaign continues to attack challenger Randi Shade for accepting campaign contributions from "developers." Yet Kim's latest finance report shows she herself has accepted contributions from Austinites with development, legal, real estate, and architecture/construction firm ties. Examples include checks from the Carter & Burgess Political Committee,

Steve Metcalfe, Brown McCarroll, Larry Warshaw, Pete Gasper, Taylor Andrews, Michael Casias, Kevin Burns, Juan Cotera, Jerry Harris, Tom, Lynn, and Will Meredith.

An invitation to a March 19 Kim fundraiser at Ranch 616 listed as cohosts influential real estate attorneys Steve Drenner and Nikelle Meade, developer Perry Lorenz, Real Estate Council of Austin leader Diana Zuniga, and real estate/development play-

ers David Hartman, Richard Maier, Matt Mathias, Brad Schlosser, and Ron Thrower.

Not that there's anything wrong with that. Like all viable and reasonably well-funded Austin City Council candidates in history, both Kim and Shade have accepted contributions capped this year at \$300 per individual or \$600 from a joint account - from Austinites with some form of business, Downtown, lobbyist, or development interests.

Which is why Shade calls foul on Kim for making her contributors a campaign issue. "More than 50 percent of my donations have come from people who have never before donated to a City Council race," asserts Shade. She characterized these checks as "the support of my friends - from UT, from business school, from CharityGift, from AmeriCorps days, from Ann Richards' staff,

> the Entrepreneurs Foundation, et cetera "

"I am not knocking Jennifer Kim for having the support of these folks in 2005, nor am I knocking her for soliciting these folks again in 2008," said Shade. "However, it seems incredibly hypocritical for Jennifer to attack me for having the support of folks who supported her in 2005." A case of sour grapes? The evidence indicates that Kim did not set a policy of refusing contributions from Austinites with development ties; rather, she simply lost the support of many of her 2005

contributors. The Shade campaign confirmed that former Kim contributors who are now contributing to Shade include Gary Farmer, Don Martin, Pete Winstead, and Paul Bury.

Elliott McFadden of Ignite Consulting has taken over as Kim's lead campaign strategist. On April 25, Matt Hersch announced he was stepping down as lead consultant to Kim, to spend more time with his family (citing his near-term pregnant wife). - Katherine Gregor



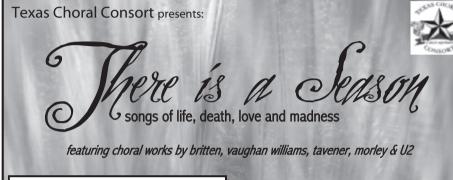
AUSTIN INTERFAITH PINS DOWN CANDIDATES

In what its leaders described as "the largest event of the local election season" (and they're probably right), 800 prominent members of Austin Interfaith held an "accountability session" on April 20 to pin down municipal election candidates on its agenda of fighting poverty and strengthening the middle class in Austin. Almost all the major candidates signed onto Interfaith's programs (though, frankly, failing to support the group's progressive policies in Austin would be like coming out against oxygen). The programs include increased funding for Capital IDEA (a nonprofit providing support for the poor to attain education and workforce training), ESL classes, increased health-clinic funding, and the like. About the only note of dissension was when Austin Independent School District candidates Annette LaVoi and Christine Brister would not commit to funding \$1,800 toward the nearly \$10,000 out-of-pocket health-insurance costs of district employees. City Council candidate Cid Galindo did not attend. "This event was a big step in strengthening the middle class in Austin," said Gina Hinojosa, an Interfaith leader from St. Ignatius Martyr Parish. "We need to keep people from slipping out of the middle class and provide opportunities for people to pull themselves out of poverty. We feel candidates recognized those priorities tonight." Elections for City Council, AISD board, and Austin Community College board are May 10. - Lee Nichols

LAST CHANCE TO GRILL THE CANDIDATES

The procession of City Council candidate forums concludes this week with the Crime and Safety Forum: Thursday, May 1, 6:30pm; City Council Chambers, City Hall, 301 W. Second.





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WHAT ABOUT THAT 2004 BOND ELECTION?

With \$343.7 million in bonds for the **Austin Independent School District** on the May 10 ballot, Austin's citizens are starting to think about future education spending. But meanwhile, the district is still completing projects from the last

In 2004, voters passed six bond propositions, worth \$519.5 million. The district broke the projects contained in those propositions into five phases. Currently, they are on phase four: Nearly all the projects have been designed, and the district has taken construction bids so they can break ground this summer. The district is scheduled to pick architects and construction managers for the last two projects, the undesignated North-Central and Southwest elementaries, on May 12. This is the last phase of major construction, since phase five mainly consists of repairs and renovations, such as window replacement and roofing work. "For the most part, we're sitting where we thought we'd be," said Curt Shaw, AISD director of construction management.

Breaking the projects down into phases means the district has staggered the sale of the bonds and so staggered the repayments on them. "It's like taking out a loan for your car: You don't borrow the money and then leave it in your account until you buy your car," said AISD's Chief Financial Officer Larry Throm. So far, there have been three issues, totaling roughly \$249 million. Out of the \$270 million left, the district expects to issue another \$100 million in June. Between staggering issues, houseprice increases, and low interest rates, the district has avoided using any of the property-tax increase voters approved (\$46.5 per \$100,000 of appraised value).

Around one-fourth of the projects has altered since being originally drafted. either expanding, becoming more costly, or getting split into separate projects to take advantage of shifting conditions. "We start out with a given number of projects in a particular phase," explained Shaw. "If there happens to be a major failure of a mechanical system, we'll at least pull that forward." Last summer's rains caused some unexpected construction delays. "It didn't delay an opening, but we really had to hustle," said Shaw. Unexpected hiccups like these are why the district built a \$49 million contingency budget into the bond. For example, Overton Elementary ended up \$2.9 million over budget when a geology report showed crumbly soil at the proposed site, meaning deeper foundations and some design changes would be needed. But, as Shaw noted, the school still opened on schedule in 2007. - Richard Whittaker

Streetcar Blow-Up

Contrary to what was reported in a front-page Statesman article and editorial this past week, the city of Austin has not in fact abandoned plans for a streetcar, nor has it finalized a proposal for a light-rail urban transit system. Consultant ROMA Austin, as part of its urban planning work for Downtown, had called a public meeting Tuesday, April 22, to invite comments on its work in progress. The urban designers asked for community feedback on their assignments from council: 1) to recommend cost-effective alignments for a streetcar system and 2) to research technology options and provide their preliminary cost estimates.

ROMA was still several weeks away from a final report, now expected in mid-May. The consultants' work will inform a city of Austin project proposal for urban rail. That proposal will, in turn, be submitted to a detailed, analytical transportation investment decision-making process, to be finalized next week by the Transit Working **Group of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization**.

The Statesman story got numerous facts wrong and made it sound as though a specific ROMA rail proposal was a done deal. Those unhappy with this messaging failure point the finger at Council Member Brewster McCracken, who left the station early and went public, championing a halfbaked plan that still lacked a clear scope and hard cost and financing data. That earned him the ire of some colleagues, transit advocates, and fellow Transit Working Group members, who saw McCracken as seizing the limelight and co-opting the process, inspired by mayoral ambitions.

Principal Jim Adams said ROMA and its subconsultant, LTK Engineering Services, are still evaluating the various available technologies. (No, it hasn't been decided whether to use light rail or ultralight rail.) They also are assessing the benefits of a shared-lane (true streetcar) system vs. dedicated transit lanes. ROMA's assigned scope of work was to evaluate only links between Downtown and three key destinations – the airport, Mueller, and the Long Center/Zilker Park. As urban designers, ROMA will address improved connectivity with planned and future regional commuter rail service and improving overall mobility - pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular. LTK has planned streetcar systems for Portland, Ore.; Seattle; and many other cities.

Mayor Will Wynn originally led the streetcar initiative, calling for a voter rail referendum in November. But when Wynn agreed to submit the city of Austin's transit initiative to a CAMPO evaluation process, he essentially handed over the political reins to CAMPO and Chair Kirk Watson. While there's no legal requirement that the city get CAMPO's blessing, it is widely seen as in the best interests of regional transportation planning.

The underlying purpose of the Transit Working Group process, crafted since January, is to transform regional conversations. In place of positionbased fights (transit lovers vs. road warriors), Watson has been advocating for a new process of data-based, rational decisions.

As a result of the flap, the city has postponed ROMA's next scheduled presentations. New dates for council and Transit Working Group presentations have not been set. - Katherine Gregor

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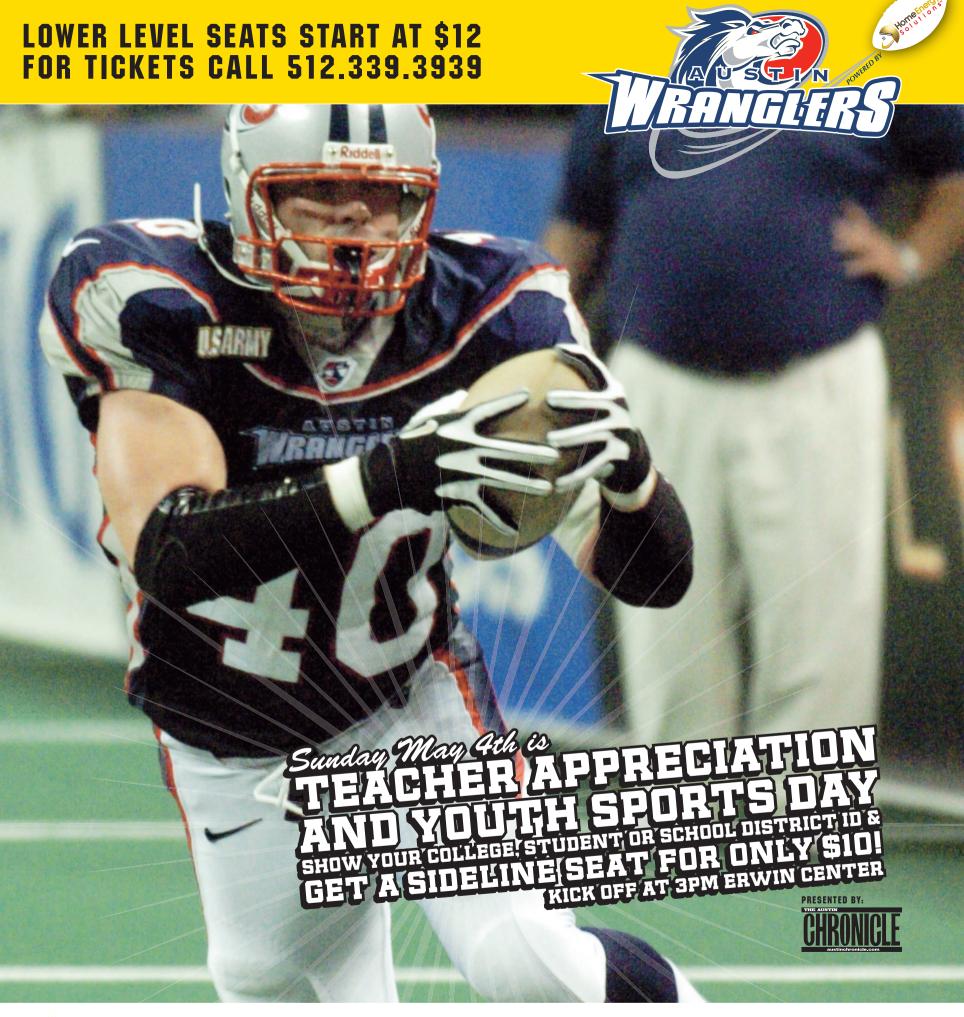
Place 1: Allen Demling Place 3: Jennifer Kim Place 4: Robin Cravey



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DEVELOPING STORIES

Council holds line on TODs and affordable housing

BY KATHERINE GREGOR

City Council members are currently hanging tough on their 25% affordable housing goal for transit-oriented development districts. That's good news for Austinites who want to keep central-city homes reasonably affordable for average working folks and lower-income families. Council's policy for TODs is worth monitoring, in part because it provides a good barometer of council's commitment to affordable housing citywide.

Last Thursday, council unanimously approved (on first reading) adoption of a third TOD station area plan and its TOD base district zoning. But members returned all three SAPs to staff with significant amendments – prepared in advance and sponsored by Brewster McCracken. Co-sponsoring the first two was Mike Martinez; with McCracken off the dais last Thursday, the third SAP was sponsored by Sheryl Cole and co-sponsored by Jennifer Kim, demonstrating broad-based council support. In short, council issued this policy directive to staff: "Figure out how to get 25% affordable housing done."

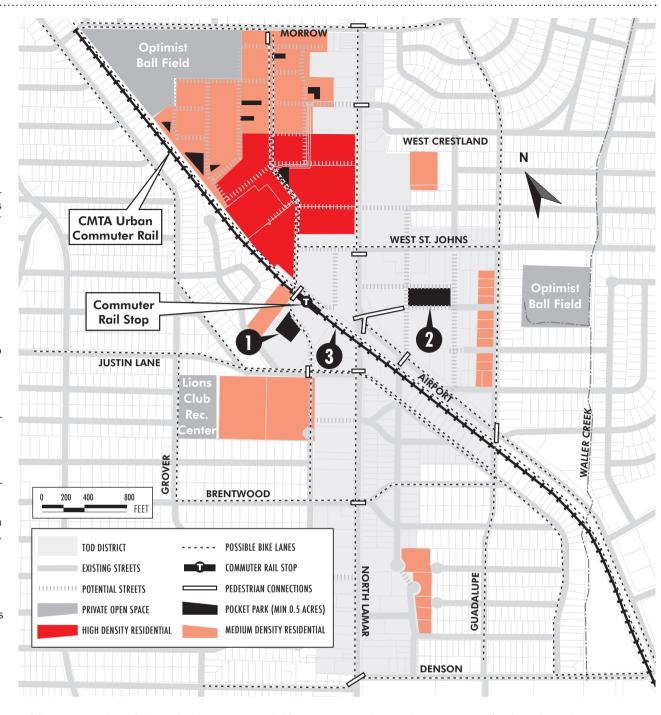
The first three station areas being planned (for districts around three stops on the new Capital Metro Red Line commuter rail) are: 1) Plaza Saltillo, 2) MLK on the Eastside, and 3) Lamar/Justin Lane in Northwest Austin. Staff had recommended requiring that only 10% of new units meet affordability standards. That's the percentage that market data suggests is feasible for private developers to underwrite; in exchange, developer/ landowners can earn density and height bonuses. (Under current city standards, affordability is designated as 60% of median family income for rentals and 80% of MFI for for-sale units.)

But the original council policy for TODs established a 25% affordable housing goal. That leaves a gap of 15% - the portion over and above what private developers can afford to subsidize. Particularly in the Eastside TODs, where recent appreciation has been fierce, yet many incomes remain poverty-level, there's a huge gap between what the average new home costs and what a household at 80% (owner-occupied) or 60% (rental) of median family income can afford. According to a review by consultant Diana McIver & Associates: "Required per-unit subsidies for homeownership units ranged from \$83,131 to \$149,951 per unit, depending on the TOD. Required subsidies for rental units ranged from \$75,870 per unit in the Lamar TOD to \$127,623 per unit in the Saltillo and MLK TODs." (DMA will be doing additional analysis to more accurately put a price tag on the 15% gap for each station area.) It's a big number. For an estimated 1,300 or so affordable units in all three TODs (25% of total housing units), at a ballpark subsidy of \$100,000 per unit, the total financing gap translates to around \$130 million. Funding that will require creativity, expertise, and political will.

In its March 25 action, the Planning Commission unanimously voted to "strongly recommend that the city council establish a clear and firm plan to help developers achieve the 25% affordability goal." If they fail to do so, redevelopment may not occur, or developers may opt to forego the density and height bonuses. Since council wants to see increased density in these areas, it behooves the city to clearly show developers (and neighborhoods and voters) a workable plan for subsidizing 25% of all new units. Developers would only be liable for subsidizing the first 10%.

A study by Kathleen Kane-Willis at Roosevelt University notes: "Constructing any type of affordable housing requires numerous subsidies. It is not unusual for a developer to utilize more than seven different sources of funding - sometimes referred as the 'layered' or 'lasagna' method of completing financing of a project. This layering of subsidies is common in affordable housing and necessary to close the financing gap. Most developers currently combine federal money disbursed through local and state governments, a housing block grant program (HOME), and the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)."

Based on interviews with city staff, city consultants, community advocates, and council members, no one has yet devised the winning recipe for our local deep-dish lasagna. While a



POCKET PARKS THIS OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS CONCEPT PLAN IS PART OF THE LAMAR/JUSTIN STATION AREA PLAN.

1 and 2 show proposed locations for pocket parks; council has asked staff to draft commitments to acquire specific tracts of at least a half-acre each.

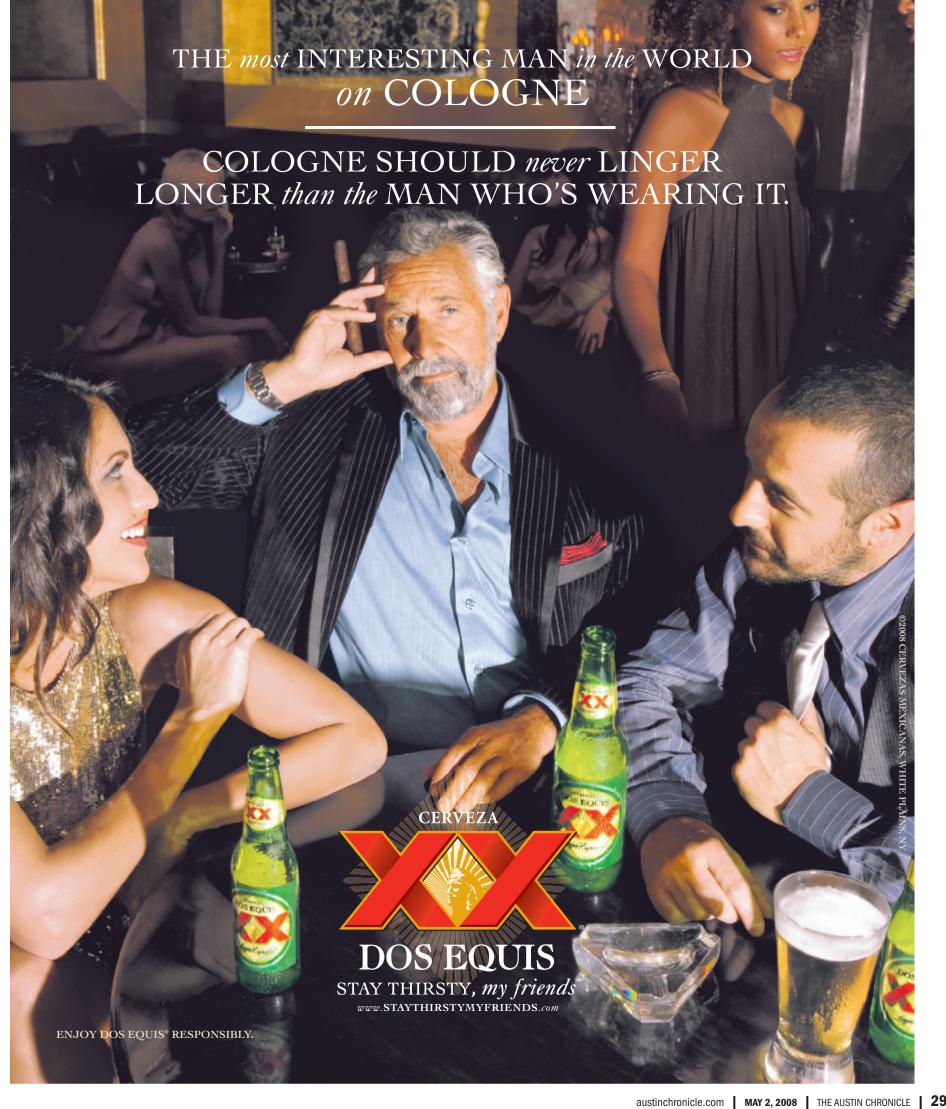
is a recommended Rails With Trails hike-and-bike trail, along the Capital Metro rail line.

In addition to maintaining the commitment to 25% affordable housing, council asked for all three SAPs to be returned with more specific parks and trail acquisition plans.

25% affordable housing goal is being met at Mueller, that's on city-owned land; Austin is striking out into virgin territory trying to achieve the same goal on privately owned land (dozens of separate parcels) in each transit-oriented district. On the city's side, a likely source of subsidies is the affordable housing bond money approved by voters. Staffers are determining exactly how much of the \$55 million approved remains unallocated and available for TODs. Council also amended the draft SAPs to direct that staff create tax-increment financing within the districts "to fund public responsibilities." Possibly those commitments could include affordable housing subsidies. Both the Plaza Saltillo and MLK station areas are within the Homestead Preservation District; there, a special TIF for affordable housing is an option (but only a single TIF is viable).

What's encouraging is that council is pushing everyone to get creative, by reasserting its aggressive 25% goal. Given the staff recommendations, it would have been easy for council to say, "Whoops, too hard!" McCracken & Co. added other wellconsidered amendments as well - to implement parkland acquisitions, coordinate utility improvements, create sustainable landscape standards, and address other issues (some forwarded by the Planning Commission). McCracken said he particularly wanted to ensure that specific parcels are identified upfront for new neighborhood pocket parks (and not upzoned, which would increase the city's acquisition costs). He's also advocating that sustainable landscaping standards (use of native species, etc.) be required to earn density bonuses; those are likely to follow the national Sustainable Sites Initiative being developed by the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in partnership with the American Society of Landscape Architects and the United States Botanic Garden.

Now the ball is back in staff's court. Addressing these detailed council directives will require coordinated input from high-level staff in multiple city departments, which will take at least a month. Look for the next draft of the station area plans to return to council on May 22, or soon thereafter.



BILLBOARD BATTLE CONTINUES

Ever since the Johnsons pushed the 1965 Highway Beautification Act through Congress, Texans have been trying to get advertisements away from the roadside. Now, the city of Austin's latest attempt to reduce the number of billboards has hit a partial impasse over whether to move them out of Downtown, or wait for them to fall over.

The council was supposed to discuss a new ordinance aimed at reducing the impact and overall number of billboards at its regular meeting last Thursday. But on April 19, the ordinance co-sponsor Mike Martinez asked for the hearing to be postponed until May 8. "My stated goal from the very beginning," he said in a press release, "was to ensure that we 'unclutter' Austin as best we can." After lengthy consultation with city commissions, billboard companies, and environmental groups, Martinez is cutting back on his ambitious plan.

On Nov. 8, Martinez and Mayor Pro Tem Betty Dunkerley sponsored a resolution to dramatically amend the city code on ground transportation passenger services and the sign-regulations section of the Land Development Code. Under this amendment, sign owners, rather than property owners, would become responsible for registering their billboards with the city - and they could face fines for failing to do so. This is widely seen as an essential first step toward any meaningful billboard regulation, since there is no agreed count of the number of billboards in the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction: City staff estimate 671, but Scenic Austin says 773.

The most significant new regulations aimed to reduce the number of billboards and get them away from Downtown. Since 2004, the city has allowed billboard owners to relocate signs, but there were no incentives to move them. The proposals made in November offered significant incentives to the ad industry, which Martinez's chief of staff, Bobby Garza, compared to "cap and trade" policies for pollution emissions: existing billboards could be relocated to new sites in commercial sign districts and to certain scenic roadways that, due to development,

weren't so scenic any more. Moreover, the new billboards could be more than double the size of the original ones, from 300 square feet to 675 square feet, and existing signs could be raised or lowered for better visibility from elevated roads. To make this an omnibus billboard bill, Martinez and Dunkerley took the opportunity to tackle mobile advertising, by charging fees for taxis that sell ad space and banning altogether mobile billboards pulled by motorized vehicles.

But Martinez's plan seemingly pleased no one. The only change for fixed billboards the Design Commission supported was the shift to low-wattage lights. It opposed "the concept of relocation [and] recommends eliminating the concept entirely," and argued for extending billboard-free zones, which currently just cover residential structures, to include schools. The Planning Commission was less critical of relocation but still did not recommend several key elements, such as the scenic roadway changes.

Other stakeholders were also opposed. Scenic Austin, which was invited by council to comment, holds that relocation becomes a billboard preservation measure. "It's just moving them from one business corridor to another business corridor," said President Girard Kinney. The same discussion was held back in 2004, the last time the ordinance was amended: "We argued that if you allow one billboard to be relocated, those billboards that would have gone down because of land-use changes will not go down while they wait to relocate," said Kinney. He noted that, in the decade before relocation, 125 billboards were removed permanently; since the 2004 rule change, only 19 have been relocated, and there have been no permanent removals.

In the wake of this criticism, and with broader support for annual registration and the mobile billboard restrictions, Martinez plans to bring a new streamlined ordinance before council on May 8. For fixed billboards, the relocation clauses will be stripped away, leaving only registration, the green lighting requirements, and an online billboard database. The streamlined proposal keeps the mobile billboard ban, but the taxi ad

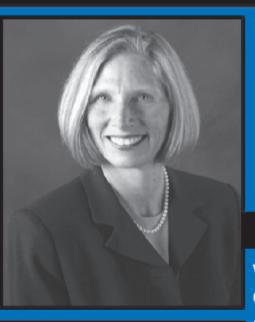


Scenic Austin says owners will keep billboards in place for years while they wait for sites elsewhere in the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction - even if they become obscured by new buildings.

clause is gone (it only passed through the Urban Transportation Committee on a narrow 4-3 vote, while Scenic Austin pointed out that, by singling out taxis and not including buses or pedicabs, the proposed sign amendments could actually violate equal application requirements of the First Amendment).

Before the announcement, Garza accepted the difficulty of getting anything done on "a policy that is steeped in all this emotion." But even with the most controversial section removed, the amendments could face severe criticism, beyond the Design Commission and Scenic Austin's continued criticism of any relocation policy and the billboard industry's opposition to mandatory registration and fines for failure to comply. John Anderson of local mobile billboard firm Anderson Advertising argues that mobile billboards offer the city the opportunity to cut down on the number of fixed billboards. His low-sulfur diesel vehicle, which uses scrolling banners, can carry up to 30 advertisements, he says, and he donates up to 30% of his inventory to nonprofits and public service announcements. If an Amber Alert is issued, "[w]e can have a billboard up in the area the next day," he said. Cracking down on the tiny number of dedicated mobile billboards, he argues, will do nothing to cut down on "bandit billboards" or vehicles covered in vinvl wraps, and enforcement would be nearly impossible. The solution, he argues, is registration for mobile billboards like the system proposed for fixed billboards. - Richard Whittaker

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- Work to direct more resources toward purchasing additional water-quality protection land over the Edwards Aguifer, 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 a 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

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- Chip Wolfe, Board of Directors, Solar Austin

"Randi is the real deal when it comes to conservation and preservation. I know she'll do a great job of advancing our community's environmental priorities on the Austin City Council."

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

"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."

> - Brandi Clarke, One Earth Bank, 2007 Austin Chronicle "Best Environmentalist"

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

> - Paul Robbins, environmental activist and publisher of the Austin Environmental Directory

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Urban Coyotes Meet the neighbors

At a recent meeting of the Allandale Neighborhood Association to discuss the presence of coyotes, a frisson of fear ran through the room when someone asked what would happen if one showed up at a school. Naturally, residents are concerned about children's safety. But covotes may be getting a bad rap. During the 11 years my three children attended the local elementary school, they were never an issue. But we did deal

with a large, aggressive dog on the playground once, and a trou-

bled resident had to be banned from setting foot on the property.

Coyotes can cause problems in urban neighborhoods, but there is little evidence that they deserve to be vilified as dangerous beasts. When more Allandale residents began to notice the animals' presence some months ago, tales flew of disappearing cats and stalked dogs. Before long, a mild panic was in the air. A general mentality that divorces us from the environment around us and the animals in it doesn't help. says Allandale resident and biologist John Lindsey. "We want to control our environment, and we can't," he says, adding

that when emotions run high, people tend to lose perspective.

No human has been killed by a coyote in modern times, says Texas Parks & Wildlife Department mammalogist John Young. Meanwhile, according to the Centers for Disease Control, every year 4.7 million dog bites send 386,000 people (half of them children) to emergency rooms and cause 16 deaths. Not to pick on dogs, the CDC also reports that on an average day, four children die in automobile accidents. Obviously, dogs and cars are a much greater risk than covotes to children and pets. yet no one is suggesting that we get rid of either of them.

What makes better sense is changing our behavior to keep coyotes in their appropriate place, according to Dorinda **Pulliam**, director of animal services for the city of Austin. For the past three years, the city has operated a coyote management program in cooperation with Travis County and Texas Wildlife Services. The program doesn't seek to remove coyotes from the planet - which Pulliam says would be neither successful nor smart - but to teach people not to provide resources that attract coyotes and can cause them to overpopulate and lose their natural fear of humans.

The program tracks coyote encounters, reported via 311 calls, assigning them a score of zero to seven. Normal coyote behavior, such as howls emanating from the green belt or sightings of them prowling the creek at night, score a no-threat zero. A covote on your porch gets a higher score. Randy Farrar, a biologist with TPWD, traps high-scoring coyotes and euthanizes them. (They cannot be relocated due to a rabies guarantine in Texas – and before the "R" word sets off another panic, skunks and bats are greater rabies threats than covotes.) Coyotes acting the way a coyote should are not removed, Farrar adds, because others would simply move in to replace them.

When coyote reports increased in Allandale earlier this year, Farrar found that coyote scat in the area was composed of 100% pet food. This readily available smorgasbord of chow was understandably attracting the animals. Coyotes are territorial, and territory size depends on three basic resources shelter, food, and water. "Unless we want to pave over Austin, it is impractical to limit shelter," Young says. "Where humans can have a huge effect is with food resources." Without pet food, pets, or trash on the menu, a coyote diet is primarily small mammals - squirrels, rats, raccoons, plus the occasional insect or lizard. This rather paltry fare will naturally limit

Removing coyotes altogether would require a sustained, ongoing effort of trapping and killing to even come close to complete eradication. And, Lindsey points out, such a campaign might even create greater threats. "Without covotes. we'd have a greater population of small mammals, including skunks, possums, and raccoons, and the issues they bring." A big raccoon can kill a cat, for example, and they certainly make a mess of your trash. Skunks are potential rabies carriers.

Cats are not much bigger than jackrabbits, and anything that would eat a rabbit - a coyote, yes, but also hawks, owls, snakes, dogs, bobcats - will eat a cat. The statistics are stark: The average life expectancy of an outdoor cat is two to five vears, while indoor cats may live 17 or more.

At the Allandale meeting, one resident commented that her outdoor cats keep rats and squirrels from wreaking destruc-



tion on her property. But it is a misconception, Lindsey says. that cats control mice and other nuisance animals. "If you get a mouse or rat infestation, there's not a mouser out there that could keep up with the reproductive rate of a rat." Foxes and other small predators with roles in a healthy ecosystem would be happy to eat pesky rodents if cats aren't around, Farrar pointed out. Humans have altered the entire natural world, some places more drastically than others, and a truly healthy, balanced ecosystem is hard to find anywhere, much less within the Austin city limits. But the less we mess with the natural balance, either by introducing outside influences or removing natural players, the better.

Removing top predators from an ecosystem, whether deliberately or inadvertently, throws the entire system out of whack. In a natural world, coyotes wouldn't be in Austin at all, and wolves would be at least part of the reason. But coyotes are here now, and even if removing them were possible, more than likely those 311 operators would then be answering complaints about raccoons and other wildlife getting into trash, destroying property, and even eating small pets. There is simply no way to get rid of all wildlife, nor would most of us truly want the sterile and less diverse natural world that would result. A much better solution is for humans - in Allandale or anywhere else - to accept and even enjoy that wildlife is part of our environment and to behave accordingly. Melissa Gaskill

COYOTE 101

These members of the canine family stand less than 2 feet tall and weigh between 22 and 45 pounds. Their color tends to be brownish-gray with a lighter belly, ears are erect and pointed, muzzle slender, and tail bushy. Coyotes breed in January and February, and the average litter is five or six but varies according to population density. Average life span in the wild is six years. Home ranges in the wild are 3 to 16 square miles but in urban environments may be as small as a quarter to half a square mile, thanks to ready supplies of food and water. Coyotes are normally active at night and early morning. They are naturally fearful of humans but can become less fearful in urban populations.

HUMAN BEHAVIOR 101

- . Do not put feed or water out for coyotes or for wild animals that are their prey (deer, rabbits).
- · Construct and position bird feeders so that coyote prey (squirrels and rodents) can't get to them.
- . Secure garbage and compost so coyotes cannot get to it. Use tight-fitting lids on trash cans and fix them so they cannot be turned over.
- Feed pets indoors; if feeding outdoors, pick up any leftovers.
- Do not allow pets to run free. Bring them in at night, walk your dog on a leash, and accompany your pet outside. Walk small dogs in open areas.
- · If you see coyotes around your home or property, throw rocks or sticks at them and make loud noises; if you're in your car, honk the horn. Report coyote sightings and behavior by dialing 311. If you feel threatened by a coyote, call 911.





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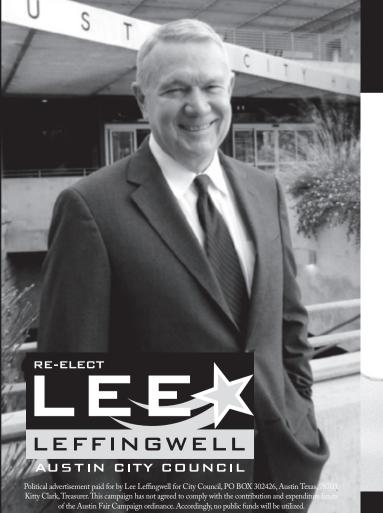
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Former Rep. Lena **Guerrero Dies of Cancer**



Former Austin Rep. Lena Guerrero strode fearlessly into the Texas House in 1985 and showed the boys how a woman gets it done. She was young, 27, and only the second Hispanic woman sent to the floor, following the Valley's Irma Rangel. Guerrero died April 24, at the age of 50, after a long battle against brain cancer. Observers remember her as someone with terrific political instincts. She could rally and organize. She was progressive without pandering, often pragmatic rather than partisan. She often used her charm and humor to her advantage in the heat of a debate, which won her friends on both sides of the aisle

Then-staffer Harold Cook said Guerrero could be "ferocious and lovable, often at the same time." By the age of 31, she was appointed by Gov. Ann Richards as the first woman and first Hispanic on the Texas Railroad Commission, which sealed her fate as the face of the new Democratic Party in Texas. But her political future came crashing down when it was leaked to the media that Guerrero had failed to finish her degree at UT, despite claims to the contrary on her résumé.

Lobbyist **Bettie Navlor**, who met Guerrero when they both worked for the Texas Women's Political Caucus, remembers the strength of Guerrero's resolve and commitment. "What I remember about Lena is that, from the very beginning, she would talk to these guys in such a way that people really felt connected to her," Naylor said. "A lot of them would listen to what she had to say. And even when you disagreed with her, she never held it against you." Navlor said many in Guerrero's inner circle urged her to "come clean" about her lack of a college degree when the first reports surfaced, to no avail. In her later years, and even while she battled her illness, Guerrero was seen as a diligent and thorough lobbyist. Funeral services were held last weekend. She is survived by her husband, Lionel "Leo" Aguirre, and son Leo, as well as numerous family members in Austin.

- Kimberly Reeves

HAPPENINGS

For more events, see Community Listings, p.80.

THURSDAY **00**

CRIME & SAFETY CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES FORUM 6:30-8pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY COMMEMORATION Professor Mira Binford presents her documentary, Diamonds in the Snow, 7pm, Texas Hillel, 2105 San Antonio, 735-8012 x17. Free. www.shalomaustin.org.

MARCH FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS 4:30pm. Texas Capitol grounds, 1100 Congress.

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR RECRUITMENT Come to one of two public sessions, and provide input into what the city should be looking for in a Parks director. (See Naked City, p.20, for more.) Thu., May 1, 4 & 6pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second

FRIDAY 00

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP AWARDS LUNCHEON 11:30am-1:30pm. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 F. Fourth, 916-6012, \$65, www.envisioncentraltexas.org

HUMAN RIGHTS IN FLORIDA'S FIELDS The Student/Farmworker Alliance presents traditional Vera Cruz folk music and an update on how a petition to Burger King made history. 7pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free.

SATURDAY **0**

CANNABIS CRUSADE MARCH & POTLUCK The march to the Capitol begins at noon, after a morning of sign-making and taco-eating. The rally lasts till 4pm, after which you'll head back to Zilker for music, disc golf, and more. 10am-10pm. 585-6369. Free. www.texasnorml.org.

INTERNATIONAL MINING FORUM Learn about the economic and environmental impact of gold and silver extraction in Guatemala. 7pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free.

WOMEN'S RESOURCE FAIR features free legal, medical, health, and job-skills services for homeless and battered women and children. 9am-3pm. Schmidt-Jones Family Life Center, 1300 Lavaca. Free.

SUNDAY **04**

COVER THE UNINSURED HEALTH FAIR & RALLY Noon-2:30pm. Texas Capitol grounds, 1100 Congress. Free. hcfataustin@gmail.com

DON'T EMPTY LAKE TRAVIS Help conserve Lake Travis at this fundraiser featuring auctions, a catfish dinner, music, and more. 2-8pm. Carlos'n Charlie's, 5973 Hiline Rd., 267-0151. \$30 (\$25 advance). www.draininglaketravis.org

MONDAY **OG**

IRAQI TRADE UNION TOUR A short film screening and discussion. 6pm. Texas State Employee Union Hall, 1700 S. First. Free. vickicbradley@aol.com.

TUESDAY **06**

CHINA/TIBET FORUM 7:30pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free.

ENGAGE SPEAKER SERIES: FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN TEXAS 7:30-9am. Chez Zee American Bistro, 5406 Balcones, 499-0435. \$25. www.leadershipaustin.org.

WEDNESDAY 00

CENTRAL WEST NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING WORKSHOP 6:30-9pm. Austin State School, 2203 W. 35th Bldg. 526, 799-4370. www.ci.austin.tx.us/zoning/central_west_austin.htm.

THURSDAY **08**

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT: A CONVERSATION with District Court Judge Charlie Baird, Assistant D.A. Gary Cobb, defense attorney Keith Hampton, and you. 7pm. First United Methodist Church, 500 E. Pecan, Pflugerville. Free. www.pflame.org.

CAUSES OF IMMIGRATION DISCUSSION 7pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.workersdefense.org.

ONGOING

DEATH PENALTY DOC SCREENING At the Death House Door screens around town this week. See www.tcadp.org for times and dates. 258-6480. \$5 suggested donation.

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 the Governor's Mansion right here in Austin, Offer words of encouragement (or donations) at www.myspace.com/capitalxaka305375.

The Return of Bike Month

It's time again for that annual bonanza of bicycling known as Austin Bike Month. With gas prices gone wild and climate crisis at critical mass, there's no better time to curb the car. Organized by the **Austin Cycling Association**, Bike Month includes opportunities for the inexperienced to try bike commuting, join recreational group rides, and learn safe bicycling techniques - and there is also a number of activities for seasoned cyclists. See www.austincycling.org/bike_month.php for a full list of events. Here's this week's rundown:

Friday, May 2 Civic Bicycle Cruise, aka Political Pedal

Join elected officials and community leaders on an easygoing cruise around Downtown en route to the Bicyclists' Happy Hour. 4:45pm. Austin City Hall Plaza, 301 W. Second, 389-2250.

Bicyclists' Happy Hour

Join the Civic Bicycle Cruise, or just show up for snacks, libations, and lively conversation. Enjoy valet bike parking and live music! 6-7:30pm. The Rio Grande Mexican Restaurant, 301 San Jacinto. bikeeric@yahoo.com.

Saturday, May 3 Capital Area Bicycle & Pedestrian Summit

Share ideas on promoting bicycling as a viable transportation mode. Register online at www.campotexas.org/programs_bicped.php. 9am-4pm. UT campus, Jester Center, 21st & Speedway, Free.

Hundred Acre Wood Overnight Ride & **Camping Event**

The Hundred Acre Wood, a new event space 20 miles east of Downtown in Manor, hosts an arts & crafts fair followed by camping beneath a meteor shower. It's free, but participants must register at www.austincycling.org. Start time TBA. Ride begins at Yellow Bike Project, 2013 E. 51st. Destination: The Hundred Acre Wood. 21707 Hog Eye Rd., Manor.



Sunday, May 4 Inside Austin/Beginner Ride

This scenic ride entirely within Austin follows established city bicycle routes, begins in North Austin, and cruises leisurely through historic Central neighborhoods, landmarks, and parks. A 10- to 12-mile beginners ride will depart from the same location later that morning. 8am. Pillow Elementary School, 3025 Crosscreek Dr., 345-1154.

COUNCIL GETS BIKE HAPPY

Just in time for Austin Bike Month to kick off, City Council took three decidedly pro-bicycle actions last Thursday. With a landmark project under way to update the city's 10-year-old Bicycle Plan (intended to institutionalize bicycling as a viable transportation mode), council showed its support by passing a resolution calling for efforts to elevate Austin's official bike-friendliness ranking (as rated by the League of American Bicyclists) from silver to gold. Council also voted to base the bike plan's update in large part on the recently completed recommendations of the Street Smarts Task Force. another significant bike-mobility effort that responded to community demands that the city find ways to make cycling safer and more mainstream. Finally, council also passed a resolution, sponsored by Council Member Shervi Cole, to coordinate city interdepartmental efforts to build off-road, interconnected bikeways through Austin's parks and green spaces. "As we contemplate mobility, bicycle and pedestrian considerations should be included," Cole said. Stay tuned for more bike reporting throughout the month.

For more info on the city initiatives, see www.ci.austin.tx.us/council/ streetsmarts.htm and www.ci.austin.tx. us/bicycle. - Daniel Mottola



Jennifer Kim is Endorsed By:

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Austin Women's Political Caucus Austin Central Labor Council League of Bicycling Voters Capital Area Asian **American Democrats**

Central Austin Democrats

Capital Area Progressive Democrats

Capital City Young Democrats

Southwest Austin Democrats

Austin Tejano Democrats

West Austin Democrats

JENNIFER KIM REFUSED **COUNCIL PAY RAISE**

When the Austin City Council voted for a pay raise, Jennifer Kim refused to accept it.

Pol Ad Paid for by the Jennifer Kim Campaign, Cecilia Crossley, Treasurer. P.O. Box 42258, Austin, TX 78704. This campaign has not agreed to comply with the contribution and expenditure limits of the Austin Fair Campaign Chapter.

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s an ACC Trustee, I will work with the community to expand economic and educational opportunities for all of Austin and to ensure that the college effectively meets the growing workforce needs of our community. I ask for your vote on May 10th."

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REEFER MADNESS

The Presidential Contenders on Drugs

When the next president takes office in January, he, or she. will be the proud new parent of two outrageously expensive wars: the war in Iraq and the domestic War on Drugs. While the candidates have spent a fair amount of time talking about the first - and how we might (eventually) end it - they have spent embarrassingly little time talking about the severaldecades-old drug war.

According to the Congressional Research Service, the cost

of the Iraq war now tops \$500 billion - a fraction of the tax money that's been spent doing battle at home. The economic cost of the War on Drugs is difficult to estimate: There are the annual toilet-flushing expenditures, like the millions tossed into the ineffective anti-drug media campaign and the millions more sent overseas for ethically and environmentally questionable programs, like coca-crop-spraying Plan Colombia. There are the annual costs associated with incarcerating drug offenders - the only real "plan" of action we have for dealing with what otherwise (and in many other countries) would be considered a public-health concern: According to the Washington, D.C.-based Justice Policy Institute, the annual cost of incarcerating drug offenders in state and federal facilities amounts to a whopping \$8 billion per year. Above all, of course, there is the inestimable human cost of the war: Countless families destroyed, not only by substance abuse but by the fallout associated with our collective approach to handling such things - throwing users in jail, branding them criminals, and resigning them to life as second-class citizens, often disenfranchised from the democratic process and quite likely destined for continuing economic struggle.

And you'd be hard-pressed to find a government-approved 'program" more shamelessly racist than the drug war: As of July 2007, some 2.2 million Americans were behind bars, and nearly half of them (900,000) were black, reports the nonprofit Sentencing Project. The startling increase in the number of incarcerated citizens - up 500% since the 1970s - has been driven by the number of individuals locked up on drug charges. Even though whites and blacks use and sell drugs at a similar rate, in 2003 twice as many blacks were locked up on drug offenses - blacks made up roughly 13% of the total U.S. population but accounted for 53% of drug offenders sent to state prisons that year, the JPI reports. Even in "liberal" Austin the numbers are staggering: According to JPI, in Travis Co. blacks are 31 times more likely than whites to be incarcerated on drug charges.

Given the sobering reality of the federal drug strategy, one would think our presidential candidates -Democratic Sens. Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton and GOP Sen. John McCain - might see fit to spend at least a smidgen of their seemingly endless time on the stump addressing this issue, if not actually mustering the courage to speak the truth, however unpopular it might be (rather than simply assuming the citizenry too addled to comprehend the difference between being smart about drug policy and being "soft on crime" - which is the aggravatingly myopic approach to which we've been subjected for years).

To date, this election season has been no different than others regarding candidates' public positions on drug-war policies. That said, there are some bright spots - although until recently, ferreting out where the candidates actually stand hasn't been easy. Thanks to the Sentencing Project (and other online sources), voters can now see where the candidates stand on a handful of drug-war issues. For a March report, the project combed through candidate speeches and other public comments compiling a list of candidate platforms on various criminal justice policies. Among the highlights:

On mandatory minimum sentencing: In 2003, Obama said he would "vote to abolish" all mandatory minimums; in February, however, he'd hedged, telling the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in a candidate questionnaire that he's aware "every leading expert body in criminal justice" opposes the use of man-min sentences and that if elected he would "immediately review these sentences to see where we can be smarter on crime and reduce the ineffective warehousing of nonviolent drug offenders." Clinton, meanwhile, appears to be straddling the fence on the issue; in the same questionnaire, she responded that manmins are "appropriate" for certain violent crimes but have been applied "too broadly in ways that are simply unfair to minority offenders." So far, it would appear McCain is still on the man-min train, telling Project Vote Smart in 2004 that he supports man-min sentences for "selling illegal drugs."

On the overall approach to the War on Drugs: Clinton and Obama have said they support diversionary drug court programs: Obama also wants more focus on prevention. Asked by Politico.com how he would deal with Washington, D.C.'s high HIV infection rate, Obama replied that needle-exchange may be one solution. McCain, for his part, acknowledges that too many first-timers go to prison.

291-1588



On the crack-to-powder-cocaine sentencing disparity:

Obama would eliminate the disparity by dropping penalties for crack, equalizing them with those for powder-coke offenses. He's co-sponsoring legislation to do just that. He also favors making sentencing changes retroactive, which would benefit inmates sentenced under previously draconian policies. Clinton initially supported lowering, but not eliminating, the crack-to-powder disparity but has recently come around to join the pending equalization legislation; she opposes retroactivity. McCain has remained mum. For more details, go to www.sentencingproject.org.

This Bud's for You

U.S. Reps. Barney Frank, D-Mass., and Texas' own Liberpublican **Ron Paul**, R-Surfside, joined forces recently on legislation aimed at taming the federal law enforcement war on pot. Frank introduced House Resolution 5843, the first pot-decriminalization measure introduced in Congress in 24 years, which would remove from federal law the possibility of arrest, prosecution, and jail for "responsible" adult tokers and would eliminate penalties for possession of up to 3.5 ounces. Frank and Paul also filed the Medical Marijuana Patient Protection Act, which (again) seeks to end federal raids on medi-pot dispensaries and to end the federal harassment of ill patients who use the drug in compliance with state laws. - Jordan Smith





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THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

FENCING OFF OUR DEMOCRACY

Good grief, it's bad enough that the Bush-Cheney regime keeps usurping power to create an imperial presidency, but it's far worse that our Congress critters have been weaker than Canadian hot sauce, meekly giving away their own constitutional power to the autocracy.

Take "the fence," the 40-foot-high wall being built along 700 miles of our border with Mexico. This thing is monstrous, but even more monstrous is the unprecedented dictatorial authority that Congress handed to the Homeland Security czar to erect it. In 2005, our legislators gave carte blanche to Michael Chertoff to - get this - overrule any of our laws that he thinks might interfere with building this border barrier. Environmental law, labor law, property law - you name it - all can be voided on the unilateral say-so of Chertoff. Even Cheney, who claims to be his own branch of government, can't do that.

To make Chertoff's power absolute, Congress also took the astonishing step of banning federal courts from reviewing his decisions. And the czar has not been modest about asserting this autocratic rule, having already suspended more than 30 of our laws.

Two environmental groups are challenging this anti-democratic absurdity, arguing that Congress cannot hand over unbridled power to the executive branch. While a federal appeals court has ruled against the groups, they've appealed to the Supreme Court, which has never upheld such a wholesale delegation of power. Even though Congress itself surrendered its power, one of the Supremes wrote in a similar case, "Abdication of responsibility is not part of the constitutional design."

Congress' fence law sets a precedent that is an insult to our democratic ideals and a threat to our liberty. To learn more about the effort to overturn it, contact the Sierra Club: 415/977-5500 or www.sierraclub.org.

EXPERIENCE LIVES HER 5/11 - Flo Rida 5/12 - **Wilco** 5/15 - **ZZ Top** 5/29 - Return to Forever TICKETCITY.COM/AUSTIN

AUTHORIZING TORTURE

In 81 pages of chilling legalese, the Bush-Cheney regime reveals just how morally corrupt it is.

The pages, recently released under a Freedom of Information action, embody the administration's tortured legal reasoning for authorizing the torture of prisoners of war. These are the contents of a memo written in March 2003 by John Yoo, then the Bushites' top-ranking authority on the interpretation of our laws. The purpose of Yoo's memo was not merely to okay some heinous, clearly illegal, un-American acts against human beings, but - even more despicable - it also provides a detailed legal escape route so top officials would not be held accountable for authorizing such acts.

He asserts, for example, that policy-makers can legally permit such obvious abuses as water-boarding as long as interrogators don't actually intend to drown the person. Besides, he insists, in times of war, mere laws don't apply to the commander in chief.

Back in 2004, when the story and photos of Abu Ghraib shocked Americans and outraged the world, the troika of Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld clucked their tongues about the bad characters in that prison who acted with such depravity. The troika stood silent as a few of the grunts were punished and as Americans were left to wonder how the soldiers could stray so far from our nation's standards of decency.

Now, however, we see that this stain on our national honor didn't bubble up from the bottom; it was authorized from the highest level by officials who were determined to twist the law so they could do anything they wanted while exempting themselves from any responsibility. Meanwhile, Bush himself recently vetoed a ban on waterboarding, and he is keeping at least two other memos on the legality of torture a secret from us.

The immorality of the Bushites is corrupting America itself.

For more information on Jim Hightower's work - and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter.

The Hightower Lowdown - visit www.jimhightower.com.





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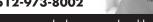
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Living Maya

Austin becomes a hotbed of past and future Maya knowledge

BY ROB D'AMICO

Linda Schele was always quite a show.

A towering figure, both physically and intellectually, she strode across the stages and workshop rooms at the annual University of Texas Maya Meetings, often peppering her language with curses and enthusiastic exclamations at moments of discovery. She liked the attention she commanded, and it fed her enjoyment in being at the forefront of research on the ancient Maya. And unlike many of her counterparts in academia, who zealously defend their findings from competing scholars, Schele encouraged lively discussion and revision of her theories, not only among the elite ranks of archaeologists, epigraphers, and art historians of Harvard, Yale, and the like, but also among those with no formal training. "She had a guru quality about her, and people would come from all over the world to Austin to hear her pronouncements," said David Stuart, a longtime Schele friend and protégé who now heads the UT-Austin Mesoamerica Center.

Schele died in 1998, of pancreatic cancer, at the age of 55. Her continuing intellectual and cultural legacy, in terms of her contributions to the reading and interpretation of Maya hieroglyphs, remains enormous. She also put UT-Austin on the map as a leading center for Mesoamerican research. Today, UT researchers continue to be at the center of groundbreaking discoveries in the world of Maya archaeology. But they also are leading a movement to bring the world of the ancient Maya into the lives of the living Maya and are engaging in new debates over archaeological discoveries of ecological destruction and its relevance to our planet today.

"Who Shall Read Them?"

When John Lloyd Stephens titillated readers with tales of Maya ruins in his Incidents of Travel in Central America, Chiapas, and Yucatan in 1841, he asked of the hieroglyphs found among the ruins, "Who shall read them?" For Stephens, it was apparent that the inscrutable adornments represented a written language. But for more than 100 years, archaeologists, historians, linguists, and epigraphers were stymied in their attempts to read the glyphs, which to many seemed to be only elaborate and artistic decorations on monuments and vases discovered throughout the jungles of Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and Belize. Unlike Egyptologists - who possessed the Rosetta stone, which laid out Greek and Egyptian in parallel with Egyptian glyphs - the Mayanists (as Maya researchers became known) had no code-breaker to rely on. In the 16th century, Spanish priests and authorities had burned thousands of ancient Maya books written on bark, since they were considered satanic. And they purged any knowledge of the glyphs in the conquered Maya population, with punishments of torture and execution for anyone found to practice the writing. Eventually, however, researchers came to realize that the glyphs were more than just icons or symbol images – that instead they actually represented a spoken language. Scholars armed themselves with the few reading clues available. (See "Filming the Code-Breakers," p.42.) The deciphering came slowly, as researchers often competed against each other and clashed over their theories.

Creating Maya Studies

Linda Schele wasn't an archaeologist or an epigrapher or a historian or a linguist, at least in the beginning, although she eventually adapted aspects of all these disciplines to her research. A studio artist, she became entranced with the Maya after visiting the ruins of Palengue on a 1970 vacation to Mexico with her husband. David. There she met a fellow American artist. Merle Greene Robertson, who lived in Palenque and spent her time in a passionate pursuit of preserving and enhancing the glyphs with drawings, photographs, and rubbings of the stone. Schele returned to Palenque several times to work with Robertson, and although she eventually became an expert on many facets of Maya research, it was her participation in the now famous Mesa Redonda (round table) meetings in the early 1970s informal gatherings of glyph buffs held in

Palenque and other locations - that propelled her into the limelight. Schele began deciphering glyphs in rapid succession, partly because of her natural taland methodical approach, but also because of her insistence on working with people from all walks of life.

"Linda was a very dynamic person and a charismatic leader," Stuart said. "And she invited collaboration, which is what works best when tackling the glyphs." Her groundbreaking work led her to a fellowship in pre-Colombian studies at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, D.C., and eventually to UT for

graduate studies, where she was awarded a doctorate in Latin American studies in 1980.

UT-Austin became a natural destination for some Maya archaeologists due to its relative proximity to the sites and because it already housed a prestigious Latin American studies program and the world-famous Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection library. Schele began teaching in 1981, and over the next decade, she became the big draw, as aspiring archaeologists and art historians clamored to be her grad students. "It was an exciting, vibrant time," recalled Julia Guernsey, a grad student of Schele's, who arrived in 1993 and now works as an associate professor of art and art history at UT's Mesoamerica Center. "Linda did so much for the program and trained so many people."

Another Schele student, Ed Barnhart, remembers her as "a real character, a cult of personality that drew people from around

the world. She was just so enthusiastic in her work, and she had a different style than most of her peers. She cursed a lot and jumped up and down yelling ... and she cracked a lot of jokes." Barnhart, who received his doctorate from UT in 2001 and now runs the nonprofit Maya Exploration Center in Austin and Palenque, said Schele wanted to be the first professor to teach glyphs, and in doing so, she essentially "ushered in the era of Maya studies at UT.'

Everybody Welcome

For Schele, collaboration with peers and students in academia wasn't enough. In 1977, she helped launch a series of annual glyphreading workshops and research presentations that eventually became the Maya Meetings. The meetings weren't intended to be drab symposiums, though, as Schele wanted to capture the spirit of the productive Mesa Redonda gatherings. She made it clear that anyone - regardless of his or her occupation or knowledge of the Maya – was welcome. Then as now, participants from around the world would come to Austin each March to learn how to read glyphs in basic, intermediate, and advanced four-day workshops and to share their findings in presentations.

Some 250 people signed up for this year's March Maya Meetings, which focused on new

Linda Schele put

UT-Austin on the map

as a leading center

for Mesoamerican

research. Today, UT

researchers continue

to be at the center

of groundbreaking

discoveries in

the field.

research out of the Copán ruins in Honduras. "They're not all archaeologists,' Guernsey said. "They're dental hygienists, for example, that love archaeology. ... It's really fun." Indeed, a sampling of participant professions included architects. nurses, retirees, many of whom had attended the meetings for several succeeding years.

Inga Calvin, an archaeologist at the University of Colorado, has been coming to the meetings for 12 years. "The meetings bring together the best of Maya scholarship," she said. "But most important is the format, since there is so much

opportunity for discussion, rather than other formats where you get up and speak for 15 minutes, and that's it."

"I don't think that there are that many meetings like this in the world where you have that kind of access to top professionals in the field," Guernsey continued. "And that was something that Linda Schele was adamant about, making it accessible. She'd be up on the stage, and someone would stand up – because you could - and say something questioning her, and she'd say, 'Oh, shit!' ... She was willing to admit she was wrong. Not only that, but she'd recognize their point, tell them to write it up, and then she'd publish it."

Starting Early

While Schele may have been the catalyst for UT becoming the hub of all things Maya, it was continued on p.40

≱FixAustin.org **Animal Welfare** Voter Education Guide

With three Austin City Council seats up for election on May 10, 2008, FixAustin.org has been contacted by countless Austinites asking the same question: Which candidates care most about Austin's homeless pets? After careful review of the candidates' records and responses to our questions, FixAustin.org has answered the call.

Laura Morrison and Randi Shade ****

Two candidates rise above the rest when it comes to interest in, knowledge of, and passion for Austin's homeless pets: Laura Morrison and Randi Shade. Morrison fought the City's ill-conceived plan to relocate Austin's animal shelter from the shores of Town Lake, and intelligently engaged all stakeholders including homeowners in East Austin — before reaching her own conclusions. Shade exhibits the intellect and passion needed to dramatically change the way Austin's pound does business. Morrison and Shade favor rebuilding Austin's pound on Town Lake, implementing programs that have ended shelter killing in other cities, and holding shelter management accountable for poor performance.

Allen Demling and Jason Meeker 👑 📽 📽 📽

Allen Demling and Jason Meeker scored impressively: both favor rebuilding Austin's pound on Town Lake rather than relocating it. Demling offers a thoughtful approach to animal-welfare issues, and Meeker is unafraid to take on shelter bureaucrats mired in the status quo.

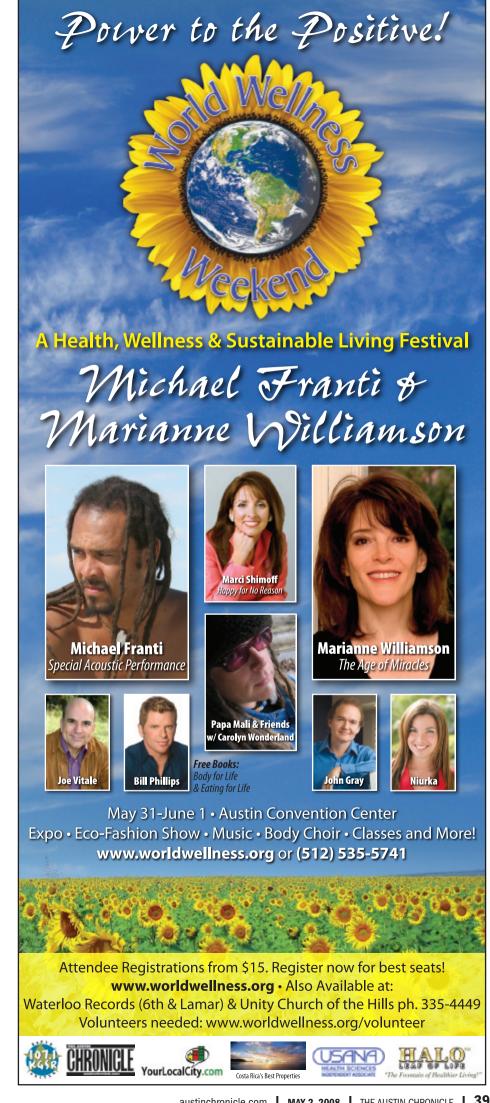
Lee Leffingwell and Jennifer Kim 📽 📽 📽

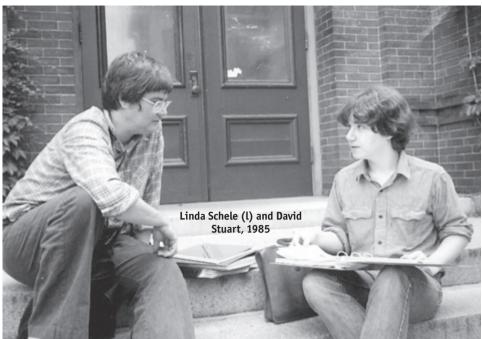
Incumbents Lee Leffingwell and Jennifer Kim have each demonstrated leadership on animal-welfare issues. Leffingwell brokered the "compromise" plan to move the animal shelter but keep part of it open as an adoption center, and Kim initiated Council action to regulate the sale of unaltered pets. But both voted to relocate Austin's shelter away from the heart of the City — a decision that will mean fewer visits to Austin's pound, fewer adoptions, and even more killing.

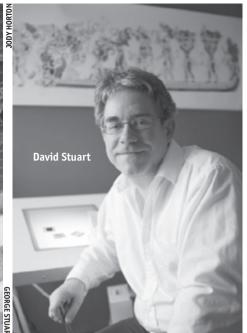
Cid Galindo 👑

Cid Galindo favors not only relocating Austin's animal shelter away from downtown, but also eliminating Council's commitment to keep part of the shelter open as an adoption center. Galindo is an intelligent and thoughtful urban planner, but he sees no role for homeless dogs and cats in his vision for downtown Austin.

FixAustin.org is Austin's only non-profit organization aiming to end the killing of lost and homeless pets through the implementation of proven, cost-effective methods that have ended shelter killing in other cities. For more information and to read the candidates' complete responses, please visit FixAustin.org. Some candidates were not scored due to incomplete information; these ratings are not endorsements.







Linda Schele and David Stuart: If Linda Schele was the catalyst for UT becoming the hub of all things Maya, it was David Stuart who cemented the university's reputation on a par with Harvard and Yale.

David Stuart who cemented the university's reputation on a par with Harvard and Yale, which had been active in the Maya world for decades. Stuart, born in 1965, got his introduction to the Maya on trips to Latin America with his mother and father, George Stuart, who worked on Maya research for the National Geographic Society. As a child, he studied with and assisted Schele in Mexico and was just 12 years old when he presented his first research paper to a crowd of Mayanists in Palenque.

Like Schele and others mastering the glyphs, Stuart began drawing them and isolating them for study. He soon was, as he puts it, "obsessed" and has been deciphering them ever since. "For a lot of people, it's like a puzzle you can't get out of your head," he said. By his teens he was contributing major discoveries to the field of Maya epigraphy and, at age 18, landed a MacArthur Fellowship that let him continue to do research freely, without the constraints of college coursework. He went on to receive his doctorate in anthropology from Vanderbilt University in 1995, published several books and many papers including the groundbreaking "Ten Phonetic Syllables" – and taught at Harvard for 11 years before the call came from UT in 2004. Because he was following his mentor. Schele. who created the foundation of epigraphy studies at UT, a position here was a perfect fit for Stuart. He became the Linda and David Schele professor of Mesoamerican Art and Writing and director of the Mesoamerica Center (housed in the Department of Art & Art History).

Elaine Day Schele (who married Linda Schele's widowed husband, David) is now a graduate student in the UT program, after catching the Maya bug and leaving her job as a Travis County urban planner. "My previous life, I studied the future of cities, and now I study the history of cities," she said. Day Schele said she continues to see a huge growth of interest in the UT program because of its legacy in epigraphy, as well as its multidisciplinary approach. For instance, the Mesoamerica Center faculty includes: Stuart (epigraphy), Guernsey (art history), Brian Stross (ethnobotany, food anthropology), Fred Valdez (archaeology), and Nora England (linguistics). "That's our strength, combining epigraphy, art history, and archaeology," Guernsey said.

Valdez, who surveys archaeological sites and conducts digs at the Rio Bravo Conservation and Management Area in Belize, said UT has had several influential Maya archaeologists who primarily have done field work. He adds that Stuart has become a "bridge between the old and the new" with a concentration of interdepartmental collaboration. "The overlap wasn't as broad at UT as it is today. It is so important for those fields to overlap now."

Digging the Dirt

It's not just academia that makes UT an exciting place for Maya studies. There's always the opportunity to camp out in the jungle and dig. Numerous grad students assist Valdez and others at field projects throughout Latin America, and graduates continue to contribute discoveries. Barnhart, for instance, was actively involved in archaeological exploration and mapping projects at Palenque and discovered a lost city, Ma'ax Na, in the jungles of Belize. Now with the Maya Exploration Center, he also leads tourists and students throughout Latin America, offering them well-informed looks at everything from Maya astronomy to the history of chocolate.

Stuart also is called out to numerous field projects, which inspires his work back in Austin. "I can't be stuck in this office too long," he said. "So every year I like to get out in the field." It's not hard for him to get an invitation, said Michael Scanlon, an administrative associate who helps run the Mesoamerica Center. "His experience is like no one else's, so he's involved in so many different projects. Everyone wants him ... [because] he embodies a lot of things that make the research work."

In April, Stuart traveled to one of the most astonishing finds in recent history, a well-preserved and colorful mural found in 2001 at San Bartolo in Guatemala's El Petén. Stuart actively assists the project's director, William Saturno, who also is one of his former students. Saturno marched hours into the jungle to San Bartolo and found a looters' pit (looters often beat archaeologists to sites), with a small hole that revealed a chamber with the painting. The mural, dating to about 100BC, made headlines around the world and provided a jolt of energy to Maya archaeologists, who are well aware that the jungle is still hiding exciting discoveries.

"Yeah, San Bartolo is impressive," Stuart said. "But there are several places like this still in the forest. San Bartolo was one of those places that didn't look like much on the surface. ... Thank God the looters didn't take it out. But really they couldn't, because you can't pry it off the wall."

continued on p.42

ABOUT THE MAYA

The Maya first began establishing their own artistic, linguistic, and religious identities some 2.000 years before the birth of Christ, but they're best known for their spectacular cities that dotted the present-day countries of Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, and Honduras during what is known as their Classic Period. about AD250 to 900.

During this time, the Maya built many of the spectacular temples at city-sites like Palengue, Mexico, and Tikal, Guatemala, that are now popular tourist attractions. Their populations, regionwide, numbered in the low millions, with estimates of 100,000-200,000 or more living in some of the larger autonomous city-states. They achieved astounding levels of skill in the fields of astronomy, architecture, agriculture, and mathematics. (The Maya - and probably other Mesoamerican people in the area before them were among the first cultures to use zeros, second only to the Mesopotamians.) The Maya wrote histories and accounts of ruling life on their monuments with hieroglyphs, but they also produced thousands of books written on bark paper - and burned by the Spanish in the 1500s.

It is now known that the Maya were a warlike people that - although not always as bloodthirsty as those portrayed in Mel Gibson's Apocalypto are known to have included sacrifice in their war activities and religious ceremonies. Equally bloody, but not fatal, was a ceremonial practice of kings and other elites of cutting their penises with stingray spines or obsidian (and their female counterparts puncturing their tongues with roped thorns) to let blood onto paper in a bowl, which was then burned to create a rising smoke serpent, as a connection with their ancestors.

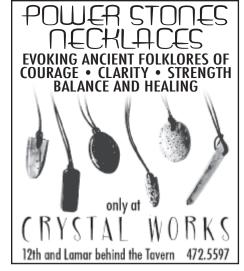
The popular destination of Chichén Itzá, in the Yucatán, became a center of political power around AD900, after many Maya mysteriously abandoned their temples and other centers of religious and ceremonial life in Chiapas and Guatemala, After a civil war of sorts between ruling lords in the Yucatán, the Maya shifted their "capital" to Mayapán, south of Mérida, around AD1200. Around 1441, more warfare thrust the Maya into chaotic political divisions, which continued until the Spanish conquistadors arrived in 1519 and defeated warring leaders around 1541. The Spanish, however, were forced to put down numerous Maya rebellions throughout the centuries leading to the independence movements of Central American countries, and rebellion was in the news as recently as the 1990s, with the Zapatista movement in Chiapas.

Today, the Maya number more than 10 million and speak 30 recognized Mayan languages, which are categorized into 12 major groups. Like many indigenous peoples in Latin America, they have been marginalized, disenfranchised, and outright killed, particularly in the brutal Guatemalan Civil War that raged from 1960 to 1996, and included the slaughter of hundreds of thou-- R.D. sands of Maya.





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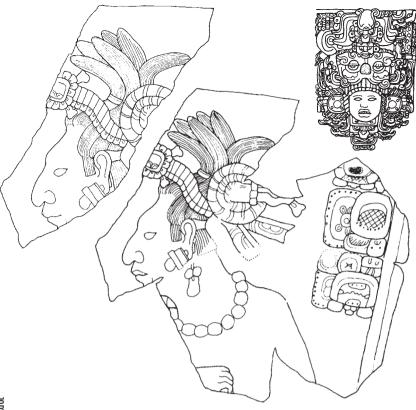
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Drawings by Linda Schele: (clockwise from left) panel reconstruction from Palengue, three headdress styles, panel from Palengue



Lessons of History

The Maya were extraordinary in their precise accounting of dates, and one such designation was based on a Long Count calendar, which last began in 3114BC and is expected to end on Dec. 21, 2012 (give or take a day, as the exact date is in dispute). That end point has created a buzz in the media as numerous Maya enthusiasts – often from a New Age movement coined "Mayanism" - have declared that since the time period has great import in Maya creation myths, the date will signal either a shift in global consciousness that will benefit mankind or doomsday events like meteors, floods, supernova explosions, and a variety of other end-ofthe-world scenarios.

What do the serious Maya scholars think? To them, it's mostly bunk - the vast majority believe that the date is nothing more than an ending of the Long Count, which merely signifies the beginning of another Long Count. Nevertheless, it's certain that doom and gloom prophecies will put the Maya in the headlines for the next few years. Stuart would like those headlines to read a bit differently, although with a similar slant to the doom and gloom conversations about where our planet is heading with climate change and other environmental concerns.

"The [ancient] Maya trashed their environment, and there were dire consequences," Stuart said. For instance, much of the forest of what was lowland Guatemala at the time was felled for firewood. Many archaeologists believe that was a major factor along with periods of drought - in the abandonment of the cities and larger population centers in the northern area of El Petén and in Chiapas. The grandeur of the Maya's Classic Period, with construction of towering temples and extraordinary achievements in

astronomy and art, came to a remarkably quick halt, which long baffled archaeologists wondering why monuments recording history stopped suddenly around AD900. "We definitely can say now that this environmental destruction was a huge issue for the Maya," Stuart said. "The idea that these native populations were always good stewards of the land is false. Human beings have always had a disruptive effect on the environment, wherever they are."

Wetter times and dispersed populations led to the return of the jungle that then buried the ruins for centuries. But today the destruction rages again. The forests of El Petén are literally

The Maya Long Count calendar last began in 3114BC and is expected to end on Dec. 21, 2012 (give or take a day).

under siege by what environmentalists call "invaders," armies of men with gasoline cans clearing the jungle on behalf of farmers and cattle ranchers. The Guatemalan government has made some efforts to halt the invasions but with little success, even in supposedly protected conservation areas. The clearing and populating of the jungle also threatens archaeological sites, since it makes the areas more accessible to looters.

Archaeological tourism is one obvious response, since tourists bring money, which leads to opportunities to protect archaeological sites. But Stuart noted that equally important is engaging the present-day Maya in archaeological research to connect them with the history, language, and religion of their ancestors. An engaged community is more likely to be part of any possible solution in protecting archaeological sites, and in helping interpret them. It would also make it harder for the governments of Mexico and Guatemala which have long isolated, disenfranchised, or simply killed the Maya - to ignore the needs of those communities.

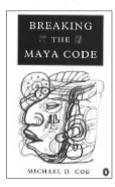
Stuart sees UT playing a significant role in this engagement, which began with direct invitations and financial support for Maya to attend the Maya Meetings each year. "These Maya are representative of a group of up-andcoming intellectuals who are very engaged in discussions on what's going on with our research," he said. Next year, some of these scholars will lead presentations, he added.

For Ed Barnhart, having Maya at the meetings and workshops learning to read glyphs has made the UT event unique. "This is a connection to their ancestors. ... They have an opportunity to read what they wrote instead of reading what someone else has written about them, which is real appealing." UT is taking its outreach a step further by opening a center for Maya research in Antigua, Guatemala, where it has been offered use of a historic 17th century estate. Stuart said he hopes to have the center - which will allow both Maya and foreign scholars to meet and confer – operational by fall.

For Stuart, UT's solid reputation in Maya research is exciting, but the most moving moment for him at this year's Maya Meetings came at the end of a screening of Breaking the Maya Code. The film showed Maya children learning to read and write glyphs in Guatemala. "Maya kids learning to write Mayan. ... Yeah, this archaeology is about ancient civilizations, but it has relevance to living people.'

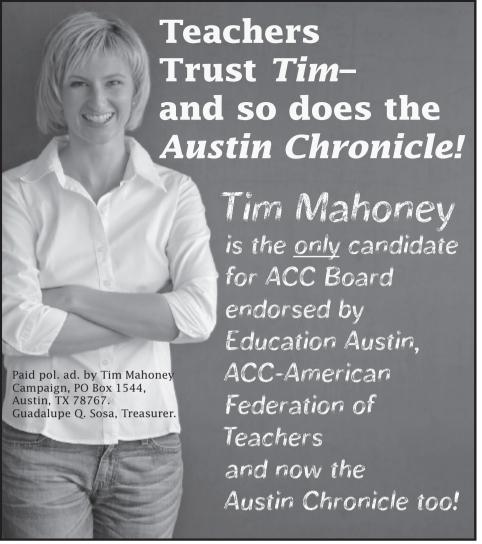
FILMING THE **CODE-BREAKERS**

The more-thancenturylong struggle to decipher the Maya hieroglyphs is a fascinating story of clashing egos, missteps, and brilliant discoveries - all captured in Michael Coe's 1992 book, Breaking the Maya Code. Much of the book covers the roles



of Linda Schele and David Stuart and others associated with the University of Texas, along with accounts of the famous Mesa Redondas (round table discussions in Palenque, Mexico). Equally impressive is the film version of the story, adapted from the book and directed by David Lebrun. Lebrun premiered the film Breaking the Maya Code at this year's Maya Meetings. "This was the toughest audience in the world, and they all loved it," said Coe, who also raved that the film maintains the subject's academic integrity while still entertaining people who know nothing about epigraphy.

The film has since played in a few festivals in the U.S. and Canada, but Lebrun hopes to have it return to Austin for a screening, as well. Until then, you can catch the 50-minute version of the 116-minute film as it was shown on NOVA as "Cracking the Maya Code," by visiting www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/mayacode. The site also has interactive pages highlighting Maya culture, timelines, and a podcast on how the ancient Mayan language may have sounded, with spoken examples from Barbara MacLeod, who got her doctorate at UT.



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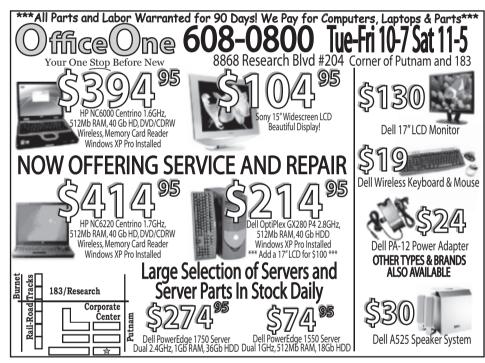


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Karen Kuykendall **Tribute** More bouquets for the missing diva

When Karen Kuykendall passed away last November, she was the recipient of many lovely tributes, but those who knew her knew there weren't nearly enough. Karen was the kind of performer, the kind of supporter, the kind of hostess, the kind of friend, the kind of - well, there's no other word - diva who sparked more stories than the Ann Richards Bridge has bats. To do this beloved Austin native and local legend justice, more tributes would be needed. Zach Theatre, where Karen starred in many shows, does its part this Sunday, May 4, 4:30pm, at the Kleberg Stage, 1421 W. Riverside. Theatre artists who worked with Karen and members of her family will perform and speak. You can expect to hear anecdotes about Karen in Zach's production of Angels in America from actor Martin Burke (The Santaland Diaries); songs from actress Jill Blackwood (Urinetown: The Musical), Karen's granddaughter Jennie Kuykendall, and crooner Jerry Conn (Say It With Music), who will be accompanied by Carol Koock, wife to Karen's brother Ken Koock; selections from Full Gallop, the one-woman show about fashion maven Diana Vreeland that was a tour de force for Kuykendall, performed by Barbara Chisholm (Present Laughter) and Karen's granddaughter Haley Naiser; and more.

Donations collected at the memorial celebration will benefit the campaign to name the stage in Zach's proposed third theatre after the divine Ms. Kuykendall. When it's completed, you can count on that to be a place where friends and fans will continue to share Karen stories for a long time to come. For more information, call 476-0594 or visit www.zachscott.com - R.F.

ACC Dance Department The joys of discovery

"I'm always surprised by what people create when they are given the opportunity to produce in a positive and supportive environment."

That's local choreographer Darla Johnson (Johnson/Long Dance Company, Big State Productions) reflecting on her work with students in the Austin Community College Dance Department, where she's been working for several years to help develop the dance-makers of the next generation. ACC's program has long been under the radar in the Austin arts scene but is noteworthy for its faculty of strong local choreographers (Johnson, José Luis Bustamante, Kathy Dunn Hamrick, and Allison Orr, among others), the regular opportunities it offers students to make and present work (such as this weekend's Spring Choreographers' Showcase), and that supportive environment to which Johnson was referring.

"We encourage our students to bring all of themselves into the process," Johnson says. "Other cultural dance forms they've studied, other artistic pursuits, any kind of movement vocabulary that they can spring from and create with. The goal is to nurture each individual's voice and to help them discover their own unique style and dance vocabulary."

Forklift Danceworks Artistic Director Allison Orr, who studied with Johnson herself, has been leading the Choreography II class, where many of the 2008 Spring Choreographers' Showcase dances were developed. In the process, she's found herself taken by "the students' abilities to solve 'problems' in creative ways - for example, how to communicate when you are finished with a dance phrase

and another dancer needs to begin when that dancer can't see you. Or how to get the whole group to start on a particular music cue when some students can't hear the music. That is what is interesting about working together, where we have issues we need to solve in creative ways. I also asked this group to create duets based on personal writing that they did in class, and I have loved seeing their unique voices and personalities come out in the choreography. All in all, what I most enjoy is seeing who they are come through in the dance. That is really a gift."

Students Tara Baker, Leah Crockett, Leigh Gaymon-Jones, Christina Houle, Sarah Leung, Victoria Pierce, Mysti Pride, Kaly Vaughn, and Sarah Wendtlandt will be featured in the program, which also includes new dances by Johnson and Orr, both inspired by their work with students. Orr's piece is rooted in the duets created by her students from the writing assignment she gave them. Her 13 dancers include three students who are deaf, four who are blind or visually impaired, and seven who are not blind or deaf, and the movement draws on American Sign Language and the use of white canes. How Many ... Circular Ruins was inspired by one of Johnson's students who spent three years in Iraq and is preparing to return for another tour.

According to Johnson, working with younger artists feeds her artistically as much as it does them. "To guide someone as they dis-



part of that process is exciting," she says, "and allows room for my own discoveries."

- Robert Faires

The ACC Dance Department 2008 Spring Choreographers' Showcase, featuring work by students from the Choreography II class, runs May 2-3, Friday and Saturday, 8pm, at the Mainstage Theater, Rio Grande Campus, 1212 Rio Grande,

The ACC Dance Department 2008 Spring Informance, featuring work by students from the Choreography I class. takes place Tuesday, May 6, 7pm, in the Rio Grande Campus Dance Studio, Room 130, Rio Grande Campus, 1212 Rio Grande. For more information, call 223-3384 or visit www.austincc.edu/dance.



Arts on Real Theatre under threat

A month ago, Arts on Real was cheerfully celebrating five years of producing and presenting plays, dance, and film on the Eastside. A week ago, however, it looked like the classy warehouse theatre wouldn't be around to see a sixth. Blake Yelavich, the actor/writer/director/producer who built the venue out of an empty Reddy Ice facility (with \$50,000 scored as a contestant on Win Ben Stein's Money and The Weakest Link), had sounded the alarm to friends and patrons: He needed to raise \$7,500 by the end of April, or Arts on Real would close by the end of May.

What happened, Yelavich says, is that he was told by LWR Family Partnership, which owns the property at 2826 Real, that he had to pay the property taxes that the lease makes him responsible for in one lump sum this year instead of spread over 12 months as he'd been able to do in the five years previously. And that total, \$8,800, was due April 30. Not having that kind of scratch just lying around - Yelavich has ever been the thrifty producer, but hey, this is still a small nonprofit theatre we're talking about - he put out the word that unless supporters sent in some cash, the theatre's days were numbered.

The tone of desperation was occasioned, Yelavich says, by the fact that the landlord wasn't open to negotiation or mediation on the matter. In defense of the property owner, an attorney representing LWR Family Partnership has claimed that Yelavich had repeatedly failed to pay rent on time, wrote checks that bounced, and owed back rent. Yelavich doesn't deny having had cash-flow problems that affected rent payments - again, this is a small nonprofit theatre - but says he was assured in March that he was up to date on rent. Whatever the case, Yelavich was still responsible for that \$9,000 payment, and with a week until it was due, Yelavich issued his cry for help.

People got the message, and they responded – fans of the theatre, certainly, but also some folks who had never been there, like the member of an East Austin neighborhood association who just liked what Arts on Real represented: an effort to add something to the neighborhood rather than profit off it. Within five days, Yelavich had the money he needed. But then he was informed that he owed several thousand more dollars and that now a total of \$15,000 would be due April 30. That put Yelavich in the position of raising another \$6,000 in three days.

As of press time, Arts on Real did not have that amount in hand, but attorney Catherine Tabor, who has been offering pro bono legal services to Arts on Real, indicated that potential donors who had not yet made contributions were willing to do so if Arts on Real was assured of an extension of its lease. Tabor obtained a new one-year lease agreement on Wednesday and was hopeful that the full amount owed LWR Family Partnership could be collected by the end of the day.

Although the Wednesday deadline has now passed. Yelavich would no doubt appreciate any support, especially in case he faces any further financial challenges. Donations may be made online at: www.2008donorpage.eventbrite.com. For more information, call 472-2787 or visit www.artsonreal.com.

First, Free Comic Book Day, and Then - Ka-Baam!!

Comic books and comedy improv go hand in hand, sometimes with repulsor rays

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

1) Nobody gives a shit about superheroes these days. We left those hyperbolic spandex-stretchers and their banal melodrama behind with the Crunchberries and the footed pajamas, didn't we, moving on as the drug-infused, hippie-dippie, late-Sixties underground of Jaxon and Crumb and Shelton and company phased through further explorations by Bill Griffith, Shary Flenniken, Jay Kinney, Trina Robbins, and so on, a rising wave of innovation that crested itself with Art Spiegelman and Françoise Mouly's Raw anthology in the Eighties just before breaking over the mainstream of what's called culture and irrevocably dampening even its most highbrow shores. Now, among scores of other notable nonhero comics, there's Los Bros Hernandez's Love and Rockets and Julie Doucet's Dirty Plotte and Adrian Tomine's Optic Nerve and the holy navel-gazing trinity of Chester Brown, Joe Matt, and Seth; Spiegelman's Maus won a Pulitzer; Jessica Abel's La Perdida debuted in hardcover from Pantheon; Marjane Satrapi's Persepolis, filmed, took an Oscar; and Chris Ware's New Yorker covers are almost as frequent as the seasons. Sweet Winsor McCay, do I need to go on? But, yeah, on the other hand ...

2) Everybody gives a shit about superheroes these days. Are you kidding? With Spider-Man and Batman and X-Men generating box-office millions; with top writers like Brian Michael Bendis and Joss Whedon and Grant Morrison revitalizing the genre in page after four-color page of self-reflective yet often violently compelling struggle; with Alan Moore hilariously upping the heroes-per-square-inch ante in his Top 10 series; with that same Moore's seminal Watchmen (finally) in film production up there in the Great White North: with artists like god-of-watercolors Alex Ross, retro-wonder Darwyn Cooke, multiplatform maestro Paul Pope, and so many talented others visualizing the infinite science-fantasy, Kryptonite-riddled, Skrull-infested multiverse; with current real-world technology slowly catching

up to the futuristic miracles of Stark Industries ... it's like every day is National Superhero Day up in here. What time is it, people? It's fucking clobberin' time.

3) Everybody likes to get something for free. How about a comic book? How about several comic books? How about almost as many as you can carry? You can do this, at independent comic-book stores all across North America, on Saturday, May 3. It's not exactly a new idea: It's been going on, annually, for six years.

"It's the first Saturday in May now, every year," says

Brad Bankston, affable head honcho of Austin Books & Comics. "It's mostly a celebration of comics and a sort of giving-back to the fans, but it has multiple purposes." He counts those purposes off on fingers faintly stained from the back issues he's been attending to in the store's vast archives: "Getting people who already read comic books to try something new, maybe a different comic than what they'd usually buy. Getting new people, who have never read

comics before, into comics. And getting people back into comic books - who might have read them in their youth and given them up for various reasons."

This doesn't mean that you can just walk in on Saturday and snag any title you want, of course: this means that a myriad of companies and stores have joined forces with big-daddy distributor Diamond Comics to offer comics specifically for this day: introductory stories, tie-ins to currently raging story arcs, whimsical one-offs. It's a fun-forthe-whole-family sort of event, with comics geared to different age groups and access restricted, so as not to offend, um, sensibilities, lest the ghost of Fredric Wertham be raised, whining, from the bone orchard or some yutz decides to sue because his precious sprog saw a cartoon drawing of Picasso's penis. For a list of available books, see www.freecomicbookday.com.

There will be reality-based comics available on this day, and there will also be, yes, illustrated stories starring any number of familiar or obscure superherotypes flexing their derring-do while wearing what seems to be their underwear on the outside. But suppose you wanted to

see a few superheroes right before your (very) eyes – in the flesh! - gaining powers, honing skills, battling some power-equivalent Bad Guy to save the world?

4) Improv is the answer, and the answer is, "Yes, and ..." Coinciding with Free Comic Book Day this year, the Hideout

presents the premiere of its newest comedy improvisation series: Ka-Baam!! This is an improv show where the classic audience suggestion will decide the sort of power a hero will have, before the performers unleash their wild narratives in bringing him or her to larger-than-life existence onstage.

Now, there's an excellent idea. But can it work as well as we might hope?

"There's always a danger, in getting suggestions from an audience, that they'll just throw out some jokey suggestion to get a laugh," says Asaf Ronen, the man behind the Austin incarnation of Ka-Baam!! "But I know that there will be people in the audience who are fans of comic books. And all fans of

comic books have this idea of the comic book they would write if they had the funding. I'm hoping to get those superhero ideas."

Ronen didn't create Ka-Baam!! himself, but neither did he merely gank it from The Big Del Close Book of Rainy Day Improv Fun.

"It started sometime in 1998," says Ronen. "My friend Steve Wacker, who I was doing improv with in New York City, created the idea because he loved comic books. And I've been in the cast – every run of it, pretty much – since '98, and then at one



point. I stepped in to direct it for him. Steve moved on to be an editor at DC Comics. In fact, DC Comics discovered him at Ka-Baam!! – they came to see the show, and from that he got an associate editorship. He's since moved over to Marvel - he's an editor there now. But, yeah, when I moved to Austin, I wanted to revive the show." And indeed he has, courtesy of the Hideout and a sponsorship from, whattaya know, Austin Books. And so each night of Ka-Baam!!, there will be a different hero, and -

"There will be three heroes each night," amends Ronen. whose black-hair-going-gray-at-the-edges might remind one of a certain Dr. Stephen Strange, "and we're gonna improvise origin stories for each of them. We've been studying the different styles of origins: the legacy hero, like Green Lantern: the science hero, like Spider-Man or the Flash; the self-made hero, like Batman; et cetera. We're also gonna have a guest artist each week, who'll draw cover art for an adventure for those three heroes - while we're doing the origins onstage. And then, based on that cover art, we'll do a half-hour team adventure. We've got artists lined up, people like Kristin Hogan of Dead Squirrel Girl and Rob Osborne, Rivkah, a few other folks I've met along the way. And we've got a nice mix of improvisers to pull this off, too. I've been trying to bring people in from all the different troupes rather than keeping it too isolated, because I want as many different styles of play as possible. So we've got Kacey Samiee from Girls Girls Girls, Jason Vines from Improv for Evil, Audrey Sansom from Improv Shakespeare, Kaci Beeler and Roy Janik from Parallelogramophonograph, a bunch of others. And we're gonna rotate the cast, too, over the weeks of the show." He grins, perhaps imagining the first night's superpowered antics in his mind's theatre. "It's gonna be a lot of fun."

By the Hoary Hosts of Hoggoth, we can't disagree.



Wanna actually buy some comics? Brenner has four recommendations online with this story at austinchronicle.com

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY

Free Comic Book Day takes place Saturday, May 3, throughout the nation. Participating area stores include:

Juniors Comics

Austin Books & Comics 5002 N. Lamar, 454-4197 **Battleforge Games** 2700 W. Anderson #402, 323-9600 **Capstone Comics** 2121 W. Parmer #107, 339-4251 Dragon's Lair **Comics & Fantasy** 6111 Burnet Rd., 454-2399 **Funny Papers**

2025 Guadalupe #256

(Dobie Mall), 478-9718

2110 Slaughter #147, 282-1302 Kenny's Collectibles of Austin 440 E. St. Elmo #400, 748-9718 **Ninia Pirate** 100 12th St. #105, Pflugerville, 512/251-0110 **Rogues Gallery Comics & Games** 1601 S. I-35 #360, Round Rock,

512/279-8888

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BLOGGERS IN PRINT

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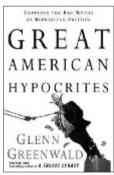
by Glenn Greenwald Crown, 304 pp., \$24.95

RIGHT IS WRONG: **HOW THE LUNATIC** FRINGE HIJACKED AMERICA, SHREDDED THE CONSTITUTION, AND MADE US ALL LESS SAFE

by Arianna Huffington Knopf, 400 pp., \$24.95

IT'S A JUNGLE **OUT THERE: THE** FEMINIST SURVIVAL **GUIDE TO POLITICALLY** INHOSPITABLE **ENVIRONMENTS**

by Amanda Marcotte Seal Press, 200 pp., \$13.95 (paper)







As the blogosphere comes into prominence this election year, several of its leading voices transition into print. But the fevered pounding of keys aside, is the act of writing books and blogs more similar than dissimilar?

An attorney versed in constitutional law, Salon blogger Glenn Greenwald approaches the abuses of the Bush regime with rigorous, unrelenting urgency. His third book, Great American Hypocrites, follows a simple idea, exemplified in the empty flightsuit theatrics of our Vietnam-avoiding president or the valuessermonizing of bathroom-trolling Sen. Larry Craig: "[T]hose who playact as powerful Tough Guys and anti-Terrorist Warriors and Crusaders for the Values Voters have lives filled with weakness. fear, unbridled hedonism, unearned privilege, sheltered insulation, and none of the 'Traditional Masculine Virtues' they endlessly tout." He devotes his opening chapter to deconstructing John Wayne, to whom Greenwald personifies the modern right. albeit not in a fashion they'd prefer; war avoidance, broken marriages, and pill-popping. With Greenwald constantly restating that Wayne "is the perfect symbol for the political right-wing movement" because "his actual life was in every respect the precise opposite of what he claimed to be" ad nauseam, it's highly repetitive - a trait that plagues the book. The rigor making Greenwald unparalleled online leaves him laborious in print. Subsequent chapters are more rewarding, with Greenwald exposing Republican hypocrisy in war-making, morals, and spending. His final chapter attacks John McCain and the sycophantic media spinning his hypocritical "maverick" image. But Greenwald reserves his most damning attacks for the media, honing in on recurrent, perverse, sexual frames - how every Republican politico's "a tough, swaggering warrior by day, a wholesome family man by night," while "Democratic and liberal males are demonized as effeminate, effete elitists, and liberal women as emasculating dykes." Moreover, it's the mainstream media - talking heads like Chris Matthews - who run with the right's "freak show," ensuring a steady diet of John Edwards' haircuts and Barack Obama's bowling scores. "It is an endless loop of self-referential narcissism - whatever they endlessly sputter is what 'the people' care about,

and therefore they must keep harping on it, because their chatter is proof of its importance." Or as he surmises, it's "tantamount to someone who keeps chewing their food and spitting it across the room and then marveling at how filthy things are and writing columns bewilderingly examining how and why the floor is covered with food and what that signifies."

Mining similar territory is blogging impresario Arianna Huffington's Right Is Wrong. While lacking the single-minded determination of Greenwald's tome, it substantively but snarkilv addresses the failings of the media and modern movement conservatism. With its chapters subdivided by headings and crammed with sidebar detours, it's practically a print version of the headline-filled, blink-and-you-miss-it HuffingtonPost.com. Huffington summons an outraged but bemused voice throughout: She describes NBC toady Tim Russert's fearmongering interview of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff as "about as priapic a display as you're ever likely to see outside of a porno film or the monkey cage at the zoo." Still, Huffington makes sound arguments regarding Republican rule – on the war in Iraq, torture. immigration, and more, "[I]t has become impossible to tell where this [party's] core stops and the fanatical fringe begins." From civil liberties to the science on global warming, for Huffington, it's not right or left, but right and wrong.

Pushing the snark further still is It's a Jungle Out There, from Pandagon blogger (and Austinite) Amanda Marcotte. Catapulted into the national spotlight when tapped to run John Edwards' campaign blog, only to be attacked for her religious views and unapologetic potty mouth, she lays out a "feminist survival guide" for crises small ("What to Do When Girls Gone Wild Comes Knocking," "Murphy Brown May Have Been Cancelled, but Her Demonic Presence Lingers"), large ("Abortion Is an Industry: Antichoice Myths," "When Sexism Isn't Sexism: The Pay Gap"), and icky ("Asshole Bleaching: The New Frontier"). Ribald, bullshit-free, and empowering, it's perfect for feminists in training - and a great example of transitioning a blog's discrete observations, irritants, and outbursts into a satisfying whole.

- Wells Dunbar

POETRY ROUNDUP

THE ROMANCE OF HAPPY WORKERS

by Anne Boyer Coffee House Press, 90 pp., \$16 (paper)

ROUNDING THE HUMAN CORNERS

by Linda Hogan Coffee House Press, 114 pp., \$16 (paper)

ISLE OF THE SIGNATORIES

by Marjorie Welish Coffee House Press, 128 pp., \$16 (paper)

THINGS I MUST HAVE KNOWN

by A.B. Spellman Coffee House Press, 162 pp., \$16 (paper)

SALTWATER EMPIRE

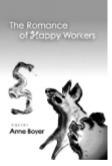
by Raymond McDaniel Coffee House Press, 130 pp., \$16 (paper)

Coffee House, the nonprofit literary press out of Minneapolis, released five diverse poetry titles during April's National Poetry Month. The Romance of Happy Workers, the new collection by Anne Boyer, co-editor of the journal Abraham Lincoln, draws foremost on the author's Midwestern roots. We read of silos and sod and, repeatedly, of the horizon, made both romantic and apocalyptic. From "Sunsets Off": "The horizon leaves the same/impression as runway: jet as air./I wake to a grain bin, the end is near:/ jimson and ditchweed, hog and trough." There's a political bent to much of this poetry; in the collection's titular poem, Boyer invokes "happy workers" in Siberia to explore the idealism of

Marxism: "We are never better than the workers!/ There are no Workers left, I'd answer,/but his sickle is hard against my knee." These are skillful poems, better observed a few at a time than all at once. Boyer's snaky language loses resonance in large

doses, in part because her poems raise more questions than they put forth.

The connection between man and nature is the unyielding subject of Linda Hogan's collection Rounding the Human Corners. Hogan is Chickasaw by blood, and, true to her previous collections, her poems often read like transcribed myths, in which humans are indistinguishable from nature and salvation is found in pursuit of the union. "Some say our lives come from the wind," Hogan writes in the "The Given." "The human, others say, is made by the mother of corn,/or clay given breath, a rib,/or comes from the great dreaming,/a congress of words and songs." Many of her lines are breathtaking, and bold in their simplicity. From "Mysteries of the Bed": "Darkness./ When moths fly away from the blown-out light,/the bed is an island." Hogan is most evocative when closing in on such gentle details, which come from her, rather than the anonymous, distant "some." On a minor note, I found myself wishing for less obvious titles. A striking poem about searching and place about restlessness - is given the unfortunate name of "Restless."













Isle of the Signatories, the sixth collection from Marjorie Welish, takes a cue from Gertrude Stein's Tender Buttons and evades comprehension. There is much to be admired here, however. Welish has developed something of a crossover following in the art world, as poet as well as art critic, and Isle of the Signatories evokes the discourse of each medium. These poems critique themselves, they critique the contexts of their subjects - walls, signs, flyers, graffiti - and, most notably, play freely with ideas, language, and, of course, representation. One can imagine "Art & Language Writes an Epitaph" all-caps, littered in blocks across the page, exhibited on a gallery wall. And this seems to be one of the points here, that words on the page are but a small part of the meaning and are themselves malleable. "Which modernity?" Welish asks of us.

A.B. Spellman's enlivening collection, Things I Must Have Known, spans decades of the scholar and jazz critic's life. Though the majority of the poems were written in the last five years, the reader will find gems from the Jazz Age and commentary on civil rights era violence. There are poignant meditations on women, presumably lost loves, and superb, deadpan musings

on the drudgery of day-to-day corporate life. Some of the most of the affecting lines, however, center around Spellman's family. In "Toyin's Sound," he describes listening to his daughter play Mozart on the English horn, and we see the heart of a father, not a critic, breaking: "her horn/is toyin's deep voice/singing through my silence/i inhale her sound: i/breathe it backwards/till the song sings me."

Saltwater Empire, by native Floridian poet Raymond McDaniel, is a haunting portrait of the post-Katrina Gulf Coast. McDaniel conceived of this collection before the storm, and it's difficult to imagine what the work would have been without its ineffaceable influence. The humid intensity of the region, paired with McDaniel's use of figurative and literal water imagery, is intoxicating, a sort of metaphoric documentary poetry. "Sea Level" opens the collection: "To know what element of air is unruly rain./What of your weight is wept or lost to sweat./What water can be caught in a photograph folded half/and half again./what witchery remains in a standing piano/what room for choruses before they become other people's music/what innocence perseveres in boxcars buried beneath sea level." Yvonne Georgina Puig





Dr. Alice Johnson

75% of people over 35 suffer from gum disease. Do you?

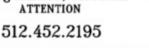


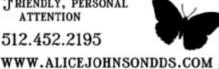
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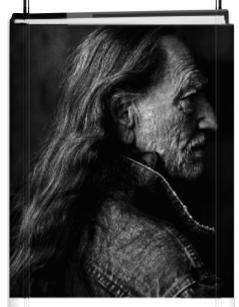
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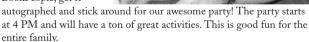
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AFTER A FASHION BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

MONDAY Hangover day of rest after a hellish (but fabulous) weekend of philanthropy and debauchery.

TUESDAY I, along with our usual gaggle of fashionistas, judged the **UT Apparel Design** majors' senior projects, from the bold and the beautiful to the tired and the uninspired. We were inspired to give a prize for Most Belligerent to a particularly prickly student whose skin, in our opinion, is waaay too thin to be in the fashion business.

WEDNESDAY I'd avoided working up until this point but could no longer put it off. I dove into a pile of virtual messages, correspondence, press releases, and phone calls. Fortunately, dinnertime gave a lovely reprieve, and I had dinner with friends at Taste, the new restaurant on West Cesar Chavez. The verdict? Faaabulous.

THURSDAY Tragedy struck. I woke up late and discovered something funny in my mouth (no, it wasn't that). During the night, I'd lost the veneer on my front tooth and had apparently swallowed it, leaving this little brown nub of a tooth for all the world to see. I scrambled and frothed until I found someone who could see me on short notice. The Austin Dental Spa (www.austindentalspa.com) on Northland is incredible. From the sympathetic receptionist who took my panicky phone call and booked me immediately to the lovely decor to the amenities (including an herbal shoulder wrap and hand massage) to the handsome, funny, and smart dentist right out of Central Casting, Dr. Mark Sweeney, the experience was superior to any dental service I've ever had. However, I was running so late I missed the Umlauf Sculpture Garden Party, which is one of my favorite parties every year, but caught the end of the Fave magazine party and then hung at Estilo after their

Spring Fashion Show. An exhausting schedule, yes? How do I do it all?

FRIDAY 10am, Pink Hair Salon for a styling appointment for a 1:30pm photo shoot. After a grueling session of posing and modeling (now I understand why Linda Evangelista said, "Christy and I don't get out of bed for less than \$10,000 a day"), I had to rush home to figure out what to wear to the UT Fashion Show. I told you that the fashion business wasn't all glamour - and as Judy Garland once said, "You can't eat glamour for breakfast." The show was predictably lavish (it is the largest annual fashion show in town), but I can tell you that many of the things we judged on Tuesday looked very different on the runway.

SATURDAY Last week when my dear friend Mark Erwin asked me if I'd do him a favor, little did I know that it would involve putting on some kind of drag and making an appearance at the crack of dawn for the Hill Country Ride for AIDS. Mark was in charge of Pit Stop No. 1 for the ride, and our job was to entertain and provide refreshments for the riders. The theme was **Studio 54**, and we had an all-star lineup: Liza Minnelli, Andv Warhol, Elton John, Diana Ross. Truman Capote, Gloria Gaynor, a fat Liz Taylor, and assorted disco denizens. I appeared as **Halston** in black leather jeans, black cashmere turtleneck, red cashmere jacket, shades (of course), "cocaine" residue on my nostrils, and a vintage bottle of **Halston Z-14**. Well, it wasn't really drag since I'd worked variations of the outfit all through the holidays, but, well, it had been a busy week, and I hadn't had much time to prepare. We decked the place out with a multicolored dance floor, mirror balls, a Studio 54 sign, fur rugs. and other Seventies relics and welcomed the riders with blar-



Pit Stop No. 1 starring (front) Truman Capote, (middle l-r) Disco Diva and Diana Ross, (back l-r) Disco Divo, Liza Minnelli, Halston, Fat Liz Taylor, and Andy Warhol

ing disco music, snacks, drinks, and an all-vou-can-snort "cocaine" bar (OK, it was really just talcum powder, but after all, nothing says Studio 54 more than fat rails of white powder). "Welcome to Studio 54! Would you like to try my new Halston fragrance?" I said as I spritzed the waves of riders as they pulled in. I did not expect to have so much fun.

DON'T FORGET The Mildred Pierce Pie Social is Sunday, May 4, 2pm, at the **Alamo Drafthouse** on South Lamar.

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





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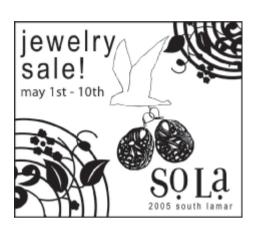
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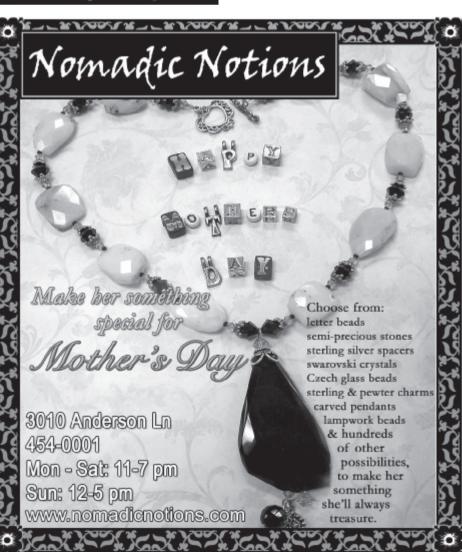


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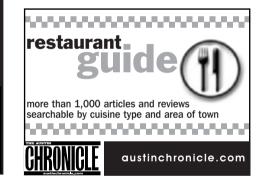
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food

54 TASTE SELECT WINES/MR. CATFISH **56** RESTAURANT ROULETTE

'MILDRED PIERCE' **PIE SOCIAL**

In the early days of my dessert/ catering business, I had a young cook friend named Eddie Behrhorst who often helped me in the kitchen. He was a huge Joan Crawford fan and absolutely loved her Oscarwinning performance in Mildred Pierce, where she played a woman who turned a pie business into a successful restaurant. On tough days he would quote lines from the movie, calling me Mildred and referring to himself as Veda (her bratty slut of a daughter). He even christened my car "the pie wagon." I have lots of laughs attached to that campy film-noir classic. Fast-forward to the present day: I have another friend who loves old Joan Crawford movies, and I have the opportunity to use our mutual affinity for Mildred Pierce as a way to raise some money for him when he really needs it.

As many of you may know, my Chronicle colleague Stephen Moser has advanced, inoperable prostate cancer. A group of his female friends, calling ourselves "Stephen's Angels," are raising money for his care and comfort. We're holding the Mildred Pierce Pie Social at the Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar. It's one of their classic movie feasts with a distinctive twist - we'll be serving 20 different kinds of pie donated by area restaurants and caterers, along with



Butterfly McQueen (I) and Joan Crawford in Warner Bros.' Mildred Pierce

Amv's Mexican Vanilla ice cream and coffee from Texas Coffee Traders. We'll have famous local pies such as the Ancho Fudge Pie from Z'Tejas, the Chocolate Ice Box Pie from the Frisco Shop, sweet-potato pie from **Hoover's Cooking**, and apple pie from Rovers in Round Top. Kathy Leverett from R.O.'s Outpost has created a new Jalapeño Dutch Apple Pie just for the occasion, and caterer **Suzanne Court** is bringing Blood Orange Meringue Pie in a pistachio

crust. (Check out the entire menu online.) In addition to classic film and classic pies, Stephen's fabulous collection of Joan Crawford memorabilia will be on sale that day, as well. We hope the Pie Social will appeal to Joan Crawford movie buffs, pie lovers, and Stephen's fans and friends who'd like to help him out. A \$30 ticket gets you all that. Join us for pie and a good time on Sunday, May 4, at 2pm. Order tickets online at www.originalalamo.com. - V.B.W.

EVENT MENU: MAY 3-7

- Texas Hills Vineyard (830/868-2321, www.texashills vineyard.com) near Johnson City presents an evening of jazz with the Jamie Hilboldt Trio, including a glass each of red and white wine, nibbles, and a souvenir glass. \$25, reservation necessary. Saturday, May 3, 7pm.
- ▶ Filmmaker and author **George Motz** will discuss his cross-country trek in search of America's best hamburgers (which included stops at Hut's, Casino el Camino, and Dirty Martin's Place in Austin) and sign copies of Hamburger America (Running Press) at Borders in the Domain (3309 Esperanza Crossing). Tuesday, May 6, 7pm.
- Share Our Strength's annual Taste of the Nation benefit for hunger relief will feature dishes from area chefs Jack Gilmore of Z'Tejas, David Garrido of Chuy's, Bruce Auden of Biga on the Banks, Robert Rhoades of Hudson's on the Bend, Kent Rathbun of Jasper's, Alma Alcocer-Thomas of Jeffrey's, Rebecca Rather of Rather Sweet Bakery & Cafe, Jonathan Gelman of the Driskill Grill, and Tyson Cole of Uchi paired with fine wines and liquors. The dinner will be held at Jasper's in the Domain, and tickets are \$150 per person. Buy tickets at 448-2801 or www.strength.org. Sunday, May 4, 6:30-9pm.

recently reviewed

more Food coverage on p.55

FINE DINING: VINO VINO Comfy decor, great wines, surprisingly good food, and reasonable prices keep everybody coming back.
4119 Guadalupe, 465-9282. www.vinovinotx.com. \$\$

PAN-ASIAN: IMPERIA Ground zero for the dim sum and small-plate craze. You'll find a great wine list, but it's the rainbow of cocktails that is truly inspired. Among the generously portioned entrées, try the Imperia Dragon Rib. 310 Colorado, 472-6770. www.imperia-austin.com. \$\$\$

▶ The Sustainable Food Center has invited area chefs and winemakers to join in its first Farm to Plate benefit for the Austin Farmers' Market in Triangle Park (4600 Guadalupe). Chefs will present tasting portions of dishes based on produce and prepared foods regularly sold at the market. Pay the \$60 ticketless entry fee at the market on Saturday or Wednesday or at www.sustainable foodcenter.org. Wednesday, May 7, 5-8pm. V.B.W.



BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

The trend of customizing desserts that started with mix-ins or crush-ins in flavors of ice cream has spread to cupcakes and cookies. Lori Schneider, owner of Figs Catering (www.figscatering.com), included a cupcake bar in a catered event last year, and the concept proved so popular, she ultimately had to create a new business entity to handle the demand. Now party-givers can share this charming retro concept by booking the Cupcake Bar (www.thecupcakebaraustin. com), Schneider's newest venture – where "entertaining takes the cake." The two-tier menu offers a per-person charge for various flavors of cupcakes, fillings, frostings, and toppings, plus beverages, ice cream, and a cupcake bartender to set up, serve, and clean up. I sampled a selection of Schneider's cupcakes after her recent launch party and was especially fond of the "nuts about chocolate" variety. Look for another new business with this same kind of groove to open in the West Campus area this summer. Pastry chef Mark Chapman is busy getting the Cookie Lounge ready to debut in the street level of a new high-rise on Rio Grande. We're told the new spot will feature several varieties of cookie batter with add-ins of your choice. Cookies are baked to order and served warm on the spot. Custom cookie orders will be available for parties, corporate gifts, and special deliveries along with many of Chapman's signature small desserts. Sounds delightful... If you happen to run into Fredericksburg Pastry Queen Rebecca Rather while she's in town serving desserts at two high-profile charity events in the coming week, be sure to congratulate her on winning an International Association of Culinary Professionals Cookbook Award for her second book, The Pastry Queen Christmas (Ten Speed Press)... Three lady friends who live in Southwest Austin joined me at the VIP opening party for the newest Chuy's (4301 W. William Cannon, 899-2489) outlet in the Arbor Trails shopping center recently. The newest addition to the successful homegrown chain features the same good food and drinks, colorful decor, and boisterous Chuy's atmosphere Austinites have embraced for years. My guests are very pleased to have them in the neighborhood... Folks in Northwest Hills welcomed an eagerly awaited Mexican restaurant to their neighborhood when the second outlet of El Chile Cafe y Cantina (3435 Greystone #112, 284-7863) opened last Friday night. The new location is casual and comfy with both a spacious terrace and a sit-down bar area in which to enjoy El Chile's enticing menu and signature cocktails... And speaking of drinks on a great patio, the folks at Fino (2905 San Gabriel, 474-2905) are very eager to share their refreshing new happy-hour offerings for summer. Drop in any weekday between 5 and 7pm for half off on all pink and sparkling wines, \$2 off on cocktails, \$1 off on beers, and tantalizing small plates for less than \$4.

TASTE SELECT WINES

202 W. Cesar Chavez, 478-2783 Monday-Thursday, 10am-12mid; Friday-Saturday, 10am-1am; Sunday, noon-9pm www.tasteselectwines.com



Taste Select Wines is part of the burgeoning Downtown winebistro scene. It offers a good selection of hand-picked wines, and their 350 retail wines are available at reasonable prices, close to or just more than what you'd expect at Whole Foods or Central Market, and the corkage fee is a flat \$10. They also have a good choice of wines by the glass or half-glass (49 wines priced between \$7 and \$26.50 a glass). I should have been trying a wider variety of their wines by the glass, but I loved the J.M. Boillot Puligny-Montrachet (\$9 for a 3-ounce glass, \$17.50 for a 6-ounce glass) so much that I just kept ordering it.

Taste also has 48 wines in the innovative Enomatic system. Guests are issued a card (a system requested by the TABC), then serve themselves any of the wines in multiples of 1.5-ounce servings. Prices vary from \$2 for a serving of Terredora Dipaolo Falanghina to \$20.60 for a Penfolds Grange. The Enomatic system keeps a layer of inert gas in the bottle, on top of the wine, which isolates the wine from the damaging forces of oxygen. That way, each glass will be as fresh as if it had been just opened. When you've had enough, return the card and Taste will charge you for whatever you've poured.

For folks still learning about wine, Taste usually has several people (especially Tanya and Kristi) who are well-educated in the selection to assist. Just tell them a price, what you intend to eat, and a few other wines you usually like, and they'll steer you right.

The small menu is designed to be wine friendly, and most items are exploding with flavor, so a little care with wine choice will pay off. Taste's secret weapon is chef Bill McGrory, late of Chicago's Custom House and New York's Mesa Grill and Craft, who makes sophisticated and creative food.

Carnivores must try McGrory's mouth-watering house-cured bacon on the charcuterie plate (\$16) or on the house bacon panini (\$12). On our second visit to Taste, five people from the wine trade were scattered around the restaurant having lunch. Three had ordered the bacon panini; 60% of a knowledgeable crew is a pretty good indicator. I stuck with the charcuterie plate, and I loved the foie gras, prosciutto, and bresaola, but the bacon was so good that I asked for more.

Sushi fans should try the ahi tuna (\$7 for a small plate, \$12 for a large one), the embodiment of simplicity: just a few thin slices of perfectly fresh tuna with a couple of razor-thin slices of preserved lemon. It takes a confident chef to let his ingredients speak for themselves.

If you want something a little more robust, the wild-boar sausage (\$9) is rich and intense and served on a bed of sautéed peppers, onions, and tomatoes. Or the duck rillette panini (\$12) that uses an obscure French technique where the duck is cooked very slowly, then shredded and mixed with a bit of duck fat. Once cooled, the French spread it on bread. Taste's version also has Taleggio cheese and roasted maitake (aka Hen of the Woods) mushrooms. Delicious.

My favorite dish is the Colorado Lamb Chops (\$17/\$32) These aren't traditional lamb chops. Instead, you get ribs from a rack of lamb, cooked exactly to order. This is another dish where McGrory lets top-notch ingredients speak for themselves. What raises the dish out of the ordinary is the lamb sweetbread on the side of the plate. Offal eaters rejoice. It is cooked perfectly so that it's still juicy and the texture is just right.

We also enjoyed the braised pork belly with grits and haricot verts (\$14/\$24). The pork belly tastes like McGrory wisely used some of the same sweets, herbs, and spices he uses on his bacon. If you're averse to pork fat, ask them to find a leaner piece. I like the fat, but mine was two-thirds fat and one-third meat.

We only had one misstep at Taste. The pappardelle (\$17) sounded great, with radicchio, truffle butter, prosciutto, and asparagus. Unfortunately, it was so oversalted as to be inedible. Since everything else was so good, I decided to order it again on a second trip, to see if we had just gotten a bad batch. Unfortunately, it was the same.

Service at Taste was always enthusiastic and helpful. We did have one waitperson whose wine and food knowledge didn't quite match his enthusiasm, but he was happy to research anything we asked about. Our other server was good enough that he would fit at the best restaurants in town.

Taste is not a megacorporate, multifacility chain. It's owned by two local brothers and their wives, Reagan and Kristi Mayces and Ryan and Tanya Mayces. They have done a beautiful job of creating a space that is both contemporary and comfy. With a huge crowd, Taste is loud, but a romantic couple can still have a quiet conversation. During lunch, when it is unaccountably not full, the place is quiet enough for a business meeting.

Downtown Austin's wine bar business is surging. Taste's balance of good wine, tasty food, and enjoyable atmosphere should earn it a good piece of that trade. - Wes Marshall

MR. CATFISH

1075 Springdale, 927-6666 850 E. Rundberg, 997-7878 Monday-Thursday, 11am-9pm; Friday-Saturday, 11am-10pm; Sunday, noon-7pm www.mrcatfish.com

David Lott's fried-catfish empire has proven its longevity, with the original location on Springdale (a few blocks east of Airport Boulevard) open going on 14 years now and the Rundberg location (one block east of I-35) open for seven years. Both locations are all about the food, with comfortable but ungussied ambience and decoration; to use the word "funky" wouldn't be a stretch, especially in describing the music. Orders are placed at the counter, and then you wait for your number to be called. Everyone you deal with is friendly and pleasant.

The quasi-Creole menu is detailed on the website, but in short, it offers fried catfish, whitefish (tilapia fillet), shrimp, oysters, chicken strips, and chicken wings as platters, combo platters, po'boys, or buckets, in quantities from three to 30 pieces or more. There's lots of frying happening at either location. Catfish can be had as whole fish, fillet, fillet strip, and nugget.

Boudin is also featured as links or as fried balls (more on those later), by the unit or as a combo meal. Boudin, for the uninitiated, is a spicy Louisiana sausage made from rice, pork, pork liver, and Creole seasonings. Last but not least are the baskets of chicken gizzards, not on

the menu, but usually available for \$2.99 a basket; a popular item that elicits lots of whining from the crowd when they run out.

All dinners come with a choice of two sides from a lengthy list of options. Gumbo is done as more of a soup than what you might be expecting, but it is delectable as a soup: chicken and sausage at the Rundberg spot, while Springdale was serving chicken, sausage, and shrimp a few days later. Red beans and rice with sausage is nice, though done with pintos instead of small red or kidney beans. Collard greens are spicy and slightly sour, as if they were cooked with some vinegar-green-pepper sauce; we love collards in any form, and they're difficult to find on a menu.

Slaw is fine, dressed here with a vinegarmayo. Potato salad is mustardy, smooth with chunks, and very tasty. The fries are standard issue, and we didn't try the fresh salad. Fried okra appears to be done in-house and is excellent. Hush puppies are the frozen extruded log type rather than the crunchier round version.

We sampled many of the items at Rundberg by ordering the Super Combo (\$15.95) with the gumbo and red beans and rice. Catfish fillet and tilapia are both done in a thickish and spicy cornmeal batter, with the fish inside moist and delicious. Shrimp are butterflied and panko-crusted, sweet and tasty, but a bit too perfect to be battered in-house. For some reason, my three chicken strips turned out to be



one chicken wing, and one of my three oysters had decided to leave for parts unknown. The hush puppies aren't my favorite form, but they are convenient for soaking up collard pot liquor and bean juice. The okra is addictive.

We tried catfish and shrimp, chicken strips, slaw and spud salad, gumbo and red beans and rice at Springdale and found them having a slight edge over Rundberg tastewise. The exception is the chicken strips at Springdale, with a very crunchy and thickly battered coating. The meat inside was good but the batter way too thick. Boudin balls (three with fries, \$4.99) are wonderful. Cornmeal-coated, fried balls of boudin about the size of a big golf ball, with a meaty, ricey, spicy, steaming interior when you break them open. Anything that entices me to eat liver and love it should be illegal. - Mick Vann

TARRYTOWN FARMERS' MARKET

Saturdays, 9am-1pm 2815 Exposition, 391-9393, 391-9700 www.talulahbleu.com

If you had a secret enclosed space right in the middle of the city, shaded by big trees and fed by a little spring, what would you do with it? If you're Lauren Tolley, proprietor of Talulah Bleu Tarrytown Florist, you'd turn it into a charming, pocket-sized farmers' and artisans' market.

"I lived in Munich for several years, and it's been my dream to create a neighborhood outdoor market like the ones everywhere in Europe," says Tolley. "West Austin needs more public gathering places."

The city's newest farmers' market has deep Austin roots. Tolley grew up in Hemphill Park; she returned three years ago after a decadelong absence, during which she earned an arts degree from Tulane, lived in Germany, and worked as a legislative analyst and political consultant in California. Her original idea was to find a shop or a gallery, but upon seeing that the venerable Tarrytown Florist on Exposition Boulevard appeared to have closed, she investigated and learned that it was in escrow for sale to a developer. When that deal fell through, she immediately bought the property.

Tarrytown Florist has an impressive history. Austin native R.A. Lewis opened the business in 1946 and worked in the same location until his death in 2000. The shop was so well known that it didn't need a sign; regular clients included Lady Bird Johnson, former Gov. Miriam "Ma" Ferguson, and Texas first lady Marialice Shivers. Lewis' widow, Mary Etta, and daughter, Suzanne Lewis, continued running the shop until they sold it to Tolley. With the business, she inherited "the oldest nursery/agricultural license in the state, granted to R.A. Lewis' father around the turn of the century."

Tolley says, "I hadn't planned on being a florist, but it just seemed wrong to close such a respected historic business." So she hired a master florist and began learning how to arrange flowers. The shop's

focus is on local and organic plants and blossoms; it also showcases the work of local artists and crafts designers. "I always thought I'd call a daughter Talulah, and Bleu was my grandmother's name. The shop is really my first child, so that's where the name came from."

Along with the flower shop, Tolley acquired the wooded, spring-fed plot of land behind it this is the area that she's landscaping and developing into an event space and the Saturday morning Tarrytown Farmers' Market. "It's been a gigantic rehab project, an exercise in adaptive reuse," she says, "It's like a little wild world in the center of town."

The market is open weekly on Saturday mornings. Currently, there are about 25 vendors, selling everything from goat cheeses to vintage belt buckles to soy candles to local honey. You enter the pleasant market space through an arched walkway beside the flower shop; there's ample parking across the street at Casis Elementary School. There's live music and chair massage therapy each week, and yoga teacher Krista Phillips conducts Yoga Kids exercises every half hour during the market. And of course, there are gorgeous flowers available in the adjacent shop.

As yet, there are only a couple of local farmers providing fresh organic produce for the market, but Tolley expects more as the summer growing season progresses. While there are a number of regional farmers interested in selling at the market, the current high cost of fuel is something of a deterrent to bringing their produce into town. "The farmers want to be sure there's enough customer traffic before they open stands," Tolley says. "And shoppers want to see more local, organic produce. It's kind of a Catch-22." Nonetheless, she's convinced that the market will only continue to grow with support from her Tarrytown neighbors. "I've been getting great feedback from the neighborhood," she says.

For info about shopping or selling at the Tarrytown Farmers' Market, call Charlotte Butterworth at Talulah Bleu (391-9393 or 391-9700).

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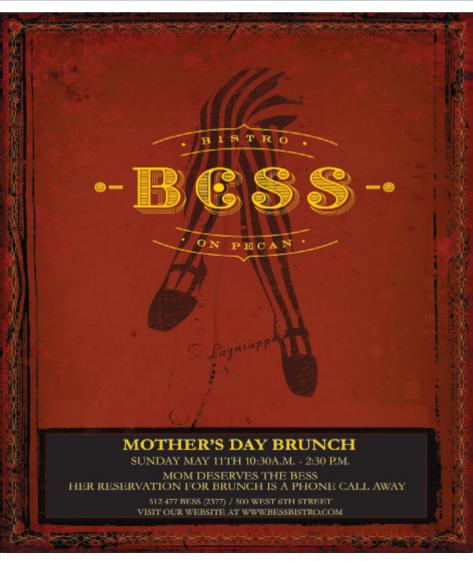




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FINE DINING, ITALIAN: LA TRAVIATA From sublime starters like roasted beets with pistachios to the oh-so-tender roasted beef tenderloin, the food is the model for perfect preparation and clean flavors. Save room for the extraordinary polenta pound cake. 314 Congress, 479-8131. vw.latraviata.net. \$\$\$

FINE DINING, SOUTH AMERICAN: DOÑA EMILIA'S SOUTH AMERICAN BAR & GRILL The hearty cuisine of Colombia is represented here in the Sobrebarriga la Criolla, a stewed beef brisket in sauce, and the Pandebono, a Colombianin sauce, and the Palidecond, a Continualistyle cheese bread. Doña Emilia's also serves Sunday brunch. 101 San Jacinto, 478-2520. www.donaemilias.com. \$\$\$

JAPANESE: MAIKO Japanese and fusion cuisine in a modern and swanky yet relaxed setting. Find standard sushi offerings, featuring edomae (Tokyo-style sushi) and some signature rolls. 311 W. Sixth, 236-9888. www.maikoaustin.com. \$\$\$

MEDITERRANEAN: LOUIE'S 106 Crisp, elegant, multitiered setting for Austin's original tapas. The beautifully lit bar is the perfect place to make your pitch. 106 E. Sixth, 476-1997. www.louies106.net. \$\$\$

PUB GRUB: 219 WEST An attractive, comfortable place with exceptional small-dish food, great drinks, and a stunning wine list. They also have a 16-foot, hi-def TV and lots of beer specials. 219 W. Fourth, 474-2194. www.219west.com. \$\$\$

SEAFOOD, STEAKHOUSE: TRULUCK'S The noise level and the prices are both steep here, but you'll enjoy aged beef, fresh seafood, and great salads in an elegant steak-house setting. 400 Colorado 482-9000 www.trulucks.com. \$\$\$

SEAFOOD, TEX-MEX: MARISCO GRILL This place features a full Mexican menu in addition to its delicious seafood with a Mexican twist. 211 E. Sixth. 474-7372. \$\$

EAST

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

BAKEDY/COFFEEHOUSE: DDOCDESS COFFEE Serves fair-trade, shade-grown organic coffee in a revamped warehouse showcasing some of Austin's best artwork. The menu walks a tasty line between deli standards and gourmet inno vation. One block east of I-35. 500 San Marcos 493-0963 www.progresscoffee.com. \$

CAJUN/CREOLE: MS. B'S AUTHENTIC CREOLE RESTAURANT Check it out tout de suite, for a delicious taste of the Crescent City, includ ing sensational desserts and an affordable but well-chosen wine list. 1050 E. 11th, 542-9143. www.msbscreole.com. \$\$\$

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

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

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

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: TONY'S SOUTHERN COMFORT RESTAURANT Rib-sticking soul-style. Find home-cooked Southern meats and chicken (with waffles), fantastic sides, and speedy lunch specials. 1201 E. Sixth, 320-8801. \$\$ TEX-MEX: ABARROTES MEXICANOS This family

has been making breakfast tacos and lunch plates for this neighborhood for more than nine vears. Coming soon is their new Mexican import shop in the back. 901 Tillery, 926-1709. \$ TEX-MEX: AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Spacious,

no-frills Austin institution that serves classic Tex-Mex breakfasts, lunches, and dinners daily. Look for the fresh homemade tortillas, crispy tacos, and slow-roasted beef ribs. 5405 N. I-35, Capital Plaza, 458-2531. www.amayastacovillage.com. \$

TEX-MEX: ANGIE'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT This homey restaurant serves up Tex-Mex break fasts and huge \$6.25 lunch specials. Their incredible homemade corn tortillas are one of their many claims to fame. 900 E. Seventh,

TEX-MEX: DARIO'S RESTAURANT Try the fajita omelet with grilled peppers, onions, potatoes, and beans. But don't overlook the rest of the menu, or you'll miss the fabulous enchiladas. Que rico! 1800 E. Sixth,

LAKE

ITALIAN: HILL COUNTRY PASTA HOUSE We loved the pizza with sun-dried tomatoes and melting gobs of Texas chèvre. The food here is worth a drive from town. 3519 RR 620 N., 266-9445.

NORTH

AMERICAN CAFE: JIM'S Breakfast fare includes most of the standards, along with decent tacos.
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ITALIAN, PIZZA: BARIS PASTA & PIZZA Your basic Italian family-style restaurant, where the portions are large, the prices ridiculously low, and the quality is fine. 1501 W. Pecan, 989-8900. \$\$

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continued on p.58





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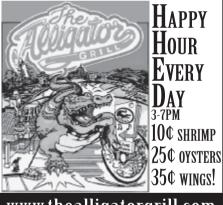


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food :: RESTAURANT ROULETTE :: FROM P.56

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www.qualityseafoodmarket.com. \$

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and sandwiches. Counter service and daily specials. 4707 Burnet Rd., 453-6464. www.thepitbarbeque.com. \$

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pastas, a liberal use of truffle oil, and the glow of a crackling fire. 6203 Capital of TX Hwy. N., Bldg. B, 349-7667.

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www.suzischinagrill.com. \$\$ TEX-MEX: FUEGOS Impeccably fresh and delicious Mexican and Californian beach cuisine, heavy on seafood delights. Hands down the best PIZZA: MELLOW MUSHROOM Don't go here just INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: POLVO'S We're for the gourmet pizzas. In addition to hoagles, pepperoni rolls, and salads, they offer 35-36 beers on tap on any given day.

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CHINESE: THE MAGIC WOK Cheap lunch and affordable dinners that include soup and an egg roll. 2716½ Guadalupe, 474-7770. www.magicwok.150m.com. \$ CHINESE: MING'S CAFE Applying the concept of

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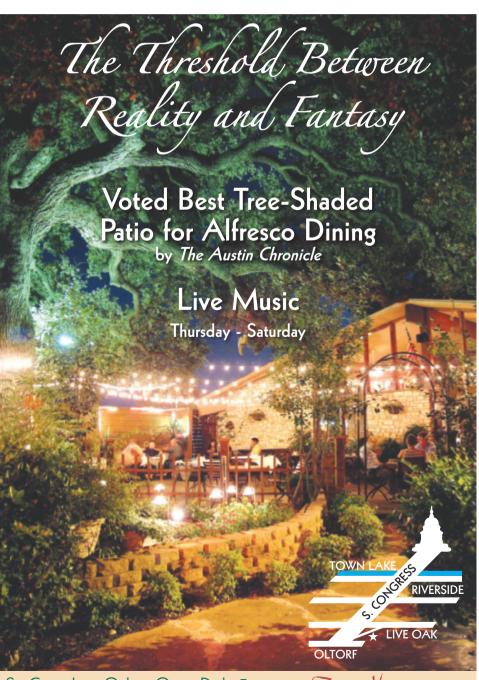
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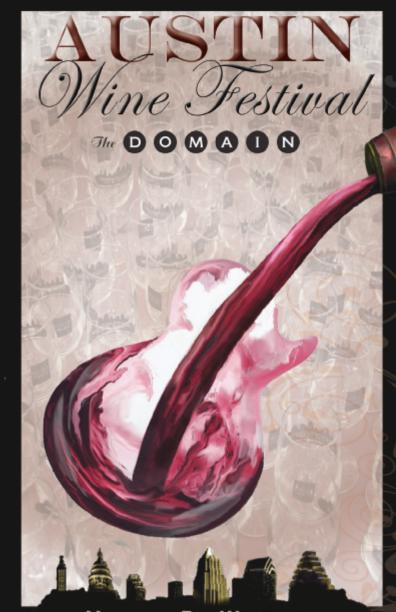
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62 BACKPACK PICNIC

66 MATT DENTLER

Salute Your Undershorts

The secret Hollywood history behind No Pants Day

BY JOSH ROSENBLATT

Conventional wisdom has it that No Pants Day (which takes place this Friday, May 2) had its beginnings in Austin in the mid-1980s and is little more than a good-natured lark free of any political or social intent – just a bunch of breezy young adults with nothing better to do than wander the streets in their underwear, scaring children and dogs. But the truth is actually much more sinister. New research has revealed that Trouser-Free Day was actually started in Hollywood in 1928 by a secret cabal of gin-soaked movie producers, writers, and actors interested as much in flaunting societal convention and toppling democracy as they were in making movies, a group that included such closet anarchists and degenerates as Norma Shearer, Conrad Veldt, Samuel Goldwyn, Adolph Zukor, Lillian Gish, Will Rogers, the entire cast of King Vidor's The Big Parade, and Wallace Beery (who, honoring the wishes of the other members of the group, kept his pants on). Rumor has it the party was the height of Roaring Twenties liberal immorality and political rabble-rousing (though no rabble were actually invited), capped off by a naked Buster Keaton reading aloud from Das Kapital and guzzling mulled wine while standing on Mary Pickford's shoulders.

Needless to say, the influence of Hollywood's Trouser-Free Day on the movies was immediate and pervasive, sullying a once-pure medium with dirty thoughts. Because of those first pantsless ne'er-do-wells, our decent, old-fashioned multiplexes are now packed with the most brazen and unnatural kind of lower-body nudity.

Here are some of the most prominent, and most shameless, moments in the long, dark history of pants-free filmmaking; they are all shining examples of the moral emptiness of our cinematic taste-makers and the continuing influence of socialist ideology and the underwear lobby on our teetering culture.

Greetings, Herr Duck (1934):

Following the success of the early Trouser-Free Day parties, honorary group member Walt Disney announces that several of his new animated characters will go without pants, including Donald Duck, Chip & Dale, and the entire cast of the rarely seen pre-World War II short film "Our Friend, the Nazi Propaganda Machine." Disney Studios mascot Mickey Mouse, who was originally drawn naked, is later clothed by animators when Disney realizes his star creation had been circumcised and was, therefore, possibly a Jew.

HUAC (1947):

The first draft of screenwriter Lester Cole's script for Objective, Burma! features Errol Flynn leading a group of American soldiers on a mission behind enemy lines wearing little more than olive-green jockey shorts. Though Flynn is lauded for his performance (and his legs), Cole is promptly arrested on suspicion of Communist sympathies, convicted, and jailed as one of the Hollywood 10 by the House Un-American Activities Committee. Cole maintains his innocence until his death in 1985, proclaiming in a 1978 interview with Life magazine, "I just thought Errol looked better in underpants.'

The Seventh Seal (1957):

Ingmar Bergman, Swedish director and devout immoralist, thumbs his nose at tradition by putting Death in a robe in his famed 1957 comedy. Bergman claims ignorance when confronted by Pope Pius XII with a quote from the New Testament: "And yea and lo, I say unto you Death shall come at night wearing a pair of brown corduroys" (Mark 7:153b). Shocked by the resulting public outcry, Bergman assures his wary producers that Death will be clad in "stylish shorts" for the film's sequel.

Risky Business (1983):

Before becoming an American hero in 1986 by starring in Top Gun and then again in 2005 by schtupping Katie Holmes, Tom Cruise engages in car theft, the solicitation of prostitutes, elevated-train intercourse, parental hi-fi stereo-equalizer manipulation, and other acts of casual debauchery, all the result of his wearing little more than a pair of white briefs, proving once and for all that pantslessness is next to Godlessness and that Bob Seger belongs in prison.



its nadir, with star Jason Segel fully exposing himself onscreen for no less than 90 seconds. At one of the film's early screenings, shots of Segel's genitalia lead to a riot in the theatre and the fainting-related injuries of at least two elderly women, inspiring one newspaper columnist to compare the movie to Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring and Orson Welles' radio production of The War of the Worlds for sheer cultural impact. That columnist is promptly fired by his newspaper, The Poughkeepsie Morning Tattler, for unforgivable idiocy and later takes a job in television.

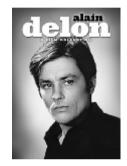


ALAIN DELON: 5-FILM COLLECTION

Studio Canal/Lions Gate, \$39.98

Cinema Française cancans a chorus line of feminine pulchritude from Arletty to Vanessa Paradis, Jeanne Moreau to Brigitte Bardot, and still, former French marine and Sinatra-esque tough guy Alain Delon burned froid et chaud with the best of them. Catherine Deneuve's royal impassivity, upon which filmmakers and filmgoers project personification while agog with her radiance, found its male counterpart in Delon. Italians Visconti and Antonioni leveraged this sublime blank slate second only to the great Jean-Pierre Melville's Delon-shot crime troika: Le Samouraï (1967), Le Cercle Rouge (1970), and Deneuve-iced Un Flic (1972). Among those greatest hits, add at least one more from this five-film set on three DVDs. The Swimming Pool (1969) teams the then-midthirtysomething actor with an equally supple Romy Schneider as St. Tropez getaways dropped in on by her ex and his bored teenager (Jane Birkin), Delon, Schneider, and Birkin - all bronzed and cavorting by la piscine – devastate more than the film's tense mise-en-scène. Diabolically Yours (1967) capped

the long career of writer-director Julien Duvivier (Pépé le Moko), who was killed in a car wreck following its release. In it, Austrian spellbinder Senta Berger - Sharon Tate meets Ann-Margret - brings her amnesiac pretty boy back to their country castle, which may or



may not be powered by Gaslight. 1971 sleeper The Widow Couderc pairs up Delon's escaped murderer with French moviedom's first lady, Simone Signoret, between world wars and under the prying minds of poison relations. Terminally compromised Paul Meurisse (Army of Shadows) offsets the trashy machismo of Delon-produced The Gypsy (1975), hats, scarves, knives, and guns barely disguising the star's baggy languor. Pushing 50 a decade later in Our Story (1984), Delon's runny blues and apex brows hang in the balance of a typically twisted sex farce by Bertrand Blier, six years removed from his Best Foreign Language Film Oscar for Get Out Your Handkerchiefs. A cable absurdity spiked oddly existential, its messy premise ("The nympho and the drunk," pronounces Delon, "love at first sight on a train") plays out classical amour fou to Schubert and Beethoven like The Nutcracker for holiday suicides. Revealed only in conclusion, Our Story manages to expose Delon's true grace. - Raoul Hernandez

ALSO OUT NOW ...

Blast of Silence (Criterion, \$29.95):

"Remembering, out of the black silence, you were born in pain." Lionel Stander's unbilled narration chisels this swift, Melvillean, hit man hit-and-run written, directed, and starring Allen Baron in 1961. "You were born with hate and anger built in. It took a slap on the backside to blast out the scream."

Mafioso (Criterion, \$29.95): Pie-faced funnyman Alberto Sordi holds his own against beauties Marcello Mastroianni and Stefania Sandrelli in respective Criterion boot-hooting delicacies Divorce Italian Style and Seduced and Abandoned. You can never go home again if you're a vacationing Sicilian in need of a favor.

ASIA FEST MINI FILM FEST



Former director of the Austin Asian Film Festival Masashi Niwano has added one "A" and one "F" to his résumé with his newly formed and similarly minded organization, the Austin Asian American Film Foundation. AAAFF has big plans for an October film festival, but in the meantime, it's sponsoring an abbreviated film fest, as part of the all-day Asia Fest celebration this Saturday, May 3 (see Community Listings, p.80). A number of shorts will be shown, starting at 2pm,

followed by two features: Derek Shimoda's lighthearted doc about everybody's favorite after-dinner fortune in a snack, The Killing of a Chinese Cookie (screens at 4pm), and Michael Kang's well-received coming-of-age feature, The Motel, which premiered at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival (screens at 7pm). - Kimberley Jones

The Asia Fest mini film fest takes place Saturday, May 3, at the Asian American Resource Center grounds (8301 Cameron). For more information, visit www.aaaff.org.

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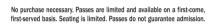
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Don't Everybody Panic, but Online Sketch Troupe Backpack Picnic Has Definitely Gone What They Call 'Viral' and Is Also About to Contaminate the Alamo Drafthouse

The Centers for Disease Control have yet to return our calls

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

Modern life can be a tricky thing. Sometimes, in order to keep yourself from obsessively contemplating the possibility of a local terrorist attack based on the use of weaponized, airborne Ebola Zaire, you need to clear your mind with a little picnic. Maybe, even better, with a Backpack Picnic. Although, yeah, a backpack: That's just the sort of vessel in which a person could, especially in a college town, covertly but with malicious intent, transport an effective quantity of weaponized, airborne Ebola Zaire.

"Well, I assume you could transport it in any container that was big enough, zippered or otherwise," suggests Mitch Baker, the scriptwriting brain behind Backpack Picnic, the quartet of comedy savants currently wrapping its third season of episodes for Austin's ON Networks.

Austin Chronicle: So, okay, the backpack thing, that's just a coincidence. But you do admit it's a bit unnerving, yes? That your troupe would just happen to be called Backpack Picnic, while the best method for transporting a weaponized, airborne version of -

Mitch Baker: Listen, guy, I thought you wanted to ask about our DVD release party at the Alamo.

And of course we did ask, and we'll be getting to that soon. But first you need to know, if you don't already, who these people are. You also need to know where they came from and

why they shoot their episodes in Austin (often employing many of the city's top performers) and what they have to do with local filmmaker René Pinnell, nephew of the legendary Eagle Pennell and epitome of young, squarejawed cineastes everywhere (see "Direct(or) to Video," p.64). You

may not need to know there is no known treatment for hemorrhagic fever caused by the virus Ebola Zaire - which, even in its natural, unweaponized form, has a kill rate of 9-in-10 - but we'd suggest keeping this fact firmly in mind, just in case.

Backpack Picnic creates sketches about, among other things, an enigmatic multinational firm called Corpocom, where hunting baby cheetahs is a team-building sport; their own musical incarnation as Eurotrashy New Wave band Splitstream; a neighborhood bakery that

sells hate-filled cookies and cakes; transplanted human organs that get rejected - correction: ejected - due to typos on boilerplate waivers; the magical, future-revealing power of the Cyclops Eye; and, yes, so much more. They've been compared to Monty Python and Kids in the Hall and Mr. Show, yadda yadda, but we've also detected a distinct inflection of Ernie Kovacs in their genetic material. They're smart enough to be funny in highly intelligent ways; they're also smart enough to be funny being stupid.

The troupe comprises four main stars – Mitch Baker, David Bewley, Shannon McCormick, and Jeremy Lamb - and is the larger phoe-

nix risen from the MTV-torched ashes of what were the Edmond Bulldogs, Baker and Bewley's surreal sketch-comedy duo.

"David and I started out in Oklahoma," says Baker. "The very first time we got together was in 1995. We'd just graduated from college.

"No," says Bewley, "I was still in college."

"Ah, yeah," amends Baker, "he was still in college. And we and several other friends decided to start a comedy troupe, because we liked being funny onstage."

"So we wrote a show," says Bewley. "And we did that show, and it went over really well, so we decided to do another one."

"We called ourselves One Hit Wonder," says Baker. "It was five guys at the start, then grew to seven. And this was all in Oklahoma -Edmond, Oklahoma. And, long story shorter,



we kind of took a break around 2000. We went our separate ways for a while, and then Dave and I got back together here in Austin."

"I didn't want to go back to Oklahoma," says Bewley, "but I didn't want to stay in L.A.'

Baker and Bewley had been to Austin before One Hit Wonder had been a part of the Big Stinkin' Improv & Sketch Festival and had played the (late, lamented) Bad Dog Comedy Club - and they'd liked it. By the time they returned here, improv trailblazer Jeremy Lamb had started the Out of Bounds Improv Festival and Miniature Golf Tournament.

"We missed the first one, somehow," says Baker. "But we went to Jeremy, and we were like, 'Hey, we'd like to do some sketches ...?' And Jeremy said, 'Sure; the festival's in a month.' And so I wrote, I dunno, about seven sketches in a couple weeks. And David and I rehearsed and performed them, and it felt really good again. We were calling ourselves the Edmond Bulldogs at the time. That was our high school mascot - we went to the same high school - so that was our new name."

"And then," says Bewley, "the second time we performed at Out of Bounds, René [Pinnell] saw us. And he liked our stuff a lot and asked about the possibility of shooting something together. It started out that we were just going to shoot a sketch, but it turned into us shooting a whole little homemade pilot, like for a series. This was at the beginning of '05. And then, like the week after we'd finished shooting, Mitch moved to L.A."

"I'd gotten very fortunate here with some feature-film roles that made my résumé look cool," says Baker. "I only have, like, two lines in each one; but I thought, well, I've always wanted to be an actor, so lemme see if I can get more work out there. So I moved to L.A."

"And I stayed here," says Bewley.

"Here" is Austin, where this interview was conducted. Specifically: outside an office building on South Congress, during a break from shooting the latest Backpack Picnic episode.

"Actually, no," says Shannon McCormick, the afternoon sun glinting off his freshly shaved noggin as he leans against a railing with the three other Backpackers, a movie crew bustling around them and arranging props for the next scene. "Right now we're shooting a commercial for a video-game company."

"We've already done this month's Backpack episodes," confirms Baker. "This is a different job."

Ah, right, of course. But so what happened with the Bulldogs' sketch pilot?

"You should ask the director," says Baker, nodding toward the young man walking up with a large video camera on his shoulder.

"It took about six months for me to get around to editing that pilot," says Pinnell. He sets the camera down very carefully. "And I gave it to all my friends and told them, 'Do what you can with it.' And one of them came through – they got it to some obscure assistant, who gave it to her boss, who sent it over to Jackie French's assistant at MTV. And Jackie French eventually saw it. And she sent it to L.A. And some assistant there watched it, and then a bunch of other assistants were watching it."

Pinnell laughs, shaking his head. "It seems like the entertainment industry is managed mostly by the assistants.

"Anyway," he continues, "MTV told us that they loved it, but they wanted us to do another pilot. So we basically reshot what we'd shot before - which, at times, felt like an exercise in futility. But we changed it up enough so that it was a lot of fun for us, as well. And then that new pilot languished for a little while on MTV Overdrive, which is a now-defunct Web video thing that they were trying out."

"MTV liked it; they were very complimentary," says Baker. "But it just didn't, uh, fit their audience."

"It's true," says Jeremy Lamb. "Nobody really argued that point."

"And later that year," says Pinnell, "I was trying to clear some legal thing up, and my lawyer

continued on p.64

The Ebola

filovirus

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knew about the show, and she said, 'You know, you should take it to these people I'm doing this other deal with,' because she Keaton Clark – had another client who was doing something with ON Networks. And so she hooked me up for coffee with Jen [Grogono] and Kip [McClanahan], who are the owners of ON Networks. That was in March or April 2007, and by May, we were shooting our first series of four sketches. And we've been doing it ever since."

Austin Chronicle: But you weren't the Edmond Bulldogs anymore, right? Wasn't there something contractual?

Mitch Baker: Yeah, that was kind of a thing. The pilot for MTV was called The Edmond Bulldogs. And I was pretty positive that our lawyer in L.A. had said that the name was our name of our group, and it pre-existed, and we'd retain the rights to it, and all those things. But when it came time to make the online shorts that we've been making, René's lawyer – same project, different lawyer - looked back over the contract, and it looked like MTV might own our name. It was like, "We don't want you, we just want to keep the name." But, no, they were really nice to us at MTV. So, better safe than sorry, we picked a new name.

AC: And how'd you choose Backpack Picnic?

Baker: It was just one of those "Which sounds are fun together?" things, where the first word's sound suggests the next word - kind of like some band names. We were thinking of calling ourselves Fake Cake Cookbook, then it was Fake Cake Cookbook Backpack Picnic. And we decided to go with just Backpack Picnic. For, you know, brevity's sake.

AC: So you're saying that it had nothing to do with the potential for transporting a weaponized filovirus?

Baker: Uh, no. I mean, yes, I am saying that: It had nothing to do with that. [Frowns.] What the fuck?

AC: Okay, then. And how did McCormick and Lamb get involved with y'all?

David Bewley: When Mitch and I started doing the Bulldogs, Shannon was the first guy we met in the Austin improv comedy scene. He was the guy who introduced us to everybody.

Shannon McCormick: I actually met them at a FronteraFest show, when they played the 2001 festival.

Bewley: So when we were doing the Bulldogs shows, if we ever needed a third guy, it was always Shannon. And that evolved into: If we needed a fourth guy, it was Jeremy. And so when we revamped ourselves as Backpack Picnic, we brought them on in a more official capacity.

AC: And what about this DVD that's coming out?

McCormick: That's seasons one and two of Backpack Picnic, with a lot of bonus material. It's almost two hours of material. Bewley: I think there's actually more bonus material, lengthwise, than there is seasons one and two. There are interviews with the cast and an alternate version of one of the videos; there's a karaoke version of one of the Splitstream songs that you can sing along with ...

Jeremy Lamb: It's got all the sketches, the first 24, which is the first six months that ON Networks signed us up for. And now we've just finished our third season – is that right?

Baker: Well, we've done two of the three shoots for the third season

AC: And the DVD's going to be, uh, you're going to release it at the Alamo?

Baker: We're having a release party on May 4th. We'll be showing a combination of videos from the DVD and new videos that aren't on the DVD. We'll be doing some of the sketches live onstage, too, and there will probably be some improv and a Q&A.

AC: And you'll be here for that? I mean, you're still based in L.A., right? Baker: I am. And Jeremy is, too, now. But we fly in for these shoots, and we'll all be at the release party.

AC: So you're still pursuing opportunities in L.A.

Baker: Well, there's auditions for regular things like commercials and TV shows.

McCormick: And he has another video sketch troupe - on SuperDeluxe – called Onesie.

Baker: Yeah, that's me and two other guys from the original One Hit Wonder team.

McCormick: And it's really cool that those guys are coming out to help us make the pilot for Fort Ricky, this new narrative project we're also working on. It'll be a nice merger of the Austin world and the old Oklahoma world into one cool thing.

AC: So when you're out there, Mitch, in Hollywood, with all those movie stars and everything ...

Baker: Yeah?

AC: Have you ever noticed how Tobey Maguire has a scar on his right cheek that looks like a close-up of the Ebola virus? I mean, exactly like that? I could see it in all those close-ups in the Spider-Man movies, and it was really freaking me out.

Baker: [Pauses.] You know, I find it strange that you'd happen to mention Tobey Maguire. Because we had lunch together just last week, and I asked him about that scar. And he said he thought it looked more like a loquat.



AC: A what?

Baker: Loquat. It's a type of small citrus fruit that grows out in California.

AC: Are you serious?

Baker: You can check Wikipedia. AC: No, I mean about Tobey Maguire.

Baker: René, are we ready for the next scene yet? Can we get things rolling here, y'think?

Backpack Picnic episodes are available at www.onnetworks.com/videos/ backpack-picnic, and Wikipedia has plenty of information on the Ebola filovirus at www.wikipedia.org/wiki/ebola and on loquats at www.wikipedia.org/wiki/loquat. The Backpack Picnic DVD release party takes place on Sunday, May 4, 9:30pm at the Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz (320 E. Sixth). Admission is \$2. See www. originalalamo.com for advance tickets.

René Pinnell Direct(or) to Video



One of the first things you notice about Backpack Picnic shows is how well-made they are, how they translate the madcap sketches of Mitch Baker and friends from live performance into videos of solid impact. This isn't just another bunch of talented fools with a webcam; this is some professional industry going on. Long tracking shots, wide-angle outdoor scenes, diverse locations, noteperfect costumes, lighting that works. The man behind this excellence: René Pinnell.

"The reason the episodes look the way they do," demurs the native Austinite with the stylish glasses, "is because I work with some awesomely talented folks who let me abuse them terribly. George Morrow, who does our art direction and VFX [visual effects], is a robot workhorse that requires no sleep and only occasional watering. Everything in the frame - except the actors themselves and the clothes they wear - George is responsible for. We also have two very talented costume designers, Jessica Gilzow and Melisa McCawley, who work their asses off."

Yes, but the camerawork? The way a viewer experiences the viewing?

"Sure," says Pinnell, "you wouldn't be able to see any of this unless you had a camera and

someone who knows how to turn it on and point it at stuff. We're lucky enough to have two people who are experts at that: PJ Raval and Mike Simpson. One month, PJ will shoot, and then, the next month, Mike will shoot. We also have a great crew - Scott Snyder on sound, a whole bunch of people lifting equipment and positioning, and -I'm a lucky man."

.....

He's a humble man, this 24-year-old UT grad (2004, a bachelor's in Radio-Television-Film), maybe because he's not exactly a reservoir of experience. "I hadn't done all that much video before Backpack Picnic, really. Just a couple of music videos - one for the Handsome Charlies, one for my buddy Elliot Cole. I think the Handsome Charlies are still around, maybe they're still playing together, but I've since started to work with their lead guitarist on another project. You never know what's gonna lead to what."

But now there's a feature-length movie in his résumé, too.

"The King of Texas, yeah, that was a really fun project," says Pinnell of his documentary that world-premiered at this year's South by Southwest Film Festival. "My girlfriend, Claire Huie, and I spent the last two years working on it. It's about

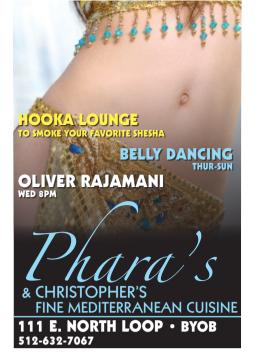
my uncle, Eagle Pennell - he spelled his last name differently - who was the first person to make a film in Texas and by Texans that wasn't a genre picture. The Texas Chain Saw Massacre came out before his film, and a real obscure film that nobody's ever heard of, The Tomato That Ate Cleveland, but those are the only others before Eagle's The Whole Shootin' Match in 1979. And a lot of people in the Eighties sort of pointed at him as the guy who proved that you can do it here; you can make a movie here.

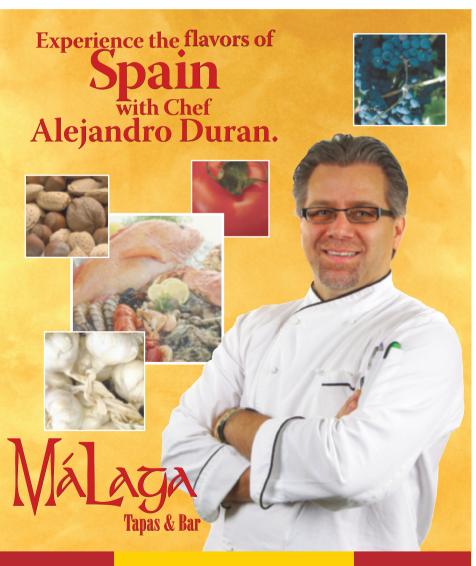
"Before we did The King of Texas, I didn't know anything about him at all. And I found out that he was a really talented filmmaker; I like his first two films tremendously. And he was just an interesting character, too. He was a hopeless drunk with a gigantic ego, you know, but he really inspired the people that he worked with. He could draw things out of people that they didn't know they had."

So maybe that's the one trait that runs in the family, maybe that's what's brought the young director this far?

"Well. I currently live eight blocks from the house I was born in," says Pinnell, smiling, "so I - W.A.B. haven't made it that far yet."





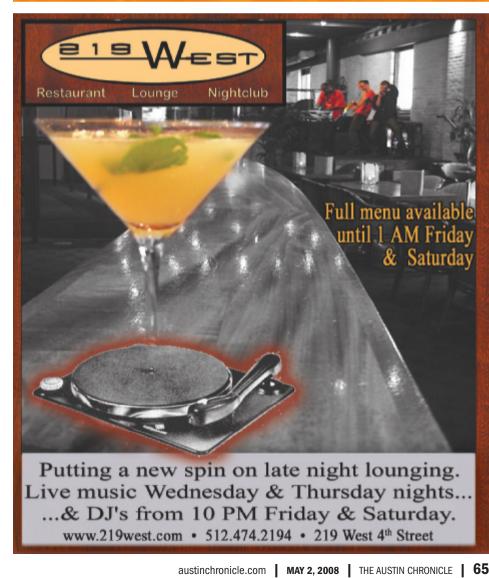


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BY KIMBERLEY JONES

Matt Dentler didn't know at the time that the 2008 South by Southwest Film Festival - which he had labored at all year to produce - would be his last. "It's probably better that way," he says. Otherwise, he would have moped around, maybe tried to process too grandiosely an experience that, for him, has always been about "the little moments" - when an audience loves a movie, or a festivalgoer takes the time to say thanks to Dentler for putting on a good show.

The call came shortly after the Festival wrapped. John Sloss, an entertainment lawyer who has made a name for himself repping indie filmmakers like Richard Linklater and Kevin Smith, wanted Dentler to join his company, Cinetic Media; specifically, he wanted Dentler to run Cinetic Digital Rights Management, which focuses on finding digital outlets for films. It's a new world, one in which theatrical distribution is no longer the end-all, be-all for an independent film, not when a wider, more enthusiastic audience may be found at any number of Internet hubs. It's a new world, and Sloss wanted Dentler to help conquer it.

"I was really flattered," Dentler recalls, "but quite frankly, I told them: 'I got a great thing at South by Southwest. I got a great thing in Austin. It's really gotta be something that I can get passionate about; it truly has to be something really exciting for me to completely change my life.' And to their credit, everything that they presented to me and everything that I know about this world makes me feel like it's a really great opportunity."

And maybe, at least in retrospect, it was time. Dentler began working for SXSW as an intern his freshman year at the University of Texas, where he was studying radio-television-film. A couple of years passed, he became more enmeshed in the Festival, and he stopped dreaming about becoming a filmmaker. "I was like: 'You know, I'm just not that talented at this. Why waste my time?" Filmmaking might not have been in his blood, but programming and promoting film were. Despite his young age, he moved up through the ranks.

"During a difficult time in South by Southwest Film history, Dentler was the pivot holding everything together and keeping the whole operation moving forward, although his then-

iob-description was as a subordinate," remembers SXSW co-founder (and Chronicle editor-inchief) Louis Black. "It was an enormous amount of pressure, and he was relatively young. He handled it with a lot more skill and grace than I've ever had working in similar situations. He rose above and beyond any expectations.'

By 2003, Dentler was running the Festival. "In a way, it was almost hypnotic," he says. "Something about all these elements was right, and much to the chagrin of ex-girlfriends, an ex-fiancée, and friends, this job really became my life."

He likes to say he came of age alongside SXSW Film (when he moves to New York in June for the Cinetic job, he'll still be well shy of 30). When Dentler took the reins, SXSW Film was considered something of an afterthought in the crowded festival landscape - larky and "Austin weird." Dentler made sure to retain those elements that drew people in the first place but to also hustle hard - what he calls "getting the vote out."

"I [would go] door to door with all the distributors, all the agents, all the press, all these people, and just be like: 'Hey! Please pay atten-

It worked. It helped that he was a tireless promoter – even more so, a savvy programmer. Either through dumb luck or a cool-hunting DNA (or, more likely, a mix of both), Dentler got in on the ground floor with two burgeoning and controversial trends in film - well, controversial, at least in film-geek circles, which are the only circles that matter when it comes to this kind of debate.

The first was the sometimes-mocked mumblecore, which is less a movement than a loose collective of DIY filmmakers who found each other at SXSW 05; its ranks include (but are not limited to) former Austinites the Duplass Brothers (Baghead), once and again Austin resident Andrew Bujalski (Mutual Appreciation), Ronald Bronstein (Frownland), and Joe Swanberg (Hannah Takes the Stairs). Certainly the most prolific in the group and perhaps its most public face, Swanberg responded to my e-mail query with an earnest, impassioned testimonial:

"Matt Dentler is directly responsible for the success that I have had in my career. If you remove him from the equation of my life, I am still making films right now, but nobody has heard of them and I am working a 9 to 5 job to pay the bills. It's actually scary for me to imagine how different my life might be right now had Matt not programmed Kissing on the Mouth in 2005. I met so many of my future friends and collaborators at the festival that year, and it lit a fire in me that is still there. I am forever indebted to him for taking a risk and showing my first film. It changed my life."

If the mumblecore movement is all team high-fives, then what to make of its spiritual opposite, that polarizing mishmash of sex and violence, the torture-porn film? Dentler caught Eli Roth's debut feature, Cabin Fever, at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2002; Lions Gate picked up the horror film but didn't seem to know how to market it. "I remember reaching out to Lions Gate, being like, 'Can we show this movie?" Dentler recalls. "And they were, like: 'Really? [beat] Okay, sure.'

"I remember Eli came down, and it was at that screening that [film critic] Elvis Mitchell saw it, and Elvis Mitchell wrote this big feature in The New York Times about how much he liked Cabin Fever, and Eli always says that it was that moment that Lions Gate was like, 'Oh, we might actually have a hit." A hit and the launch of Roth's career; later works Hostel and Hostel: Part II became standard-bearers for torture porn.

Dentler laughs. "Some people may not be thrilled to know that we helped launch the career of Eli Roth. But I am, and I consider Eli a friend."

There have been other triumphs over the years - sneaking Knocked Up in 2007, which Universal now credits as the kick-start to Knocked Up's meteoric ascent – and also some disappointments. The films that never found an audience. The heroes he never managed to woo to the Fest. Spike Lee, especially, was one that got away - well, and that dream Billy Wilder retrospective. "I mean," Dentler deadpans, "with him alive."

And then, of course, there were - how should we put this? - well, there were the fanboy moments. Dentler wouldn't have gotten the gig in the first place if he wasn't an unabashed film lover, and his SXSW tenure is strewn with personal "geek-outs," when he found himself face to face with an icon. When I ask him to name a few, he smiles.

"I remember my first year at South by Southwest when I was an intern. I remember the opening-night party was at GSD&M, and I remember the one person in the entire room that I was starstruck by was John Pierson," Dentler laughs. The irony, of course, is that Pierson who wrote the book Spike Mike Slackers & Dykes and repped some of the most important indie films of the Nineties – eventually moved to Austin and became both a fixture and a friend. along with his wife, Janet, who succeeds Dentler as SXSW Film producer. But back to the story.

"Because when I was in high school, just like a year before, [John's] book had come out, and I was like, '[That's] that guy who wrote that book I didn't understand!' I remember going up to him and saying hi, and he kind of blew me off." He laughs again. "It was always those kind of people that I got more starstruck by. Which I guess is telling. It was never the traditional celebrities of the world that got me excited; it was always like a producer or a studio head or a distribution executive, you know, that I was like, 'Oh my God, I can't believe I'm meeting you.' Those were the kind of people I always geeked out about."

Never Again (2001): This now-forgotten **Eric Schaeffer** comedy starred Jeffrey Tambor, thus kicking off a long relationship between the master thespian and SXSW.



Spellbound (2002): The crowd-pleasing spelling-bee doc got a big break at SXSW, winning the **Jury Award** and eventually



netting an Oscar nomination.

Cabin Fever (2003): Torture porn takes its first steps.



Assassination Tango (2003): Dentler remembers picking up **Robert Duvall** from the airport



The Puffy Chair (2005): Mumblecore, freshman year.



The Lookout (2007): Scott Frank's gritty crime drama world-premiered at SXSW and



Independent Spirit Award for Best First Feature but never gained the wide audience Dentler thought it deserved.

Nights and Weekends (2008): When IFC purchased Nights and Weekends mid-Fest, it became the first-ever feature to be acquired at SXSW; fitting, then, that it came from co-director Joe Swanberg, whose career Dentler helped launch in 2005.

Spring in Swing

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

It's spring-cleaning here at the "TV Eye" desk. Here are a few things recovered from the inbox.

Local Scene

The Radio-Television News Directors Association recently recognized local TV personalities for excellence. Local ABC affiliate KVUE-TV received "six regional Edward R. Murrow Awards for excellence in electronic journalism, more than any other local television station in Austin, and tied for the most in Texas," according to a recent press release. This was the fifth time KVUE received honors for overall excellence. Specific honorees include executive producer Carlos Reina for Best Newscast, Christine Haas and Todd Rogenthien for Investigative Reporting, Mike Barnes and Nate Cardenas for Sports Reporting, Robert McMurrey and Kevin Peters for Spot News Reporting, and Todd Rogenthien for Best Videography. The regional awards were given in April, and all winners are automatically entered into the national competition, to be awarded in June.

More Green Scene

We recently talked about Big Ideas for a Small Planet in our Green Crush issue; the series continues on the Sundance Channel on Tuesdays at 8pm. Here's what you have to look forward to in May:

"Wear" (May 6): A look at how the apparel industry is creating fashion with a conscience, from using biodegradable textiles and dyes in the front end to swap-o-rama events, where people are not only exchanging their old favorites for new treasures but some designers are working exclusively with discarded clothing to create something entirely new and unique.

"Eat" (May 13): How do we eat, what do we put in our mouths, and just what is in that juicy burger? This episode looks at three entrepreneurs who care about how we eat while keeping in mind that most people still crave the convenience of fast food and urban living.

"Drive" (May 20): Alas, no love for mass transit, walking, or car-sharing. This episode looks at variations of the electric car, including cars converted from gas-guzzlers to clean driving plug-ins, as well as high-end sports cars.

"Furnish" (May 27): You will think twice before you leave that prefab furniture near the Dumpster. Three pairs of furniture designers are profiled, with a focus on how they take a green approach to their products, from materials to manufacturing to distribution.

Second Chances

Practice your gritos. KLRU will air Compañeras on Tuesday (see "TV Eye," March 28). Slated for an earlier airdate on Independent



Get swept up by the second season of This American Life. It premieres Sunday on Showtime.

Lens, the documentary about the L.A.-based, all-female Mariachi Reyna got bumped to the wee hours of the morning due to the KLRU fund drive. Now you can watch it at its (almost) regular time slot on Monday, May 5, 10pm.

This American Life returns for a second season on Sunday. Alas, my request for a review screener went unanswered, but I can't imagine this series, inspired by the original radio show hosted by Ira Glass, won't have a second season as amazing as the first. I admit I was an early skeptic, defying anyone to convince me that the TV version would be as wonderful as the radio program. I was so very pleased to be proven wrong. If you haven't seen this series of "funny, surprising stories that happen to be true," the first season just came out on DVD. You can also watch the first season online at www.sho.com. No, it's not free, but it's worth every penny. This American Life airs Sundays at 9pm on Showtime.

Just in time for Cinco de Mayo: Comedy Central celebrates by serving up some belly laughs with some previously aired specials. Gabriel Iglesias: Hot & Fluffy starts off the night, followed by two helpings of George Lopez: America's Mexican (which originally aired on HBO). Another showing of Iglesias follows, with Alex Reymundo: Hick Spanic bringing your Cinco de Mayo evening to a close. Haven't seen Reymundo, but Iglesias' act is a scream, and Lopez is very, very funny (besides his act, Lopez can be seen starring as the mayor in **Reno 911**). The evening of laughs starts on Sunday at 7pm.

Speaking of laughs, get this description of an upcoming episode of Lil' Bush: "Lil' Vladimir Putin and Lil' George start a schoolyard rivalry, and it escalates to Lil' Putin poisoning Lil' George. After some training from former wrestling champ Barbara Bush, Lil' George faces off against Lil' Putin in a playground battle. Meanwhile, Lil' Cheney has been partnered with Lil' Nancy Pelosi and given a watermelon to care for as their child. When it becomes apparent that their watermelon is a lesbian, Lil' Cheney has some hard choices to make." Lil' Bush airs Thursdays at 9:30pm on Comedy Central.

As always, stay tuned.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at tveye@austinchronicle.com



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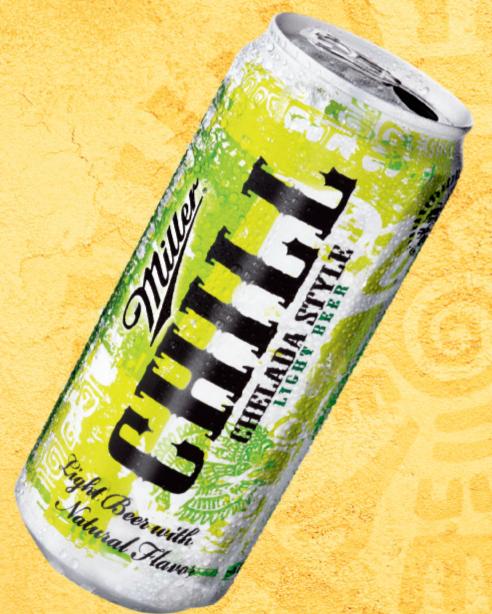
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OFF THE RECORD music news BY AUSTIN POWELL



PAVE PARADISE, PUT UP A PARKING LOT

Last Thursday Direct Events owner Tim O'Connor announced that the Backyard will close following the completion of the venue's 16th season with the Gipsy Kings on Aug. 28. In an official statement, O'Connor cited the development of the Shops at the Galleria as the primary cause of the Backyard's diminished "magic," ironically surrounding the venue with the one thing that it's always lacked: ample parking (see "TCB," May 4, 2007). Direct Events is currently awaiting approval from the city of **Bee Cave** on supposed plans for a new location that would be protected from similar developmental issues. What the closure will likely mean, at least in the short term, is an increased emphasis on shows at the Austin Music Hall, where patrons have already proven their willingness to shell out high-end ticket prices for artists like Van Morrison and Duran Duran, despite the venue's acoustic issues. O'Connor declined to comment.

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RANDOM PLAY

Nothing will ever top witnessing the Rolling Stones paint Zilker Park black, but the new Martin Scorsese-directed Shine a Light: The IMAX Experience has been Chronicle-certified as the next best thing. This Saturday's screening is prefaced with a free tribute performance from the **Stone** Ravers, beginning at 6pm, in the Lone Star Plaza of the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum

Texas Heritage Music Foundation's public radio series, Whole Lotta Shakin', which documents the rise of rockabilly in the 1950s. and is narrated by Austin's Rosie Flores, is one of 35 recipients of the 2007 George Foster Peabody Award. The ceremony is slated for June 16, at New York City's Waldorf-Astoria. All 10 one-hour programs can be streamed at www.rockabillyradio.org.

In its annual Best of Rock issue, Rolling Stone magazine gives appropriate nods to Stubb's, Waterloo Records, and Explosions



in the Sky, while senior scribe **David Fricke** recalls the Black Angels' appearance at Roky Erickson's annual South by Southwest Ice Cream Social at Threadgill's with "this medicine works wonders."

Funny how time slips away: When Willie Nelson headlined his first show at the Armadillo World Headquarters in 1972, who opened? The first two readers to e-mail the correct answer to offtherecord@austinchronicle.com score a copy of Joe Nick Patoski's new biography, Willie Nelson: An Epic Life. For a refresher of the era, see an excerpt of Patoski's book, "Cosmic Cowboy Souvenir," Music, April 25.



SIGN O'THE TIMES

Prince officially has Grupo Fantasma on speed-dial. Fantasma's JewMex horn section joined the Purple One in California for a week of rehearsals that culminated in a last-minute engagement on The Tonight Show With Jay Leno on Friday and a headlining set at Coachella the following evening. "There were people as far as I could see," recalls trumpeter Gilbert Elorreaga. Consider both occasions to be the unofficial kickoff party for ATX's third annual Latino Music Month, which comes this year with an impressive 20-song soundtrack, The Sound Is Brown, produced by the Austin Latino Music Association and the Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau and spotlighting artists from Ruben Ramos and Alejandro Escovedo to Maneja Beto and Patricia

Vonne. The celebration culminates May 31, with the inaugural ¡Pachanga! Latino Music Festival in Waterloo Park, headlined by Grupo Fantasma and the Nortec Collective's Bostich & Fussible, with support from Vallejo, Maneja Beto, Charanga Cakewalk, Girl in a Coma, and Kanko, among others. "There's obviously a little Latino rock movement going on in Austin." says event organizer Alex Vallejo. "It's always been around, but the groups coming to the forefront now are mixing traditional styles with more alternative rock and pop. The exciting thing is going to be hearing all of these bands that are known throughout Texas together on one bill." A complete listing of Latino Music Month events can be found at www.austinlatinomusic.com



RUBBER FACTORY

The fate of **Hacienda** was sealed Dec. 9, 2006, when the Austin- and Boerne-based quartet was a last-minute addition to the Black Keys/Dr. Dog bill at La Zona Rosa, per the request of the Black Keys' guitarist, Dan Auerbach. "No one knew about it," says pianist Abraham Villanueva. "We were pretty much playing only for him." The show ultimately resulted in an invitation for Hacienda - Villanueva brothers Abraham, Rene (bass), and Jaime (drums) and their cousin Dante Schwebel (guitar) - to record at Auerbach's home studio in Akron, Ohio, last summer and again in February, "The city is similar to Boerne in that it's a quiet, small town where everything closes at 5," recalls Rene. "We pretty much stayed at Dan's place the whole time with his family. We played everything live in the studio, but Dan wasn't afraid to stop us or step in with ideas." In fact, Auerbach lays down some Thickfreakness on opener "She's Got a Hold on Me," while members of Dr. Dog even flew in for the first session, adding off-kilter harmonies on tunes like "Angela" and "Little Girl." The end result. Here Today, is a

15-song collection of pastoral pop and Rubber Soul. Hacienda is now in talks with its collaborators' respective labels, Fat Possum and Park the Van Records, about a possible national release and hits the United States Arts Authority on Friday with the Strange Boys and Gospel Truth.

LONG DISTANCE RUNAROUND

While most people under 30 are more familiar with 90210 than Yes' 90125, 18-year-old Austinite Geena Spigarelli recently backed the band's frontman, Jon Anderson, for a fourdate tour of California with her fellow All-Stars from the Paul Green School of Rock Music. "I definitely studied up before I left." says Spigarelli, who's been enrolled in the local branch of the program since September 2005 and graduates this year. "He hasn't lost his ability to hit the high notes. He definitely still has his A-game." Expect Spigarelli to reunite with Anderson in August, when the Austin School of Rock opens for Yes in Houston and Dallas. In the meantime, the institution's end-of-semester showcases begin this Friday with a two-night homage to punk rock at Emo's Lounge, followed by tributes to Aerosmith and Texas rock on successive weekends at Ruta Maya and Rock City Icehouse, respectively.



"It's the famous story, that I was out at the Backyard, hangin' with Dylan," booms Ray Benson jovially from his cell phone. "He goes: 'Hey, have you heard Carolyn Wonderland? She's something else!'

"Those were his exact words. 'She stuck out. She should be nationwide! What's she doing?' "'Playing shitty clubs in Texas,' I told him.

"So I called her up in Houston and said, 'Dylan wants to see you.'

'She drove 100 miles an hour here, and when he got off stage at the Backyard, he invited her down, and they jammed. That was a great little bit of hype."

As leader of the world's premier Western swing band Asleep at the Wheel, Benson knows music but admits that when it came to Carolyn Wonderland, he was an odd guest at

"I love what you do," he pitched her. "I'm not known as a rock & roller, but I know this music, and I know what to do with you."

Wonderland couldn't refuse Benson's godfatherly offer. She'd grown up the child of a singer in a band and began playing her mother's vintage Martin guitar when other girls were dressing dolls. She'd gone from being the teenage toast of her hometown Houston to sleeping in her van in Austin amid heaps of critical acclaim for fine recordings Alcohol & Salvation, Bloodless Revolution, and most recently, Miss Understood ("SXSW Platters," March 14).

The music-industry path ran through a dense, black rabbit hole, and Carolyn Wonderland's promise sometimes reflected darkly through Austin's looking glass. Maybe it needed viewing from another angle.

Imperial Monkey Business

Carolyn Wonderland, 36, sits in Maudie's on South Lamar with chips and hot sauce and Chalupas Compuestas on the way. The turquoise of the eatery's porch frames her wine-colored mane, much bolder than the soft brown eyes above a dappling of pale brown freckles. She gazes off with a Cheshire grin at a Downtown skyline changing nearly as rapidly as her life.

"My pawpaw was a real good whistler," she offers. "Whenever The Andy Griffith Show came on, it would be a three-part whistle harmony. The problem is you can't look at anyone because you'll laugh, and if you laugh, you can't whistle. I close my eyes.'

Along with the guitar and the multitude of other instruments she learned to play - trumpet, accordion, piano, mandolin, lap steel - Wonderland's ability to whistle remains most unusual. Whistling is a uniquely vocal art seldom invoked in modern music, yet it's among the most spectacular talents the human voice possesses.

"My grandfather could call birds. After he passed, I tried to imitate bird sounds, see if I could get them to come near me. Toward the last part of my stay in Houston, there was a birdcall I didn't recognize. I started giggling because I realized it was a mockingbird imitating a car alarm. It was so strange, so urban."

Wonderland whistles the alarm to illustrate the scenario, and her note-perfect performance causes a customer at a nearby table to check the parking lot for his car.

That vocal proficiency was well-established in the singer's midteens, landing her gigs at Fitzgerald's by age 15. She absorbed Houston influences like Little Screamin' Kenny and soaked up the Mad Hatter of Texas music, Doug Sahm. The Lone Star State was as credible and fertile a proving ground for blues in the 1980s as existed, especially in Austin with Stevie Ray Vaughan & Double Trouble, the Fabulous Thunderbirds, Angela Strehli, Omar & the Howlers, and Lou Ann Barton all in their prime. By the following decade, Austin's blues luster thinned, but Houston, always a bastion of soul and R&B, boasted the Imperial Monkeys with the effervescent Carolyn Wonderland as ruler of the jungle.

In the Monkeys, she rattled cages everywhere she went and wore her crown with panache. A six-minute video clip of 20-yearold Carolyn and her band taking on Etta James' "Something's Got a Hold on Me" in 1992 (www.youtube.com/watch?v=yKvz0Ez3uCg) is testament to her youthful confidence and swagger. Her vocal pyrotechnics in the first two minutes might well ensure her a finalist slot on American Idol today, but back then, it was all in a night's work. In a segment for a TV news show, the baby-faced singer sports bleached-blond hair dipped like a paintbrush in hot pink as she opines like a seasoned vet (www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQ_fpepzM-M) and sings "Anyway."

The Monkeys didn't exactly play for peanuts and started copping top honors at the Houston Press Music Awards with cheeky blues-rock that churned country, surf, cumbia, jazz, and zydeco. Frontwoman and band caught the eye of two whose interest would change their lives.

"I was in Houston," recalls Susan Antone, "reading an article in the paper about her. I looked at her picture and said to Cliff, 'She's

right for the club.' Nineteen years old with pink hair and playing the hell out of the guitar. We fell in love with her."

Wonderland & the Imperial Monkeys were invited to the Guadalupe Street Antone's. There, they were treated like royalty with the singer as the queen of hearts in the club's post-SRV stable of the early 1990s, which included Toni Price, Johnny and Jay Moeller, Sue Foley, Mike and Corey Keller, and the Ugly Americans. It was a good bar for the Monkeys to hang, and Austin felt so comfortable that when the band called it quits a few years later, she set her sights on Austin at the start of the millennium.

Salvation, Revolution, and Understanding

Living in Austin renewed Carolyn Wonderland's focus on her multiple talents, underlining luxurious vocals with fine guitar work, trumpet, and piano, as well as that remarkable ability to whistle on key. A series of each-better-than-thenext discs began with Alcohol & Salvation in 2003 ("songs about booze and God; records are a time capsule of what happened that year"). Her music played in television series such as Time of Your Life and Homicide.

Her circle of musician friends and admirers broadened to include not only Benson but the late Eddy Shaver, Shelley King, and yes, Bob Dylan, who likened her composition "Bloodless Revolution" to "a mystery movie theme." She began co-writing with locals Sarah Brown, Ruthie Foster, Cindy Cashdollar, and Guy Forsyth; sat in with Los Lobos, Robert Earl Keen, and Ray Wylie Hubbard; recorded with Jerry Lightfoot; and toured with Buddy Guy and Johnny Winter. She also claims membership in the all-girl Sis Deville, the gospelinfused Imperial Crown Golden Harmonizers, and takes aw-shucks credit for inspiring Amsterdam's annual WonderJam.

The music-industry path ran through a dense, black rabbit hole, and Carolyn Wonderland's promise sometimes reflected darkly through Austin's looking glass.

"The evolution of life shocks me all the time," Wonderland confesses. "When I think back on the crazy and beautiful things that have happened, it blows my mind, because I don't think I've done anything to deserve all these things. I'm still learning how to be appreciative and not be a jerk."

Jerks don't involve themselves with or support the wide range of socially conscious acronym organizations she does. SIMS, HAAM (Health Alliance for Austin Musicians), MPP (Marijuana Policy Project), NORML (National

Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws), WAMM (Wo/Men's Alliance for Medical Marijuana), and ARCH (Austin Resource Center for the Homeless), as well as Farm Aid, Seattle Hempfest, Million Musicians March, Cindy Sheehan, SafePlace, Front Steps, Star of Hope, Casa Marianella, and food banks are all beneficiaries of Wonderland's talents. She's a traditional folkie, and her socially conscious politics are on view in her music: Houston NORML uses her biographical "Annie's Scarlet Letter" as its featured soundtrack for publicservice announcements.

Many of those second-chance and helpinghand efforts support women, families, and the homeless. That latter substrata of society is one that strikes close to her activist heart.

"I don't consider that I was 'home-less'; I consider that I was 'van-full,'" chuckles Wonderland with black humor about her nearly two years without a street address. "In that situation, I never went hungry in this town. And we were on tour so much it wasn't that radical of a change. I booked us a whole lot on the road."

She also bartered with friends, taking care not to spend too long at any one place by trading out household chores, cooking, and tasks in exchange for laundry and shower privileges.

"It felt useful that way," she explains, her slender brows furrowing in emphasis. "I've realized a lot of material things aren't quite as necessary as I thought they were when I was a kid. I once had goals of playing music and working other jobs for money so I could do that, but there's no time. If you set out to do that, then you're no good to anyone else as an employee. Any straight job was always back-burnered, and that made me feel bad. Anywhere I worked, it was like, 'Sorry, you're second choice."

Benson admires Wonderland's frankness in not making music her second choice.

"Musicians need two things: They need time for their craft - to practice, write, play - and of K.T. Tunstall and other new chick singers of the last couple of years, but she's got the range, the emotion. Comparisons to Janis [Joplin] are always there since she's rooted in blues and R&B, but it's still rock & roll, and like Janis, Carolyn can take it into country. She's also an incredible guitar player and a great person, so humble. The combination is disarming and totally real. That's magic."

It was magic in the studio, too, as Miss Understood came to life, a canny mix of Benson's production, Wonderland's compositions, and select covers of Terri Hendrix, J.J. Cale, and Rick Derringer that punched her sound up a notch. As soon as the album roared to life, it was clear the singer-songwriter-guitarist-whistler had delivered on her longawaited promise.

"What a thrill it was to have the Miss Understood CD release at [Antone's]," Susan Antone effuses of that night. "She stood there with her long, red curled hair and still played the hell out of the guitar, tearing it up as fabulous as always. I felt compelled to go on stage and say how honored we were to have her there, because I know what Cliffy would say, 'Let's hear it for Carolyn Wonderland.'"

Nowhere but Texas

The check's been paid and plates swept off the table. A handful of tortilla chips lies in pieces in the basket, eyed by a rogue wren perched on the porch railing as Carolyn Wonderland rummages her purse for her keys. She's off like the White Rabbit, a little late to the Capitol, where Shelley King is being installed as state musician of Texas. Even though there's no gig tonight, every day is preparation for the next show.

The proclamation from Carolyn Wonderland Day last February is framed. The big tour begins this summer, with dates to the East Coast and New York, then west to Oregon and California.

"You can talk of K.T. Tunstall and other new chick singers of the last couple of years, but [Carolyn's] got the range, the emotion. Comparisons to Janis [Joplin] are always there since she's rooted in blues and R&B, but it's still rock & roll, and like Janis, Carolyn can take it into country. She's also an incredible guitar player and a great person, so humble. The combination is disarming and totally real. That's magic." - Ray Benson

they have to be out there hustling. Nothing had happened with Dylan. He doesn't like people talking about his stuff, but you know what? Too bad, Bob. I told Carolyn: 'Don't worry about budget. If you need to go in, go in. If we find a great tune, we go in and do it.'

"My luxury is owning [Bismeaux Studios]. It's not a great way to make money, but it's a great way to make music.

"And Carolyn's got that unbelievable, incredible voice, one of the great voices of our time, and that's not an overstatement. You can talk In November, she's off to Amsterdam for another WonderJam. The accolades for Miss *Understood* are still pouring in with the *Houston* Press issuing a plea for her return home, but in June she's taping a segment for Austin City Limits. That very gig sums up her love and affection for the capital city.

"Here, it's like total camaraderie: A musician might be in a punk band Friday and blues band Saturday and picking during the week. Music doesn't sound like this anywhere else in the world.'

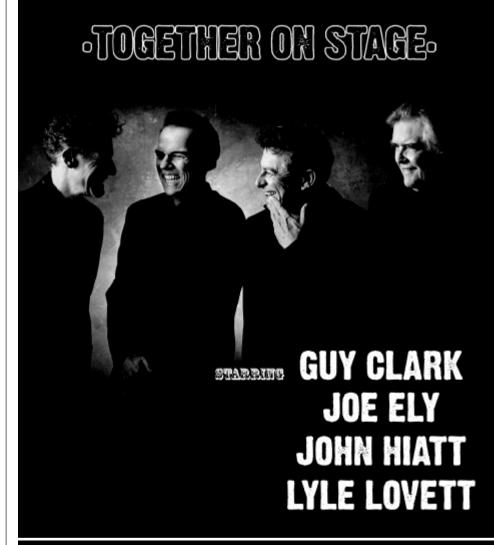


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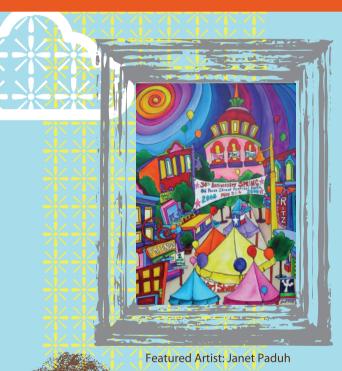




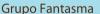
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Red River Northside

SATURDAY MAY 3

NOON Texas Latin Dance

1:00 The Ortega Elementary Superstar Choir

2:00 Hawaiian Kona Isle Dancers

3:00 Fuerza Latina

4:00 Hungarian Dancers

5:00 7 Seals

6:00 Vudu Cafe

7:00 The Batikum

SUNDAY MAY 4

2:00 St. Edward's Ballet Foklorico

4:00 Fl Tule

5:00 Texas Latin Dance

6:00 Sabaya Belly Dancers

7:00 Klvis Klan



🔭 The Austin Stage

Trinity Northside

SATURDAY MAY 3

11:00 Ars Supernova

1:00 Aliens

2:00 Korkus

3:00 Ume

4:00 No Mas Bodas

5:00 Klvis Klan

6:00 The Boxing Lesson

7:00 The Jolly Garagers Pirate Band

8:00 Les and the Funk Mob

SUNDAY MAY 4

NOON The Bourbon Legends

1:00 AfterMath

2:00 The Noise Revival Orchestra

3:00 Jackie Venson

4:00 The Duane Carter Band

5:00 Jennifer Grassman

6:00 Leti De La Vega

7:00 Venson Lee

The Performing Arts Stage

SELECT

Red River Southside

SATURDAY MAY 3

NOON The Banjo Club

1:00 Chef Marko Food Comedy

2:00 Lupe Arte Bilingual Theater Presents She Flies

3:00 The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged by the UT Roundabout Players

4:00 3rd Pecan Street Poetry Slam Qualifiers

6:00 Lupe Arte She Flies Part 2

SUNDAY MAY 4

NOON Clicketty Cloggers

1:00 Chef Marko Food Comedy

2:00 Lupe Arte She Flies

3:00 Poetry Slam Finals

4:00 Lupe Arte She Flies Part 2

5:00 The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged by the UT Roundabout Players



Mrs. Baird's Main Stage

7th and Neches

SATURDAY MAY 3

11:00 Paul Green School of Rock

NOON Super Pal Universe

1:00 Two Hoots and a Holler

2:00 Sunset (feat. Bill Baird of Sound Team)

3:00 The Boxing Lesson

4:00 Loose Diamonds (the reunion show)

5:00 Nelo

6:00 Drum Jam

7:00 The Lemurs

8:00 Grupo Fantasma

SUNDAY MAY 4

ALL DAY LATIN POP AND HIP HOP

NOON Foco Rojo

2:00 Organized Rhymes

5:00 Intense Entertainment

6:30 Boca Abajo

The HOOP Fundraiser Stage

Maggie Mae's

SATURDAY MAY 3

NOON Jaunty

1:00 Peel

2:00 The Blacklisted

3:00 The Banes

4:00 Enrique Y La Guerilla

5:00 Attack Formation

6:00 Winchester Twins

7:00 Bob Taylor's Latest Review

8:00 The Bill Jeffery's

8:30 The Easies

9:00 Awesome Cool Dudes

9:30 Daniel Francis Doyle

SUNDAY MAY 4

NOON Appalachian String Band

1:00 The Mad Dukes

2:00 Public Offenders and The Cipher

3:00 The Moonhangers

4:00 Texas Sapphires

5:00 Rod Moag

6:00 The Mediums

WIN A HARLEY, SMART CAR, FORD TRUCK, OR A TELESCOPE!!





Children's Stage

San Jacinto Northside

SATURDAY MAY 3

1:00 Puppet Show with Bob Abdou

2:00 Magician Bobby Cordell 3:00 Juggler Darren Peterson

4:00 Magician Bobby Cordell

5:00 Juggler Darren Peterson

SUNDAY MAY 4

1:00 Puppet Show with Bob Abdou

2:00 Juggler Jack Byrd 3:00 Music by The Barnstormers

4:00 Magician Bobby Cordell

5:00 Ventriloguist Comedy by Ian Varella



SATURDAY MAY 3

NOON Film School of San Antonio 12:45 Austin Community College

1:00 Storie Productions

1:40 Reel Women

2:55 Film Austin

5:25 Renegade Reels

Ruins of the Realm

James McMurtry's pissed

BY DAN OKO

Spring turkey-hunting in North Texas takes patience and skill. As the gobblers come into breeding season, the notoriously shy birds preen and strut with the hopes of getting a little loving. In the low light around the edges of the day, hens emerge to check on the mature toms making all the noise. A wrong step, a snapped branch, or a sneeze can send the colorful, cautious birds fluttering away. Hunting magazines come filled with tips about turkey behavior, calls to use, how to assess habitats. and the best ammo for success. Even then, no matter the hunter's talents, there will always be missed opportunities.

The same holds true for musicians looking to make it. Talent and hard work cannot account for the ever-changing zeitgeist in pop culture any more than scouting and a shotgun can make up for a shift in the wind or wildlife fleeing the presence of a predator. Not that anybody needs to remind veteran Austin-based musician James McMurtry about the parallels between hunting and a career in music.

Following McMurtry's lauded 1989 debut on Columbia Records, Too Long in the Wasteland, which was produced by John Mellencamp, he's received critical raves, but a broader audience has continued to elude him until recently. His 2005 release, Childish Things, was his bestselling album in a decade. This month's follow-up, Just Us Kids ("Texas Platters," April 11), arrives piled high with praise and talk that it should earn McMurtry, if not commercial success, at least a modicum of recognition. On the eve of a national tour. McMurtry agrees to a bite at Enoteca, a trendy Italian bistro a few doors down Congress Avenue from the Continental Club, where he's held down a Wednesday night residency for years.

Having just returned from a hunting trip on his grandfather's ranch outside of Fort Worth, the city where he was born, McMurtry rues missing his chance to bring home a turkey. With his ninth album, he's trying to warm up to some of the demands of the music business, including press encounters, but he still keeps his jaw clenched when talking.

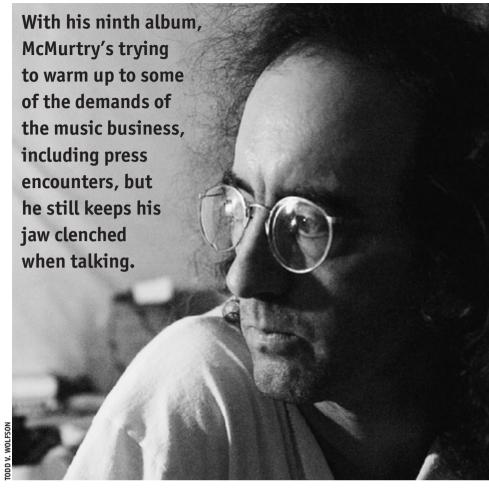
"I meant to title it Ruins of the Realm," says McMurtry, his beard flecked with gray and his signature fedora screwed down over his longish hair. "And I told people that's what I was going to title it, but they just said they couldn't get their head around it. So, it was like, maybe I'll title it Just Us Kids."

The title track, which arrives in the disc's second spot, is several years old, but McMurtry explains he had to rework the chord progressions before recording it. The song arcs from the narrator's adolescence through middle age, reminiscing on small-town dreams gone awry and the white-collar malaise that sometimes follows: "It's a damn short movie, how did we ever get here? Not so skinny, not so free, not so many as we used to be."

For McMurtry, "How did we ever get here?" isn't merely a question asked by the indelible characters that inhabit his best songs but also a political inquest. Just Us Kids traces the struggles faced by everyday people, while McMurtry drew added creative energy from his disgust with the policies of the Bush administration. He takes Bush directly to task with the pungent, if somewhat ham-handed, poetry of "Cheney's Toy," painting the Iraq war as folly beyond compare with his thumbnail portraits of tortured prisoners and injured soldiers. Despite his efforts to make the message crystal clear, the author says he's been challenged by listeners who think the song addresses the troops as opposed to the president.

"A lot of people seem to think that," he admits. "I thought I put enough clues in there. Bush thinks he's the president, but he's Cheney's toy in my opinion. The whole point of 'You're the man' - I don't know where I read that; I think it was The New York Times - is that's what Cheney tells Bush so he'll go out there and act like the president. 'You're the man,' you know: Stay the course, bring 'em on – all that stuff.

"So yeah, the whole song's directed at Bush." It goes without saying that McMurtry doesn't mind stirring a little controversy. In 2005, he was a regular fixture at Camp Casey in Crawford, Texas, where peace activist Cindy Sheehan sought to engage President Bush on his home turf. More recently,



McMurtry's written for political website The Huffington Post about his mistrust of the "euphoria" surrounding Barack Obama's presidential bid, while expressing qualified support for Hillary Clinton.

At the Continental Club, during the first night of the release party for Just Us Kids, April 15 - that's tax day, in case you missed it - he offered a biting version of "We Can't Make It Here," a long track off Childish Things that won the admiration of Stephen King, one of the few 20th century novelists who has outsold McMurtry's father, Larry, of Lonesome Dove fame. While a small crowd boogied to the rocking beat, McMurtry spat unblinking lyrics:

"Will work for food, will die for oil, will kill for power and to us the spoils. The billionaires get to pay less tax, the working poor get to fall through the cracks. Let 'em eat jellybeans, let 'em eat cake. Let 'em eat shit, whatever it takes."

"I just hope he gets heard more and more," says British rock legend Ian McLagan, who helped out on keyboards on Just Us Kids. McLagan made his name with the Faces and backed the Rolling Stones before settling in Austin. He hooked up with McMurtry thanks to drummer Darren Hess, who used to play with McLagan's close friend and former bandmate the late Ronnie Lane. Hess, along with bassist Ronnie Johnson, backs McMurtry in the Heartless Bastards. "They're not heartless, of course," laughs McLagan. "When James writes songs, he speaks for himself, but he also speaks for a lot of people. He speaks for the common man. You're not going to get that with Justin Timberlake."

Don't mistake McMurtry for some 1960s-minded folky, however. He plays a mean electric guitar and remains deadly serious about the craftsmanship that goes into making an album, as well as how to re-create the strum and drang of a full band when the threepiece Heartless Bastards take the stage. (During recent shows, Tim Holt has joined the band as a second guitarist.) Just Us Kids is the fourth album in a row that McMurtry produced himself. In addition to McLagan, guests include guitarist Ion Dee Graham and Pat MacDonald of Timbuk 3, while the swampboogie opener "Bayou Tortous" features his 17-year-old son, Curtis McMurtry, playing baritone sax.

"Basically, what you're doing when you're producing is you're painting with sound," says McMurtry. "You give yourself a sonic palette to use. Once we get the record done, we have to figure out how we're going to play this live. You know, if you've got five guitar parts on the song, I'm not going to carry five guitars on the road. So when we decide we've got to get the essence of it as a threepiece or a fourpiece, it can turn into a totally different thing.'

Yet at his CD release, it isn't the rootsy vamps or the talking blues that McMurtry performs so well that seize the crowd by the throat. Rather, he stands alone with an acoustic guitar for "Ruby and Carlos," a new song of damaged lovers, and it's there the hunter draws the audience in like a fat tom turkey. Talk ceases, and all eyes turn to McMurtry as he quavers the bull's-eye finale:

"Holding back the flood, just don't do no good. You just can't unclench your teeth to howl the way you should. So you curl your lips around the taste of tears and the hollow sound that no one owns

These are words sung with McMurtry's mouth wide open.

McMurtry Says

TOP 5 SONGS THAT AT LEAST TOUCH ON RELEVANT ISSUES

- 1) "Ohio." Neil Young
- 2) "Billy Austin," Steve Earle
- "Good Christian Soldier." Kris Kristofferson
- "Broken Freedom Song," Kris Kristofferson
- 5) "Rapid City, South Dakota," Kinky Friedman

FIVE WHITE HOUSE

- 1) **9/11/01**: Bush sits stiffly in front of a class of schoolchildren for seven minutes while people jump to their deaths from the burning towers.
- 2) "By my order ...": Commencement of 'shock and awe," March 20, 2003
- 3) "Bring 'em on," July 2, 2003: Bush taunts Iraqi insurgents from the safety of the White House
- 4) "Mission accomplished," May 2, 2003
- 5) "I, George W. Bush ..." Jan. 20, 2001



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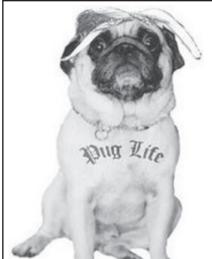
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MISSION OF BURMA

Signals, Calls, and Marches (Matador)

MISSION OF BURMA

Vs. (Matador)

MISSION OF BURMA

The Horrible Truth About Burma (Matador)

The second coming of Mission of Burma's Vs. goes down this summer at the Pitchfork Music Festival. The Boston quartet - guitarist Roger Miller, bassist Clint Conley, drummer Peter Prescott. and sound manipulator Martin Swope - defined innovation, and the fact that they created a sound imitated to this day in two albums speaks volumes. With these three LPs recently out-ofprint. Matador's "definitive editions" of MoB's Ace of Hearts Records catalog are especially exciting, all three remastered by original producer/Ace owner Rick Harte. The tight, stabbing "Academy Fight Song" b/w "Max Ernst" 7-inch now opens 1981's Signals, along with two previously unreleased studio tracks, and '82's sprawling Vs. gets an additional four songs. Horrible Truth, the band's posthumous 1985 live release of their final 1983 tour, also features four bonus tracks from NYC and Detroit, The liner notes are flush with archival photos and gems such as Miller's audiology report from 1982 and a 1983 rejection letter from Warner Bros., but the group's feral, stop-on-a-dime Clash-like punk, buttressed by a new musical angularity that would come to define the emerging universe of post-punk, remains as disconcertingly primal as ever. The bull's-eye is, thus, three DVDs of live performances, Signals' black-and-white collection from '79 and '80 is pre-MTV in its artiness, but the two '83 sets from the Bradford Hotel in Boston are of particular interest. Though the band's clearly road-weary - Miller already wearing rifle-range earmuffs to protect his deteriorating hearing - they're unrelenting. The afternoon set accompanying Vs. starts with the two-minute punk killer "The Ballad of Johnny Burma" and keeps the pace from there, while Horrible Truth's evening show stretches a marathon 17 songs and ends with sweat and "Academy Fight Song," visualizing a band not at their peak but just getting started. (Signals, Calls, and Marches; The Horrible Truth) ★★★↓ - Audra Schroeder







THE REPLACEMENTS

Sorry Ma, Forgot to Take Out the Trash (Twin\Tone/Rykodisc/Rhino)

THE REPLACEMENTS

Stink (Twin\Tone/Rykodisc/Rhino)

THE REPLACEMENTS

Hootenanny (Twin\Tone/Rykodisc/Rhino)

THE REPLACEMENTS

Let It Be (Twin\Tone/Rykodisc/Rhino)

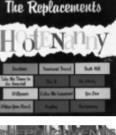
Generations have passed since the Replacements mattered, so it's difficult getting across to those who didn't have firsthand experience of the Minneapolis quartet's inebriated teenage angst and murky tenderness what all the ruckus was about. The group's first four albums have been reissued before, but with the addition of bonus tracks and well-crafted liner notes, this campaign fills in some of the blanks, a testament to the band's whimsical trek to nowhere in particular. 1981 debut Sorry Ma, a self-proclaimed burst of "power trash." blusters almost metal without the chops, fierce vet melodic. Among its 13 bonus tracks are four cuts from the original demo tape that brought the 'Mats to producer/manager Peter Jesperson's attention, plus the first single B-side, "If Only You Were Lonely," an acoustic performance by Paul Westerberg that hints at his later genius. Originally an EP, '82's Stink possesses an even more punk stance led by the obstinate "Kids Don't Follow" and "God Damn Job." Among the new additions, snot-nosed takes of Hank Williams' "Hey, Good Lookin'" and Bill Haley's "(We're Gonna) Rock Around the Clock" demonstrate the band's ability to tackle almost any pop song with a wink but no nod. Hootenanny ('83) finds the Replacements mulching a sink full of pop influences with nimble rocker "Color Me Impressed," the stifling heartbreak of "Within Your Reach," and the bonus glam boogie of "Lookin' for Ya" leading the way. One of the best rock discs ever, 1984's Let It Be is a raucous flurry of tunes like the blustering "I Will Dare," yearning "Unsatisfied," and thrashing "Answering Machine," not to mention an inspired cover of Kiss' "Black Diamond" and teenage anthem "Androgynous." Westerberg's songwriting is arguably his most insightful and poignant yet with an immature edge that's unparalleled. Additional covers of T. Rex and the Grass Roots bring little to an album that everyone should own at least one copy of already. (Sorry, Ma: Stink) ***

(Hootenanny) ★★★★ (Let It Be) ★★★★

– Jim Caligiuri











THE GEORGE MITCHELL **COLLECTION: VOLUMES 1-45**

(Fat Possum)

As a high school senior in 1962, George Mitchell began wandering Memphis back alleys and the rural roads of Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi in search of the blues. He found them all right, as evidenced by this 7-CD collection of recordings spanning 20 years and including a few familiar names like R.L. Burnside, Robert Nighthawk, and Big Joe Williams, as well as dozens of virtual unknowns. Don't call

Mitchell a folklorist, however. In lively liner notes, Sam Sweet derides the field John and Alan Lomax in particular - as "frosty, insular, uptight types." He contends that Mitchell "radiated warmth and eccentricity" and thus connected with bluesmen he recorded because of his generosity of spirit and a shared Southern culture. Purists offended by Burnside's rocking electro-infused collaborations with Jon Spencer and Kid Rock in the 1990s will no doubt prefer the four dirty Delta originals included here, the first-ever recordings of the Mississippi bluesman. Mitchell's recollections of the sessions are often hilarious and always honest. He remembers the one-string-bass- and kazoo-playing Dewey Corley, recorded 1967 in Memphis, as "a crotchety old motherfucker, very irritable." Cecil Barfield, also recorded that same year in Albany, Ga., provides four standout cuts highlighted by his hypnotizing if barely decipherable swampy howl. Excellent sides of Precious Bryant, Rosa Lee Hill, and Jessie Mae Hemphill are among the only known recordings of black female guitarists from the South in the 1960s. Percussion is generally limited to stomping of feet, and children playing and friendly chatter are par for the background on these intimate sessions. Clocking in at more than eight hours and 174 tracks, the collection might be overkill for the casual fan, but for the serious collector, The George Mitchell Collection comes available as 45 7-inches.

- Thomas Fawcett







OTIS REDDING

Otis Blue/Otis Redding Sings Soul (Collector's Edition) (ATCO/Rhino)

LYNYRD SKYNYRD

Street Survivors (Deluxe Edition 30th Anniversary) (Geffen)

WHISKEYTOWN

Strangers Almanac (Deluxe Edition) (Geffen)

Southern by birth, studio, and soul, these three musical institutions won't roll over upon having crucial chapters of their recorded legacies exhumed on respective 2-CD deluxe editions, but Dixie already sat up. Georgia's immortal esophagus peeler Otis Redding cut his third LP 1965's Otis Blue/Otis Redding Sings Soul, in Memphis backed by Booker T. & the MGs and Isaac Hayes during one 24-hour tear. Versions both in mono and stereo – the latter in Technicolor vs. the former's stoic black and white – come padded out with excerpts from ancient live albums, yet this R&B sacrament still beats the heart of its genre. Whether Redding's demanding "Respect," pleading "I've Been Loving You Too Long," or covering Sam Cooke thrice, soul-baring skillet knockouts abound. Jacksonville, Fla.'s Magnificent Seven recorded Southern rock poet laureate Ronnie Van Zant's 1977 swan song at Miami's Criteria Studios with Otis Blue overseer Tom Dowd before returning to Atlanta for take two. The second disc's original album recovers a spark ultimately sanded down into Nashville corners minus drummer Artimus Pyle's stiff plod, particularly "You Got That Right" and "I Never Dreamed," both on the 2001 expanded edition. Street Survivors' "Freebird," Teflon-coated chiller "That Smell," comes with a bonus pair of greater and lesser versions, though the real blue plate special is Van Zant's autobiographical rewrite of Merle Haggard's "Honky Tonk Night Time Man." Whiskeytown's sophomore slam and major label debut, 1997's Strangers Almanac, manages an emotional, lyrical, and musical certainty as sophisticated and true as Lucinda Williams' Car Wheels on a Gravel Road, though it fades at the last. Thirteen original tracks balloon into 39, including a flat KCRW session, red-hot outtakes (the Barn's on Fire sessions), alternates takes ("Turn Around"), demos ("Houses on the Hill"), and covers of Fleetwood Mac's "Dreams" and the True Believers' "The Rain Won't Help You When It's Over." Neil Young's unreleased archives equal onetenth of those by former Whiskeytown North Carolinan Ryan Adams. (Otis/Lvnvrd) ★★★

(Whiskeytown) ★★★★

- Raoul Hernandez



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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 30TH ISSUE.

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> The Chronicle World Wellness supplement will be on newsstands May 29.



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SATURDAY, MAY 10

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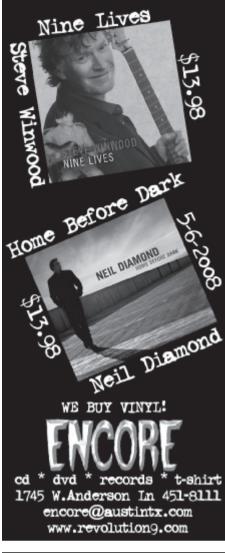
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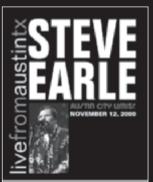






When Steve Earle stepped onto the Austin City Limits stage on November 12, 2000, it had been 14 years since his first appearance in 1986. In between it must've seemed like he had lived several lifetimes.

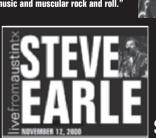
His latest album at the time of this recording was Transcendental Blues. Of the



vetromausi

WATERLOO

record. Rolling Stone wrote, "These



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WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

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LEAD STORY

Update: Experimental "natural orifice" surgery might be health care's next big thing following its U.S. introduction last year at Columbia University (as reported also in "News of the Weird"), where doctors removed a woman's diseased gall bladder not by an abdominal incision but through her vagina. In March, doctors at UC-San Diego Medical Center removed a woman's appendix through her vagina and a man's through his mouth. (A microscopic camera must be inserted through the abdomen, however, to guide the surgeons.) Pain and healing time are usually less than half that of ordinary surgery, but the risk of internal infection is greater. The next step, doctors say, will be removing kidneys through the anus.

GOVERNMENT IN ACTION!

- · A Maryland governmental fund created to assist "innocent" victims of violent crime has paid out nearly \$1.8 million since 2003 to injured (or deceased) "drug dealers, violent offenders and other criminals," according to an investigation by the Baltimore Sun published in March. Burial expenses were awarded for a carjacker, a victim of an inter-gang killing, and a sex offender who was fatally beaten in prison. The Maryland courts have ruled that as long as the applicant was not engaged in a crime at the time he was injured, he must be considered for an award.
- The Associated Press reported in March that "dozens" of locked-up sexual predators are receiving federal aid to take mail-order college courses through Pell grants, even though prison inmates normally are ineligible. Sex offenders who have completed their sentences but are held for "treatment," are not technically "prisoners," and many have spent their stipends on "living expenses" such as DVD players, in that they have no "room and board" expenses.

GREAT ART!

· Graduate art student Matthew Keeney's latest piece of performance art, in February, called The Waiting Project, had him standing on streets in Syracuse, N.Y., waiting for someone to ask him what The Waiting Project is. In previous pieces, Keeney had held a "Super Bowl party for one" on a park bench, had earnestly watched ice sculptures melt, and had walked from the Capitol steps in Washington, D.C., to the Lincoln Memorial, stopping each time he heard a car horn and then starting again when he heard another



CHUCK SHEPHERD



Earnest residents continue to destroy their homes accidentally: A house in Galveston had the roof blown off on Jan. 21 when the resident set out six bug foggers but neglected to turn off the gas stove's pilot light.

- Two aggressive art pieces sexualizing Jesus' Last Supper were displayed earlier this year: Among the 74 plaster models shown in Gateshead, England, in January by British artist Terence Koh was one of Jesus and several disciples sporting generous erections. And in March, a retrospective of Austrian Alfred Hrdlicka went on display in the Cathedral Museum in Vienna, with the blessing of the archbishop of Vienna, even though it included a painting of the Last Supper as a "homosexual orgy," in Hrdlicka's description (because, he said, there were no women in the original Da Vinci painting that inspired it). (That piece was removed during the first week, after complaints.)
- · Last year, Montreal, Quebec, artist Michel de Broin created, as art, the hollowed-out shell of an old Buick powered only by a four-seater bicycle (with hand brakes or, failing them, Fred Flintstone-type brakes). Nonetheless, when a group took the car out for a spin last October, an overzealous officer ticketed them for "driving" an unsafe "car," but in April, after a daylong court hearing, the charges were dropped.

PEOPLE DIFFERENT FROM US

Even though 20 states outlaw keeping monkeys as pets, the Humane Society of the U.S. estimates that there are 15,000 privately owned primates, with at least 200 Floridians licensed for pet capuchins, according to an April Orlando Sentinel report. Since experts warn that the animals are biters and scratchers and are very aggressive when agitated, the Sentinel asked what accounts for their popularity. Said the editor of Monkey Matters Magazine, it's their humanlike features and owners' desires to dress them up. "Believe me," said the editor, "if people could get their cats [into] outfits, a lot of those cats would be wearing outfits."

POLICE BLOTTER

Latest Police Chases: 1) In Ocala, Fla., in March, Bret Wass, 28, scrambling from police investigating a sexual battery, commandeered a tow truck and drove away, even though the truck had a car hooked onto it; during the chase, he hit the patrol car and was captured on foot nearby. 2) Police in Osaka, Japan, mobilized in January to apprehend fugitive Hirofumi Fukuda, 27, who was wanted for assaulting an officer (which tends to get the attention of fellow officers). By the end of the two-hour episode, a helicopter and 460 patrol cars, involving 2,240 law-enforcement officers, were on the case.

WHAT GOES AROUND, **COMES AROUND**

Thirty years ago, before Wal-Mart became an international giant, a small video company made a "handshake" deal to shoot promotional footage of the firm's executives and was given free rein within the company. It made 15,000 tapes, including many, inevitably, showing Wal-Mart leaders in awkward situations. In 2006, an incoming Wal-Mart executive decided to end the relationship, devastating Flagler Productions' bottom line. and to compensate, the company began offering to research its library for historians and, more notably, litigants suing Wal-Mart on product safety, employment, and union-busting issues. According to an April Wall Street Journal report, a treasure trove of embarrassing moments is available.

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

In three incidents in March and April, robbers were arrested in the act after police were tipped off in advance. The source of the tip each time was a store employee who had been brazenly notified by the perp to expect a robbery soon. Daniel Glen, 40, was arrested in Windsor, Ontario, having called ahead to make sure there was enough money in the convenience store's cash register. An 18-yearold man was arrested in Chicago, having given his phone number to a Mufflers for Less employee and instructing him to call when the manager, with access to the safe, arrived at work. And two men were arrested near Traverse City, Mich., having described to a gas station employee two hours earlier exactly how they would soon rob him.

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



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P.P.P.S. Is there any reason for you to suffer even one more day if you don't have



to? Time is precious... you can never get it back, so call NOW."



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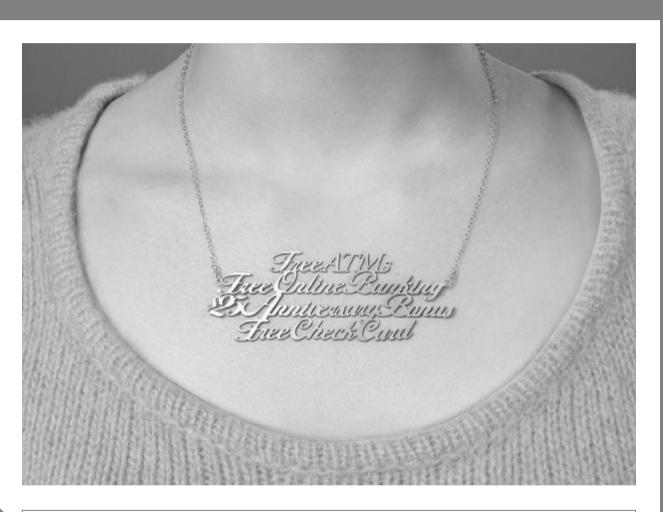
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this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

(PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM ARTS, FILM, AND MUSIC) BY JAMES RENOVITCH

Thursday 01

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 at their website, 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.

COMMUNITY LIBRARY USED BOOK SALE DVDs and audio books are also available. Thu.-Sat., May 1-3. Pflugerville Community Library, 102 10th St., Pflugerville. www.friendsofpflugervillecommunitylibrary.org

CRIME & SAFETY CITY COUNCIL FORUM This is one of your last chances to see the council candidates up close and personal. Tonight they prepare to be grilled on issues surrounding the APD and neighborhood safety. 6:30-8pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second, Free,

DANCE OFF ATX Professional dancer or king of the funky spazz-out? Either way, you're invited to throw down in this dance competition decided by audience applause. Sign up at www.ilovemikelitt.com. 9pm-1am. United States Art Authority, 512 W. 29th,

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).

NOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY **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,

KVRX SPACE PROM The space theme of our local radio station's annual prom party demands your finest otherworldly duds. DJs, photo booths, and other spacey diversions will keep you floating. 9pm. The Parish, 214 E. Sixth, upstairs, 479-0474. \$5. www.kvrx.org.

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

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR RECRUITMENT Come to one of two public sessions and provide input into what the city should be looking for in a parks director. Thu., May 1, 4 & 6pm, Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 974-2220.

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.

ROOM TO READ KICKOFF PARTY Donate some money to Room to Read which strives to build educational infrastructure and create lifelong readers. Music, fire dancing, and drum circles put you in the giving mood. 7-9:30pm. Hot Mama's Espresso Bar, 2401 E. Sixth #104, 476-6262. \$10 suggested donation, www.roomtoread.org.

WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN Women gather and discuss the varied roles they play and how to tap into their inner strength. 7pm. Isis Institute, 1300 W. Koenig #180, 576-6492. \$10. withinyourreachaustin@yahoo.com.



Mariachi Madness

LOOK FOR THE 🔊 FOR CINCO DE MAYO EVENTS ALL OVER TOWN (NOT JUST ON THE FIFTH).

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) "Diamonds in the Snow" @ Texas Hillel, 7pm This American Life Live! @ Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) M.I.A., Holy Fuck La Zona Rosa Link Wray Birthday Bash Continental Club Slide-o-Rama Cactus Cafe

Friday 02

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP AWARDS LUNCHEON honors those whose visions and actions have led to a more livable Austin. Register on their website to attend. 11:30am-1:30pm. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 916-6012. \$65. www.envisioncentraltexas.org.

EMANCIPET FREE DAYS This mobile spay/neuter clinic might be in your neighborhood today. Check www.emancipet.org to find out. Fri.-Sat., check-in begins 8am (first come, first served). 587-SPAY. Free.

EYES, EARS + FEET A multimedia presentation featuring dance, electro-acoustic music, and video, all oozing with collaboration. 8pm. B. Iden Payne Theatre, 300 E. 23rd, Free, www.finearts.utexas.edu/tad/index.cfm

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY MEMORIAL with a reading of the names of those who died. 7:30am-3pm. Capitol grounds.

HOT SCIENCE/COOL TALKS LECTURE This installment of the series is titled the Rock That Changed the World, No. not Rush, the meteor long theorized to have caused the extinction of the dinosaurs. Expand your mind with the help of some big brains. Fri., May 2, 5:45pm (7pm, lecture). UT campus. Welch Hall Rm. 2.224, 24th & Speedway, Free.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN FLORIDA'S FIELDS The Student/Farmworker Alliance presents traditional Vera Cruz folk music and an update on how a petition to Burger King made history. 7pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925 Free

NATIONAL NO PANTS DAY You know what to do. www.nopantsdav.com

O. HENRY PUN-OFF PREVIEW This warm-up session for the pun-off has funnier wordplay than other cities have on their punniest days. 7pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652, Free.

PEOPLE UNITED features a conversation on indigenous communities and multinational corporate mining in Guatemala with environmental activist Fausto Valiente and anthropologist Charles Hale. Allan Campbell hosts, with a weekly commentary from Rahul Mahajan. Fri., May 2, 1pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

the young ones

ZILKER BACKYARD CONCERT Help fund the arts program at this elementary school by watching performances from Jimmy LaFave, Matt the Electrician, and others. Food concessions will also be available for those who are so ionesing for music they forget to eat dinner. Fri., May 2, 5:30-9:30pm. Zilker Elementary School, 1900 Bluebonnet, 414-2317. \$10 (\$5, teens; \$2, under 12).

DREAM CARVERS ART EXHIBIT Sanchez Elementary fourth-graders created colorful works based on the book Dream Carver; all you have to do is look and enjoy. Through May 16. Las Manitas Avenue Cafe, 211 Congress, 472-9357. Free, www.lapena-austin.org

THE MUSICAL ADVENTURES OF FLAT **STANLEY** Literary favorite Flat Stanley comes to the stage. Watch him go from a normal boy to completely flat and get mailed around the world, learning about different cultures along the way, Fri., May 2, 7:30pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 474-LONG. \$12-15. www.thelongcenter.org

PETER & THE WOLF Second Youth Family Theatre brings Prokofiev's classic about a boy, a bird, and, of course, a wolf to kids' ears. May 3, 10, & 17; 11am & 3pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 386-8292. \$10 (\$5, ages 2-12; free, under 2). www.secondyouth.com

THE SPENCERS: THEATRE OF ILLUSION

Prepare to be wowed by a spectacle of illusion, comedy, music, and choreography, brought to you by magicians Kevin and Cindy Spencer. Sat., May 3, 4 & 7:30pm, Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 866/4GET-TIX. \$7.50-35. www.austintheatre.org

LITTLE LOUNGE LIZARDS Bring the

7-and-under set for a night on the town. Well, more like an afternoon at Momo's. but there will be dancing to a live DJ. All kids must be accompanied by an adult. First Saturdays, 12:30-3:30pm. Momo's, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848. \$10-12. www.littleloungelizards.com.

PINEWOOD DERBY FUN DAY A Boy Scouts of America institution, the Pinewood Derby is upon us. What were once blocks of wood are now gravity-powered racers, and awards will be given out for their design and speed. Sat., May 3, 9:45am. GattiTown, 9900 S. I-35. Free.

WEE SAVERS WORKSHOP invites teens ages 12-16 to learn the ins and outs of financial planning. Parents welcome; lunch provided. Call or e-mail to register. Sat., May 3, 10am-4pm. Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 619-5809. Free. khaynes10@hotmail.com.

CELEBRATION OF FAMILIES Feeling the family ties starting to loosen? Come to this smorgasbord of family bonding events; enjoy some music, seminars

exhibits, and kid activities; and get your family to tighten up. The increasingly one-note Will Wynn will present a slide show on combating global warming. Might want to leave the kids at the moonwalk for that one, Sat., May 3, 10am-4pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 478-5725. Free. www.familyconnectionsonline.org.

LAN PARTY Bring your laptop or play for free on one provided by the library. Ages 13 and up. Sat., May 3, 10am-4:30pm. Ruiz Library, 1600 Grove, 472-3584. Free. www.gamingapl.blogspot.com

PARENTING BEYOND BELIEF Learn how to raise your young'un open to the idea of religion without indoctrination. Author Dale McGowan will spread the secularist gospel for parents. Sat., May 3, 10am. Unitarian Universalist Church, room 15. 4700 Grover, 919-4115, Free,

www.centerforinguiry.net/austin.

🞧 INVISIBLE CHILDREN MUSIC FEST Help Akins High School students help Invisible Children, a group that rebuilds schools in Northern Uganda, and get rocked by the local lineup. Sat., May 3, noon-8pm. Mohawk, 912 Red River, 680-7000. \$6-8. loneal@austinisd.org.

PIONEER FARMS' MAYPOLE FESTIVAL Start your day on the farm with a stage presentation of Charlotte's Web (1:30pm). From there, it's all maypoles,

hayrides, clogging, and more kidly excitement. Sat., May 3, 1-5pm. Pioneer Farms, 10621 Pioneer Farms Dr., 837-1215. \$10 (\$8, children). www.pioneerfarms.org.

SCULPTOR TO BE Reservations are recommended for this workshop on bendable sculptures made from various materials. Sat., May 3, 1:30pm. Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum, 605 Robert E. Lee, 445-5582 x101. \$12. www.umlaufsculpture.org.

ALL-STAR FAMILY FILM FESTIVAL This spring series winds down with today's featured sports movie, Space Jam. Sat., May 3, 2pm. Hampton Library, 5125 Convict Hill, 892-6680. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

A MUSICAL JOURNEY WITH YOUTH **CHOIRS** The combined forces of Austin Children's Choir, the Hill Country Youth Chorus, and children's artists Eric Tingstad and Nancy Rumbel take you around the world in 80 days with songs from different countries sung in different languages. Sat.-Sun., May 3-4. St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th, 476-6757. \$10. www.austinchildrenschoir.com

GYPSY TEENS CD RELEASE Listen to the group and solos from its awardwinning members. Sat., May 3, 5-7pm. Flipnotics, the Triangle, 452-8765. Free. www.austinbellacorda.piczo.com

O. HENRY WRITING CLUB Celebrity authors and students of the O. Henry Museum-funded afterschool writing program pair up to read the students' work. Sat., May 3, 7pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652. Free.

KID'S TRIATHLON See Sports, p.84, for more on this event. Sun., May 4. www.leaguelineup.com/cptri.

LITTLE LIVE MUSIC This week with Jungle Jill & the Javbirds, Sun., May 4. 10:30-11:30am. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase. www.rutamaya.net.

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK starts a little early at library branches around town with Grandmother's Story: A Tlingit Tale about two children who find trouble when one of them makes fun of the moon. Go to www.ci.austin.tx.us/library for the times and locations. May 6-15. Free.

RICK RIORDAN unleashes his latest mythic masterpiece, Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Battle of the Labyrinth. Get ready for a giant parking-lot party with Greek training, a centaur, Austin Improv Collective, various local food vendors, an oracle, and more! Vouchers for the book are on sale now. Get there early. Tue., May 6, 4pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar,

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STRESS REDUCTION WORKSHOP Bring a chair or mat and see how hypnosis can help reduce stress without getting sleepy. *Fri., May 2, 5:45 & 7:30pm. Zilker Park, 587-3882. Free.* www.allthatis.biz.

WARPED SIDE OF PHYSICS LECTURE Kip Thorne wrote the book on gravitation, literally, and today he'll be talking about black holes, singularities, and other such time- and space-bending phenomena. Maybe Bill & Ted wasn't so far-fetched after all. 3pm. UT campus, Welch Hall, Rm. 2.224. Free.

COMMUNITY LIBRARY USED BOOK SALE (See Thursday 5/1.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)

Mexican American Cultural Center

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Bend and Break @ Texas Union Theatre, 9:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

The Raconteurs Stubb's

The Strange Boys, Hacienda, Gospel Truth United States Art Authority

John Waite Cactus Cafe Tapes 'n Tapes Antone's Atmosphere Emo's

Saturday 0

A TASTE OF LOUISIANA Two days, two locations, one big plug for all things Cajun. Music, crawfish, and enough prepared food to empty your wallet. Sat., May 3, at Central Market's north location (4001 N. Lamar) Sun., May 4, at Westgate (4477 S. Lamar). Free. www.centralmarket.com

ANTONE'S CINCO DE MAYO Celebrate the Cinco and Latino Music Month with Del Castillo and Charanga Cakewalk, 9pm, Antone's, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424, \$15, www.austinlatinomusic.com. www.antones.net

ASIA FEST Seems like every cultural event this week is Cinco, Cinco, Cinco! Not so. Asia Fest has all the standard music, performances, food, and activities for the kids but steps it up with martial-arts demos, a sudoku contest, and a movie minifest. For more on the films being shown see "Asia Fest Mini Film Fest," p.60. 11am-9pm. Asian American Resource Center, 8301 Cameron. Free.

BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN SUMMIT brings together council members, transportation planners, and representatives from CAMPO, TxDOT, and more. All they need is a little public input. 9am-4pm. UT cam-

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www.austinfarmersmarket.org

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out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

CINCO DE MAYO begins with a carnival and mariachi music on Friday but opens on Saturday with menudo, fajita, and brisket cook-offs; music; arts & crafts: and lots of food vendors Fri.-Sat., May 2-3, Hays County Civic Center, San Marcos, 888/200-5620.

CENTRAL TEXAS AIRSHOW salutes Vietnam veterans with aircraft flying and on static display from the 1960s, plus World War II fighters and bombers, vintage aircraft, and a spectacular night performance and fireworks on Friday. Fri.-Sun., May 2-4. Temple Airport, Temple. \$35 weekend pass, \$15 per day. www.centraltexasairshow.com.

HILL COUNTRY RUN MOTORCYCLE **RALLY** isn't your plain ol' motorcycle rally with rides into the Hill Country, a bike show, games, vendors, and music. Fri.-Sat., May 2-3. Luckenbach, 866/839-3378, \$42 www.hillcountryrun.com

GEN. SAM HOUSTON FOLK FESTIVAL

offers a wide variety of activities by craft demonstrators, living-history re-enactors, musical and historical entertainment, children's activities, cultural displays, arts & crafts, and ethnic foods. Fri.-Sun., May 2-4. Sam Houston Memorial Museum, 1400 19th St., Huntsville, 936/294-1832. \$7 (\$3, children), www.samhouston.memorial.museum.

POETRY AT ROUND TOP presents readings, workshops, conversations on the craft, and unique performances by Tony Hoagland, Naomi Shihab Nye, Kay Ryan, and others. Fri.-Sun., May 2-4. International Festival-Institute, Round Top. 979/249-3129. \$110 for three days. www.festivalhill.org.

ART IN THE PARK unveils five new sculptures in Campbell Park with the artists in attendance to discuss their work. Sat., May 3. Hanna Springs Sculpture Garden, Lampasas, 512/556-6997. www.lafta.org.

DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL features more than 30 teams racing for the Dragon Cup, while spectators eniov Asian cuisine, music, arts & crafts, and cultural performances. Sat., May 3, 8:30am-4:30pm. Allen's Landing, Buffalo Bayou, downtown Houston, 281/381-7154.

www.texasdragonboat.com

LEGENDS & PUPPIES TOUR brings Kinky Friedman and Steven Fromholz to the stage in a benefit for Utopia Animal Rescue Ranch. Sat., May 3, 7:30pm. Silver Spur Theatre, 108 Royal St., Salado, 254/947-3456. www.saladosilverspur.com

COUNTRY FLAVORS FESTIVAL offers a smorgasbord of food including Blue Bell Ice Cream, a cake and pie cookoff, and German and Polish sausage, plus arts & crafts and children's activities. Sat., May 3, 10am-5pm. Downtown Brenham, 888/273-6426. www.brenhamtexas.com

FRONT PORCH DAYS is a day of fun and music with the Biscuit Brothers and Bright Shadow. Sun., May 4, 11am-4pm. Plum Creek Community north of Kyle, Free,

TEJANO CONJUNTO FESTIVAL

explores South Texas music through workshops, lectures, films, and hall of fame performers in concert. Wed.-Sat., May 7-10. Guadalupe Theater and Rosedale Park. San Antonio. 210/271-3151.

www.guadalupeculturalarts.org

pus, Jester Center, 21st & Speedway. Free. www.campotexas.org/programs bicped.php.

CANNIBIS CRUSADE MARCH & POT-LUCK Spend the day with NORML, and have your collective voices heard: Legalize it! Start in the morning at Zilker Park with some tacos and sign-making. The march begins at noon and continues to the Capitol for speeches and music. Come back to Zilker at 4pm, bring a dish to share, and enjoy music, vendors, and frisbee golf with your brothers of the green. 10am-10pm. 585-6369. Free. potluckforpotlove@texasnorml.org, www.texasnorml.org

EMANCIPET FREE DAYS This mobile spay/neuter clinic might be in your neighborhood today. Check www.emancipet.org to find out. Fri.-Sat., check-in begins 8am (first come, first served). 587-SPAY. Free.

FAIR TRADE FOR SALE Get your fair trade goods and food while the kids navigate the moonwalk. 9:30am-2pm. Messiah Lutheran Church, 5701 Cameron, 452-2963. Free. secretary@messiahaustin.com.

FESTIVAL OF BUDDHIST COMMUNITIES Whether you're looking for an introduction to various forms of meditation or to brush up on your Buddhist chanting, this joining of Zen forces has what you need. A tea ceremony and Zen archery will be demonstrated, and all are invited to observe or participate. 11am-4pm. Austin Zen Center, 3014 Washington Square. Free. www.austinzencenter.org.

FINDING YOUR CAREER MOJO Looking to change careers or jump-start your current job? Register online to attend and for location. Sat., April 3, 9:30am-noon. \$175. www.careerstrategists.net.

FLAMINGO-A-GO-GO Drinks, dancing, food, and all the pink flamingos you care to see are included with your ticket to this pink-tie event and fundraiser for Planet Cancer. Sat., May 3, 7pm-12mid. AMLI rooftop, 415 W. Second. \$75 (\$125, couple). www.flamingoagogo.com

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY It's that simple. Head to your favorite comic-book store, and get yourself a free comic book. I thought we were saying "graphic novel" these days. (See "First, Free Comic Book Day, and Then – Ka-Baam!!," p.46, for more.) Various locations, www.freecomicbookday.com.

FUNNY PAPERS ANNIVERSARY That makes 20 years for this university purveyor of all things drawn and paginated. Come in, give some congratulations, and pick up a free comic book. Funny Papers, 2021 Guadalupe, 478-9718. www.funnypapers.com

HANDMADE AUSTIN WOMEN SPRING SHOW gathers painters, designers, sculptors, iewelers, and ceramists to help you pick out a unique Mother's Day gift. Or just a gift for yourself. Sat., May 3, 10am-6pm; Sun., May 4, 11am-4pm. Ginko Studios, 800 Gullet, 389-1920. Free. www.handmadeaustinwomen.com

HERBS FOR HEALTH Learn how herbs can help your reproductive, cardiovascular, and circulatory systems. School of Herbal Studies, 8803 Bear Creek Dr., 301-5838. \$90. www.ezherbs.net.

INTERNATIONAL MINING FORUM A representative of the Pastoral Commission for Peace and Ecology discusses the economic and environmental impact of gold and silver extraction in Guatemala. A short film on the subject will also be shown. 7pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free (donations accepted to cover speaker's travel costs).

LAVENDER CUTTING Why buy scented candles when you can have the real thing? Free to look, but if you cut it, you buy it. Weekends in May, Call to verify, Sweet Dreams Lavender Farm, 10600 W. Wagon Rd., 288-7270. www.sweetdreamslavenderfarm.com

LIFELONG LIVING Listen to Dr. Jim Bentley talk about creativity and aging before the real party begins (read: banjo serenade and line dancing), 9:30-11:30am. Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 200 W. Anderson, 454-7229. \$5 donation.

LUNA FEST ATX, aka the Midtown Arts & Music Festival, features music, visual artists, slam poets, burlesque, and more to create a sexy stew of nonstop creativity. 11pm-2am. United States Art Authority, 512 W. 29th, 480-9562. \$12 (\$10, advance). www.myspace.com/lunafestatx.

LUPUS SUPPORT GROUP First Saturdays, 5:30-7pm. Seton Medical Center, McFadden Conference Room, 1201 W. 38th, 422-9227. Free. fusumada@hotmail.com www.lupus.org/newsite/index.html.

MIXED MEDIA SHOWER ART FAIR Arts, crafts, games, and vendors populate the grounds during the day. As night falls, live music from the likes of the Corto Maltese and That Damned Band accompanies the arrival of the meteors. Check the website for a full list of events and how you can participate. The Hundred Acre Wood, 21707 Hogeye Rd., Manor. \$10. www.thehundredacrewoodevents.com

OLD PECAN STREET FESTIVAL The 30th installment of this annual fest features arts & crafts vendors and live music every year but always has a few tricks up its sleeves. This year they've fit Grupo Fantasma, lots of healthy booths, a mini film festival at the Drafthouse at the Ritz, more up those sleeves. See Music Listings, p.102, for more info. 11am-10pm. Sixth Street, from Brazos to I-35, Free, www.oldnecanstreetfestival.com

POODIE'S DE MAYO FESTIVAL features 15 bands on two stages. Pretty standard for Austin, Noon-2am. Poodie's Hilltop Bar & Grill, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318. \$12 (kids free). www.poodies.info.

POWERFLICKERS SHORT FILM SHOWCASE Take a break from the Old Pecan Street Festival, get out of the sun, and see some free flicks made by local students and film groups. Presented by the Mobile Film School. noon-5pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320. Free. www.mobilefilmschool.org.

ROLLING STONES ... ALMOST Before you see the new Stones doc, Shine a Light, at the IMAX theatre check out Austin's own cover band, the Stone Ravers. 6pm. Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 N. Congress. Free

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

SKIN CANCER SCREENING Come and get screened for the most common cancer, skin cancer. First come, first served, so show up early. 8am-2pm. University Medical Center at Brackenridge, 601 E. 15th. Free.

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

CAY TRIPS BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

The Frank Buck Zoo in Gainesville, Texas, doesn't have a lot in common with its larger-than-life namesake. That doesn't mean that the small-town zoo

isn't impressive in its own right. It would be difficult for any park to live up to the legend of Frank "Bring 'Em Back Alive" Buck.

Sixty years ago, Frank Buck (1884-1950) was as well-known a celebrity as Johnny Weissmuller in his day or as Steve Irwin is now. Born in Gainesville, Buck was a lifelong Texan, although he lived much of his life outside of the state.

Buck's long career as an animal collector, author, radio star, and filmmaker began in 1902 when he was hired on to help handle a trainload of cattle from Dallas to Chicago. Using winnings from a card game, he headed for South America, where he trapped animals to sell to American zoos.

For nearly 50 years, Buck hunted primarily in the South Asian markets and jungles of the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, and Borneo for specimens that would fill the cages of animal parks from the Bronx to San Diego. In 1922, he stocked the Dallas Zoo, the oldest zoo in Texas, with a worldclass collection of animals.

His autobiography, Bring 'Em Back Alive, made him an international celebrity in 1930. For a number of years, the book was on the required reading list in Texas public schools. RKO Studios turned it into a blockbuster movie.

Buck followed his debut bestseller with seven more books and six movies, including an appearance in the Abbott and Costello film Africa Screams. All of his creative offerings are out of print now, but

Steven Lehrer released a compilation of Buck's short stories in Bring 'Em Back Alive: The Best of Frank Buck through the Texas Tech University Press.

The stories in Buck's books are still as readable today as they were when originally published. In a time before television, Buck brought an image of the South Asian jungles to the printed page with humor and drama. He claimed

that he never willfully or unnecessarily harmed an animal in the pursuit of his livelihood. Frank Buck died in Houston of lung cancer at the age of 66.

It is unfair to judge Buck's profession 60 years ago by today's standards. He lived in an era when big-game hunters thought there was an endless supply of wall trophies. Collecting live specimens for well-managed zoological parks had scientific and education value then and now.

Buck never directly contributed to the zoo in his hometown, although he did

serve as an honorary ringmaster to the Gainesville Community Circus, the zoo's predecessor. The circus began in 1930 as a fundraiser for the community theatre. The all-volunteer performance turned out to be so popular that the citizens took it on the road for a 24-year run. At its peak, the amateur show grew into a three-ring circus with seven tents.

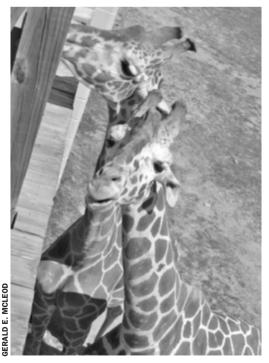
During the off-season, the animals were housed in a makeshift zoo on the edge of downtown. After the circus' equipment was destroyed in a fire in 1954, the animals retired to become the foundation of the city zoo. Despite two floods, the Gainesville zoo has been upgraded over the years into a nice facility that gives visitors upclose looks at animals from four continents.

The path around the zoo is about a mile long and is wheelchair- and stroller- accessible. An elevated walkway takes visitors over the kangaroos, giraffes, and zebras. In the petting zoo, the animals are accessible through portholes that allow children and the animals to escape unwanted attention easily. Many of the Texas-native residents were found injured and could not be reintroduced

The Frank Buck Zoo is at 1000 W. California St. in Gainesville's Leonard Park. The gift shop has a small exhibit of Frank Buck's personal items donated by his daughter. The public gets to help feed the giraffes at 10:30am. On Saturday and Sunday, the zookeepers give informal presentations around the zoo. The front

gates open 9am to 4pm daily. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children. For more information, call 940/668-4539 or go to www.frankbuckzoo.com.

878th 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.



Books (110 E. North Loop), Saturdays, 4pm. 462-0787. Free. www.austintimeexchange.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., May 3-4, 9am-1pm. bikeiones2426@vahoo.com

WOMEN'S RESOURCE FAIR The Austin Young Lawyers Association offers this day of free services for the homeless and battered women and children. Services include legal assistance (with Spanish speakers); medical & pediatric services, including screenings and wellness checks; mentalhealth counseling; job skills and educational counseling; social services; clothing closet for women and children; seminars on various topics; spiritual care; and child care. 9am-3pm. Schmidt-Jones Family Life Center, 1300 Lavaca. Free.

COMMUNITY LIBRARY USED BOOK SALE (See Thursday 5/1.)

EYES, EARS + FEET (See Friday.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.) **Okay Mountain Gallery, Wally Workman Gallery**

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Asia Fest 2008 Mini Film Festival @ Asian American Resource Center Grounds, 1pm PowerFlicker Short Film Festival @ Alamo Ritz,

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

The Raconteurs Stubb's Atmosphere Emo's Meat Beat Manifesto Club de Ville Daedelus Whisky Bar

Toneburst 7 Salvage Vanguard Theater **Old Pecan Street Festival** Downtown Austin

Sunday 04



ARABIC MOTHER'S DAY BAZAAR Belly dancing, henna tattoos, and cultural goods abound. When your midsection is tired and you're all temporarily tatted up, why not look for something for Mom? 11am-6pm. Zein's Dance Studio, 5013 Duval St., 533-9227. Free. www.wmdproductions.com.

BANG BANG GO CHILI COOK-OFF Free music and free chili: What more do you need? 11:30am-11:30pm. The Oaks Live, 10206 FM 973, Manor, 512/744-7468. \$10. www.myspace.com/shotgunpartyproductions.

BDSM WORKSHOP Let the folks from Forbidden Fruit show you how to spice up the bedroom, even if you don't know what BDSM stands for. 6pm. Forbidden Fruit, 108 E. North Loop, 453-8090. \$25 (\$20, advance). www.forbiddenfruit.com.

BUILD A BETTER GARDEN The Green Corn Project instructs participants in the art of cultivating a garden and yard that's eco-friendly. RSVP for location. 1-5pm. Free. greencornproject@usa.net, www.greencornproject.org.

CINCO DE MAYO AT MACC This family-friendly event with music (culminating with Los Texas Wranglers at 5pm), activities, dance, and more sits at the center of all things Cinco de Mayo-related in Austin. Feel free to let loose the kids or sit 'em down for storytelling with Dan Arrellano. Noon-10pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St., 478-6222. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/macc.

CINCO DE MAYO MARIACHI PLAY-OFF & SHOW Fiesta del Mariachi kicks off on the City Terrace at 4pm, with a no-holds-barred strum-off: Mariachi bands facing off for supremacy. By the time the dust settles, it will be time for the professionals to show 'em how it's done. Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano plays at 7pm in the Dell Hall. The party could last until the actual Cinco de Mayo. Long Center, 701 W. Riverside, 474-LONG. \$25-35. www.thelongcenter.org.

COLONIAL CULINARY HISTORY Learn how cookbooks and cooking habits from days of yore still inform our food today. Then, while your at it, make that food. 6:30pm. Central Market Cooking School, 4001 N. Lamar, 458-3068. \$40. www.centralmarket.com

COMMUNITY WELLNESS DAY Learn massage or just get one, and while you're at it, have your posture checked. Donations go to Theatre Action Project, which promotes social change for youth via the stage. 1-5pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2535. Free. www.theatreactionproject.org.

COVER THE UNINSURED HEALTH FAIR & RALLY Let the voices of the uninsured be heard. And, hooboy, there's a lot of 'em. Health Care for All Texas presents this day of health screenings, music, speakers, and alternatives to our country's floundering

health-care system. Noon-2:30pm. Capitol grounds, 1100 N. Congress, Free, hcfataustin@gmail.com

DON'T EMPTY LAKE TRAVIS FUNDRAISER Soak in the view while helping conserve Lake Travis with auctions, a catfish dinner, horseshoes, and live music, 2-8pm, Carlos'n Charlie's, 5973 Hi-line Rd., 267-0151. \$30 (\$25 advance).

keithandnicolesmile@yahoo.com, www.draininglaketravis.org.

FOSTER DOG ADOPTION TRAINING RSVP on the Austin Dog Alliance website for its crash course in transitioning a new dog to your home and family. Shelter, socializing, and puppy quirks will be covered. 2-4pm. Romp N Run Ranch, 3901 CR 175, Leander. Free. www.austindogalliance.org

MAY POLE RITUAL Even you can participate in witchcraft: Grab a ribbon, and start weaving your hopes and dreams. Free to the public, but please bring \$5 or a 30-foot ribbon for next year's event. 5pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. Free. www.tejasweb.org.

MILDRED PIERCE, PIES, & COFFEE At this benefit for your fashion guru Stephen Moser, eat your fill of pie and coffee while screening one of his favorite movies, Mildred Pierce. 2pm. Alamo Drafthouse South, 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320. \$30. www.originalalamo.com.

PERROS DE MAYO BLUE DOG BENEFIT Live music, beer, food, and a raffle and silent auction benefit Blue Dog Rescue. For a full lineup, see Club Listings, p.106. 1-8pm. The Ginger Man, 304 W. Fourth, 473-8801. Free. www.bluedogrescue.com

PLANTS OF THE HILL COUNTRY Learn about local plants and ecosystems and how you can use that knowledge to repair wildlife habitats on your property. 10am-2pm. Westcave Preserve, 24814 Hamilton Pool Rd., Round Mountain, 830/825-3442. \$8. www.westcave.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 Ree Caves Rd. #210, 327-2900, Free. info@austinmartialarts.com, www.austinmartialarts.com,

SECRETS OF TAROT Take an instructional trek through the major and minor arcana, and see just how tarot can manifest in everyone's lives. 10am-4pm. Plum Blossom Wellness Center, 1700 S. Lamar #230, 306-7344. \$60.

SHARE OUR STRENGTH'S TASTE OF THE NATION Local chefs from Uchi, Jeffrey's, Rather Sweet Bakery, and more dish up a dinner to remember. All the proceeds go to fight childhood hunger in Austin and around the world. 6:30-10pm. Jasper's Gourmet Backyard Cuisine, 11506 Century Oaks Terrace #128, 834-4111. \$150. www.tasteofthenation.org.

T'AI CHI-A-THON Just off Andrew Zilker Road in Zilker Park, find people taking an entirely unextreme "sport" to the extreme. Get a participation form, wrangle some donations for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and get ready for a marathon session of tai chi events, or bring a donation to the event and rejuvenate the body and mind. 10am-4pm. Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd. 461-0389 naustintc@shcglobal.net. www.northaustintaichi.com/taichiathon.htm

A TASTE OF LOUISIANA (See Saturday.)

HANDMADE AUSTIN WOMEN SPRING SHOW (See Saturday.)

LAVENDER CUTTING (See Saturday.)

OLD PECAN STREET FESTIVAL (See Saturday.)

TRAIL CONSTRUCTION ON SLAUGHTER CREEK (See Saturday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Backpack Picnic DVD Release Party @ Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm

Mildred Pierce Coffee and Pie Social: A Benefit for Stephen Moser @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 2pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Old Pecan Street Festival Downtown Austin Tower of Power One World Theatre

Monday 05



CONJUNTO FESTIVAL Conjunto in the park, the way Cinco de Mayo was meant to be. Los Texas Wranglers, among others, perform. 4pm. Fiesta Gardens, 2101 Bergman, 480-8318.

DEBT MANAGEMENT Like any small business, you've got debt. Let the city's Small Business Development Program help you with strategies to lighten the fiscal load. Ironically, you'll have to pay for that info. 9-11am. International Center of Austin, 201 E. Second, 974-7800. \$25. www.cityofaustin.org/sbdp.

EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS Like Alcoholics Anonymous but for people with emotional difficulties. Mondays, 7:30pm. Shoal Creek Hospital, 3501 Mills, 458-9525. Free. www.emotionsanonymous.org.

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY REDUX Two days after you've drunk in free comic books and one day after your graphic-novel hangover, get a little hair of the dog. Stop by your local library, and get *another* free comic. Want more? At 7pm, get to the Hampton library as Angie Blackmon of Dragon's Lair Comic Books gives some lessons in the history and preservation of these inked gems. 974-7400. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

IRAQI TRADE UNION TOUR Screen this short film about a union that the U.S. thought was eliminated, then stick around for a discussion. 6pm. Texas State Employee Union Hall, 1700 S. First. Free. vickicbradlev@aol.com.

REEL WOMEN MIXER Grab a beer, and talk shop (the movie biz that is) with the like-minded. 6-8pm. Opal Divine's, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308. Free. www.reelwomen.org.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Heavy Metal in Baghdad @ Alamo Ritz, 10pm Kiss Me Deadly @ Texas Union Theatre, 7:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Guy Clark, Joe Ely, John Hiatt, & Lyle Lovett Paramount Theatre The Breeders Emo's

the GAY place

BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

CAMPCAMP: MAY DAY Booyah and all that. Maypole hippie-dippie doo da. Tonight, it's your neighborhood queer performo-spectacular, the last of the season, They're taking the summer off, and jumping into the heat with a cap-off you might just need to witness to make it through the armpit weather. The lovely Chainbow, Beliza, Jeane Stern, Rudy Ramirez, and none other than Rebecca Havemeyer. And vou. And maybe us. And at least one of your exes. Thu.. May 1. 8pm. Bouldin Creek Coffeehouse & Cafe, 1501 S. First, 416-1601. Free. campcampqueers@gmail.com.

OUT & EQUAL WORKPLACE SUMMIT RECEPTION It's a Kickoff Reception to up the ante for civil liberties within your work atmosphere. The summit itself, which will be held right here in Austin, happens in September, hoping to draw in more than 3,000 GLBTQ ready to learn and grow and believe that fair really can be fair. Thu., May 1, 6-8:30pm. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 415/694-6500. www.outandequal.org/summit/2008/default.asp.

THE QUEEN'S CANDY What self-respecting queer doesn't love Madonna? We believe in Ciccone and dig on her new album, so why not try to score a free copy at her *Hard Candy* release party, with giveaways, Absolut candy cocktails, and an amateur strip contest. What self-respecting queer doesn't love an amateur strip contest? It's Splash. And we gettin' wet. Thu., May 1, 10pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.

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.myspace.com/kkayclubbigyo.

KNT: OOPSEY DAISEY Turns out we were just too damn excited in last week's issue about Kings N Things bringing their things to their Sixth Birthday Bash. Blew the candles out too early, we did. Too excited that we tried to make it happen a whole month early. Check here for more details, and the accurate date: May 30, 9pm. \$10.

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.

KEEP AUSTIN REALER THAN MOST So, Arts on Real is a very cool theatre space on the Eastside - an east side with sky-rocketing rents and yuppies taking over lot after lot. So Arts on Real, they need your help. The green-folding, check-writing kind of help. They've even set up an easy way for you to do it (see donor website). Keep something alive that helps keep us alive as a thriving, evolving community. www.2008donorpage.eventbrite.com.

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.

FIRST FRIDAY DINNER CLUB This group of professional gay men and women meets on the first Friday of each month. Hence the name. Fri., May 2. joshloker@prideofaustin.com, firstfridays-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

TEXANA DAMES AT PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Texas darlings the Texana Dames take over every first Friday at cowgirl central on Ben White. YeeeeeHAW. Fridays, 8pm. Patsy's Cowgirl Cafe, 5001 E. Ben White, 444-2020. \$5. www.texanadames.com, www.myspace.com/patsyscowgirlcafe

YOU HAD US AT HELLO Ever had a doppelgänger in town, where people run into you and think you're this amazing cello player with floppy hair, overalls, and artistic expression feh dayz? No? Happens to Getty all the damn time, and her name is Molly. And she is an amazing cellist and is in this band Hello Lovers with other amazing musicians, and they just made an album. And now there is this release party, and it will be fun, and Silky Shoemaker will play, too, just to, you know, get the kids moving their body parts. And there will be doppelgängery a-plenty. But shit, who would mind being mistaken for that? Fri., May 2, 9pm. Emo's, 603 Red River, 477-3667. campcampqueers@gmail.com.

RUSTLE UP SOME L AND SOME G, PARDNER Celebrate another L Style G Style in a cowpoke style. Learn to dance country. Win some boots. Anything can happen. Sat., May 3, 8-11pm. Roger Beasley Audi, 12971 Pond Springs Rd, 219-3150. www.lstylegstyle.com/rsvp.php.

LOVELY LUSHE LADIES 'Tis the week of ladies nights, and here's one that does not disappoint. Enough cats around to make you purr but room to bat your tail. From the makers of GirlzCellar (Bobby Cook, U.S. Senate), this night is women, dance music on a Michael Jackson-esque lit-up floor, drink specials, cute chick bartenders with stiff ... pours (say hey to **Getty** on the patio), and you. Be there. Square's out this year. If you build it, you will come. *Tue., May 6*, 9pm. Rain on 4th, 217 W. Fourth, 494-1150. www.rainon4th.com.

 $\label{eq:more chains to drive} \textbf{MORE CHAINS TO DRIVE} \ \text{Please just read this lineup and tell us that you're}$ not the least bit curious. Featuring: My Fascist Pussy, (get this) Jerry Signfeldz Atropheed Sac, and oui, Brash Boys. With names like these, who needs pants? Wed., May 7, 8pm. Chain Drive, 504 Willow, 480-9017. No cover.

OUT DANCING CLASSES For same-sex dance partners! That's you! Come on down, and learn how to make it look good while it wiggles. Partners provided if you don't have your own. Where else can you say that? Sundays: group class 6-7pm; social dance, 7-9pm. Go Dance, 2525 W. Anderson #530, 512/339-9391. First class is free; after that, \$15 per person. info@godancestudio.com, www.godancestudio.com

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

Sports

BY MARK FAGAN

THE HOME TEAMS

ROUND ROCK EXPRESS Great weather for a ballgame. Vs. Tucson: Thu., May 1, 7:05pm. Vs. Las Vegas: Fri.-Sat., May 2-3. 7:05pm; Sun., May 4, 2:05pm: Mon., May 5, 12:05pm, Dell Diamond. 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd., 512/255-2255. \$6-12. www.roundrockexpress.com

TEXAS ROLLERGIRLS Tulsa, Okla.'s Green Country Roller Girls are in town to face the Hustlers with the undefeated **Honky Tonk Heartbreakers** taking on the 2007 season champs, the Hell Marys. Live music from the **Chumps** and the **Hoodrats** will also entertain. Sun., May 4, 6:30pm (doors). Playland Skate Center, 8822 McCann. \$15 (\$12, advance; free, kids 12 & under). www.txrollergirls.com.

LONESTAR ROLLERGIRLS The defending Calvello Cup Champion Holy Rollers will face the also undefeated Cherry Bombs in this highly anticipated bout. Live music provided by Duke and Brewtality Inc. Sun., May 4, 7pm (6pm doors), Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, Exhibition Hall 5. \$15, \$13 presale. www.txrd.com.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Softball Vs. Texas A&M-Corpus Christi: Thu., May 1, 5pm (doubleheader). McCombs Field, 2001 Comal. **Baseball** Vs. Baylor: Sat., May 3, 2:30pm; Sat., May 4, 1pm. Disch-Falk Field, 1300 E. MLK. Rowing Big 12 Invitational: Sat., May 3, 9am. Texas Rowing Center, 300 Hearn St. Women's Golf NCAA Central Regional Championships: Thu.-Sat., May 8-10, all day. UT Golf Club and Academy, 2200 University Club Dr. www.texassports.com

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Baseball Vs. TAMU-International: Fri.-Sat., May 2-3, 1pm (doubleheader Friday). www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm.

AUSTIN WRANGLERS For more on the Wranglers, see Chronicle Sports blog the Score at austinchronicle.com/sports. Vs. South Georgia: Sun., May 4, 3pm. Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. \$18-125. www.austinwranglers.com

RECREATION & FITNESS

MEN'S BASKETBALL SUMMER LEAGUE REGIS-TRATION The Austin Rec Center is registering for their summer men's league, which includes eight games and playoffs. Teams only. Fri., May 2, 9am-10pm. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek Blvd., 476-5662. \$285/team. tracy.partin@ci.austin.tx.us, www.leaguelineup.com/arcbasketball.

UIL TENNIS STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS Check their website for details. Mon.-Tue., Mav 5-6. 9am. Penick Allison Courts, Trinity Street between 17th and 18th; World of Tennis at Lakeway, 26 Club Estates Pkwy. \$10 (adult per day), \$5 (student per day), \$18 (all tournament), \$15 (coach all tournament). www.uil.utexas.edu/athletics/tennis/state/index.html

ASA TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL OPEN WATER STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS This 2,000-meter downhill straightaway is open to all Texas high school students. No artificial swimming aids allowed. Sun., May 4, 10am. Lady Bird Lake, 327-2260. www.americanswimmingassociation.com

FIRST SATURDAY AT HARVEY PENICK GOLF COURSE will include lots of new and used golf equipment. Also, there will be a putting and closestto-the-pin contests and free 30-minute golf lessons. Sat., May 3, 8am. Harvey Penick Golf Campus, 5501 Ed Bluestein Blvd., 926-1100.

FORE THE CHILDREN benefits the Austin Children's Shelter and features 18 holes of golfing fun. At 6:30pm there will be a barbecue dinner with entertainment from the legendary Ray Benson & Asleep at the Wheel. Mon., May 5, noon-8pm. Cimarron Hills, 200 Cimarron Hills Trail W., Georgetown, 512/499-0090. \$200. mia@austinchildrenshelter.org,

www.austinchildrenshelter.org LIVELOGIC ULTIMATE FRISBEE TEXAS SHOOTOUT

Presented by Doublewide Ultimate Frisbee, teams from these United States and some country named Canada will duke it out for the title and a cash prize. Sat., May 3, 9am-7:30pm; Sun., May 4, 9am-5pm. East Austin YMCA, 5315 Ed Bluestein Blvd. Free. www.livelogic.net/txshootout.

FEDEX KINKO'S CLASSIC Professional golf returns to Austin with locals Ben Crenshaw and Tom

Kite looking to best returning champ Scott Hoch. Through May 4. Hills Country Club, 26 Club Estates Pkwy., 512/732-2666. www.fedexkinkosclassic.com

JOSEPH KRASSNER MEMORIAL POKER TOURNAMENT & CASINO NIGHT will benefit the Joseph Krassner Memorial Fund, which strengthens the Austin United Jewish Community Campaign Men's Division, and boasts some amazing prizes such as a trip for two to Las Vegas, UT football tickets, and more. Sun., May 4, 3pm, Dell Jewish Community Campus, 7300 Hart, 795-9937 x19. \$180; \$1,800 (table sponsors, includes 10 tickets). liza.levine@shalomaustin.org, www.shalomaustin.org/poker.

NATIONAL KARAOKE LEAGUE Registration for the summer league begins on May 7. Registrants will take part in a nine-week season, receive a division T-shirt, and enjoy two division parties per year. And did I mention there are now two divisions, one Downtown and one up North? Registration starts: Wed., May 7. Season starts: Wed., June 4. \$25. www.nationalkaraokeleague.com/austin.

MONEY BOX CAP 2K Swim 2,000 meters from Red Bud Isle to the Texas Rowing Center all to benefit Swim Safe Austin and Deep Eddy Pool. No artificial swimming aids required. Sun., May 4, 10am. Lady Bird Lake, 327-2260. www.cap2k.com.

UIL GOLF STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS See their website for schedules. Mon.-Fri., May 5-9, 7:30am. Morris Williams Golf Course, 926-1298; Roy Kizer Golf Course, 444-0999; Jimmy Clay Golf Course, 444-0999. Free (\$5 parking).

www.uil.utexas.edu/athletics/golf/state/index.html.

R.A. 'JAKE' DYER BOOKSIGNING Local author Dver will be at BookPeople this Saturday signing his new book, The Hustler & the Champ, which was recently named the best billiards book of 2007. Sat., May 3, 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

THE MAZE Runners of this 30-kilometer or 10-kilometer race will enjoy smooth dirt trails, some creek crossings, and several quick turns. Sun., May 4, 7am. Walnut Creek Metropolitan Park, 12138 N. Lamar, 294-6456. www.tejastrails.com/Rogue.html

WALK LIKE MADD Bring the family out for this 5K walk through the scenic park in Round Rock. There will be refreshments, awards and prizes, a wellness fair, massages, and more. Proceeds go toward eliminating drunken driving and encouraging kids to wait until they're legal to imbibe. Sat., May 3, 9:30am (8am registration), Old Settler's Park. 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock, 445-4976. www.walklikemadd.org.

FOX 7 SHOES 4 KIDS 5K will feature the 5K walk/run, a kids' 1K, and more family-friendly fun and will benefit **Shoes for Austin**. Sat., May 3, 8-10am. The Green at La Frontera, 220 Sundance Pkwy., Round Rock. \$25. www.shoesforaustin.org.

WALK ME HOME is a 5K run/walk being held to raise awareness and money for foster care. There will also be entertainment, drinks, and snacks, Sat., May 3, 9am. San Gabriel Park, Georgetown, 445 E. Morrow, 512/719-3222. www.walkmehome.org.

CEDAR PARK KID'S TRIATHLON is being held to encourage kids from 7 to 15 years old to take part in a multisport event (swimming, biking, and running) for fun and fitness, not necessarily to be competitive. Sun., May 4, 8am. Elizabeth Milburn Park, 1901 Sunchase, Cedar Park. 512/560-5933. www.leaguelineup.com/cptri, www.cedarparkswimming.org

SHINER GASP! Bike the 85 miles from Austin to Shiner, and then be treated to some live music, good grub, and cold beverages all to benefit the Lance Armstrong Foundation. Afterward, participants hop onto a chartered bus and head back to Austin. Sat., May 3, 7am. Riders start at 8201 E. Riverside, 512/797-7581. www.shinergasp.com.

CINCO DE MAYO 5K After the race, enjoy some food from Chipotle, live music, adult libations, and dancing. Sat., May 3, 5pm. Decker Lake, 6614 Blue Bluff Rd., 512/695-8430. \$25 (includes food and drinks).

ASH DASH Walk or run the USATF-certified course through the Austin State Hospital grounds, and take in the beautiful old oak and pecan trees and the equally lovely rose bushes. Money raised will benefit the patients at ASH. Parking available on 45th Street between Lamar and Guadalupe. Saturday, May 3, 8am. Austin State Hospital, 4110 Guadalupe, 419-2147. www.ashvolunteers.org.



Dear Diego Gonzalez Joven and John Wimmer,

So everyone here at Dumbass Productions totally digs your proposal. Seriously, we're seeing another Dumb and Dumber or Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure or Harold & Kumar. Hell, maybe another Thelma & Louise, minus the annoving feminism, or a Motorcycle Diaries, minus the annoying lepers. The thing is, though, we won't be able to green-light the project without some small changes. Hope you're cool with that.

First, your names: They need work. "Diego" is fine, but how about "Chico" instead? And what about "Johnny" instead of "John"? Chico and Johnny Save the World - now there's your title!

Second, the basic plotline: two guys and a Seeing-Eye dog, biking and swimming from Seattle to Key West. At the production meeting yesterday, we were all like, "Okaaaaaaay." I mean, we're all down with the whole road-film concept, but the route you've settled on just seems totally arbitrary. So check this out: We're thinking Chico and Johnny travel to Mecca. Two dopey dreamers, one slightly overweight (Chico), the other legally blind (Johnny), making a pilgrimage to that bigass church they got over there - that could be some seriously funny shit. Johnny's Seeing-Eye dog, Rasha, could be the key to all this. Like, maybe the dog is Muslim.

Third, a brindle boxer isn't bad. But how about a Seeing-Eye Chihuahua? And what if Rasha were a talking Seeing-Eye Muslim Chihuahua, a member of some mujahedeen, always lecturing Chico and Johnny about their gross Western materialism while they're busy suckering people into bankrolling their pointless adventure?

Fourth, about that charity angle and all your dippy talk about proving "to all people, but especially children, that when you have a dream, no matter how crazy, if you take the right steps and work hard you can achieve the 'impossible.'" Honestly, guys? Our reaction was, "Yeah, whatever." Sure, there might be the pretense of giving to charity, but everyone will know it's bogus, that Chico and Johnny are just looking to have a good time on someone else's dime. And that's totally cool with us. But the bullshit philanthropy is still a little vague. What if they told people they were raising money for feline AIDS, pissing off their talking Muslim Chihuahua?

Maybe you're not totally down with the direction we want to take this. Maybe you're thinking that we haven't taken your proposal seriously. But is biking down the Pacific coast to the tip of the Baja peninsula, swimming across the Sea of Cortez, then getting back on your tandem bicycle, pedaling across Mexico to Cancun before swimming across the Gulf of Mexico in shark-infested waters, in hurricane season, and finishing the whole 4,000-mile journey in Key West, all in the name of supposedly raising some \$375,000 for UNICEF - seriously, dudes, is that any less ludicrous?

Don't get me wrong, guys: Ludicrous works. We like ludicrous. That's the beauty of this baby. So go with it. Don't hold back. And don't forget to write! Godspeed.

Tale of two cities: The Austin Aztex play the first game in franchise history this Saturday, May 3. The new franchise has big ambitions and a lot of good players on their Under-23 roster; this opener, on the road against a very good El Paso Patriots team that was in the playoffs last year, is a stern first reality check on how far they may be able to go in this inaugural season. A group of Aztex supporters is planning to meet at

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Twelve hours later, in a midsized industrial town in England's West Midlands, the Aztex's sister team, the Stoke City Potters, hosts its season finale, and as it happens, it's the team's big-

(www.elpaso-patriots.com). 7:30pm kickoff. First pitcher's on me.

Mother Egan's, 715 W. Sixth, to root on the team via live webcast

gest game in more than 20 years. With a win or even a draw against 21st-place Leicester, the Potters clinch second place in the English second division and automatic promotion to the English Premier League. (Stoke has never been in the EPL since it formed in 1992, though they have a storied past, dating back to 1863 and the earliest beginnings of the game.)

So, where does that leave Phil Rawlins? He's the Aztex owner and general manager, but he also owns part of Stoke City, and he grew up as a Potters fan. Where's he going to be that night/morning? "I leave tomorrow for England! Only one place I could be this weekend.:)"

I'm certain he'll be back for the Aztex home opener, next Saturday, May 10.

- Nick Barbaro

Tuesday 06

ART OF SPIRITUAL DREAMING WORKSHOP Don't remember your dreams? This four-week workshop helps you recall and interpret their wisdom.

Come for all or just one session. Tuesdays in May, 7-8:30pm. Austin Eckankar Center, 223 W. Anderson Ste. B-206, 453-0331. Free. www.eckankar-texas.org. CHINA/TIBET FORUM Join the Tibetan Association

of Austin in discussions of the issues between these two peoples brought to light by the upcoming Summer Olympics. 7:30pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925, Free,

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. www.freethrougheft.com.

FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN TEXAS This installment of the Engage Speaker Series focuses on the realities of working in the global environment. Before all that, how about a little networking over breakfast? 7:30-9am. Chez Zee Bistro, 5406 Balcones, 499-0435. \$25. www.leadershipaustin.org.

IRS WORKSHOPS FOR 501(C)(3) EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS Offered three days in a row, this full-day workshop for small and midsized 501(c)(3) organizations covers employment issues, disclosures, form 990 and e-Postcard filing requirements, keeping (or losing) tax-exempt status, and more. Preregistration required. Tue.-Thu., May 6-8, 9am-4pm. Radisson, 111 E. Cesar Chavez, 800/521-3980. \$45. www.irs.gov/eo.

LATINITAS VOLUNTEERS Come to this volunteer informational session, and see what you can do for this online magazine geared toward young Latinas. 6pm. Flightpath Coffee House, 5011 Duval St., 458-4472. www.latinitasmagazine.org.

LEGALLINE This free, once-a-month hotline is available today for answering any legal questions you may have. First Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30pm. 472-8303.

NATIONAL TEACHER DAY FREE MEAL Chipotle restaurants all around town are proving that they are hot for teachers by offering free burritos and tacos to administrators, faculty, and, of course, teachers. www.chipotle.com

SELF-HYPNOSIS FOR EVERYONE Start that conversation with your unconscious mind now. 10:15am. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress, 243-8430. Donations appreciated. www.theguidedmind.com.

SIERRA CLUB MEETING Ron Coley of Texas State's Aquatic Environmental Education Program talks about the Aquarena Springs and its role in the aquatic systems of Texas. 7pm. LCRA Hancock Building, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. Free. www.texas.sierraclub.org/austin.

WEST AFRICAN DRUM CLASSES Learn the art of the djembe and djun djun drum. Tuesdays, 6-7pm; Saturdays, 4-5pm. The Khabele School, 810 Rio Grande, 480-8142. \$15. www.khabele.org/studio.

TIME EXCHANGE (See Saturday.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)

Art on 5th

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) At the Death House Door @ First Unitarian Universalist Church, 7pm

Springtime in a Small Town @ Alamo South, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

The Carrots Beerland

Guy Clark, Joe Ely, John Hiatt & Lyle Lovett Paramount Theatre

Wednesday 0



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.

CENTRAL WEST NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING WORKSHOP All you folks from Tarrytown, Deep Eddy, Pemberton Heights, and Bryker Woods should attend this "educational workshop in preparation for the landuse workshops." A workshop workshop, if you will. 6:30-9pm. Austin State School, 2203 W. 35th, Bldg. 526, 799-4370. victoria.craig@ci.austin.tx. us, www.ci.austin.tx.us/zoning/central west austin.htm.

CHILD FREE GAME NIGHT Austin Childfree (previously Austin No Kidding) gets gamey with adults who can do without this procreation fad. 7-9pm.

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 elderly who don't have the budget for home repair. E-mail kweiner@aaimaustin.org for info.

SHOTOKAN KARATE Get a total body workout and learn self defense every week from this nonprofit, city-sponsored class. Free with a \$30 membership to the Austin Rec Center. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Sundays. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek Blvd., 451-1958, www.austinshotokan.com.

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.

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.

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,

TIBETAN MONK EVENTS will be happening all over town through May 9. 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 your sellout ass in gear and e-mail your MP3 or MySpace page to cschwarz@healthallianceforaustinmusicians.org. \$25 registration fee. www.healthallianceforaustinmusicians.org

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.

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.

MERLIN WORKS INSTITUTE FOR IMPROVISATION Join Shana Merlin and her compatriots as they lead these eight-week crash courses in improv. Newbies join the fundamentals classes, but if you think you have the chops, sign up for the long-form performance session. Call or go online to sign up. Mondays, May 5-June 30. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 657-3005. \$150. www.merlin-works.com

WILDLAND CONSERVATION EDUCATION Help teach kids about the watershed and wildlands and how they interact. Call or e-mail to volunteer. Travis County Expo Center, 9100 Decker Lake Rd, 263-6443 daniel.dietz@ci.austin.tx.us, www.ci.austin.tx.us/water/wildland

DEATH PENALTY DOC SCREENING At the Death House Door, a film that follows the Rev. Carroll Pickett, a chaplain for more than 95 executions, screens around town this week. Check the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty website for times and dates, 258-6480, \$5 suggested donation, www.tcadp.org

ZERO WASTE OR DARN CLOSE If Austin is going to be a zero-waste city by 2040, we better get started. Go online, and see what you can do to lessen the amount of material you're sending to landfills. Recycling is only the start. www.zerowasteordarnclose.com.

UT students. So what are you going to do with that couch and lamp you UT TRASH TO TREASURE DRIVE It's coming up on move-out time for found on the street back in October? Donate it to Trash or Treasure, where it will be sold at a low cost for students moving in. Kinda like delayed recycling. Call 232-7840 to schedule a pickup of large items, or bring your smaller items to the LBJ Library parking lot or other donation drop-off spots around town. Go to their website for more info on special deals and volunteer opportunities. May 7-19. Red River & Manor, www.trashtotreasureut.com.

MUSIC FOR LITERACY BOOK DRIVE Issa Medrano of Blackshear Elementary in East Austin started this call for new or gently used books for underprivileged kids aged 4 to 11. Donate your books at BookPeople, and while you're there, buy something, since 20% of purchases between May 2 and 9 also go to Music for Literacy. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.representaustin.com.

BIKE MONTH For a list of upcoming events see "The Return of Bike Month," News, p.34.

THIS WEEK ONLY

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.8 for Chronicle endorsements and polling locations. Through Tue., May 6. www.co.travis.tx.us.

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.

WOMEN'S MENTORING DINNER Register by May 8, and learn how to inject a healthy dose of philanthropy into your professional life. Thu., May 15, 6:30pm. The Headliner's Club, 221 W. Sixth #2100, 432-1900. Free. www.ilivehereigivehere.org.

Central Market, 4001 N. Lamar. Free. www.austinchildfree.org

www.sustainablefoodcenter.org.

FARM TO PLATE FUNDRAISER pairs up local chefs with local food goods to create delicious and affordable eats. Support the local food scene with your attendance, or go that extra mile at the silent auction. Pre-registration is encouraged. 5-8pm. Triangle Park, 4600 Guadalupe. \$60.

FLAMENCO CLASSES Ballet Austin's Butler Community School presents these five dance classes in conjunction with the production of Don Quixote. Wednesdays through May 21, 6:30-7:45pm. Butler Community School, 501 W. Third, 476-9051 x126. Free, www.balletaustin.org/community/index.php.

METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB Hear from Tim League, co-owner of the Alamo Drafthouse, and his bold business moves that have formed this Austin institution. 7am. Darrell Royal Memorial Stadium, sixth floor, 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, between Guadalupe and 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

POETRY ON THE PLAZA Come and listen to the work of 19th century American poets forgotten by history, Noon, Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. Free.

TEXAS NORML MEETING First Wednesdays, 8pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. Free. www.texasnorml.org.

UNIVERSITY AREA KIWANIS MEETING Kiwanis International is a volunteer organization focusing on service projects primarily for youth. All are welcome at their twice-monthly meetings featuring lunch and special speakers. First & third Wednesdays, noon-1pm. Holiday Inn Northwest, 8901 Business Park Dr., 699-7089. Free for visitors. w.universityareakiwanis.org.

IRS WORKSHOPS FOR 501(C)(3) EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS (See Tuesday.)

LITERA (See Arts Listings.) Michael Chabon BookPeople

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Stars of the Lid with Luke Savisky Films @ Alamo Ritz, 11:45pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Someone Still Loves You Boris Yeltsin

Thursday 08



CAPITAL PUNISHMENT: A CONVERSATION No screaming. Just talking and listening by District Court Judge Charlie Baird, Assistant D.A. Gary Cobb, defense attorney Keith Hampton, and you. 7pm. First United Methodist Church, 500 E. Pecan, Pflugerville. Free. www.pflame.org.

CAUSES OF IMMIGRATION DISCUSSION Join in the discussion of how NAFTA and other economic policies have fueled immigration. 7pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.workersdefense.org.

GREATER ROUND ROCK JOB FAIR Need a job? Want a better job? No more excuses, 10am-2pm. Wingate by Windham, 1209 N. I-35, Round Rock,

512/255-5805. Free.

www.roundrockchamber.org/Round-Rock-Job-Fair.140.0.html

MONKS OF GANDEN SHARTSE give you the lowdown on the Four Noble Truths. 7-9pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 476.3455. Free (donations accepted), www.tibetmonkstour.org.

IRS WORKSHOPS FOR 501(C)(3) EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS (See Tuesday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Writ Writer @ Ruiz Library, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) Torche Emo's DAM Scoot Inn & Bier Garten Jon Langford Continental Club Leatherbag CD Release Mohawk

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 16 issue is Monday, May 5. 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.

ATLS listings

Doubt

Zach Theatre Whisenhunt Stage, through June 8 Running time: 1 hr, 20 min

"Innocence can only be wisdom in a world without evil," proclaims Sister Aloysius, principal of St. Nicholas. No one doubts whether evil exists or not. In Doubt, Zach Theatre's latest production, what's in question is who's masking their evil intents and who's acting in the name of good.

John Patrick Shanley's Pulitzer- and Tonywinning drama is set in a Catholic church in the Bronx circa 1964 and focuses on the



close relationship between a priest and an adolescent boy. Sister Aloysius runs the church's school and is your old-fashioned schoolmarm, a nay-saying nun who thinks satisfaction is a vice, pulls no punches, and knows exactly how the world turns. She bluntly dresses down

her new teacher, Sister James. She never smiles. She's the woman you'd expect to slam a ruler on your knuckles.

The counter to her icy persona is Father Flynn, a progressive priest. He teaches basketball to the boys, preaches on the power of doubt, and altogether chafes the righteous chaps of Sister Aloysius. When the principal learns that Father Flynn has taken Donald Muller, the first black student at St. Nicholas, under his wing, she immediately jumps to the worst conclusions. Sister Aloysius unwaveringly claims certainty in her speculation, though her proof seems to be in her personal disdain for his peculiar habits: his use of ballpoint pens, the three lumps of sugar he takes in his tea, his affinity for secular songs like "Frosty the Snowman."

It's something we don't want to be true. Pederasty, abuse, defilement, corruption - it's much easier to believe these things don't happen, that the world is innocent and good, that warm-hearted men like Father Flynn would never do such unspeakable things. In fact, no character in Doubt is willing to use precise language to describe the incident. The most provocative phrase used is "inappropriate relationship." We don't want to give such terrible possibilities legitimacy.

Why is there a yet? Why does doubt linger? Part of it is our history, our knowledge of the sad, disturbing troubles that have plagued the Catholic Church. Part of it is our conservative desire to protect ourselves from that which we haven't experienced, the unknown, the potentially harmful. And part of it may be, sadly, that we've come to expect the worse in these situations.

And yet, as much as we want to write off Sister Aloysius and her holy high horse, we cannot. As much as we want the world to be clearly partitioned into good and evil - "that the world sometimes is black and white," as the nun puts it – deciding which side is the right one is far from an easy matter. Neither Father Flynn nor Sister Aloysius can live up to either ideal. Caught between the two power figures and schools of thought, young Sister James cannot sleep. The middle ground is torturous. The middle ground is doubt.

Doubt walks this line without exploiting the plot with scenes of melodrama or sensationalism, easy pitfalls with such subject matter.



Without intermission, director Steven Dietz's production constantly escalates in tension as gripping scene follows gripping scene. The action neatly shifts around the in-the-round Whisehunt Stage, cleverly designed to house garden, office, and pulpit all at once.

Perhaps the scariest evil is the one that marches resolutely on in the name of good. So much is done in good's name, yet no one can hold claim to it. Who is good? Who is evil? "When you are lost, you are not alone," preaches Father Flynn. He's speaking of doubt. Losing the faith. In Shanley's compelling drama, though, the consequences of losing the right to be good are far greater. And losing that, well, nothing cures.

- Avimaan Syam

DOUBT It's nun versus priest in this faith-rending power struggle from John Patrick Shanley (author of the film Moonstruck), directed for Zach Theatre 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. Zach Theatre , 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 vour 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.capcitymystery.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

THEATRE CALL BOARD

SBCT PLAYWRITING CONTEST Sam Bass Community Theatre is soliciting submissions of original full-length plays. Submissions will be reviewed by a committee of experienced SBCT directors. The six finalists will each receive a two-performance reading open to the public. The winning play will receive a fully mounted production during SBCT's 2008-09 season. Submissions must be previously unproduced to be considered. See their website for details: send your plays to: Frank Benge, P.O. Box 767, Round Rock, TX 78680. Deadline: May 31. www.sambasstheatre.org.

SUMMER ACTS! 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, the spian? Check their website for details. www.citytheatreaustin.org

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 2008. 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. freaksamor07@yahoo.com.

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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.

Ouestions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor. brenner@austinchronicle.com.

Theatre

OPENING

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, going all "Shakespeare Under the Stars" (hey, bring a pick-a-nick!) on the Zilker Park 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. May 1-25. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. Sheffield Zilker Hillside Theater, 2206 William Barton Dr. Free.



TROUBLEPUPPET THEATER: THE CASE OF THE **HAYMARKET RIOT** Puppetmaster Connor Hopkin explores the issues of immigration and labor at a crucial point in American history, using, yes, puppets, live music (by Lauren Gugiolo of the Dialtones) and projections. Fri.-Sat., May 3-10, 8pm. The Firehouse, 3002 Guadalupe. \$5. 423-5559. www.troublepuppet.com

THE SPENCERS: THEATRE OF ILLUSION This glamorous husband-and-wife team brings classic stage magic to its apotheosis with much choreography, comedy, scenery, lighting, and music. Sat., May 3, 4 & 7:30pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. \$24.50-46.50. www.spencersmagic.com.

CLOSING

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. 236-1092. www.mvspace.com/thevelvetruttheatre.

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. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. www.main.org/diffstages

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.

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

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.

ONGOING

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? Through 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.

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.naughtvaustin.com

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). ww.austinplayhouse.com



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 exhibitions sure to provide much unique entertainment and food for thought. See the website for details on tickets, passes, and even more ongoing shows. www.refractionarts.org/fusebox.

THURSDAY, MAY 1

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

7:30pm: Woman's Work: Reconstructions of Self. Program 2 by Andee Scott (Austin), Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. 8pm: Cape Disappointment

from the Debate Society (Brooklyn), by writers Hannah Bos and Paul Thureen and director Oliver Butler, Blue Theater, 916 Springdale; Cardo by CFW Poet Agency (Mexico City), directed by Iván Buenader, Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St.

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

10pm: Field Guide: Dance in the U.S., Part 2 with 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 (Austin), Blanton Museum of Art, Congress &

7pm: The Haymarket Project TroublePuppet Theater (Austin), Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

7:30pm: Woman's Work: Reconstructions of Self, Program 1 from Andee Scott (Austin), Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside.

8pm: Cape Disappointment from the Debate Society (Brooklyn), by writers Hannah Bos and Paul Thureen and director Oliver Butler, Blue Theater, 916 Springdale.

8:30nm: Stacked Cow and Other Dances by Hijack (Minneapolis) and Scott Heron (New Orleans), Salvage Vanguard Theater,

10pm: Vicious Dogs on Premises by Witnes Relocation (New York City). Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.; Extravaganza #3 Austin Video Bee presents a performance and video showcase, Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th.

SATURDAY, MAY 3

Noon: Hope to See You There by Sean Ripple (Austin), Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

2pm: Vicious Dogs on Premises by Witness Relocation (New York City) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

4pm: Stacked Cow and Other **Dances** by Hijack (Minneapolis) and Scott Heron (New Orleans), Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

6pm: Field Guide: Dance in the U.S., Part 2 with 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,

Jake Borndal (New York City); Armando Miguelez (Mexico City) and Lauren Tietz (Austin); Céline Foussadier (Paris) & Chris Cuellar (Austin); Mary Magsamen/ Stephan Hillerbrand (Houston) and Kirk Lynn (Austin), Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd

8pm: Graham Reynolds & Brannen Temple Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside; **Toneburst** 7 Church of the Friendly Ghost & Rick Reed (Austin), with Brent Fariss and others. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.; Cape Disappointment from the Debate Society (Brooklyn), Blue Theater, 916 Springdale.

10pm: Reggie Watts (Brooklyn), Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside.

ONGOING

Etiquette Rotozaza (London), Through May 3. Thu.-Fri., 10am-10pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. Cafe Mundi, 1704 E. Fifth.

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

Changarrito Maximo Gonzalez (Mexico City). Through May 3. Various times and locations around Austin.

Bee, Through May 3. Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th.

701 W. Riverside. 8:30pm: Vicious Dogs on 2803 Manor Rd. 7pm: Fuse Box Collaboration Premises from Witness Relocation (New York City), Extravaganza #3 Austin Video 9:30pm: Reggie Watts **Project: Double Fantasy** Jared Steffensen (Utah) and Terry (Brooklyn), Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, Salvage Vanguard Theater, Plumming (Chicago/Austin); 2803 Manor Rd. 701 W. Riverside. Lisa Choinacky (Austin) and 4th Annual FESTIVAL CELEBRATING YOUTH



FREE ADMISSION

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for children ages 6-15 from 12:30 to 3:00 pm



PERFORMANCES BY

St. Edward's Ballet Folklorico Hawaiian Kona-Isle Escuelita Dance Capoera Da Rua Austin Dance India Love of China Martin Middle School

Sanchez Elementary School

Walnut Creek Elementary Dragon Team

For more information please contact Rodolfo Mendez at 512.385.2838 or Melissa at melanvil@hotmail.com

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







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Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com

Craig Shoemaker: The Lovemaster The silver-tongued 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.

Dan Levy Oh, the heavy burden of being the son of **Eugene Levy**, right? Maybe not, as *this* funnyman's got his own hilarious shit going on, regardless of his immediate progenitor. (Hehheh, "progenitor.") But, yes, acclaimed from coast to coast and onscreen and now onstage in Austin, here's Levy the Younger, with opener Brendon Walsh. May 7-10. Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803 Airport.

Improv out the Wazoo Some of Austin's best stand-up and (especially) improv in this weekly mix: Uptowne is ColdTowne's foray into sketch comedy. Foray? Foray change, like. Thursday, 10pm. Parallelogramophonograph They're fast, they're funny, they're totally kawaii, and this week they'll bring you their friends, **Starter Kit**. Thursday, 12mid. **Proctor** is hosted this week by Lance Gilstrap and Nick Ramirez. 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. Sat., 8pm. Cold. Cold **Improv** The ColdTowne house troupe improvises up a conflagration with those loveable Frank Mills. Sat., 10pm.

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553.

Esther's Follies: World Gone Wild The most popular troupe in town returns with their riotous musical send-ups of local and national politics and cultural phenomena, making already hot topics burn with a bright comic intensity, with the incredible and – ai! ai! – spicy illusions of master magician Ray Anderson. Thrills! Chills! Ripped-from-the-headlines events turned into comedy gold! Reservations highly recommended. 8pm; Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.

'La Caja Museo de Arte Contemporáneo'

Mexic-Arte Museum, through May 15

You know how your childhood bedroom or the space under a table seemed so large and spacious when growing up? But upon revisiting it years later, you wonder how you ever fit there so comfortably? Now that you're older, those spaces are small in relation to your body. It's all about perspective.

Currently at Mexic-Arte Museum is "La Caja Museo de Arte Contemporáneo," a museum within a museum. In the gallery hang works by contemporary Mexican artists. In the center, a dollhouse-sized display features tiny autonomous works of art. It is pointed out that they are not miniature replicas. In both instances, the artists have contributed a work. Some artists are instantly recognizable in both settings,

like Mario Torres Peña's 4 de Julio. In the gallery, it is a young girl's dress made of paper, and in the display, it

is a tiny dress made of paper encased in a small vitrine. Some artists have radically different works, like José Fors; his full-sized Cielo y tierra II is a diptych of clouds of lines with one panel on a dark ground and the other on a light ground. But Fors' corresponding small work is a sculptural, abstracted figure, Mujer cilindro. And then there is Luis Manuel Serrano, who doesn't seem to make a shift in scale at all between

Los Pájaros homenaje a Alfred Hitchcock and La banda del automovil roio

It is difficult trying to get a feel for the mini-exhibit within the display, but the larger exhibit definitely has a dreamlike quality to the works. A number of the works use surreal imagery, among them Serrano's Los Pájaros and Flor Minor's cartographically branded figure,



Indigo Norte. There are the works suggesting infinity. Teresa Zimbrón's Antartida has a single figure, minuscule in relation to the sea of ice platforms, stretching across the canvas. And then there is work that refers directly to our minds' nocturnal activities. Enrique Guillen's triptych features a reclined and contorted figure covered with a bedsheet. Muerte (Death), Pesadilla (Nightmare), and Capullo (Cocoon) provide the most representational images of sleep and dreams.

Between the suggested dream theme and the scale shifts between the exhibits, one can think of the absurdity of Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. Unless miniatures activate your interest, there is little whimsy to this show. There is some amusement in identifying the pairs of huge and small artwork, but it comes off as novelty. Besides making you bend over and strain your eyes, curator Martha Papadimitriou does not shift our perspective. There is plenty of absorbing engagement with the "regular"-sized exhibit. - Salvador Castillo

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688.

Friday: It's Threefer Madness time, in which a trio of troupes battle for supremacy. 8pm. \$10. Then you've got a **Double Barrel** waiting for you, featuring two - count 'em: two - improv teams on creative fire. 10pm. \$10.

Saturday: Asaf Ronen and friends present a riotous group of comedians in a show called Ka-Baam!! - where new and unusual superheroes (powered by *your* suggestions) come to life onstage. (See "First, Free Comic Book Day, and - Ka-Baam!!," p.46) 8pm. \$10. Maestro is a fierce, multipartite battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by you, the audience. Highly recommended. 10pm. \$10

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. www.thevelveetaroom.com

Open Mic Night These are your would-be comedic neighbors, three minutes at a time: Love them: fear them. This week's host: Mason Lerner. Thursdays, 10pm.

Dave Little The perennial Dallas "Top 6" comedian comes down from the misbegotten urban blight to the north of us to reign supreme as King of the One-Liners here at the Velv. Well, for this weekend, anyway. Mark Agee and Mason Lerner open. Fri.-Sat., May 2-3, 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.

FUNNIEST PERSON IN AUSTIN COMPETITION
See top talents and complete unknowns battle it out for the right to the coveted title. There's a diverse slate of comics each night, 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.

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., May 2, 8 & 10pm. Dave and Buster's, 9333 Research Ste. A-600, 346-8015. \$14 (\$12, students, military), www.comedvafterhoursaustin.com

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

COMEDY AFTER HOURS Hey, it's a new venue for stand-up comedy, based in Dave and Buster's. Like

THE AUSTIN COMEDY TRAINWRECK features

Dance

DANCER'S EDGE: WRINKLE IN TIME Body Talk Dance Company performs this dance history of how music has shaped the world's rhythms, fashions, beliefs, customs, and our acceptance of differing views and cultures. Sun., May 4, 7pm. Reagan High School, 7104 Berkman. 797-4983. \$10 (\$8, students). dancersedge_boxoffice@yahoo.com.

ACC DANCE DEPARTMENT Two performance events close out the semester at Austin Community College: Choreographers' Showcase Student works and new works by dance faculty choreographers Darla Johnson and Allison Orr. Fri.-Sat., May 2-3, 8pm. Mainstage Theater, 1212 Rio Grande. \$6 (\$3, seniors, students). Informance Students from the Choreography I class perform under the direction of faculty member Jessica Lindberg. Tue., May 6, 6pm. Rm. 130 Dance Studio, 1212 Rio Grande. Free. 223-3384.

1,001 NIGHTS

ARABIC MOTHER'S DAY BAZAAR Experience the sights and sounds of the Arabic market and find that special something for that someone special. Belly dancing, henna tattoos, complimentary Arabic coffee and dessert, and a store full of beautiful and unique treasures imported directly from Syria, Egypt, and Morocco. Sun., May 4, 11am-6pm (bellydance shows at 2 & 4pm). Zein's Dance Studio, 51st & Duval Street, 533-9227, Free,

ARARAT: LUNA FEST ATX Expect all manner of things Middle Eastern, including food and beverages (Hot Mama's coffee!), at this midtown arts and music festival. Sat., May 3, 10am-2am. United States Art Authority, 2906 Fruth. 476-MAMA. \$12. www.mvspace.com/lunafestatx.

TWO LEFT FEET

FLAMENCO CLASSES For beginners and intermediate dancers. Beginner: Mondays, 7:30-8:30pm. Intermediate: Thursdays, 7:30-8:30pm. Joyce Willett School of Dance, 5811 Berkman. \$14 each class.

DANCE INTERNATIONAL Each night features a variety of ballroom and Latin dances; each month sees the start of a new, progressive course. No partner necessary. Also: **Volunteers sought**; help



The superhero-generating comedy improv show Ka-Baam!! unleashes its awesome might at the Hideout this Saturday.

out in exchange for dance lessons. Sundays. 6-8pm. Dancers Workshop, 183 & Balcones Woods. Weeknights, times vary. Hills Fitness Center, 4615 Bee Caves Rd. 32-DANCE. Fees vary. www.dancein.org.

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.

CONTACT IMPROVISATION DANCE JAMS

Participants move in and out of contact with one or more people through a common center of gravity. All are welcome. Tuesdays, 8-10pm; Sundays, 4:30-6pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. \$5.

SCOTTISH BALLROOM DANCING Learn the ballroom dances of Scotland: lively jigs and reels and elegant strathspeys; no partner needed but couples welcome. Thursdays, 7-8:30pm. Quicksilver Dance Center, 8711 Burnet Rd. Ste. H-100. 327-2869. First class free.

FOLKLORE ARGENTINO Introductory level gato, chacarera, and more. Tuesdays, 7:45pm. EsquinaTango, 209 Pedernales. 524-2772. \$12 each class. www.esquinatangoaustin.com.

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 Wednesdays, 9pm. Speakeasy, 412 Congress, 47-PARTY, 47-PARTY. Free. www.speakeasyaustin.com.

FOUR ON THE FLOOR: CLASSES Tuesdays, 7pm (classes), 9:30pm (open dance). Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 453-3889. Prices vary. www.fouronthefloor.com.

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners' lesson starts the evening. Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$4 (\$2, members). www.austinswingsyndicate.org.

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.ilovemikelitt.com.

Classical Music

OPENING

AROUND THE VIOLA IN 80 MINUTES Classical works inspired by folk idioms from around the world, by violist Aurelien Petillot, pianist Nikki Birdong, and friends, marking the finale of Viola by Choice's eclectic inaugural season. Fri.-Sat., May 2-3, 8pm. Christ Chapel-Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest, 606 Rathervue, 913-6554. \$15 (\$12, seniors; \$8, students; \$5, children). www.violabychoice.org.

EYES, EARS + FEET Each spring the UT Department of Theatre & Dance and Electronic Music Studios collaborate to put on this multimedia presentation, which features dance, electro-acoustic music, and video. New works by a variety of composers, choreographers, and video artists. Preperformance installation: Fri., May 2, 7pm. Winship Rm. 2.180. Performances: Fri.-Sat., May 2-3, 8pm. B. Iden Payne Theatre, Winship Bldg., UT campus. Free.

TEXAS CHORAL CONSORT: THERE IS A SEASON Songs of life, death, love, and madness make up this TCC event. New Artistic Director Brent Baldwin leads TCC's auditioned ensemble in a lush array of pieces ranging from 16th century madrigals to con-temporary songs by James Taylor and U2. Fri.-Sat., May 2-3, 8pm. Northwest Hills United Methodist Church, 7050 Village Center, 372-3233. \$20 (\$15, seniors, students; free, ages 9 and younger). www.txconsort.org

THIS VEEKEND! Craig Shoemaker The Lovemaster"
May 1-3! The 2008 Funniest Person in Austin continues www.capcitycomedy.com 8120 resear

THE MUSIC OF LED ZEPPELIN" AT THE LONG CENTER Sat., May 3. 474-LONG (5664). \$35.50-\$55.50. www.thelongcenter.org.

AUSTIN CHILDREN'S CHOIR AND HILL COUNTY YOUTH CHORUS: AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS The pair of youth choirs performs a pair of concerts, featuring world premieres by a pair of Grammy winners, Eric Tingstad and Nancy Rumbel, including pieces sung in a variety of languages. Sat., May 3, 4pm. St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th. Sun., May 4, 3pm. Evans Auditorium, Texas State University-San Marcos. 450-4395. \$10. www.austinchildrenschoir.com

AN AFTERNOON WITH MOZART Some of Mozart's most beautiful sacred music, including Missa Brevis in B flat Major, "Laudate Dominum" from Solemn Vespers, and an organ sonata. Featuring Camerata, the First English Lutheran church choir. with a chamber orchestra and guest soloists. Sun., May 4, 2pm. First English Lutheran Church, 3001 Whitis. 478-1933. Free. www.1stenglish.org.

AUSTIN YOUTH ORCHESTRA: SPRING CONCERT AYO's various student orchestras perform works familiar and fun in a family-friendly atmosphere. Sun., May 4, 3pm. McGee Performing Arts Center, Austin High School, 1715 W. Cesar Chavez.

463-9595. Free. www.austinvouthorchestra.com.

CLOSING

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 drop in for three days of music and merriment. 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.

NOTES & ENCORES

RECORDER AND PERCUSSION WORKSHOP Nina Stern and Mauricio Molina teach two workshops of Renaissance dance and world music. Session one concentrates on the dance music of Renaissance Italy, France, and Germany. Session two is devoted to music from around the world. Advance registration is requested. Participants should bring a music stand and any recorders or drums they wish to play. Renaissance Dance Music: Sun., May 4, 2-4pm. World Music: Sun., May 4, 4:30-6:30pm. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 458-8023. \$20 per session. www.main.org/austinars/announce.html.



The 5th Annual Austin Pilates Day is a city-wide event to promote the many benefits of Pilates. Join us on May 17th by contacting any of these participating studios for your FREE Pilates class. For more information, visit: www.FreePilatesDay.com



www.joymoves.com 328-4440



www.pilates360.com 732-2002



www.castlehillfitness.com 478-4567

pilates studio ann arnoult

www.pilaatesstudio.com 480-0662



www.FreePilatesDay.com

www.pilatescenterofaustin.com 467-8009



www.thehillsfitness.com 327-4881



www.bodybusinessfitness.com 306-0557



www.meccagymandspa.com 381-2680

Sometimes, preparing for that perfect drawing is a difficult task. Looking down at that blank sheet of paper can be intimidating. The infinite possibilities shout out from each microscopic bump of the paper's surface. Maybe it's a colored sheet, and the hue has a nice gradation, or it's a sheet of kozo paper, and you notice the two sides of differing textures, but you just can't bring your utensil down to make a mark. So you resign to the beauty of the paper. There's nothing you can do. Or can you? Realizing that this sheet embodies different aesthetic properties, you let the paper do the talking.

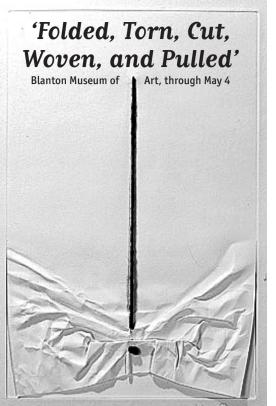
This is the scenario that is suggested in an intimate show at the Blanton Museum of Art. "Folded, Torn, Cut, Woven, and



Pulled" consists of five artists' works of paper. To give it some art-historical context, you could read the blurb about minimalism's effect on artists gravitating toward paper as a material and medium in its own right. Yet even without that bit of info, you can see how the work is pared

down to its base and still able to express and describe. The understated presence of these works matches the gallery's location in the museum. Give yourself time to look, and you will find it.

University of Texas senior lecturer in studio art Sarah Canright starts things off with paper on paper. Canright weaves equally sized



strips into a stable matrix. Unlike a spreadsheet or a chessboard, this latticework of horizontals and verticals has a soft warmth. Eleanore Mikus also creates grids on paper with nothing more than a single card. By merely folding and refolding, Mikus is able to create lines. They appear painted on, but they are wounds from being forced into a labored state – both delicate and hardened, like the lined faces and calloused hands of your parents.

A fast and furious hand rends paper asunder. Stephen Antonakos tears a bright-green sheet in a curved motion, revealing the white fibrous center. This pulpy hara-kiri is repeated in Lilliana Porter's work as a strand of black yarn crumples the inkless print. There is no ink and no text, but both refer to the repetition of printmaking. With no ink and no repetition, Tom Molloy's repeat appearance in Austin is just as violent as it was at Lora Reynolds Gallery last summer.

The cause for environmental alarm lately has a lot of thoughts floating around about what the world would look like without any evidence of human civilization. There is still a lot of activity from the barren views of the desert or tundra to the violent crackling of torrential storms. Life carries on. Clearing your workspace of the usual mark-making tools does not stop art. Building images

and meaning can endure with a better understanding of the surface holding all of that now. Creation carries on. - Salvador Castillo

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.bolmstudlos.com.

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the backyard of a South Austin home. Hours: Sundays, 11am-2pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413. www.keepaustinweird.com.

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.dbermangallery.com.

DESIGN CENTER OF AUSTIN: BIKE ART EXHIBITION This show uses artistic expression to explore Austin's love of bicycling. *Through May 31*. 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 traditional museum gallery, and "The Small" is a miniature contemporary museum. Bonus: The Latino Art Wing features miniature artworks by Texas artists. Through May 15. 419 Congress, 480-9373. **www.mexic-artemuseum.org**.

INTERMEZZO: BENITO HUERTA This solo show comprises 30 works, including recent, large-scale paintings, monoprints, watercolors, and drawings. *Through Aug. 31. 600 River St., 788-3106. Free.* www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks.

MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART presents an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork. 6406 N. I-35 #2800. 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.

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.

SLUGFEST GALLERY: WAR BIRDS It's corvids en rampant and more, as Slugfest hosts Dale Clifford's evocative woodcuts of bellicose avians. Recommended. *Through May* 31. 1906 *Miriam*, 477-7204. www.slugfestprints.com.

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.yooncho.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.yarddog.com.

SPACES

ARTWORKS GALLERY Tropical butterflies displayed in plexiboxes designed by G.W. Clark. 1214 W. Sixth, 472-1550.

FLIPNOTICS: BRIAN GILBERT The artist's "Guilty Pleasures." *Through May* 9. 4600 Guadalupe, 380-0097. www.flipnotics.com.

ABSTRACTS TO ACORNS Photography by Deana Newcomb. Through Nov. 3. 101 W. Sixth, 477-7884.

WESTS This inaugural exhibition features artwork by Dan-Ramone Vivan Chavez, Raquel Reyes, and others. 408 Josephine.

Visual Arts

EVENTS

WEST END GALLERY NIGHT: FIRST THURSDAY

On the first Thursday of each month, enjoy nine galleries within walking distance with ample parking, all dolled up and awaiting your visit on this day in particular. Venues include Art on 5th, F8 Gallery, Haven Gallery, Lotus Gallery, Russell Collection, Stephen L. Clark Gallery, Sterling Images, Wally Workman Gallery. See website for gallery map. Thu., May 1, 6-8pm. 478-4440. www.artaustin.org/westend.htm.

POTTERY CONFIDENTIAL: PYROMANIA! Four nationally known potters will share how they fire their pots and why they do what they do: Finn Alban, Eric Jackson, Sharon Smith, and Patrick Veerkamp. Sun., May 4, 2-3:30pm. Authenticity Gallery, 910 Congress. 478-2787. Free. www.artofthepot.com.

FUSE BOX AT BIG MEDIUM: DOUBLE FANTASY EXHIBITION Artists from New York, Mexico, France, Chicago, and Utah will meet and create work together for the first time during the Fuse Box Festival from Refraction Arts. Their collaborative endeavor will be revealed in this venue. Sat., May 3, 7-9pm. Sat., May 3, 5305 Bolm. Free. www.bolmstudios.com.

CONE 10 STUDIO: SALE & SHOW Unique gifts by local ceramic artists. May 2-3. Fri., 5-10pm; Sat., 11am-4pm. 2309 Thornton, 440-8485. www.cone10studio.com.

OPENING

FACES & FLOWERS Photographs by Daniel Llanes Reception (with music by For the Love of It): *Fri., May 2, 6:30-8pm.* Exhibition: *Through June 29.* 600 *River St., 478-6222.* www.ci.austin.tx.us/macc.

SENIOR DESIGN EXHIBITION Sat., May 3. 322-2099. Free. www.utexas.edu/cofa/a_ah/crlab.html.

OKAY MOUNTAIN: IT'S LIKE A MACHINE AND IT'S MEANT TO BE REPEATED This show centers around the experimental collaboration of an unlikely creative pair; a furniture/environmental designer with sculptural ambitions and a performance artist with social ambitions. Which is to say: Michael Mellon and Jacques Louis Vidal. Okay? Okay! Reception: Sat., May 3, 7-10pm. Exhibition: Through May 31. 1312 E. Cesar Chavez Ste. B. www.okaymountain.com.

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: JENNIFER BALKAN

These gorgeous new paintings are both a celebration of and a challenge to the traditional figure and portrait, lent an insightful layer by Balkan's background in behavioral neuroscience and sociology. Reception: Sat., May 3, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through May 28. 1202 W. Sixth. 472-7428.

ART ON 5TH: PAINTING THE TOWN – AUSTIN ORIGINALS Reception with acoustic set by Ethan Azarian: Fri., May 9, 6:30-8pm. Exhibition: Through May 31. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.

CLOSING

SOUTH AUSTIN MUSEUM OF POPULAR CULTURE: FRANK KOZIK Here's a retrospective of rock & roll poster art spanning years of work by the underground phenom who, having ditched Austin years ago, continues to stretch graphic boundaries and birth smorkin' labbits by the truckload. *Through May 3.* 1516-B S. *Lamar,* 440-8318. www.samopc.org.

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. *Through May 2. UT's Art Building, 23rd & San Jacinto. 322-2099.*

ONGOING

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. 12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577, www.evecontactart.com.

AUSTIN GALLERIES: 20TH CENTURY MASTERS Original lithographs, etchings, intaglios, and screen prints by Marc Chagall, Salvador Dali, Pablo Picasso, and more. 1219 W. Sixth.

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a non-profit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. 6601 Felix, 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.

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.

ARTSPOKEN GALLERY: EXPRESSIONS The artists represented in this show include David Ackerson, Gaylon Dingler, Theresa Craymer, and Emily McElmury. 1507 W. Koenig, 589-2905.

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. 1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinartglass.com.

AVENUE GALLERY: THE MANY FACES OF DUNCAN features photographs of the popular Scottish Fold cat belonging to photographer Kip Holm. 1510½ S. Congress, 442-3600. www.avenuegallerysoco.com.

BLANTON: IN KATRINA'S WAKE The latest exhibition in the museum's contemporary series serves as a report on post-Katrina art and artists from New Orleans and across the country. *Through May 25. MLK & Congress, 471-7324.* www.blantonmuseum.org.

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. Through Aug. 17. 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

90 | THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE | MAY 2, 2008 | austinchronicle.com

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 4-8pm. 477-1268. marshall7734@yahoo.com.

MODA\VINO: CALL FOR ENTRIES Works must evoke **The Spirit of Italy**. All money raised through the art auction will be donated to Heart House Austin. Deadline: Thu., May 8. www.keepersclothing.com/modavino.

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. www.blackbirdfineart.com.

FIGURE PAINTING WORKSHOP For the intermediate painter who wants to improve upon overall approach to painting from life with an emphasis on the figure. Wednesdays, May 14-June 25, 7-10pm. \$270 plus \$45 model fee. www.jenniferbalkan.net.

ART PAD: SUMMER CAMP SEASON Favorites like clay creations, mosaics, and mural painting will be back with lots of new camps for all ages Sessions: June 8-Aug. 22. 1403 W. 47th, 323-0802. www.artpadstudio.com.

CASA DE LUZ: WORKSHOPS Drawing and Painting: July 10-12; Printmaking & Sculpture: July 3- Aug. 2. Registration deadline: May 30. Cost: \$270, all materials provided. 1701 Toomey, 658-5500. www.artonsight.com.

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 2008. 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. freaksamor07@yahoo.com.

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

MICHAEL CHABON It's like I don't really have to say more. He'll be reading from his alternative history novel, The Yiddish Policemen's Union. Yes, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay is Austin bound. Expect huge crowds. Highly recommended. Wed., May 7, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

POETRY ON THE PLAZA: LOST AND FOUND Graduate students from Coleman Hutchison's Nineteenth-Century American Poetry and the Poetics of the Page class present a selection of American poems that they've rediscovered during their coursework with the Ransom Center's collections, featuring poets who have been consistently exclud-

ed from the canon and those who have fallen out of favor. Wed., May 7, noon. Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. Free. www.hrc.utexas.edu ADRIAN ESPARZA riffs intense in his new book of proudly musical Latino short stories. Down With

the Brown. Mon., May 5, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com TIM COX dusts up with his Revolution! Get Out of Our House, which details a plan for Americans

to evict all 435 politicians from the U.S. House of Representatives, replacing them with ordinary patriots. Not as a last resort, of course. Good luck. Sun., May 4, 1pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

ROBERT BRYCE drills into some terribly dirty secrets in his expose of the energy industry and its minions, Gusher of Lies. Highly recommended. Sun., May 4, 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

O. HENRY WRITING CLUBS CELEBRATION Each year, the O. Henry Museum sponsors afterschool writing classes for recommended students. Spike Gillespie, of Quilty as Charged fame, taught this year and emcees the celebration. Ten students are paired up with 10 celebrity authors who read the students' work. This year's authors are: Jim Gramon, Greg Garrett, Heather Hayashi, Varian Johnson, April Lurie, Dorothy MacInerney, Jen Ohlson, Tweed Scott, Janice Shefelman, and Tom Shefelman. Sat., May 3, 2pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

R.A. DYER cues up the Minnesota Fats vs. Willie Mosconi match in *The Hustler and the Champ. Sat.*, May 3, 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

ALTERNATIVE RADIO features a conversation with novelist and social critic Arundhati Roy about economic inequality in India. David Barsamian hosts. Fri., May 2, 2pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

POETRY AT ROUND TOP The International Festival-Institute at Round Top presents Kay Ryan, Tony Hoagland, Naomi Shihab Nye, and A. Van Jordan among other top writers headlining this poetry festival. Just an hour and a half drive from Austin and two hours from San Antonio, this idvllic festival is inexpensive and open to the public. Highly recommended. May 2-4. 979/249-3129. www.festivalhill.org.

O. HENRY PUN-OFF PREVIEW World-class punsters, including Gary Hallock, warm up for the upcoming annual O. Henry World Pun-Off Championships. "Where road scholars meet their dead ends." Fri., May 2, 7pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

CRISTINA GARCIA weaves an elegant tale of three teenage lives (one in California, another in Tehran, and one in San Salvador) in her A Handbook to Luck. Fri., May 2, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

AN EVENING OF POETRY Thu., May 1. 512-472-2785. Free. www.ebookwoman.com

MFA CLASS OF SPRING 2008 The Michener Center for Writers' literary reading series wraps up this spring with the graduates reading from their works. They are Michael Agresta, George Brant, Abraham Burickson, Adam Gardner, Miriam Greenberg, Brian Hart, Greg Koehler, Philipp Meyer, Donika Ross, Domenica Ruta, Erica Saleh, and Mark Smoot. Thu., May 1, 7:30pm. Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 471-1601, 471-1601. Free. www.utexas.edu/academic/mcw

WORD/JAZZ The word/jazz performance series presents collaborative spoken word and improvised music, featuring an ever-evolving all-star cast of Austin's best performance poets, musicians, and writers who create live, spontaneous compositions. Harold McMillan's word/jazz low stars include Ivanho, Thom the World Poet, Ricardo Acevedo, and others. Tuesdays, 6-8pm. Cafe Mundi, 1704 E. Fifth, 236-8634. www.cafemundi.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.

POETRY IN THE ARTS presents the much-honored Montgomery County poet David Parsons, whose new book is titled *Color of Mourning*. An open mic follows the featured poet. *Sat., May 3, 2pm. Austin* History Center, 810 Guadalupe, (210) 645-4235, (210) 645-4235.

7% SOLUTION BOOK CLUB goes all oxymoron with Faithful Spy by Alex Berenson. Mon., May 5, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

REWRITTEN HISTORY BOOK CLUB proves war is a hell with its doorstep in Atlanta and 50 miles wide. Forward, March by E.L. Doctorow. Wed., May 7, 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

MIND & SPIRIT SPEAKER SERIES Stephan Bodian, Buddhist teacher and author of Wake Up Now: A Guide to the Journey of Spiritual Awakening. Sun., May 4, 4pm. Bishop W.C. Martin on Small Town, Big Miracle, about how he and his wife, Donna, got a divine message to adopt ... and, soon, his own congregation in Possum Trot, Texas, was adopting like crazy. Wed., May 7, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

KATHI APPELT holds a writing workshop on children's books for the B&N Spring Educator Reception. *Tue., May 6, 7pm. Barnes & Noble* Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.

BREATHING LIFE INTO WORDS Thom the World Poet conducts a poetry workshop. Thu., May 1, 7pm. Hampton Library, 5125 Convict Hill, 892-6680. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

OPEN MICS

MONDAY NIGHT CAFFEINE for poets, singer/songwriters, and storytellers. Hosted by Edgar Pace. Mondays. 7-10pm. Cafe Caffeine. 909 W. Marv. 447-9473. www.cafecaffeine.com.

GENUINE JOE Make some noise, or just sit and enjoy the enchanting air of North Austin. All acts welcome, but no cover songs. Thursdays, 7:30-10pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. www.genuinejoe.com

HIDEOUT IN 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

MONTHLY URBAN POETRY READING features Phillip S. Joyner reading from his Captured Emotions. Herman Mason hosts. Refreshments served. Sat., May 3, 4:30-6:30pm. Mitchie's Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 844-5491. www.mitchie.com.

THE POETRY KARAOKE ORCHESTRA backs your poetry on the porch, with hosts Ivanho and Chris the Future. Bring canned foods for the Poets Pantry. *Tuesdays*, 8-10pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.

RUTA MAYA POETRY is one of the longest running weekly open mics in Texas. No cover, Uncensored. Hosted by David Bates. Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rmpoetryaustin.com.

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry and a rotating crew of slam ninjas captain the crew that has all the best of stand-up, po-mo theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one cosmic-heat blast of an evening. Open sign-up, 12 poets per week. \$100 cash prizes. 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.mvspace.com.

VENTANA DEL SOL with Flement 615. Reincarnate a word. Sundays, 7-9pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. www.ventanadelsoul.org.

FIRST WEDNESDAYS @ VINNY'S Hosted by Kathleen Romana or a rotating cast of local stalwarts. Vinny's Italian Cafe, 1003 Barton Springs Rd., 482-8484 Free

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! take the cap of the girl magnolia white dazzling tender a window frame planed with wrists wrapped in leathered straps & a blue pulsing her heart the bone of holy caverns cathedrals of silken light; a shape knives cold air; the candle of a body burns to flower; the hum of trucks in a desert; what music of crates & soft things? the lizards in the shadows of the saguaro: old woman in a painted shawl looks over her shoulder. 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

There is a great deal of pleasure in

doing something right, when right is the only way anything should

ever be done

But never far, even yet from

the red-black cloud of

doing it wrong

- Neil Meili, from "Working With Father"

FREE WORKSHOP, May 17th, 1:00 - 2:30pm Introduction to Nia



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film listings

Iron Man

D: Jon Favreau; with Robert Downey Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow, Terrence Howard, Jeff Bridges, Shaun Toub, Faran Tahir, Leslie Bibb, Clark *Gregg.* (PG-13, 126 min.)

He has not lost his mind. He can see; he is not blind. He can walk; he will not fall. He is so alive you can see the

character, Iron Man never quite scaled the dime-store racks

like Batman, Spider-Man, or any of Marvel/DC's other lan-



thoughts in his head, and, boy oh boy, you should care because he's the best actor of his generation. Bloodied but unbowed, wounded but walking, Downey Jr.'s sly take on Marvel Comics' cold warrior Iron Man elevates everything about this film. The actor's real-life troubles merge with those of Iron Man's alter ego, Tony Stark, the billionaire playboy and military industrialist with a drinking problem, and the result is, no pun intended, riveting. As a comic-book

tern-jawed megamen. His debut in Tales of Suspense #39 in 1963 was cool, to be sure, but not guite as cool as, say, Jim Steranko's vivid, hallucinatory Nick Fury, Agent of S.H.I.E.L.D. But the iron Avenger-to-be quickly fine-tuned his original battleship-gray supersuit and, Dewar's in hand, repulsor beams at the ready, and gal Friday Pepper Potts (played onscreen by Paltrow) by his side, went on to fight the good fight and stuck it out. Favreau's screen version is a magnificent origin story that holds its own just fine against Bryan Singer's convoluted X-Men and Sam Raimi's Spider-Man, and there are moments of both stunning action and earnest, subtle emotion. It's Downey Jr.'s show all the way, though. He twins the self-involved Stark with his own personal history to create a semi-autobiographical un-Superman. Both men, reel and real, were critically wounded by

their own hands, had an epiphany, dropped by a Burger King for a

nosh, and then cleaned up their acts, but good. It's that subtext,



alongside Downey Jr.'s unvielding charm and subtle underplaying of his role, that lodges in your mind. Well, that and Iron Man's first battle, his jerry-rigged, flame-throwing escape from an Afghanistan cave. Kudos, too, to Bridges, who, as baddie munitions magnate Obadiah Stane, almost (but not quite) steals a scene or two out from under his clanking co-star. And Favreau? If you'd told me 12 years ago that Swingers' comic linchpin would end up helming one of the best, most visceral, and downright fun forays of all the comic-book franchises waiting in the CGI wings, I'd have told you to amscray, kid. But what the hell? Turns out irony's good for your blood. - Marc Sayloy *** Alamo Ritz, 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,

New Reviews

DECEPTION

D: Marcel Langenegger; with Hugh Jackman, Ewan McGregor, Michelle Williams, Lisa Gay Hamilton, Natasha Henstridge, Charlotte Rampling. (R, 108 min.)

Like so many sausages, Hollywood continues to grind out thriller after thriller, rehashing implausible twists and halfbaked explanations without shame. Occasionally, the genre will produce something smart and provocative, like last year's Michael Clayton, but generally these movies are all the same, an indigestible concoction of ingredients thrown together without the benefit of any serious consideration of logic. Take, for example, Deception, a so-called erotic thriller in which a dweebish accountant (McGregor) stumbles upon a sex club of successful New York professionals, after mistakenly coming into possession of the cell phone of a handsome and charismatic attorney (Jackman) who has befriended him. But has he really "stumbled" upon this group of hot-to-trot Manhattanites? Was the phone swap really "mistaken"? Why do people seem to fail to recognize his "lawyer" pal? And what the hell kind of accent is McGregor using in this movie? Is he playing a Midwesterner by way of Scotland? The lies in Deception unfold in a manner which assumes that the revealed truth will surprise you, but only a numbskull would be misled by the

fishy turn of events that not-so-subtly telegraph, "There is more here than meets the eye." First-time film director Langenegger has no idea how to compensate for the screenplay's shortcomings; despite his background in television commercials, he has difficulty selling even the film's more accessible elements, like the sexual escapades of the upwardly mobile. While the accent-disabled McGregor at least has some idea of how to play his stock role, Jackman communicates the sociopathic tendencies of his bad-boy character by simply tautening his facial muscles, an acting trick that is much more effective when he's been in full lupine make-up in other movies. As the woman caught in the middle, Williams appears lost and foggy-headed, hardly the stuff of which femmes fatales are made. As written and performed, her character is not much more than a prop. Like most contemporary thrillers, Deception digs itself into a hole that gets deeper and deeper as it goes along. If you're to accept the dumbfounding finale of this film, which plays out in - of all places - a municipal park in Madrid, American passports can be issued on a day's notice and handguns can be easily transported on trans-Atlantic flights, notwithstanding 9/11. Whether you view it as intellectually dishonest or just plain sloppy, Deception is a movie that more than lives up to its title. - Steve Davis

Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

GRADUATION

Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

D: Michael Mayer; with Shannon Lucio, Riley Smith, Chris Marquette, Chris Lowell, Adam Arkin, Aimee Garcia, Glynnis O'Connor, Huey Lewis. (NR, 89 min.)

This high school bank-heist caper opens with a voiceover monologue that's typical of the meaningless blather that's yet to come. One of the speech's hollow lines resonates: "By senior year in high school, you either know what you want to do in life, or you don't." That sounds good but sums up little, and instead of using the line to prompt some kind of soul search - à la Richard Dreyfuss in American Graffiti - it kicks off a musing-free plot about four seniors who rob a bank during the cover of their graduation ceremony in order to get the money to pay for a life-prolonging bone-marrow transplant for one student's mom. Bad deed, good cause: If that's the film's moral, then the film's ultimate finale completely contradicts that message. The script by D. Cory Turner is muddy at best, and some of the choices made by first-time feature director Mayer further cloud the scenario. Often the viewer is left grasping for a nonexistent conduit or line of explanatory dialogue that might help smooth over some unnecessarily rough transitions. Then, once the heist occurs, there are numerous overlooked and unquestioned details that suffuse the entire movie with the patent air of improbability. The film stars a quartet of young TV thesps: Lucio (The OC), Marquette (Joan of Arcadia, Alpha Dog), Lowell (Veronica Mars, Private Practice), and Smith (Freaks and Geeks).

All perform quite well, although they're all a bit worn to be playing high schoolers. Arkin also gets a fair amount of screen time as both the bank president and one student's dad; however, anyone coming in order to see Lewis onscreen should be advised that he appears in only one short scene. Graduation is another in Landmark Dobie Theatre's recent trend toward presenting theatrical runs of small indie films due for DVD release in the week after leaving the theatre. (See The First Saturday in May. Zombie Strippers, and Backseat for recent examples.) Graduation opens this Friday exclusively in Austin, Seattle, San Francisco, Berkeley, and Minneapolis: it's set for DVD release on May 13. - Marjorie Baumgarten **→** Dobie

HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY

D: Jon Hurwitz, Hayden Schlossberg; with John Cho, Kal Penn, Rob Corddry, Jack Conley, Roger Bart, Neil Patrick Harris, Danneel Harris, Eric Winter. (R, 102 min.)

The main problem with controversial gross-out comedies is that it doesn't take long after one taboo has been scratched off the list for the next one to appear on the horizon. Just ask the producers of American Pie or There's Something About Mary: Today's shock cinema quickly becomes tomorrow's in-flight entertainment, which makes the success of Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay so impressive. Sequels to lowbrow cult-stonerbathroom-sex comedies aren't supposed to work; they're supposed to be dry, lifeless retreads straining to shock. Guantanamo Bay, however, breaks the mold, following in the outlandish footsteps of Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle while expanding on its predecessor's mandate to push the boundaries of racial insensitivity. Once again the lion's share of the credit for this goes to Penn as Kumar, who is pure, unfiltered, unapologetic id: Come rain, come shine, come political internment, Kumar never stops seeing the world as his own private pleasure dome. Unfortunately for the more straight-laced Harold (a wonderfully deadpan Cho), his friend's devotion to self-indulgence often leaves them both in a lurch, as it does when Kumar brings a homemade bong on their flight to Amsterdam. A little post-9/11 paranoia and a lot of racial confusion later, and Harold and Kumar are on the run from the now-infamous military prison and setting off on a road trip across the American South to prove their innocence. Along the way, they run into a whole cavalcade of American racial stereotypes, and none of them - not the whites in the KKK, not the blacks playing ghetto basketball, not the Jews coveting a bag full of coins - is safe from mockery. But what truly elevates Guantanamo Bay out of the realm of a typical brainless, harmless stoner comedy is that it saves its most stinging comic attacks for the ultrapatriotic, post-9/11, willfully ignorant American male, personified by federal lawenforcement agent Ron Fox (Corddry). Fox is the portrait of modern-day, topsy-turvy neoconservative logic: Like his heroes in

the Bush administration, he's willing to destroy America in order to save it (in one interrogation scene, he literally wipes himself with the Constitution). In other words, he's the perfect foil for our heroes, who defuse geopolitical anxiety with post-racial, apolitical lust fulfillment. It's the triumph of instinct over ideology, and it's not a little bit brave. Anyone can come up with jokes about incestuous rednecks or pubic hair that "looks like Osama bin Laden's beard," but it takes guts to make a comedy in which the Indian-American hero accuses an African-American TSA agent of racial profiling, all so he won't get caught smuggling weed onto a plane. - Josh Rosenblatt *** Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

MADE OF HONOR

D: Paul Weiland; with Patrick Dempsey, Michelle Monaghan, Kevin McKidd, Kadeem Hardison, Chris Messina, Busy Philipps, Sydney Pollack. (PG-13, 101 min.)

I don't know the first thing about first-time writer Adam Sztykiel, but it's easy enough to imagine your average struggling screenwriter holed up in his apartment, bouncing a red rubber ball off the wall, and trying to come up with that killer idea that will get him out of debt and into celebrity sitdowns at the Chateau Marmont. And then ... eureka: Made of Honor. "Get it? It's like 'maid of honor' ... only with a dude playing the bridesmaid ... and he's in love with the bride, who's his best friend, so it's like his best friend's wedding. This thing totally writes itself!" Well, writes itself into a lie. Dempsey (TV's Dr. McDreamy) plays Tom, a slick playboy who, having previously invented the "coffee collar," now passes his days playing pickup with the boys and picking up chicks at Starbucks - chicks he will then subject to a ruthless set of dating rules meant to maximize his weekly influx of sexual encounters and minimize any messy emotional involvement. Best friend Hannah (Monaghan) is the

Openings

Graduation (NR)

Iron Man (PG-13)

Made of Honor (PG-13)

Meet Bill (R)

Priceless (PG-13)

Ratings

★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

Has its good points, and its bad points

Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

Poor, without any saving graces

La bomba



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Showtimes FRIDAY, MAY 2 - THURSDAY, MAY 8

Backpack Picnic DVD Release Party: Sun, 9:30pm
Weird Wednesday: Frankenstein Meets the Space Monster:

Music Monday: Heavy Metal in Baghdad: Mon, 10:00pm *Iron Man: Fri, 2:50, 5:40, 8:30, 11:15; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:50, 5:40, 8:30, 11:15; Mon-Tue, 5:40, 8:30, 11:15; Wed, 5:40, 8:45; Thu (5/8), 5:40, 8:30, 11:15

Just Can't Get Enough: The New Wave Sing-Along:

Master Pancake: Planet of the Apes: Fri-Sat, 7:00, 10:15 PowerFlicker Short Film Festival: Sat. 12:00pm Spaceballs: The Quote-Along: Thu (5/8), 7:00pm Movies & Music: Stars of the Lid with Luke Savisky Films:

Feast: Three Amigos Feast-Along: Mon. 7:00pm The Unforeseen: Sun, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00; Mon-Tue, 4:45pm; Thu (5/8), 4:45pm Terror Thursday: Zombie Creening Flesh: Thu (5/8), 12mid

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK

13729 Research, 219-0130. **Baby Mama: 12:30, 3:30, 7:25, 10:05 **The Forbidden Kingdom: Fri-Wed, 12:15, 3:05, 7:20, 10:20; **Thu (5/8), 12:15, 3:05, 7:20 Forgetting Sarah Marshall: 12:20, 3:15, 7:15, 10:15

*Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay: 12:05, 3:10, *Iron Man: 12:00, 12:25, 3:00, 3:25, 7:00, 7:25, 10:00, 10:25

"rron main: 12:00, 12:25, 3:00, 3:27, 7:00, 7:25, 10:00, 10:25 Leatherheads: Fri-Wed, 3:20, 10:10; Thu (5/8), 3:20pm TV ⊕ the Alamo: Lost: Thu (5/8), 9:00pm Smart People: Fri-Wed, 12:10, 7:25; Thu (5/8), 12:10pm Tromatic Thursday: Touch Me in the Morning: Thu (5/8), 10:00pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. Lamar

Wed-Thu (5/8), 1:50, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25

Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay:
Fir-Sun, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40pm; Mon, 1:45,
4:20, 7:10, 9:40; i.e., 11:15am, 1:45, 4:20, 9:40pm;
Wed-Thu (5/8), 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40

**Iron Man: Fri, 11:00am, 12:30, 1:55, 3:45, 4:50, 7:00, 7:50,
9:55, 10:45pm; Sat, 11:00am, 11:35, 1:55, 2:45, 4:50, 5:40,
7:50, 9:55, 10:45pm; Sun, 11:00am, 12:30, 1:55, 3:45, 4:50,
7:00, 7:50, 9:55, 10:45pm; Mon, 12:30, 1:55, 3:45, 4:50,
7:00, 7:50, 9:55, 10:45pm; Mon, 12:30, 1:55, 3:45, 4:50,
7:00, 7:50, 9:55, 10:45pm; Mon, 12:30, 1:55, 3:45, 4:50,
7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 9:55, 10:45pm; Mon, 12:30, 1:55, 3:45, 4:50,
7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 9:55, 10:45pm; Mor, 12:30, 1:55, 3:45, 4:50,
7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 9:55, 10:45pm; Mor, 12:30, 1:55, 3:45, 4:50,
7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 9:55, 10:45pm; Mor, 12:30, 1:55, 3:45, 4:50,
7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 9:55, 10:45pm; Mor, 12:30, 1:55, 3:45, 4:50,
7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 9:55, 10:45pm; Mor, 12:30, 1:55, 3:45, 4:50,
7:00, 7:50, 9:50

4:50, 7:00, 7:50, 9:55, 10:45pm; Wed-Thu (5/8), 12:30, 1:55, 3:45, 4:50, 7:00, 7:50, 9:55, 10:45 Mildred Pierce Coffee and Pie Social: A Benefit for Stephen

Moser: Sun, 2:00pm

AFS: Springtime in a Small Town: Tue, 7:00pm

21: Fri-Sun, 11:20am; Mon, 1:15pm; Tue, 11:20am; Wed-Thu (5/8), 1:15pm Young@Heart: Fri, 4:10, 7:05, 9:45; Sat, 1:30, 4:10, 7:05; Sun, 11:05am, 1:30, 4:10, 7:05, 9:45pm; Mon, 4:10, 7:05, 9:45; Tue, 11:05am, 1:30, 4:10, 9:45pm; Wed, 4:10, 7:05, 9:45; Thu (5/8), 4:10, 7:05

Moser: Sun. 2:00pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320. Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of

the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant The Animation Show 4: 10:15pm

Baby Mama: Fri, 3:30, 7:00, 9:45; Sat-Wed, 1:00, 3:30, 7:00, 9:45; Thu (5/8), 1:00, 3:30, 7:00

9:45; Thu (5/8), 1:00, 3:30, 7:00

W Party: Battlestar Galactizer. Fri, 12mid
Forgetting Sarah Marshall: 1:15, 4:00, 7:15, 10:00

**ron Man: Fi. 12:30, 3:40, 7:05, 7:10, 10:10; Sat, 12:30, 3:40, 7:05, 10:10; Sun-Tue, 12:30, 3:40, 7:05, 7:10, 10:10; Wed-Thu (5/8), 12:30, 3:40, 7:05, 10:10

*Wet he Alamo: Lost: Tiu (5/8), 10:00pm

The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid 21: Fri, 3:45pm; Sat-Mon, 12:45, 3:45; Tue, 12:45pm; Wed-Thu (5/8), 12:45, 3:45

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills ARBUN 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, 10:05 Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed: 12:50, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 9:50 The Life Before Her Eyes: 3:30, 9:30 Miss Petitigrew Lives for a Day: 12:10, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20 Miss Publicates, Misters: 1:00, 6:50

My Blueberry Nights: 1:00, 6:50 Priceless: 12:30, 2:40, 5:10, 7:20, 9:45 Smart People: 12:40, 3:00, 5:15, 7:50, 10:05

The Visitor: 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Young@Heart: 12:05, 2:35, 4:50, 7:30, 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

discounts available before 6pm on weekdays and before 4pm Friday through Sunday and holidays. Baby Mama (closed captioned): Fri-Sat, 10:25am, 12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 7:45, 10:00, 12:10am; Sun, 10:25am, 12:45, 3:05, 5:27, 7:45, 10:00; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 7:45, 10:00 Deception: Fri, 7:55, 10:25; Sat, 7:30pm; Sun-Thu (5/8), 7:55, 10:25; Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: Fri, 9:35am, 11:35, 1:35, 3:35, 5:35pm; Sat, 9:35am, 11:35, 1:35, 3:35, 5:35pm; Sat, 9:35am, 125, 3:35, 5:45pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:45, 3:50, 5:55

88 Minutes: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 4:45, 9:20; Sun, 4:45, 9:20; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:05, 4:45, 9:20

Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:00, 4:40, 9:20 **The Forbidden Kingdom:** Fri-Sat, 9:40am, 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00, 12:20am; Sun, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00

Mori-Ini (3/6), 1-10, 2-40, 5-10, 1-40, 1-000 Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fri-Sat, 9:30am, 10:30, 11:45, 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 6:00, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45, 11:00, 12:10am; Sun, 10:30am, 10:50, 11:45, 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 6:00, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 10:50am, 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 6:05, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45pm

4:45, 6:00, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45pm; Mon-Hu (5/8), 10:50am, 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 6:05, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45pm Marold & Numar Escape From Guantanamo Bay: Fir-Sat, 10:05am, 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:50, 10:05, 12:20am; Sun-Thu (5/8), 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:50, 10:05 [10:05, 12:20am; Sun-Thu (5/8), 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:50, 10:05 [10:05, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 5:30, 6:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 9:30, 10:30 [10:05, 10:0

11: Fri-Sat, 9:30am, 12:05, 2:50, 5:35, 8:20, 11:05pm; Sun, 2:50, 5:35, 8:20; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:05, 2:50, 5:35, 8:20

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 F. Whitestor

*Baby Mama: Fri-Sun, 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20 Deception: 7:55, 10:25

*Deception: 7:55, 10:25

Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: Fri-Sun, 11:50am, 12:30, 2:10, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 6:40, 9:15pm;

Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:10, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 6:40, 9:15

88 Minutes: Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 4:15, 9:40pm;

Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:15, 9:40

Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:15, 9:40

The Forbidden Kingdom: Fir-Sun, 11:20am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:30 pm. Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:30 Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fir-Sun, 11:30am, 2:05, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55 with Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:05, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55 **Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay: Fir-Sun, 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10 **Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10 **Iron Man: Fir-Sun, 11:00am, 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 1:00, 1:050 pm. Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 1:00:0: Fir-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 **Made of Home: Fir-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 **

r.uu, a:uu, 10:00, 10:50
*Made of Honor: Fir-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15;
Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
*Nim's Island: Fir-Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30pm;
Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30
*Prom Night: 1:50, 7:15
*21: Fir-Sun 19:45, 2:44, 6:50, 6:30

21: Fri-Sun, 12:45, 3:45, 6:50, 9:50; Mon-Thu (5/8), 3:45, 6:50, 9:50

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA
12800 Hwy. 71, 800/FahDANGO.
***Baby Mama: Fri-Sun, 11:40am, 2:15, 5:05, 7:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:15, 5:05, 7:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:15, 5:05, 7:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:25, 5:15, 8:00, 10:35 pr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Whol: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:30, 4:00, 6:50, 9:05 pr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Whol: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:30, 4:00, 6:50, 9:05 pr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Whol: Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 10:00 pr. Mon-Thu (6/8), 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (6/8), 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (6/8), 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:00, 5:10, 7:55, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:20, 5:03, 3:20, 4:15, 6:05, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:15, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:05, 4:07, 7:35, 10:15 |
**Made of Honor: Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20 mix Island: Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20 mix Island: Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:05, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:10, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15 |
**Made of Honor: Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 1:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20 mix Island: Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:05, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:40, 4:50, 7:35, 5:55 |
Linch Mark Movies & ROUND ROCK

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK
2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848.
Discounts daily before 5pm.

The Bucket List: Fit, 2:30, 4:50, 8:00, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 8:00, 10:20; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:30, 4:50, 8:00, 10:20
Fool's 60if: Fit, 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:05am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
Jumper: Fit, 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:00, 4:45, 7:40, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:40, 10:00; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:00, 4:45, 7:40, 10:00
Mational Treasure: Book of Secrets: Fit, 2:15, 5:10, 8:10; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:15, 5:10, 8:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:15, 5:10, 8:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:40, 4:20, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:30, 4:10, 7:20, 9:40
Facility of the Sate Sun, 11:10am, 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 4401 N. I-35.

*Baby Mama: 10:15am, 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30pm *Deception: 10:05am, 3:30, 9:20pm

Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: 10:00am, 12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:05pm

Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: 10:00am, 12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:05pm 88 Minutes: 12:50, 6:40
The Forbidden Knigdom: 10:20am, 11:45, 1:20, 2:30, 4:10, 5:20, 7:10, 8:00, 9:55, 10:40pm
Forgetting Sarah Marshall: 11:20am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00pm
*Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay: 12:00, 2:35, 5:00, 8:05, 10:35
*Hron Man: Fin, 10:30am, 11:15, 12:45, 1:30, 2:15, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:45, 7:30, 8:15, 9:45, 10:25, 11:05pm; Sat-Sun, 9:45am, 10:30, 11:15, 12:45, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 10:30am, 11:15, 12:45, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 10:30am, 11:15, 12:45, 1:30, 2:15, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:45, 7:30, 8:15, 9:45, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 10:30am, 11:15, 12:45, 1:30, 2:15, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:45, 7:30, 8:15, 9:45, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 10:30am, 11:15, 12:45, 1:30, 2:15, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:45, 7:30, 8:15, 9:45, 10:25pm
*Made of Honor: 10:45am, 1:50, 4:45, 7:40, 10:15pm
*Min's Island: 10:40am, 1:00, 3:40, 6:30, 9:15pm
*Prom Night: 11:30am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:05, 9:25pm
21: 10:50am, 1:35, 4:20, 7:35, 10:30pm

CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS 9900 S. 1-35.

OU/FANDANGO.
*Baby Mama: Fri, 12:35, 4:05, 6:35, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 12:35, 4:05, 6:35, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:35, 4:05, 6:35, 9:35

6:35, 9:35

*Deception: 7:20, 10:20

Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: Fri, 12:40, 3:45;
Sat-Sun, 10:20an, 12:40, 3:45pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:40, 3:45

*The Forbidden Kingdom: Fri, 12:50, 1:35, 3:40, 4:30, 6:45, 7:30, 9:30, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 10:10am, 10:45, 12:50, 1:35, 3:40, 4:30, 6:45, 7:30, 9:30, 10:30pm;

Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:50, 1:35, 3:40, 4:30, 6:45, 7:30, 9:30, 10:30

Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fri, 12:45, 3:30, 6:55, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 9:55am, 12:45, 3:30, 6:55, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:45, 3:30, 6:55, 9:50

Mon-Thu (5/8), 12-45, 3:30, 6:55, 9:50

*Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay: Fri, 1:15, 3:50, 6:50, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 10:45am, 1:15, 3:50, 6:50, 9:55 pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:15, 5:06, 6:50, 9:55 pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:15, 5:06, 6:50, 9:55 from Man: Fi, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:35, 4:05, 4:35, 6:40, 7:15, 7:40, 9:40, 10:15, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 10:30, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:35, 4:05, 4:35, 6:40, 7:15, 7:40, 9:40, 10:15, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:35, 4:05, 4:35, 6:40, 7:15, 7:40, 9:40, 10:15, 10:35 ma, 10:10am, 12:0, 3:55, 7:05, 9:45 pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:0, 3:55, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 10:05am, 12:30, 3:25, 7:00, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:30, 3:25, 1:00, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:230, 3:25, 1:230, 3:25, 1:230, 3:25, 1:230, 3:25, 1:230, 3:25, 1:230, 3:25, 1:230

12:30, 3:25, 7:00, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:30, 3:25, 7:00, 9:40

Prom Night: Fri, 1:25, 4:10, 7:25, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 1:25, 4:10, 7:25, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:25, 4:10, 7:25, 10:10 Street Kings: 1:05, 3:35, 6:50, 10:00 21: 12:55, 4:00, 7:10, 10:05

DOBIE THEATRE 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.

floor), 472-FLI.M.

The Forbidden Kingdom: Fri-Sun, 4:10, 9:30;
Mon-Thu (5/8), 9:30pm

Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30;
Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30; Mon-Thu (5/8), 7:00, 9:30

Graduation: Fri, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00; Mon-Thu (6/8), 7:30, 10:00; Mon-Thu (6/8), 7:30, 10:00; Mon-Thu (6/8), 7:30, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50; Mon-Thu (5/8), 7:20, 9:50

Smart People: Fiz 7:10pm Sat-Sun, 1:10, 7:10;

Smart People: Fri, 7:10pm; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 7:10; Mon-Thu (5/8), 7:10pm

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305. No one under 18 will be allowed in the theatre on Friday and Saturday after 7pm without an adult.

Baby Mama: Fri, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25, 11:45; Sat, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25, 11:45pm; Sun, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25

Mon-Thu (5/8), 12-15, 2-30, 4-45, 7-10, 9-25

The Forbidden Kingdom: Fri, 2-00, 4-30, 7-00, 9-30, 12mid; Sat, 11-30am, 2-00, 4-30, 7-00, 9-30, 12mid; Sun, 11-30am, 2-00, 4-30, 7-00, 9-30, 12mid; Sun, 11-30am, 2-00, 4-30, 7-00, 9-30, 12mid; Sun, 11-30am, 2-00, 4-30, 7-00, 9-30, 1-00, 5-20, 1-45, 10-15, Sat-Sun, 10-10am, 12-35, 3-00, 5-20, 7-45, 10-15 Sat-Sun, 10-10am, 12-35, 3-00, 5-20, 7-45, 10-15 Manol-Thu (5/8), 12-235, 3-00, 5-20, 7-45, 10-15 mid-Thu (5/8), 12-23, 3-00, 5-20, 7-45, 10-15 Marola & Kumar Escape From Guantnamo Bay: Fri, 12-15, 2-30, 4-45, 7-10, 9-25, 11-45 psi; Sun, 10-00am, 12-15, 2-30, 4-45, 7-10, 9-25, 11-45 psi; Sun, 10-00am, 12-15, 2-30, 4-45, 7-10, 9-25, 11-45 psi; Sun, 10-00am, 12-15, 2-30, 4-45, 7-10, 9-25, 11-45 psi; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12-15, 2-30, 4-45, 7-10, 9-25, 11-45 psi; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12-15, 2-30, 4-45, 7-10, 9-25, 1-10, 9-25, 1-100, 10-20, 1-2mid; Sat, 10-30am, 10-45, 11-20, 1-15, 1-35, 2-00, 3-55, 4-15, 4-50, 7-00, 7-20, 7-40, 9-35, 1-20, 0-20, 1-2mid; Sat, 10-35, 2-00, 3-55, 4-15, 4-50, 7-00, 7-20, 7-40, 9-35, 1-20, 0-20, 1-2mid; Sat, 10-35, 2-00, 3-55, 4-15, 4-50, 5-00, 7-20, 7-40, 9-35, 1-30, 0-20, 1-2mid; Sat, 10-35, 2-00, 3-55, 1-35, 2-00, 3-55, 3-55, 3-50, 3-55,

1:15, 1:35, 2:00, 3:55, 4:15, 4:50, 7:00, 7:20, 7:40, 9:3 10:00, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:15, 1:35, 2:00, 3:55, 4:15, 4:50, 7:00, 7:20, 7:40, 9:35, 10:00, 10:20 **Made of Honor: Fri, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25, 11:45; 5at, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25, 11:45pm; Sun, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25

Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10, 11:20; Sat, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10, 11:20pm; Sun, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10pm; **Street Kings:** Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 12mid; Sun-Thu (5/8), 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

GATEWAY THEATRE 9700 Stonelake, between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.

Baby Mama: 11:55am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:35pm Deception: 7:45, 10:15 88 Minutes: 11:50am, 2:25, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50pm

The Forbidden Kingdom: Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 12:50, 3:40, 6:45, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:50, 3:40, 6:45, 9:20

9:20pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:50, 3:40, 6:45, 9:20 Forgetting Sarah Marshalf: Fis-Sun, 10:20am, 11:45, 12:55, 2:20, 3:45, 4:55, 6:50, 7:35, 9:25, 10:35pm; Mon, 11:45am, 12:55, 2:20, 3:45, 4:56, 6:50, 7:35, 9:25, 10:35pm; Iue, 10:20am, 11:46, 12:55, 2:20, 4:55, 6:50, 7:35, 10:35pm; Wed, 11:45am, 2:20, 3:45, 4:55, 7:35, 9:25, 10:35pm; Inu (5/8), 11:45am, 12:55, 2:20, 4:55, 6:50, 7:35, 10:35pm;

Forgetting Sarah Marshall (open captioned): Tue, 3:45, 9:25; Wed, 12:55, 6:50; Thu (5/8), 3:45, 9:25 meo, 12.33, 0.39, iiii (9/6), 3/43, 9/25 Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay: Fri, 2/40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20; Sat, 12:15, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20; Sun, 2/4 5:15, 7:50, 50, Mon, 2/40, 5:15, 10:20; Tue-Thu (5/8), 12:15, 2/40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20

Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay (open **captioned):** Fri, 12:15pm; Sat, 2:40pm; Sun, 12:15, 10:20; Mon, 12:15, 7:50

captoneol; Fn, 12:1-3pm; Sat, 2:4upm; Sun, 12:1-5, 10:20; Mon, 12:15; 7:50

**Iron Man: Fi-Sat, 10:00 am, 11:00, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:00pm; Sun, 10:00am, 11:00, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00pm; Mon, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00; title, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 6:30, 8:00, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00; Title, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00; Thu (5/8), 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 3:00, 3:00, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00; Thu (5/8), 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00; Thom Man (in DIP digital): Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 1:030pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:30,

Made of Honor: 11:40am, 12:10, 2:05, 2:35, 4:40, 5:10, 7:10, 7:40, 9:40, 10:10pm

Nim's Island: Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:20, 2:45, 5:05pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:20, 2:45, 5:05 21: Fri-Sun, 10:40am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50

IMAX THEATRE Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress), 936-IMAX.

Dolphins and Whales 3D: Tribes of the Ocean:

Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 4:00pm; Sun, 4:00pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 11:00am, 4:00pm Grand Canvon Adventure 3D: River at Risk: Fri-Sat. 12:00. 3:00: Sun, 3:00pm: Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:00, 3:00, 5:00

Sea Monsters 3D: A Prehistoric Adventure: Sat-Thu Shine a Light: The IMAX Experience: Fri-Sat, 5:00, 7:20; Sun, 7:20pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 8:20pm

Sun, 1:20pm, Mon-Thu (3/8), 6:20pm; Evas: The Big Picture: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 1:00pm; Sun, 1:00pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 10:00am, 1:00pm U2 3D: Fri-Sat, 9:40pm; Sun, 5:00pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 6:00pm

LAKELINE STARPORT Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620, 335-4793, Discounts daily before 6pm; all

Madw Mednesday. **Baby Mama:** Fri, 11:45am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:50, 10:25pm;
Sat-Thu (5/8), 11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:55pm Deception: 7:40, 10:15

Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: 12:10. 2:30. 5:00 Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Whol: 12:10, 2:30, 5:00
The Forbidden Kingdom: 12:40, 4:10, 6:50, 9:40
Forgetting Sarah Marshall: 12:30, 3:00, 6:45, 9:35
Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay: 12:00, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20, 5:00
Tillo, 7:50, 10:00, 10:30 pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:30 pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:30
Made of Honor: 11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:50 pm
Nim's Island: 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 8:00, 10:20

An asterisk (*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted.

METROPOLITAN South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101. Baby Mama: 12:10, 2:35, 5:10, 7:40, 10:15 Deception: 7:45, 10:35 Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: 12:05, 2:20, 4:50

Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed: 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40, The Forbidden Kingdom: Fri-Sun, 10:20am, 12:40, 1:10, 4:10,

4:40, 7:10, 7:50, 9:50, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:40, 1:10, 4:10, 4:40, 7:10, 7:50, 9:50, 10:40

1:10, 4:10, 4:40, 7:10, 7:50, 9:50, 10:40

Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay;
Fri-Sun, 10:40am, 12:10, 1:15, 2:40, 4:20, 5:15, 7:20, 8:10, 10:10, 10:45pm; Mon-Flu (6/8), 12:10, 1:15, 2:40, 4:20, 5:15, 7:20, 8:10, 10:10, 10:45

**Iron Max: Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 10:30, 11:00, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30pm; Mon-Flu (6/8), 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30

Mins Island: 11:50am, 2:20, 4:45, 7:45, 10:10pm

Prom Night: 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 8:10, 10:45

MILLENNIUM THEATRE 1156 Hargrave, 472-6932. Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.

Adults, \$6; children, \$4.

*College Road Trip: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 12:30, 3:15, 5:15, 8:15pm; Wed-Thu (5/8), 10:30am, 12:30, 3:15, 5:15pm

TEXAS UNION THEATRE UT campus, 476-6666.

Bend and Break: Fri, 9:30pm Cinematheque: Kiss Me Deadly: Mon, 7:30pm TINSELTOWN NORTH North I-35 and FM 1825

(Pflugerville), 512/989-8540.

**Baby Mama: 11:30am, 12:15, 2:05, 2:50, 4:40, 5:25, 7:15, 8:00, 9:50, 10:35pm

-say wama: 11:30am, 12:15, 2:05, 2:50, 4:40, 5:25, 7:15, 8:00, 9:50, 10:35pm

*Deception: Fri, 7:30, 10:20; Sat, 7:30pm; Sun-Thu (5/8), 7:30, 10:20

**Deception: Fri, 7:30, 10:25am, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45

*Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed: 11:45am, 2:25, 5:05, 7:35pm

The Forbidden Kingdom: Fisun, 10:20am, 11:00, 1:15, 1:55, 4:00, 4:45, 6:45, 7:25, 9:30, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 11:00am, 1:15, 1:55, 4:00, 4:45, 6:45, 7:25, 9:30, 10:15pm; Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45, 10:30

10:30
**Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay:
Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 12:00, 1:55, 2:40, 4:35, 5:20, 7:20, 7:55,
10:00, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:00, 1:55, 2:40, 4:35,
5:20, 7:20, 7:55, 10:00, 10:40

5:20, 7:20, 7:55, 1:00, 10:40
*/ron Mar: Fri, 10:15am, 11:50, 12:35, 1:20, 2:55, 3:40, 4:25, 6:00, 6:45, 7:30, 9:05, 9:50, 10:35pm; Sat-Sun, 9:30am, 10:15, 11:50, 12:35, 1:20, 2:55, 3:40, 4:25, 6:00, 6:45, 7:30, 9:05, 9:50, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (7/8), 11:50am, 12:35, 1:20, 2:55, 3:40, 4:25, 6:00, 6:45, 7:30, 9:05, 9:50, 10:35pm "fron Man (in DLP digital): Fir-Sat, 11:00am, 2:05, 5:10, 8:15, 11:20pm; Sun-Thu (5/8), 11:00am, 2:05, 5:10, 8:15pm *Made of Honor: 11:15am, 12:00, 1:50, 2:35, 4:25, 5:10, 7:00, 7:45, 9:35, 10:20pm

7:00, 7:45, 9:35, 10:20pm Nim's Island: 11:55am, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55pm Prom Night: 12:10, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40 **Street Kings:** Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 1:10, 3:55, 6:40, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:10, 3:55, 6:40, 9:25 **Under the Same Moon:** Fri-Sun, 10:40am, 1:25, 4:10, 7:10, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 1:25, 4:10, 7:10, 9:55

TINSELTOWN SOUTH South I-35 at Stassney 326-3800. \$10 "special event" ticket prices apply to Indian films *Drillbit Taylor: Fri. 4:25pm: Sat-Sun. 1:15. 4:25:

**Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:25pm (5at-5un, 1:15, 4:25;

**Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:25pm

**Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:10, 7:10, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 10:15; Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:10, 7:10, 10:15

Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fri, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 1:35, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05; Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:20, 7:20, 10:05

Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fri, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 1:35, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05; Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:20, 7:20, 10:05; Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:20, 7:20, 10:05; Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:20, 7:20, 10:05 **
**Jalsa: Sun, 3:00pm **
*Made of Honor: Fri, 4:00, 6:55, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 6:55, 10:00 **
**The Ruins: Fri, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 2:00, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50; Mon-Thu (5/8), 5:00, 7:25, 9:50
**Mon-Thu (5/8), 5:00, 7:25, 9:50
**Shutter: 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:20
**The Spiderwick Chronicles: Fri, 4:15, 7:05; Sat-Sun, 1:25, 4:15, 7:05; Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:15, 7:05
**Stop-loss: 7:15, 10:15
**Street Kings: Fri, 4:05, 4:45, 7:00, 7:45, 9:50, 10:25; Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:45, 7:00, 7:45, 9:50, 10:25
**Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:05, 6:45, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 1:05, 3:55, 6:45, 9:55; Mon-Thu (5/8), 3:50, 6:45, 9:55
**Z1: Fri, 3:50, 6:50, 9:35, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 1:05, 3:50, 6:50, 9:35, 10:10; Mon-Thu (5/8), 4:30, 6:50, 9:35, 10:10
**Jule Party Meet the Brown: Fri, 4:30, 5:15, 7:30, 8:30, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 2:30, 4:30, 5:15, 7:30, 8:30, 10:30; Vand-Thu (5/8), 4:30, 5:10, 7:30, 8:30, 10:30; Vand-Thu

WESTGATE 11 South Lamar and Ben White, 899-2717.

NESTUARE LT SOURL Armar and Ben Willer, 899-211. Siscounts daily before 6pm. Baby Mama: Fri-Sun, 10:05am, 12:25, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:25, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10 Deception: 12:00, 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 The Forbidden Kingdom: Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:10, 9:500; Mon, 12:45, 4:35, 7:10, 9:50 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

4:30, 7:10, 9:50
Forgetting Sarah Marshalt: Fri-Sun, 11:40am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:35, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 11:50am, 2:25, 5:00, 7:35, 10:10pm
Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay:
Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:35, 3:05, 5:30, 8:00, 10:25
Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:35, 3:05, 5:30, 8:00, 10:25
From Man: Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 10:30, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/8), 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30
Fri-March Edward Sarah (1):20am, 2:00, 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30

Made of Honor: Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45pm Mon-Thu (5/8), 11:45am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45pm Nim's Island: 12:10, 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, 9:20

Changes may sometimes occur; viewers are encouraged to call theatres to confirm showtimes.

go-to for family functions, antiques shopping, and a certain handsiness that only boy-andgirl-best-friends-in-the-movies are allowed (activities include linking arms, kissing on the mouth, and suction-cupping together for a nice slow dance). Then Hannah takes a six-week working vacation to Scotland, and absence makes Tom's heart sit up and go, "Huh, maybe I should reconsider the rules with my superhot best friend, who puts up with my preening and caddishness and emotional paralysis." Then Hannah returns home with a fiancé named Colin (McKidd) and a Highlands wedding to plan (hello, travel-porn shots of Scottish vistas). The script can veer from mean-spirited to uncomfortably blue (case in point: Sydney "Easy Paycheck" Pollack's prenup negotiation for a weekly "BJ"), making for a tonal discordance all the more disappointing considering co-writers and husband-and-wife team Harry Elfont and Deborah Kaplan got just the right read on mixing raunch with heart-on-the-sleeve sweets in Can't Hardly Wait. But forget all that: What this really comes down to is the film's central lie. Made of Honor pins its hopes on a character who acts utterly without honor and on an actor who has only two settings – sensitive or smarmy. The smarm wins, and that half-smirk Dempsey wears throughout is not that of Prince Charming, - Kimberley Jones but a prick. ★ → Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill

Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

MEET BILL

D: Bernie Goldmann, Melisa Wallack; with Aaron Eckhart, Jessica Alba, Elizabeth Banks, Logan Lerman, Holmes Osborne, Todd Louiso, Timothy Olyphant, Reed Diamond, Kristen Wiig. (R, 97 min.)

Mid-40s, potbellied, aimless, spineless, clueless, cuckolded, living in a tent in his brother's back yard: On second thought, maybe you shouldn't meet Bill (Eckhart); he'll just bring you down. From this film's first line, it's clear our protagonist is in the throes of a midlife crisis: "What happened to my hair?" Bill asks himself, which, in the vernacular of the movies, is code for: "What happened to my life?" The answer is simple: He got married, he went to work for his father-in-law, he bought a house in the suburbs, he ate too many candy bars, and - little by little - he became nothing. Well, not nothing. More like too many things, and none of them of his choosing. To his wife he became a nuisance, a bore, an impediment to her extramarital activities, while to his father-in-law and boss (Osborne), he became a whipping boy, willing to do anything to keep his job at the family bank, pride be damned. And to everyone else, he pretty much became invisible. Eckhart plays Bill as a man in a state of suspended emotional animation, as if his soul stopped growing at the age of 15 while his body ballooned and succumbed to the pull of gravity. With a mop of unstylish hair, a closet full of drab suits, and an awkward, ingratiating smile, he's a man-child lost in the world of adult responsibility, given to manic, jittery outbursts in lieu of real reactions. No wonder he gets along so well with the nameless kid played by Lerman, a student from the local private high school Bill is coerced into mentoring. Of course, this being the movies, the kid (just the latest in a long line of preternaturally confident and clever blue-blazer-clad privateschool teens cluttering up American inde-

pendent movies these last 10 years) is far

smarter and more tuned-in to the subtleties

of the adult world than Bill is and so quickly

Mildred Pierce Cottee and Pie Social: A Benefit for Stephen Moser

Mildred Pierce Coffee and Pie Social: A Benefit for Stephen Moser (1945) D: Michael Curtiz; with Joan Crawford, Jack Carson, Zachary Scott, Eve Arden, Ann Blyth. (NR, 111 min.) Stephen's Angels. Chronicle Food editor Virginia Wood hosts this special pie conclave and screening of one of the all-time favor-



ite films of Chronicle Fashion columnist Stephen Moser, who is facing a dire health situation. The film is a Crawford single-mom classic. Pies will be donated by an array of Austin bakers and restaurants for auction and all-you-can-eat delectation during the movie. See www.originalalamo.com for the list and more details. For even more info, see "'Mildred Pierce' Pie Social," p.53. @Alamo Drafthouse South, Sun., 2pm; \$30.

becomes mentor to the older man instead: in life, in fashion, and, most importantly, in the fine art of getting one's wife back. Taking its cue from an uncharacteristically excitable Eckhart - in one scene he attacks his hidden cache of therapeutic candy bars with an enthusiasm most other actors reserve for scenes involving automatic weapons, tissues, or Kate Beckinsale - Meet Bill is a typical storyline given new life by an overabundance of antic energy. Its message may be old and tired - trust yourself and find your inner child - but it's expressed with a whole lot of enthusiasm. - Josh Rosenblatt *** Dobie

PRICELESS

D: Pierre Salvadori; with Audrey Tautou, Gad Elmaleh, Marie-Christine Adam, Vernon Dobtcheff, Jacques Spiesser, Annelise Hesme. (PG-13, 104 min., subtitled)

Infinitely superior to its forthcoming American remake (which, to be honest, has yet to be announced but is nevertheless as certain as Carla Bruni's upwardly mobile tendencies), Priceless is a supremely satisfying confection – a French romantic comedy of the sort that ends with you standing outside the theatre with a dopey grin on your face. And how could it be otherwise, with Amélie's Tautou at her most lash-battingly doe-eyed, and whippet-thin Moroccan comic Elmaleh as sweet and refreshing as a summer breeze blowing in off the French Riviera? Salvadori (Après Vous) knows his way around the French sex comedy, to be sure, but this is something else altogether, at once lighter and denser, a soufflé de l'amour whose closest American equivalent - tonally, at least - is Dirty Rotten Scoundrels by way of Lubitsch. Tautou plays Irene, a gold-digging gamine

ioveux anniversaire, her current meal-ticket (Dobtcheff of Before Sunset) is sloshed to the point of unconsciousness in their suite. She wanders into the hotel bar and mistakes Elmaleh's Jean, a minor hotel employee, for a wealthy guest and potentially better (i.e. younger) sugar daddy. Alas, their night of improbable passion is discovered and she's off to Nice with the by-now utterly smitten Jean in both hot pursuit and increasingly dire financial straits. Until, that is, he's mistaken for a gigolo by wealthy widower Madeleine (Adam) and embarks upon his own l'age d'or, with helpful tips from an increasingly affectionate Irene. Kept apart by their need to milk their paying companions (and pay they do: Jean nets an EU\$35,000 Jaeger-LeCoultre wristwatch in record time), they are so obviously fated to be together that the end result of the narrative is never in doubt. But as Olympic Airways once noted, getting there is half the fun, and the perfectly cast Tautou and Elmaleh are so ingratiating, so eager to let their guards down and experience the real meaning of joie de vivre, that what by all rights should be little more than a frothy screenful of screwball comedy clichés ends up transcending its own innate limitations and becomes, in the end, a booster shot for the lovesick. Drunk on haute couture as well as oh l'amour, Priceless is like Breakfast at Tiffany's bereft of both Capote's cynical élan and Blake Edwards' overwrought (and overvalued) New Yorky façade. Like true Champagne, it fizzes but never fizzles, leaving you pie-eyed and tipsy on the limitless possibilities of romance there, here, and everywhere. - Marc Saylov ★★★ Arbor





SOUTH LAMAR - 1120 SOUTH LAMAR BLVD

IRON MAN +	1100*	155	450	750	1045
I IRON MAN +		1230	345	700	955
SARAH MARSHALL	1110*	150	435	735	1025
HAROLD & KUMAR	1115*	145	420	710	940
BIG MAN JAPAN		205	445	745	1030
21	1120*	115*			
YOUNG @ HEART Pineapple express sneak			410	705	945*
PINEAPPLE EXPRESS SNEAK			930		(Sat)
MILDRED PIERCE COFFEE/PIE	SOCIAL		200		(Sun)
AFS ESSENTIAL SPRINGTIME SI Speed Racer	VIALL 1	OWN	700		(Tues
SPEED RACER			MIDN	IIGHT	(Thur)

VILLAGE - ANDERSON LANE WEST OF BURNET

IRON MAN+	1230	340	705	710*	1010
SARAH MARSHALL+		115*	400	715	1000
BABY MAMA		100*	330	700	945
21		1245*	345*		
ANIMATION SHOW					1015
I ROCKY HORROR			MIDN	IGHT	(Sat)
TV Party: BATTLESTAR: FINAL	SEAS	N	MIDN	IGHT	(Fri)
TV Party: LOST			1000		(Thur)



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DIGITAL SOUND! ALL SHOWS 18 & UP UNLESS WITH PARENT OR GUAR HOWS BEFORE 6PM \$6.50 NO PASSE (EXCEPT BABY D

NOTICE: NO ONE UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE THEATRE ON FRI. & SAT. AFTER 7PM WITHOUT AN ADULT

THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) Fri. 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 11:59 Sat. 11:30 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 11:59

FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL (R) Fri. & Mon. - Thu.

12:35 3:00 5:20 7:45 10:15 Sat. & Sun. 10:10 12:35 3:00 5:20 7:45 10:15 **STREET KINGS (R)** Fri. & Sat. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45 11:59 Sun. - Thu. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45

Sun. - Inu. 12:09 2:30 4:30 7:50 7:05 9:40 7:05 9:10 11:20 PROM MIGHT (PG-13) Fiz. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10 11:20 Sat 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10 11:20 Sun. 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10 Mon. - Thu. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10

BABY MAMA (PG-13) Fri. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25 11:45 Sat. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25 11:45 Sun. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25

HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY(R)

Thu. 1:15 1:35 2:00 3:55 4:15 4:50 7:00 7:20 7:40 9:35 10:00 10:20 **MADE OF HONOR (PG-13)** Fri. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25 11:45 Sat. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25 11:45

Sun. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25 Mon. - Thu. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25

★ - Special Engagement: No Passes/Coupons Tickets available online at GALAXYTHEATRES, co



Kiss Me Deadly (1955) D: Robert Aldrich; with Ralph Meeker, Albert Dekker, Paul Stewart, Juano Hernandez, Wesley Addy, Marian Carr, Maxine Cooper, Cloris Leachman, Gaby Rodgers. (NR, 106 min.) Austin Cinematheque. Aldrich's paranoid film is the definitive Mike Hammer movie, outsleazing even Mickey Spillane's conception of the private dick as an amoral slob. Meeker's Hammer seeks out the truth about the Great Whatsit, the Pandora's Box suitcase that has precipitated the violence and death in the story. - George Morris (*) @Texas Union Theatre, Mon., 7:30pm; free.

First Runs

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

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 in this fourth incarnation of the omnibus roadshow (programmed by Mike Judge) have taken that lesson to heart, building their shorts on calamitous cause and effect, on rose petals and acid tabs snowballing toward catastrophe. The international slate includes an ambitious German short, "Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Hazen, and Mr. Horlocker," and two from the UK's Matthew Walker (a hat-in-hand romancer between a polar bear and a penguin and the sublime "Operator," about a man trying to get the big guy's digits from Information). Part of the joy of the program is its all-inclusiveness; there's room here for dirty-bird chortles and earnest, gosh-wow inventiveness - room, even, for the occasional dud. Then there's Julian Grey's elegiac, Eternal Sunshine-like adaptation of poet Billy Collins' "Forgetfulness," which erases before our very eyes. It's a lovely, tender short, a moment of quiet in an overstuffed but superlative program. (04/25/2008)Kimberley Jones

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village

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.)

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. Instead, Fey is perpetually

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At the Death House Door

At the Death House Door (2008) D: Steve James and Peter Gilbert. (NR, 98 min.) Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty. See this powerful SXSW documentary from the makers of Hoop Dreams prior to its airing on IFC at the end of the month. The film visits the career of the Rev. Carroll Pickett, who was the longtime chaplain on Huntsville's death row, and became haunted by the state-decreed death of Carlos DeLuna. whom he believed to be innocent. @First Unitarian Universalist Church, Tue., 7pm; @Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church (Cedar Park) Thu. 5/8, 7pm; \$5 suggested donation.



tentative, either unwilling or unable to throw herself into the role of a no-longer-young single woman with a pounding biological clock and a natural neuroticism. 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. (04/25/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt

** Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southnark 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. 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 as Dai Sato, a nondescript, downbeat, middle-aged man. Then he transforms into the giant superhero Big Man Japan, who wears nothing but purple underpants and a Don Kingstyle haircut. The baddies he faces are bizarre inventions that seem like they're somebody's hallucinogenic outpourings on bad drugs. 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. (04/25/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

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) - Mariorie Baumgarten Arbor

DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHO!

D: Steve Martino, Jimmy Hayward; with the voices of Jim Carrey, Steve Carell, Carol Burnett, Seth Rogen, Will Arnett, Isla Fisher, Dan Fogler, Amy Poehler, Jaime Pressly. (G, 88 min.)

For my money, I've never seen anything much wrong with the animated Chuck Jones version of this Seuss tale, made for TV in 1970. But everything needs an update, I suppose, and this new animated feature does the job nicely, staying true to the playfulness of the Seussian rhymes and messages while ably adding in new bits of business to expand Seuss' verse to feature length. Carrey's general tendency toward comic mania is gently toned down, allowing the rubbery elephant Horton to seem more a lovable goofball than a frenzied nut job, and Carell's readings as the Mayor of 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

*** Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

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.)

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 S1m0ne all to varying degrees crimes or misdemeanors. Pacino's weathered features and the gravelly timbre of his snake-oil smooth voice remain seductive as ever, but 88 Minutes 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 (McDonough, creepy enough) to the death house. As the prisoner's execution time approaches, Gramm gets a mysterioso cell call which imparts the news that he, too, has only 88 minutes to live. The film quickly devolves into a by-the-book skein of rhetorical questions that call into question both his character's testimony and the actor's ability to pick a decent script. (04/25/2008)

Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, CM Round Rock, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

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. 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 is obliterated - often entertainingly so - by having Stein drolly snark his way through an increasingly bizarre series of interviews. As it progresses, the film manages to feel more and more like a very expensive episode of Punk'd. As Stein poses loaded and leading questions to his subjects, there's an obvious, predetermined answer (Darwin bad, intelligent design good) hovering over everything. The message is obvious if exceedingly vile: Darwin's theory of evolution is leading us all to hell on Earth. (04/25/2008) - Marc Savlov Arbor, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

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 vore 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 Saylov *** Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Highland, Gateway,

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.)

Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

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 Marc Savlov beau (Brand). (04/18/2008) ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo

Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

LEATHERHEADS

D: George Clooney; with George 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, Hill Country Galleria

THE LIFE BEFORE HER EYES

D: Vadim Perelman; with Uma Thurman, Evan Rachel Wood, Eva Amurri, Brett Cullen, Gabrielle Brennan, John Magaro, Molly Price. (R, 90 min.)

Diana (Thurman) suffers from a serious 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 anniversary of that massacre is making her more skittish than usual. The scene replays continually in Diana's mind, with Wood portraying the part of the teenaged Diana, Perelman drops numerous overt clues along the way regarding the events of the fateful day, but the film's ending may still leave viewers feeling shortchanged. Although the screenplay is adapted by Emil Stern from a novel by Laura Kasischke, the film's atmospheric texture seems to be all Perelman, who follows up House of Sand and Fog with this sophomore effort, which 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. (04/25/2008) - Marjorie Baumgarten

★★ Arbor

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 ★★★ Arhor

MY BLUEBERRY NIGHTS

D: Wong 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 croons in the opening and closing of Wong's English-language 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. As a first-time actress Jones 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. The script (by Wong and mystery writer Lawrence Block) leans almost entirely on the obvious. It all looks gorgeous, but here, too, we're in familiar territory, the Wong romantic lexicon of slo-mo and timelapse, red-light-district gels and iconic songs on endless replay, not to mention a high-fashion fetish. 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. (04/25/2008) Kimberlev Jones ★★★ Arbor

NIM'S ISLAND

D: Jennifer Flackett, Mark Levin: with Abiaail 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

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) - Marjorie Baumgarten *** Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North,

THE OTHER BOLEYN GIRL

D: Justin Chadwick; with Natalie Portman, Scarlett Johansson, Eric Bana, Jim Sturgess, Mark Rylance, Kristin Scott Thomas, David Morrissey, Ana Torrent. (PG-13, 115 min.)

The Other Boleyn Girl, adapted from Philippa Gregory's novel, resembles a tragicomic reality show imported from some other, more fashionforward past. Done in high style but with serious attention to detail, if not the historical record, Johansson plays Mary, the sibling to Anne (Portman), whose socially ambitious father, Sir Thomas Boleyn (Rylance) seeks to marry off (or pimp out) the more spirited Anne to Bana's Henry VIII. As fate would have it, the king favors Mary over Anne and promptly beds this other girl. The film is an engagingly sordid meditation on protofeminism. Director Chadwick and production designer John Paul Kelly take pains to re-create the broody, conniving atmosphere of the court of Henry VIII (there's some impressively invisible CGI work), and the pairing of Johansson and Portman (besides being the wettest of fanboy dreamings) is deliciously inspired. (02/29/2008)

★★★ Movies 8

PENELOPE

D: Mark Palansky; with Christina Ricci, James McAvoy, Catherine O'Hara, Reese Witherspoon, Peter Dinklage, Richard E. Grant, Simon Woods, Ronni Ancona. (PG,

To be fair, Penelope isn't a bad movie. It isn't a particularly good one, either, but for viewers who are susceptible to modern-day fairy tales that are heavy on whimsy, sweeping soundtracks, and easily digestible life lessons about the importance of inner beauty, I can see how it might be seductive.

nose, the result of an age-old curse placed on her blue-blood family by an angry witch. Legend has it that until Penelope finds "true love with one of her own kind," she'll continue to be half woman. half pig. The problem, however, is that entire plot strands crop up from out of nowhere only to disappear without explanation, never to be heard from again. It's as if debuting feature-screenplay writer Leslie Caveny had so many ideas that she simply couldn't bear to leave any of them crumpled up on - Josh Rosenblatt her office floor. (02/29/2008) ★★ Movies 8

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-the-box. 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, 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 coed. (04/18/2008)

Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

THE RUINS

D: Carter Smith; with Shawn Ashmore, Jena Malone, Jonathan Tucker, Laura Ramsey, Joe Anderson. (R, 97

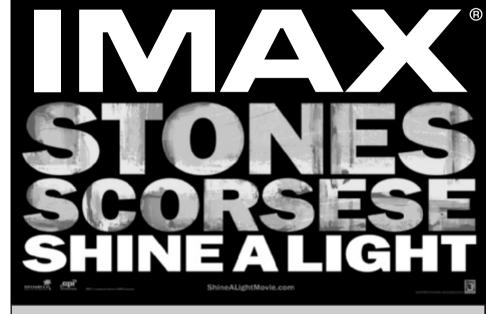
The Ruins, based on Scott Smith's bestselling horror novel, is a riff on the perils of leaving the main trail and venturing off on one's own, especially if you're young, white, and American. Medical student Jeff (Tucker) gets a highly specialized crash course in field surgery and why cell phones are fundamentally evil little diabolus ex machinas when he and girlfriend (Malone) and their best friends (Ransey and Ashmore) end up trapped atop an ancient Mayan 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

Tinseltown South

SHUTTER

D: Masayuki Ochiai; with Joshua Jackson, Rachael Taylor, Megumi Okina, David Denman, John Hensley, James Kyson Lee, Maya Hazen. (PG-13, 85 min.)

Shutter is Japanese director Ochiai's Americanized-yet-shot-in-Tokyo do-over of Thai film makers 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



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CHECK THEATRE DIRECTORY FOR SHOWTIMES



Writ Writer (2008) D: Susanne Mason. (NR. 54 min.) On the heels of its SXSW Film Festival screening and prior to its broadcast in June on PBS' Independent Lens comes this local screening with the filmmaker in attendance. The documentary tells the story of self-taught jailhouse lawyer Fred Arispe Cruz, who challenged the constitutionality of Texas prison conditions in the Sixties and launched the state prisoners' rights movement. @Ruiz Library, Thu. 5/8, 7pm; free.

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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, Ashton Holmes. (NR,

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, Arbor, Dobie

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

Asia Fest 2008 Mini Film Festival

Asia Fest 2008 Mini Film Festival Network of Asian American Organizations. As part of this festival which cel ebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with a variety of events on the grounds of this future center (8301 Cameron).

eight film screenings will be held from 1-9pm. Some highlights include "Damn the Past," a musical directed by Juli Kang at 3pm; Killing of a Chinese Cookie, an amusing look at the history of the fortune cookie by Derek Shimoda at 4pm; and The Motel, a coming-of-age film by Michael Kang at 7pm. For more info, see www.aaaff.org and "Asia Fest," p.60. @Asian American Resource Center Grounds, 1pm; free.

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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 Saylov ★★★ 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, Naomie Harris. (R, 109 min.)

Dirty cops are the kings of the L.A. streets, and no one knows that better than James Ellroy, 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 Southpark Meadows, Highland, Tinseltown

North, Tinseltown South **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 note-perfect – 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-cumcomedy-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 Tinseltown South

TASHAN

D: Vijay Krishna Acharya; with Akshay Kumar, Saif Ali Khan, Kareena Kapoor, Anil Kapoor. (NR, 158 min.,

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. (04/25/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten Tinseltown South

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.)

Chinese Cookie

One might think that characters who have the mental quickness to count cards and take the Vegas blackiack 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 development 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,

UNDER THE SAME MOON

Gateway, Tinseltown South

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

*** 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 coexecutive 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 Ritz

THE VISITOR

D: Tom McCarthy; with Richard Jenkins, Haaz Sleiman, Danai Jekesai Gurira, Hiam Abbass, Marian Seldes. (PG-13, 108 min.)

McCarthy (*The Station Agent*) is back with another humanist drama set among a mix of characters who might not ordinarily interact. Curiously, The Visitor is both predictable and unpredictable. Jenkins, a busy character actor, is uncharacteristically cast in the lead as Walter Vale, a gift that he capitalizes on fully. His performance (and the film) are studies in understatement, communicating often through the absence of words or actions. We may think we know where this is going: A hard-hearted economics prof reclaims his soul through his interaction with illegal immigrants (Sleiman, Gurira, and Abbass) who are full of life and artful enterprise. 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 with out 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. (04/25/2008) - Marjorie Baumgarten ★★★ Arbor

YOUNG@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 in a straightforward style that feels deceptively 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

Also Playing

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

THE BUCKET LIST ★ → Movies 8

COLLEGE ROAD TRIP ★ ✓ Millennium

DRILLBIT TAYLOR *> Tinseltown South

FOOL'S GOLD ★ Movies 8

GEORGE A. ROMERO'S DIARY OF THE DEAD ★★★ Tinseltown South

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Special Screenings

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

THURSDAY OA

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.

Lost TV @ the Alamo. Weekly episode. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 9pm; @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10pm. Free.

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.

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. @Southpark Meadows, @Metropolitan, @Tinseltown North, 7pm.

SPACES

"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 6:30 is encouraged. @Texas Hillel, 7pm.

No Country for Old Men (2007) D: Joel Coen and Ethan Coen; with Tommy Lee Jones, Javier Bardem, Josh Brolin, Kelly Macdonald, Woody Harrelson, Garret Dillahunt, Barry Corbin, Tess Harper, Stephen Root. (R, 122 min.) Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

FRIDAY 02

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.

Bend and Break (2008) D: Jordan Crowder; with Steven Crowder. (NR) This UT student's film explores "relationships and the cluelessness of young men in search of direction. Set in beautiful Montreal, a group of twentysomethings struggle through the misguided awkwardness that comes with romance." The director will be present for a Q&A afterward. @Texas Union Theatre, 9:30pm.

Planet of the Apes (1968) D: Franklin J. Schaffner; with Kim Hunter, Roddy McDowall, Charlton Heston. (G. 112 min.) Master Pancake. Guest comedian Owen Egerton reioins John Erler and the cast to help mock the original damn-dirtyape movie ... and Charlton Heston, too. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10:15pm.

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 16 issue is Monday, May 5. 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

SATURDAY **OB**

Planet of the Apes (1968) @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10:15pm. (See Fri., 5/2.)

PowerFlicker Short Film Festival Austin Mobile Film School, During the Old Pecan Street Festival on Sixth Street, a collection of short films from regional film organizations and artists will screen. The groups represented are San Antonio and Harlandale high schools. Reel Women, Film Austin, Storie Productions film classes, and the Austin Community College RTF program. @Alamo

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.

U Me Aur Hum (2008) D: Ajay Devgan; with Devgan, Kajol. (NR, 159 min.) The director and cowriter also stars in this new Bollywood film about a love that grows deeper over time. (*) @Tinseltown South, 3:15, 6:30pm.

SPACES

Asia Fest 2008 Mini Film Festival See p.98.

SUNDAY 04

Backpack Picnic DVD Release Party

The popular online sketch comedy show by local troupe Backpack Picnic comes to DVD. See "Don't Everybody Panic," p.62, for more on the group. @Alamo Ritz. 9:30pm.

Jalsa (2008) D. Trivikram Srinivas: with Pawan Kalyan, Ileana, Parvati Melton, Kamalinee Mukherjee. (NR, 168 min.) Telugu-language love story with comedy. @Tinseltown South, 3pm.

Mildred Pierce Coffee and Pie Social: A Benefit for Stephen Moser (1945)

MONDAY 05

Ottscreen

www.48hourfilm.com/austin.

line: June 2. www.austinfilm.org.

Heavy Metal in Baghdad (2007)

D: Suroosh Alvi and Eddy Moretti. (R, 84 min.) Music Monday. Acrassicauda is the only heavy metal band in Iraq. This is their story. @Alamo Ritz,

48-Hour Film Project Reel Women is the

sponsor (for the seventh time) of this project

in which teams write, shoot, and edit a short

film, complete with music and credits, in one

on Friday, June 20, and draw for the genre of

the film they'll have to make. All completed films will be screened for the public the follow-

ing Tuesday and Wednesday at Regal's Arbor

Cinema. The Best Film of Austin will then com-

pete with teams from other cities. See website

for details. Early registration deadline: May 26.

AFS: Call for Entries for 2008 Texas

Film Society is accepting applications for the 2008 Texas Filmmakers' Production Fund. They'll

Filmmakers' Production Fund The Austin

provide at least \$100,000 to emerging film

and video artists in Texas, in cash grants up to

services from Seattle-based Alpha Cine Labs.

\$25,000, as well as Kodak film stock and in-kind

Filmmakers who have resided in Texas for at least

one year are eligible, and the current application

is available on the AFS website. Submission dead-

weekend. A member from each team will meet

Austin Film Festival: Call for Entries The AFF seeks entries for the 2008 Screenplay and Teleplay competitions. Categories include 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

Reel Women: First Monday Mix No agenda, no schedule; just mingling, mixing, meeting, bragging, commiserating. Find someone you do (or don't) want to collaborate with. Recruit for your next project. Mon., May 5, 6-8pm. Opal Divine's, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308. Free. www.reelwomen.org

SXSWclick Festival: Call For Entries

SXSWclick is a summertime, digital shorts event/ competition, in which winners in each of the five categories will automatically be invited to screen at the next South by Southwest Film Festival. Yes: No small potatoes, this. Projects cannot exceed 10 minutes in length. For more information and submission, see the website. Deadline: June 13. www.sxswclick.com/enter.

Kiss Me Deadly (1955) See p.96.

Three Amigos Feast-Along (1986) D: John Landis: with Chevy Chase, Steve Martin,

Martin Short, (PG. 104 min.) Imagine what Peggy Hill might prepare for a Cinco de Mayo feast, and you'll get an idea of what the Alamo is going for here. See ww.originalalamo.com for menu. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

U Me Aur Hum (2008) @Tinseltown South, 4:30, 8:30pm. (See Sat., 5/3.)

TUESDAY 06

Springtime in a Small Town (2002)

D: Tian, Zhuangzhuang; with Hu Jingfan, Wu Jun, Xin Baiqing, Ye Xiaokeng, Lu Sisi. (PG, 116 min.) **Austin** Film Society: Ascending Dragon - Films of Greater China. An unfulfilled marriage of eight years duration is shaken when an unexpected visitor stays in the household. The film is a remake of a 1948 movie and uses long takes and tracking shots to uncover the characters' roiling desires. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm; \$4, AFS members free.

U Me Aur Hum (2008) @Tinseltown South, 4:30, 8:30pm, (See Sat., 5/3.)

SPACES

At the Death House Door (2008) See p.96

Trading Places (1983) D: John Landis; with Dan Aykroyd, Eddie Murphy. (R, 118 min.) Monday Movies and Margaritas. Margarita specials from 5-9pm; movie at sundown. @Belmont, 8:30pm; free.

Walk the Line (2005) D: James Mangold; with Joaquin Phoenix, Reese Witherspoon, Robert Patrick, Shelby Lynne, Ginnifer Goodwin, Larry Bagby, Tyler Hilton, Dallas Roberts, Johnathan Rice, Shooter Jennings, Waylon Payne. (PG-13, 136 min.) Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY 00

Frankenstein Meets the Space Monster (1965) D: Robert Gaffney; with Marilyn Hanold, James Karen, Lou Cutell, Nancy Marshall. (NR, 79 min.) Weird Wednesday. Martians come to Earth to kidnap women to repopulate their planet. They land in Puerto Rico and shoot down a NASA android and raid beach parties. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

Stars of the Lid with Luke Savisky Films Movies & Music. Beatless soundscapes of music will be accompanied by a film installation by Luke Savisky. Christopher Willits will perform first. @Alamo Ritz, 11:45pm.

Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989) D: Steven Spielberg; with Harrison Ford, Sean Connery, Denholm Elliott, Alison Doody, River Phoenix. (PG-13, 125 min.) Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

THURSDAY 08

Just Can't Get Enough: The New Wave **Sing-Along** @Alamo Ritz, 9:25pm. (See Thu., 5/1.)

Lost @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 9pm; @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10pm; free. (See Thu., 5/1.)

Spaceballs: The Quote-Along (1987)

D: Mel Brooks; with Mel Brooks, John Candy, Rick Moranis, Bill Pullman. (PG, 96 min.) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Touch Me in the Morning (1999)

D: Giuseppe Andrews; with Giuseppe Andrews, Bill Nowlin, Ruth Estes. (NR, 90 min.) Tromatic Thursday. Ridiculously prolific and eccentric, Andrews - the actor writer and director - is carying out a niche as an acute observer of the uncomfortably bizarre. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm: free

Zombie Creeping Flesh (1980) D: Bruno Mattei; with Margit Evelyn Newton, Franco Garofalo, Selan Karav. José Gras. (R. 101 min.) Terror Thursday. Zombies galore. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

At the Death House Door (2008)

Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story (2007) D: Jake Kasdan; with John C. Reilly, Jenna Fischer, Kristen Wiig, Tim Meadows, Chris Parnell, Matt Besser, David Krumholtz. (R, 96 min.) Free. (*) @ Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

Writ Writer (2008) See p.98.

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. Thu, (5/1)-Sat., 11am. 4pm; Sun., 4pm; Mon.-Thu. (5/8), 11am, 4pm.

Grand Canyon Adventure 3D: River at Risk (2008) D: Greg MacGillivray; narrated by Robert Redford. (NR, 40 min.) The river at risk is the Colorado. Water-conservation advocate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. joins ethnobotanist and author Wade Davis and their 18-year-old daughters for a rafting trip down the river to the parched Colorado delta. Thu. (5/1), 12, 3, 5pm; Fri.-Sat., 12, 3pm; Sun, 3pm; Mon.-Thu. (5/8), 12, 3, 5pm.

Sea Monsters 3D: A Prehistoric Adventure (2007) D: Sean MacLeod

Phillips; narrated by Liev Schreiber. (NR, 40 min.) National Geographic uses photo-realistic, computer-generated, 3-D animation to transport audiences back to the late Cretaceous period more than 65 million years ago, when a great inland sea divided North America in two. (*) Thu. (5/1), 2pm; Sat.-Thu. (5/8), 2pm.

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. Thu. (5/1), 7:40pm; Fri.-Sat., 5, 7:20pm; Sun., 7:20pm; Mon.-Thu. (5/8), 8:20pm.

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. Thu. (5/1)-Sat., 10am, 1pm; Sun., 1pm; Mon.-Thu. (5/8), 10am, 1pm.

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. (*) Thu. (5/1), 6pm; Fri.-Sat., 9:40pm; Sun., 5pm; Mon.-Thu. (5/8), 6pm.

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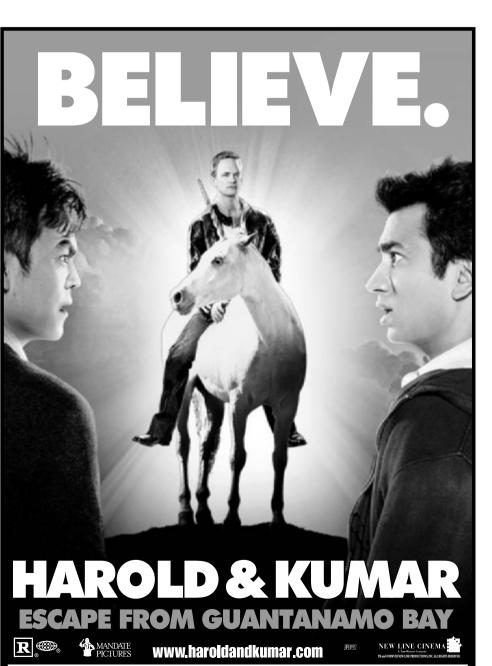
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music listings

Tapes 'n Tapes antone's, friday 2

Still riding the buzz of 2006 debut The Loon, Minneapolis quartet Tapes 'n Tapes ups the ante with latest Walk It Off (XL), reeling in rambunctious indie rock with help from Mercury Rev's Dave Fridmann. Local trio White Denim, hot off a European tour, returns with its freewheelin' blend of neopsychedelia and soulful garage pop. Grab a copy of the trio's Fall Tour '08 LP. Austin Powell

The Raconteurs STUBB'S, FRIDAY 2

Despite hit-or-miss debut Broken Boy Soldiers, Jack White and the Raconteurs stormed Austin City Limits Music Fest 2006 like a seven-nation army, even firing off a cover of Nancy Sinatra's "Bang Bang (My Baby Shot Me Down)." The supergroup reloads Friday night (Saturday is sold out) with latest Consolers of the Lonely, a dynamic combination of Brendan Benson's best melodramatic ballads and garage blues. Raleigh, N.C.-based retrorockers Birds of Avalon fly first. - Austin Powell

Atmosphere emo's, friday 2 & saturday 3

Two nights of Minneapolis duo Atmosphere on the outside stage make for some of the best live hip-hop around. As Rhymesayers royalty, MC Slug brings his no-holds-barred storytelling to life over DJ Ant's array of beats,



ranging from the backyard breaks of 2007's Strictly Leakage EP to '02's morose God Loves Ugly. Their sixth LP, When Life Gives You Lemons, You Paint That Shit Gold, is a steady dose of

Daedelus whisky bar, saturday 3

Club-hop rips through Granddad's vinyl collection when L.A. producer Daedelus hits the Whisky, chopping swing and big band cuts with a beat box. The Ninja Tune spinner's track record includes collabos with Busdriver, Madlib, and MF Doom, and he's putting final touches on new LP Love to Make Music To, out in June. San Antonio beatmaker Ernest Gonzales gets the party started. Chase Hoffberger

Old Pecan Street Festival DOWNTOWN, SATURDAY 3 & SUNDAY 4

The 30th anniversary of Pecan Street keeps it weird with five stages and 20 locals. Saturday beams with Bill Baird's Sunset, the Lemurs, Ume, Attack Formation, Daniel Francis Doyle, and more before setting off fireworks (literally) with Grupo Fantasma at 8pm. Sunday sets an ethnic vibe with a Latin stage, St. Edward's Ballet Folklorico, and Sabaya Belly Dancers, plus a country stage for good measure (the Moonhangers, Texas Sapphires, et al.). See www.oldpecanstreetfestival.com for - Darcie Stevens



"What's that sound?" wondered my buttoned-up acquaintance with a mixture of dread and curiosity.

As I gestured to the Orange amps filling the front half of the Longbranch Inn during South by Southwest 08, that low, heavy rumble increased until the windows of the tiny Eastside bar were rattling. When Torche struck its first cilia-stirring note, the bangs blew off my forehead.

"I saw one of the taxidermied animals on top of the bar fall over, too," recalls the group's guitarist Juan Montoya.

Torche may be the first band to frighten dead animals. The quartet's pedigree from Miami's noise and metal scene might have something to do with their sonic ferocity. Montoya and guitarist Steve Brooks played together in 1990s underground sludge heroes Floor, which disbanded after a decade and left its footprint for Torche in 2004. Now rounded out by drummer Rick

Smith and bassist Jonathan Nuñez, the foursome stands on the verge of breaking out with sophomore effort Meanderthal (Hydra Head). Recorded in Salem, Mass., by Converge guitarist Kurt Ballou, it's poppier than 2005's self-titled debut, a perfect balance of massive and catchy.

"The music's very primitive and simple but punchy," Montoya explains. "We play so much that now the songs come easier, but they've definitely matured. We're from the school of Melvins; we make up our own language."

Nonstop touring with acts as diverse as Mogwai and Austin's the Sword no doubt sharpened their tongue, though Montoya agrees that volume's the great equalizer.

"We've had people pass out - say they feel their organs trembling. It's intense. When I'm up there, it's like being in a blender. The whole room is like a giant vibrator." - Audra Schroeder

Philly's Stinking Lizaveta and locals Canyon of the Skull open.

The Breeders EMO'S, MONDAY 5

The Breeders take their time, as witnessed by the three LPs Dayton, Ohio, sisters Kim and Kelley Deal have released since 1988 The title of fourth LP Mountain Battles (4AD) no doubt sprung partly



from Kim's stints in rehab and 2004's Pixies reunion, I-sawthe-light moments rubbing up against Kim's balmy purr for a mellow patchwork. Mississippi boys Colour Revolt grime out the opening slot.

Guy Clark, Joe Ely, John Hiatt, & Lyle Lovett PARAMOUNT THEATRE, MONDAY 5 & TUESDAY 6

With four candidates for the Mount Rushmore of American singer-songwriters, there's guaranteed to be one heart-stopping moment after another. Expect plenty of interplay and a few new tunes, especially from John Hiatt, whose latest studio disc drops soon. This much honesty, poetry, and inspiration on stage deserves reverence, dignity, and a nice cold beer. - Jim Caligiuri

Someone Still Loves You Boris Yeltsin

MOHAWK, WEDNESDAY 7

Though the Springfield, Mo., quartet has begun to outgrow its quirky name, SSLYBY capitalized on dubious nostalgia for the former Russian leader and sunk smooth pop hooks into Polyvinyl for sophomore effort Pershing. Oakland quintet Port O'Brien rides a nautical wave of folk-pop on upcom-



ing official debut LP All We Could Do Was Sing. Locals Loxsly shine Flashlights. - Doug Freeman

DAM SCOOT INN, THURSDAY 8

Middle East meets West as Palestinian rap trio DAM drops into Austin. Pioneers in their native Israel, Mahmoud Jreri and brothers Tamer and Suhell Nafar evoke brutal urban honesty, heard on 2006's international English/Hebrew debut, Dedication. They also appeared in Slingshot Hip Hop, a recent doc about Palestine's rap scene. Locals Southbound open. Chase Hoffberger

Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

In-Stores

Saturday: Ghost of the Russian Empire, End of an Ear, 6pm

Sunday: 7-Inch Stitch. End of an Ear, 5pm

Thursday: Fy Fan, Sacred Shock, Deskonocidos. Laughin' Dogs.

Trailer Space, 8pm

JOHN WAITE

Cactus Cafe, Friday 2 "Missing You," anvone?

THE STRANGE BOYS, **HACIENDA, GOSPEL TRUTH**

United States Art Authority, Friday 2 Local garage rock trin-

ity cracks the blues whip.

TONEBURST 7

Salvage Vanguard Theater, Saturday 3

Rick Reed's experimental jamboree gets lit as part of Fuse Box '08.

MEAT BEAT MANIFESTO

Club de Ville, Saturday 3 Jack Dangers returns for scratch and sniff.

TOWER OF POWER

One World Theatre. Sunday 4

Collective soul and East Bay grease. 6 & 8:30pm.

THE CARROTS

Beerland, Tuesday 6 Tour kickoff and 1960s pop love-in.

STARS OF THE LID

Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, Wednesday 7 Austin's ambient

ambassadors return.

LEATHERBAG CD RELEASE

Mohawk, Thursday 8 Randy Revnolds stomps out Love & Harm.

JON LANGFORD

Continental Club, Thursday 8

The Mekon man meets Austin's Shinvribs and Michael Hall halfway.



▶ live music VENUES p.104 → CLUB LISTINGS + roadshows p.106

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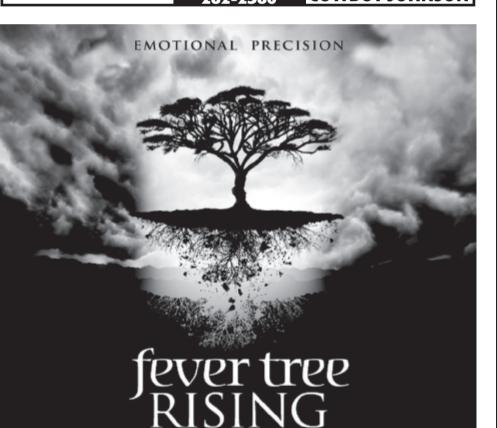
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DAN ELECTRO'S CONTINENTAL CLUB

AUGUST 1611, SATURDAY, 1 1:00 PM

475-6515

THUR • MAY 1 • 8PM

4TH ANNUAL

SLIDE-O-RAMA WITH CINDY CASHDOLLAR ION DEE GRAHAM • STEVE JAMES

23RD & GUADALUPE

GURF MORLIX • 8PM

FRI • MAY 2 • 7:30PM & 10PM FROM THE BABYS • BAD ENGLISH

"MissingYou"

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

ADV TIX @ HEBS AND ERWIN CENTER BOX OFFICE 477-6060 OR TEXASBOXOFFICE.COM

Two Shows! • 7:30pm & 10pm

SAT • MAY 3



WELCOME HOME TO TEXAS SHOW

GUEST STAR • AUDREY AULD MEZERA & Andrew Hardin

Mon • May 5 & 12 • 7pm Sign-up

OPEN STAGE HOSTED BY GRAHAM WEBER

Tue • May 6 • 8pm •Free Show! THE ANNOYING

INSTRUMENT ORCHESTRA & Mundi

WED • MAY 7 • 8:30PM • FREE SHOW!

AMY SPEACE & MOLLY VENTER

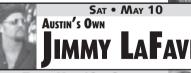


Thur • May 8 • 7:30pm •Free Show! 3RD ANNUAL

SLIMFEST WITH SLIM RICHEY MARY ANNE PRICE • JITTERBUG VIPERS
SARAH ELIZABETH CAMPBELL
GYPSY MOON • IN THESE SHOES
ZEEGRASS • RANCH ROAD 12 & MORE

Fri • May 9 • 9pm

Live @ The Cactus • Texas Legend



Tue • May 13 • 8pm

THE AUSTIN RETURN

Zoe Lewis



ED MILLER 6.11 TOM RUSH 6.5 **BRIAN MCNEAL**

DANNY BARNES 6.12 MATTHEW RYAN MIKE MCLURE 6.13 HAYDEN

UNDERGROUND

6.19 ANAIS MITCHELL KERRVILLE REVUE 6.20 ELIZA GILKYSON

BILL STAINES

All Ages All The Time



The Cactus is located inside the Texas Union. Happy Hour is 4-7pm, Monday-Friday. Tickets @ the door & all shows @ 9pm unless otherwise noted. 23rd & Guadalupe. 475-6515. www.cactus@union.edu

GET READY TO HOLLER 'TWO DOLLARS'' 2 DRINK SPECIALS ERY THURSDAY ALL NIGHT LON

SUNDAY ALL NIGHT HAPPY HOUR FRI & SAT UNTIL 11PM \$2 DOMESTIC & WELLS

THURSDAY 5/1

\$2 DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT LONG DJ DIAMOND TIP

FRIDAY 5/2

ELEVEN FINGERED CHARLIE 10PM-2AM

SATURDAY 5/3

MAGGIE MAE'S AND KOOP RADIO'S
OFFICIAL PECAN STREET FESTIVAL PRESENTS
12PM DJ JUANTY
1PM PEEL
2PM THE BLACKLISTED
3PM THE BANES
4PM ENRIQUE Y LA GUERRILLA
5PM ATTACK FORMATION
6PM WINCHESTER TWINS
7PM BOB TAYLOR'S LATEST REVIEW
8PM THE BILL JEFFERY'S
8:30PM THE EASIES
9PM AWESOME COOL DUDES
9:30PM DANIEL FRANCIS DOYLE

KENTUCKY DERBY RUN FOR THE ROSES *IN THE GIBSON ROOM WITH MINT JULEPS AND MOJOITOS.

SUNDAY 5/4

12PM APPLALACHIAN STRING BAND

12PM APPLALACHIAN STRING
1PM THE MAD DUKES
2PM PUBLIC OFFENDERS
& THE CIPHER
3PM THE MOON HANGERS
4PM TEXAS SAPPHIRES
5PM ROD MOAG

6PM THE MEDIUMS

MONDAY 5/5

MIKE MILLIGAN AND THE ALTAR BOYZ BLUE MONDAY BPM-12AM

TUESDAY 5/6

ELEVEN FINGERED CHARLIE NO COVER 10PM-2AM

WEDNESDAY 5/7

JORDAN TANNER 9PM-1AM

www.maggiemaesaustin.com SIXTH STREET 478.8541



THE TRIANGLE ~ the New School

Every Thur- Matt the Electrcian & Southpaw Jone



Saturday 5pm Austin Bella Corda "Gypsy Teens"
CD Release Party Recital

9pm Brady Davis

Mondays ~ T Jarrod Bonta Western Swing Piano
Wed 7 ~ \$2 Beers & \$3 Wine!!!
~ Michael Fracasso Sun's & Tues' - No Music, its Social Nite!

Barton Springs ~ tha Original

Thur I ~ Doug Warriner & His Only Band



Friday 2 Izzy Cox (Psychobilly Queen)

Brian Birdwell

Saturday 3 ~ Bluesqueezebox Mon 5 ~ Open Mic Hosted by...Mike! Tue 6 ~ Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory Wed 7 ~ Brett Saiia ~ Sea Legs



live music venues

219 WEST, 219 W. Fourth, 474-2194 311 CLUB, 311 E. Sixth, 477-1630 ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR, 3600 ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR, 3600 Presidential,

ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET, 3600 ABIA: WATERLOO RECORDS/AUSTIN CITY LIMITS,

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ, 320 E. Sixth,

ANTONE'S 213 W Fifth 320-8/12/

APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL, 3001 N.

I-35, Round Rock, 512/388-7353 ARTZ RIB HOUSE, 2330 S. Lamar, 442-8283 AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN, Fourth and

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735, 2103 E.M. Franklin,

926-0043 **AUSTIN'S PIZZA**, 1817 S. Lamar, 795-8888 **B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB**, 204 E. Sixth, 494-1335 **BACKSTAGE STEAKHOUSE & GARDEN BAR**, 21814 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-2223

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER, 1008 Water, Bastrop,

BB ROVERS, 12636 Research Ste. B-101, 335-9504 **BEAUTY BAR**, 617 E. Seventh, 391-1943 BEERLAND, 7111/2 Red River, 479-ROCK BEENLAND, 711-92 Red River, 479-ROCK THE BELMONT, 305 W. Sixth, 457-0300 BENNIGAN'S, 301 Barton Springs Rd., 472-7902 BESS BISTRO ON PECAN, 500 W. Sixth, 477-2377 BLACK & TAN, 405 E. Seventh

BOAT HOUSE GRILL, 6812 RR 620 N., 249-5200 **BOTTICELLI'S**, 1321 S. Congress, 916-1315 BOULDIN CREEK COFFEEHOUSE & CAFE, 1501 S. First,

BOUT TIME, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339 **BROKEN SPOKE**, 3201 S. Lamar, 442-6189 **THE BROWN BAR**, 201 W. Eighth, 480-8330 CACTUS CAFE, Texas Union, UT campus, 475-6515 CAFE MUNDI, 1704 E. Fifth, 236-8634 THE CANARY ROOST, 11900 Metric, 836-6360 THE CANARY ROOST, 11900 Metric, 836-6360
CANVAS BAR & GALLERY, 103 E. Fifth, 391-9181
CAROUSEL LOUNGE, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790
CEDAR STREET, 208 W. Fourth, 495-9669
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH, 4001 N. Lamar, 206-1000
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH, 4477 S. Lamar, 899-4300
CHAIN DRIVE, 504 Willow, 480-9017
CHEATLAN STREET WARPHOUSE, 140 Cheatham, Sou

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE, 119 Cheatham, San Marcos, 512/353-3777 CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO, 5406 Balcones,

CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR, 2200 Manor Rd., 472-9900 CLUB DE VILLE, 900 Red River, 457-0900 THE COCKPIT CLUB, 113 San Jacinto, 457-8010 CONTINENTAL CLUB, 1315 S. Congress, 441-2444 **COPA BAR & GRILL**, 217 Congress, 479-5002 **COTTON CLUB**, 212 E. Davilla, Granger, 512/859-0700 CREEKSIDE LOUNGE, 606 E. Seventh, 480-5988 CUBA LIBRE, 409 Colorado, 472-2822 DALLAS, 7113 Burnet Rd., 452-2801 **DELI WERKS**, 7500 Lohman Ford Rd., Lago Vista, 512/267-0065 **DETOUR BAR & GRILL**, 1113 RR 620 N., 266-2279

DOLCE VITA GELATTO & ESPRESSO BAR, 4222 Duval **DONN'S DEPOT.** 1600 W. Fifth. 478-0336

DOWNTOWN AUSTIN, Sixth Street from I-35 to Brazos DRY CREEK SALOON, 4812 Mt. Bonnell Rd., 453-9244 EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE, 301 E. Fifth, 472-1860 EL JACALITO, 2030 E. Oltorf #112, 445-4109 **EL SOL Y LA LUNA**, 1224 S. Congress, 444-7770 **ELEPHANT ROOM**, 315 Congress, 473-2279 ELYSIUM, 705 Red River, 478-2979 EMO'S, 603 Red River, 477-3667 END OF AN EAR, 2209 S. First, 462-6008 END OF AN EAR, 2209 S. First, 402-6008
EVANGELINE CAFE, 8106 Brodie #110, 282-2586
FADÓ, 214 W. Fourth, 457-0172
FAJITA WAREHOUSE, 12233 RR 620 N., 336-1919
FIESTA GARDENS, 2101 Bergman, 480-8318
FLAMINGO CANTINA, 515 E. Sixth, 494-9336
FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE, 4600 Guadalupe, 220

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE, 1601 Barton Springs Rd.,

FRANK ERWIN CENTER, 1701 Red River, 471-7744 FREDDIE'S PLACE, 1703 S. First, 445-9197
FRIENDS. 208 E. Sixth. 320-8193 FURR'S FAMILY DINING, 4015 S. Lamar, 441-7825 GIBSON GUITAR SHOWROOM, 3601 S. Congress Ste.

GIDDY UPS, 12010 Manchaca, 280-4732 **THE GINGER MAN**, 304 W. Fourth, 473-8801 GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON, 5434 Burnet Rd.,

GREEN MESQUITE BBQ & MORE, 1400 Barton Springs **GREEN PASTURES**, 811 W. Live Oak, 444-4747

GRUENE HALL, 1281 Gruene Rd., New Braunfels, 830/606-1281, 830/629-5077 GÜRO'S TACO BAR, 1412 S. Congress, 447-7688 HANOVER'S, 108 E. Main, Pflugerville, 512/670-9617 HEADHUNTERS, 720 Red River, 236-0188

HI-LO, 301 W. Sixth, 480-9433 HICKORY STREET BAR & GRILLE, 800 Congress,

HILL'S CAFE, 4700 S. Congress, 851-9300 HOLE IN THE WALL, 2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747 HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR, 2401 E. Sixth #104,

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829 JO'S COFFEE, 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800 JOHNNY FINS, 16405 Clara Van Trail, 266-2811 JOVITA'S, 1619 S. First, 447-7825

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,

LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR, 629 W. Ben White,

LONG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS 701 W **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, **MAGGIE MAE'S**, 323 E. Sixth, 478-8541

MANUELS, 310 Congress, 472-7555 MARIA'S TACO XPRESS, 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261 MEAN-EYED CAT, 1621 W. Fifth, 472-6326 MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER, 600 River St., 478-6222

MOHAWK, 912 Red River, 482-8404 MOMO'S, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848 MOONRIVER, 2002 N. Pace Bend Rd., Spicewood,

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 E. Seventh, 236-0008 MULLIGAN'S, 900 RR 620 S., 263-3305 NASTY'S, 606 Maiden, 453-4349

NORTH BY NORTHWEST RESTAURANT & BREWERY, 10010 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 467-6969 NUEVO LEÓN, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097 NUEVO LEÓN, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097

NUNO'S ON SIXTH, 422 E. Sixth, 833-5133

NUNZIA'S AT THE Y, 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

OILCAN HARRY'S, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823

ONE 2 ONE BAR, 121 E. Fifth, 473-0121

ONE WORLD THEATRE, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500

THE OPERA HOUSE, 2209-K S. First, 440-1401

PARAMOUNT THEATRE, 713 Congress, 472-5470

THE PARISH, 214 E. Sixth, 479-0474

THE PARLOR, 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965

PARMER LANE TAVEN, 2121 Parmer #1, 339-0663

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE, 5001 E. Ben White, 444-2020

THE PIER ON LAKE TRAVIS, 18200 Lakepoint Cove, Point Venture, 512/267-1845

PLUSH, 617 Red River, 478-0099

PLUSH, 617 Red River, 478-0099
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL, 22308 Hwy. 71 W.,

QUA BOTTLE LOUNGE, 213 W. Fourth, 472-2781 QUACK'S MAPLEWOOD BAKERY, 1400 E. 38 1/2,

RABBIT'S LOUNGE, 1816 E. Sixth, 473-3771
RACK DADDY'S, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577
RAIN ON 4TH, 217 W. Fourth, 494-1150
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE, 13450 Research, 335-5115 RED 7, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100 RED FEZ, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120 RENAISSANCE HOTEL, 9721 Arboretum, 343-2626 RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132 ROADHOUSE, 1103 Wonder, Round Rock, 512/218-0813

ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE, 6406 N. 135 #1100, 467-7244 ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN, 701 Main, Georgetown, **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 SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER, 2803 Manor Rd.,

SAM'S TOWN POINT, 2115 Allred, 282-0083 SAXON PUB, 1320 S. Lamar, 448-2552 SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200 SHENANIGANS, 13233 Pond Springs Rd., 258-9717 SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL, 9012 Research Ste. C-1, 380-9443 SHOAL CREEK SALOON, 909 N. Lamar, 474-0805

SHOAL CREEK SALUUN, 909 N. Lamar, 474-0805 SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 11416 RR 620 N., 401-2060 SKI SHORES, 2905 Pierce, 346-5915 SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017 STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341

STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341

SÃO PAULO'S, 2809 San Jacinto, 473-9988
T.C.'S LOUNGE, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
TEXAS STATE CAPITOL, 1100 Congress, 305-8400
TEXAS UNION, UT campus, 24th & Guadalupe
THINGS CELTIC, 1806 W. 35th, 472-2358
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
TINIEST BAR IN TEXAS, 817 W. Fifth, 391-6222
TRAILER SPACE RECORDS & EVENTS CENTER, 2421
Cesar Chavez, 542-9001

Cesar Chavez, 542-9001

THE TRIANGLE, 4600 Guadalupe
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos,

TRIUMPH CAFE, 3808 Spicewood Springs, 343-1875 **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

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 6203 Capital of TX Hwy. N., **WATERLOO ICE HOUSE**, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245

WATERLOO RECORDS, 600-A N. Lamar, 474-2500 WHISKY BAR, 303 W. Fifth, 481-8599 Z'TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355

ZILKER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 1900 Bluebonnet, 414-2317

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DOORS 8 • SHOW 9 • ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM





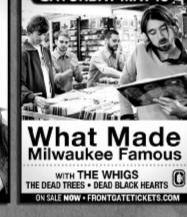
MONDAY MAY 5 YJACK Adderly & the vintage playboys DOORS 7 • SHOW 8

TUESDAY MAY 6 AUSTIN BLUES SOCIETY BLUESJAM ATER BLUE TUESDAY BAND WITH DEREK&MALFORD



WEDNESDAY MAY 7



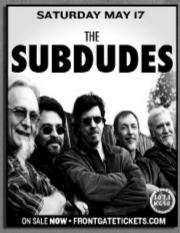




ADVANCE TICKETS & VIP TABLES AVAILABLE NOW - FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

THU YOUNG WES JEANS & GUNS ERIC TESSMER



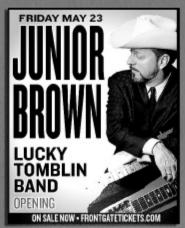




MARCIA BALL ANGELA STREHLI CAROLYN WONDERLAND WC CLARK • OMAR KENT DYKES AN HAYNES & MANY MORE



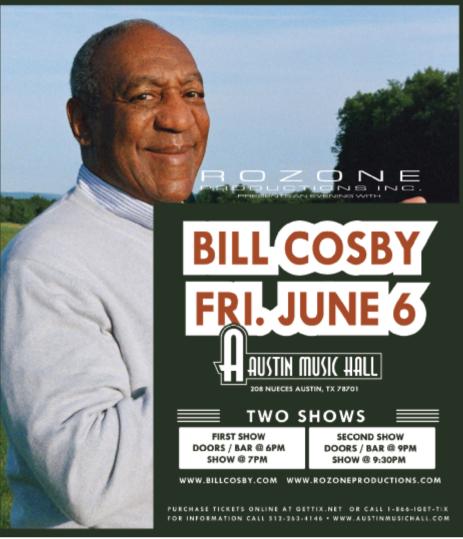








MYSPACE





club listings

Thu **01**

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle

311 CLUB Joe Valentine (8:30) ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S
SPORTS BAR Brent Adair

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Manuel "Cowboy" Donley

ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET Tracy Conover (1:00)

ANTONE'S Ian Moore CD Release (9:00) ARTZ RIB HOUSE Paul Glasse,

Rick McRae, Gary Hartman **AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO.** 1735 Herman the German

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB umbleweed Racer

BEERLAND McMercy Family Gospel Band, Skeletons, Two Hoots & a Holler, Mr. Lewis &

THE BELMONT The Weathermen

BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegal

BOTTICELLI'S Shawn Nelson **BOULDIN CREEK** COFFEEHOUSE & CAFE CampCamp May Day w/ Rebecca Havemeyer, Rudy Ramirez, Jeanne Stern,

Beliza, Chainbow (8:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau CACTUS CAFE Slide-o-Rama w/ Nate Rowe, Gurf Morlix, Steve James, Jon Dee

Graham, Cindy Cashdollar

CAFE MUNDI Jonathan Doyle CAROUSEL LOUNGE Wiretree,

Jauguin Taw CEDAR STREET Kent Mayhew,

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Shotgun Party (6:30)

Acts are chronologically listed. Schedules are subject to change, so please call clubs to confirm lineup. Times are given where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

HELLO CLUBS AND BANDS: Club listings deadline is Monday, 9am, for that week's issue. published on Thursday, Send venue name, address, phone number, acts, and times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax 458-6910; phone 454-5766 x159: or e-mail clubs@austinchronicle.com

roadshows

MAY

THU 1

The Weathermen, the Belmont Ron Wilkins Quartet, Elephant Room

Awen, Elysium The Lonely H, Emo's The Hatch, Flamingo Cantina Kenny Chesney, Leeann Rimes. Frank Erwin Center M.I.A., Holy Fuck, La Zona

Dignan, Lucy's on the Square Under the Gun, Barbie & the Hookers, Red 7

Dave Insley's Careless Smokers, Scoot Inn & Bier

O.A.R., Jonathan Tyler & the Northern Lights, Stubb's

OBBDS

Tapes 'n Tapes, Antone's **The Old Haunts**, Beerland John Waite, Cactus Cafe Ear to Anon, Cafe Mundi Mt. Righteous, Club de Ville Eleven Hundred Springs,

Ex-Voto, Opulent, Elysium Atmosphere, Abstract Rude, DJ Rare Groove, Emo's Maze w/ Frankie Beverly, Frank Erwin Center

Leo Kottke, Paramount Theatre

Dignan, the Parlor Bugs Henderson, Poodie's Hilltop Bar & Grill Pickled Punks, Red 7

Straightfork, Room 710 The Raconteurs, Birds of Avalon, Stubb's

Mostly Dead, Trophy's Hacienda, United States Art Authority

Atmosphere, Waterloo Records

Kevin Welch, Audrey Auld-Mezera, Andrew Hardin, Cactus Cafe Meat Beat Manifesto. Raz

Mesinai's Badawi, Club de

Atmosphere, Abstract Rude, DJ Rare Groove, Emo's Rodney Hayden, Ginny's Little Longhorn Saloon

Bent Eye Bolt, Hanover's **Devious Public** Headhunters Michale Graves. Hole in the

Rosewood Thieves. The Balcony, Mohawk Off With Their Heads, El Guapo. Mohawk

Western Civilization, Archer Avenue, Momo's Kritickill, Rock City Icehouse Bugs Henderson, Saxon Pub

The Raconteurs, Birds of Avalon, Stubb's Willis Alan Ramsey, Threadgill's World HQ Nanosmash, United States Art

Daedelus, Ernest Gonzales, Whisky Bar

SUN 4

Bugs Henderson, Andrew Hardin. Gruene Hall One-Minute Halo, Headhunters Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano, Long Center for the Performing Arts

The Fundamentalists, the

Tower of Power, One World Theatre

MON 5

The Breeders, Colour Revolt,

The Harlequins, Focus Group, Hole in the Wall

Lyle Lovett, John Hiatt, Guy Clark, Paramount Theatre Robert Ellis, the Parlor

Tattooed Millionaires Sybilla, Voice of Glass, Headhunters Interstates, Foxhole, Mohawk Lyle Lovett, John Hiatt, Guy Clark, Paramount Theatre The Lovers, the Parlor

Colbie Caillat, Trevor Hall,

Stubb's WED 7

Ladyfingers, Beerland Matt Wilson, the Belmont Someone Still Loves You Boris Yeltsin, Port O'Brien,

Dead Science, Salvage Vanguard Theater

Heist at Hand, Beauty Bar We March, Blood Royale,

Jon Langford, Continental Club The Nasty Rumors, Torche, Stinking Lizaveta, Emo's Trian Woodburns, Headhunters Homefront, Red 7

DAM, Mohammed Al Farrar, Dred Scott, Scoot Inn & Bier Garten

Fy Fan, Trailer Space Records & **Events Center**

for your benefit

Room to Read Benefit w/ the Lennings, Hot Mama's Espresso Bar

KVRX Space Prom Benefit w/ Reverse X-Ray, School Police, Record Breakers, Kevin Adickes, the Parish

Zilker Elementary Backyard Concert, Fundraiser w/ the Bobkats, Moving Blues, Robin Wiley, Joe McDermott, Matt the Electrician, Jimmy LaFave, Zilker Elementary School

SIMS Benefit, Outside Stage: Reverse X-Ray, Rabbit Fist, Hollywood Gossip, Low Line Caller; Inside Stage: Magically Delicious Smoking Skunk Monkey, Country Willie & the Cosmic Debris, Elvis, Dirty Hearts, Black & Tan/Orchid

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

Invisible Children Music Fest w/ Off With Their

Heads, the Bubbles, the Politics, Bright Light Social Hour, Frank Smith, Stella Rose, Built by Snow, Frontier Brothers, the Lemurs, Mohawk

Town Lake Animal Center Benefit w/ Kid on Holiday, Trains to Holland, Prayer for Animals, Facing Fiasco, Follow That Bird!, **Texas Union,**

Perros de Mayo, Blue Dog Rescue Benefit w/ Terri Hendrix, Lloyd Maines, Hilary York, Seela, Graham Wilkenson, Susan Gibson, Sally Allen, Porterdavis, the Ginger Man

Paul Holman Benefit w/ Odyssey, Foot Foot, Tumbleweed Racer, Pocket FishRmen, Pong, Cedar Fever, Scoot Inn & Bier Garten

KOOP Radio Fundraiser w/ L'Angelus, Larry Lange's Lonely Knights, Threadgill's World HQ

DATES

@CENTRAL PARK

FRIDAY MAY 2 **EPHRAIM OWENS**

SATURDAY MAY 3 "A TASTE OF LOUISIANA" L'ANGELUS 6-9PM **GULF COAST PLAYBOYS 12:30-3PM**

SUNDAY MAY 4 A.I.S.D MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ COMBO & BIG BAND CONCERT MANY SCHOOLS PERFORMING ALL DAY LONG

> FRIDAY MAY 9 **BOURREE TEXANE** CAILIN

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 6:30 - 9 PM SUNDAYS 12:30 - 3 PM

@WESTGATE

THURSDAY MAY 1 SHOTGUN PARTY VAUDEVILLE AMERICANA

SUNDAY MAY 4 **BOURREE TEXANE** CAJUN

WEDNESDAY MAY 7 TEXAS EASTSIDE KINGS

BLUES

THURSDAY MAY 8 JIMI LEE BAND

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 6:30 - 9 PM SUNDAYS 12:30 - 3 PM

AT NORTH LAMAR: SATURDAY, MAY 3
"A TASTE OF LOUISIANA"

Taste & Sample Cajun/Creole in the store by Louisiana Companies.
Cafe Specials prepared by Central Market's Cajun Executive Chef Larry Guilbeau. FROM LAFAYETTE, LA: MUSIC BY L'ANGELUS 6-9PM GULF COAST PLAYBOY 12:30-3PM SPONSORED BY THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Call 512-206-1000 for details

CENTRAL PARK

40th & North Lamar CAFÉ OPEN 7 AM - 9 PM SUNDAY - THURSDAY 7 AM - 10 PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY FREE MUSIC, GREAT FOOD, COVERED PATIO & KIDS PLAYSCAPE Call 512-899-4300 for details

WESTGATE

4477 South Lamar CAFÉ OPEN 7 AM - 9 AM SUNDAY - THURSDAY 7 AM - 10 PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY FREE MUSIC & GREAT FOOD

COMPLETE CALENDAR AT AUSTINLATINOMUSIC.COM

MAY 1ST

Latino Music Month Kick-Off & CD Release Party Featuring Joel GUZMAN & SARA FOX, VALLEJO RSVP to almamail@msn.com

MAY 2ND

TRAVIS COUNTY/CITY OF AUSTIN Cinco de Mayo Celebration Waterloo Park, 11 AM - 2 PM

MAY 3RD & 4TH

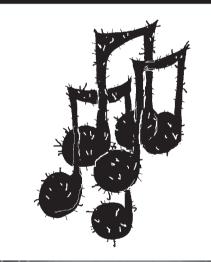
Over 10 Latino Acts at Old Pecan STREET FESTIVAL ON SIXTH STREET



МАУ 4ТН

104.3 FM & 107.7 FM CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION & EDUCATION FAIR AT TRAVIS COUNTY EXPO CENTER, NOON

Austin Conjunto Festival/Cinco DE MAYO CELEBRATION Fiesta Gardens, 4 PM



IS BROWN

Latino Music legends perform in AUSTIN'S LANDMARK MUSIC VENUES.

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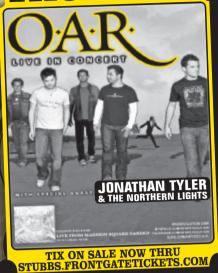
NORTEC COLLECTIVE PRESENTS GRUPO FANTASMA. VALLEJO MANEJA BETO. CHARANGA CAKEWALK GIRL IN A COMA, PISTOLERA MASTER BLASTER SOUND SYSTEM BOMBASTA, LA CONQUISTA, KANKO ANGEL FERRER, CARABELAS COLLECTIVE DJ MANNY, BOCA ABAJO, KALUA, EL TULE FRENETICA. BOCASTRIA. EDO. LOS GALLOS











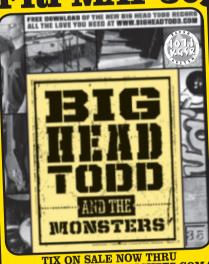




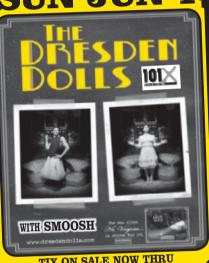




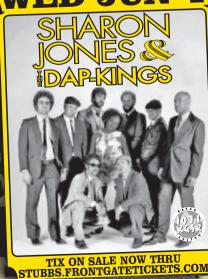


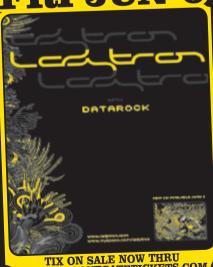


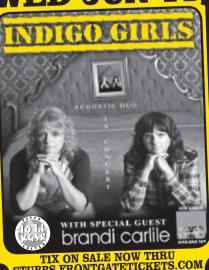
TIX ON SALE NOW THRU STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

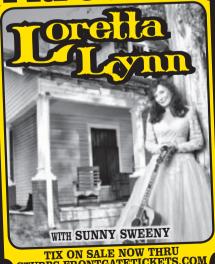


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Intimate House Concert with Trish Murphy

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8PM MAY 3RD

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GRANT MAZAK BAND 4-8 PM BOTTOM DOLLAR TUESDAY w/JORDAN MINOR BAND

KENT FINLAY'S SONGWRITERS CIRCLE

SU

TH BEN DANAHER BAND

DOCTOR G AND THE MUDCATS DUB MILLER & MATT SKINNER 5/12 CORB LUND 5/22 JOE ELY

WEST SIXTH STREET NEIGHBORHOOD LOUNGE

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY MAY 1ST

at 10 p.m.

MAY DAY SALUTE



AN A-STYLE LOUNGE EVENT

MIXES:

el john, selector

(of THIEVERY CORPORATION)

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club listings ∢ ∢ FROM THURSDAY

CHEATHAM STREET
WAREHOUSE Jeremy Miller

calendar → COMMUNITY → ARTS → FILM → MUSIC

..........

CONTINENTAL CLUB Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio; 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

COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)

DALLAS DJ Fabian, Salsa Lesson w/ Tony, Lise (7:30) **DETOUR BAR & GRILL** Sonny

DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws **EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Son Five **ELEPHANT ROOM** Rusty Trapps

& the Blue Lites w/ Ray McCarty, Ron Wilkins Quartet

ELYSIUM Awen, Limiter, Gabhar 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

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)

FRANK ERWIN CENTER Leeann Rimes, Kenny Chesney (7:30) FREDDIE'S PLACE Graham Wilkinson (6:00)

GIBSON GUITAR SHOWROOM Latino Music Month, CD Release w/ Joel Guzman & Sarah Fox, Vallejo (6:00)

GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Roy GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN

SALOON Billy Dee (9:00) GRUENE HALL Dale Watson (8:00) **GÜERO'S TACO BAR** Los Flames

w/ Ruben Ramos (6:00) HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan

HEADHUNTERS Chinga Bueno, Charlie Hurtin', the Schoolyards, Chinga Bueno, Charlie Hurtin' & the Hecklers HI-LO Trey Stapleton (10:30)

HILL'S CAFE Brent Allen (7:00) HOLE IN THE WALL Juan
Hitter, Twanguero CD Release,
Phoenix Down (9:00)
HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR

Room to Read Benefit w/ the Lennings (7:00)

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Doug Andrew (8:00) JOVITA'S The Cornell Hurd Band

LA PALAPA Steven Franks (7:00) LA ZONA ROSA Holy Fuck, M.I.A. LAGUNA GLORIA Amigos de las Américas Benefit w/ the Crying Monkeys (6:30) **LAMBERTS** Glover Tango (6:30), the Ruckus, Graham Wilkinson & the Underground Township

LATITUDE 30 Jordan Tanner

THE LOADING DOCK Open Mic

LONG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS Austin Symphony Orchestra Family Concert w/ the Biscuit Brothers (6:00)

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30) LOVE Ginger Leigh (7:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan &

the Bump Band, Mike Maven & the Good Life (6:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Ethan Durelle, Davey Knows, Dignan,

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00) **MOMO'S** Nathan Singleton's

Sideshow Tragedy, Phil Wiseman (10:00) MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN
Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Carport

Cassanovas THE OAKS Ebb & Flo, Rick

Dinsmore & Jocelyn Callard, the Love Band, Clepper George & Norm Ballinger (7:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Malford Milligan & Tim Dyer (10:00)

THE PARISH KVRX Space Prom Benefit w/ Reverse X-Ray, School Police, Record Breakers, Kevin Adickes (9:00)

THE PARLOR Twangzilla (9:00)
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Jim Stringer (8:00)
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,

TWANGUERO

BIG BEND

THURSDAY, MAY 1ST

KUT - 2pm

Hole in the Wall - 10pm

Juan Hitter

www.myspace.com/twanguero

& Phoenix Down

With special guests

Under the Gun

Revenge, Fear Control ROOM 710 Whore of Babylon, Bound, Sabbath Crow, Thunderosa

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

RUTA MAYA Meagan Tubb & Shady People, Aciable, Muse Oasis (7:00)

SAXON PUB Sons of the Revolution (6:00), Band of Heathens, George Devore, Chip Dolan (8:00)

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Fatman & Little Boy, Dave Insley's Careless Smokers, JWW & the Prospectors, Leo Rondeau, Dave Insley (9:00) SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/

Billy D.

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB &

GRILL Afrofreque SPEAKEASY Diasporic (9:30)

STUBB'S Outside: Jonathan Tyler & the Northern Lights, O.A.R.; Inside Later: 11-Fingered Charlie

T.C.'S LOUNGE Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's (10:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Jason

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ The Belleville Outfit (8:00) **THE TRIANGLE** Trey Haney (7:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Mark Jungers, Riley & Mama Wolf, John Vinyard, Boonesboro (6:00) VICTORY GRILL Word/Jazz Low

Stars (8:00) **Z'TEJAS** Kat's Meow (6:00)

Fri 02

ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR Mark Stuart ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR

Bocastria (3:30)

ABIA: WATERLOO RECORDS/
AUSTIN CITY LIMITS Craig

Marshall (1:00)

ANTONE'S White Denim, Tapes 'n

ARTZ RIB HOUSE George Enslé **B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Venson

BACKSTAGE STEAKHOUSE & GARDEN BAR Michael

Samuels (7:00)

BB ROVERS Dixie Beal & the Group W Bench (7:00) **BEERLAND** Dikes of Holland.

YellowFever, Daniel Francis Doyle, the Old Haunts, the Golden Boys

THE BELMONT The Busta'

Moovalators (9:00)
BESS BISTRO ON PECAN DJ

Mahealani (11:00)

BOAT HOUSE GRILL Hosea Hargrove (6:00)

BOTTICELLI'S About: Blank

BOUT TIME DJ Element **BROKEN SPOKE** The Cornell Hurd Band

CACTUS CAFE John Waite (7:30,



at The rlight

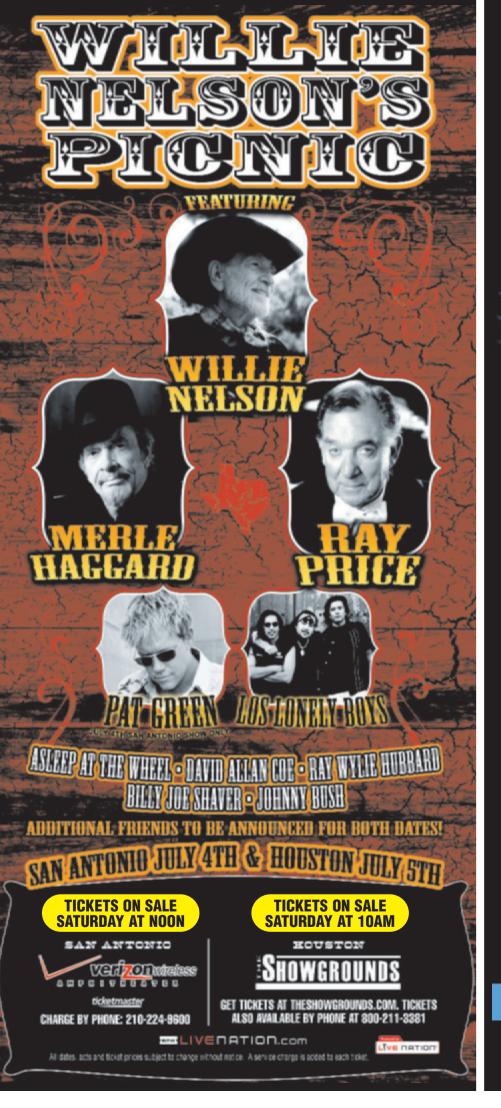


Saturday May 3rd TEDDY LONG Newsboyz

716'ers

All bands play from 7-10 pm, in our new covered Starlight overlooking beautiful Lake Travis Sunset this weekend is at 8:10 pm, so come early to get a great seat and a Perfect Margarita!

Come join us for dance lessons every Monday from 7-8pm! Cover is \$5 at the door, or free with proof of entrée purchase. 6550 Comanche Trail www.oasis-austin.com 512-266-2442







CAFE MUNDI Ear to Anon (7:00) THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Mad

Cowboys (9:00)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Ephraim Owens (6:3

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE

CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR David Nathan, Eddy Highway

CLUB DE VILLE Alexander's Dark Band, Mt. Righteous, the Unbearables, the Boxing Lesson

CONTINENTAL CLUB Eleven Hundred Springs, Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes (10:00) COTON CLUB Johnny Lyon

DETOUR BAR & GRILL Victoria & the Zeda 5

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the

DRY CREEK SALOON Damon Bramblett (8:00) EL JACALITO Ritmo Tejano w/

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Oliver

ELEPHANT ROOM Tony Airoldi & the Lounge Gypsies, the Brew (6:00)

ELYSIUM Opulent, Lust Murder Box, Ex-Voto **EMO'S** Outside: DJ Rare Groove,

Abstract Rude, Atmosphere (10:00); Lounge Early: Paul Green School of Rock Music (7:00); Lounge Later: In Situ Sound; the Shake 'Em Ups; She, Sir; Ghost of the Russian Empire CD Release; Inside: Silky Shoemaker: Fiction: Amy Annelle; Hello, Lovers (10:00) **EVANGELINE CAFE** Mike Barfield.

Horton Brothers (10:00)

FAJITA WAREHOUSE Blue Mist

FLAMINGO CANTINA Inner

FRANK ERWIN CENTER Maze w/

Frankie Beverly (8:00)
FREDDIE'S PLACE Chad Tracy

FURR'S FAMILY DINING Carlton Lombard (6:00) GIDDY UPS Will Knaak

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Brennen Leigh (9:00) GREEN MESQUITE BBQ &

MORE Will T. Massey (7:00) **GRUENE HALL** The Gourds

GÜERO'S TACO BAR LeRoi

HANOVER'S Bruce Smith, Brewer

HEADHUNTERS Barry
Whitesnake, Duke, Disfigured,
Method of Destruction (9:00)

HILL'S CAFE BILL Rice

HOLE IN THE WALL Code Named Code, Monuments, the Anchor, Radioland Murders (10:00)

HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR D.I. Bullet (6:00)

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA

Dreaming Aloud (9:00)

JOVITA'S Dan Raza, Shane Parker, American Gravevard (6:30) LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim

LAMBERTS Marshall Ford Swing

Band (6:30), Moonhangers, the Gunhands (10:30) LATITUDE 30 Tish Lancaster & the Mizzbehavin Band (9:00)

LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR

Ma Ferguson
LOUIE'S 106 Kenny Luna (6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Cellus & the Loose Grip (9:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SOUARE Gold

Teeth & Gucci, the Egress, Fever Dreams

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)

MOHAWK DJ Manolo Black, the Corto Maltese, Mice & Rifles, Maneia Beto

MOMO'S UT Ethnomusicology Department
MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN

Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00) **NUTTY BROWN CAFE** Dale

THE OAKS Buttercup 2000 (8:00) ONE 2 ONE BAR Goldcure (10:00)

ONE WORLD THEATRE John
Lennon Anthology Concert (7:00) THE OPERA HOUSE Gary Barftits,

PARAMOUNT THEATRE Leo Kottke (8:00)

THE PARLOR Davey Knows, Dignan, Mira Loma (9:00) PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Texana

THE PIER ON LAKE TRAVIS The

PLUSH Hump! Loft Party w/ Tego POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR &

GRILL Leo Rondeau, Bugs Henderson RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/

Robert Wagner (10:00) RED 7 The Skeletons, Pickled

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00) ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE Ya Yo,

Devola, Bound **ROMEO'S** Rob Greenfield ROOM 710 Doug Morrison, Straightfork, Drifter, Adrenaline Factor, New Disaster

RUTA MAYA Lost Pines, Wonderland Avenue, Good Luck Academy, the Mercers, Monster Girl (7:00) SÃO PAULO'S Three Jazz

Collective (7:30)

SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:00), The Resentments, Meagan Tubb (9:00)

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN

Karaoke Apocalypse (9:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB &

GRILL LC Rocks

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Dewayne

Davis (9:00)

SKI SHORES Amy & the Bullets

SPEAKEASY Detroit Steel (9:30)

STUBB'S Birds of Avalon, the Raconteurs TEXAS BAR & GRILL Li'l Steph

& the Chromatics
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Gurf

Morlix, Slaid Cleaves (9:00) TINIEST BAR IN TEXAS Han Ho

& the Rebellion (6:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Rabb Rodriguez y los Killa Hawgs, Prayer for Animals, Falcon Buddies, Silver

TROPHY'S Every Other Fate,

Fatback Circus, Mostly Dead

UNITED STATES ART
AUTHORITY The Gospel Truth,
Hacienda, the Strange Boys
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE
Hollywood Indians (7:00)

WATERLOO RECORDS

Atmosphere (signing only) (5:00)

ZILKER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Zilker Elementary Backyard Concert, Fundraiser w/ the Bobkats, Moving Blues, Robin Wiley, Joe McDermott, Matt the

Electrician, Jimmy LaFave (5:30)

Sat 03

ANTONE'S Latino Music Month Kickoff w/ Charanga Cakewalk, Del Castillo (9:00) ARTZ RIB HOUSE Buffalo Grass

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN Paula Held

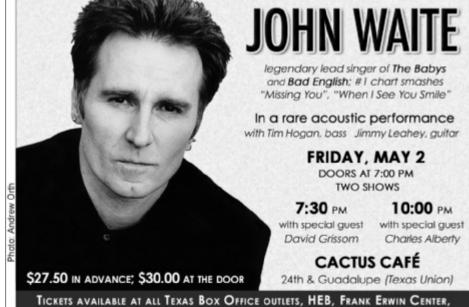
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Altar Boyz
BACKSTAGE STEAKHOUSE

& GARDEN BAR Michael Samuels (7:00) BB ROVERS Byrd & Street (9:00)

BEERLAND Teenage Bees, Flametrick Subs (10:00) THE BELMONT Bruce James

BLACK & TAN SIMS Benefit. Outside Stage: Reverse X-Ray, Rabbit Fist, Hollywood Gossip, Low Line Caller; Inside Stage: Magically Delicious Smoking Skunk Monkey, Country Willie & the Cosmic Debris, Elvis, Dirty Hearts (8:00)

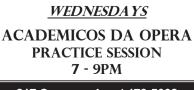
BOAT HOUSE GRILL Bo Porter **BOTTICELLI'S** Aimee Bobruk 'BOUT TIME DJ Element (9:00) **BROKEN SPOKE** Bruce Robison THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau



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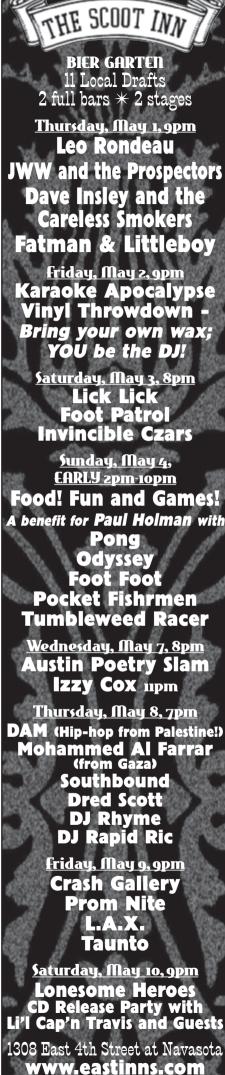




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club listings FROM SATURDAY

CACTUS CAFE Audrey Auld-Mezera w/ Andrew Hardin, Kevin Welch (8:30)

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Lennings, the Archibalds
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH

L'Angelus (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Jon Wolfe (9:30)

CLUB DE VILLE Raz Mesinai's Badawi, Meat Beat Manifesto
CONTINENTAL CLUB Redd

Volkaert (3:00), Eve & the Exiles, Two Hoots & a Holler

COTTON CLUB Dave Jorgenson

DELI WERKS George Gusman

DETOUR BAR & GRILL Stone

Free, Shelley Knight

DONN'S DEPOT Nash Hernandez **DOWNTOWN AUSTIN** Old Pecan

Street Festival w/ the Lemurs, Nelo. Loose Diamonds, the Boxing Lesson, Sunset, Two Hoots & a Holler, Grupo Fantasma, Jolly Garogers, Les & the Funk Mob, Ars Supernova, Awesome Cool Dudes, the Bill Jeffreys, Winchester Twin, Attack Formation (11:00am)

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Crash Bam Boom (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Tenor Madness w/ Paul White & Tony Campise (9:30)

EMO'S Outside: DI Rare Groove Abtract Rude, Atmosphere; Inside: Pink Nasty, the Blue Four; Lounge Early: Paul Green School of Rock Music (7:00); Lounge Later: Calm Blue Sea the Georgian Company, Peel, the Midgetmen CD Release; Inside:

END OF AN EAR Ghost of the Russian Empire CD Release (6:00)

EVANGELINE CAFE Sunset Valley

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Colin Gilmore (9:00)

FREDDIE'S PLACE Josh Allen & the Whiskey Boys (6:00) GIDDY UPS L.C. Parker, Weldon Henson

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Rodney Hayden (9:00)

GREEN MESQUITE BBQ & MORE Dear Henry, Marshall Jones & the Frontier Phrenologists (8:00)

GRUENE HALL Shawn Pittman (1:00), Charlie Robison (9:00) GÜERO'S TACO BAR Suzanne

HANOVER'S 3 Kisses, Motionside, Freebleeder, Bent Eye Bolt (8:30)

Smith (6:30)

HEADHUNTERS Devious Public Sore Losers, Reagan Era, Hit by a Car, Grinding Wheel HILL'S CAFE Wes Nickson

HOLE IN THE WALL Sober Daze Hotrod Hillbillies, Michale

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Chavcer (7:00)

JOVITA'S Myrna Cabello, Sister

Sister y Los Misters CD Release (7:00)

LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim **LOUIE'S 106** Mac Bynum (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Primm (9:00) LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Spank, Funkotron

MAGGIE MAE'S Rick Harvey's

Blues Jam (6:00)

MOHAWK Invisible Children

Music Fest w/ Off With Their

Heads, the Bubbles, the Politics, Bright Light Social Hour, Frank Smith, Stella Rose, Built by Snow, Frontier Brothers, the Lemurs (noon), The Balcony, Rosewood Thieves, Frank Smith (10:00)

MOMO'S lan Turner, Archer Avenue, Western Civilization, Fatback Circus, Josh Allen & Whiskey Boys (8:00)

MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (11:30am)

(11:30am)

NORTH BY NORTHWEST

RESTAURANT & BREWERY

Stephen Doster & Will Sexton
(6:30)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Funky Old

OILCAN HARRY'S Splash Day Dance Party w/ DJ LTD (10:00) THE PARLOR Deadly Companions, Pepperonis, Scrabble Robot (9:00)

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Jon

THE PIER ON LAKE TRAVIS

Sumner Erickson
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Poodie de Mayo w/

Jane Bond, Alan Haynes, the Gougers, Andrea Marie & Magnolia, the Jitterbug Vipers QUA BOTTLE LOUNGE DJ

Chicken George (9:00)

RABBIT'S LOUNGE Moving Blues RED FEZ LaVonne, DJ Kurv (8:00,

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby

Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)

ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE Kritickill, Van Wilks, Elixir

ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Kirk

ROOM 710 Marshall Dylan, Gentlemen's Social Club, Amplified Heat

Aaron Cuadra, Lies a Bloom, Bankrupt, the Borrowers, Jabberwalkie (6:00) SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER

RUTA MAYA Spooney CD Release,

Toneburst 7 w/ Rick Reed SAXON PUB Bugs Henderson, Van Wilks (8:00)

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Lick Lick, Foot Patrol, Invincible Czars (8:00)





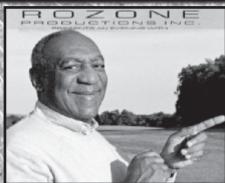






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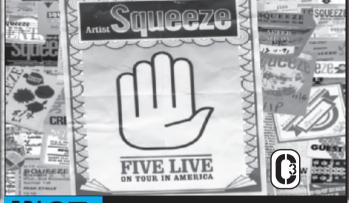


COMING SOON +++++++

6/02 X 13 X 31 ANNIVERSARY TOUR W/ DETROIT COBRAS 6/13 RANCID W/ LOWER CLASS BRATS & ILL SPENT YOUTH 9/17 NIGHTWISH W/ SONATA ARTICA



ON SALE FRIDAY AT 10AM



ON SALE SATURDAY AT 10AM



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John Trudell FOLK and his band Bad Dog UKE the Paula Nelson Band Herald and Mod



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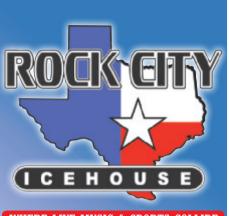
on sale now



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WHERE LIVE MUSIC & SPORTS COLLIDE

THURSDAY, MAY 1

Purple Room 9PM 8 Ball Down 10PM Unnamed Project for Revenge ^{11PM} TBA ^{Midnight}

FRIDAY, MAY 2

Grave Éden 9PM Blacklist 10PM YaYo IIPM Devola Midnight Bound 1AM

SATURDAY, MAY 3

The Big Naturals 9PM Kritikill 10PM Elixer 111PM Echos Orbit Room Midnight

SUNDAY, MAY 4 Ted Hall Blues

Church/Jam 8:30 pm-12:30am (Every Sunday)

MONDAY, MAY 5 Live Band Karaoke with the "Rock City Iceholes" 9PM-1AM

"If our singer sucks, it's because it's you!!!"

THURSDAY, MAY 8 Still Sic 9PM

Drifter (Iron Maiden Tribute) 10PM





Wild Side (Motley Crue Tribute) 11PM

FRIDAY, MAY 9

After Glow 9PM Love Hate Love 10PM Deejer 11PM Exit the Sun Midnight

SATURDAY, MAY 10

Spank 9PM Freight Train Troubedour ^{10PM}
Dork Star ^{11PM}
Mighty Org ^{Midnight}
Tody Castillo ^{1AM}

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@ CLUB DEVILLE

fri 5/09/08

5/9 DAVID DONDERO [HAWK] • 5/10 LANGHORNE SLIM [HAWK] • 5/10 SWEET & TENDER HOOLIGANS (MORISSEY/ SMITHS TRIBUTE ACT) [DEVILLE] 5/16 LIARS [RED 7] • 5/17 NASHVILLE PUSSY [RED 7] . 5/20 EFTERKLANG/ SLARAFFENLAND [HAWK] • 5/20 KATE WALSH [LAMBERTS] • 5/28 SUBTLE 5/30 GRUPO FANTASMA CD RELEASE [HAWK] • 5/31 RIVERBOAT GAMBLERS [RED 7] • 6/2 THE BELLRAYS [HAWK] 6/5 FRENCH KICKS • 6/6 HELIO SEQUENCE [HAWK] . 6/12 FROG EYES/ EVANGELICALS [DEVILLE] • 6/12 JOAN OF ARC [HAWK] • 6/14 BUSDRIVER [HAWK] • 6/15 EXTRA GOLDEN [DEVILLE] • 6/18 EEF BARZELAY (OF CLEM SNIDE) • 6/20 FAUN FABLES [HAWK] • 6/20 ACACIA STRAIN/ ALL SHALL PERISH [RED 7] . 6/21 DEVON WILLIAMS/ CRYPTACIZE [HAWK] . 6/27 FUCK YEAR TOUR: MATT AND KIM & MORE [HAWK] • 6/28 BORIS [HAWK] • 7/2 FLEET FOXES [HAWK] • 7/4 CASUALTIES [RED 7] • 7/6 KING KHAN AND THE SHRINES [HAWK] . 7/10 HARRY AND THE POTTERS [HAWK]

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB &

GRILL LC Rocks
SKI SHORES Bob Livingston

SPEAKEASY Rayvon (9:30) STUBB'S Birds of Avalon, the Raconteurs
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Jason

Marbach & Barbarosa

TEXAS STATE CAPITOL Outgrow
Big Bro w/ the Jitterbug Vipers
(1:00)

TEXAS UNION Town Lake Animal Center Benefit w/ Kid on Holiday, Trains to Holland, Prayer for Animals, Facing Fiasco, Follow That Bird! (8:00)

THREADGILL'S WORLD HO Alison Rogers, Willis Alan Ramsey (9:00)

TINIEST BAR IN TEXAS Danny Fast Fingers (7:00) TRIPLE CROWN Rootbug, Word

TRIUMPH CAFE Brian MacLeod

TROPHY'S Perfect Pants, Bloodshot Pyramid,

Blackholicus
UNITED STATES ART
AUTHORITY Luna Fest
W/ HipNautica, Supa Phat,
Beta Valentine, Nanosmash,
Crash Gallery, Single Frame

WHISKY BAR Ernest Gonzales,

Sun 04



ANTONE'S Bruce Smith (9:00) ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Swing

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Catfish Hunters (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tunes Session (8:00)

RR ROVERS Open Mic w/ Boomer Norman, Buster Gutbucket (7:00)

BEERLAND Robert Banta, Horse Operas, Mallory Valentine

BOTTICELLI'S The Graduate 'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Clayton

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CANVAS BAR & GALLERY
Service Industry Sunday
Funday w/ DJ Julio

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Ray Donnelly (2:00)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH

Battle of the Middle School & High School Bands (12:30)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Bourree Texane (12

CHEATHAM STREET
WAREHOUSE Grant Mazak

CONTINENTAL CLUB Heybale! w/ Red Volkaert & Earl Poole Ball (10:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00) DOLCE VITA GELATTO & ESPRESSO BAR Paul

(11:00am)

Sonnenberg (7:00) **DOWNTOWN AUSTIN** Pecan Street Festival w/ Boca Abajo, Foco Rojo, Venson Lee, Noise Revival Orchestra, Bourbon Revival Orchestra, Bourbon Legends, the Mediums, Rod Moag, Texas Sapphires, Moonhangers, Public Offenders, Appalachian String Band

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE

Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00) **ELEPHANT ROOM** About: Blank

ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice END OF AN EAR 7-Inch Stitch

FREDDIE'S PLACE Graham Wilkinson, Sarah Hughes (5:00)

FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam

THE GINGER MAN Perros de Mayo, Blue Dog Rescue Benefit w/ Terri Hendrix, Lloyd Maines, Hilary York, Seela, Graham Wilkinson, Susan Gibson, Sally Allen, Porterdavis

(1:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHURN
SALOON Dale Watson (4:00)
GREEN PASTURES Jacques
Vilmain (11:00am)
GRUENE HALL Audrey Auld w/
Andrew Hardin (12:30), Bugs
Henderson (8:00) GÜERO'S TACO BAR Tex Thomas

& the Danglin' Wranglers (3:00)

HEADHUNTERS Devo & the Dwarves, One-Minute Halo, Nova Kota

HICKORY STREET BAR &
GRILLE Danny Fast Fingers

HOLE IN THE WALL No Show Ponies, Shawn Nelson, Jane Bond (10:00)

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Kinktet (11:00am)

JOHNNY FINS Andrea Marie & Magnolia (2:00)

JOVITA'S St. Andrews Jazz Band,

Hot Vanilla, Dr. Beat & the Timekeepers, Front Porch Gypsies (2:00) LAMBERTS Ephraim Owens,

Brannen Temple, Red Young LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR

Ted Hall's Blues Church & Jam (8:30)

LONG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS Dell Hall: Cinco de Mayo w/ Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano (7:00)

LOVE Idgy Vaughn (5:00) LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE

MANUELS Paul Glasse

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers





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SABBATH CROW BOUND

WHORE OF BABYLON

NEW DISASTER ADRENALINE FACTOR STRAIGHT FORK

8 pm: Doug Morrison Turbolugend Vendetta's Party

AMPLIFIED HEAT **GENTLEMEN'S SOCIAL CLUB** MARSHALL DYLAN ROBERT ALLEN CALDWELL

> AFTER BOUT PARTY

& SOUL HEART SOUND SYSTEM

> OODPALM AUTONS

8pm: The invincible Czars

REAL BOOK FAKE BOOK RED LINE RIOT

UPCOMING SHOWS 5.8 Critical Assembly, Dirt Leg Barrio 5.9 Grand Champeon, Ripe 5.10 The Dunits, Grinding Wheels 5.14 Gorch Fock, Dumb, Seven Black Torrados



OTEP w/A New Revolution Eyes Set To Kill, Within Chaos

> Under The Gun, Expiration Unknown Hazard of Industry, Barbie + the Hookers

Fri Johnny Hootrock (CD release) Black Irish, Dragna, Trash Rockets itside: Klub Sin Pyscho First Friday w/ Pickled Punks, The Skeletons and DJ Destin

> Set Alfame, Cast Pattern Knives Exchanging Hands + more!

Bleed The Sky, Course of Ruin Rend, Negative 263, Sons of Oblivion

Sat

Wed

Vatos Locos, Flamin' Hellcats Rogers Porn Collection, Ese, Cobretti Micah Omega

101X Homegrown Live w/ Beyond Gods and Empires Demonio, Rise Thy Ruin





th 1 Mr. Lewis & the Funeral five, Two Hoots and a Holler, Skeletons, McMercy /family

Golden Boys, Old Haunts, Daniel Francis Doyle, Yellow Fever, Dikes of Holland

sa 3 Flametrick Subs, Teenage Bees

su 4 Atomic Honky Tonk Nite-Mallory Valentine, Horse Opera. **Bobert J. Banta**

BEERLAND'S LEGENDARY mo 5 **ROCK N ROLL KARAOKE!**

tu The Carrots, The Strange Boys, Follow That Bird, Bear Clas

we Ladyfingers, The Archibalds, Cellar Door, and more

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CHECK OUT A BAND YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE

5/1 THR: 19:30 THE SCHOOLYARDS, 11:30 CHARLIE HURTIN, 10:30 CHINGA BUENO, 10:95 KARAOKE & DJ (Patio) 5/1 THK: 19:30 THE SCHOOLYARDS, 11:30 CHARLE HURTIN, 10:30 CHINGA BUENO, 10:95 KARAOKE & DJ (Pabo)
5/2 FRI: 12 M.O.D.(METHOD OF DESTRUCTION), 11 DISFIGURED, 10 DUKE, 9 BARRY WHITESNAKE
5/3 SAT: WORKING CLASS CLOTHING SHOWCASE: 1 GRINDING WHEELS, 12 HIT BY CAR,
11 REAGEN ERA, 10 SORE LOSERS, 9 DEVIOUS PUBLIC
5/4 SUN: 12:30 NOVA KOTA, 11 ONE MINUTE HALO, 10 DEVO & THE DWARVES LIVE-DVD (Patio)
5/5 MON: OPEN MIC NIGHT~SIN \$2 WELLS \$2 DOMESTICS
5/6 TUE: 12 TATTOOED MILLIONARES, 11 SYBILLA (ITALY), 10 VOICE OF GLASS
5/7 WED: 12 DEVOUR THE WORLD, 11 BAZOOKA JILL, OPEN MIC (PATIO)

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THURSDAY MAY 1 FRIDAY-MAY 2

THE SCOTLAND YARDSALE THE SKINNY BLIND PETS

SUNDAY-MAY 4

ONE-EYED DOLL VEGAS WIDOW

JUST BUGGIN' the

GREEN SHOE POLISH WHISKEY TANGO

THE EVILDOERS

FRIDAY-MAY 9 SATURDAY-MAY 10

EMBER SLICKFIST

AXLE - WOLF

PANDEMIC BLACK TIE DYNASTY

05/16 - FOR SAKE OF THE RUINS, COBRETTI, THE HOMICIDES 05/17 - LUG, SCRAPS OF LIFE, VICE, BY A LONG SHOT

05/24 - DIVIDE THE DAY, DEEJER CO RELEASE PARTY 05/29 - GRAVEYARD BBQ

for private parties and info call: 512-474-1084

705 RED RIVER ST Thursday • May 1 SPECIAL EVEN

Awen 12:00 AM

www.myspace.com/awenmusic (Dallas, TX)

Gabhar 11:00 PM

Limiter 10:00 PM www.myspace.com/limiter

Friday • May 2 LIVE MUSIC

Ex-VoTo 12:00 AM www.myspace.com/exvotoband (N.O., LA)

Lust Murder Box 11:00 PM w.myspace.com/lustmurderbox

Opulent 10:00 PM

Saturday • May 3 HAVEN

goth, industrial, synthpop, & eurodance Haven with DJs Void & THE GOTHFATHER special guest DJ PROPHET

Sunday • May 4 REGRESSION

RETRO 80's RETRO 80'S RETRO 80' REGRESSION WITH DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

Tuesday • May 6 90'S NIGHT So Last Century... 90's Night

WITH DJs BOBA FETT & MINIMUS Wednesday May 7 MID WAVE

UNDERGROUND TETTO & OLD SCHOOL goth WITH DJS PUMPKIN SPICE & EDMINISTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thu, May 8 • Live! COLONY 5 w/ Head-Less & Before Dawn

tickets available now at Secret Oktober

Fri. May 9 • Live! Ram-Z, Happy Panjoma Dubnautica, In-Fin_It

Thu. May 15 . Live! The Last Humans, Automusik, Production Unit Zero

Fri. May 16 • the CURE TRIBUTE - Live. Rescue Mission, Seaholm Electric, Christian Hicks

21+ only • doors @ 9:30 PM unless specified more detailed information available at: www.clysiumonlinc.nct • (512) 478-2979 www.myspace.com/elysiumaustin



JESSE DAYTON 9PM DANCE LESSONS 8-9PM THU, MAY 1

FRI, MAY 2

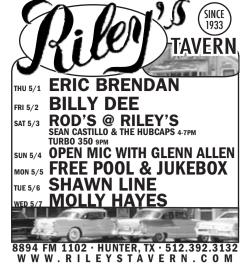
SAT, MAY 3

TUE, MAY 6

CORNELL HURD **BRUCE ROBISON**

HARDCORE COUNTRY W/ ALVIN CROW & JAMES M. WHITE

LUCKY TOMBLIN





THURSDAY, MAY 1

STEELE

SATURDAY, MAY 3

FRIDAY, MAY 2

MONDAY, MAY 5

S.I.N. JONATHAN TERRELL TERRACE 59 9:30PM

TUESDAY, MAY 6

S STOP STALLIONS 11PM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7 LATIN WEDNESDAY SALSA LESSONS 9PM

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(entrance in the alley) • speakeasyaustin.com **GIRARD DIVERSIFIED**



409 Colorado (Warehouse District)

MEXICAN AMERICAN CUITURAL **CENTER** Cinco de Mayo w/ Los Texas Wranglers (noon)

MOHAWK Brothers O'Hair

(10:00)
MOMO'S Marshall Ford Swing Band, the Belleville Outfit, Warren Hood & the Hoodlums

NUEVO LEÓN Mariachi

Relampago (1:00)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Ray McCarty, Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (8.00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz

(11:00am) **THE OAKS** The Shake 'Em Ups,
Mike & the Moonpies, Dustin
Welch, Brennen Leigh, the
Fundamentalists, Leo Rondeau,
JWW & the Prospectors, Rosie Flores, Shotgun Party, Steve James (noon)

THE OASIS The Brew
ONE 2 ONE BAR Funky Jazz Sunday w/ Greg Williams (10:00)

ONE WORLD THEATRE Tower of Power (6:00, 8:30)

THE PARLOR The Squirrels, the

THE PIER ON LAKE TRAVIS

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Nathan's Train Stage Jammers (3:00)

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00) RAIN ON 4TH Hedda Layne

(6:00)

RED FEZ DJ Kurupt (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen
ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield

RUTA MAYA Jungle Jill & the Jaybirds (10:30am), Monster Big Band (7:00)

SAXON PUB The Resentments,

Wicked Brew, the Salingers (7:00)

SCOOT INN & RIFR GARTEN

Paul Holman Benefit w/ Odyssey, Foot Foot, Tumbleweed Racer, Pocket FishRmen, Pong, Cedar Fever

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/

SKI SHORES Stephen Doster & Will Sexton (5:00) **STUBB'S** Brunch w/ the Bells of

Joy (11:00am)

THINGS CELTIC Celtic Song Session (2:30)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ

KOOP Radio Fundraiser w/ L'Angelus, Larry Lange & His Lonely Knights (4:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Jim's Country Jam (7:00)

Mon 05

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR

Cabo Bay (3:30) **ANTONE'S** Akina Adderley & the Vintage Playboys, Flyjack (8:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Rhinoroom del Norte

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Heard Showcase BEERLAND Karaoke w/ John

Chapman

THE BELMONT Cinco de Mayo w/
Cienfuegos (7:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Dr. Skoob

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Clayton

Adams

CACTUS CAFE Open Stage w/
Graham Weber & Abi Tapia
(7:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Underwater

Sleep Project (8:00)
CHEATHAM STREET **WAREHOUSE** Young Guns Song Swap (9:00)

CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO

Rich Demarco (6:30) CONTINENTAL CLUB Uptown Swingsters (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

EMO'S Colour Revolt, the Breeders (10:00)
EVANGELINE CAFE Charles

Thibodeaux (6:30) FIESTA GARDENS Conjunto

Festival w/ Los Texas Wranglers (4:00) FLAMINGO CANTINA Funktronica

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE T.

Jarrod Bonta (8:00) **GÜERO'S TACO BAR** Trio Indiano

HOLE IN THE WALL Bourbon Legends, Focus Group, Danny Malone, the Harlequins (9:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas
LATITUDE 30 Jordan Tanner

(9:00)

LOUIE'S 106 Red Young (6:30)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE

Robbie'S Open Mic (9:00)

MOMO'S Michael Dart, Latin at

Heart, Josh Grider, Nathan Singleton's Sideshow Tragedy, Dustin Welch, Jeremy Nail & the Incidents (5:00)

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS
John Wilson & Joley Flowers
MUGSHOTS Open Mic w/
Acoustic Odyssey (8:00)

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Ray McCarty, Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (8:00) PARAMOUNT THEATRE Guy

Clark, Joe Ely, John Hiatt & Lyle Lovett (8:00)

THE PARLOR Robert Ellis (9:00)



512-47-PARTY



myspace.com/hanoversbar



301 West Riverside Dr. World Headquarters **Allison Rogers** \$15 advance/\$15 door Gospel Brunch Gulf Coast Extravaganza! Larry Lange & The Lonely Knights, L'Angelus 05/04 All proceeds benefit KOOP Radio 4-00-8:00pm S10 Cover 05/05 Will Sexton, Joe Manuel, Floyd Domino, Marvin Dykhuis 🚅 Front Gate Sarah Jarosz | Benefit for Juvenile Diabetes Kvm Warner, Dennis Ludiker, Sarah Jarosz S15 advance/S15 door Starring Kevin Russell from the Gourds

\$5 Cover May 18 - Paul Thorn w/ Angela Strehli

Mav 23 - Fastball May 24 - Haves Carll May 31 - The Waybacks & The Dixie Bee-Liners!

www.threadgills.com



THURSDAY, MAY 1

INSIDE: THE BLACK

THE LONELY H (WA) • LOMITA • LEATHERBAG

LOUNGE: KITTY KITTY BANG BANG BURLESQUE SHOW

FRIDAY, MAY 2

NIGHTSI MAY 2 & MAY 3 ABSTRACT RUDE • DJ RARE GROOVE TICKETS ON SALE NOW

7-9PM: PAUL GREEN SCHOOL OF ROCK

LATER, IN THE LOUNGE:

GHOST OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE (CD RELEASE)

SHE. SIR • THE SHAKE EM UPS **IN SITU SOUND**

INSIDE: HELLO LOVERS (RECORD RELEASE) **AMY ANNELLE • FICTION • SILKY**

SATURDAY. MAY 3

OUNGE PAUL GREEN SCHOOL OF ROCK

ATER IN THE LOUNGE:

MIDGETMEN CD RELEASE PEEL • THE GEORGIAN COMPANY • CALM BLUE SEA TEAM FABRICATION DJ'S

INSIDE: THE BLUE FOUR

(FEATURING SOUND TEAM'S MATT OLIVER AND JORDAN JOHNS) **PINK NASTY**

MONDAY, MAY 5

OUTSIDE: 101× PRESENTS

THURSDAY, MAY 8

STINKING LIZAVETA - CANYON OF THE SKULL LOUNGE: THE NASTY RUMORS - MY EDUCATION THE PAPER SOUTH - WINE AND REVOLUTION

FRIDAY, MAY 9

INSIDE:



SATURDAY, MAY 10

INSIDE: HAUNTING OBOE MUSIC

RED LEAVES CD RELEASE **CRY BLOOD APACHE • MONSTER SLEEPS QUIET**

LOUNGE: THE BANNER YEAR
TUNGSTEN COIL • SHE CRAVES
FOREVER FALLS • THE VEHICLE REASON

SUNDAY, MAY 11

STRUNG OUT • AUTHORITY ZERO

INSIDE: CARNEY & THE BRAKES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

HOMEGROWN 101X: LOUNGE: NOISE REVIVAL ORCHESTRA STORY OF • FICTION

THURSDAY, MAY 15

INSIDE: CHAOS IN TEJASI 8PM SKIN (ENGLAND)

FAN (SWEDEN) **WORLD BURNS TO DEATH**

UNDER PRESSURE (CANADA) NO FUCKER • IRON AGE LOUNGE: MR. LEWIS AND THE FUNERAL FIVE

MR. AND MRS. MAYS . SINGLE FRAME . TBA

OUTSIDE: CHAOS IN TEJASI 8PM

& THE EXPLOSIVES • THE STRANGE BOYS **PINK REASON • AMPLIFIED HEAT**

FRIDAY, MAY 16

OUTSIDE: CHAOS IN TEJASI 7PM

LEATHERFACE • THE MARKED MEN STRAIGHT JACKET NATION (AUSTRALIA)

IRON LUNG • HATRED SURGE

BRAIN HANDLE • SACRED SHOCK LOUNGE: 7-9PM NATURAL EAR MUSIC SCHOOL LOUNGE: VISITORS • L.A.X. • YADIRA

BROWN • BLACKLISTED INDIVIDUALS DJ TAKO

INSIDE: HEROINE SHIEKS WE'LL GO MACHETE • CAMP X-RAY

SATURDAY, MAY 17

OUTSIDE: CHAOS IN TEJASI 7PM

CRUDE (JAPAN) • TRAGEDY • INMATES INVASION (SPAIN)•REPERCUSSIONS • DESKONOCIDOS INSIDE:

TURKS

QUADRAJETS **SPACE COOKIE**

MAGNET SCHOOL • THE CRASH THAT TOOK ME

ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT **emosaustin.com, Waterloo Records,**End of An Ear records, Trailer Space & Sound On Sound records

CHRONTOURAGE

Sunday May 4, 3pm **AUSTINWRANGLERS VSSOUTHGEORGIA**

YOUTH SPORTS DAY Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River www.uterwincenter.com



Monday May 5, 7pm

SPEEDRA CERCARTOONS CREENING!

Revisit the original cartoon before seeing the movie! Prizes, \$1 Select Draft Beers, \$2 Wells, \$3 Mach 5's United States Art Authority, 2906 Fruth St.

www.unitedstatesartauthority.com



Thursday May 8, 5-7pm

ONTHECHRONHAPPYHOUR

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www.buffalobilliards.com



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austinchronicle.com/chrontourage



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POODIF'S HILLTOP RAR &

RED FEZ DJ Jeff Jupiter (10:00) ROOM 710 Heart & Soul Sound System (8:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Breck's Stormy Open Blues Jam (8:30) SAXON PUB Monte Warden & Colin Byrd, Brewer Nation, Chris Hawkes

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB &

GRILL Brent Wood
SPEAKEASY Jonathan Terrell THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ

Lee Duffy, Will Sexton, Floyd Domino, Marvin Dykhuis (8:00) TRIPLE CROWN Gerry's Kids

Tue 06

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Sarah Temple (3:30)

ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, Malford Milligan (9.00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time

Fiddlers Jam (7:30)

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30) **BB ROVERS** Billy Eli's Jollyville

Hayride (7:30) **BEERLAND** The Carrots

THE BELMONT Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (7:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Hardcore

Country w/ Alvin Crow, James M. White

CACTUS CAFE Annoying Instrument Orchestra, Mundi

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Coffee

Sergeants, Burden of Proof CHAIN DRIVE Brash Boys, Jerry Signfeldz Atropheed Sac, My Fascist Pussy CHEATHAM STREET

WAREHOUSE Jordan Minor & the Bottom Dollar Band (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Planet Casper w/ Casper Rawls, David Grissom (6:30), Ephraim Owens, Frogleg (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE

Mark Goodwin Trio (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith
(6:00), Tony Campise (9:30)

ELYSIUM 90s Night w/ DJ Boba Fett. D.I. Minimus

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh, Kevin Gallaugher, Greg Anderson (6:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00) **GIDDY UPS** Space Heaters

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN

SALOON Jim Stringer (9:00) **GRUENE HALL** Bret Graham

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano

(6:30) **HANOVER'S** Kevin Havron &

Steven Franks (8:30) **HEADHUNTERS** Voice of Glass, Sybilla, Tattooed Millionaires HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Bill Rice

HOLE IN THE WALL Roger Wallace, Clyde & Clem's

Whiskey Business, the Bread

JOVITA'S Jodi Adair, Robert Banta, Horse Operas (6:00) **LAMBERTS** The Jitterbug Vipers

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30) LUCKY LOUNGE DJ Rapid Ric, Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Longfall

MOHAWK Paperwork, Secret Sideshow, Foxhole, Interstates MOMO'S Randy Weeks, Sally Allen, Bukka Allen, La Tampiquena, Carrie Elkin (6:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Fallen All-Stars Ady Hernandez (10:00) PARAMOUNT THEATRE Guy

Clark, Joe Ely, John Hiatt & Lyle Lovett (8:00)

THE PARLOR The Lovers,
Barebones Orchestra (9:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR &

GRILL Troubadillos
RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny

ROOM 710 Invincible Czars

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, Ricky Stein

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB &

GRILL Chris Cruz

SPEAKEASY Girl Fart, Bus Stop
Stallions (9:30)

STUBB'S Trevor Hall, Colbie

Caillat
TRIPLE CROWN Cody Richardson,

Doomsday Device

TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter
Showcase w/ Bill Davis, Sonny

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Will Dunlap (7:00)

Z'TEJAS Kris Kimura Quartet

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

Wed On

219 WEST Breezy (7:00) ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR Matt the Electrician (3:30)

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Mary Welch y los Curanderos

ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET Stephanie Fix (1:00)

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ Stars of the Lid

ANTONE'S Erin Jaimes, 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

AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe

Jazz Trio (8:00) **B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Hosea

BEERLAND Ladyfingers
THE BELMONT Matt Wilson

BOTTICELLI'S P.J. Herrington BROKEN SPOKE Lucky Tomblin CAFE MUNDI Luke Balencia

CANVAS BAR & GALLERY

11-Fingered Charlie CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Swingsters, Cool Blood Trio

CEDAR STREET Trent & Dave, the Spazmatics (6:00)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Texas

Eastside Kings (6:30)

CHAIN DRIVE Brash Boys, Jerry Signfeldz Atropheed Sac, My Fascist Pussy

CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO

CLUB DE VILLE Psychotropic w/ DJ Scorpio, DJ Whiplash, Big Black Smoke (9:00) THE COCKPIT CLUB Club

Inclusive w/ Julie Nolan, DJ Miah Love (9:00) CONTINENTAL CLUB Shelley

King Band (6:30), Dan Dyer, Grevhounds (10:00) COPA BAR & GRILL Seu Jacinto

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** Albert & Gage

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Leah Zeger (7:00) **ELEPHANT ROOM** Jazz Pharoahs

(6:00), Ephraim Owens Quartet (9:30)

ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice, DJ Edminister





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FRIDAY May 2 - 10:30 JIMI LEE & MR VENSON

SATURDAY May 3 - 10:30

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TUESDAY, 5/6 JODIADAR 6-7,80422 TUESDA RODORG BAMBA 0-2422

HORSID OPDRA 0 200-10 200-20 WEDNESDAY, 5/7 NO COVER

MANOS 8-8 ESTASSION BUES MAFE 0-1022





Mark Jungers 6pm Boonesboro, John Vinyard, Riley & Mama Wolf 9pm

Rabb Rodriguez y los Killa' Hogs 6pm Silver Pines, Falcon Buddies, Prayer For Animals 9pm

Sa 3 Word Association, Rootbug 10pm

Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly & Nate 8pm Su 4

Mo 5 Gerry's Kids 6pm Movie Night - No Cover!!! 9pm

Cody Richardson 6pm Doomsday Device 10pm

We 7 Scott Wood 6pm A Mind Divided, Maho 10pm

Th 8 Texas Saints 6pm Carlton Pride & ZION Reggae Music 9pm

Buck Jones & the Haggards 6pm The Murdocks, Mira Look, Gold Teeth & Gucci

Kallisti Gold, The Couch 10pm Sa 10





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6 PM Poetry Open Mic

9 PM Music Open Mic

8 PM Poetry Karaoke on Porch

CUBAN DANCE NIGHT FREE Salsa Lesson 7:30 PM Live Salsa 9 PM with CIENFUEGOS

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GEORGE DEVORE CHIP DOLAN 12:30 \$5 No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 with SONS OF THURSDAY MAY 1

MEAGAN TUBB 11:15 \$10

No Cover Happy Hour every Friday at 6:00 with FRIDAY MAY 2 The REGULARS





SUNDAY MAY 4

MONTE WARDEN COLIN BOYD 7:00 \$10

BREWER NATION CHRIS HAWKES

MONDAY MAY 5



TUESDAY MAY 6

MEAGAN TUBB & SHADY PEOPLE 10:00 \$5

MIKE MILLIGAN & THE ALTAR BOYZ 12:00 \$5

No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 with BO PORTER WEDNESDAY MAY 7

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MAY 10 - BELLEVILLE OUTFIT MAY 16 - OMAR & THE HOWLERS

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club listings FROM WEDNESDAY

EVANGELINE CAFE Cowboy

Johnson (6:00)

GIDDY UPS Open Blues Jam w/ JJ Slyde (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN

SALOON Roger Wallace (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Zach Walther & the Cronkites (6:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Los Flames HANOVER'S Open Mic w/

Carson Alexander
HEADHUNTERS Bazooka Jill,

Devour the World

HI-LO Open Mic w/ In the Rounds

HILL'S CAFE Back Porch Mary, Micky & the Motorcars **HOLE IN THE WALL** Jim Trainer, Tom Vandenavond, Aimee Bobruk, the Lonesome Heroes (9:00)

JOVITA'S MJ Torrance, Blues LA PALAPA Big Frank Gomez

LAMBERTS Erik Hokkanen & His Gypsy Tribe (6:30), Prince Klassen (10:30)

LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)

LOUIE'S 106 Red Young (6:30) LUCKY LOUNGE Alpha Rev

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem (9:00)

MAGGIE MAE'S Patrick Fleming

MEAN-EYED CAT The Drakes w/

Matt Giles (8:00)

MOHAWK Loxsly, Port O'Brien,
Someone Still Loves You Boris
Yeltsin

MOMO'S Sarah Hughes, Travis Damron, Sarah Sharp, Drew Smith, Nathan Hubble (5:00) MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy

NUNZIA'S AT THE Y Matt Giles

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Bruce Newman's Nutty Karaoke
ONE 2 ONE BAR 80H Project

THE PARLOR Silent Land Time Machine, the Tangle (9:00)
PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete

Benz (9:00)
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Doug

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR &

GRILL Open Mic w/ Fond Kiser

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30) ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D.

RUTA MAYA Salsa Lessons, SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER Baby Robots, Weird Weeds, Dead Science (8:30)

SAXON PUB Paula Nelson, Meagan Tubb, Mike Milligan & the Altar Boys (8:00)

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Austin Poetry Slam, Izzy Cox (8:00) SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUR & GRILL Radiostar
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Eve &

SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons, the

Brew (9:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Scott Wood, Maho, A Mind Divided
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE

Ptarmigan (7:00) Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster, Will Sexton & Bill Carter

<u>Thu</u> 08

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00) 311 CLUB Joe Valentine (8:30)
ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR Hudson Mueller

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Cienfuegos (3:30 ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE
ON SIXTH STREET Michael

Fracasso (1:00)

ANTONE'S Falcon Buddies, Lalaland, Model U.N., the Murdocks (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Paula Held AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 3 Balls of Fire (8:00) B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB

Stephanie Bradley **BEAUTY BAR** Ian Orth, Heist at

BEERLAND Blood Royale, Teeners, We March THE BELMONT Bruce James Soultet (8:00)

BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegal (7:00) **BOTTICELLI'S** Aaron Franz BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau CACTUS CAFE Slimfest w

Ranch Road 12, Gypsy Moon Mordecai Family Band, Yo Gadjo, Marshall Ford Swing Band, Gaila Kenneally, Leeann Atherton, Slim Richev (7:30) CAROUSEL LOUNGE Puff Puff

& the Receivers, Taco Leg, Graham Weber

CEDAR STREET Kent Mayhew, LC Rocks (6:00)

CHEATHAM STREET

WAREHOUSE Ben Danaher **CONTINENTAL CLUB** Mother

Truckers (6:30), Michael Hall, Jon Langford, Shinyribs (9:30) COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew

(8:00)**DETOUR BAR & GRILL** Andy

DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)

Mark Goodwin Irio (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Joe Cordi, Ron
Westray CD Release (6:00)

EMO'S Inside: Canyon of the
Skull, Stinking Lizaveta, Torche;
Outside: Wine & Revolution,
Nasty Rumors, My Education,
the Paper South

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)

FRIENDS Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites w/ Ray McCarty (7:30)

GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Roy GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (9:00) **GRUENE HALL** McKay Bros. (8:00) HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan

HEADHUNTERS Trian Woodburns, Superposition

HI-LO Trey Stapleton (10:30)

HILL'S CAFE BO Cox
HOLE IN THE WALL Graham
Weber, the Century, Ricky Stein,
Chris Brecht (9:00)

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Amanda Pearcy, Jana Pochop (8.00)

JOVITA'S The Cornell Hurd Band

LA PALAPA The Newz (7:00)

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, JJ Usher (6:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00)

MOHAWK Leatherbag CD MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN
Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)
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People Skills (6:30) THE OAKS The Love Band, Bill

THE PARLOR Shriner Threat, 20

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Weldon Henson (8:0

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Stop the Truck
RED 7 In the Company of Wolves,
Fire From the Gods, Homefront,
the Cabaret

RED FEZ Twilight Broadcast, Weekend Warm-Up (8:30)

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00) **ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE** Drifter,

SAXON PUB Sons of the Revolution (6:00), Rusty Wier, George Devore, Changos Blancos (8:00)

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN
Rapid Ric, DJ Rhyme, Dred
Scott, Southbound, Mohammed

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Penny & Kuato
SPEAKEASY The Finest Kind,

T.C.'S LOUNGE Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's (10:00)

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Loma, the Couch **Z'TEJAS** Acoustic Jungle (7:00)

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Will Dunlap WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 8PM

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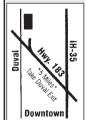
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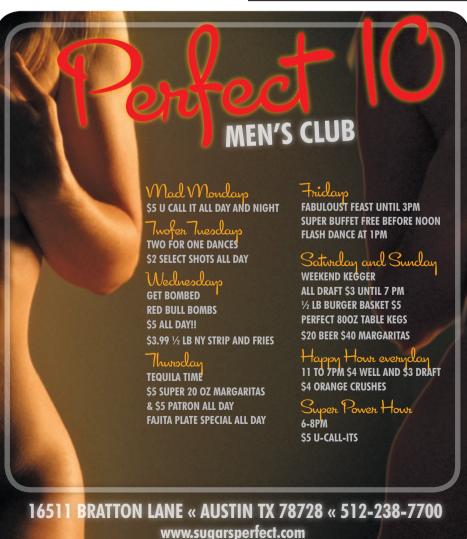
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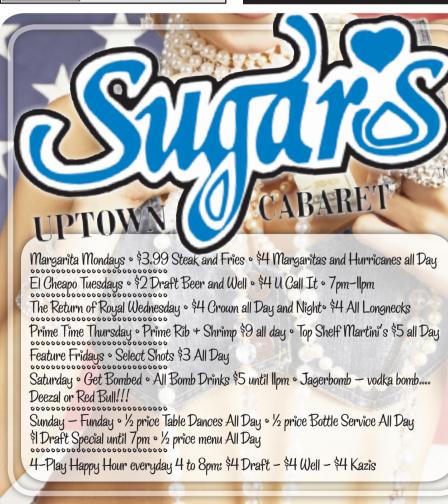
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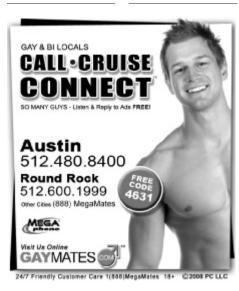
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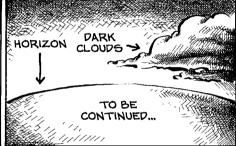




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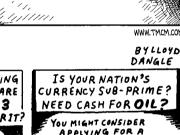




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TIMES AND YOU WILL SEE ALL DIFFERENT ANSWERS BUTMARLYS SAYS THIS IS BECAUSE THE MAGIC 8 BALL ALWAYS KNOWS WHEN YOU ARE MESSING WITH SEE? ITS MIND. (NO!) (IT'S JIVE MAN, ARNA SERIOUSLY . DON'T GET IT MAD AT YOU! QUIT

IT LIES AND YOU CAN PROVE IT BY

ASKING THE SAME QUESTION TEN

FREDDIE SAYS THE MAGIC 8-BALL KNOWS HE'S A FAG AND ALSO THE MAGIC 8-BALL LOVES FAGS AND FAGS LOVE THE MAGIC 8-BALL. I ASK THE BALL IF THIS IS TRUE. YES. FAGS PLUSTHE MAGIC T 8-BALL EQUALS TRUE LOVE.

NUH-UH!

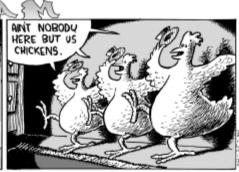


ALL IT IS IS A TOY. ALL IT IS IS PLASTIC AND BLUE WATER AND TRIANGE DICE WITH WORDS ON THEM, BREAK IT IN THE DRIVE WAY AND YOU'LL SEE, THERE IS NO WAY A PLASTIC TOY CAN KNOW IF YOUR MOM IS EVER COMING BACK.

IT!





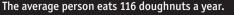




MR. SMARTY PANTS

Ben and Jerry learned how to make ice cream from a correspondence class from Penn State. The class cost \$5. Their first choice was to make bagels, but the equipment was too expensive.

Sweetwater, Texas, has the highest concentration of windmill farms in the United States.



Actor Patrick Macnee narrowly averted death while serving in the Royal Navy. On the one occasion he did not set sail on his ship owing to illness, the ship was blown out of the water.

> The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail mrpants@austinchronicle.com.



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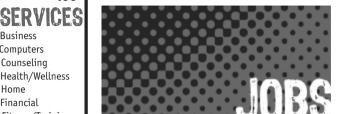
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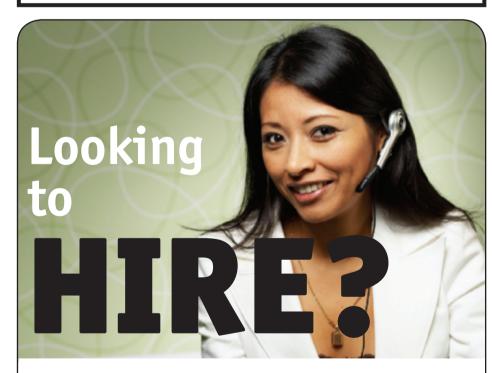
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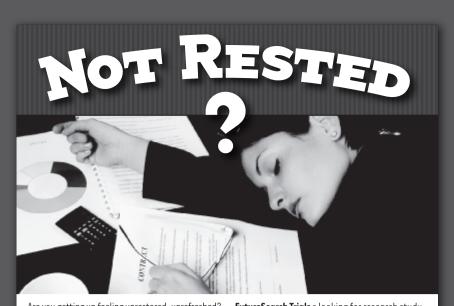


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FutureSearch Trials s looking for research study participants ages 18 to 64 whose sleep problems have resulted in significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning during the daytime for the last 3 months.



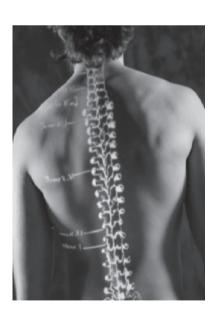
Are you losing your battle with chronic low back pain?

If you have chronic low back pain, you know what a struggle it can be to get through your daily activities.

Benchmark Research is conducting a clinical research study of an investigational medication for chronic low back pain.

In order to qualify for this study:

- You must be 18 years of age or older
- You must have had chronic low back pain for 3 months or longer
- Your chronic low back pain requires you to take medication to control your pain at least 4 days per week



Qualified participants will receive study-related exams, lab tests, and study-related care, at no cost to the participant.

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E.O.E

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To see if you or a loved one may qualify for this study, call Texas Diabetes & Endocrinology at 512-334-3505. TEXAS © DIABETES ENDOCRINOLOGY is provided. The answering question about personal including sexual have a history of may qualify. For more information

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In order to qualify for this study You must be 18 years of age

- or older
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 Your chronic low back pain requires you to take medication to control your pain at least 4 days per week

Qualified participants will receive study-related exams, lab tests, and study-related care at no cost to the participant.

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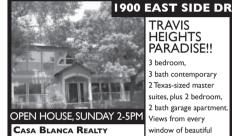
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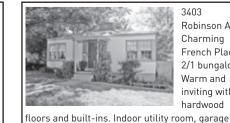
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CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF LARRY HAGERMAN, Deceased, No. 88553 in Probate Court Num-ber One of Travis County,

AUBREY LEON HAGERMAN and CHARLES BRADLEY BENNE alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the entitled estate, filed on the 21st day of April, 2008, an Application for Letters of Ad-ministration and Determina-tion of Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the heirs and only heirs of the said LARRY HAGERMAN, Deceased, and their respec tive 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 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 men tioned time and place by filing a written answer contest they desire to do so

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 22nd day of April, 2008.

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

DANA DEBEAUVOIR County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 149325. Austin, Texas 78714

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF KIMBER-LY ANN SHEETS, Deceased, No. 88496 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. TAMARA SHEETS alleged

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled es-tate, filed on the 21st day of APRIL, 2008, an Application to Determine Heirship and for Appointment of Independent Administrator and Issuance of Letters in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court deterine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said KIMBERLY ANN said KIMBERLY ANN SHEETS, Deceased, and their respective shares and inter-ests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the 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 All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN LINDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 21st day of April, 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-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 EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the MAY 12, 2008, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 345TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Travis County, Texas, on FEBRUARY 5, 2008, a default judgment may be taken judgment may be taken against you.

against you.
Said suit being number D-1GN-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 CLOUD ON TITLE TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY TO WRIT: Lot 1, ABRAHAMSON

SUBDIVISION, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 4, Page 252, Plat Records, Travis County, Texas.

ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, March 24, 2008.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA

Travis County District Clerk Travis County Courthouse 1000 Guadalupe P.O. Box 679003 (78767)

Austin, Texas 78701 By /s/ Iris Laryea, Deputy REQUESTED BY:

DOY FREITAG 15901 CENTRAL COMMERCE DRIVE SUITE 501 PFLUGERVILLE, TX 78660 FAX: (512)252-1517

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTER-ESTED IN THE ESTATE OF RODNEY JONES COOK, Deeased, No. 87764, in Pro bate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

BUSINESS PHONE:

(512)252-1515

DAVID RODNEY COOK alabove numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 21st day of April, 2008, an Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said RODNEY JONES COOK, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate

Said application will be heard 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 Courthouse in Travis County, Tex-

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 21st day of April, 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

COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON TO ALL PERSONS INTER-ESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ALVIN EARL MOEHRING, DECEASED, Cause No. 08-0225-CP4, in County Court at Law No. 4 of Williamson

County, Texas SHERYL STEGER, applicant, in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 28th day of April, 2008 an APPLICATION FOR LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMIN-ISTRATION AND FOR DE-TERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP of the said estate and re quests that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said AL-VIN EARL MOEHRING, DE-CEASED, and their respective shares and interest in

Said application will be heard Said application will be hear 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 Courthouse Annex in Georgetown, Williamson County, Texas.

Williamson County, lexas.
All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in George-town, Texas, this the 28th day of April, 2008. NANCY E. RISTER,

County Clerk Williamson County, Texas by /s/ Cindy E. Dawson Deputy

NO 88 428 ESTATE OF MARY WINANS, DECEASED IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. 1 OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Mary Winans, Deceased, were issued to Melissa Winans, whose residence and mailing and residence and mailing ad-dress is 1504 Weyford Drive, Austin, Texas 78757, on April

22, 2008, by the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, in Cause No. 88,428 which is still pending, and that the Executor now holds such Letters Testamentary. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the claims to Melissa Winans, c/ claims to Melissa Winans, c/ o Michele A. Mobley, DuBois, Bryant & Campbell, L.L.P., 700 Lavaca Street, Suite 1300, Austin, Texas 78701, within the time prescribed by

/s/ Michele A. Mobley DuBois, Bryant & Campbell, IIP

700 Lavaca Street, Suite 1300 Austin, Texas 78701 Dated: April 23, 2008

NOTICE Schroeder Con-struction Company, Ltd. is soliciting bids from MBE/WBE Subcontractors for the fol-lowing City of Austin Project: IFB 6100

IFB 6100
PWC0168 Williamson CreekBannockburn Storm Drain Improvements, Bid date 5-8-08
@ 10:00 AM. Areas of specialty: Trenching, Fencing,
Photo/Video, Asphalt Paving,
Erosion Control, Hauling,
Erosion Control, Hauling,
Erosion Concrete Pipe Suppliers, Concrete Vault supplier & Surveying Call Susan @ 512 219-6001

NOTICE Schroeder Con struction Company, Ltd. is soliciting bids from MBE/WBE Subcontractors for the fol-lowing City of Austin Project: Pioneer Crossing North Water and Wastewater Line Improvements, Bid date 5-15-08 @ 10:00 AM. Areas of specialty: Trenching, Fencing, Photo/Video, Asphalt Paving, Erosion Control, Hauling, Pipe Suppliers, Concrete Call Susan @ 512 219-6001

NOTICE Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the Norman Jones aka Norman Gaines, please contact DeVonna Pon-thieu, Attorney at Law, (225)791-5552

NOTICE NO. 88479 ESTATE OF JOE DELBERT BAKER, DECEASED

IN THE PROBATE COURT NUMBER ONE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS
HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF JOE DELBERT BAKER Notice is
hereby given that original
Letters of Testamentary for
the Estate of JOE DELBERT
BAKER were issued on the
22nd day of April, 2008 in
Cause No. 88479 pending in
the Probate Court #1 of Travis County, Texas to: JEANvis County, Texas to: JEAN-ETTE IRENE CUNNINGHAM

The residence of the Administrator is in Austin, Texas, and the mailing address is: JEANETTE IRENE CUN-NINGHAM BAKER

3909 Edgerock Dr.

Austin, Texas 78731

All persons having claims against this Estate which is against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

JEANETTE IRENE CUN-NINGHAM BAKER By: /s/ Jerry Frank Jones

Attorney State Bar No. 10913000

OF COUNSEL IKARD & GOLDEN, P.C. 400 W 15th St Suite 975 Austin, Texas 78701 Phone: (512) 476-2929 Fax: (512) 472-3669

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction if not claimed within 31 days.

A&A WRECKER AND RECOVERY, LLC 2963 MANOR ROAD AUSTIN,TX 78722 (512)670-7578

Garagekeener

1993 Chevrolet Blazer, 387ZAC OK, VIN# 1GNDT13W3P2175233

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

In accordance with the pro-visions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charg-

es for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an own-er's lien of the goods herein-after described and stored at the Uncle Bob's Self Storage locations listed below; And, due notice having been giv-en, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such no-tice for payment of such hav-ing expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following addresses to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 al-lowed. Cash Only.

Uncle Bob's #285 9717 US HWY 290 F Austin, TX 78724 512-278-1220 Tuesday, May 20, 2008 @ 9:00 AM

228 Evette Sutton: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools

510 Natasha McMurray: household goods, furniture, boxes, TVs, stereo equip-

540 Larry Phillis: household goods, furniture, boxes, TVs, stereo equipment

615 Barbara Burton: house-hold goods, furniture, boxes 627 Michael Hutchinson: ousehold goods, furniture,

709 Barbara Burton: house 709 Barbara Burton: house-hold goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, appliances, TVs, stereo equipment, office equipment, office machines, account records

2211 Julia Villarreal: furniture es. TVs. stereo equin 2226 Hazel Robinson: house-

hold goods, furniture, boxes 2230 Lawrence E. Sykes: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TVs, stereo equipment

2240 Ashley Canada: house hold goods, furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, TVs, stereo equipment

2244 Marnie H. Ortega: household goods, boxes 6644 Florentino Castillo: household goods, furniture, boxes, clothing

8818 William Anderson: fur niture, boxes, TVs, stereo eauip

Uncle Bob's #231 8227 North Lamar Austin, TX 78753 (512) 833-0855 Tuesday, May 20, 2008 @ 10:00 AM

7730 Alice Osborne: house-hold goods, boxes 9950 Amy Munn: household goods, furn., boxes, tools, tv or stereo equip.

1314 Matthew Sissac: boxes, household goods, furn., ap-pliances

964 Anthony Valentine: household goods, boxes, TV or stereo equip.

720 Veronica Camden: box-es, furniture, appliances, TV or stereo equip. 928 Stewart Marx: household

812 Birdsong Torrence A.:

Uncle Bob's #276 2830 South A.W. Grimes Blvd Round Rock, TX 78664 (512)310-0279 Tuesday, May 20, 2008 @ 11:00 AM

225 Daniel Long: household goods, furniture, boxes 2103 Linda Balderas: house

2208 Gretchen A. Jackson: boxes, clothes, furniture

2239 Deidra Jackson: house TV's or stereo equip., office 3415 Byron Thorn: household

goods, furniture, boxes 4111 Monique Alvarez:

household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip. 4404 Keisha Brooks: household goods, furniture, TV's or

stereo equip., account 5121 Dawn McDonald: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

5211 Dollie Reese: house-hold goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip.

hold goods, furniture, boxes 6309 Linna M. Perry: house-hold goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo

6313 Reynaldo Ledesma: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

6411 Carmen Garcia: house-hold goods, furniture, boxes,

7415 Jesse Edwards: house-hold goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, appli-ances, office equip., office machines, account records

8214 Ryan Deck: furniture 8228 Scott Brannon: furniture

8401 Ethel Dowdy: house-hold goods, boxes, TV's or stereo equip., dinette table, table

8417 Jennifer Marsh: house hold goods, furniture, boxes appliances, office equip., account records

9101 Amy Webster: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods

9309 Donnie Phillips: house-hold goods, furniture, boxes Uncle Bob's #197 5547 McNeil Dr.

401 Komica Brooks: household goods, furniture, boxes,

Austin, TX 78729

(512)336-8390 Tuesday, May 20, 2008 @

TV's or stereo equip., office 408 David Reynolds: house-hold goods, furniture, boxes

427 William T. Bailey III: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances 505 Lucie King: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, appliances

509 Shannon Lucio: house

hold goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, toys 1008 Laura Salinas: furniture, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

1208 Jason Burt: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, TV's or stereo equip., account records/ files

1210 Robert Smith: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

1214 Diana Butler: furniture, boxes, appliances 1722 Rebecca Batchelor:

household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip. Uncle Bob's #287 6509 South 1st Street Austin, TX (512) 326-9696

Tuesday, May 20, 2008 @ 1:30 pm 115 Juan Loyola: construction equipment

217 Augustine Gonzales: fur-niture, boxes

the COMMON LAW

The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney

FIFI BECOMES CUJO -**RESPONSIBILITY TO RENDER** AID OR STOP ATTACK?

A fairly developed body of law exists in Texas to address an owner's liability for a dog attack. Texas law generally follows the "every dog gets one bite" rule, which states that an owner will not be responsible for damages the dog causes unless the dog is dangerous and the owner knows of the dog's dangerous tendencies (see previous "Common Law" columns). But what if a friendly dog starts to attack another person? Does the dog owner have a legal obligation to render aid once an

Yes, according to a recent Texas Supreme Court opinion. In Bushnell v. Mott (opinion issued on March 28), the Texas Supreme Court considered whether "the owner of a dog not known to be vicious owes a duty to attempt to stop the dog from attacking a person after the attack has begun." In this case, Bushnell knocked on Mott's door in order to deliver products that Mott had purchased. When Mott opened the door, her three dogs pushed open the door and rushed out. The dogs attacked Bushnell, biting her multiple times on her legs, arms, back, and shoulder. Bushnell filed a lawsuit against Mott and claimed (in part) that Mott acted negligently by making no attempt to stop the attack after it began.

The court discussed the "every dog gets one bite" rule but also noted that an owner of a nonvicious dog can still be liable for harm due to "negligent handling" of the animal. Considering whether failing to do anything to stop an attack after it had started was "negligent handling," the court stated that an owner can be liable "if he sees his dog [or cat] about to attack a human being and does not exercise reasonable care to prevent it from doing so." In short, the Texas Supreme Court recognized what seems like common sense: Dog owners can be legally responsible for harm caused by their dog (even one that had never demonstrated aggressive behavior) if the owner fails to attempt to render aid once an attack begins.

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.

cak talk

by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

ARE HUBBY'S SNOW ANTICS DAMAGING CAR?

Dear Tom and Ray:

Even though we live in Virginia, where we rarely get more than a few inches of snow, on occasion we do get a big storm. We had a storm this past winter where we got 8 inches of the stuff. My husband and I have a long gravel driveway, and rather than shovel the whole thing, my hubby likes to take the car and run it up and down this 60-foot driveway to compact the snow. To do this requires getting a good run, as the driveway goes up a slight slope. My question is: Does it hurt the car when he gets stuck, revs the engine, and makes the tires spin? He will do this over and over again, spinning the tires for what I feel is an extended period of time. We have a new car, and I don't want him to ruin it! - Karin

TOM: Oh, Karin, I hate to tell you this, but he's probably having the time of his life. This is his version of PlayStation2. He's pretending he's a rally driver, trying to see how far he can make it up the driveway (to him, Pikes Peak). Sliding around and spinning the wheels are half the fun.

RAY: If he's spinning the wheels to the point where you can see smoke or smell burning rubber, then he certainly is shortening the life of the tires. He's probably not doing any other damage, though, unless he's revving the engine up near its red line or flinging up gravel and chipping the paint.

TOM: But here's a solution he may go for. Get him to buy a set of temporary chains. They attach to the driven wheels of the car, and they give you very good traction in the snow. He can even put them on the night before a storm and be ready to go the next morning. It won't be quite as challenging to make it up the driveway, but maybe he can pretend he's a superhero with magic powers ("Nothing can stop the snow-chained Harold!").

RAY: The chains aren't something you'd want to use on the plowed streets, because they'd be unsafe, noisy, uncomfortable, and they'd make your teeth chatter. So he'd take them off after clearing the driveway and toss them in the garage until next time. But for driving through actual snow, they're hard to beat.

Wait! Don't buy another car without the mechanic's checklist that's included in Tom and Ray's pamphlet "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." It will help you get a good used car and avoid the clunkers. 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



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goods, TV's or stereo equip 367 Angie Riojas: household goods, furniture, boxes, ap-pliances, TV's or stereo

3138 Kimberly Trippe: house-hold goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo

3234 Kayla Roberts: furniture, boxes

3247 Michele Washington: household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, TV's or stereo

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION

Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, pro-poses the approval of the fol-lowing traffic regulation:

SET MAXIMUM PRIMA FA-CIE SPEED LIMITS ON OLD KIMBRO ROAD IN PRE-CINCT ONE.

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposal action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be ad-

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

days of this notice

dressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources De-partment, Travis County, Tex-as, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7)

Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, pro-poses the approval of the fol-lowing traffic regulation:

IOWING TRAINC REQUIATION:
PLACE NO PARKING ADJACENT TO THE DRIVEWAYS ON CENTRAL COMMERCE CIRCLE AND EARL
BRADFORD COURT IN
PRECINCT TWO.

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, PO. Box 1748, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be 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 at 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

AV0515 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.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOL-LOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

MAY 15, 2008 @ 10:00 AM @ AUS-**TIN POLICE DEPT., 4308 TERRY-0** LANE, AUSTIN, TX 78745

1							
ı	085017841	1989	CADI	4DR	B24PDC	TX	1G6CD5158K4354131
ı	085019485	1983	PORS	2DR	108YJJ	TX	WP0AA0946DN458674
ı	085019494	1991	FORD	4DR	P11MZK	TX	1FACP50U7MA167275
ı	085019496	1995	BUIC	4DR	S42TZM	TX	1G4HP52L0SH432994
ı	085019537	1994	DODG	PK	29NFJ1	TX	1B7GL23X6RW116131
ı	085019540	1995	TOYT	4DR	932JHF	TX	4T1SK12E4SU489396
ı	085019542	1995	MAZD	4DR	V06CRB	TX	1YVGE22C4S5376588
ı	085019544	1993	CHEV	4DR	008YJM	TX	1G1LT53T6PY249141
ı	085019550	1984	OLDS	4DR	S83FDT	TX	1G3AY69Y6EX433233
ı	085019739	2004	V0LK	4DR	C810UL	FL	3VWRK69M84M065897
ı	085019740	1998	PLYM	4DR	VZL3915	NC	1B3EJ46X6WN298629
ı	085019745	1995	DODG	4DR	X26CXT	TX	1B3HD46T5SF658866
ı	085019747	1988	CHEV	PK	06GNX4	TX	2GCDC14K5J1248759
ı	085019749	1963	FORD	2DR	3MNN804	1CA	3H15U146504
ı	085020726	1991	HOND	4DR	021BBV	TX	1HGCB7653MA223217
ı	085020729	1994	MERC	4DR	934WLW	TX	1MEPM36X0RK660404
ı	085020735	1994	V0LV	4DR	W79MLV	TX	YV1LS552XR2126554
ı	085020738	1990	LEXS	4DR	Z43MFJ	TX	JT8UF11E1L0001175
ı	085020741	1976	DODG	МН	J86RDG	TX	B11C25JGC990137
ı	085020742	1993	FORD	PK	72PWY7	TX	1FTEX15N9PKB62672
ı	085021128	***	FORD	PK	*****	TX	******
ı	085021130	1994	HYUN	2DR	M91PBC	TX	KMHVE22N3RU197047
ı	085021132	1992	MAZD	4DR	608PLM	TX	JM1BG226XN0406148

Austin Location, Phone 512-977-9775. All units will be 977-9775. All units will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Clean up and removal deposit will be required. Sell-er reserves the right to reject any bid. Sales include items from the following tenant's storage spaces: #230 Corbitt Darrell: electrical wires, carpet, misc.; #402 Torres Floyd: boxes; #472 Gary L. Cook: miscellaneous; #2204 Masur Marshall: household items; #2222 Armando Garza: household items; #3302 za: household items; #3302 Julian Hernandez: household items; #509 Sugar Taylor: household furnishings; #2318 Sara Wilson: miscellaneous items: #6108 Donnie Watson salon items: #6418 Alan Ari zola: tools, and miscellane-ous items; #6503 Franklin Thompson: household items; #6701 Joseph Ramon: household items; #8809 Ofe-lia Benitez: household items; #6836 Amy Govea: tires, and household items; #6858 Don-ald Marshall: household items; #2320 Lee Pingry: household, misc. items zola: tools, and miscellane

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEAR-INGS Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Commission of Sunset Valley, Texas, will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, the 19th day of May, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. and the City Council of Sunset Valley Texas will hold a Public Hearing on Turgetay the lic Hearing on Tuesday the 20th day of May, 2008 at 6:30 at City Hall located at 3205 Jones Road, Sunset Valley, Texas to consider the following Land Development following Land Development Code Amendment:

An ordinance amending Sec-An ordinance amending Sec-tion of 2.509 of the City's Land Development Code Pro-viding Revised Regulations for alterations of a non-com-plying structure, establishing an effective date, providing for publication of notice of the amendment, and provid-ing for severance.

ing for severance.

All interested persons are invited to attend and participate in said hearing. Any person may submit testimony in person at such hearing or submit written comments filed with the City Secretary between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday prior to the hearing. All written comments must be received by 3:00 p.m., on or before Thursday, May 15, 2008. For further information, 2008. For further information. please contact Vanessa Shrauner at 512-892-1383. s/Trish Kabel

City Secretary

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code

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 highest bidder for cash. Deposit
for removal and clean up
may be temporarily required. for removal and clean up may be temporarily required. Seller reserves right to not accept any bid and to with-draw property from sale. Property in each space may be sold item-by-item, in batches, or by the space. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants, with brief description of contents in each space.

B027 Robert Klinger: clothes, dresser, mattress, PC moni-tor, boxes, misc. household B035 Patsy A. Hayes: tubs, tables, boxes, misc. house-hold items

B050: futon table chairs lamps, boxes, mattress, headboard, drafter's table B139 Kent Archer Risovi: ta ble, chairs, boxes, chest, al-bums, exercise bike

B172 Maria Teresa Martinez: boxes, tv, furniture, lamps C029 Darby Drew: Jaquar C225 Lydia Marie Ramos: boxes, PC

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, Stor-A-Way located at 309 South Bell, Cedar Park, Texas 78613, will hold a public auc-tion of property being sold to tion of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien.

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 tenants, with brief description of contents in each space. contents in each space. C011 James Vavra: mattress, sofa, TV, loveseat, clothes,

D006 Don Boyd: boxes

D007 Tim Kenner: boxes, chest, bookshelves D008 Don Boyd: TV, furniture, boxes, mattress

D213 Kerry Angell: clothes, boxes, table

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Pursuant to Chapter 59. Tex-Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, Texas Storage Park, which is located at 10013 Hwy, 620 N. Austin, TX 78726, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a land-lord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 am on May 27, 2008. Property will be sold to the Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash or

equivalent.

equivalent.

Daniel McGibbon: mini
fridge, microwave, 9" TV, window 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 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Due notice having been given to the owner of the property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment having expired the payment having expired, the property will be sold to the highest bidder on Saturday, May 10, 10:00 am at 15907 Windermere Drive, Pfluger ville, TX. Unit B-02 Anngelic M. Luna: household items, furniture; C-09 Linda Frazier 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 #15135.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOHN

ALLEN WATSON, SR., DE-CEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of John Allen Watson, Sr., deceased, were issued on April 24, 2008, in Cause No. 24, 2008, in Cause No. 88470 pending in the Travis County Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to Petreta J. Watson as Independent Executor. The residence of the Independent Executor is in Travis County, Texas. The post office address for claims is: Estate of John Allen Watson, Sr

Gilman & Clarke, P.C. 1411 West Avenue, Suite 100 Austin, TX 78701-1537

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 24, 2008 Gilman & Clarke, P.C. 1411 West Avenue, Suite 100 Austin, TX 78701

Attorneys for the Executor

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARY J. HITT, DECEASED NOTICE is given that Letters Testamentary in the Estate of MARY J. HITT, DECEASED, were granted to DAVID A. HITT on April 29, 2008, by Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, Cause No. 88,539.

All persons having claims against said estate must present same within the time prescribed by law, and before said estate is closed in

care of ATTORNEY RICHARD W. CHOTE, 3305 Northland Drive #500, Austin, Texas 78731

DAVID A HITT

Independent Executor Estate of MARY J. HITT, DE-

By: RICHARD W. CHOTE Attorney at Law

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM BROUSSARD, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that the original letters testamen tary for the estate of William L. Broussard, deceased were issued on April 23, 2008, in Cause No. 88460, 2008, in Cause No. 88460, which is being administered in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to John King Broussard as independent executor. All persons having claims against this extate are required to this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law in care of the independent executor's attorney at the following address:
Thomas O. Barton, McGinnis. Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 600 Congress Avenue, Suit 2100, Austin, Texas 78701.

April 7, 2008, Ian M. Ran-dolph, a/k/a Ian Randolph was issued letters testame was issued letters testamen-tary for the Estate of Richard L. Randolph, Deceased, in Cause No. 88325, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the independent executor is c/o Craig Hopper, 400 W. 15th St., Suite 408, Austin, 15th St., Suite 408, Austin, Texas 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On

lan M. Randolph, a/k/a lan Randolph, Independent Ex-ecutor of the Estate of Daniel Robert Spencer, Deceased

By: Craig Hopper, Attorney

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given tha original Letters Testament for the Estate of Sherrard

Joseph Hubbard, Jr., De-ceased, were issued on April 22, 2008, in Cause No. 87177, pending in the Pro-bate Court No. 1, TRAVIS County, Texas, to: Cathy Eileen Hubbard.

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

May Yia Yang Barnett & Associates, P.C. 5750 Balcones Drive. Suite 207

Austin, Texas 78731 DATED the 24th day of April,

/s/ May Yia Yang (State Bar No: 24058190)

5750 Balcones Drive Suite 207 Austin, Texas 78731

Telephone: (512) 336-1529 Facsimile: (512) 336-1550 Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentar for the Estate of Robert Joseph Bradbury, Deceased, were issued on April 15, 2008 in Cause No. 88426 pending in Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to Kathryn A. Cannon of 9904 Patrice Drive, Austin, Texas 78750.

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. All claims should be addressed in care of the Independent Executor's attorney, Kathryn A. Cannon of 9904. Patrice Drive. Austin. Texas Patrice Drive, Austin, Texas DATED this the 22nd day of

April, 2008. By: /s/ Kathryn A. Cannon

ATTORNEY FOR KATHRYN
A. CANNON, INDEPENDENT
EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE
OF ROBERT JOSEPH BRADBURY, DECEASED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
original Letters Testamentary
for the Estate of Joyce L
Hartmann, Deceased, were
issued on April 24, 2008, in
Cause No. 88,456, pending
in the Probate Court Number
One of Travis County, Texas,
to Cindi Magill.

Claims may be addressed in care of the representative, as follows: Cindi Magill,

Independent Executor P.O. Box 406

Webster, NC 28788

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 24th day of April,

/s/ John J. Mial ATTORNEY FOR THE REP-RESENTATIVE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given the the original Letters Testa-mentary for the Estate of

mentary for the Estate of Peggy Ann Flemming, Deceased, were issued on April 22, 2008, in Cause No. 88467, pending in Travis County Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to Richard Finley Flemming. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present the claims within the time and in the manner prescribed by law addressed in care of the repaddressed in care of the rep-resentative at 201 Plumbago Drive, Pflugerville, TX 78660. Dated the 28th day of April,

/s/ Vivian E. Ross-Bennett Attorney for the Independent Executor

State Bar No. 24049665 Telephone: (512)330-4099 Facsimile: (512)331-0872

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 obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Bidders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate, Payments may be made by check. The suc Bids should be submitted to: made by check. The suc-cessful bidder shall be required to furnish a Perfor mance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%)

PUBLIC NOTICE Description: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

awarded, if applicable

TO LICENSED AND QUALI-TO LICENSED AND QUALI-FIED WATER WELL CON-TRACTORS: Notice is here-by given that sealed propo-sals will be accepted by The Cypress Ranch Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 (the "District") for the drill-ing, construction, develop-ment and equipping of Cving, construction, development and equipping of Cypress Ranch Well No. 6. Proposals will be received at the office of C. Faulkner Engineering, L.P., 907 West 5th Street, Suite 250, Austin, Texas 78703 until 2:00 p.m. on May 23, 2008. AN OPTIONAL PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE

CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON May 14, 2008 @ 10:00 A.M. Proposals should be submitted to: Hank B. Smith, PE. C. Faulkner Engineering, L.P. at the address above. Proposal Documents can be obtained by contacting Joe Vickers, PG at 512/ 894-4424. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. The pricing, if appropriate. The successful respondent shall be required to furnish a Pay-ment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable

Any proposal for a total

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amount in excess of \$50,000.00 shall include a certified or cashier's check or a surety bond in the amount not less than 2% of the total amount of the proposal.

The District reserves the right to reject any and all propo sals, and further reserves the right to determine which proposal is most advantageous to the District.

TRAVIS COUNTY PUBLIC AUCTION: VEHI-CLE & EQUIPMENT PROP-ERTY

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2008; 10:00 AM TRAVIS COUNTY WARE-HOUSE

7811 BURLESON-MANOR ROAD, MANOR, TEXAS

•A VARIETY OF VEHICLES EQUIPMENT, AND OTHER VARIOUS ITEMS MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR BIDS.

•VIEWING OF ITEMS WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2008 AT 8:00 AM, UNTIL TIME OF AUCTION, UNTIL TIME OF AUCTION,
ALL ITEMS SOLD AS IS,
WHERE IS, BUYERS WILL BE
RESPONSIBLE FOR PROPERTY AS SOON AS DEAL IS
CONCLUDED. BUYERS
MUST REMOVE PROPERTY
BY 4:00 PM, ON THE DAY
OF THE AUCTION, ALL BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO
REGISTER PRIOR TO AUCTION, ALL PURCHASES
MUST BE SETTLED AT END
OF SALE, BUYER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REMOVAL OF PROPERTY
FROM AUCTION SIGHT.
TRAVIS COUNTY EMPLOYEES AND FAMILY ARE PER-EES AND FAMILY ARE PER-MITTED TO BID.

•FOR FURTHER INFORMA-TION CONTACT DAN ROL-LIE AT (512) 854-6459 OR RON DUBE AT (512) 854-

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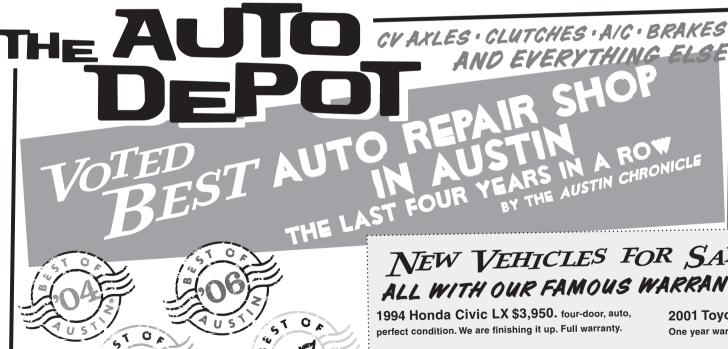
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I want satisfaction...a reason to purr.I want someone to push my buttons and my limits. I enjoy light bondage, costumes, high heels, and hate to be bored. Photos after contact. **Kit**tvCassie. 28. 101. #125358

WUNDERWOMAN

sexy, spicy, luscious, tempting tantilizing tarnishing bliss 24/7 but mostly all night long. bubble3bear, 24, 101, #125109

SENSUAL BUT TRADITIONAL

SWPF/50/het seeks SWPM interested in long-term 50s style relationship. Me: sub/bottom in the bedroom, profes sional career person by day. You: 45-55. Must have integrity, honesty, responsibility, nurturing, patience, dominant personality. poetess, 50, 101, #125102

JUST PEAKING

Wow didn't know this was out there.l am single and would love to meet my"match". Tend to be attracted to that tall mr. all american type but with a devil inside. bettyboo, 36, #124984

INTOXICATING SENSUAL SADIST

Live the fantasies you never thought possible with a brutally attractive Dominatrix. I have years of playtime experience and an incredible arsenal of toys. Are you my next willing pet? **DominaShannon**, 29, 1, #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 hook-up. Someone who is outgoing, an outdoor lover intelligent and maybe a bit of a nerd. rockett2222, 34, 101, #124473

MISS E

just wanted a \$150 gift card from FORBIDDEN FRUIT... Hopefully I get one... Other wise this profile is for fun. Lam from Austin but stay in Chicago now... mmcchr05, 23, 101, #124037

BRAZEN AND INSATIABLE

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

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, 101, #123509 **PUNK FREAKS**

Couple looking to play with bi-sexual men or couples. punkfreaks, 43, **101**, #125832

SBF seeking a discrete, mutually beneficial relationship with a generous, professional gentleman. Funtimes01, 29 #117862

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 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 identity and awareness of the world willing

to explore sensuality and sexuality. SymposiumLover, 21, #119431

IT'S PLAYTIME ROYS 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 | #119045

NAIVE LUST

Looking for an open-minded, intellectual, 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 vr 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, 2notv2bnice, 31, **3**, #114844

COUPLE SEEK WOMAN

we're looking for females only for a fmf. email us if you want to play! dinner, then a private place. woman on wife, then husband would jump in and help! dc angel21, 22, 101, #125959

VOIL AND US

Looking for a female to have a little casual fun w/ us. I'm bicurious, willing 2 learn and c what a girl has 2 offer. annie21, 21, 101, #125950

HORNY COUPLE

M and W couple looking for another woman to come in and play with us. luckysaint, 22, 101, #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, 0, #125831

YOUNGLONELYDISSAPOINTED

I love to play. I have no one to play with will you play with me? roseinwinter, 19. **6.** #**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, , #125643

FULL TIME LOVER

My husband and I are seeking one unmarried male for intimate fun. I want 2 men every night. Long term loving relationship. Age 53-68 only. spicey-couple46, 62, 101, #125582

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. saustincouple 44 10 #125567

CURIOUS COUPLE

Couple (female: 18, male: 22) seeking a female ages 18-22 to play with the female as male watches We just want to try something new and spontaneous. **youngandwilling**, 18,

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, 6, #125322

RI-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, 101, #125298

SEARCHING FOR PLAYMATE

Couple seeking (clean) female for friendship&play. Must aet to know first Bisexual experience a plus. Interested in threesome and girlongirl. Want to find someone we can comfortably be around. WakingLifeHunt, 23, 101, #125198

SWEET & INNOCENT.....

Attractive, easy-going couple, looking for someone to be our Pornstar! Meaning a down a*% girl up for whatever comes her way! Look forward to good times! mjo8a, 27, 101, #125133

LIGHT IS ON

We never preveracate. She's 34 and lovely. I'm 55 and not so lovely. A W/H women would have a fun time with us. We'd respect your space and boundries. aphroditecronus, 34, $\boldsymbol{\Xi}$,

6, #125033

SEEKING OTHER(S)

We're in our early twenties and in a serious relationship. Interested in seeing what is out there and having fun-Send a message. :). quixoteandlolita, 23, **6**, **#125004**

SHARE OUR BIRTHDAYS

We're a couple of old hippies who don't feel or act old.Butterfly very sensual and beautiful soul. Dog is into music. Looking for bi female for all night 3-some birthday celebration. Butterflyanddog, 50, 🏗, 🔼, #124509

HORNY HISPANIC CPL

Married Hisp. cpl seek adult encountrs. Mostly MFM, at times ply alone. She wants clean cut, endwd, Hisp. men 32yo>. Both 40, DDF, avg lks, 5'6", 190#, clean cut, endwd. **115536**, 47, #115536

FIRST TIME COUPLE

we are a couple in love but wanting to expand our sexual pleasures, this would be our first time but we are very open minded. We're in our 40's 080764, 43, 101, #124403

SEXYREDHEAD

I'm a bisexual female who is seeking a discreet playmate. strawblondy, 30, #125776

We are a committed middle-aged couple interested in experienting with like-minded individuals/couples to add spice to our hot lovemaking. If the words discreet, sensual, erotic, passionate, imaginative, fun interest you contact us. garf5848, 48, 10, #123217

GIRL TO KISS

I'm looking for a pretty girl to kiss, and help me make a fantasy come true for my husband. He wants a kissing video of me and another woman. angiezz, 46, 101, #125645

WANT TO EXPERIMENT

I am a closeted bi-sexual woman, who would like to experiment with this side. Looking to fulfil my lovers fantasy. willfullilgirl, 34, #124987

ENTIRELY TOO CURIOUS

I'm relatively adventurous, but looking to try things I haven't yet; shy but not teach me something about me i didn't know. I'm an excellent student. Slinx,

19, **6**, #124957 **SURFER GIRL**

Looking for other hot girls to play with.

OceanGirl. 30. 101. #124754

HELP!!!!!!

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 ..interested? GiGi69, 40,

☎ #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, **3**, **4121712**

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, 77, 101, #123872

SEXUAL ARTIST

Write if you want to know a well-rounded, intelligent, thoughtful, sexy man, I enjoy well-rounded hispanic, black and italian men. Low maintenance kind of guy. Casual encounters are fine cookster, 48, 72, 101, #121616

LETS DO IT

have tried almost everything looking to show someone something new or for someone to show me more. i have been involved in mfm, ffm, mfmf and have watched orgies. justfun, 33, 101, #125932

FRACK ME!!

I'm in to alot of things, just like to have a thrill do something new. i'm open to new experiences...get to know me. gemini062070, 37, 101, #125865

DARKSHARK

Looking for girls that love to push the law, streaking, flashing, ect... Something about it truns me on, email me, we could have some fun. Truth. truthandare55, 22, 101, #124927

▼ DG_ANGEL2i

COUPLE LOOKING FOR SEX

Play would include meeting up for dinner, then taking it to a private place. woman on wife, then husband would jump in and help! no freaks, just looking to blow some steam in the next few weeks.

austinchronicle.com/easystreet

read the rest of **DC_ANGEL21**'s profile or enter your own profile for FREE online at austinchronicle.com/easystreet

THE LUV DOC

B Scene • Fri., May 2, 6-11pm • The Blanton Museum of Art MLK & Congress • www.blantonmuseum.org

To say that Texans have a bit of a cultural chip on their shoulders is a gross understatement - sort of like saying there's not much fresh air in outer space or that the KKK is racially insensitive. The ugly truth is that the folks who settled Texas were pretty much riff-raff: Immigrants, opportunists, criminals, rubes, and other desperate types looking for the big score - sort of like Qua on a Saturday night. Sounds like a lot of fun, until you realize the shark tank dance floor is just chump bait for gold diggers and leased Lexus douche bags with nugget jewelry. Back in the day, of course, clubbing was an entirely different activity, and when people sported nuggets, it didn't mean they were frontin', it just meant they had poor hygiene. Most importantly, there wasn't a lot of high art going on, which is understandable. When you've spent the whole day busting sod in the Panhandle, chopping cedar in the Hill Country, or slogging through an East Texas swamp hunting nutria, it tends to put the kibosh on your artistic oeuvre. Though some would have you believe differently, art isn't a necessity; it's a luxury. Art is what you do when your stomach is full and you're not freezing to death or parched with thirst or trying to outrun a vicious mountain lion. Happily, all of that early industriousness and opportunism eventually paid off, and today Texans are able to buy all the art their hearts and tax accountants desire. Except ... most Texans wouldn't know what art was even if it smacked them in the head like an oak twoby-four (which might, in fact, be folk art if it was colorfully painted by a toothless, barefoot Appalachian illiterate). Furthermore, Texans generally don't care that they don't know art ... until they get some money or some edumacation or both. That's when things really get ugly, and the cultural pissing match begins. Just because ol' Jed became a billionaire without the advantage of a high school diploma doesn't mean he doesn't have culture. In fact, he's probably got bigger and better culture than any Art History major from Wellesley - and if he doesn't, he's willing to pay for it. Nobody outcultures a Texan, which goes a long way in explaining why Texas is blessed with some of the finest art museums in the nation. One of them, the Blanton, is right down on MLK. Not only is the Blanton the third largest museum in Texas, it's also the largest university art museum in the country - might have something to do with the fact that its genesis was a \$12 million gift from Houston "Endowment" Inc. Regardless, eat it, New York. Texas wins. We're crazy sick with culture. If you want to see for yourself, you can for 10 bucks this Friday, at the Blanton's monthly B Scene party. Not only can you check out the Blanton's wicked big art collection, you can nosh on complimentary hors d'oeuvres, drink "Blantinis," watch a sample theatrical piece from the Fuse Box Festival, and groove to the sound

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Funloving, shit-talking, dancing, and being outside are all hobbies of mine. I love a good debate...passion is hot. Smart girl, can hold my own. Try me, you'll love me. kelly525, 23, 101, #125969

MISTRESS IN DISTRESS

looking for a hero to save me from this economic depression. interesting, mysterious, polite, intellectual, philosopher, artist-writer/dancer, would like to enjoy your company and share your secrets. gypsycowboy, 24, 125966

MAKE ME SMILE?

Just a sugar sweet girl from Austin with nothing to lose, who happens to be a bit too busy and very burnt out on meeting people in bars, awonderinggirl, 29, 101, #125964

HAPPY NATURE GIRL

I'm a nature girl living in San Marcos. I make it out and about in Austin several times a week, &I enjoy live music, art, fine dining. Lets do something. Green-GirlJenny, 27, 61, #125949

I'm a little quirky and definitely nerdy. I love to laugh. Music makes it happen. A book, frisbee, beer, the park and me and my guy is the perfect day. bearhugs, 24, 101, #125885

MEOW!

looking for someone artistic and goofy. I like neighborhood dive bars with good music, and weird striking features like, big noses, lazy eyes, gaps-in-teeth etc. oh also robots and cats. meowrobot, 25. 75. IOI. #125880

...DREAMER

I seek success, and I am constantly trying to improve myself. I am passionate about my work. I am looking for a like-minded soul, someone witty and fun. km, 32, 🔯, #125864

JUST DATING

I'm here for dating, as simple as that Dating, a nice dinner, cup of coffee, me getting to know you & you me.maybe a second date, lets see how things go. whatdreamsmay-come, 32, 37, 151, #125862

FEISTY AFFECTIONATE MALEABLE

i love shoes, active and motivated guys, silly humor i don't like sticky price tags, feeling unappreciated, having people expect things from me based on my appearance, abd ads.

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, 61, #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 and grow with. **VictorianStar**, 34, **3**, 0 #125798

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 tive mainly) reading, movies, walking and just hanging out. **HNNYPOT**, 32, #125667

s ice cream better in the dark? k_now,

I am an intelligent, attractive, American

oman seeking an Indian man 27-40

for dating. I need a man who I can have

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 late

WELL I THINK AM WHAT EVERYMAN

WANTS. sarahwills, 22, 101, #125603

I'm quirky, fun and energetic. I live north of Austin. Therefore, I'd like someone

to show me around to the places they love & new places for me to experience.

I moved to Austin a couple years ago

and am still finding myself lost. I am independent, adventurous, and strong-

willed. I love sports, hiking, camping,

fee. SweetElle80, 28, 101, #125574

OTHER WORDS, FLY

pool, darts, photography, writing, &cof

I seem to appreciate free spirits that think

about the greater good and aren't afraid

to dream big and have the confidence

dscmbobulated, 30, 🕿, 🔼, #125566

to know things will work out for them

fight_the_eyes, 23, 101, #125599

trying teas, shrng music,. ccarmon, 22,

intelligent conversation, is compas-

sionate, and has traveled. Namaste,

I WAS WONDERING...

INDIAN MEN PLEASE

drishti, 25, 101, #125652

ELEGANT SARCASIM.

LADY SEEKING LOVE

33, **101**, **#125705**

#125633

KILLER LIPS

NOT TYPICAL

TALL. SARCASTIC. INTELLIGENT.

I love the outdoors. I love people. I love my dog Haylen. Niki6, 20, 10, #125555

MAKE ME DANCE

I love listening to music outside, getting coffee, and going to the creek. I believe in enjoying today. **iLove**, 23, **iCo.**, **#125507**

CARPE DIEM!

MANY MORE ADS ONLINE!

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SPONTANEOUS

☎, **101**, #125505

101, #125501

THRILL SEEKER

19. **6**. **#125474**

LOVES DOGS...

YOU SAW HEADLINE.

Veralynn, 24, 101, #125457

texascj, 33, 61, #125410

AWESOME SHAWTY

Laid back person,likes to

clown and act crazy @times

listen to music,love movies.Enjoy,

dominoes, cards, bowling, art, old school

joke alot. Meaningful conversations are

cars, motorcycles. Love to laugh and

great Judgemental people anger me. hiDdenDestiNee, 25, 10, #125228

You must be able to handle the fact

not a trashy chick. Tenacious_T, 19,

Let's hang out and eat icecream

SEEKING GOOD PERSON

that I have piercings (22) and am still a good person, and I have 3 tats, and am

GOOFEY, ANALYTICAL, DREAMER

wim, see movies, bowl, drink New

Castles, go to museums, road trip, talk

art and creation, laugh and figure out

how to change the world, FlyTree, 24,

I am loving, caring, romantic, kind and

honest person. I'm looking for a long term relations with the happy marriage.

want to share everything with my future

husband. babygirl4u, 25, 101, #125491

I'm a quirky kind of girl who is willing

pack and a single map to show me the

I really like the bulk section at central

I've climbed pyramids in Mexico city and I tap dance three times a week.

I am looking to find someone with

similar interests that wants to enjoy a

show or movie with me one night then

Barton Springs or the lake the next day.

market. and their cafe mexicano...

vay. I want some adventure. jewel101,

to travel the world with only a back-

Wakeboarder, dreamer, optimist, navigator, painter, dancer, music addict, rapper, entertainer, star gazer, comedienne, entrepreneur, listener, writer, conversationalist, chef, mexican food connoisseur. lover. MMA fan, photographer, health nut, designer, movie critic, animal lover, planner, storyteller, and much more. Looking for someone who knows who they are and what they want and isn't afraid of someone who does too FunInTheSun, 22, 101, #125511

SEEKING SOMETHING MORE

I already have a great life, but I'm ready for change. I'm ready to have fun,try

new things, laugh. I'm not looking for anything fleeting, I want the real deal.

LovelyGirl, 28, 101, #125149

EKING

22, recently got out of a relationship, just looking around. I'm smart, pretty, and have a sick and twisted sense of humor. iworshipthenoise, 22, 101, #126008

ANY TAKERS?

Just curious if there are any single, down-to-earth, attractice women out there that are looking for a great, all around guy? pooldawg, 23, 101, #125923

PLEASEREADMYONLINEAD **IWORKEDHARDONIT**

I would like to compliment all the beautiful, confident women who've posted ads. I think it takes a lot of nerve to be pro-active in searching for a soulmate/ partner/bone-buddy dhidharma23, 29, 6, #126005

FUNNY CREATIVE SPONTANEOUS

Someone who laughs at my jokes keeps up with me-thinks that sitting in a coffee shop making fun of the people next of us is a good date. FunnyPolack, 29, 101, #122191

FLF ROCXXX HARD

I'm an unusually "big" elf looking for love. American women really look down on me. I just want someone to orGarmey, 29, 101, #126000

MARXIST LENINIST TROTSKYIST I'm polyamorous which means I

believe in open relationships. I like political activism, film, salsa dancng, travel, online social networkin polyamorous, 42, **3**, **6**, **#125967**

FIRE IN WINTER

Me? I'm best known for my laid back person. I'm very motivated but like to space out at times. I guess I'm looking or someone adventure with. Suira, 28 #125956

FUNNY, LOYAL, CAMPASSIONATE

Good looking guy looking for a good looking girl to get to know. Very interested in a relationship soon, but friends are good too. Catch va later :) recently_moved, 22, 101, #125952

LOOKING 4FUN COMPANIONSHIP

Ron Paul supporter and nerd seeks like minded, college educated cutie to share bike rides, wii bowling and life in general. We have stable jobs with no motional baggage. southATXguy, 27,

LOVING INTELLIGENT GUY

Austin slacker/writer looking for a woman I can love, spoil. a experience fun times with. A hopeless romantic looking for a compatible-cutie. . . Loving_and_Intelligent_Guy, 30, 🕿, 🔼 #125928

FUN. OPENMINDED.KIND

l love life but have recently had very little time to enjoy it. That is going to change soon. I'm easy going, easy to get along with and easily entertained. osteoyen, 42, 101, #126002

NOTGURL NEXTDOOR

new at this. Jennacide, 22, 101, #125983 ONLY THREE WORDS?

dabbler in sports, writing, cooking, random acts of ridiculousness, skydiving is fun, but the rainbow cattle company scares the hell out of me. wiggleeyez, 23, 101, #125943

FREAK

I am looking for some one who is funny, respectful, honest, a freak in bed and over all that has time for me.l need some Mclovin', Amadora, 23, 101, #125940

CLASSYWANNABEROCKER

Average sized attractive, chill, smart, layed back, music loving femme seeking the same. I love trying new restaurants along with random concerts. Music is life, dreams are important. toomanydreams, 19, , #125888

AFECTIONATE......CARING.....

I'm looking for friends for now...and who knows what may happen...my ideal mate would be someone who takes pride in appearance...takes care of themself both mentally and physically Some one with the same characteristics as myself. AHDIA. 35. 101. #125849

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-LOVESKITTY, 23, 101, #125833

PINK IS GOOD

I love to live, laugh, love. My family are my 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,

#125823

PEACE. LOVE. HOPE.

I'm Jennifer :] I'm your semi-typical Austin girl who loves to go to shows,photography or just hang out at a local coffee shop. I'd like to meet a new girl-maybe you?? heart_of_mine, 19. **6.** #**125744**

BASICALLY AWESOME

I'm a student at UT. I'm very honest and I expect that in return. I like to have fun so talk to me and let me know what you're about! jkg589, 18,

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WAKING DREAMS

CREATE A PROFILE AND BROWSE MORE ADS ONLINE!

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Fun-loving fashionista wanting a laid-back and mature guy 20-30. I like coffee, karaoke, and the occasional friday night dancing. I'm sick of dreaming, can you live the dream with me? Sketchandsew, 22, 101, #125902

BE MINE.

I am looking for tall, dark (or light), and handsome for the limp-wrist set. beloved, 37, 101, #125648

Simple guy that struggles against sameness, dark hearts.looking for that guy in light, bright smile, young in heart, romantic, and belives in being a equal in a relationship A+ for slender, smooth! lets chat. aros1051, 39 4125820

SINGLE.

Im a really cool & funny guy to be around with. Like to have fun, and going out dancing. I have been single for 2 months. Want to meet someone. danyboy_09, 18, 101, #125684

WITH WOMEN'S HEART.. like guvs who are sincere and honest!

lifemind, 27, , #125653 GAVROV CODY

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. macattac2003, 23, 101, #125639

QUALITY GUY

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

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, 37,

#125183

ATTRACTIVE HUNGER FORCE Sexy sophisticated male likes to have a good time, party, relax and enjoy

life. I'm hott in the kitchen and even hotter in other places. **hungerforce**, 24. **101. #125108** 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, 37, 50, #125037

My ideal day would consist of no plans, just freedom and a rad person to wonder about with. Hopefully it would involve some of the following: swimming, coffee, a nice meal, reading, lounging, a movie, museum, river, sunset, ice cream, sushi, no worries......

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awonderinggirl -

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friends

Look, I could go all day about how great I am, but the truth of the matter is Liust got through with tax season 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, 6, #125890

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.

I'M BORED

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,

6, #125727

COOL CHICK HERE!

I am delightful, you just dont even know! bonnalicious 2008. 22. 77. 101. #125723

I AM ME

Looking to find an interesting person that enjoys the same things that I do. Someone that is looking for love. I don't play games. A friendship first would be ideal. DayDreamer, 26, #125695

LAUGHING, EXPLORING, MUSIC L. YOU FAKE. Next time you meet

I like the sun, live music, laughing until I almost pee,& my kids. I'm new to Austin and looking for cool ass girls and maybe guys for friendship. **kdub**, 27, **61**, **#125662**

SEEKING FUN FRIENDS

I love 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,

6 #125583

GEEK CHIC

Just looking for someone who I can get along with. Will be moving to Austin soon, and I am looking to broaden my horizons. Geek_Sheek, 22, **101**, **#125504**

messages

DEAR AUSTIN; PLEASE HAVE a

one of my friends, keep your trap shut and pretend you never knew me. N

(S.F.A. BAR - High Noon) Stephen F. Austin Bar? Went there 3 Thursdays in April. Three Thursdays at High Noon (11:59 a.m.). I went to the wrong place baby. I miss you. Please e-mail me or lets try again. Dark Metal Rules Love Kenny

THANK HEAVEN FOR lesbian

burlesque and wild women who don't worry, they don't get the blues! See you baby, under the next full moon. Liebst du Bettina.

L. ELIZABETH SURFER varga,u r

LIFE IS TO short not to spend it with

a Shot in the Dark

BUFF PERSONAL TRAINER

you and your boyish looks look great with those X's. Wanna work out? **When:** Saturday, April 26. Where: Gold's Gym. You: Man. Me: Man. #902935

HOTTIE AT TOWNLAKE

You super cute in a hat running. Me walking with my best friend and my tiny dog. guess Liust wanted to say hello. When: Monday, April 21. Where: Townlake. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902934

BARTENDER AT MOMO'S

eye contact when you passed me my shiner you pretty face, many tattoos lip ring, great posture. me tall short dark hair skinny fumbling for a tip When: Saturday, April 19. Where: momo's. You: Woman, Me: Man, 27 #902933

SECOND SHOT @JO'S

I was checking you out checking me out! Love to mingle our puppies sometime soon! PS I tried to email you at work 3-15. When: Saturday, March 15. Where: Jo's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902932

ALYSSA/MELISSA ????

We talk rarely I didn't quite catch your name when you gave it. You live below me on Wm Cannon. You're a single mom of one active little boy. When: Sunday, April 27. Where: Wm Can non, You: Woman, Me: Man, #902931

BEAUTY @ EEYORE'S

You: Cute girl with brown/white pitt-bull puppy You said you use to be an electrician I said I use to be a mechanic puppy play-date @ town lake dog park? When: Saturday, April 26. Where: Eeyore's Birthday; twice. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902930

DANCING AT ELYSIUM

We were dancing to Voltaire at Elysium, you: beautiful Native girl w/ dazzling smile, me: mohawked cherokee in a kilt. Get together for a beer and flask whisky some time? When: Friday, April 25. Where: Voltaire show. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902929

SEXY STARBUCKS SIREN

YOU: tall drink of coffee, workin' on 6th. Your feet tats are sexy! Will you let me kiss them, and work my way up? In the morning...I'LL make the coffee. When: Saturday, April 26, Where: Starbucks on 6th. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902928

THE BIG STORE

I don't know what to say,I'm sure it won't make no difference anyway,I'm store, looking for the girl who never calls, I'm sure she knows... When: Sunday, April 27. Where: Austin. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902927

I borrowed a lighter from you at Uncle Bob's on Barton Springs. You were sitting on a barstool outside. I returned the lighter, we exchanged glances. Where did you go? When: Tuesday, April 22. Where: Uncle Bob's Beer and Que You: Man. Me: Woman. 🏗 #902926

THURSDAY NIGHT BOOKSTORE

Cute cashier with blue shirt and dark hair, I thought your \$200 Syd Barrett record was only \$20. I'm really not that much of a goober (or maybe I am?). When: Thursday, April 24. Where: Half Price Books. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902924

BEAUTY BAR

You: tall, work at BeautyBar. Me: curly red hair. My friend & I danced in parking lot when you talked with Mark Mallman. Got tongue-tied ordering a drink from you. When: Monday, April 14. Where: Beauty Bar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902923

NURSING HOME HOTTIE

You, slim blonde in your bodacious scrubs. You were smoking a cigarette on the patio, camels I believe they were. Maybe someday you can give me a sponge bath. **When: Wednesday.** April 23. Where: Nursing home. You: Woman, Me: Man, #902921

PARKING GARAGE GIRL

We've been using the same parking garage for almost a year now. I almost never get an opportunity to strike up a conversation. You're the foxiest girl in Austin. When: Wednesday, April 23. Where: Downtown. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902920

BEAUTIFUL SMILE

Woodrow's 6th. You-brown sunglasses, khaki pants, light top sitting with bicycling buddies. Me-mirrored sunglasses, jeans and t-shirt. Couldn't tell if you were looking my way, but couldn't take my eyes off you.Pedal together? When: Sunday, April 20. Where: Woodrow's on 6th. You: Woman. Me: Man. 27 #902919

DOMAIN APPLE STORE

2pm, Genius Bar. My ipod was fried, stopped caring when I met your blue eyes. You: short hair, helping the woman next to me. Me: blonde in the purple dress. When: Tuesday, April 22. Where: Domain Apple Store. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902918

CHASE UTLEY JERSEY

You were wearing a Chase Utley t-shirt jogging at town lake on tuesday evening-l'm not a phillies fan but wouldn't mind grabbing a drink sometime. When: Tuesday, April 22. Where: Water Station Town Lake You: Woman. Me: Man. #902917

OSMF RALPH STANLEY

Was moving closer to you when a scary woman came between us! You: Thin, blonde ponytail, nose stud, hat, great smile. Me: Thin, red sunglasses, hat, white Beer Knurd t-shirt. When: Saturday, April 19. Where: Old Settler's Music Festival. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902916

HI-LIGHTER SKIRT (TOM'S)

Me: hi-lighter vellow skirt, blue and white striped shirt, recycling bottles at tom's taboolev... You: arriving with sunglasses, brown hair, jeans and t-shirt. Meet me for a Falafel? When: Tuesday, April 22. Where: Tom's Tabloolev.

. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902915 MAYRE MOTION SUGGESTS

Malkmus, La Zona Rosa. You: Plaid Me: Flannel I stole your spot. You gave me drinks. I questioned, 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: Reggae Fest center stage. You: Woman. Me: Man. 77 #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 your devil may care smile, i tried to say hi, but damn, you left me speechless. emme try again, ok cutie? When: Thursday, April 17. Where: Brack You: Woman. Me: Man. & #902906

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

RLACK4RUNNER 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 light. When: Friday, April 11. Where: 360 & Lost Creek Area. You: Man. Me: Woman, #902904

BUDDY GUY FRIDAY

You: short, lean, shaved head, long-sleeved dark shirt, CUTE. "I'm protecting you from the cigar smoke." Me: short blonde hair, jeans, burgundy, sleeveless, STUPIDLY 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 you wouldn't have left so soon. I should have introduced myself. Drinks? When: Friday, April 18. Where: Art Palace. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902902

BEAUTIFULYOU@HULAHUT 4/18

aw 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

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

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Brezsny for May 3 - May 9

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Have you ever been filled with a terrible yearning to Do you know what it's like to be racked with a ferocious hunger to change your life? Speaking from experience, I know that such a state can sometimes feel heavy and dark. But I'm here to tell you that it can also be a tremendous asset. The key to transforming it into a gift, ironically, is to see it as a gift. So your assignment, Taurus, is to interpret your ache for transformation as a potent blessing. To do so will give you the power to perform magic you can't even imagine yet.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Ariel was going through a hard time. She'd been weaning herself from a painkiller she'd taken while recovering from surgery. Her cat ran away, and there was a misunderstanding at work. One night while at a nightclub with her friend Leila, she spied her ex-boyfriend kissing some woman. Meltdown ensured. Ariel fled the club and ran sobbing into the street, where she hurled her shoes on top of a passing bus. Leila retrieved her and sat her down on a bench, "Because up until now you've displayed such exemplary grace in the face of chaos," Leila said, "I'm giving you a free crazy pass. It gives you a karma-free license to temporarily lose your mind." This compassionate humor helped Ariel feel more composed. The rest of the night she partied beautifully, achieving major relief and release without hurting herself. Now, Gemini, in accordance with the omens, I'm awarding you, too,

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): It's finally the right time for you to hear a piece of advice you weren't ready for before. If I had told you this any earlier, you would have at best misinterpreted it and at worst had no idea what I was talking about. But in recent weeks you've recovered a portion of your lost wildness, which means I can confidently reveal the following truth, courtesy of poet Charles Simic: "He who cannot howl will not find his pack.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): There's oil on Saturn's moon Titan! NASA reports that its craft Cassini found vast lakes of liquid hydrocarbons. There's enough, from what I can tell, to supply 40 generations of humans with enough fuel to go joyriding in 5-mile-a-gallon sport utility vehicles for a thousand years. In response to the revelation, militant patriots are already calling for the U.S. to invade and occupy Titan. In related news, I predict that a novel energy source will soon become available for your personal use, Leo. Luckily, it won't be nearly as hard to tap into as Titan's riches will be for the oil companies. It'll also be much better for the environment.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): "Whatcha gonna do with your freedom?" asks Lakshmi Devi on "Freedom," a song from her CD Raise a Holy Fire. Here's what she says she'll do with hers: "I choose to lose control in the presence of staggering beauty/I choose to be stripped of what is unreal." In my view, that's an epically brazen way to use one's freedom – right up there, in terms of radical moral zeal, with choosing to ease the suffering of everyone you encounter. With these examples to inspire you, Virgo, take some time to make an aggressive new formulation about how you'll use

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): "Partner needed for mission from God," read the classified ad I spied online. "I'm driving across the country in a banana-yellow 1979 Cadillac Seville with a Lionel Richie photo dangling from the rearview mirror and the thousand-page manuscript of my autobiography piled in the trunk. The mission is driving to Mexico to find my biological father, a rancher. Swimming pools will be peed in, convenience stores trashed, and large sunglasses worn. If you accompany me, I'll pay you \$1,000." In calling this to your attention, Libra, I'm not necessarily suggesting you take the guy up on his offer. However, I do hope you'll be alert for comparable proposals that would reward you for helping interesting characters carry out edgy, inspirational quests.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): If you hurt another person, you hurt yourself. The act of inflicting injury distorts you, making it more difficult for you to be in alignment with your highest potential. The converse is also true. When you hurt yourself, you inevitably hurt others. The damage you cause to yourself diminishes your ability to give your best gifts. Keep this in mind, Scorpio, as you celebrate Do No Harm Week. Be scrupulous in your intention to practice nonviolence in every way you can imagine.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): Farmers in Morocco can earn 40 times more money by growing marijuana instead of avocados or tomatoes. Meanwhile, my friend René brings in 10 times the salary she used to make as a secretary by working as a stripper at a nightclub. That means she can devote less time to earning a living and has more time to do what she loves, which is playing music. I expect that you've received or will soon receive a comparable opportunity or temptation, Sagittarius. I'm not sure what the morally correct action will be. But I do urge you to try to put your long-term interests above your short-term interests.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): When the first George Bush ran for U.S. president in 1988, he worried that he and his wife, Barbara, appeared less affectionate in public than their opponents, Michael and Kitty Dukakis. "Sweetsie," he wrote to her, "Look at how Mike and Kitty do it. Try to be closer in, more romantic on camera. I am practicing the loving look, and the creeping hand. Yours for better TV and more demonstrable affection. Your sweetie-pie-coo-coo." Though my moral principles make it tough to ask you to imitate any president named Bush, it's my astrological duty to do that, at least in this one matter. Your love quotient has got to go way, way up. So please: Practice the loving look and the creeping hand. And find an excuse to call someone "sweetie-pie-coo-coo." (Source: My Dear President: Letters Between Presidents and Their Wives.)

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): How do I come up with your forecasts? First I meditate on the chart of the current astrological configurations. Then I say this prayer to the higher powers: "Please help me tune in to the message that is most important for Aquarians to hear." After that I close my eyes and release my creative mind into the tidal swells of the collective unconscious, suggesting that it find an image or phrase or story that captures the essence of the next step you need to take. Right now, for instance, I'm getting a vision of you not relying on me but, rather, exercising the initiative to hunt down the question that's most important for

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Rumor has it that you are overflowing with so many fresh, hot ideas that you can't use them fast enough. So why not give some away? Like for instance donate a few to me. I'll be glad to take them off your hands and find a decent home for them. If I use your brilliant notions to make lots of money, I may even give you a kickback. So don't let your surplus of brainstorms bog you down, Pisces. Send your excess to me at uaregod@comcast.net. (p.s. In case you can't tell, I'm joking. In fact, I'd love it if you kept all your smart ideas for yourself and worked expeditiously to turn every one of them into some practical improvement in your life.)

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): Your power symbol for the week is an ant carrying a potato chip. It means you'll possess so much strength that you'll be able to hold aloft burdens that are much bigger than you. More than that, Aries, you'll look graceful doing it. And here's the kicker: That giant load you carry may ultimately provide nourishment not only for you but also for everyone back at the nest.

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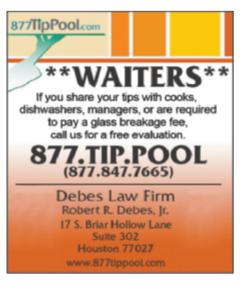
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