

brush hour

# NOIR TOWN

**Ian Shults** Paints the Sordid Past in a Thoroughly Modern Milieu

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER P.26

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**FOOD** El Arbol and Gloria's Reviewed  
**SCREENS** Students of the World Get Educated  
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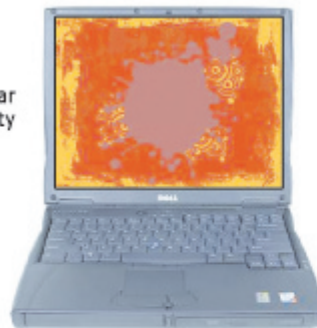
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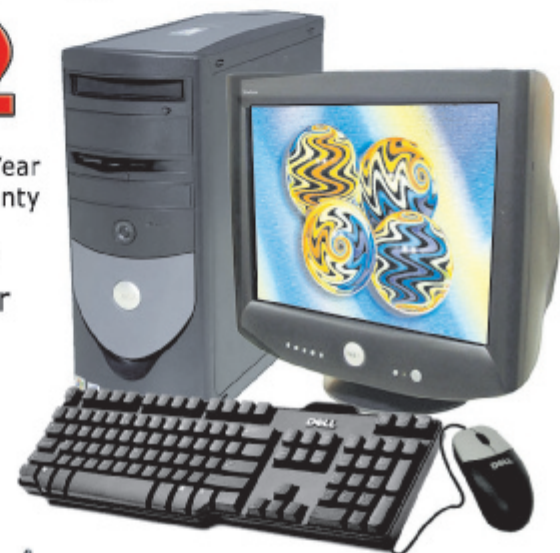


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# The Never-Ending Story

Checking out of politics, checking in with the press

BY LOUIS BLACK

The first part of this week's column offers a little politics; the latter part reports on last week's Association of Alternative Newsweeklies' annual convention – which naturally leads to considering the state of weeklies in terms of both business and content.

## On Politics

'Tis the season of our discontent – to such an extent that we have arrived at disconnect. Given that so many of this country's problems are a result of the previous administration's actions and policies, it seems silly to get involved in political commentary.

The knee-jerk conservative reaction will be, "Goodness, those crazy liberals are still trying to blame everything on Bush." Without debate, it is safe to say that a key plank of the Republican platform has long been that there should be less government regulation. Since both the Gulf spill crisis and the economic collapse are largely due to insufficient and lax federal regulations, added to the fact those responsible for enforcement were both underfunded and discouraged, this seems an easy claim. But, of course, it isn't.

Instead, the right views the situation in opposite fashion: Barney Frank, leading those crazy Marxist Democrats, is responsible for the economic collapse, while President Obama's slow response to the oil well disaster resulted in even more oil pushing to the surface.

Regarding the latter, when the well blew, the ever-resilient Sarah Palin responded with a Facebook post titled "Extreme Environments: Drill, Baby, Drill in ANWR – Now Do You Get It?" Conveniently ignoring that her "Drill, Baby, Drill" position specifically includes offshore drilling, again she demonstrated that politically she is to Teflon as the nuclear age is to the stone age.

The current Republican posturing on cutting spending and balancing the budget would seem absolutely pathetic if it didn't seem to be working. After mismanaging the government in almost every way possible, the Republicans decided that by being the party of "no," they could position themselves as anti-government.

It's beyond reason how they've gotten away with pretending that the ridiculous spending during the Bush administration never happened. Regularly criticizing everything the Obama administration does, they seem to have successfully swept under the rug the extraordinary amounts of government spending, two unnecessary but costly wars, and tax cuts for the rich that resulted in a budget surplus turning into a serious deficit. Most of that was done in the name of stimulating the economy – except when the Bush administration was done, the country was in an economic crisis.

Nevertheless, many are predicting serious electoral gains by the Republicans in the November elections: Let's reinstate the party that didn't deal with serious issues (immigration) while spending like drunken sailors. In the face of this tsunami of political nonsense, I'm mostly hoping my beach shack holds. So I'm quiet. Why say much in the face of an unprecedented, roaring, impending disaster? Consider this the moaning of an incontinent liberal stuck in an unending nightmare.

## On Newsweeklies, Part I

Last week, some of our staff members flew to Toronto to attend the Association of Alternative Newsweeklies convention. Right off, I think we can agree that the "alternative" label is archaic, the papers having become long established in most of the communities where there is one being published. These are not happy times for the weeklies. In general, the last three or four years have been economically very tough. After decades of steady growth, the industry as a whole, with only very few exceptions, has experienced declining revenues. Among the many reasons for this are the economy and online alternatives, especially for classifieds sections, which have taken a substantial beating.

What doesn't kill you makes you stronger: That much was obvious at the convention, where – though all present acknowledged the very tough times – the mood overall was surprisingly upbeat.

Founded in 1978, AAN started with 30 member papers but now has 132, with three more applying and accepted for membership this year. In the beginning, almost all the papers were independently owned. Beginning in the Eighties and accelerating in the Nineties and the early part of this decade, weeklies were hot, and quite a number were purchased by different publishing companies. Now, by my very rough count, 51 of the papers are owned by one of 11 media groups. The largest of these owns 14 papers, the smallest owns two, and five of them own three papers each.

Over the years, many of the founding owners and publishers have sold their papers – some to publishing chains, others to individuals or local groups. This served to place a greater emphasis on these papers' profits. In many cases, especially that of publishing groups, the money to buy papers came from venture capitalists who expect substantial and consistent returns on their investments.

This has led to the "alternatives" becoming far less alternative. There are still a number of weeklies that do excellent local and state political coverage or offer genuine alternative views, but far fewer than there

were when *The Austin Chronicle* hosted the AAN convention in 1994. Some just dropped politics entirely, because it is expensive to cover and generates very little direct revenue. Others specialize in "gotcha" journalism, which is more concerned with exhibiting embezzlers, corrupt elected officials, and pedophiles than with the regular workings of government.

The *Chronicle*, as I've pointed out, doesn't win awards very often, because – and most people miss this – to win awards you must enter material in contests. Some papers have staff that regularly work on submitting to appropriate media competitions. The *Chronicle* doesn't. (Here, I have to point out an exception: the small but mighty *Texas Observer*, which obviously has no such staff yet constantly wins awards.)

Most of the time, I don't really care about awards. However, during my one year as editorial chair on the AAN board, I initiated the AltWeekly Awards. There had been talk of doing something like them since the organization was founded; it was time to do them. It isn't like I feel that there is some quid pro quo obligation, but all too often it seems the awards honor the editorial content that is most like that of slick weekly and monthly magazines.

Nonetheless, the *Chronicle* has made a respectable showing over the years. Staff writer Jordan Smith and Arts Editor Robert Faires, standing defiant on the bridge together, have maintained our honor. This year in the AltWeekly Awards, Smith won first place in the investigative reporting category for her piece "Believing the Children," *News*, March 27, 2009.

Below is our list of other awards won over the past decade. There are two groups in each category: papers with circulation of less than 50,000 and those with circulation above that number. The *Chronicle* is in the latter category.

**2009 Blog, honorable mention:** "Newsdesk," by News staff

**2008 Arts Criticism, second place (tie):** "Waiting for the Barbarians," *The Arts*, Jan. 26, 2007; "Afterplay," *The Arts*, March 1, 2007; and "Take Me Out," *The Arts*, April 13, 2007, by Robert Faires

**News Story-Short Form, third place:** "Red Ink on Second Street: Default or Confusion?," *News*, May 4, 2007; "'Texas Tough' Sex Crime Wave Hits the Dome," *News*, Feb. 9, 2007; and "Lost in Cyberspace," *News*, March 2, 2007, by Wells Dunbar

**Web Site, second place:** staff

**2007 Ad Design, third place:** "Trade Up," by Karen Barry, Cassidy Frazier, Dan Hardick, Erin Collier, Aubrey Edwards

**Media Reporting/Criticism, third place:** "Media Watch: Snoring Out Loud," *News*, Jan. 13, 2006; "Media Watch: KUT by the Numbers," *News*, Jan. 20, 2006; and "Media Watch: Are You Being Served?," *News*, July 14, 2006, by Kevin Brass

**Web Site Content Feature, second place:** "Am I McMansion or Not?" by staff

**2006 Drugs Reporting, first place:** "Crackpot Crackdown," *News*, Oct. 21, 2005, by Jordan Smith

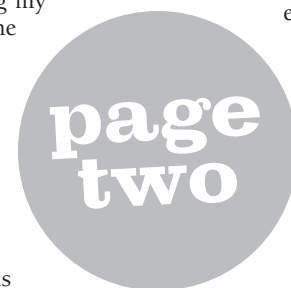
**2001 Arts Criticism, second place:** Robert Faires *Column*, second place: "Letters at 3AM," Michael Ventura

The *Chronicle* has long stood out from most other weeklies because of our demographics, readership, and market penetration. Relative to market size, we're among the most successful weeklies. The *Chronicle* is not and has never been among the most profitable for any number of reasons. The main one is probably that we've never expended much effort in that direction. The *Chronicle* has never had a profit target; at many publications, often staff are let go or coverage curtailed in service of such a target.

The past three or four years have been as rough on the *Chronicle* as on other weeklies, though being privately owned with almost no debt has certainly helped. Most important, the emphasis of the business operation of the *Chronicle* is and has always been on putting out the best paper that we can while taking care of the staff.

This is neither here nor there: We're certainly not looking for or expecting kudos, although we are pretty sure the naysayers will say nay and the haters hate. This column's readers may nod their heads, while many of our regular readers skim or skip this column to get to the sections they most enjoy reading or routinely check in this paper. It's just part of the ongoing overall story.

**Next column:** Newsweeklies, Parts II and III



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# Postmarks

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## BOTTOM LINE: WE LOVE MUSIC

Dear Louis,  
 My compliments on last week's "Page Two" [July 9]. The previous week ["Page Two," July 2], you'd piqued my interest by mentioning the importance of often unrecognized supporters of music scenes, so I was amped to see that you spent the next week elaborating on that idea.

Though I'm from a younger generation, your notions resonate with me. Regardless of age, we're at the shows for reasons that are both personally selfish and socially unselfish, but above all it's because we love it and don't know any other way to find the grail. I'll try to remember this the next time I'm suspiciously eyeing the creepy old guy at an otherwise youthful show.

Great column. Great lyric choices. It all reminded me of my favorite writer, the late, great Lester Bangs. Keep up the stellar work.

Best regards,  
 Kevin Curtin

## CONCERNS ABOUT FORMULA ONE

Dear Editor,  
 I appreciate the *Chronicle* including my letter ["Postmarks," July 16] detailing how Texas taxpayers might well be on the hook for Formula One's \$25 million "sanctioning fee." I also appreciate Richard Whittaker's printed reply that this issue only merited coverage in a sidebar to his main story ["Austin at Very High Speed," News, July 9]. Yet there's another matter that got no coverage: According to

CONTINUED ON P.6



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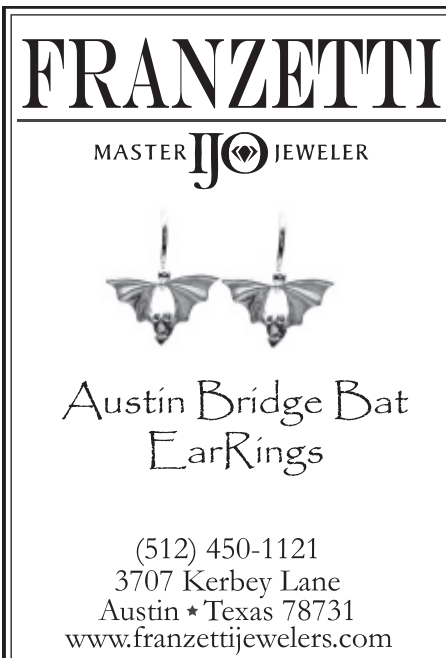
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the June 11 *Statesman* online edition, Gov. Rick Perry's office has turned down an open-records request for any "documents, correspondence and communications to and from the governor's office related to the behind-the-scenes discussions to bring the race to Texas." Comptroller Susan Combs, widely credited as the driving force behind the state's support, has denied the same open-records request, as has Austin Sen. Kirk Watson, who in the last legislative session quietly added Formula One to the list of events eligible for taxpayer dollars from the state's Major Events Trust Fund. I don't know; maybe this coordinated effort to avoid transparency passes the smell test of your intrepid reporter. To me, however, it stinks.

Jackson Williams

[Editor's response: Editorially we use sidebars to highlight an aspect of a story that deserves special focus and in-depth coverage. They are certainly not used in an effort to de-emphasize part of a story.]

### REMEMBERING BOB SWAIN

Dear Editor,

Thank you *Austin Chronicle* and Stephen MacMillan Moser for remembering Bob Swain ["After a Fashion" and "Harvey Pekar and Bob Swain: In Memoriam," the Arts, July 16]. He was a great hero for arts in Texas back in the day, and though I acted with him for just a year at First Repertory Company in San Antonio, the struggle that Bob epitomized lives on. *Que viva!*

Peace,  
Luisa Inez Newton  
San Antonio

### GRACELESS, IRRITATING, NARCISSISTIC

Dear Editor,

I checked in on Harvey Pekar, from time to time, for 30 years or more ["Harvey Pekar and Bob Swain: In Memoriam," the Arts, July 16]. Everything I've seen indicated that he was graceless, irritating, and narcissistic; either he married a woman just like him or trained her to be so; and he wrote about subjects in which I have no interest. Much of America doesn't seem to feel that way. More power to them, but I don't get it.

Sincerely,  
Alan McKendree

### BE AWARE OF JUDGE KELLER

Dear Editor:

The people of Texas have been publicly warned today that we have an ethically compromised judge on the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals who did not accord a person about to be executed with access to open courts or the right to be heard according to law, yet she has been allowed to keep her job. Sharon Keller's actions were not in accordance with the accepted principles of right and wrong that govern the conduct of her profession as a judge. This is the worst-case scenario for Texas, because now we know that the problems in the Texas death penalty system reach to Texas' highest-ranking criminal appeals court, and yet the judge who closed the doors to justice remains on the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

A public warning is useful, but it is not enough. Keller should be removed from office.

CONTINUED ON P.8

## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

**RETIREMENT IS FOR LOSERS**  
A PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S BIPARTISAN COMMISSION ON CUTTING SOCIAL SECURITY TO APPEASE THE DEFICIT HAWKS  
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I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO WORK UNTIL I DIE.  
IF THEY'LL LET ME. THAT'S THE SPIRIT, OLD TIMER!

SO IT HARDLY EVEN MATTERS THAT WE'RE HOPING TO RAISE THE SOCIAL SECURITY AGE TO SEVENTY\* SOON!  
WE CAN AFFORD ENDLESS WARS AND TRILLION-DOLLAR BAILOUTS--  
--BUT SOCIAL SECURITY WILL BREAK US! SOMETHING MUST BE DONE!  
MAKES SENSIBLE SENSE TO ME!

WHO EVEN NEEDS SOCIAL SECURITY--WHEN "NOT RETIRING" IS SHAPING UP TO BE THE HOT NEW TREND OF THE DECADE? AND YOU'LL BE IN THE VANGUARD, YOU FABULOUS TRENDSETTER, YOU! ALONG WITH SUCH FAMOUS CELEBRITIES AS RINGO STARR, BETTY WHITE, AND CLINT EASTWOOD!  
NOT TO MENTION WILLIAM SHATNER!  
THEY NEVER RETIRED FROM THEIR JOBS--

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WHICH I'M SURE IS EVERY BIT AS REWARDING, IN ITS OWN WAY.  
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The public warning tells us that if you seek justice in Texas, proceed with caution because Keller is the presiding judge of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

The Texas Legislature can help restore integrity to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals by impeaching and removing Keller from office. We now have the findings of fact from the State Commission on Judicial Conduct, so it is confirmed that Keller has brought discredit to the Texas judiciary by her misconduct hindering access to justice. It is up to the people of Texas now to take the findings of fact and act on them by seeking to remove Keller from office through their elected representatives using the impeachment process or at the ballot box in 2012, when she is up for re-election. Since Keller is not up for re-election for another two years, it is in the best interest of justice that the Legislature removes her from office.

Scott Cobb

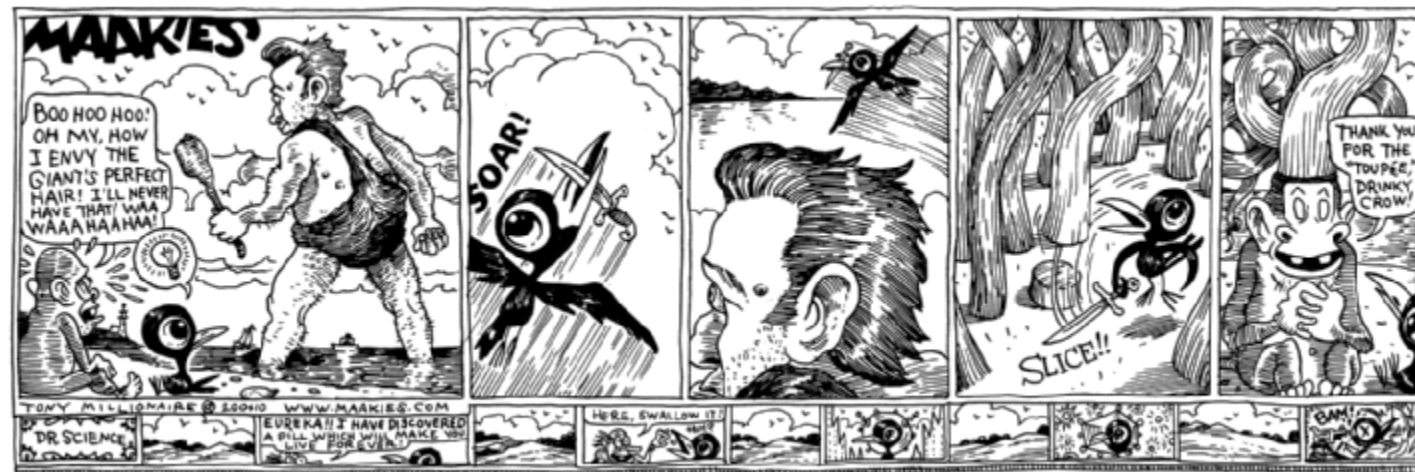
President, Texas Moratorium Network

[Editor's note: See this week's update by Jordan Smith, "SCJC to Keller: Consider Yourself Warned," News, p.18.]

### ACC GROUNDED IN COMMUNITY

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank the *Chronicle* for the continuing stories that you do on the heart and soul of our local community. I remain convinced that Austin has a special place in our coming future, a positive future which has yet to be discovered through the present chaos. An example of the current chaos is Katherine Gregor's stories on what passes for planning in Austin ["Best-Laid Plans," "Sustainable Planning," "Plans in Play," News, July 16], i.e., that we have too many chiefs and not enough people. Compare this to Gregor's stories from work I did a few years ago ["Developing Stories: Neighbor Power," News, May 18, 2007]. The fact of the matter is that of the eight governmental agencies that are referenced in Ms. Gregor's stories in the July 16 issue, Austin Community College is the only planning effort that is grounded in the community with its Campus Advisory Committees (see [www.austinctc.edu/cac](http://www.austinctc.edu/cac)). This present effort at ACC's Facilities Master Plan



should come in on time and under budget. This master plan, the first in ACC's history that is regional in its scope, is scheduled to come to the Austin Community College board of trustees at the end of this year. I believe and hope that it will provide ACC with multiple layers of opportunities for the community college to be just that, a community resource for all of us to utilize in the coming economic challenges. I believe that ACC will be in the forefront of developing our new and better local economy. Won't that be interesting to see?

Tim Mahoney

Trustee, Place 1, Austin Community College board

### THE PROBLEM IS LAWNS

Dear Editor,

Lee Leffingwell may mean well regarding the 3C Challenge ["Headlines", News, July 16], but his statistic suggests my family of five uses 25,000 gallons of water each month. Ridiculous. The primary water waste is not household use but lawns. City residents would be better served by cutting the cost of installing gray water lines in all new developments and offering homeowners associations significant rebates to retrofit older developments.

Varshna Narumanchi-Jackson

### FILM NOIR IN COLOR

Dear Louis:

[Re: "All Shades of Black," Screens, July 9] May I recommend a film noir? The most unconventional of them, of course. It's recent, in color, has music, and is a comedy – a very dark one. It's also the best-looking movie that I've seen in five years of Alamo-going. The DVD commentary is about its cinematic artistry. It's extremely misunderstood by critics – don't read reviews before seeing it. Okay, one review: "Death to Smoochy is often very funny, but what's even more remarkable is the integrity of [Danny] DeVito's misanthropic vision." Probably the most original movie, it's not designed for the general public. Grandmothers fled the Alamo. It's not a feel-good Barney thing. Lots of adult language, situations, and violence.

Here's what qualifies it as noir: a protagonist espousing leftist ideals, as 1950s noir protagonists often did; an antagonist in a caper for the money, as 1940s noir characters often were; each is pulled into a world beyond his control, spiraling into desperation and violence; detective themes; character development, not technology, drives excitement; extraordinary scene composition with long dolly shots, scenes in one take, chiaroscuro

lighting, shadows and lines reflecting characters' fragmentation, many night shots, and the city as a character; plenty of fast-paced dialogue as (especially) Warner Bros. used in noir films; much backward and forward movement within scenes.


Robin Williams, Jon Stewart, Edward Norton, Catherine Keener, and Danny DeVito were never better. Williams authored a good bit of his dialogue and all of his crazed tap dances. His decline from a corrupt, defrocked daytime children's TV star into a paranoid lunatic is his masterpiece. Stewart as corrupt accomplice, wonderful. Norton's (own) hopeful anthems sung to methadone clinic junkies, then songs about all-natural cookies, soy dogs, and when to call 911 on stepfathers, plus his operatic ice show, are all tremendous. Same for Pam Ferris, the Irish mob boss against "the roughest of all charities," the Parade of Hope. Harvey Fierstein, ultimate mob/charity boss – wow. Overall: highest recommendation.

Regards,

Scott Gordon

p.s. Best noir classics votes: first place (tie): *Pickup on South Street*, *Panic in the Streets*. Second place: There is none. That's how we know first. Third place: *The Damned Don't Cry*.

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# news

## Headlines

► The shooting death of **Nathaniel Sanders II** still reverberates as City Council members question whether they should settle the lawsuit between the Sanders family and the shooter, former Austin Police Department Officer Leonardo Quintana. See "Police Union to City: Stand Up and Fight," p.17, and "City Hall Hustle," p.12.



► Budget season is in full force, with City Council returning from hiatus July 28 to go over City Manager **Marc Ott's** proposals for the next fiscal year. See "Taking Budget Mountain by Strategy," p.20.

► At press time, there was still no decision in the selection of a new Austin Energy chief, but **Larry Weis** is still the lead contender. See "Austin Energy Sets the Curve," p.16.

► **Formula One** is inching closer to the starting line in Austin: Sources close to the project have confirmed that a major announcement, expected to include the exact location of the new racing facility and the big-name investors, will be made within the next week.

► Is the lovely green space known as the **Perry Estate**, north of the Hancock Golf Course, in need of a resort-style development? Some people think so. For the lowdown on one developer's dream, see "The Spa at Hancock and 41st?," p.14.

► **Cliff Redd**, credited with leading the successful launch of the **Long Center for the Performing Arts**, announced Tuesday he will retire after six years as the center's executive director. Managing Director **Paul Beutel** will serve as interim executive director until a replacement is named. See more on p.24.

► When campaign finance reports in the governor's race were filed last Thursday, it turned out that Democratic challenger **Bill White** had outraised Gov. **Rick Perry** since the March primaries. White raised \$7.4 million and has \$9 million in the bank, while Perry collected \$7.1 million and has a war chest of \$5.8 million.

► University of Texas' latest exercise in branding – water bottles shaped like the UT Tower – is leaving a bitter taste in some people's mouths. Proceeds from sales of **H<sub>2</sub>Orange** will fund academic scholarships, but environmentalists and some alumni have savaged the new plastic product as wasteful and ecologically irresponsible.



► Got a few grand collecting dust? Perhaps you can attend President **Barack Obama's** Four Seasons Hotel fundraiser lunch Aug. 9. Guest, \$5,000; VIP seated guest, \$15,200; and for the truly besotted or flush, including photo reception, \$30,400.



JOHN ANDERSON



JANA BIRCHUM

**Walking on Water:** Levi H. Gibbons, 20 months, enjoys the cool splash of water on a hot July day at the newly opened Clarksville Splash Pad at 1811 W. 11th. The new feature replaces the outdated wading pool at the Mary Francis Baylor Clarksville Park.

## What the GOP Wants for You

The state Republican Party platform is a real nightmare

BY MICHAEL KING

As we enter the summer doldrums and the rhythm of political life is suspended between the noisy spring primary season and the earnestness of the fall campaigns, the perennial Texas Republican Party platform can generally be relied upon to deliver a dour snapshot of the state's dominant political culture. Not too long ago, when the state GOP was still awkwardly split between the monied party elite, who decided all matters of importance, and the firebrand rank and file, the convention-adopted platform often became a fugitive document. Embarrassed party spokesmen did their best to ignore it, and media requests for a copy received some variation of the response, "It hasn't been printed up yet."

Now that the inmates have taken over the asylum, the document is proudly posted on the Web, just like many another exercise in fanaticism. But since the people who subscribe to GOP principles actually run state government, rational Texans should pay close attention to what they propose for the rest of us. In the main, it's not a reassuring catalogue.

The document begins with the declaration, "The embodiment of the conservative dream in America is Texas." That gives somewhat short shrift to Mississipi,

but a certain regionalism is to be expected. There are nods to "state sovereignty" (a hot button this year), the nuclear family, and, of course, the free market. The preamble is followed by a decalogue of principles, some curiously biological, among them "the sanctity of human life ... from fertilization to natural death," "the traditional marriage of a natural man and a natural woman," and "a free enterprise society unencumbered by government interference or subsidies." A prelapsarian Eden, this Republican Texas.

From that point, the full-throated anti-government document is thick with demands for government proscriptions of one sort or another: criminalization of homosexuality, the banning of abortions (a "Human Life Amendment"), abolition of all forms of gambling, no legally allowed variations on "traditional marriage," abolition of "no-fault divorce laws," stout defense of corporal punishment in public schools (a useful precursor to capital punishment, also firmly endorsed), abhorrence of "multiculturalism" and dual-language education, "dispelling the myth of separation of church and state." In other words, plenty of limits, to be harshly enforced by "limited government."

CONTINUED ON P.13

## QUOTE of the WEEK



"The proposed settlement leaves too many questions unanswered."

– Mayor Pro Tem Mike Martinez, on the city's proposed \$750,000 agreement with the family of police shooting victim Nathaniel Sanders II

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## Naked City

► **CREATING SPACE FOR THE ARTS** A federally subsidized artists' colony for **Saltillo Plaza** is the first in a series of "regeneration projects" being pursued by the city's **Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office**. In an approach that's novel for Austin, new EGRSO Director **Kevin Johns** has invited two partners – the city's Neighborhood Housing and Community Development division and the citizen Community Development Commission – to join EGRSO in collectively pursuing a federal grant. The proposed project would create new low-income housing and live-work space for artists and others, boosting the district while avoiding the downsides of gentrification. On a parallel track, EGRSO last week hosted a series of educational seminars on "creative space development" for Austinites in the arts and real estate. A thought-provoking July 13 talk at City Hall by national expert **Matt Kwatinetz** – called "The Role of Arts in Enlivening Business Districts" – is archived on video at [www.cityofaustin.org/channel6](http://www.cityofaustin.org/channel6). Meanwhile, the competitive federal Brownfields Economic Development Initiative grant application for Saltillo is due in September. Guidelines require that the proposed project benefit low-to moderate-income Austinites, prevent/eliminate blight, and/or address "urgent community needs." – *Katherine Gregor*

► **SLASHING UT'S OTHER 5%** More jobs are going at the **University of Texas** as the university announced on July 20 that it will be laying off 17 staffers at **Campus Planning and Facilities Management** while leaving another 60 positions vacant. The firings are part of the university's efforts to find \$14.6 million in savings after Gov. Rick Perry ordered all state agencies to cut their general revenue spending by 5% and come on top of earlier job losses in **Information Technology Services** and widespread departmental restructurings that leave less money for lecturers and teaching assistant positions. While Campus Planning tried to absorb its required \$3.1 million in cuts through cutting overtime and consolidating offices, Senior Associate Vice President Steve Kraal said, "because labor is our largest cost, all of these and other cost-cutting measures carried out or planned for the coming months don't reduce our costs enough to avoid eliminating positions." – *Richard Whittaker*

► **THE MAKING OF A MARIJUANA BILL** The **Texas Coalition for Compassionate Care** is bringing its show to Austin July 27 for a presentation on the "elements of a successful 2011 Texas medical marijuana bill." The group is hoping to get a medi-pot bill off the boards during next year's legislative session, which begins in January. To date, similar bills have languished in the halls of the Capitol, but that hasn't stopped Austin Rep. **Elliott Naishtat** from making the passage of a medi-pot bill a perennial issue, and it stands to reason he'll give it a go in 2011 as well. So far 14 states have enacted medi-pot laws, which protect from prosecution patients who use the drug on a doctor's recommendation. Steve Haag, media director for the TCCC, says his group sees a successful Texas medical-cannabis bill as similar to that enacted by Washington state, where qualified patients may possess and use marijuana and, along with their doctors, are protected from criminal pot-law enforcement. Haag said TCCC is looking for "input from the public" at Tuesday's meeting, including from patients and law enforcement. (The meeting starts at 7:30pm, at 5555 N. Lamar Ste. L-137; see [www.texascompassion.org](http://www.texascompassion.org) for more info.) Ultimately, the group is hoping to open a dialogue that will help move the bill forward next year, he said. – *Jordan Smith*



## NEWS

# BUDGET AND THE THIN BLUE LINES

### How to pay for cops ... and their mistakes

BY WELLS DUNBAR

City Council's return to the dais is still a week away – but we're already receiving a preview, deeper than any draft agenda, of what's coming to the dais.

While they convene their first full meeting Thursday, July 29, the fun actually begins the day before, July 28, when they'll be briefed on City Manager **Marc Ott's** proposed budget – a starting point for setting property taxes and prioritizing services that council can quibble over for the next month until the budget's approved in September. (For a broader look at the budget in context, see "Taking Budget Mountain by Strategy," p.20.)

The fiscal preamble actually began last week, with the release of results from the city's **online voting**, which asked citizens to rank service reductions and add-backs to city departments. The results are, to put it very politely, intriguing.

Some are simply of no help whatsoever. The second most popular proposed cut, with 1,617 votes, was "Eliminate funding for F1 Race." But back on **Racetrack Earth**, the Formula One racing proposal doesn't have a single city cent appropriated for it; so far, the only subsidy being discussed is some \$25 million in the state's **Major Events Trust Fund**.

Other recommendations seemingly cancel one another out. The top two add-backs propose swelling the police force: Garnering first place was a call to add 35 new police officers (2,273 votes), while in second place was a proposal to add 100 new cops over two years, a charge echoed by members of the **Public Safety Commission** in a full-page *Statesman* advertisement a few weeks ago. ("THIS WILL GET US CLOSER TO WHAT CHIEF ACEVEDO WANTS," reads a comment from the excitable citizen who proposed the program.)

Simultaneously, highly ranked in the opposite column of reductions are proposals to "Reduce sworn overtime by \$1,200,000" (1,201 votes, sixth most popular) and "Limit the maximum annual pay out to any patrol officer to \$80,000 per year" (1,120 votes, eighth most popular). Considering the overtime is ostensibly earmarked for targeted patrol of high-crime "hot spots," can anyone argue with a straight face that it's better to flood the streets with recruits fresh out of the academy than pay to have more seasoned police prioritize specific areas that need the most help?

Amid the ideologically motivated posts, potential ballot stuffing, and contradictory winners, the results create so much static, it's difficult to tell if other high-ranked results – including much-needed add-backs to the strained library system – genuinely reflect a groundswell of support. Moreover, it illustrates the real lack of options in public

safety funding: struggling to make payroll with the police we have now while the Acevedo groupies clamor that we need even more badges.

## SETTLEMENT OR 'SURRENDER'?

Speaking of which, any dreams that a proposed settlement between the city and the family of **Nathaniel Sanders II** might bring some closure to the long-running story are in for a rude awakening. The staff-proposed \$750,000 settlement with the Sanders family is opposed by the police union (whose interests, understandably, lie first and foremost with their members); Austin Police Association President Sgt. **Wayne Vincent** wrote to council saying,

"We were all taken by surprise in learning this surrender was being considered." (For more, see "Police Union to City: Stand Up and Fight," p.17.)

However, it's looking less than certain that a majority of council will be on board with the settlement as well, headed to the July 29 meeting for a closed-door executive session and vote. Mayor Pro Tem **Mike Martinez** opened the floodgates this week, issuing a statement declaring, "After much thought, it is my belief we should reject the settlement offer recommended by staff." Noting that the "rules of a civil trial permit a broader set of information being available for the court and the public," he continues, "Such a trial would fully vet all of the information that bears on those events that culminated on May 11, 2009 as well as actions that followed." He also argues that "the City should hire an outside lawyer not connected by previous actions of APD, its internal affairs department, the city administration, the Police Review Board, the KeyPoint review or the Travis County District Attorney's offices."

"It could just be the culmination of a yearlong event," Martinez elaborated earlier this week to the Hustle. "It started in the community and ends in the community with a **community-based decision** of a jury," he continued, also noting that "a settlement is going to gag everyone" (an argument similar to one posited by Vincent). While it remains to be seen what else could be drawn out of a trial, considering the post-**David Smith** about-face on transparency – which introduced California Highway Patrol Lt. **Paul Golonski's** hysterical deconstruction of the KeyPoint report into the mix – at this point, would anyone else be surprised at additional discoveries after draining the swamp? With Martinez opposed to settlement – and fellow colleagues, including the mayor, voicing similar concerns in the media – we may well still find out. ■

Have you copped the Hustle's weekly newsletter yet? Sign up at [austinchronicle.com/newsletters](http://austinchronicle.com/newsletters).



## res publica

FOR MORE DETAILS AND EVENTS, SEE COMMUNITY LISTINGS, P.48.

### THURSDAY 22

**CITY BUDGET SURVEY RESULTS** This is the last day to see the online survey results that will help the city determine its budget priorities for the next fiscal year. Submit comments by 5pm at [www.cityofaustin.org/citymgr/budget\\_input.htm](http://www.cityofaustin.org/citymgr/budget_input.htm).

**CLIFF BROWN FUNDRAISER** Help the newly elected judge celebrate and pay down his campaign debt. 5:30-7:30pm. *The Belmont*, 305 W. Sixth. \$25 suggested donation. RSVP: [susan@cliffbrownforjudge.com](mailto:susan@cliffbrownforjudge.com).

**ST. JOHN/CORONADO HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN MEETING** 6:30-8:30pm. *Pickle Elementary School*, 1101 Wheatley. [www.cityofaustin.org/planning/neighborhood/sj\\_ch.htm](http://www.cityofaustin.org/planning/neighborhood/sj_ch.htm).

**CONSERVATION HAPPY HOUR** Join **Hill Country Conservancy** and **Emerging Professionals in Conservation** for their annual summer soiree. 5:30-7:30pm. *Utility Research Garden*, 638 Tillery. RSVP at [www.hillcountryconservancy.org](http://www.hillcountryconservancy.org).

**METROACCESS MEETING** Capital Metro wants input on its proposed changes to services for Austinites with disabilities. 6-7:30pm. *ACC South Austin*, 1820 W. Stassney. Free. [www.capmetro.org](http://www.capmetro.org).

### FRIDAY 23

**GULF COAST FUNDRAISER** Enjoy live music and a shrimp boil dinner to benefit the **Greater New Orleans Foundation Oil Spill Fund** and the **Gulf Restoration Network**. 6-10:30pm. *Hotel San José parking lot*, 1316 S. Congress, 444-7322.

### SATURDAY 24

**BENEFIT FOR COLOMBIAN CHILDREN** An evening of cumbia, hip-hop, reggae, and Afro-Latin to raise funds for gifted kids from Colombia attending the upcoming **Global Youth Peace Summit** in Wimberley. 6-10pm. *Takoba*, 1411 E. Seventh, 680-5398. \$10. [www.amalafoundation.org](http://www.amalafoundation.org).

### SUNDAY 25

**DISCUSSION WITH VETERANS** Afghan war vets Jacob George and Spencer Hindmarsh make the case for complete troop withdrawal from the region, followed by a screening of the documentary *Sir! No Sir!*. 6:30pm. *MonkeyWrench Books*, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. [www.monkeywrenchbooks.org](http://www.monkeywrenchbooks.org).

### TUESDAY 27

**WELL-BEING OF TEXAS CHILDREN** Learn how Texas kids fare compared to other U.S. children. 10am. *Carver Museum and Cultural Center*, 1165 Angelina, 320-0222 x104. Free. RSVP: [www.cppp.org](http://www.cppp.org).

**TEXAS COALITION FOR COMPASSIONATE CARE** kicks off a discussion about passing a **medical-marijuana** bill in Texas. (See "Naked City," above, for more.) 7:30pm. 5555 N. Lamar Ste. L-137, 293-7623. Free. [www.texascompassion.org](http://www.texascompassion.org).

**WATER TREATMENT PLANT NO. 4 OPEN HOUSE** Review the designs and add your two cents to the debate over this controversial plant. Noon-8pm. *River Place Country Club*, 4207 River Place Blvd., 498-9874. [www.cityofaustin.org/water/wtpfour.htm](http://www.cityofaustin.org/water/wtpfour.htm).

And should Texas teenagers in fact behave (as they inevitably do) like “natural” men and women, the answer is simple: Turn them into criminals. “We support raising the age of consent for consensual sex to 18 years.”

### Blessings and Curses

That litany delivers the overall cultural flavor of the 24-page document, but in fairness it’s difficult to summarize the whole, brimming as it is with support for virtually every hard-right dogma of our era. Not all of these are without merit: The platform calls at least for “review” of the USA PATRIOT Act for constitutionality and opposes the Real ID Act (except, of course, for “non-citizens”).

- Of a cornucopia, some other lowlights:
- “We oppose affirmative action because ... it is simply racism disguised as a social value”
- Elimination of the Endangered Species Act
- Presidential candidates must provide birth certificates to confirm they’re “natural born citizens”
- “We support adoption of American English as the official language”
- “The unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed”
- “We urge the Congress to defund, repeal, and reject the national healthcare takeover, also known as ‘Obamacare’”
- “We favor ... a return to the traditional basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic with sufficient discipline to ensure learning”
- “We oppose any sex education other than abstinence until heterosexual marriage”
- “We support the Boy Scouts of America” (?)
- “We believe the Minimum Wage Law should be repealed”
- “One nation, one flag, one language, one loyalty”
- “Our military forces ... should not be prematurely withdrawn [from Iraq and Afghanistan] until victory has been secured”
- “Our policy [toward Israel] is based on God’s biblical promise to bless those who bless Israel and curse those who curse Israel”
- “We [should] immediately rescind our membership in ... the United Nations”

### Welcome to the Dream

There’s plenty more where that came from, but that selection grimly reflects the overall context. The platform is a pastiche of

cultural and religious paranoia (the imaginary threat of “Sharia law” is specifically targeted for prohibition, but Christian churches and schools should be free of any restrictions whatsoever), simmering hysteria over immigrants (“illegal aliens”) and wage-earners (i.e., unions), and rabid promotion of “Americanism” in direct proportion to an abhorrence of “government.”

That contradiction is also reflected in the platform’s approach to taxation, which combines an embrace of worldwide U.S. militarism with no corresponding sense of a method, or even obligation, to pay for such an empire (a good long distance from what used to be known as “conservatism”). The income tax and the Internal Revenue Service should simply be abolished and replaced with a national sales tax, the state franchise tax and property taxes scuppered as well, and the platform writers firmly believe in the Internet fairy: “We oppose any taxation on use of the Internet.” The wonders of the “free market” – for health care, for insurance, for water resources, for energy – will magically solve all economic problems, while the market’s recent and spectacular failings in that regard receive not a nod.

It’s a political commonplace that party platforms are written to be ignored and that candidates and elected officials – especially in the TV era – run more as personalities than party representatives. But the state GOP platform reflects not only the core beliefs of grassroots party activists but the animating principles of the state’s current governors, as well as the legislative priorities we’ll see once again next year: abortion restrictions (i.e., state control of women’s health care), voter ID, school vouchers, more privatization, more power to the State Board of Education, less money for schools, and more money for prisons. For the last two provisions, of course, the latter grows inevitably out of the former. Taken all together, consider the 2010 state GOP platform a reminder of what you are promised this November at the polls: “The embodiment of the conservative dream in America is Texas.”

**W**✘ The 2010 platforms of the Texas Republican Party and the Texas Democratic Party are posted with this story online at [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com).

### THURSDAY 29

**LEGAL SERVICES & EQUITY** Learn about local nonprofits that offer free legal representation to workers, refugees, and victims of domestic violence. Noon. San Jacinto Center, 98 San Jacinto. Free. [www.iliveheregivehere.org](http://www.iliveheregivehere.org).

**METROACCESS MEETING** (See Thursday, 6/22.) 6-7:30pm. Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center, 808 Nile, 478-7695. Free. [www.capmetro.org](http://www.capmetro.org).

### ONGOING

**WATER USE CALCULATOR** Find out how much water you use each day with Austin Water’s new online calculator: [www.cityofaustin.org/watercon](http://www.cityofaustin.org/watercon).

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS INFORMATION CENTER** Finding it hard to keep up with all of the city of Austin’s 56 boards and commissions? See agendas, meeting minutes, and more at [www.cityofaustin.org/cityclerk/bc\\_info\\_center.htm](http://www.cityofaustin.org/cityclerk/bc_info_center.htm).

**CAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL** The Community Action Network helps provide for the health, educational, and economic well-being of Central Texans in need and needs new members to serve three-year terms on its community council. Call Mary Dodd at 414-0326, or see [www.caction.org](http://www.caction.org).

**GLOBAL GIVING GREEN CHALLENGE** Help Austin-based **Rainforest Partnership** win this challenge to protect the forests and indigenous communities of Pampa Hermosa, Peru. Donate at [www.rainforestpartnership.org](http://www.rainforestpartnership.org).

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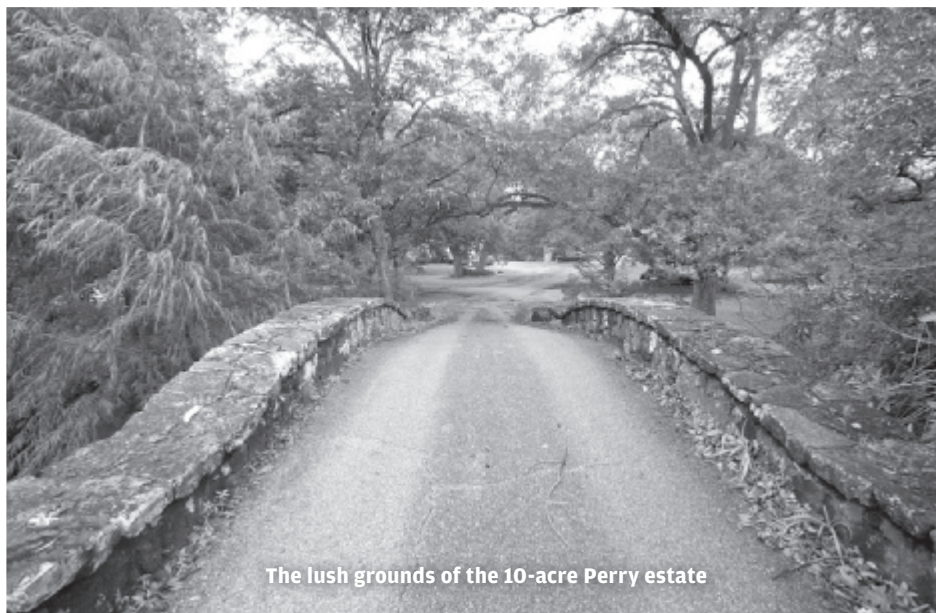
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The lush grounds of the 10-acre Perry estate

JANA BIRCHUM

## The Spa at Hancock and 41st?

The **Perry Estate** – a nearly 10-acre tract in Central Austin, listed on the National Register of Historic Places – has had numerous incarnations over the years. Once a quarry and gravel pit, in 1928 it became the site of a Mediterranean-style mansion and estate built by cotton tycoon Edgar Perry. The mansion since has housed a series of private schools, including St. Mary's Academy for Girls (1948), Holy Cross High School (1968), the Perry School (1974), and today the **Sri Atmananda Memorial School** and the **Griffin School**. Now, Georgetown developer **Clark Lyda** and **Overland Partners** have drawn up plans to turn the estate into a destination luxury hotel and spa.

The tract is located at 41st Street and Red River, just across from Hancock Golf Course and the Hancock Shopping Center (near I-35 and a few blocks north of the partly foreclosed University Park project). On its north and west sides, the property is bordered by 19 single-family home lots. Last December, said Lyda, his team entered into a contract with the nonprofit KPM Institute (Sri Atmananda Memorial School's operator). He said equity investors include Overland Partners (the firm that designed the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center), which has done early concept drawings. Lyda said his team will not file city development applications (requesting new commercial zoning) until it reaches an agreement with the Hancock Neighborhood Association.

As envisioned, the development includes a five-star hotel with up to 90 rooms. It would have an upscale restaurant, a spa and pool, and an amphitheatre for weddings and acoustic performances. The development team has committed to historic preservation of the mansion (now in serious disrepair, they claim), its formal garden, a chapel, and other 1928 buildings on the site – with an eye to historic zoning and accompanying property tax abatements. Developer representatives have said they'll commit in writing to numer-

ous provisions to ensure a high-quality, compatible project with first-rate architecture, green-building features, sustainable operating practices, and clean-green technologies.

The Hancock Neighborhood Association and individual residents have been closely questioning the developers. In May, HNA submitted questions about the quality, scale, and appropriateness of the project, as well as the parking, traffic, light pollution, and noise it could generate. Some homeowners have lobbied for a smaller boutique hotel or another use. Waller Creek runs through the property, raising water-quality and flooding concerns.

Development team responses to HNA note that the rezoning requested would come with restrictive covenants; they provided assurances about the project's site development and sustainability. For example, the developers plan to restore Waller Creek and "the aquatic plant and wildlife ecology native to the creek." Additionally, they say, "A sustainable use for the Perry Estate that respects and enhances the historic role of the Estate in the neighborhood and respects the established neighborhood character will increase the desirability of the surrounding area." Lyda once attended the Perry School. "I'm in love with that piece of property, and I have a long tie to it," he said. "It's a really special piece of Austin that has a huge amount of history associated with it."

But HNA member **Sharon Jones** said she and others simply do not want any commercial use on the site. Jones said HNA's 2004 neighborhood plan ruled out new commercial development for the parcel, or anywhere west of Red River. Its future land use map, although nonbinding, designates the entire site for civic (school) use. However, the full property is actually zoned SF3, for single-family homes. Under that classification, in principle, it could be redeveloped into lots for at least a dozen new houses. Among Jones' concerns: "We believe Hancock golf course is in danger of being converted to commercial use after this precedent is set."

"The neighborhood association has been alarmingly acquiescent to Lyda and unresponsive to concerns of those with property abutting the estate," Jones charged in an e-mail to the *Chronicle*. But **Bart Whatley**, chair of HNA's zoning committee – and also chair of the city's Design Commission – said HNA leadership is using an open, democratic process to ensure all voices are heard and hasn't yet decided to

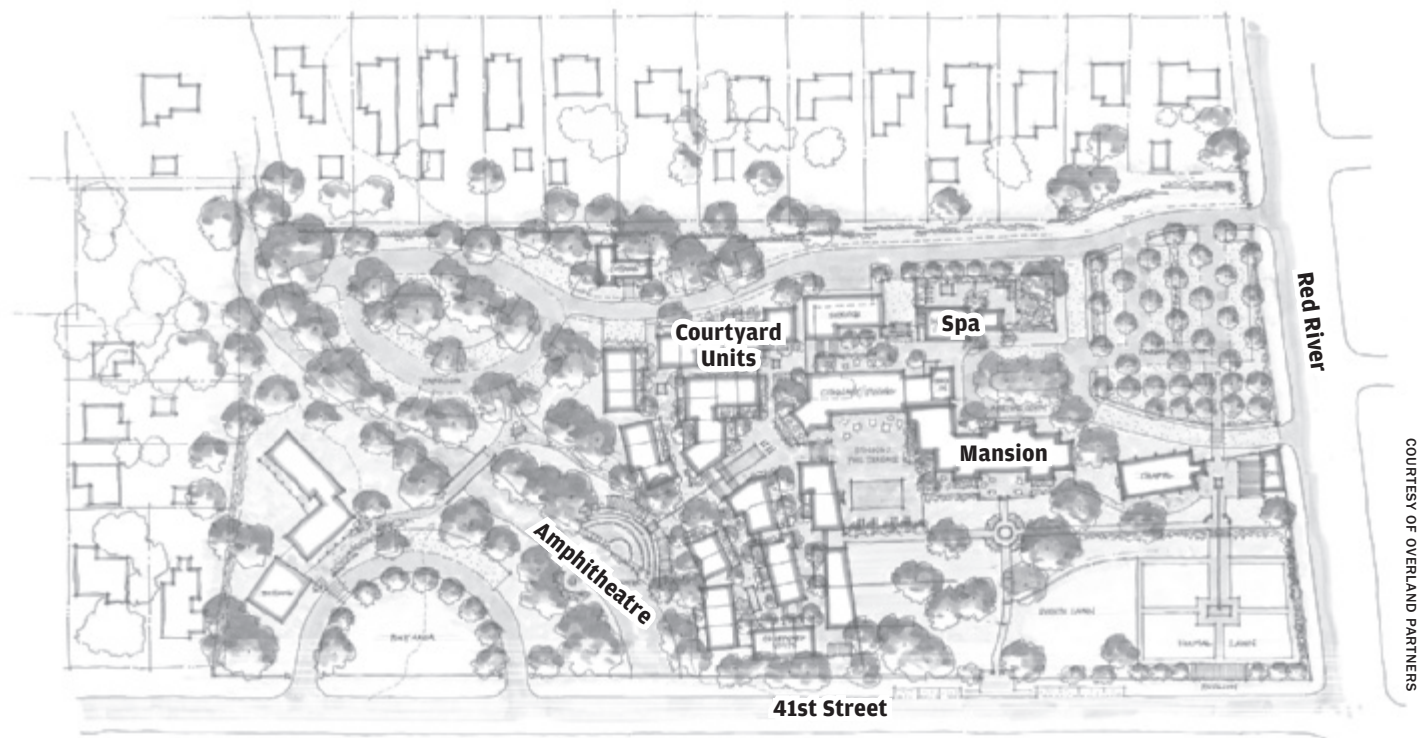
endorse the project. (The committee meets again July 21.) "Many people are generally supportive; they see it as a good adaptive reuse," he said. "Nearly everyone recognizes the value of preserving the mansion."

As part of the deal, Lyda said, the financially challenged Sri school would have its debt paid off and would be allowed to continue operating in a new school on the site, rent-free, for 20 years. The small school cannot afford to maintain the property or sustain itself, so some solution is needed. Meanwhile, the Griffin School, a tenant on the property, is seeking new lease space elsewhere.

Jones raised concerns that the hotel could fail, leaving the neighborhood with a "white elephant" – due to Lyda's lack of hotel experience, an inadequate demand for the location, or weak financing. The Hancock neighborhood is battle-weary; it previously endured a long fight over redevelopment of the **Concordia University** campus. (A 210-room luxury Hyatt Andaz hotel within the resulting University Park project on the site was supposed to open this year; it has yet to break ground.) Lyda responds that experienced hotel operators (including Bunkhouse Management, which runs the San José and Saint Cecilia boutique hotels in Travis Heights) consulting on the project have confirmed a market and would assist with operations. He also said the project will be done primarily with up-front equity financing, rather than being highly leveraged with conventional loans.

Both Lyda and Whatley say discussions are going well; HNA is now reviewing a "very stringent" draft agreement, said Lyda. He hopes to reach a final agreement with HNA by September or October, after which he would file a city zoning-change request.

– Katherine Gregor

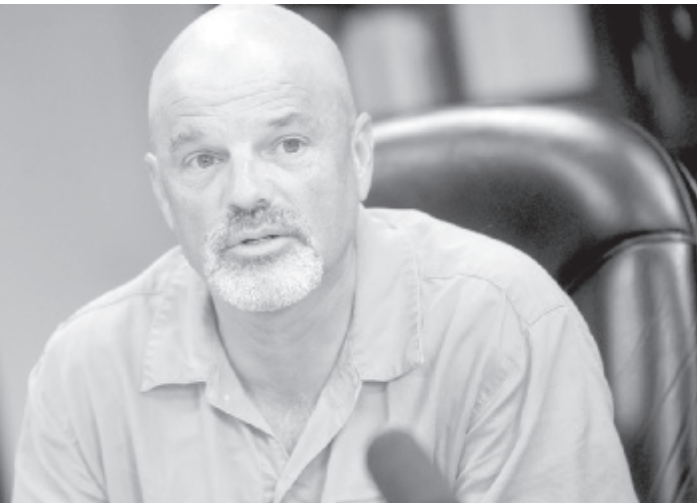


COURTESY OF OVERLAND PARTNERS

Georgetown developer Clark Lyda envisions a destination development at 41st and Red River, with a luxury hotel, restaurant, pool, spa, and amphitheatre. The plan calls for preserving the historic mansion on the site.

# Planting the Seeds of the New Cactus

**KUT Associate General Manager Hawk Mendenhall says he's happy with community discussions about the future of the Cactus Cafe.**



This week sees the midpoint in **KUT Cactus Cafe Conversations**, the latest round of public consultation about the future of the legendary University of Texas music venue and bar. Local author **Spike Gillespie**, one of the guests invited to take part in the discussions, said: "A change is taking place, a decision has been made, KUT is going to be running the Cactus, and that's a done deal. So I think what they're looking for is ideas to make that transition work."

The original plan was for five meetings, from July 8 to Aug. 26, each with representatives from different groups being consulted on a different topic. The invitation-only gatherings draw from staff, students, KUT personnel, musicians, and interested parties whom KUT Associate General Manager **Hawk Mendenhall** described as "self-selecting" because of their advocacy. Mendenhall said he was "really delighted" with the meetings so far, and he's considering adding a sixth just for musicians. However, with so much feedback from interested parties, he added, "the challenge is not a lack of

ideas. The challenge is what makes sense first."

Fellow attendee and **Friends of the Cactus Cafe** co-founder **Wiley Koepf** described the process as "KUT dipping their toes into the water of public sentiment." While e-mails exchanged between Dean of Students **Soncia Reagins-Lilly** and station General Manager **Stewart Vanderwilt** indicate that they were discussing the venue's future in late February, Koepf noted, "KUT has never really had a sounding board for what the community thinks."

Gillespie attended the July 15 meeting (called Artist and Audience Experience), and while she described the room as "heavy on middle-aged, middle-weight, middle-class white people," she also praised KUT for the breadth of expertise present. "There were musicians, there were representatives from Friends of the Cactus Cafe, a marketing firm [the Ampersand Agency] that might be doing some branding for them," as well as several members of KUT staff and management. As for the activist presence, she said, "I felt that [KUT staff] were trying to draw in some people who were stressed out about the change."

JOHN ANDERSON

Some concern remains that one major group is being left out. Only five members of the student body have attended meetings, and only one member of the Student Friends of the Cactus Cafe, Graduate Student Assembly representative **Sam Scarpino**, received an invite. Student Friends co-founder **Hayley Gillespie** said she was concerned about this exclusion since "graduate students are the student group that most frequent the Cactus Cafe." While Mendenhall said that he's been talking to students outside of the conversations, Spike Gillespie said one point of agreement in the meetings is that "there needs to be more student involvement."

The other big area of concern is the day-to-day operations of the Cactus, a topic invitees expect to be covered in greater depth in the next three meetings. Some core elements of the new business model have been confirmed, such as accepting credit cards for the first time, but there are still major issues on the division of responsibility, risk, and revenue between KUT and **University Unions** (which encompasses the Texas Union and Student Events Center), as well as employment (for more on the hiring of a new manager, see "Off the Record," Music, p.41). As it stands, Mendenhall said, "They'll run the bar, we'll run the music venue, and we're both working really hard to make sure that, anything that pops up, we can handle." Both sides are currently working with UT's lawyers, and, Mendenhall said, "The idea is to have this all wrapped up by the first week in August."

Part of the logic for moving partial management of the Cactus to KUT is its fundraising experience. Yet the Friends of the Cactus Cafe is currently sitting on \$20,000 in donations, plus another \$100,000 in pledges over the next five years, all given to keep the Cactus open. Koepf said the group would not hand over any cash until it had assurances from KUT that the funds would be dedicated to the cafe instead of being folded into KUT's general funds; however, that wasn't the only prerequisite. "Everyone who gave money gave it to save a quality listening room," said Koepf. "So I don't think that can be determined by October 1." Instead, he plans to get feedback on the room from attendees when the cafe reopens in mid-August before making a final decision about what to do with the cash toward the end of the year.

For Spike Gillespie, that commitment to retaining the nature of the room must allow the cafe to evolve and expand student involvement. "The room can be many things," she said, "and there are seven days in a week and at least 28 days in a month." By taking advantage of this consultation exercise, she said, KUT can reinvigorate the Cactus Cafe's reputation for nurturing young talent. "I've done readings there, and to be on that stage is really great," she said. "So why would we not want the younger set to take advantage of that?" — *Richard Whittaker*

## 'Texas Monthly' Sues Developer

Where's our walkable neighborhood? The corporate owner of *Texas Monthly* — which moved the magazine's offices into the new **University Park** (formerly East Avenue) project last August — is suing project developer **Andy Sarwal** and East Avenue IG LP for failing to meet the terms of their lease agreement. The site, on the former **Concordia University** campus along I-35 at 32nd Street, was supposed to be redeveloped into a \$750 million mixed-use mecca with restaurants, a movie theatre, a luxury Hyatt Andaz hotel, a health club, a grocery store, and housing and amenities galore.

Instead, *Texas Monthly* sits all by its lonesome as the sole tenant in a see-through office building — the one structure that's arisen on an otherwise desolate site. *TM* President **Elynn Russell** confirmed that Emmis Publishing has filed suit because the promised benefits and amenities (including restaurants in the building) weren't completed by deadlines written into its contract, making Sarwal and his group liable for monthly rent-abatement payments.

Lenders Texas Capital Bank and U.S. Bank recently took back the eight-story office building and attached parking garage for \$22 million at a foreclosure auction. The general contractor, Lyda Swinerton Builders Inc., earlier filed a \$2.5 million lien against the building, Sarwal previously confirmed. In March, Sarwal sold the bulk of the undeveloped 10-acre site to Cypress Real Estate Advisors. He retained the office building and the hotel site; he has said his firm, Alexandria Management, still plans to build more than 300 apartments.

Lehman Bros. provided the original financing on the land purchase; according to published reports, Cypress became the new lender (\$39 million for the office building) after Lehman went bankrupt in 2008.

— *Katherine Gregor*



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# Austin Energy Sets the Curve

In the search for Austin Energy's new general manager, there's been a lot of talk about "learning curves," as in: Given the unique culture of Texas – and Austin in particular – the on-the-job learning curve for AE's next chief might be too steep for an outsider. Considering that all three candidates on the original short list for the job hail from California, the issue has loomed large from the beginning, only growing more so now that City Manager **Marc Ott** has narrowed his focus to **Larry Weis** of Turlock, Calif. Of course, unlike the more tangible skills one might seek in the ideal candidate – technical proficiency, say, or executive experience – this question of whether or not Weis can really lasso and ride the local learning curve will remain unclear, and perhaps contentious, for some time. But last week, as Ott and a team of city officials and community representatives visited Weis in his hometown, they and others attempted not only to answer the question but, perhaps more importantly, to define what everybody's actually talking about when they speak so reverentially of Austin's so-called learning curve.

As one of the Turlock trip participants, the Rev. **Joseph Parker** of David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church hoped to get a sense of Weis as "a visionary," he says. To successfully lead AE into the future, explains Parker, Weis must understand its history. "There are conversations that have been going on, events that have occurred, hurdles that have been overcome. It's important to know what the community has already said or done, how it has reacted," he says. "It doesn't mean that they aren't willing to reconsider some of the things that were considered in the past, but you also don't want to come to the community as if you are bringing them something and it's old news for them."

Throughout the interview process, AE's past – its struggles over the **South Texas Project nuclear power plant**, its pioneering efforts in green building and plug-in hybrids, the controversy over contracting with a biomass plant – has weighed heavily on the minds of stakeholders concerned that without institutional knowledge at its helm, AE may be forced to reinvent the wheel. "Over the last five years," says **Tom "Smitty" Smith** of Public Citizen, "there's been a real collaboration of environmentalists and clean tech companies around the idea of utilizing the smart grid as a way of reducing pollution, reducing costs, reducing the amount of electrical generation we have, and using our really smart people and increasingly idle high tech personnel here ... to make the products necessary for the new clean tech energy boom." With many holding their breath to see how those efforts – embodied most publicly in the **Pecan Street Project** – will contribute to defining the utility of the future, the fear is that a newcomer will spend so much time catching up that AE will lose its edge.

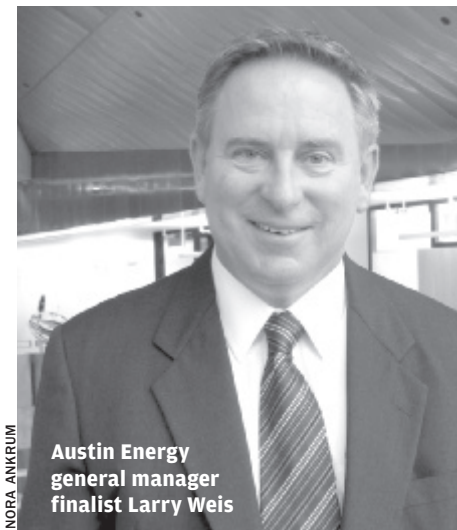
Smith compares AE's current challenges to the initial damming of the Colorado River in the late 1800s – which "created an economic boon because we took a problem and made it into an asset" – and the efforts of forward-thinkers in the Eighties to "attract the next generation of chipmakers." Similarly, says Smith, the Pecan Street Project "is looking to create the next generation of electrical appliances and tools ... through manufacturing things here in Austin." Through the combined purchasing power of AE and other Central Texas municipal utilities, Smith says, the Pecan Street Project envisions creating wealth throughout the region. "If we look at environmental solutions as ways to grow the economy, we all can make money off of the deal," he says. "It's a maturity in both sec-

tors that have come to the realization that what's good for the economy is good for the environment and vice versa."

Because of this history, says Parker, running AE isn't "a matter of looking around, seeing who has the best practices. We are to be the best practice, which means that [Weis] has got to be able to ... look ahead where no one is yet." In talking to community representatives as well as staff and board members of the Turlock Irrigation District, where Weis is general manager and CEO, Parker says he has come to believe that Weis might be the visionary AE needs. "He is flexible in his intellectual curiosity to try to figure out how best practices can be established," Parker says.

Attorney **Martha Smiley**, who represented the business community during the panel interview process earlier this month, says that in her conversations with people in Turlock, she was "impressed with the consistency of high opinion of his leadership and his understanding of the electricity industry. ... They felt that he had the energy and the intellect and the innovative spirit to embrace this job." While Turlock is smaller and far more rural than Austin, Smiley said she felt confident that Weis has what it takes to "scale up" to Austin's standards and "lead a major transition." Though Weis has overseen four rate increases in his 10 years at TID, Smiley noted that TID has remained one of the state's "lowest-cost utilities," adding, "I think he will be sensitive ... about the need to remain affordable as we go through this transition."

Stakeholders here at home also say there's reason for cautious optimism. Smith, who was one of a group of environmentalists to participate in a recent conference call with Weis, says he appreciates his accessibility and green credentials, notably his concern about global warming and the costs of coal (which could force AE to act sooner than later if the recent threat of a lawsuit requires expensive pollution prevention upgrades at the Fayette Power



NORA ANKRUM

Austin Energy  
general manager  
finalist Larry Weis

Plant; see "Fayette, Don't Spray It," below, for more). While Weis "may not understand the opportunities here in Central Texas and how far we've come with our vision," says Smith, he grows "more comfortable" with Weis the more he speaks with him and is hopeful that he has the tools "to quickly get it and be able to lead this transition." It remains to be seen whether the city manager will agree. At press time, city spokesman Reyne Telles said that Ott was still in the "deliberating process."

Let's you thought the search for AE's next GM couldn't get more complicated, here's one more question that's up in the air: how to pronounce Weis' name. Weis says that in the past he has tended toward his father's pronunciation (which rhymes with "geese") but that his daughter pronounces the name with a long "i" (as in "ice"). Just as AE is in transition, so may be its likely next chief. Weis says that once he gets to Austin, he just might go with his daughter's preferred pronunciation. How's that for a visionary paving the way for the next generation? – Nora Ankrum

## Fayette, Don't Spray It

### Lawsuit targets LCRA coal plant

Three environmental groups announced last week their "intent to sue" the **Lower Colorado River Authority** over alleged violations of the Clean Air Act at the coal-powered **Fayette Power Project** in La Grange. The LCRA's July 16 receipt of the notification letter kicked off a 60-day period after which the groups – the **Environmental Integrity Project**, **Texas Campaign for the Environment**, and **Environment Texas** – can officially file suit in federal court. But EIP senior attorney **Ilan Levin** says it might not have to come to that. Instead, he hopes that LCRA will agree to implement pollution prevention measures to protect Texans – including those in Austin, situated just 60 miles northwest of the plant – from the illnesses linked with exposure to particulate matter from burning coal. "We can't afford not to clean up pollution from this plant," he says. "The health costs far outweigh the costs of cleaning up."

Among other violations, the environmental groups allege that LCRA has underreported its particulate matter emissions to the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality** and has increased the plant's coal-burning capacity "without making required pollution control upgrades." Altogether, LCRA has



LCRA  
General Manager  
Tom Mason

signed application for their **flex permit**. So if they've got a problem with the methodology we used, then they need to go back and read their application for their flex permit."

The Texas flexible permitting system has itself been a source of controversy, with the **Environmental Protection Agency** announcing its official disapproval of the program on June 30 (see "EPA Flexes Federal Muscle on Texas Air," July 9). Fayette's flex permit is among the violations detailed in the notification letter to LCRA: "Put simply, the federal Clean Air

Act and the Texas SIP [State Implementation Plan] require FPP to be authorized under a valid PSD [prevention of significant deterioration] air permit, and your Flex Permit is not it," reads the letter. Though **Austin Energy** jointly owns two of the coal-fired boilers at Fayette – a three-boiler, 1,641-megawatt plant that can power 1.5 million homes – Levin says the suit will not target AE: "LCRA operates the Fayette plant and calls the shots at the Fayette plant," he says, "so that's why they are named in the notice letter." It is unclear what the financial repercussions might be for AE if Fayette ultimately requires further investment in pollution prevention technologies. Already, AE has contributed \$220 million toward efforts to install "SO<sub>2</sub> scrubbers" expected to significantly curb the plant's sulfur dioxide emissions when they go online at the end of the year.

According to the notification letter, every violation under the Clean Air Act since Jan. 12, 2009, could cost the LCRA \$37,500 per day (for violations before that date, the penalty is \$32,500). "We're nowhere near the point of knowing what the ultimate penalty liability would be," says Levin. "Obviously that would be up to a judge." But "the plant could be on the hook for potentially hundreds of millions of dollars in fines," he says, "and we would much rather see ... LCRA put some of that money into cleaning up pollution instead of cutting a check to the U.S. Treasury."

– N.A.



## Acevedo Defends DNA Lab

Austin Police Department Chief **Art Acevedo** was perturbed on July 16 when he called a press conference at the city's Eastside substation – also home to the department's forensics labs, including the DNA lab – to respond to the latest accusations made by former DNA lab employee **Cecily Hamilton** during a press conference the day before.

To recap: Hamilton worked at the lab for three years before leaving this spring, after making a string of complaints about poor training at the lab and poor working relationships between herself and other lab employees. Hamilton initially complained last fall about working conditions at the lab and then repeated those complaints in a February memo to supervisors. Each time, her complaints were investigated and found without merit. Notably, Hamilton had not complained about any poor science, techniques, or analysis at the lab – that is, not until last week when she told reporters that she did know of two separate cases of “contamination” at the lab, one that she handled (about which, oddly, she said she remembered no details) and a second involving the police shooting of **Nathaniel Sanders II**. “One [case] specifically that I remember is ... that there is contamination in the Nathaniel Sanders case,” Hamilton told Austin's Fox 7.

As it turns out, there was contamination of a bag of marijuana found in the car after Sanders was shot in the parking lot of an East Austin apartment complex by former Officer **Leonardo Quintana**. That the sample was contaminated isn't all that surprising, however. It seems that the chemist testing the pot left DNA behind; when police later decided to check the bag for DNA, the chemist's imprint popped up, which led analysts to consider the entire test “inconclusive.” That sort of outcome isn't uncommon in such a situation, and it had no impact on the inquiry into the shooting, Acevedo said Friday. More to the point, however, is that Hamilton would understand that as well. But she went ahead and tossed the Sanders and contamination bombs out there anyway



JANA BIRCHUM

Police Chief  
Art Acevedo

to fan the flames, argued Acevedo. Her newest accusation was “very calculated,” he said, and appeared designed only to tap into “fear in the community that police mishandled” the Sanders shooting case. “She knew ... exactly what happened but failed to tell members of the public” the whole story, he said.

Acevedo said he has asked the **Texas Rangers** to come in to conduct a complete investigation of each of Hamilton's accusations and said the department is still waiting for a final word from the Travis County District Attorney's Office about whom it has selected to do another, independent audit of lab operations.

(Also of note: Though we reported last week that the **National Institute of Justice** would be in town this week to do an already scheduled audit of genetic information put by APD into the nation's DNA database – the **Combined DNA Index System** – it turns out the feds won't actually be in town for that review until next week, beginning July 26.) – Jordan Smith

## Police Union to City: Stand Up and Fight

With a week left to go before City Council considers a \$750,000 settlement of a federal civil rights lawsuit with the family of **Nathaniel Sanders II**, who was killed by former Austin Police Department Officer **Leonardo Quintana** in May 2009, Austin police union President **Wayne Vincent** is encouraging city officials to vote the deal down. Vincent, who heads the **Austin Police Association**, wrote to the mayor and council last week arguing that settling the case would leave a “permanent impression” that the city “admits this shooting was unjustified and that Officer Quintana alone was responsible for the death of this young man.” “Nothing could be further from the truth, and any reasonable person knowledgeable about the facts would agree.” Further, he wrote, settling the case “completely counters any intention of city government transparency.” Instead, he argues, the city should take the case to trial, where the public can “see all of the facts.” Moreover, he argues that the city's history of “such settlements” – including a \$1 million settlement in the 2007 police shooting case of Kevin Brown, whose family was also represented by Adam Loewy, the Sanders family's lawyer – sends a dangerous message to “those who still believe they have a right to resist and fight our Police Officers.” In the end, Vincent says, the union believes that city officials have a “responsibility” to taxpayers to fight the suit in court. “This is one of those opportunities in which you can demonstrate that support [of the police] by your willingness to fight this battle in court and resist the urge to take the easy way out.” Council is expected to vote on the settlement on July 29.

– J.S.

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## SCJC to Keller: Consider Yourself Warned

Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Presiding Judge **Sharon Keller** has been handed a “public warning” by the **State Commission on Judicial Conduct** for violating standards set out in the Texas Constitution, the Texas Government Code, and the state’s Code of Judicial Conduct in connection with her actions to close the court to a last-minute appeal by death row inmate **Michael Richard**. Richard, who sought to challenge as unconstitutional the three-drug cocktail protocol for lethal injection, was instead put to death on Sept. 25, 2007, without his appeal being considered by the court. That same day, the **U.S. Supreme Court** had agreed to hear an unrelated case challenging the lethal injection protocol, a move that imposed a de facto moratorium on executions until the case was decided the following spring. In other words, Keller blocked an appeal that likely would have allowed Richard to live for at least several more months.

At issue is Keller’s now-infamous statement that the CCA closed at 5pm, which blocked Richard’s attorneys at the **Texas Defender Service** – who say they’d been having computer problems – from filing the appeal. Keller failed to follow the court’s execution-day procedures that would have had her refer all communications about Richard’s case to the assigned duty judge, **Cheryl Johnson**. Keller’s actions cast “public discredit on the judiciary or the administration of justice,” the 13-member commission found, and Keller “did not accord Richard access to open courts or the right to be heard according to law.”

The decision to issue a public warning was just one of the options before the commission, which could have decided to remove Keller from the bench. “The Commission takes this action in a continuing effort to protect public confidence in the judicial system, and to assist the state judiciary in its efforts to embody the principles and values set

forth” under the law, reads the commission’s ruling. Keller’s attorney, **Chip Babcock**, told the Fort Worth *Star-Telegram* that Keller is considering an appeal of the decision.

The public warning is “useful, but it is not enough,” said **Scott Cobb**, president of the **Texas Moratorium Network**, which filed a complaint against Keller in 2007 in response to her inaction in the Richard case. “The people of Texas have been publicly warned today that we have an ethically compromised judge on the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals who did not accord a person about to be executed with access to open courts or the right to be heard according to law, yet she has been allowed to keep her job,” he said in a statement. “This is the worst case scenario for Texas, because now we know that the problems in the Texas death penalty system reach to Texas’ highest ranking criminal appeals court, and yet the judge who closed the doors to justice remains” on the court. – *Jordan Smith*



JANA BIRCHUM

**Criminal Appeals Judge Sharon Keller received a public warning for her actions in the last-minute appeal of a death row inmate.**

## Helping Women Helps Texas

This just in: Family planning saves money.

That fact is once again borne out in a report prepared last month by the state’s **Health and Human Services Commission**, charged with looking at the annual savings and performance of the **Women’s Health Program**, a **Medicaid**-waiver program created by state legislators in 2005. The program, a five-year demonstration project that will need to be renewed next year (or folded into whatever changes accompany health care reform), provides family planning services and related health screenings for low-income women ages 18-44 – women who wouldn’t otherwise be eligible for Medicaid benefits but who nonetheless lack access to health care.

According to the HHSC report (requested in 2009 by Rep. **Mike Villarreal**, D-San Antonio), the program saved Texas more than \$40 million in state funds in 2008 (the most recent year for which numbers are available) by reducing the number of Medicaid-paid births in the state. More than half of all births in Texas are paid for by Medicaid, and 10% of those are deliveries to teen mothers, ages 13-17, which alone costs the state \$41 million, according to the Department of State Health Services. (Moreover, a whopping 70% of pregnancies among Texas’ unmarried are unplanned, according to DSHS – a startling statistic that has economic impact far beyond the basic costs to the state’s health care system.)

The state put roughly \$2 million into the program in 2008, which the federal government matches. That



pays for not only annual gynecological exams and access to contraceptives, but also primary screenings for breast and cervical cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, and sexually transmitted diseases. Clients also receive family planning counseling – including discussion of the “benefits of abstinence.” According to HHSC, the investment in the Women’s Health Program reduced Medicaid-paid births in 2008 by more than 10,000, for a total savings (federal and state) of more than \$92 million. In total, after costs, the state saved more than \$40 million – \$20 for every \$1 invested in the program.

In sum, says **Sarah Wheat**, director of public affairs for **Planned Parenthood of the Texas Capital Region**, the program is an “absolute” success and has helped to expand access to health care for thousands of uninsured low-income women. “It’s a great program that saves the state huge amounts of money” providing service for “women who weren’t eligible for coverage before,” she said. And there’s great room for improvement: Currently only about 5% of the 2 million women eligible for the program are actually using it. (In Central Texas, the program served 9,607 clients last year.) Among the roughly 88,500 women using the program,

77% were younger than 30, according to HHSC.

Villarreal will be part of the effort to renew the program in 2011 and will also file legislation seeking to expand state outreach and enrollment efforts. “As we struggle with a state budget deficit and sky-high rate of unplanned pregnancies, giving more women the opportunity to enroll in the Women’s Health Program is a no-brainer,” he said. – *J.S.*

## Veterans Courts: Where’s the Money?

Veterans courts are growing in popularity across the state, but the big question is how to secure funding for this newest breed of problem-solving court. That’s the upshot of testimony before a July 13 joint hearing on the topic, heard by the **Texas House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence** and the **Defense & Veterans’ Affairs** Committee.

Lawmakers heard testimony from a handful of vet court professionals – judges, lawyers, and administrators – representing several of the state’s larger jurisdictions, including Harris, Dallas, Tarrant, and Bexar counties. All agreed that the new vet courts, authorized last session, are a positive addition to the courthouse and a valuable tool for helping veterans who have run into trouble with the law get support and treatment. The creation of the courts hasn’t gone smoothly in every jurisdiction – notably, in Bexar County, District Attorney **Susan Reed** was initially opposed to allowing vets to enter the court on a pretrial diversion basis, preferring to prosecute first and get them to treatment later – she eventually rethought that position.

According to testimony from **Shannon Edmonds**, with the Texas District & County Attorneys Association, the biggest challenge facing every jurisdiction is access to money. “The big issue seems to be funding,” he said. So far counties are financing vet court operations through a patchwork of sources, including grants from the **Texas Veterans Commission**, the Governor’s Office, and the **Texas Bar Foundation**, in addition to various federal grant sources. (With the state facing a large budget shortfall next year, it seems likely that the patchwork funding situation will continue.)

Regardless, the vet courts – which seek to take defendants with post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, or other combat-related disorders into a specialized court setting in an effort to divert them from prosecution and jail where possible – are clearly needed. Indeed, Travis County is in the process of setting up its veterans court, one of more than a dozen problem-solving courts in the county’s criminal justice system. (For more on the specialty courts, see “Niche Justice,” March 26.) According to **Alan Peterson**, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel and psychiatrist at UT’s Health Science Center in San Antonio, anywhere between 5% and 17% of veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars are returning with PTSD or TBI. In all, he said, that means that nationwide some 300,000 veterans are at risk for PTSD. There’s a “potential health crisis that is there.” – *J.S.*

# the hightower report

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

## KATRINA TRAILERS ATTACK

They're baaaack. The creepy creatures from **Hurricane Katrina** are reappearing on the Gulf Coast, having been raised from the dead.

These creatures are the infamous **contaminated trailers** that federal emergency officials bought and set up in 2005 for tens of thousands of families who had lost their homes in the devastating storm. Unfortunately, the house trailers turned out to reek of **formaldehyde** – a toxic industrial preservative that can cause such unpleasantness as nasal cancer and possibly leukemia. The formaldehyde levels were so high that the government banned the trailers from ever again being used to house people.

Good! However, rather than destroying these contaminated creatures, the emergency agency decided to sell them in 2006, and more than 100,000 of them went to various buyers in public auctions. Each buyer was to inform any subsequent owners of the housing ban, and a formaldehyde warning label had to be prominently and permanently attached to the trailers.

But now they're cropping up on the Gulf Coast again – not as tool sheds or some such, but as housing for workers involved in the cleanup of **BP's** oil disaster. Yes, many of the trailers still reek of the toxic preservative, and, no, many of the workers living in them were not informed of any danger – nor are the required warning labels still attached.

"These are perfectly good trailers," asserts one contractor who's selling them to workers who brought their families with them to the coast. "You know that new car smell?" asks the contractor. "Well, that's formaldehyde, too. It's not a big deal," he says. Of course, he and his family aren't living in one.

Meanwhile, federal health authorities haven't even started the study they promised in 2006 on the health dangers faced by children who live in the trailers. So the disaster on the coast just keeps creeping along.

## AVERTING THE 'LONG DEPRESSION'

The most moronic oxymoron I've ever heard is the one being cheerfully banded about by economists as they tell us that the **Great Recession** of 2008-2009 is over, exulting that we're presently experiencing a "**jobless recovery**."

I don't see how their minds can put those two words together without having their heads explode! Excuse me, Einsteins, but there's no such thing. You can spin your data 'til the cows come home, but an economy that has nearly 20% of the work force either unemployed or underemployed, that has no plan for replacing the 8 million jobs we lost in the last two years, that is now proceeding with mass layoffs of such essential workers as teachers and firefighters, and that is willing to accept poverty pay as the new American normal is not by any stretch of the imagination a recovery.

Au contraire, buckaroos. The reality we face is the darkening shadow of what economist **Paul Krugman** is frankly calling a "**Long Depression**." As happened in a similar decline in the 1870s, those at the top will prosper and take an even larger share of the wealth we all produce, while the majority see declining income and rising poverty.

There is, of course, a way to avert this. It's called leadership. The way out is to enlist our grassroots people in an all-out "Rebuild America" campaign. Stop talking about a green economy and put Americans to work building it. Also, let's lead the world in putting high-speed Internet in every home and school. And our crucial national infrastructure, from bridges to parks, is in a sorry state – let's go to work to repair and improve these public resources.

Destiny calls, but our leaders are either self-absorbed, clueless, or cowardly. So, we must lead. One place to start is the **Blue Green Alliance**: [www.bluegreenalliance.org](http://www.bluegreenalliance.org).

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown – visit [www.jimhightower.com](http://www.jimhightower.com). You can hear his radio commentaries on KOOP Radio 91.7FM, weekdays at 10:58am and 12:58pm.

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# Taking Budget Mountain by Strategy

To balance the city's long-term accounts, financial discussions need to climb beyond the General Fund

BY WELLS DUNBAR

Attempting to “take the mystery out of city finances” has been an oft-declared goal of City Manager Marc Ott, one he reiterated once more at the city's sole town hall on this year's budget, held in a Convention Center ballroom in June.

The public budget process Ott has overseen has been a highlight of his two years in the top managerial slot and a vivid contrast to predecessor Toby Futrell's backstage number-crunching. Futrell's budget drafts were assembled largely behind the scenes and presented to City Council and the public as faits accomplis – and they usually left the council anywhere from a few hundred thousand dollars to a couple of million to quibble over.

But Ott's public process, like its predecessors, is entirely focused on the General Fund, which includes only tax-financed city services – a not inconsiderable amount at about \$615 million (two-thirds of which is consumed by public safety costs) – and is only a fraction (22%) of the \$2.75 billion overall size of the city's operating (or “all funds”) budget. (For more on the details of the General Fund, see “Hitting the Budget Barbells,” June 25.)

As council, coming off its summer hiatus, convenes July 28 to receive Ott's proposed fiscal year 2011 budget, it's worth examining the all-funds budget from a holistic perspective, including the General Fund's reliance on declining contributions from city-owned utilities; whether the city is shortchanging other revenue streams, like development fees; and whether, through our accumulated debt, Austin's been living beyond its means.

## Shifting Paradigms: Enterprise Departments

“This city's involved in more service areas than most,” Budget Officer Ed Van Eenoo said at the June forum. “We run the Austin Energy and Austin Water utilities. We run the Convention Center; we run the airport.”

Those areas, Eenoo elaborated, are known as “enterprise” operations, in that “they have their own dedicated source of resources to fund their operations.” In comparison, the General Fund is largely funded through property taxes (currently \$233.1 million, or 38.3%, but tax appraisals are down this year) and sales taxes (\$134.2 million, 22%, and historically more volatile than property tax; updated sales tax figures are expected July 28). However, roughly a fifth of General Fund money comes from enterprise operation “transfers”: For the current fiscal year, that was \$101 million from Austin Energy and \$29 million from Austin Water, plus an additional \$1.2 million to the Planning and Development Review Department for water infrastructure inspection services.

The transfers play an important role, often filling budget gaps when the economy worsens. In dot-com-flush 2000, combined utility transfers accounted for 19.1% of General Fund revenue; Austin Energy, making the larger of the two transfers, contributed \$61.2 million. By 2003, the peak of the post-9/11 economic bust locally, the percentage rose to 20.6% and AE's contribution to \$72.9 million. Contributions scaled down slightly while the economy improved but have shot up again since the recession began, with AE's most recent transfer at \$101 million. AE also contributes to the city in other ways, funding nearly the \$8.8 million entirety of the city's Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office, while its Customer Care division funds and oversees the city's 311 call center, both these services over and above the basic utility transfer.

However, with the utilities now facing a conservation-based culture change in their business models – one that looks, at least in the short term, financially self-defeating – the city's reliance on transfers will soon be tested. From its current high of more than 21% of General Fund revenues, the city projects that transfers will decrease to 20.8% in 2011 and trend steadily downward to 18% by 2015.

The utilities' own financial futures aren't especially rosy. AE faces a budget gap projection over the next five years, and there are similar dire warnings about Austin Water. In addition to a conservation-minded paradigm shift and the expense of implementing more renewable energy resources as part of the city's Climate Protection Plan, existing rate agreements are negatively impacting the utility. According to minutes of a meeting AE finance executives held with the Electric Utility Commission discussing the budget, a “major factor” in the gap is “contractual obligations to hold rates constant for 14 of the utility's largest customers” – information the utility considers competitive business information and therefore confidential. Along with cost reductions, “Customer rate increases are likely needed to maintain the utility's long-term financial stability,” though raising rates solely on the residential class of customers (who, in fairness, have enjoyed rates effectively subsidized for years by heavier industrial users) may prove politically problematic.

Austin Water's revenue projections through 2015 project a 1.9% growth in the number of customer accounts but also predict a conservation-based decrease in usage of 4.4%. However, this spring AW – currently undergoing a rebranding from “Austin Water Utility” – surprised observers by estimating a \$43.2 million shortfall this year in revenues.

Opponents of Water Treatment Plant No. 4 – currently slated to cost more than \$500 million – warn the plant will make the utility's financial situation even more dire, with reve-



nue-cutting conservation measures and the expense of the plant necessitating a raise in rates – leading to even less use and therefore less revenue. A report prepared by WTP4 opponents Save Our Springs Alliance considers the conditions affecting AW's bottom line – conservation measures, rain and drought unpredictability, and the recession – and argues that “some or all of these situations may continue for some time, making now the worst possible time for [AW] to take on large amounts of new, rate-secured debt.” However, AW says the compounded rate impact of WTP4 from FY 2010 to FY 2016 is only a 13.2% increase – an estimated \$3.50 increase to monthly bills by 2016.

As the city utilities face a less than certain financial future, their contributions to the General Fund have no choice but to decrease over time – raising the question of what will fill their place.

## The Price of Everything: Fees, Fines, Etc.

Another \$110.9 million – just over 18% – of the General Fund is collected from disparate fees, fines, and more. It's in this slice that you find building and development fees, which, combined, total only \$18 million. (Building safety totals \$8.8 million, development fees \$4.2 million, and other licenses and permits come in at \$5 million.) In keeping with the locally popular but structurally unheeded mythology that growth does or should “pay for itself,” some are wondering why Austin's development fees aren't offsetting a larger portion of the budget.

Brian Rodgers, working with local agitators Change Austin, has been a vociferous critic of the city's budget process as too narrowly constricted to popular General Fund programs – emotionally fraught areas like public safety, afterschool programs, HIV services, and so forth

– while proscribing broader budget discussions as outside the parameters of public debate.

Rodgers sees several ways to offset growth – and the additional strain it places on city resources – by raising development fees to more accurately reflect their actual cost to the city. He recently commissioned a report from Oregon-based planning consultants Fodor & Associates to examine whether development services offered in the Planning and Development Review Department's One-Stop Shop – review and processing applications for building plans, site plans, subdivisions, and the like – do in fact pay for themselves. The report notes the difficulty of ascertaining a completely accurate number, as supplemental positions and funding for the department are spread across budget areas like Support Services and elsewhere in bucket funds that benefit practically all General Fund departments. But after weighing development fees' \$12.9 million in estimated revenue for 2010 against the \$20.8 million cost of staffing and funding the One-Stop Shop, the report states, “Fee revenues will fund up to 62% of costs for development services, leaving \$7.9 million (or 38%) to be funded through other sources.”

Other ways Rodgers suggests to pay for growth include road impact fees for new homes. “Fort Worth charges a road impact fee of \$2,000 per new home,” Rodgers says. “The city of Austin added 21,493 single family homes over the last five years, according to [the Travis Central Appraisal District]. That would have put \$42 million into a road fund and possibly prevented the need for the road portion of the new bond package.” (Indeed, the question of which projects should be funded through bonds instead of ongoing maintenance expenses is always deserving of scrutiny. One take is that certain repairs, like road maintenance, can go unheeded temporarily to give the budget more breathing room, before deteriorating to the point they've become

CONTINUED ON P.22

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capital improvement projects – which would be covered via bond debt.) Rodgers also proposes raising other fees, such as AW's charges to run taps to new homes, which he considers below surrounding Central Texas prices. (Last August, Council Member Chris Riley appointed Rodgers to the city's Impact Fee Advisory Committee, which is considering these questions.)

That said, there are obvious limits to Rodgers' approach. Early this year, questioning City Council's economic incentives to attract employers here, Rodgers, extrapolating potential infrastructure costs an influx of new jobs could create, displayed some disdain for the very concept of job creation. "What is the solution to keep people from moving here? Well, I guess it's to let the unemployment rate drift up to about 6 percent. ... By getting our unemployment rate so low, we're inducing people to move here" – and in his eyes, further driving the unsustainable expenses that growth creates. Restricting growth by encouraging higher unemployment is an innovative solution to municipal budget crunches (and in fairness, Rodgers was speaking more theoretically than programmatically), but it's not one likely to initiate a groundswell of political or public support.

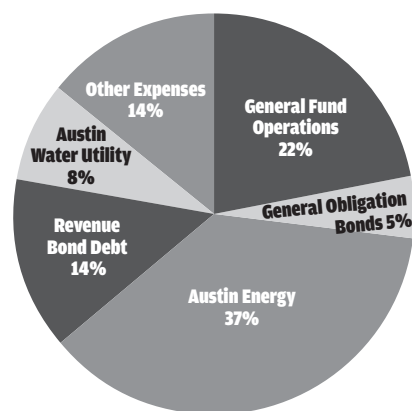
In any event, the city would likely disagree with Rodgers on development fees, pointing to the pronounced, measurable downturn in development revenue – with residential and commercial applications down across the board and expected to flatten in 2011 before rising again – as one example of the recession's cost. It's hard to raise the tab on fees nobody's currently paying. But it seems undeniable that the underlying philosophy behind subsidizing development by keeping permitting fees below actual cost –

essentially a form of trickle-down economics by which the benefits of growth are ostensibly shared, eventually, across the city – hasn't been borne out. However, Planning and Development Review is in the midst of a cost-of-service study which may be used to update its permit fees.

## In the Hole: How Much to Borrow?

Paralleling this fiscal year's budget talks have been discussions of the city's bonding capacity – and how much debt is too much. Mayor Lee Leffingwell's proposal to proceed with a (now) \$90 million transportation bond vote this November, while holding off on an urban rail election until 2012 (when it would likely be bundled with a general public improvement bond election), allayed some official fears about a too-rapid accrual of bond debt. However, especially in light of a slowly recovering economy, questions remain about the elections – and whether voters will opt to take on more debt.

The \$90 million cap on the transportation bond election coincides roughly with a policy from Leffingwell to use only half the city's total bonding capacity. In April, council learned that the city's total capacity over the next three years would be \$170 million (\$35 million in 2012, \$55 million in 2013, \$80 million in 2014). A recent \$5 million addition to the proposed package, bringing it from \$85 million to \$90 million, raises it just over Leffingwell's working limit. In a bond election, all the debt's not issued at once; Budget Officer Eenoo writes, "The debt associated with 2010 Transportation Bond program would be issued over a 2-year window – FY12 and FY13" – taking up the entirety of both years' capacity.



## All Funds Budget: Expenses FY 2009-10

SOURCE: CITY OF AUSTIN FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**While the General Fund dominates budget discussions, it's only 22% of the city's \$2.75 billion "all funds" budget.**

And with a combined general bond election and urban rail bond election on the drawing board in 2012, more bond debt is on the horizon.

The city's financial policy requires that the ratio of general obligation bond debt (\$695.6 million) shall not exceed 2% of the city's total assessed property values. City financial literature compares the percentage of net debt to other Texas cities, showing Houston, Dallas, and Arlington as exceeding Austin's roughly 1.08%. However, the debt only covers remaining service payments on debt the city's already issued, not debt included in a new bond election, so additional debt is slated to be added, typically spread

out over the course of six or seven years in a major bond election.

Austin's bond debt per capita, calculated by dividing the general obligation bond debt by population, currently sits at \$1,034, a dip from projections in last year's budget of \$1,208. However, factoring in the debt demands of Austin's other taxing jurisdictions – mainly Travis County, the Austin Independent School District, and Austin Community College – that figure from last year's budget more than doubled, to \$2,660. While projections for this year's overlapping debt aren't ready yet, dependent upon factors like updated property tax valuations, a rise in property tax rates is all but certain in order to cover a projected \$11 million to \$28 million budget deficit.

## All Funds on Deck

While "austerity" has become the global political buzzword in response to the recession (witness the refusal of Congress to extend unemployment benefits and the enthusiasm for belt-tightening at this summer's G-20 global governments conference), progressive economists are arguing that cutting government spending (which serves to prime the economic pump) could lead to a "double dip" recession, relapsing in the wake of recent improvement – or worse, a Japanese-style "lost decade" of sluggish economic activity and protracted unemployment.

There's little immediate likelihood of anything like that happening here, as Austin's finances are faring better than most cities around the country; job creation and a stable real estate market, plus debt economically insulating presence of state government and the University of Texas, have

## AISD: The First Carstarphen Budget

When the Austin Independent School District board of trustees passed the district's 2009 budget last August, it was hard to describe it as Superintendent Meria Carstarphen's budget. Spending priorities had been set under retired Superintendent Pat Forgione, and interim Chief Financial Officer Steve West oversaw the number-crunching. This time around, Carstarphen and her permanent CFO, Nicole Conley-Abram, took full ownership of the process. As they dig in, district staff and trustees are optimistic that they can pass a stable budget for the next academic year – but there are gathering clouds at the state level that could make future budgets even tighter.

At the moment, board President Mark Williams said, "We're in that pause phase." With the board on its summer hiatus, there won't be any real movement until they meet again at the end of July. With the deadline for passing a new budget tied to the start of the new school year, Aug. 23, Conley-Abram said, "While it would be nice to have 100 percent closure, I think we're in a good place." Last year, the board made multimillion-dollar changes to the budget up to the final vote. This time around, Conley-Abram said, "I think that we'll be able to choreograph the ... budget in August, [because] we've got early discussion and consent from the board to move forward with our proposal as it is."

Yet there's still some work to be done before a final vote. Board Vice President Vince Torres described the negotiations as "similar to or maybe a couple of million below where we would normally be at this time of year." The difference, he said, is that "Forgione was very good at baseline budgeting. He'd say, 'This is truly what we had last year, and when you compare the things we had to do last year with

the things we have to do this year, here are the changes.'" Because Carstarphen has switched some items in and out of essential spending, the board's job has become more complicated, as "you end up not having an apples-to-apples comparison," Torres said.

District staff made their final presummer 2010-11 budget presentation to the board on June 7. Planned expenditure has risen to \$841 million, up from both last year's \$819 million and the February draft proposal of \$838 million. Between drafts, the anticipated Chapter 41 "Robin Hood" payments to the state have dipped by roughly \$3 million, that cash being offset by an extra \$6 million for essential new investment in priority projects – including multiple pathway schools, strategic compensation, and additional translators. However, while planned spending has gone up, predicted revenue has drifted down. Back in February, staff was expecting \$838 million for the next year. By June, that figure dropped to \$834 million. On April 22, the board authorized Carstarphen to draw up to \$7 million from the district's fund balance to cover select mission-critical programs from the district's new 2010-2015 strategic plan. If the current plan is adopted and estimated revenues hold when Travis County certifies property tax appraisals on July 26, Conley-Abram expects that she'll only be requesting around \$6.3 million out of that cap – well below last year's predictions of \$15 million to \$25 million in deficit spending.

The long-term plan is to be able to move beyond the district's current year-to-year budgeting and instead, like the state, draft at least on a biennial basis. Because the district works from three-year financial forecasts, Conley-Abram said, "We have the

tools and the analysis to do that now, [and] certainly we could do a two-year budget for the '12 and '13 [academic years]." However, not every decision is in the district's hands: In 2009 the Legislature passed major school finance reforms, and while it is unlikely that school spending will be a major priority next session, the bill established a new Select Committee on Public School Finance Weights, Allotments & Adjustments to investigate rebalancing the state contribution to education funding. Formula funding currently covers the bulk of any losses in property taxes. That's been particularly welcome this year, when Travis County's early estimates have fluctuated from an 8% drop to merely stagnating. Conley-Abram said: "You're counting on the formula to stay whole, and that's the big question mark. Is the state going to fulfill its obligations?"

The other fear is that with a predicted \$18 billion state deficit, legislators will start eyeing districts' fund balances as a way to cut their contribution to schools. Statewide, Texas school districts hold roughly \$7 billion in reserve, and while districts may only be encouraged to spend a small portion of that, Conley-Abram warned that AISD doesn't have much leeway. While its total reserve is equal to roughly 20% of the total budget (or two to three months of operating costs), only two-thirds of that is unallocated, the rest being dedicated for future authorized spending. Historically, the district's unallocated reserves have fluctuated between 14.5% and 15.5%: "I would go as low as 13%," said Conley-Abram, "but it would erode our bond rating." While bond rating agencies aren't the sole arbiter of fiscal stability, she said, "All they care about are your reserve levels, and that just translates into bigger costs for the taxpayer, as it costs us more to borrow and satisfy our debt obligations." – Richard Whittaker

seen the city weather the recession better than most – which also argues for some degree of continued government spending. However, with declining transfers from formerly reliable money-makers like the utilities, “growth” that arguably costs more than it gives, and escalating debt service on taxpayers, the city is due for a realignment and reprioritization of its financial goals.

At the forum last month, Ott recalled a moment from last year’s budget discussions, when “someone stood up and said: ‘Well, Mr. Manager, does all of this [public discussion] really matter? ... Is it going to have an impact on the decision that you make at the end of the

day?’ The answer I gave then is the one that I’m going to give now. The answer is absolutely – it makes a difference. Absolutely, it’s going to impact the decisions that we make.”

While Ott has done a laudable job of opening up the General Fund to greater discussion, it’s also obvious that the challenges Austin faces – separating the city’s needs from its wants and from what it can do without – is a challenge that does not stop at the limits of the General Fund. ■

*The Save Our Springs Alliance’s report “The Perfect Storm,” the Fodor & Associates report, and more are posted with this story online at [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com).*

## Travis County Slight adjustments

Crafting a county budget in tough times is a long, difficult, and not terribly exciting process, but somebody’s got to do it. Travis County commissioners are in the initial stages of balancing the 2011 books and will take their first formal gander at a preliminary budget July 26, followed by a staff briefing July 27 covering the document’s finer details.

With a beginning balance of \$78.1 million, financial officials estimate an operating budget of about \$485 million – up from \$455 million in 2010. The tax rate remains a moving target until the Travis Central Appraisal District has settled property owners’ appraisal protests. For now, homeowners can look for their tax bills to rise by at least 6.3%. Commissioners will cast a final vote on the new budget Sept. 28.

Taking a cue from last year’s playbook, commissioners again directed county departments to tighten their belts another notch while avoiding employee layoffs. County employees will see their health insurance costs rise this year, so commissioners have committed to an across-the-board salary increase of 2.5% to help workers offset the increased rates. Beyond that,

only a select number of department heads will have an opportunity to appear before the commission at an Aug. 12 hearing to make their arguments for additional funding.

The Travis County Sheriff’s Office was among the early birds filing requests for a bigger budget in 2011, after trimming more than \$2 million from its funding package for this year. Having to do more with less is taking a toll on officers and support staff, said spokesman Roger Wade. “We need more staff across the board,” he added. “We’ve been understaffed for so long ... we would be happy with anything we get.”

County Judge Sam Biscoe sees the staff shortages reflected in the county’s overtime costs, but he isn’t inclined to commit to promises he can’t deliver. “I really don’t see us having the money for a significant number of new people,” he said.

At the same time, Biscoe suggested a willingness to shore up the county’s social services and public health outfits, given the growing number of people seeking public assistance, many for the first time. “It’s the little people who need a whole lot more,” he said. “The lines [for help] are getting longer.” – Amy Smith

## CHD Costs rise, demand grows

The board of what was formerly known as the Travis County Healthcare District (recently rebranded as Central Health) is considering a \$106.9 million 2011 budget to cover the costs of expanding health care services for indigent residents. Preliminary approval of the plan is set for Aug. 18, followed by a round of public hearings and a final vote on a tax rate and budget in September. The proposed budget total does not include what Central Health officials anticipate will be \$94 million in reserves in the new budget year.

With a proposed tax rate of 7.24 cents per \$100 of assessed property value, tax revenue is expected to increase to \$66.4 million, up from \$65.4 million in the current budget. Although overall property values have declined, property owners’ taxes could shift either up or down depending on the final appraisal assessments of the Travis Central Appraisal District. Travis County commissioners expect to receive the effective tax rate on Friday, July 23, based on estimated appraisal rolls.

On a related financial matter, the Central Health board on Aug. 3 will seek permission

from county commissioners to issue certificates of obligation to build a new health clinic at 1210 W. Braker. The commissioners’ blessing allows the board the option of using the certificates, which would be paid off over 20 years if it decides to go that route. Groundbreaking for the \$18 million clinic is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 10, according to John Stephens, Central Health’s chief financial officer. As the need for indigent care grows, the health district is also renovating and expanding its South Austin medical clinic at 2529 S. First.

In the long term, county health officials can expect an increased demand for services thanks to a budget-slashing directive from state leaders to trim agency budgets by 10%. The Department of State Health Services is proposing slicing nearly \$246 million from its 2012-2013 budget. Mental health services would take the hardest hit – a proposed \$134 million cut. Funding shortages at the state level inevitably force local entities to carry the load.

– A.S.

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# THE arts

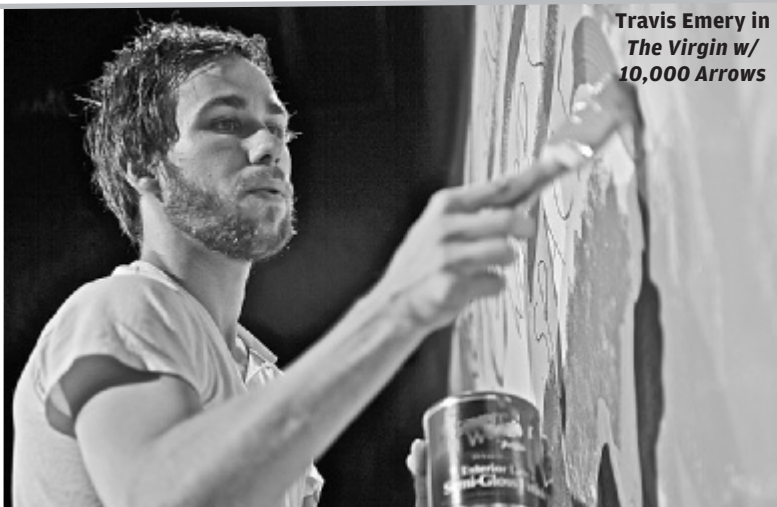
## 'THE VIRGIN W/ 10,000 ARROWS'

The artist who wasn't but is

Debutantes & Vagabonds, one of Austin's newest theatre companies, made a theatrical splash with its very first effort when its full-length play *Hubris* won the 2007 HBMG Foundation ArtSpark Festival. Composed of Artistic Director Amanda Lee Garfield and Managing Director Francisco Rodriguez, D&V focused on producing its own original work until Rodriguez found that school was interfering with his writing process. So, with the help of Austin Script Works, D&V put out a call for new plays and got swamped with scripts. But one in particular stood out: Jason Tremblay's *The Virgin w/ 10,000 Arrows*. Tremblay had made more than a bit of a theatrical splash himself, and not just locally but nationally: His *Katrina: The Girl Who Wanted Her Name Back*, which premiered at the University of Texas Department of Theatre & Dance, won three national awards, including a National Endowment for the Arts Access to Artistic Excellence Award in 2009 and the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Playwriting for Young Audiences Award in 2007.

For *Virgin*, Garfield and Rodriguez switched roles, with Garfield taking on the producing responsibilities and Rodriguez handling the artistic direction. And his excitement is palpable. *Virgin* focuses on the story of Andres Marca Relli, a 27-year-old artistic savant who made millions of dollars from his original expressionistic art, stole seven of his own canvases from a gallery in New York, traveled to San Francisco, and committed suicide by jumping from the Golden Gate Bridge.

None of which actually happened. "When I first read the play," says Rodriguez, "I thought: 'Why haven't I heard of this guy? Who is this Andres Marca Relli? I want to see his artwork.' So I went online and couldn't find anything about him. And when I discovered he never existed, I thought: 'This play has a life beyond the text, beyond the theatre, and it's making



Travis Emery in *The Virgin w/ 10,000 Arrows*

me react to it right now, in my room, in front of my computer. I love it!"

Tremblay achieved this effect by writing the first draft using words from extant periodicals. "He didn't shape the words," says Rodriguez. "He only shaped the work. So when it was first written, it seemed very much like this was all being pulled from an actual, real-life experience." Which it is, in a sense, as the material reflects the lives of a number of artistic luminaries, from Jean-Michel Basquiat and Jackson Pollock to Jimi Hendrix and Kurt Cobain. "The

play reflects Japanese Noh theatre," says Rodriguez. "It tells you at the very beginning exactly what's going to happen, so you already have the facts in the back of your mind and are able to simply take it all in, without worrying about every little detail."

Not only does the play reflect Noh, it actualizes its own expressionism by creating a canvas onstage as the story is told – a canvas which, at the end of the play, is offered to the audience. Says Rodriguez: "Oftentimes people don't really own themselves. By

the time Andres jumps off the bridge, in a lot of ways he's already dead. So we present the audience with the opportunity to own the work and, in the act of owning it, destroy it. I want the audience to go home with that lesson in their heart and that painting in their hand.

"It's their choice, though." – Barry Pineo

*The Virgin w/ 10,000 Arrows* continues through Aug. 1, Thursday-Saturday, 8pm; Sunday, 2 & 8pm, at the Larry L. King Theatre at Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress. For more information, call 361/648-1504 or visit [www.bohemianblitz.com](http://www.bohemianblitz.com).

## AUSTIN CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2010

Letting young musicians rub bows with the pros

Imagine yourself, say, a 13-year old cellist. You practice as much as you can, take private lessons, perhaps perform in your school's orchestra. But how often do you get the chance to have a conversation with a professional cellist who tours the world with a quartet? Or try your hand at improvisation and composition? Or take a whack in a percussion ensemble just for the heck of it? Or perform country songs with a beloved local singer-songwriter?

At first glance, the Austin Chamber Music Festival seems easy to grasp: 10 concerts by 10 different groups across a spectrum of performance styles and genres, all in one month. In the words of festival Artistic Director Michelle Schumann, though, "It's not just about the concerts." A deeper look at the festival reveals a dizzying schedule of events and opportunities that focus on giving the Austin Chamber Music Center's young students a taste of what life

is like for a professional chamber musician, both in and out of the concert hall.

Take the Escher String Quartet's schedule for the festival. By the time they perform their featured concert on July 30, these festival artists-in-residence will have already hosted two free public concerts, two free kids' concerts, a pair of master classes, and a behind-the-scenes presentation, a conversation-based forum in which all festival artists participate.

Thus we arrive at the spiritual center of the festival: the Austin Chamber Music Summer Workshop, which provides exciting opportunities for musicians ages 6 to 18. Held from July 14 to 31, the workshop offers students a chance to get out of the practice room and into the daily rhythms of a living, breathing professional career. I would have killed for the chance to attend a workshop like this as a budding young musician – and I know I'm not the only geek out there who feels the same. Kudos to Schumann and her team of artists for remembering that while inspiration comes in many forms, it's almost always sparked by the opportunity to experience the possibilities that lie ahead of you.

This year, the boundary between festival and workshop blurs even further, as for its final concert the festival will present the workshop's students performing songs they've rehearsed with ... Kelly Willis. Surely this will be a memory to keep.

Meanwhile, featured concerts at the festival this week, all at First Unitarian Church:

**Raul Jaurena & the Texas Tango Five, Friday, July 23:** Oh my, they're back! Following last year's triumphant experiment, the Texas Tango Five will join *bandoneón* virtuoso Jaurena, an original player in Astor Piazzolla's band, to bring the house down with the gusty passion of Argentina. Is there a tour in their future? One can only hope.

**Claremont Trio, Saturday, July 24:** The festival's youngest performers continue their march up the ranks with their first visit to Austin. Featuring Beethoven, Fauré, and Brahms, look for a fresh, youthful take on some of the classics of the chamber canon.

**Der Golem, performed by Carpe Diem String Quartet and clarinetist Paul Green, Sunday, July 25:** With a live performance of the score composed by Betty Olivero for Paul Wegener's legendary 1915 silent horror film, *Der Golem* offers the festival's most ambitious exploration of media, setting, and camp.

For more information, call 454-0026 or visit [www.austinchambermusic.org](http://www.austinchambermusic.org).



Escher String Quartet

## Oranges All Across, Mr. Redd

"It's one of the reasons the universe dropped me here: to take this huge amount of personal energy that I have and throw it at this and keep throwing until we get the slot machine to come up oranges all across. ... Austin needs a performing arts center." – Cliff Redd in an interview with Robert Faires, "Meet the New Bosses," Sept. 17, 2004

Cliff Redd has retired. We're not losing an executive director, Austin, we're gaining an executive director emeritus, which the venerable Mr. Redd shall hold in perpetuity. The Long Center board bestowed Redd's new title, in appreciation of his enthusiastic service from 2004 until the present in cheerleading and launching the Long Center for the Performing Arts, at the acceptance of his retirement request during a meeting Monday night, July 19. The board will begin a national search for his replacement immediately. Coverage of his retirement will continue next week.



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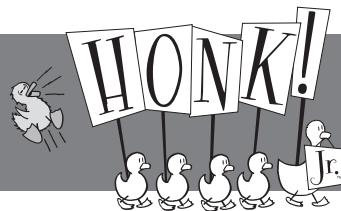


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# Covert Stories

Workman Gallery presents the transgressive art of Ian Shults

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

The artist Ian Shults, a disarmingly young man working out of his self-built Eastside studio just down the road from the Blue Genie Art Industries headquarters that employed him for 10 years, is gleefully fucking with your sense of midcentury nostalgia.

We say “disarmingly” because of the skill evidenced in his paintings and the paintings’ sense of history: You expect to encounter some graying art-geezer before you meet him and are taken aback to see what looks to be one of the heavier sk8r dudes you had to dodge on your way to the painter’s solid digs. We say “fucking with” because the 1950s to 1960s scenes of social transgression that Shults renders in a vintage-paperback style are partially obscured by blotches of acrylics or by a stuttering of the images in consideration, an almost cubist treatment of the settings the human figures are captured among. And we say “gleefully” because you don’t do a thing, constantly, unless you’re glad to be doing it or you feel you have no other choice, and Shults, who could instead be chilling with a Sazerac at the East Side Show Room or tearing up some club with his punk band, the Ends, spends so many of his hours strategically applying pencil and pigment to panels. Certainly almost all of his hours since January, when he began preparing a new series for his first show at



Ian Shults

JOHN ANDERSON

Wally Workman Gallery on the (Shall we say tonier? Oh, let’s, and pass the canapes.) west side of town.

A year ago, although Shults was a decent painter doing pretty interesting work, this solo show might’ve seemed like Wally Workman was doing a bit of a favor for the artist by providing a new audience and a recognizable whiff of prestige. As of now, from what we’ve seen, the bigger favor the canny Workman is doing may be to her own gallery: This man Shults, toiling diligently to expand the parameters of his craft and his aesthetics, is creating work that few could happily ignore. This man Shults, although we’re fortunate that he’ll also remain in Austin with his wife and his community of friends and his live-music stomping grounds, is going places.

We, on the other hand, merely went to his studio to conduct this interview:

**Austin Chronicle:** It looks like you’ve deconstructed covers from 1950s paperbacks – all those lurid images, the drifters-in-motels sort of thing. Do you paint the complete image and then subtract portions of it, or do you leave out certain parts and ...?

**Ian Shults:** I kind of do both. I’m painting everything, all the colors, all over the place. Then I go back after I’m done with that; I start bringing the background colors into the people, and putting in some of what I left out before, and so on. After the basic image, it’s just about being spontaneous. I do tend to make a complete form before I go at it with the blobs of paint, but I don’t know what’s going to be left there when it’s done.

**AC:** Where do you take your images from?

**IS:** If I don’t draw them myself, I search through photo blogs, nonstop, hours and hours a night.

There are some weird photo blogs out there; you’ve got to thumb through a lot of porn and other things, and you can find these old-timey pictures. Like, this one is from one of those vintage Italian porn magazines that are done in comic-book form. Or sometimes I’ll go out and shoot people at parties and stuff. So I’ll get the basic images, and then I’ll screw with them in Photoshop, add what I need to add and draw what I need to draw to make them better. Some of them have more splash-ness and nastiness, and I’m trying to do panoramic backgrounds behind the figures in some.

**AC:** What’s your training, or is this a natural talent that you’ve added to?

**IS:** I’m self-taught, really. I drew and sculpted when I was a kid, did a bunch of graffiti. Then I got into the Skagen-Brakhage company. Rory [Skagen] has been kind of my mentor from the beginning. I’ve known him 14 years or so; he got me directly out of high school. I showed him some of my stupid drawings, and he kept me around and gave me jobs to do. I was a part of Blue Genie from the beginning, and I wound up doing a lot of the design work and pretty much all of the sculpting. I left there because, well, the business was changing, and I really wanted to do something on my own. Took me a couple of years just to build this place. And then I kind of fooled around, I had a few different series of paintings, but this one, this style came out for the East Austin Studio Tour last year. I wanted to do something completely different. It’s really my first complete body of work.



Black Market Shame

“There are stories [in the paintings], but you can make them whatever you want. I couldn’t say what, particularly, is going on in each one. But it’s implied that something weird is going on.” – Ian Shults

**AC:** What did your stuff look like before this?

**IS:** It was more like a mixture of realism and cartoons. I was more into doing superrealistic stuff, but once you’ve got that down, it gets kind of boring just by itself.

**AC:** Well, this stuff you’re showing me, your realistic stuff and the added cartoons, from just a year ago .... The figures you have in this current series look even better – magnitudes better. Is it just that you’ve been practicing so much?

**IS:** Well, yeah, you do it and you learn. And I’ve worked at it pretty steadily: I’ve been painting every day since November. I paint angularly, so I wanted to work on that, I wanted to work on my brushstrokes a lot more, and now my style is looser than it was before, but there’s still a lot of information there.

**AC:** Yeah, with these new ones you can see every single brushstroke, they’re like wide, flat planes of color. And the older ones are more detailed, with much smaller ... but they don’t look as basically real. So, all this time painting, is this your day job now?

**IS:** No, I’m also a bartender.

**AC:** Dude. Where do you bartend?

**IS:** Billy’s on Burnet. Of course, the dream is to be painting full-time, but the pay is good, and I have four days off of work each week, so it gives me time to paint.

**AC:** And then you get to go and bring people booze. Sounds like a good break.

**IS:** [laughs] No – I hate it, I hate it. I dread going to work every day. When I know I could be doing this instead, it’s kind of hard to go in there and deal with customers. Even when I was working at Blue Genie, because it was full-time, I found it really hard to paint when I got home. I was just so drained.

**AC:** There’s so often a distinction made between fine art and commercial art. And people would probably call this series “fine art” but say that your work for Blue Genie was “just” commercial art. What about you? What if somebody offered you thousands of dollars to do a painting for a movie poster, and you had a bunch of leeway but definitely had to include, say, Brad Pitt’s face in it somewhere, would you do that?

**IS:** Well, seriously, I might do it. But doing anything that somebody else wants you to do is ... pretty tiresome. I want to do what I want to do.

**AC:** And what do you want to do?

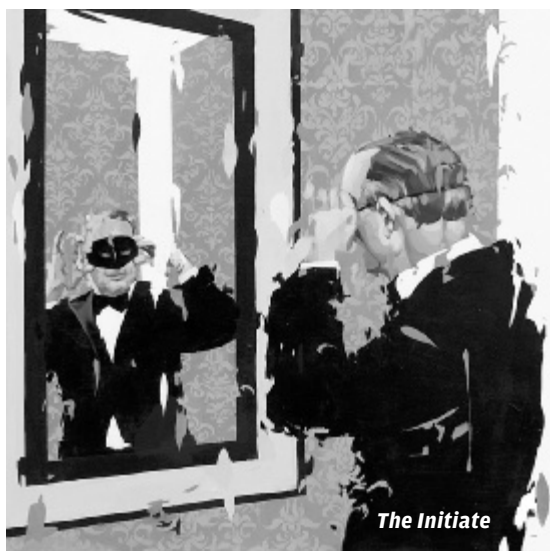
**IS:** Right now I feel I need to have a cohesive body of work. But I’m also finding things that I want to get back to in the future. Like when I’m working on these paintings and I’ve painted the head of a figure but the rest of the body is still just drawn: I think that’s pretty cool. I’m thinking about exploring that in the future, with



The Shame Agent



My Body Is a Cage



The Initiate

more line work, with some colors filled in here and there, maybe more deconstruction.

**AC:** All of these paintings seem so narrative, like there's a whole story coming to and leaving each scene you've captured.

**IS:** Yeah, that's the idea. I take images that make me feel something, and I try to paint them in a way that will make other people feel something too. There are stories, but you can make them whatever you want. I couldn't say what, particularly, is going on in each one. But it's implied that something weird is going on.

**AC:** Mostly sex and money, it looks like. And how much do these paintings go for?

**IS:** I'm thinking that the big ones will be going for about three grand. And we haven't talked about the smaller ones yet.

**AC:** At that price, they should go like hotcakes.

**IS:** Yeah, although I don't think I could make a living doing this, showing just in Austin. But I think this could be a good branching-out spot.

**AC:** Especially with the Workman Gallery exposure. Have you shown there before?

**IS:** No, this is the first time. Wally called me up last December and offered me a show, a solo show in July.

**AC:** Damn, man. Did she see your stuff at EAST, or what?

**IS:** No, she – well, I brought in a couple of prints and showed her what I was doing. So she hadn't seen an actual painting until recently. But a good friend of mine caters for her openings a lot of the time, and she told Wally, "You should check out this Ian Shults guy." And Wally said she'd heard my name before – other people had mentioned me to her – and so she called me up that day, 10 minutes later. And I was like, "Oh my god, this is crazy."

**AC:** What do you think of the current art scene in general in this town?

**IS:** It's real weird coming to the gallery situation from just, like, the normal Eastside situation. I've been involved in big group shows around here, because me and Michael Schlieffe put on a couple of them, and they've been huge successes, but not really selling a ton. It seems like, over where Wally is, that's where the people are interested in actually buying art. The Eastside has an incredible amount of awesome artists, so I think the scene is definitely here, but the buying scene is somewhere else. ■

"Ian Shults: Adult Altercations" runs through July 31 at Wally Workman Gallery, 1202 W. Sixth. For more information, call 472-7428 or visit [www.wallyworkmangallery.com](http://www.wallyworkmangallery.com).

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# after a fashion BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

**BREAKING NEWS** You thought I was a fame whore? Well, gnaw on this, you haters. I declined – yes, *declined* – to spend some public quality time with the **Queen Fame Whore of All Time, Kim Kardashian**. Seems that she's slapped her name on some "new" makeup line – this one promising to fill the lines on your face. Right. Kim Kardashian may have had lines *done* on her face, but she does not have lines on her face. And it's not because of her makeup. It's because she's still a child! Are you going to take advice on aging from a child? I do confess, I was intrigued when the publicist wrote me and asked if I'd like to interview the famous-for-no-good-reason Ms. Kardashian (aka **The Divorcée** and **Bubbles**). After all, I am a celebrity-obsessed fashion gorgon, right? It sounded charming. Kardashian would make a red-carpet entrance into **Sephora at Barton Creek Mall** (a red carpet? In a mall?), while throngs of slavish admirers punch and kick one another just to have the opportunity to gaze at the woman who ... who ... did *what* again? I forget. So I wrote back to Ms. K's publicist and said that, indeed, I'd be honored to interview the bulbous one. I imagined, of course, that KK and I would bond instantly during a three-minute interview in a dingy back office of a retail store and then maybe we'd sneak off to the food court together to just have some, you know, privacy, while we were both totally awestruck at how much we had in common. She'd giggle as she was ordering some jalapeño poppers and a Diet Coke at the burger place, telling me how a girl has got to watch her figure, because if she didn't, *no one* would! Ha-ha, good one, Bubbles. Dim-witted but sweet! It would become apparent that she was just a down-to-earth young girl riding the crest of a mysterious wave of fame. And she was all mine – for a few furtive moments in a mall, anyway. Imaginary scenarios aside, the publicist wrote me back explaining that I wouldn't really get to *interview* KK, but I could be a reporter yell-

ing questions as she walked the red carpet ... into the mall. Please. Clearly the publicist (I like to think of her as a "public cyst") didn't want me to be a reporter but to just act like one for the benefit of KK's delusional fan base. Oh, no no no. I've walked just as many red carpets as KK, and I will not behave like **Billy Bush** or **Ryan (God help us) Seacrest** and shove my nose so far up the "celeb's" bum that I'd walk away dripping. Not for KK, anyway. I wrote the public cyst back right away, apologizing that unfortunately neither me nor any of my staff members would be able to attend. When I'd originally responded, I offered to publicize the "event" as context for the interview, but the public cyst hastened to urge me *not* to publicize the event since they were already expecting an enormous crowd. Therefore, my precious readers, for you and *you only*, here are the details: KK will be dragging her tired ass to Sephora at Barton Creek *tonight* (Thursday, July 22) from 7:30 to 9pm, ostensibly to debut her makeup collection but, in reality, probably just to inflate her ego ... which is about as inflated as her breasts and butt. Go. Tell your friends! Especially if your friends are teenage girls or *know* any teenage girls. Dress like sluts; act like you're surprised at how many people there are; blow kisses and pose for photographers. Then you'll really be living life the way Kim does. (On the other hand, I do love that **Krispy Kreme** joined a true diva, **Cyndi Lauper**, in the **Give a Damn** campaign, which educates heteros about the real discrimination suffered by gay people.) **STAR TURNS** OK, so I did my turn as celebrity bartender for the **Red Cross Happy Hour at Ruth's Chris Steak House**. Wearing all white and my huge "overseer's" hat and accented by silver, turquoise, and mother-of-pearl jewelry, I arrived to an

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



The silver-haired devil Rob Faubion (center), organizer of Oilcan Harry's Red Hot 2010, among the cast of Zach's *The Drowsy Chaperone* at OCH last Friday.

already happy crowd, including my old friend **Thad Rosenfeld** (he handles community relations for **KVUE**, and he's **Judy Maggio's** husband), Downtown bons vivants **Forrest Preece** and **Linda Ball**, my brother **Scott Moser**, and Austin Fire Chief **Rhoda Mae Kerr** (she had been announced as our celebrity guest – but she didn't have to stand behind the bar and wash glasses like I did). Kerr was absolutely charming and a pleasure to meet – not to mention that she looks great in uniform. It was a fun round of introductions and chatter, and the Red Cross could potentially make this celeb happy hour into a popular tradition. The Red Cross is one of my favorite charities because it doesn't care who you are or what you do, only that you need help. And it's always there.



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**SICK CITY**

by **Tony O'Neill**  
 Harper Perennial, 384 pp.,  
 \$13.99 (paper)

In Tony O'Neill's Los Angeles, the only difference between a bottomed-out junkie and a slot on *Celebrity Rehab* is a good talent agent. Less blatantly autobiographical than his opening double-barreled blast of *Digging the Vein* and *Down and Out on Murder Mile*, his terse, twitchy new novel, *Sick City*, still draws heavily on his personal experiences as a substance abuser washed up in Hollywood's shadow. If this were still James Ellroy's City of Angels, O'Neill's protagonists would be the kind of tweakers and twinks that the old demon skull-breaker Captain Dudley Smith would have sliced up and left for the hogs on some Okie's farm. But O'Neill's L.A. has been abandoned to the junkies, and there's no real rain coming to wash his beloved scum off the street. The only trace of those good old, bad old days is the cooling corpse of a cancer-riddled veteran cop, whose aging junkie gigolo lover Jeffrey kisses goodbye before cleaning out his safe. Hiding out in rehab, Jeffrey connects with Randal, the son of a studio executive who



was so strung out that he missed his own father's funeral: Now Randal's brother is pulling his marionette strings, forcing him to sober up or get cut off. When they get ahold of a piece of Hollywood memorabilia so twisted that it makes O.J.'s ill-fitting gloves look as sanitary as a Sunset Strip snow globe, it's a question of whether they'll cross the wrong dealer or just OD before their get-rich-quick scheme can flower. O'Neill lines L.A.'s back alleys with syringes and hunting knives, but much as his staccato text spills loving bile on the street-dwelling denizens,

his most caustic venom is reserved for the high and mighty of the entertainment industry. Fearless about naming, shaming, and spoofing brand-name burn-outs, O'Neill is the anti-*E!* News, his jittery tone chopping the land of celebrity excess into near-poetic lines. When his Hollywood burns, even the flames are on meth. — Richard Whittaker

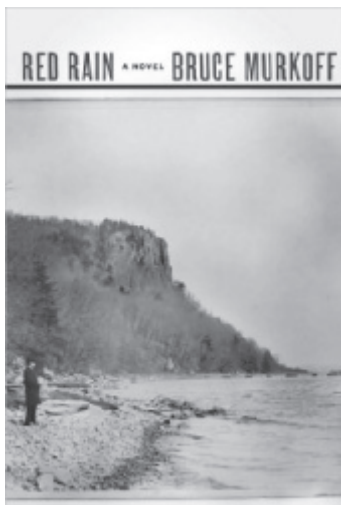
*Tony O'Neill, Harry Hunsicker, and Jesse Sublett will be reading from their books at Noir at the Bar, Continental Club Gallery (1315 S. Congress), Tuesday, July 27, 7pm.*

in print

**RED RAIN**

by **Bruce Murkoff**  
 Knopf, 352 pp., \$26.95

If Civil War novels have been struck by one blight, it's that there's often too much Margaret Mitchell and not enough Charles Dickens. After his well-received debut, *Waterborne*, Bruce Murkoff turns from one pivotal event in U.S. history (the construction of the Boulder Dam) to another, supplanting misplaced 19th century romanticism with a solid dose of greed, muck, and strife. In 1864, the Hudson River port of Rondout, deep in rural New York state, is far from the fight but stuck in limbo while its men are away in battle. However, Murkoff's interest isn't the war itself but the struggles far north of the battlefields. The community is divided but in a state of balance. Freed slaves live out on Jug Hill while the Dutch farmers work the swamplands of the Clove, leaving the bar fights to the Central European dockworkers and the Irish interlopers that fled the Great Famine two decades before. Yet modernity is creeping up on the people of Rondout: As they await the daily dispatches from Gen. Grant's forces in Virginia, Darwin's *The Origin of Species* is reshaping the order of



nature and the railways are destroying their backwoods isolation. Murkoff's characters are just as likely to have spent time in the museums of Paris as hunting mountain lions, and two discoveries – a child in the woods and a fossil in the swamp – cast a sharp light on the town as the dividing line between past and future. Part *Magnolia*, part *Gangs of New York*, *Red Rain* boasts plenty of tired old character tropes: the prodigal son, back from the Indian Wars; the patient war-bride-to-be; the scheming land-grabber; the adolescent dock rat; and the barroom thug, a crowbar-wielding Bill Sikes in the making. However, Murkoff keeps these characters clear of cliché by dragging them down into the mire and grind of a convincingly portrayed port town. Rondout is a dangerous, squalid place in a time when a fever can send the toughest man to his grave, and there's enough drink and casual violence to take the last few years off a man's life. While the hidden history sends the characters to an almost inevitable reckoning, Murkoff keeps tension high as the clock ticks toward the modern age. — R.W.

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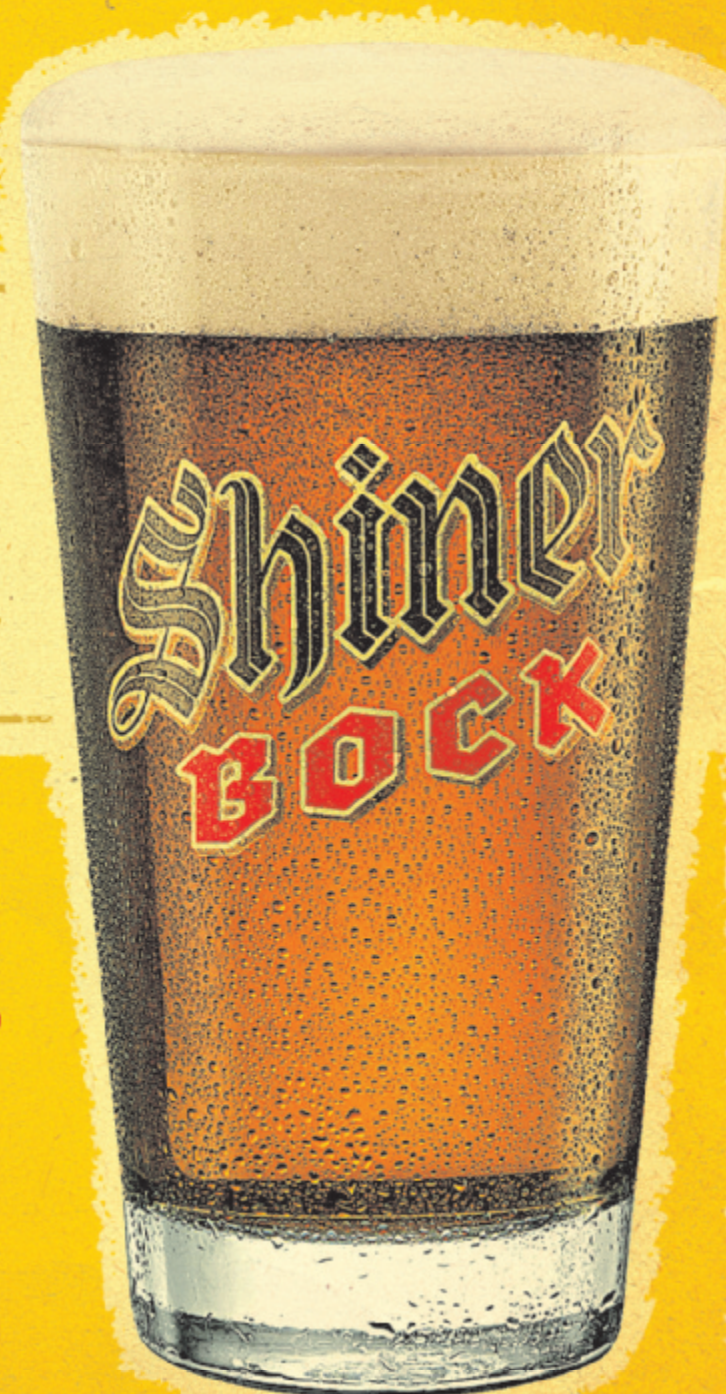
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BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

After years of late freezes, devastating hail storms, and crippling drought, **Hill Country peach** growers are having their best season in a decade! I've been getting wonderful peaches from **Caskey Orchards** at the Barton Creek Farmers Market ([www.bartoncreekfarmersmarket.org](http://www.bartoncreekfarmersmarket.org)), but all the area markets and roadside stands have an abundance of delicious freestone varieties available now, at the season's peak. The folks at **Marburger Orchards** (559 Kuhlmann Rd., Fredericksburg, 830/997-9433, [www.marburgerorchard.com](http://www.marburgerorchard.com)) e-mailed to advise us their Dixiland variety is peaking just now, and they're offering good deals to people who show up for the pick-your-own option on weekdays. It really is a great summer for fruit – I saw chef **Deegan McClung** leaving **Boggy Creek Farm** (3414 Lyons) with several bags of wild mustang grapes last Saturday morning. Look for them to turn up in jellies and sauces on the **Jeffrey's** menu (1204 West Lynn, 477-5584) over the next few weeks. Boggy Creek farmer **Larry Butler** told me how he turned a problem into profit this month. When stink bugs attacked his tomato crop, he picked the fruit, cut the tomatoes in half, and used a blow torch to burn off the skins. Then he mashed the pulp, cooked it with a little seasoning, and put up the results in quart jars that are flying off the farm-stand shelves as "fire-roasted tomatoes," great for soups and stews all winter long... **Snap Kitchen** (46th & Guadalupe, the Triangle, 459-9000, [www.snapkitchen.com](http://www.snapkitchen.com)) recently joined a select group of local restaurants that have been recognized as **Certified Green Restaurants** by the Green Restaurant Association, a national nonprofit that uses science-based certification standards to evaluate the environmental impact of restaurants. In other green news, **Tarka Indian Kitchen** (5207 Brodie, 892-2008, [www.tarkaindiankitchen.com](http://www.tarkaindiankitchen.com)) received a **WasteSMART Business Partner** certificate from the city of Austin for reducing and recycling waste and using recycled products. Congratulations to both!... In anticipation of the opening of **Maudie's Hill Country** later this summer in Bee Cave, the folks at **Maudie's Tex-Mex** ([www.maudies.com](http://www.maudies.com)) have joined forces with **Amy's Ice Creams** to create a new flavor called **Bee Cave Crunch**, a Mexican-vanilla base with a honey and pecan-praline swirl. Ask for the new treat at your favorite Maudie's location around town... Look for **Dripping Springs Vodka** in new flask-shaped, 375-milliliter bottles that are only available in Texas. We're told the new curved bottles are the perfect accessory for "any event that requires pants with pockets." And speaking of local spirits, many members of the local distilling and artisan bartending communities are spending this week at the annual **Tales of the Cocktail** conference in New Orleans, reputed to be the original home of the cocktail... On the new restaurant front, look for a second outlet of **Arpeggio Grill** (6619 Airport, 419-0110) to open in the spot recently vacated by TerraBurger in the 2500 block of Guadalupe Street. We're also told that the first Austin outlet of Houston chef **Robert Del Grande's** popular quick casual eatery, **Cafe Express**, is coming to the former La Madeleine location at 3418 N. Lamar. And we're eager to see the new Latin-inspired **La Sombra** (4800 Burnet Rd.), set to go into the former Sampaio's location in the Rosedale neighborhood.



### Seasonals, Varietals, and Other Brew News

- ▶ Beers from Austin's new **Thirsty Planet Brewing Company** ([www.thirstyplanet.net](http://www.thirstyplanet.net)) are now available for purchase. Recent Facebook and Twitter posts from Thirsty Planet report that its Bucket Head IPA is now available on tap at **Houndstooth Coffee** (4200 N. Lamar), **Black Sheep Lodge** (2108 S. Lamar), the **Flying Saucer** (the Triangle, 46th & Guadalupe), and the **Draught House Pub** (4112 Medical Parkway). Thirsty Planet is one of 10 new brewers in the Austin area that we recently profiled in these pages (see "Beer in Bloom," June 18).
- ▶ Another new brewer we've written up, **Black Star Co-op Pub & Brewery** (see "From Beer to Infinity," Jan. 22), hopes to open soon but is a little behind schedule. The original plan was to open in June, but that later got pushed back to "end of summer," which co-founder **Steven Yarak** recently clarified to me as some time in September. But hey, that's not much of a delay compared to what happened with the launch of the nearby MetroRail Red Line, right?
- ▶ **Shiner 96** is coming out of retirement! Originally a limited-edition beer brewed in 2005 to mark **Spoetzl Brewery's** 96th year of operation, it's being revived as **Shiner Märzen-style Oktoberfest** and will be a fall seasonal. This makes me happy – I've enjoyed all Shiner's anniversary beers and wanted them all to return either as seasonals or year-round beers. This will be the second anniversary beer to return – **Shiner 97** (now known as **Shiner Black** year-round) preceded it.
- ▶ Houston's **Saint Arnold Brewing Company** will be teaching new tricks to old beers over the next year. It plans something called the **Movable Yeast** series, which involves taking batches of their regular beers but fermenting them with different yeasts. First up they'll take **Fancy Lawnmower** – a kölsch that's their top seller – and pitch it instead with a Bavarian hefeweizen yeast that will impart banana and clove flavors. This Frankenstein beer, called **Weedwacker**, will be available in selected Texas restaurants and bars on Monday, Aug. 16. In the future, expect **Altared Amber** (Saint Arnold's Amber Ale with Belgian Trappist yeast), **Bitter Belgian** (Elissa IPA with Belgian Trappist), and **Brown Bitte** (Brown Ale with Alt yeast). – Lee Nichols



## MEDIUM RAW: A BLOODY VALENTINE TO THE WORLD OF FOOD AND THE PEOPLE WHO COOK

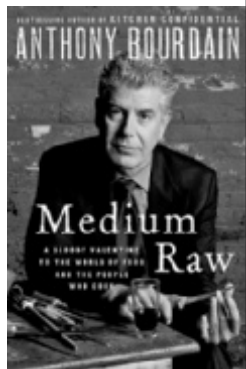
by Anthony Bourdain (Ecco, 304 pp., \$26.99)

Ten years ago Anthony Bourdain's *Kitchen Confidential* shattered the culinary book scene with its funny and irreverently revealing look behind the scenes into the underbelly of New York's restaurant kitchens. With this sequel, Bourdain updates the current food scene, issues a few mea culpas for past transgressions, reveals absorbing vignettes of culinary adventures around the world, and explores some of food's most fascinating figures, all in his signature unflinching, focused, acerbic style.

Bourdain takes his best shots at noted culinary critic Alan Richman, whom he rips into for trashing a restaurant he used to work at simply to get back at Bourdain. He praises the focus of independent bloggers while vivisection critics who accept freebies from those they write about. He attacks the Food Network for firing all of the chefs and replacing them with talking-head wonks with no professional background. His unique position as ex-chef, foodie TV travel adventurer, and culinary insider gains Bourdain access to food's inner circle that few can claim, and once there, he does not hesitate to lambast his hapless victims with abandon or exalt his heroes with hilarious effusion.

Bourdain can turn a phrase like no other. If you want to read some excellent and highly descriptive food porn, you have only to digest his delicious narrative of eating the outlawed ortolan in the book's introduction. Read the chapter devoted to the knife skills of Le Bernardin's Justo Thomas, elite master of piscatory prep work, to discern Bourdain's powers of depiction.

With *Medium Raw*, the wit is dry, the humor is laugh-out-loud, the attacks sharp and well-honed, and you're guaranteed to learn something about restaurant kitchens that you never knew. Ultimately, the book is entertaining, and like a foodie friend cautioned after she finished it: "I had to finish it in one sitting, and I'm still laughing out loud a day later." – Mick Vann



### recently reviewed

**GERMAN: NUERNBERG BRAUHAUS** Who knew that great family-style German fare was right up the highway? You'll find the requisite schnitzel and potato pancakes with apple sauce, but don't miss the goulash. 1202 FM 685 Ste. B-5, Pflugerville, 512/990-5544. [www.nbg-brauhaus.com](http://www.nbg-brauhaus.com).

**SOUTHWESTERN: TACOS AND TEQUILA** This casual eatery serves a small menu with an emphasis on marinated grilled meats with a variety of sauces and sides by chef Alma Alcocer-Thomas. The bar, serving more than 100 tequilas, is a great happy-hour spot. 507 Pressler, 436-8226. [www.tntgrill.com](http://www.tntgrill.com).

## Event Menu July 23-28

- ▶ SoCo business stalwarts **Liz Lambert**, **Steve Wertheimer**, and chef **Larry McGuire** host an evening of music, education, and food in support of the **Greater New Orleans Foundation Gulf Coast Oil Spill Fund** ([www.gnof.org](http://www.gnof.org)) and the **Gulf Restoration Network** ([www.healthygulf.org](http://www.healthygulf.org)) in the parking lot at the Hotel San José (1316 S. Congress). An optional \$10 donation at the gate entitles guests to enjoy live music and educational presentations; another \$10 buys a shrimp and crawfish boil dinner prepared by Perla's. Friday, July 23, 6-10pm.
- ▶ The nine Hill Country wineries along the **Wine Road 290** ([www.wineroad290.com](http://www.wineroad290.com)) between Johnson City and Fredericksburg team with area restaurants to present **Chili and Chillin'** – tastings of chili and wine at each location. Saturday, July 24, 10am-6pm.
- ▶ **Jack Allen's Kitchen** (7720 Hwy. 71 W., 852-8558, [www.jackallenskitchen.com](http://www.jackallenskitchen.com)) hosts a four-course Gulf seafood dinner to benefit the **Coastal Conservation Association**. Festivities include live music on the patio and a silent auction. \$50 per person; reservations necessary. Monday, July 26, 5-10pm
- ▶ **Fogo de Chão** (309 E. Third, 472-0220) invites guests to **UnWind Wednesdays**; guests will be offered selected complimentary bottles of Chile's Casa Lapostolle wine with the purchase of two adult lunches or dinners. Wednesdays, July 28 through Sept. 29.

## El Arbol

3411 Glenview, 323-5177, [www.elarbolrestaurant.com](http://www.elarbolrestaurant.com)

Dinner: Tuesday-Sunday, 5pm-10pm; brunch: Saturday-Sunday, 10am-3pm

El Arbol is the latest luminary in the garland of tony new restaurants that has been steadily transforming the Austin dining scene, turning a once-provincial food town into a humming culinary hive. This Argentine-influenced restaurant has certainly generated a lot of buzz since it first opened earlier this year – though it is unclear whether this is attributable to the food or just the great space.

Aptly named for the sprawling oak tree that forms the centerpiece of the huge, multilevel outdoor porch, the restaurant feels almost like a modern tree house. Outside, glowing white globes hang from the tree's ancient branches, illuminating the porches like miniature moons. Inside, all views are also dominated by the tree. The dining rooms' huge glass walls face onto the porch. The interior decor leans toward 1970s Hollywood Regency, all concrete and glass and white upholstery, broken by perforated wood screens that give the place a Scandinavian flavor. Three different levels further divide the space in a clubby, Studio 54 arrangement. On Friday nights El Arbol is buzzing with platform-heeled women in short dresses – typically followed by smartly attired men sporting aviator glasses and casual linen clothing. When it's busy, the noise levels inside the restaurant are almost deafening.

El Arbol is the type of place where a cocktail before dinner is like a secret handshake – it gets you in the club. The icy, sweet caipirinha (\$9), the house specialty made from *cachaça* (cane sugar rum), lime, and sugar, seems almost custom-fitted to Austin's hot summer nights.

The food at El Arbol draws most of its inspiration from the flavors of Argentina. Steaks (\$22-63), grilled meats, and empanadas loom large on the menu, though the kitchen doesn't limit itself to the basics familiar to most American palates. Organ meats and exotic game make regular appearances, as do some of the lesser-known Argentine favorites such as *matambre*, flank steak pinwheeled with spinach, carrots, and egg (\$12).

The flavors are bold and, frankly, sometimes border on heavy-handed. For instance, the *chimichurri* sauce (a sort of vinegary pesto made with parsley, onions, olive oil, and garlic) that accompanies the empanadas and grilled meats was too oily. The ceviche appetizer (\$11) was overpowered by peppers (both sweet and spicy), and the gnocchi in cream sauce (\$7) was ruined by vinegar-soaked mushrooms. One night the kitchen served an appetizer consisting of bruschetta topped with smoked veal sweetbreads, arugula, and homemade lamb "bacon" (\$12). The

sweetbreads were smooth and velvety, the lamb bacon at once sweet and salty, with crisp edges of fat, not unlike the addictive bits of fat on the outside of a roast lamb. Both were delicious, and layered on a thick slice of grilled bread, the dish would have been plenty rich without the slather of garlic mayonnaise, which, for me, put the whole ensemble over the top.

On the other hand, the kitchen also dishes up some inspired fare. The empanadas (\$4-5) are truly excellent, made from pastry dough that is rich and flaky, but with a little chew. The fillings – such as spiced pork, almonds, and raisins or spinach and cheese – stand up admirably. A *plato principal* of pork belly over sweet potato risotto was simply stunning. The pork belly was first braised until tender enough to fall apart with a fork, then coated with sugar and vinegar, and seared to caramelize the edges. The smooth sweet potato risotto brought the whole dish together. A dish of stewed rabbit (\$25) served in thick paprika sauce over crunchy fried potatoes made me want to lick the plate clean.

For dessert, I advise steering clear of the overbearing *alfajores* (\$8), a dense flourless chocolate cake sandwiching *cajeta* and topped with coconut whipped cream. Instead, order the delicate fennel flan with orange syrup (\$7), a tamer way to end the audacious, meat-heavy meals at El Arbol.

– Rachel Feit



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON



## Gloria's

3309 Esperanza Crossing #100 (the Domain), 833-6400, [www.gloriasrestaurants.com](http://www.gloriasrestaurants.com)

Sunday-Thursday, 11am-10pm; Friday-Saturday, 11am-11pm (salsa dancing on weekend nights; bar stays open until 2am)

The original Gloria's restaurant is located in the Oak Cliff section of Dallas, a cheerful and unpretentious Salvadoran and Tex-Mex cafe. Over time, Gloria's developed a large, loyal, and loving clientele, and 10 additional locations were gradually opened around the Metroplex and in nearby suburban towns. This year, the chain has ventured into Central Texas, opening a large new location here in Austin at the Domain.

As the Gloria's empire has expanded, the chain's image has become increasingly

sophisticated and slick. Clearly, a lot of money and marketing have gone into the transformation, and you would never guess (if I weren't telling you right now) that the original Gloria's was such an unpretentious little place. The Austin location's grand scale and polished decor will be a shock to anyone familiar with the original.

The scale, it is grand! The outdoor patio is huge, and the indoor dining rooms are equally enormous. In spite of this, the space manages

to be beautiful and warm, and the design elements are simple and understated to excellent effect: a long line of identical orchids grace one wall, and another is an architectural wall of water. The floors are terrazzo tile, but the acoustic ceiling treatments eradicate any excess noisiness.

The menu remains a mixture of Salvadoran and Tex-Mex, and the prices hover around \$15, which for the Domain is more than reasonable. Chips, salsa, and black bean dip are provided free of charge and are all excellent. Though not fiery, the table salsa is complex, with a rich, red tomato base and bright notes of garlic and cilantro.

The Gloria's Super Special (\$10.99), a sampler of Salvadoran specialties, provided a chicken and potato tamale, a pork and cheese pupusa, cabbage slaw, fried sweet plantains, yucca root, black beans, rice, and sour cream. The entire sampler was authentic and delicious. All the dinners, served on big, square white plates, look beautiful, but this one really delivered in terms of flavor and enjoyment.

The Pescado Acajutla (\$15.99) consisted of a tilapia fillet, served over rice and "grilled" vegetables. This dish sadly exemplified Gloria's essential chainy-ness: The fillet had that uninspiring color and muddy flavor inherent in farm-raised fish, and no matter how excellent the marinade or sauce, it couldn't aspire to be more than mediocre. The steamed (not grilled) vegetables that came with it were cooked per-

fectly, but they were a blank and a cipher as far as flavor was concerned. It was all perfectly edible, but it failed to stir even the remotest wish for a repeat.

The Mar y Tierra (\$16.99) featured a grilled sirloin steak, two grilled shrimp, queso fresco, black beans, rice, and *chimichurri* sauce. The steak was pounded thin but grilled accurately to temperature, and when dipped into the exquisite *chimichurri* (a blend of herbs, oil, garlic, and vinegar), it was really very good. The shrimp were unremarkable. Gloria's sensibly limits its dessert menu to three items: the World Famous Chocolate Flan (\$4.99) had a wonderful, homemade Mexican chocolate flavor and was a high point of the meal.

The truth is, the marinades and sauces, as well as the beans, rices, salsas, desserts, and "made" items like tamales are all done skillfully and well. But the basic, underlying ingredients, the meats and seafood and side vegetables, are noticeably inexpensive food-service grade. With many of the dishes relying on simple preparations (such as grilling) that showcase the essential flavors, the fact that the essential flavors are either missing or substandard is a genuine problem. Not enough of a problem to send one's food back to the kitchen, but enough to fail to inspire a return visit.

On the plus side: The drinks are cheap and pack a wallop, and the service is excellent.

– Kate Thornberry





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# restaurant roulette

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### DOWNTOWN

**AMERICAN CAFE, SEAFOOD: PARKSIDE** offers simple surf and turf in a bistro setting, with a full oyster and raw bar, amazing mac & cheese, and great desserts. Stop by for dinner and the late-night scene or a quick prowl through the half-price bar menu at happy hour. **301 E. Sixth, 474-9898. www.parkside-austin.com. \$\$\$**

**BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: EMERALD CITY PRESS** advertises "Coffee, Flowers, News," with drive-through and walk-up service and a small wi-fi patio. The menu includes beverages ranging from coffee to sodas and wine and prepared foods from Austin's favorite local bakeries. **915 N. Lamar, 472-6660. www.emeraldcitypress.com. \$**

**BARBECUE: HOUSE PARK BARBECUE** has served no-frills mesquite-smoked brisket, pork loin, sausage, chicken plates, and sandwiches from the same smoke-redolent shack since 1949. Lunch only. **900 W. 12th, 472-9621. \$**

**CUBAN: HABANA CALLE 6** Back by popular demand, this Sixth Street Cuban restaurant is now tucked beneath Texas Embassy, in the Cuban Underground. Fortify yourself with mojitos and fried plantains before delving into the extensive list of entrées. **709 E. Sixth, 443-4252. www.habana.com. \$\$\$**

**FINE DINING, FRENCH: CHEZ NOUS** This *grand-mère* of Austin's French restaurants offers classic bistro fare. After all these years, we're still partial to the *salade lyonnaise* and the elegant *mousse au chocolat*. **510 Neches, 473-2413. www.cheznousaustin.com. \$\$\$**

**INDIAN: THE CLAY PIT** Best described as contemporary Indian cuisine, the menu pairs traditional Indian techniques and flavors with items such as mussels and salmon. Don't skip the tomato soup. **1601 Guadalupe, 322-5131. www.claypit.com. \$\$\$**

**KOREAN, VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: KORIENTE RESTAURANT & TEA HOUSE** Here, the emphasis is on fresh, healthy food with a minimum of sugar, salt, and fat. This MSG-free zone offers gluten-free items as well. The spicy chicken bul-gogi is a favorite of Downtown bartenders. **621 E. Seventh, 275-0852. www.koriente.com. \$\$\$**

**PACIFIC RIM: ROY'S** The Pipeline Masters Sashimi Sampler is one of Austin's greatest raw-fish bargains. Meat lovers will appreciate the Kobe beef carpaccio and braised beef short ribs. You'll also find a good wine list. **340 E. Second, 391-1500. www.roysrestaurant.com. \$\$\$**

**SEAFOOD: WAHOOS' FISH TACO** You'll feel like you're on vacation here, even if it's only a lunch hour. Regulars are addicted to the Banzai Bowl and keep coming back for tacos and Baja rolls. **509-A Rio Grande, 476-3474. www.wahoos.com. \$**

### EAST

**BARBECUE: WILLIE'S BAR-B-QUE** Plastic tablecloths, a walk-up counter, a TV in the corner, and delectable barbecue. This is some of the moistest, heartiest brisket in town, and the chicken jumps off the bone. The smoked boudin sounds intriguing. **4505 E. MLK, 926-9340. \$**

**BRAZILIAN: RIO'S BRAZILIAN CAFE** Fans of Rio's at the Vintage Lounge are thrilled that they can enjoy a full menu of authentic Brazilian specialties at this brand new location. **408 N. Pleasant Valley, 828-6617. www.howdoyourio.com. \$**

**CAJUN/CREOLE: NUBIAN QUEEN LOLA'S CAJUN SOUL FOOD KITCHEN** A proprietress as friendly as her food is good serves up huge portions of burgers and Cajun chow from a succulent menu. The dining room is communal and friendly, and Lola is a blessing. **1815 Rosewood, 474-5652. www.nubianqueenlolas.com. \$**

**INTERIOR MEXICAN: LAS CAZULES** Look for a dozen egg dishes for early risers, as well as *machacado* and nopales, enchiladas potosinas, and plenty of Mexican standards. **1701 E. Cesar Chavez, 479-7911. \$**

**TEX-MEX: MI MADRE'S RESTAURANT** is known for its giant breakfast tacos. Excellent Mexican food in a homey diner atmosphere. Start with queso at an outdoor table before diving in. **2201 Manor Rd., 480-8441. www.mimadrestaurant.com. \$**

**TEX-MEX: PORFIRIO'S TACOS** serves breakfast and lunch. Carne guisada is the specialty. The green salsa might take some getting used to. **1512 Holly, 476-5030. \$**

**TEX-MEX: VIVO** Try the affordable San Antonio-style Tex-Mex fare with some margaritas on the decks. We hear raves about the puffy tacos. **2015 Manor Rd., 482-0300. www.vivo-austin.com. \$\$\$**

**THAI: PAD THAI THAI CUISINE** Appropriately, Pad Thai has pad thai on the menu, as well as hot pots and traditional curries. A bright interior, large portions, and friendly service add up to make this a regular stop. **1201 Barbara Jordan Blvd., 11220, 469-1778. www.padthaiatx.com. \$\$\$**

**VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: MR. NATURAL** is a juice bar, bakery, health-food store, and vegetarian Mexican restaurant in one: your one-stop shop for soybean ceviche, pineapple empanadas, and queen bee royal jelly. **1901 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-5228. www.mrnatural-austin.com. \$**

### LAKE

**BARBECUE: PEETE MESQUITE BAR-B-QUE** This full-service barbecue joint serves all of the categories: brisket, ribs, sausage, chicken, pork steak, turkey, and chopped beef. It's all done rotisserie-style in mesquite-fired cabinet smokers. **2407 Hwy. 281 N., Marble Falls, 830/693-6531. www.peetemesquite.com. \$**

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

**ITALIAN: RUSSO'S RESTAURANT** The brainchild of a New Jersey native desperate for good Italian food, this spot features the freshest Texas ingredients Italian-style. Also home of the most romantic view in town. **602 Steve Hawkins Pkwy., Marble Falls, 830/693-7091. www.textally.com. \$\$\$**

### NORTH

**BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: THE STEEPING ROOM** Tearooms are making a comeback just in time for moist cupcakes and delicate tea sandwiches. You'll find a selection of small plates, salads, and daily soups here as well. **The Domain, 11410 Century Oaks Terrace #112, 97-STEEP. www.thesteepingroom.com. \$\$\$**

**CAJUN/CREOLE: MAMA ROUX** The decor evokes casual Crescent City eateries, and the food doesn't disappoint. You'll find an affordable menu and generous portions of New Orleans favorites. **13000 N. I-35 #600, 490-1304. \$\$\$**

**CHINESE: MANDARIN HOUSE** Respectable and frequently replenished lunch and dinner buffets are the main attractions here. Popular items include General Tso's chicken and above-average egg rolls. **8929 N. Lamar, 837-6361. www.austinmandarinhouse.com. \$\$\$**

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### FOOD

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# Access (Almost) Denied

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

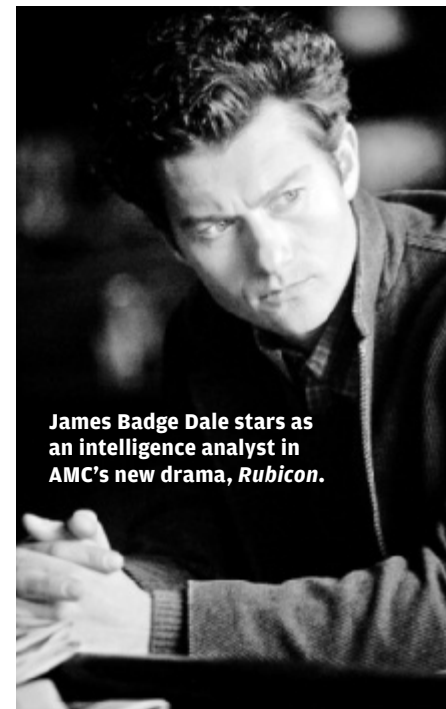
Don't make me cut you.

That's what went through my head when I heard about the kerfuffle over the negotiation of programming fees between **AT&T's U-verse** (my current cable provider) and **Rainbow Media** (a division of Cablevision Systems). The current contract agreement expired on July 14. If the two entities couldn't reach an agreement, it would mean that U-verse would drop AMC, meaning I would not be able to watch the season four premiere of my beloved **Mad Men** this Sunday. I was incensed. Make no mistake: If U-verse dropped AMC and I could not watch **Mad Men**, I would drop U-verse. I've done it before. I'll do it again. If only I could drop bad men as quickly as I drop cable providers.

I realize I sound like a petulant child to the cable providers' ears, but I don't care where I get to see my favorite series, as long as I can see them. Going against my own, previously steadfast philosophy that I would not pay for free broadcast TV or for a series I already paid to see via my cable subscription, I did pay to download an episode of **Mad Men** once when I somehow neglected to record it. It was an eye-opening experience for me, making me rethink the idea of an à la carte system (something cable providers are dead set against). I'm not alone in the desire to see what I want, when I want it. If any cable provider is going to stand in my way, I'll go elsewhere. Case closed.

Fortunately, U-verse and Rainbow Media came to an agreement late last week. AMC, IFC, WeTV, and the Sundance Channel are not going away. Big sigh. But **Mad Men** was not the only show on my mind. Also at stake was whether I would be able to see AMC's newest original drama, **Rubicon**. I watched a sneak peek of the pilot online, and let me tell you: AMC is on a roll with these high-end, highly stylized dramas. And yes, if push came to shove, I would pay to watch it elsewhere if I had to.

**Rubicon**, executive produced by **Henry Bromell** (*Homicide: Life on the Street*, *Chicago Hope*, *Brotherhood*), is a spy drama, a thriller with a capital "T." It stars **James Badge Dale** (*The Pacific*) as Will Travers, a soul-weary special agent for the American Policy Institute. The job of API agents is to evaluate intel from various sources – CIA, FBI, the National Security Agency – and see if there is something hiding in plain sight: some pattern, some common thread that



James Badge Dale stars as an intelligence analyst in AMC's new drama, **Rubicon**.

may or may not point to a pending action by terrorists and other hostile entities. As an API analyst, Travers is among the elite of the elite. He's not a spy. His work is tedious and time-consuming. Ultimately, it's his work and that of his colleagues that decide the missions the spies are sent on.

Travers is doing his job ably, working for his father-in-law. The two of them are close, still mourning over the death of Travers' wife and child on 9/11. So their work has added significance to them. What if the various federal agencies actually worked with one another? How would things that day have gone differently?

The series opens with the death of a wealthy man. His death is referenced throughout the episode, and viewers soon realize his death is much more than ordinary and that a bit of information Travers uncovered may have extraordinary consequences.

Inspired by heart-pounding, Seventies-era thrillers like *Three Days of the Condor* and *The Parallax View*, **Rubicon** promises to keep you glued to the screen – TV, computer, iPhone, or other.

Other cast members include Jessica Collins (*CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*), Dallas Roberts (*The L Word*), Christopher Evan Welch (*Vicky Cristina Barcelona*), Lauren Hodges (*Law & Order*), Arliss Howard (*Full Metal Jacket*), Roger Robinson (*Brother to Brother*), and Michael Cristofer (*The Bonfire of the Vanities*).

**Rubicon** premieres with a two-hour pilot on Sunday, Aug. 1, at 7pm on AMC. The long-awaited fourth season of **Mad Men** returns to AMC on Sunday, July 25, at 9pm on AMC.

As always, stay tuned.

Follow TV Eye on Twitter: @ChronicleTVEye.

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

# screens

## ENGAGING 'FOURPLAY'

Before departing for Chicago, Kyle Henry makes a cross-platform debut

BY CINDY WIDNER

Filmmaker Kyle Henry (*Room, University Inc.*) thinks of himself as “an experimental kind of guy,” he says, but his work in progress, *Fourplay* – a four-part feature that takes place in different cities (San Francisco; Austin; Tampa, Fla.; and New Haven, Conn.) and presents a quartet of diverse sexual scenarios – doesn’t skimp on visual or narrative pleasures, as that term might imply.

It is, however, in possession of something even more provocative than the sex within: an exciting distribution method.

*Fourplay* will debut at film festivals and be released in discrete segments on the IndiePix Films website as each segment is completed, a market approach that breathes some optimism into a part of the film industry that desperately needs it.

The film’s first segment, “Fourplay: San Francisco,” scripted by Henry’s partner, theatre talent and writer Carlos Treviño, deploys an unstoppable Austin duo – cinematographer/director (here DP) PJ Raval (*Trinidad, Trouble the Water*) and actor Paul Soileau (he inhabits Christeene and Rebecca Havemeyer, among others) – to tell the story of a transvestite prostitute faced with the quandary of how to pleasure her complicated trick (Gary Chason). The film’s explicit emotional open-

ness, rather than its sexual content, is what gives it its edge.

“Fourplay: San Francisco” debuted earlier this month to two packed screenings at Los Angeles’ Outfest 2010 and was simultaneously made available at IndiePix.

Future segments, however, will come by way of Chicago; Henry, a lecturer in the University of Texas’ Department of Radio-Television-Film, and Treviño, who already has ties to the theatre scene there, will be relocating so that Henry can take a tenure-track teaching position at Northwestern University. Back in Austin after the glowing Outfest showing, Henry filled us in on his next few moves.

**AC:** How did *Fourplay* come about?

**KH:** I’m disappointed with the way that sexual expression has dropped off the radar of American cinema – an honest adult investigation into the complicated thing we call “sex” and how it interacts with some of the most important moments of our lives. We wanted to make sure that when sex came into the stories, it was a turning point for the characters’ lives, perhaps. Or at least it was a very important day!

**AC:** What made you decide on the structure and distribution method?

**KH:** Everyone’s talking about new ways of delivering stories. For me, it just made sense, if you were going to do a series of shorts, that you would want to find ways to get it to people who would be interested immediately instead of going for a yearlong festival circuit run. I wanted it to concentrate on sexual intimacy instead of just sexual performance – but be available the same way that anyone else who was trolling around for porn videos could find it. It’s this weird middle world – we’re trying to see if it exists.

**AC:** How was it to collaborate with Carlos?

**KH:** Carlos really was excited about writing these stories about sex. We are such movie snobs. With sex scenes in particular, we really love the work of the Seventies – by people like Nicolas Roeg and Ken Russell, where sex in the films are amazing awakenings or turning points or horrible disasters.

The major role of a director is to bring people together who are extremely talented and have a project that they are focused on. I’m excited to be partnered with an amazing writer; more than anything, I was excited to use his abilities.

**AC:** What are you going to do at Northwestern?

**KH:** I will be teaching a lot of film production, but my focus will primarily be documentary filmmaking. For the last 10 years, I’ve been a documentary film editor – that’s how primarily I’ve made my living. Luckily Northwestern saw the value that an editor has to bring to a program, as much as a director.

**AC:** Anything you anticipate missing about Austin?

**KH:** I’m going to miss everything about Austin. This is the first place both Carlos and I felt like we were at home. We fell in love here; we returned here after living in



JOHN ANDERSON

New York right after 9/11 and felt like we had returned to some sort of sanctuary. Leaving here is going to be like emerging again from its very comforting arms. I’m also going to miss the extreme interconnections across all artistic disciplines that happens so naturally here.

**AC:** Any parting words?

**KH:** I think film in general would get a whole lot better if we focused on the fact that we’re building communities of people, and it’s the people that make the work. If we focus on just the director, we’re deluding a lot of kids about what their job should be as directors. Directors should be great cultivators of talent. They shouldn’t think that they need to know it all. That’s the killer. ■

“Fourplay: San Francisco” is currently available on IndiePix at [www.indiepixfilms.com/film/fourplay](http://www.indiepixfilms.com/film/fourplay). For more information on the film, see [www.fourplayfilm.com](http://www.fourplayfilm.com).

## Hot Summer, High Stakes

A pot dealer comes of age in ‘Dance With the One’

BY KIMBERLEY JONES

August in Austin is a particularly hellish time to shoot a film, so it’s no wonder the actors in *Dance With the One*, which was shot locally two summers ago, drip with sweat from scene to scene. It’s a small but telling detail that authentically conveys our little corner of the planet; that kind of authenticity distinguishes the entire film, a production of the University of Texas Film Institute. It’s there in the set dressing and decor, the casually multiethnic cast, the house party that believably mixes old-Austin hippies and skateboarding pot dealers.

Director Mike Dolan, who teaches filmmaking and acting at St. Stephen’s Episcopal School, credits the screenwriters, Jon Marc Smith (an Austin native) and Smith Henderson (an Austin transplant), with “capturing the Austin vibe,” along with production designer Yvonne Boudreaux and her art department.

“Casting is also huge in capturing place, and I think we got really lucky with all of the cast,” says Dolan. “Gabriel Luna is from Austin, so he was a killer resource in terms of that authenticity.”

Luna plays Nate, a small-time dealer trying to keep his family together in the wake of his mother’s death by overdose. Luna, a longtime Austin theatre actor, has a can’t-look-away-from-him quality, as his beleaguered Nate shoulders the burdens of a parent when his own father (played by Gary

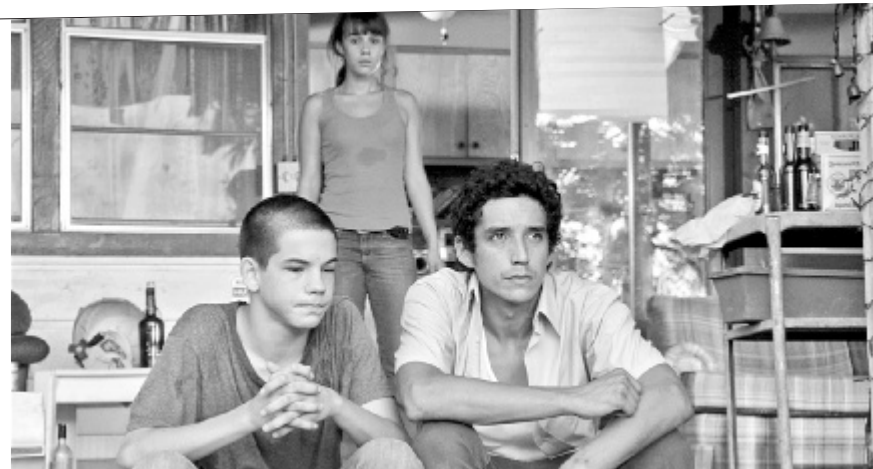
McCleery) disappears inside a bottle of whiskey, while betraying his own still young age with a little-kid kind of panic when a drug deal goes south – way south.

“Gabe has a sort of sad nobility that really comes across,” says Dolan, “and he also has the courage and physicality to believably take all the actions in the film that the story demands.”

What kind of actions? Well, there’s sex, drugs, and rock & roll – not to mention shotgun-toting and intense emoting – but for all the sensationalist sheen of the film’s premise, it plays out with real sensitivity.

“The stakes in our film are often very high,” says Dolan, “and this could be death if we played at that emotion in a way that was false, so I was always really aware of the intensity of the emotion, because it really loses clarity if it gets too heavy.”

Dolan brought to set his own years of experience in front of the camera, in films like *Biloxi Blues* and *Hamburger Hill* (more recently, he’s appeared in local productions *Mars* and *Friday Night Lights*).



Mike Davis (l), Xochitl Romero, and Gabriel Luna in *Dance With the One*

“I love actors and acting, and when I was working in New York I worked with some very good directors who taught me a ton about working with actors. I feel like I have a pretty good tool kit I can play with.

“The key is freeing actors up; there are so many ways actors shut themselves down. They put pressure on themselves, get caught up in an obligation to fulfill an idea instead of just trusting that all they need to do is be entirely in the moment and trust that unplanned behavior will emerge and tell the story. I always bring everything back to the story.” ■

*Dance With the One* screens July 27, 7pm, at the Dobie Theatre. Proceeds benefit Gabriel Luna’s Paper Chairs theatre company.

# Making It Right

Austin-based Students of the World strives to make it a better one

BY KATE X MESSER

The editing bay just off East Fifth Street is small but cozy. A few of the young people from Students of the World have gathered to review rushes of footage they shot this past June in New Orleans for a documentary they are creating for Make It Right, the Brad Pitt- and Bill Clinton-fueled nonprofit that's building energy-efficient, sustainable housing in the city's Lower Ninth Ward. The group aims to present this short film in New Orleans for the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina next month.

University of Michigan student Sam Wolson, one of the main filmmakers on both the Make It Right doc and a similar project the team is developing for neighboring Broadmoor Improvement Association, is forwarding through clips. "This was on Frenchmen," he grins as he lets one edited section roll. The room erupts with the familiar clamor of a young brass band. Shot from below, the brief cut captures the thrill of a typical weekend along the music venues in the Faubourg Marigny.

"The tuba player," begins Adrienne Collatos, a Harvard grad and the team's producer, "his grandmother lives in a Make It Right house. Some people from the Lower Ninth invited us over for barbecue, and we got to spend some downtime with them, not just working but hanging out."

"So, this," Wolson says, introducing the next clip, "is one of the first residents to move into a Make It Right house."

"One of the big issues that we dealt with is that media has been really intense in the Lower

Ninth Ward," says Collatos, describing the invasive drive-by tourists that have become an all-too-common part of life in this decimated neighborhood. "So we spent about a week without cameras, meeting residents, introducing ourselves. We had a foot in the door because of Make It Right, but there's still distrust. When Brad Pitt first came into the community, there was disbelief that he was there to actually do good. Make It Right is sensitive to the residents and careful about giving them space."

The clip begins with a woman in what seems to be her new living room. "Look, the man's name is Brad Pitt; he already got money! Why he would stop doing what he doing to come down here to take money from me like I got somethin'? He already got money, so I know he was coming to help people, because he didn't need nothing from us. He was comin' to help us!"

Wolson smiles. "She was one of the most genuine, charismatic speakers we talked to." I get the sense he is very proud that they've captured on video the essence of their animated friend – and that this was not as simple as setting up some lights and letting the camera roll.

The students continue to eagerly share clips of architects addressing the controversy stirred by Make It Right's mega-modern Jetsons-style home designs and builders proudly displaying the cutting-edge green building technology. As the clips roll, the kids narrate for me not only their filming process but the knowledge earned through the project



SOW's Austin-based team: (back row) Marquise Eloi, Ashley Tsai, Sam Wolson, Adrienne Collatos, and Candice Porter; (front row) Max Collins, Andrew Eisbrouch, and Christiana Botic

they have spent the last month absorbing, documenting, and coming to love.

□

Students of the World is a national nonprofit based in Austin that harnesses young people's idealism and intellectual curiosity, offering college students from seven chapter groups (Brown, Columbia, Duke, University of Michigan, New York University, University of North Carolina, and UT-Austin) the opportunity to partner with and produce media for social justice groups around the globe. The yearlong program begins in the fall, when participating students are recruited and partner programs are chosen. The students then spend the school year in research while raising money for their trips.

"This year, we each had to raise \$2,150," says Andrew Eisbrouch, a University of Michi-

gan student and his team's events and fundraising coordinator. "That went toward lodging, travel, production costs." The teams then spend one summer month documenting the work and progress of their assigned nongovernmental organization.

This past year, a University of Texas team went to Kosovo and a UNC group went to Tanzania. The New Orleans projects are being tackled by SOW's first-ever national team. "In the past," explains Collatos, SOW "had many more teams out in various countries. This is the new and improved format." Members from many of the different chapters make up this national team.

"Three days before leaving for New Orleans, we met each other for the first time," says Max Collins, the team's photographer and yet

## From Courtney, With Love

Students of the World's globe-trotting founder wishes you were here

BY KATE X MESSER



Courtney Spence

Courtney Spence has trotted the globe – perhaps not in the way one might assume a Duke-educated daughter of an advertising magnate would. Instead of burning up Daddy's credit card on party junkets to Phuket, Ibiza, Rio, Amsterdam, or Cancun, Spence's passport is stamped with more sobering locales: Kosovo, the West Bank, Cambodia, Cuba, northern Uganda.

Inspired in 1999 – her sophomore year at Duke's Center for Documentary Studies – at 19, Spence founded Students of the World to combine the best of college study-abroad and cultural immersion programs with what she had learned at Duke: "to use media as a tool for social activism."

"It's not enough to go out and make a documentary," Spence asserts. "It should ideally create social change."

Spence laughs: "I know a lot of students who've studied abroad – went to Spain, hung out in the Irish pub, there are all these hot American

girls there .... That's a fun story, but to me, it [underscores the lack of] programs offering to immerse students culturally, while believing in their ability to impact change as young people."

It's no secret that Austin native Spence grew up in an affluent and influential media-savvy environment. Her dad is Roy Spence Jr., co-founder and CEO of GSD&M Idea City, and her mom is Mary Spence, who worked on Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign.

"Dinner table conversations at my house are politically charged," says Spence. And, as one would be correct to assume, politically well-connected. Roy Spence's friendship with a certain Bill Clinton goes back to George McGovern's presidential campaign in 1972. Courtney Spence was profoundly affected by the one-degree connection to the White House throughout her teenage years.

"The concept I had of the Clinton administration was the idea of giving back; that's what I always thought politics was – public service. As I came into my own and started to see things in a global light, I was more struck with the Clintons as individuals. I've always had a raised female consciousness, I guess you could say, and having Hillary Clinton as a role model, per-

sonally, professionally, and politically – well, she is about as inspirational as it gets."

After graduation, Spence soaked in her own immersion, working in Sen. Clinton's office and later for Ron Kirk's unsuccessful bid for a Senate seat. She began to understand the realities of politics on her own, away from the family dinner table, and all the while nurtured her little nonprofit that could.

Through Spence's connections, SOW teamed up with the Clinton Global Initiative, Bill Clinton's partnership-facilitating organization that connects nongovernmental organizations working toward common goals with private sector and government help. CGI lends credibility to the student group and, in turn, provides the necessary vetting of nonprofits and programs that apply to work with them. Since 2006, all of the groups that work with SOW have come through CGI. "We carefully select the organizations we work with. There is a list of criteria they have to meet, and then they have to want to work with us. So it's a two-way street."

In the beginning, SOW students shot black-and-white stills, wrote articles, and used a home video camera to document the stories. Now, after 10 years, "our students shoot on HD. They've grown up on Photoshop and Adobe

another U. Mich. man. "It was a lot to learn on the fly. The first team meeting was like: 'All right, what's everyone's pet peeves? Get it all on the table!'"

This is also the first year that "all of the teams are together in Austin for five to six weeks of postproduction. It used to be just two film members who'd come for two weeks and do the editing," Collatos says. "In addition to the final video project, we're producing short two-minute film vignettes; our journalist is here, writing blog posts every day, doing radio stories; and our photographers are here."

□

"Neon lights fell on our weary faces and though a 12-hour bus ride had left our half of the team ready for a nap, Bourbon Street grabbed us by the shoulders and shook the sleep out of our eyes."

Candice Porter, a sophomore from Harvard, is the team's journalist. The blog she's been keeping throughout the trip sometimes reads like a love letter to her monthlong home. Her focus is the Broadmoor Improvement Association, but the pens and the lens are often focused on individuals: Mr. Phillips, Mr. Smith, Mr. Coco...

"Sometimes," says Porter, "You want to put down your camera in that moment and just experience it or talk to the people and not have it be a formal interview. I think a lot of ethical questions could be raised, but I never felt like I was probing for someone to share their emotions. We got really lucky having people who were really open and wanted to share their stories."

Ironically, the team was commissioned to produce documentaries about the success and progress in the Crescent City five years after Katrina, while a potentially far greater disaster lurked just an hour south in the Gulf

– or, as Porter eloquently describes in one post, the "blanket of concern and distress that has been draped over New Orleans as a result of the oil spill."

Through these assignments, the students come to know firsthand the quandaries faced by working journalists. For example, in 2003, SOW launched a project and sent a team from the University of Texas to explore the progress made in Uganda in its struggle with a catastrophic rate of HIV/AIDS infection. The stories the students brought home reached far beyond their health care-oriented mission, eventually spinning off into a separate feature documentary, UT filmmaker Andy Krakower's *The Children's War*, about the decades-long conflict in the violence-ravaged African country.

"We're not a professional documentary team – we're students, and to a large extent, we're all thrown into this foreign environment and expected to perform at this certain level," explains Wolson. "So a lot of it – talking to people and knowing what our boundaries were – came through trial and error."

"There's a general tension in any sort of documentary work. As a journalist, you're on this border between having to create something aesthetic and having to create something that will translate well. But you're also dealing with people. This is a human being in front of me who is divulging his life story. How do I wrangle this?" ■

*The Students of the World documentary premiere and mixer is Sunday, Aug. 8, 7-10pm at United States Art Authority, 2906 Fruth, featuring videos, photos, cocktails, and hors d'oeuvres. SOW photo shows will be up at JP's Java, 2803 San Jacinto, and Spider House, 500 W. 29th, through August. For more info on Students of the World and Make It Right, visit [www.studentsoftheworld.org](http://www.studentsoftheworld.org) and [www.makeitrightnola.org](http://www.makeitrightnola.org). Check out the SOW Make It Right and Broadmoor blogs at [www.sowmakeitright.wordpress.com](http://www.sowmakeitright.wordpress.com) and [www.sowbroadmoor.wordpress.com](http://www.sowbroadmoor.wordpress.com).*

Creative Suite. They were doing Final Cut competitions in middle school; this is the language this generation speaks."

Essentially, SOW acts as a media group for nonprofits, creating documentaries, blogs, photo essays, and other collateral that each of the many NGOs for which they produce may use to promote and further goals.

"The output for socially conscious organizations, what they show investors, is social impact, human lives changed," says Spence. "And those stories aren't so much in numbers as they are in testimonies of how these organizations impacted people on the ground, one on one."

Students learn how to navigate the increasingly thin lines between journalism and public relations, as most projects encompass both. Spence makes no bones about SOW's mandate to promote the successes of its partner groups. "We're trying to provide media that bolsters and helps these organizations that are already doing great work. When we are making editorial decisions on how to shape the story, there is a definitive call to action, to focus on progress and positivity – but without lying. I'm not talking Pollyanna stuff here."

But in this highly mediated process, what

responsibility does SOW or Spence herself have to the truth? "We have a responsibility to global truths," she states, "whether it's girls' education, access to health care, social justice-type issues. Personally? I have been to a lot of places. I have a responsibility to the people that I've met to dispel the myths about things that people still don't understand – HIV in Africa, housing in New Orleans, Cambodia after Pol Pot, or clean water in Texas. I mean, there are places in Texas where people can light their taps on fire!"

"I think there is a responsibility for people that have had a light turned on in them and are aware of these things to tell other people through ways that make people understand," says Spence, to shed that light, as it were, to change the attitude from "I don't want to hear any more problem stories. I don't need to hear any more war stories in Africa; I just don't," to a call for action.

"I could never see myself outside of this arena of global humanitarian rights and social justice," says the young woman who could have chosen to live a very comfortable world-traveler existence but instead chose the path of great resistance. "I've seen too much." ■

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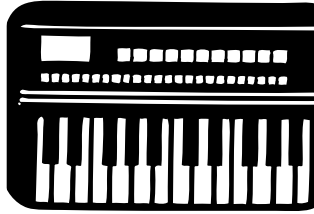
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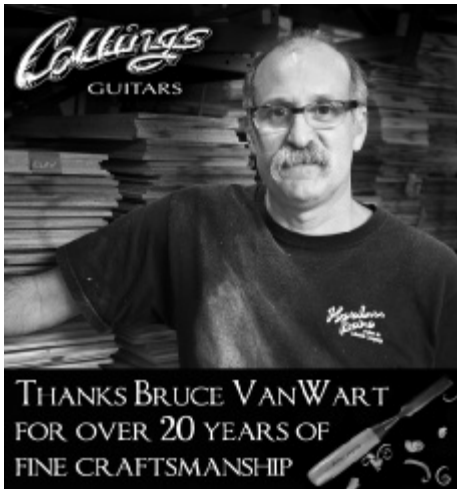
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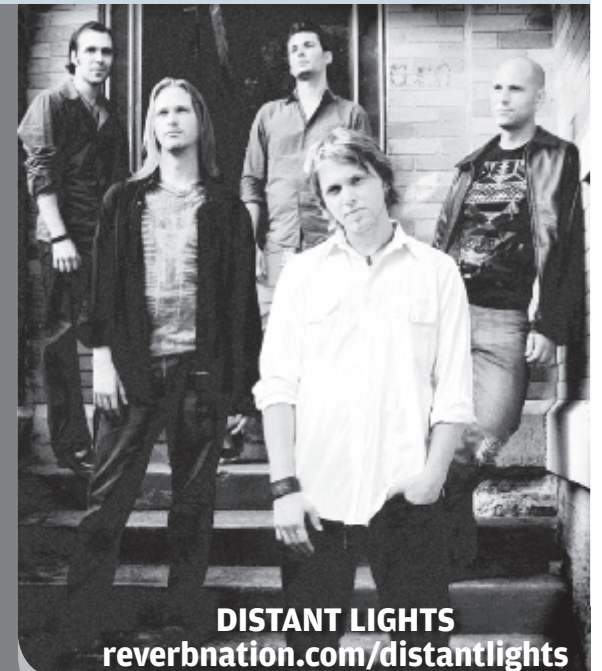
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# music

## OFF THE RECORD

MUSIC NEWS by Austin Powell

### Where There's a Will

Imagine every Central Texas tourist attraction cobbled together into one giant theme park. That's essentially **Austin Backstage Live**. Located at the corner of Slaughter Lane and I-35 in South Austin, the proposed 250-acre wonderland includes a 10,000-capacity amphitheatre, a water park, a farmers' market, an extreme sports facility, and accommodations including hotels, 200 apartments, and 300 condos, which will start at about \$200,000. Then there's the stationary drive-in movie theatre. "You could reserve a 1957 T-Bird for two," enthuses Austin Backstage Live CEO **Mitchell Kalogridis**, who also heads Florida-based real estate

company **MK Developments**. "We want every aspect of the park to be special enough to drive 200 miles to see." While that may sound like a pipe dream, Kalogridis owns the land and says he's in negotiations with "very credible organizations" for the proposed tracts, which would be managed independently. "We intend to establish a number of venue partners and coordinate construction so the venue and park will go vertical virtually simultaneously," Kalogridis says. ABL hopes to get everything permitted next year and at least one portion completed by the end of 2012. Until then, it's an impressive website: [www.austinbackstagelive.com](http://www.austinbackstagelive.com).

### Wanted More Dead Than Alive

With no fanfare or advance notice, Mississippi's blues restorative **Fat Possum Records** recently released a new posthumous compilation from Austin songsmith **Blaze Foley** (see "A Walking Contradiction," Dec. 24, 1999). An unintentional companion piece to *Sittin' by the Road*, a rougher set of material reviewed here last week, *The Dawg Years* captures "the man at the beginning of the myth: the messiah before the duct tape, the angel before the bottle, Blaze before he was Blaze," according to the liner notes of **Basil Bouris**, the subject of "Basil's Song" and whose slight infant cries can be heard on several tunes. Assembled from three home recording sessions between 1975 and 1978, the tapes were discovered on a research trip by Foley's muse **Sybil Rosen** (see "Faded Love," Oct. 31, 2008) and **Kevin Triplett**, local director of the documentary *Drunken Angel: The Legend of Blaze Foley*, who then pitched Fat Possum with help from **Marsha Weldon** and **Jeanene Van Zandt**. "I thought that I had cataloged all of his songs, but then all of a sudden there's nine new songs," says Triplett. That's not the last chapter to this saga, either. Triplett plans to release *Drunken Angel* in February with an independent theatre tour accompanied by **Gurf Morlix**, who, taking a cue from **Steve Earle's** poignant *Townes*, just finished his own tribute album, *Blaze Foley's 113th Wet Dream*. "It's something I've wanted to do ever since he was murdered," relays Morlix. "I had a hard time narrowing it down, and it's a lot longer than I usually allow for an album, but I couldn't cut any."



### Forsaking the Song, Part 13

In the **Shakespearean** tragicomedy that's been the **University of Texas'** "repurposing" of the **Cactus Cafe, Texas Performing Arts'** Assistant Director **Cameron Smith** is being cast by some as **Iago**.

According to documents obtained through open records requests, on Feb. 10, less than two weeks after the initial announcement of the venue's future, Smith submitted a two-page letter to University Unions Executive Director **Andy Smith** that outlined his credentials ("eight years as a talent buyer/concert promoter for **Live Nation** and director of a \$2 million non-profit music festival in Indianapolis") and his intentions: "My extensive booking and administrative experience and relationships within the industry would result in profitable outcomes and a diverse schedule of performances, integrating students and student-oriented programming into every part of the process."

A lecturer on artist and venue management for the **Butler School of Music**, Smith then helped draft a proposal submitted by his students **Taylor Steinberg** and **John Meller** on Feb. 29 to the **Texas Union board** pitching the Cactus as an interactive classroom. Beginning in March, Smith took part in the **Cactus Conversations**, and while the group struggled to even outline common guiding principles, the obtained documents reveal that Smith was already communicating regularly with Vice President for Student Affairs **Juan González** and Dean of Students **Soncia Reagins-Lilly**. Later, he served as a middleman between the UT administration and KUT General Manager **Stewart Vanderwilt**.

"I had a great meeting with Stewart just now, but I want to let you know what the hurdles are going to be," Smith wrote to González and Reagins-Lilly on March 26. He elaborated the following day: "One of the concerns expressed by Stewart yesterday was a strain on existing resources."

"The disappointing thing for me was seeing how much he was seeming to work behind the scenes throughout the whole semester and how he was using his students almost to advance his placement as the hopeful future manager of the Cactus," says **Student Friends of the Cactus Cafe's** **Hayley Gillespie**, who took part in the Cactus Conversations and obtained the documents cited here. "He helped shape what the conversations were about before they even started. We deserve someone who is going to be open and transparent. We shouldn't be rewarding secrecy with positions of power."

Smith, who championed the **KUT** proposal at González's town hall meeting on April 21, is quick to clarify that he disclosed his conflict of interest to the UT administration before joining the Cactus Conversations and that he was still encouraged to participate.

"I want to make it clear that I had no idea which direction the decision would go as to what entity would run the Cactus, and while I thought the KUT plan had its merits, I was open to all possibilities and I would have been interested in the position no matter who ended up running it," Smith responded via e-mail on Monday. "I was not a decision maker in any of this. My opinions were solicited, just as many others' were. Everything was on the table."

According to Associate General Manager **Hawk Mendenhall**, KUT has received more than 100 applications for the position of Cactus Cafe manager, and interviews will take place over the next few weeks (for more, see "Planting the Seeds of the New Cactus," News, p.15). Meanwhile, Smith has resigned from Texas Performing Arts effective Aug. 31. "It's totally unrelated," Smith stresses. "I've just reached a plateau here, and I'm interested in new opportunities."

### Random Play

Following last year's resurrection of **Death, Transmission Entertainment** is rescuing another Detroit legend, this time for the **2010 Fun Fun Fun Fest**, Nov. 6-7. The **Gories** stripped Motor City R&B down to its bare essentials in the late 1980s, recording a couple of primitive LPs for **Crypt Records** that would become the blueprint for the **White Stripes**. **Slick Rick**, **Suicidal Tendencies**, and **Best Coast** have also been confirmed.

Austin's **House of Songs**, a foreign exchange program with Danish musicians, has now logged more than 50 artists, following the arrival earlier this week of **Anna Rosenkilde** and **Strawberry Blonde**, the duo of twin sisters **Anja** and **Betina Følleslev**. Both acts will be performing as part of the organization's Scandinavian Summer Showcase at **Momo's** on Tuesday, July 27, featuring ambassador **Troy Campbell**, **Erin Ivey**, and **David Garza**.

Following the suit filed by **Sixthriver Architects** in June, **Maldonado Construction & Associates LLC** is taking legal action against **Direct Events** and **Planet Earth Music** owner **Tim O'Connor**, the *Statesman* reported last Thursday. The contractor claims to be owed \$344,801 for its work on the new **Backyard**.

Elsewhere on the legal docket, **Vallejo** has filed suit against **BCD Music Group** for fraud and breaches of fiduciary duty and contract in the company's handling of 2008's *Thicker Than Water*. The showdown at the **Travis County Courthouse**, Aug. 30-31, should be quite entertaining as the distribution company is countering, claiming that **Pachanga Latino Music Festival's** token local alt-rock act misrepresented itself as "an international group with a large following."

# Your Satori Mind

Even Jim Jarmusch kneels at the altar of Michio Kurihara

BY AUSTIN POWELL

With a cigarette dangling in his left hand, Michio Kurihara pushes back his jet-black hair, revealing a few slivers of gray. He looks older up close, exhausted yet hospitable.

As the Japanese guitarist sits in Mohawk's sparse greenroom in October 2007, an evening billed as the Roaring Silence Revue takes on a new meaning. With the help of the *Chronicle's* token translator Bobby Leath, questions are attempted about his upbringing and influences. There's so much history to be uncovered, so many stories to be unpacked. As a member of White Heaven and longtime fixture in Ghost, Kurihara embodies Tokyo's psychedelic renaissance of the late 1980s, an underground movement that redefined the concept of heaviness.

And yet, the language barrier between his broken English and our fractured Japanese seems to stretch further than the North Pacific Ocean. Like charades in slow motion, each word gets acted out through different sets of hands, as if their meaning will somehow emerge through the deliberate repetition of frustrated movements. It's to no avail. The awkwardness is deafening.

That humbling defeat was unfathomable hours earlier. Kurihara opened the double bill with Damon & Naomi, providing an evocative smokescreen to the former Galaxie 500 duo's elegant pop. The movements are so soft and delicate it feels as though you're eavesdropping on the private conversations of the unlikely threesome's *Within These Walls*. Boris provides the perfect study in contrast.

With the Stooges' raw power and bull-headed doom of the Melvins, the Japanese colossus remains the ultimate power trio. Wata and Takeshi exchange guitar riffs with violent precision while drummer Atsuo serves as master of ceremonies, hammering a massive gong and crowd-surfing. With a second amplifier cabinet, Boris' touring mercenary Kurihara skywrites through this typhoon of avant-metal. The resulting fury shorts the venue's PA system not once but twice. Nothing is lost in translation.

Such is the power and glory of Michio Kurihara, the great chameleon of Japanese rock, a one-man Quicksilver Messenger Service capable of capturing both the eerie eye of the storm and the torrential torment outside it. His style encompasses every phase of the Yardbirds: the slow-hand lyricism of Eric Clapton, Jeff Beck's incendiary fusion, and the epic sorcery of Jimmy Page. Rather than your typical blues or post-blues shredder, Kurihara's a sonic contortionist, unpredictable and far more interested in sculpting with texture than through chords or progressions.

"He works really hard to adjust himself to whoever he's playing with," surmised Damon Krukowski before the tour. "There's a whole



**Kurihara embodies Tokyo's psychedelic renaissance of the late 1980s, an underground movement that redefined the concept of heaviness.**

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NAOMI YANG

process that he's going through to shape the sound. I've heard him say in interviews that he's not a technical player, but he's so skilled. I think he means that he doesn't play for technique's sake. He doesn't assert himself that way. The playing comes out of an emotional core."

"He's such a sensitive player, always listening and adjusting and enhancing whatever is happening at that moment with the music," furthers Naomi Yang. "Yet despite his accommodations for whomever he's playing with, when you hear that guitar tone, that special touch – you know it's Kurihara. His sound is unmistakable."

"I don't consider Kurihara's instrument to be a guitar," reasoned Boris drummer Atsuo to the *Chronicle* via a translator (see "Mabuta no Ura," June 27, 2008). "The way he plays it destroys that idea. I hear it as a special kind of noise. It's not as though Boris had a third guitarist; it was as if we had this whole other entity in the group. Boris' sound is a series of steps. It has a roughness to it. With Kurihara, though, it's like he sends sine waves through the music, smoothing out some of the rough edges."

"He adds another dimension to the music that it didn't have before."

Born in Nishi Tama on the western cusp of Tokyo in 1961, Kurihara was raised in the wake of Japan's post-World War II rock & roll awakening. As documented by Julian Cope's psych-lopedia *Japrock Sampler*, this parallel universe produced heavy-Zen masters Flower Travellin' Band, Taj Mahal Travellers' radical long-form expressionism, and gutter-punks Les Rallizes Dénudés.

In 1983, inspired by live performances from visiting free jazz visionaries Sun Ra and James Blood Ulmer, as well as Japanese noise guru Keiji

Haino, the guitarist joined Onna, the experimental project of erotic illustrator Keizo Miyanishi. The band's electric funeral dirges – the earliest known recordings of which were reissued last year by Holy Mountain – marked ground zero for the country's emerging underground of improvised and primitive psych-rock.

"A crash/flash point between the dark centuries of Japanese isolation and self-obsession, and the new lights of cultural infinity," mused scholar Alan Cummings in the liner notes to the third installment of PSF Records' *Tokyo Flashback* series, which documented the movement. "Maybe you think you know about Japanese music. 'Yeah, Japan? The Kodo Drummers. Yellow Magic Orchestra. Shonen Knife.' Think again."

From this grunge alternative arose such colossal heavyweights as Overhang Party, Marble Sheep, and Ghost, all of whom featured Kurihara in some capacity. The latter, a long-standing ceremonial folk ensemble led by the Toho Scope vision of Masaki Batoh, caught the attention of Damon & Naomi, leading to a few stateside tours, a collaborative album in 2000, and a permanent home on Chicago's venerable Drag City Records (see "Temple Stone," May 15, 2009). White Heaven wasn't as fortunate.

Originally dubbed the Living End, the seminal fourpiece epitomized Japan's reputation for creation through absorption, filtering New York's No Wave confrontation with the darker recesses of West Coast psychedelia and 1970s Krautrock into its own firmament blues. Frontman You Ishihara's sonorous English drawl and dramatic flair distinguished the band from its contemporaries, his fuzz-muffler

CONTINUED ON P.44

## 10 Classic Kurihara Cuts

### "Mandrax Town," White Heaven, *Out* (1991)

Imagine Crazy Horse trampling through an Akira Kurosawa down-pour, complete with a six-minute comedown.

### "Go Grace Go" b/w "Lord of Nothing Pt. 1," Loud Machine 5000 (1992)

A rare 7-inch from onetime members of Marble Sheep offers a two-part Motor City riot that the included mail-order catalog champions as "great psycho punk."

### "A Red Sky in the Morning," Há-Zá-Má (1995)

Japanese Deadheads set controls for the heart of the sun on this nine-minute improvised jam, which finds Kurihara at his most spacious and elliptical.

### "Crevice," You Ishihara, *Passivité* (1997)

Amphetamine blues explosion triggers a cleaving Kurihara freak-out, sounding like a lost artifact from the psychedelic era.

### "Snuffbox Immanence," Ghost, *Snuffbox Immanence* (1999)

The epic centerpiece to Ghost's *Houses of the Holy* unfolds behind leader Masaki Batoh's pastoral folk narrative.

### "House of Glass," Damon & Naomi, *The Earth Is Blue* (2005)

Evocative and exacting, Kurihara's brushstrokes of fuzz guitar accentuate this refined pop ode, swelling with an evening tide of organ and drums.

### "Ice Blues," the Stars, *Perfect Place to Hideaway* (2005)

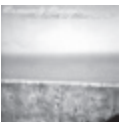
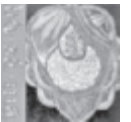
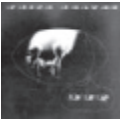
The Stars' "Sister Ray," with Kurihara and You Ishihara in an antagonistic 10-minute stop-start exchange of *White Light/White Heat*.

### "Sweet No. 1," Boris With Michio Kurihara, *Rainbow* (2007)

Amplifier worship set to a Bo Diddley beat, a shower of sparks and dueling wah-wah fury unlike anything else in their respective catalogs.

### "Angel," Wata, "She's So Heavy" 7-inch (2007)

Boris' first lady of Japanese psych rekindles the seductive allure of Masashi Kitamura's "Angel" in the same eloquent fashion as the accompanying 60-page photo album.



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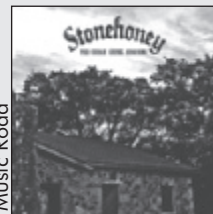
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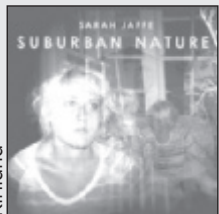
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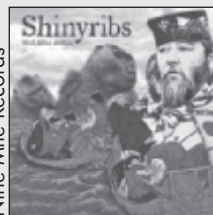
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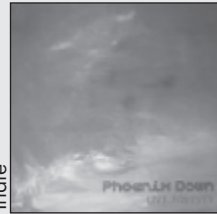
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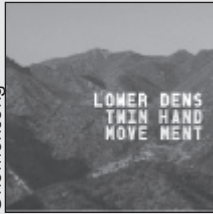
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**“Boris is a band that I truly love, and when they play with Michio Kurihara that could possibly be my favorite rock band on the planet,” enthuses Jim Jarmusch over the phone.**

guitar providing the perfect counterpoint and launching pad for Kurihara. Simply put, White Heaven should have been bigger than Godzilla.

“Unfortunately, the music media in Japan is extremely poor,” writes Ishihara, the Lee Ranaldo to Kurihara’s Thurston Moore, via e-mail and a translator. “Unless you release an album from a major label, no one recognizes you as a musician, even if your music is extremely good or you’re highly regarded overseas. Back then, White Heaven was quite underground in Japan, and even though we had some live shows, we never gathered too many people.”

The Stars, who offered essentially a more polished and accessible version of White Heaven, didn’t fare much better. In fact, most of Kurihara’s work, particularly his guest appearances with Yura Yura Teikoku and neo-prog outfit YBO2 (pronounced ee-boh ee-boh), remains difficult to come by, with Cosmic Invention’s *Help Your Satori Mind* – a one-off project with Ghost’s Batoh and Futoshi Okano of Acid Mothers Temple & the Cosmic Inferno – being the Holy Grail.

Kurihara’s recorded and performed with Damon & Naomi, Boris, and Ghost for so long now that it’s difficult to fathom what the groups might sound like without him, while his solo debut, *Sunset Notes*, released stateside in 2007 on Krukowski’s 20/20/20 Records, revealed the depth of his impressionistic poeticism. With each passing project and stateside tour, Kurihara has gained more of the acclaim he so rightfully deserves. Last year director Jim Jarmusch spotlighted the guitarist’s 2007 collaboration with Boris on the soundtrack to *The Limits of Control*.

“Boris is a band that I truly love, and when they play with Michio Kurihara that could possibly be my favorite rock band on the planet,” enthuses Jarmusch over the phone. “There’s something really interesting in their embracing of so many forms of music, from so-called avant-rock to metal and punk rock. They play like jazz musicians in that they’re listening and reacting to what they’re building. It’s so transporting, like landscapes they take you through.

“Michio really does add a whole other layer to their sound,” continues the filmmaker, whose cinematic experiments in tone, tempo, and genre parallel those of Kurihara. “He’s somebody that has a beautiful balance of being a virtuoso on his instrument but is never jerking off with the thing. He’s always finding the place he fits in. He’s obviously enamored with feedback and noise in a very beautiful way, but yet he’s very lyrical at the same time.”

Back upstairs at Mohawk, the 2007 stalemate continues. Krukowski eventually wanders through the staring game, casually taking up my printed questions. Leaning over Kurihara’s right shoulder, he translates a query about *Sunset Notes*, just enough for a spark of recognition to flash across the guitarist’s eyes. His response follows in staggered syllables, each word compounding the weight of what came before it.

“Nature. Each season a different mood. Each song a mixture of science and feeling.

“Each listener their own vision ... interpretation ... experience.” ■

*Boris, with Michio Kurihara, levels Mohawk Wednesday, July 28.*

## Kuriharock Sampler

### White Heaven

*Levitation (1997)*

Limited to only 700 copies, White Heaven’s final LP was recorded in 1988, after two cassettes-only releases. “Cold Hour” opens in the eye of a hurricane, a free-psych whirlwind propelled by the rhythmic surge of bassist Soichiro Nakamura and drummer Ken Ishihara, nearly matched on the opposite side by the cliff-hanger “Out of My Window.” Both get chased by slow burners: the resin-blues lament “Dull Hands” and improvised Far Eastern ambience of “Snow on the Table.”

★★★★



### Damon & Naomi

*Song to the Siren: On Tour With Kurihara (2002)*

Recorded in San Sebastián, Spain, and repackaged last year with the tour documentary *1001 Nights*, this live album strips down Damon & Naomi’s 2000 collaboration with Ghost to its bare essence. With patient restraint and tidal serenity, Kurihara’s beacon guitar shines through the siren melancholy of “Tanka,” “The Great Wall,” and the Jacks’ “Love,” a haunting ballad from Japan’s Group Sounds era. ★★★★★



### The Stars

*Will (2004)*

The final chapter in the saga of Japan’s greatest guitar tandem, You Ishihara and Michio Kurihara, culminates in a stoned, cold classic with universal appeal. Ishihara summons the ghost of Jim Morrison for the stuttering groove of “Small White Wonder,” then breaks on through in the shimmering *Future Days* trance of “Twinkle Outside.” Side two simmers the episodic “End of a Year” and seductive closer “Orange Hour Circle.” ★★★★★



### Michio Kurihara

*Sunset Notes (2007)*

A personal soundtrack to scenic memories both real (the *Yojimbo* Western-surf of “Twilight Mystery of a Russian Cowboy”) and imagined (the tranquil reservation of “The Old Man and the Evening Star”). Kurihara’s lone solo CD goes gently into that good night with ethereal instrumentals, minimalist guitar symphonies, and two wind chime lullabies from Ai Aso.

★★★★

### Boris With Michio Kurihara

*Smile - Live at Wolf Creek (2008)*

Much like 2007’s *Rock Dream* with Merzbow, Kurihara elevates this 2-CD Japanese import into the upper echelon of essential live albums, magnifying the entirety of that year’s *Smile* while adding helicopter tailspin guitar to “Laser Beam,” camera-shutter sustain to the terse B-side “Floor Shaker,” and paper shredder spasms for “Rainbow.” Maximum rock & roll with a closing 26-minute drone suite rivaled only by My Bloody Valentine’s so-called holocaust. ★★★★★

*For more album reviews, see “Ghost Discography,” May 15,*



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## BOBBY WHITLOCK & COCO CARMEL

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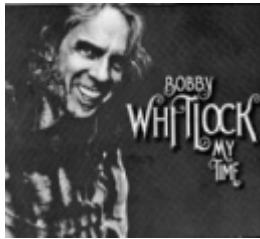
## BOBBY WHITLOCK

**My Time (Domino)**

## BOBBY WHITLOCK

**Vintage (Domino)**

"These songs and the story behind them have gone through so many processes, and now we can finally put them to rest in this beautiful record," enthuses Coco Carmel in the liner notes to *Metamorphosis*. A studio-perfected live account of Carmel and husband Bobby Whitlock's *Lovers* – an album with two unique incarnations and twice as much legal/label entanglement – six of its 10 tracks spin off from the mother ship, while the rest bottle *Lovers'* fierce runoff from its own source, Derek & the Dominos' 1970 one-off *Layla* and *Other Assorted Love Songs*. Guitarists Stephen Bruton and David Grissom, beat black-'n'-blue by Brannen Temple, imbue *Lovers'* righteous "Dice of God" with another book's worth of Old Testament gravity, its lyrics now doubly pointed after the Austin couple's long haul in bringing the material to fruition. "Best Days of Our Lives" weighs in equally grand on Whitlock's bottomless well of diamond-lunged Southern soul, demonstrating in a song precisely why the Memphis-born son of a preacher man became Eric Clapton's chief collaborator on *Layla*. That title track and its original double-album bookend, "Thorn Tree in the Garden," top off *Metamorphosis*, only Carmel's shrill "He's Gone" needing more studio sanding. No such issues scuff her alluring solo debut, *First Fruit*, a single-disc approximation of Rhino Records' new 4-CD expansion for Delaney & Bonnie's landmark *On Tour With Eric Clapton*. Produced by Carmel's ex-husband Delaney Bramlett beginning in 1988 – and unearthed by her upon his death 20 years later – *First Fruit* stars



five co-writes by the two, including sugar-pooling piano hook "Love Don't Deserve It," plus Clapton/Bramlett guitar-gospel "I Don't Know Why" and closing hymnal "Rest in Peace (Tribute to Delaney)," written by one Coco Carmel Whitlock. The late celebrant's in endearing Joe Cocker-meets-Jimmy LaFave form on "Sound of the City," but it's Carmel's tart, honeysuckle vocals that fuse *First Fruit's* expert Stax-like roots stew. Her originals arc from gospel rocker "Go to Him" to the sanctified "Imaginary Love" and its spot-on rejoinder "Sweet Miss You," a luxuriating ballad with an Allmans-kissed guitar soloette. *First Fruit* bites all right – wearing blood-red lipstick. A pair of similarly vintage chips off the classic rock block round out Carmel and Whitlock's Domino label freshman quartet, wood-grain siblings *My Time* and *Vintage*. Both Whitlock solo platters cull 1990s-era studio sessions and feature an interchangeable coterie of world-class practitioners, starting with Steve Cropper, Jim Keltner, Buddy Miller, and Darryl Johnson. The former LP has the obvious edge, Whitlock revisiting *Layla's* "Bell Bottom Blues" and "Why Does Love Got To Be So Sad?" with typical eternal flame, though his "Wing and a Prayer" flies as if it were inadvertently left off Clapton's flagship. Carmel's harmonic hit on "I Get High

on You" illustrates the couple's marital chemistry. *My Time's* second side counts a dearth of equal material, which undercuts *Vintage* as well despite four different composing pair-offs. "Southern Gentleman" whiffs Allen Toussaint, and exit line "This Time (There Won't Be No Next Time)" was cut by Tom Jones, but "Your Love" makes the all-time nuptials mix straight off. Closer "Dorothy & John" improves with both discs' annotations at [www.yourwaytomusic.com](http://www.yourwaytomusic.com). Bobby and Coco, a for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, from this day forward cottage industry. (*Metamorphosis*; *First Fruit*) ★★★★★ (*My Time*) ★★★ (*Vintage*) ★★ – Raoul Hernandez



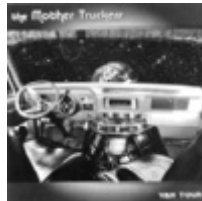
## TEE DOUBLE

**Vintage Visionz (Kinetic Global)**

Terrany Johnson has been to school, paid the bills, etc. He's a vet at this point, a distinguished local MC comfortable behind the mic, with a keen ear and effortless flow. As 2007's *The Return of the Artform* attested, he and his alter ego, Tee Double, approach hip-hop optimistically and lyrically, in league with the early 1990s tribe that held knowledge over the material. *Vintage Visionz*, his 15th album, has one foot in the past and one in the future, "So Vintage" and "How Can It Be" flipping two sides of the jazz-hop coin. The soulful samples of "Aint It" drive the song, as Johnson takes us back in the day, but then a pattern starts emerging. Tee's a solid rapper throughout, but on the last half, the beats get a bit stale, which leaves the vision of the title in question.

★★★

– Audra Schroeder



## THE MOTHER TRUCKERS

**Van Tour (World)**

Filled with sass, shout-along choruses, and rawboned guitar, 2008's *Let's All Go to Bed* put the Mother Truckers at the head of the class when it comes to Austin country rock. *Van Tour* follows in a similar vein, only on diminishing returns. Teal Collins and Josh Zee's songwriting lacks *Bed's* snap, with "Alien Girl" and "Break-Up Sex" slashing and burning, but the intended humor just misses the mark, while the 1950s-style plea "Keep It Simple" ends up being not so simple after all. The Truckers really hit their stride with the disc's last four tunes. "Size of the Sun" and "Concentrate" house Collins and Zee's coziest harmonies, the latter's guitar work on "Summer of Love" fusing Billy Gibbons and Joe Walsh, and the closing title track is just the right combination of goofy wordplay and 90 miles per hour country stomp. Get in the Van? Sure, but we're only riding about half of the way.

★★★

– Jim Caligiuri



## THE OFFENDERS

**Anthology 1981-1985 (Just 4 Fun)**

In the era of Austin's Woodshock and Raul's, the Offenders dominated the local hardcore scene. Picking up with the arrival of second vocalist J.J. Jacobson, this anthology from Sweden's Just 4 Fun details who, what, where, when, and why atop teenage riots like 1981 blitzkrieg tantrum "I Hate Myself" and "Fight Back," an 83-second call to arms originally pressed for the 1983 regional compilation *Cottage Cheese From the Lips of Death*. Like Black Flag, the Offenders quickly evolved out of standard three-chord punk, with bloody Sabbath undertones, a relentless low-end rumble from late bassist Mikey Donaldson, and an uncanny technical sophistication that allowed the quartet to turn on a dime in standouts "When Push Comes to Shove" and "Bad Times." The band's Spot-produced second LP, 1985's *Endless Struggle*, still holds its own against the SST Records canon, but its staggering here makes for an off-balanced listen. "You Keep Me Hangin' On" serves as the swan song, bruising the Supremes by way of Vanilla Fudge and foreshadowing Donaldson's departure for Gary Floyd's Sister Double Happiness.

★★★★

– Austin Powell

## bonus tracks

BY MARGARET MOSER

### CHARLIE TERRELL & THE MURDERED JOHNS

**Alabamasteampunkblues**

The best thing about Charlie Terrell is his reckless disregard for trend or fashion, producing cabaret blues ("There She Go") as at home in a juke joint as a city club. Any songwriter who can toss the word "onomatopoeia" into lyrics without hesitation deserves a little attention. ★★★



### TONY HARRISON & HOT TEXAS

**Swingin' Big**

Tony Harrison's smooth swing wouldn't generally rise above the standard for dance hall acts, except he originally hails from London. That means his accent on Texas is acquired, but in all the right ways. Local all-stars Redd Volkaert, Karen Biller, and Herb Steiner give his cocktail country ("More," "Mack the Knife") a retro charm. ★★★



### JERRY COLE

**Guitars a Go Go: The 1960s Crown Recordings, Vol. 2 (Ace)**

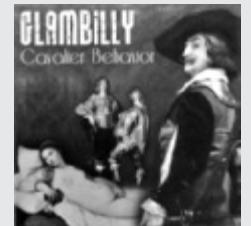
A charter member of L.A.'s Wrecking Crew, guitarist Jerry Cole played some of his last gigs in Texas before his 2008 death. His musical legacy has since been managed by local 3 Balls of Fire fretmaster Mike Vernon, who produced this sweetly nostalgic and well-tended collection of Cole's guitar instrumentals from the 1960s go-go era. ★★★



### GLAMBILLY

**Cavalier Behavior**

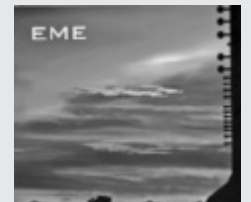
Like the fifth horseman of the apocalypse, San Antonio's Hans Frank guides Glambilly on a breakneck course designed as much by the Cramps as Sun Records. On booming bass and vox fueled by whiskey muscle, *Cavalier Behavior* stakes Glambilly's claim to twisted turf ("Creepin'," "The Sloppy") while hammering at the unfor-giving rock of love ("Rock and Roll Catastrophe"). ★★★



### RELAC'SOUNDFACTORY

**EME**

The lively electronic pulse of *EME* suggests Tangerine Dream's *Exit* if Loreena McKennitt had produced it. That's a roundabout way of complimenting the exquisite form of Relac'Soundfactory's music, at once worldly and centered. Carles Zanetti's local trio weaves Eastern threads of the exotic ("Immenso") and the atmospheric ("Mayasong") with deft hands and ears tuned to other aural planes. ★★★



## LEAD STORY

"Why are you still alive?" is the question doctors ask Ozzy Osbourne, the hard-rock singer and reality-TV star who says he is now clean and sober after a lifetime of almost unimaginably bad habits. In June, he started two new ventures: undergoing the three-month process of genetic mapping (to help doctors learn why, indeed) and becoming a health advice columnist for London's *Sunday Times*. At various points in his life, the now-cholesterol-conscious, vegetarian Osbourne said he drank four bottles of cognac a day, smoked cigars like they were cigarettes, and took 42 prescribed medications and many more "backstage" drugs that he could not even identify. Osbourne also has a Parkinson's-like genetic tremor, was once in a medically induced coma after an accident, and endured anti-rabies shots after famously biting into a bat onstage ("I thought it was a rubber toy").

## NOT MY FAULT

1) British actor Nicholas Williams, 33, was acquitted of domestic assault in June even though he had, among other things, "waterboarded" his girlfriend by pulling her shirt over her head and holding her under a shower during a two-hour rampage. Williams persuaded the judge that the anti-smoking drug Champix made him unable to control himself or even remember the events of that evening. 2) Laith Sharma, 49, admitted in June that he had stalked and fixated upon, "for marriage," a 14-year-old girl in Windsor, Ontario, but doctors' testimony won him a sentence of mere house arrest. Sharma, they said, suffers from the popularly known "maple syrup urine disease," so-called because the excreted scent is a marker for brain damage that prevents impulse control.

Compelling Explanation: Tony Chrum was the one apprehended for allegedly buying \$160 worth of cocaine from a man who turned out to be a police informant in Lincoln County, Mo., in May, but his brother, who is Winfield, Mo., police Officer Bud Chrum, 39, was the mastermind. According to police and unknown to the informant, Bud had needed to replace 2 grams of cocaine from the police evidence locker because he had accidentally spilled something on it, and Tony agreed to help.

## OUR LITIGIOUS SOCIETY

"If Google told you to jump off a cliff, would you?" asked a *Fortune* magazine columnist, describing the lawsuit filed in May by Lauren Rosenberg, asking for damages of more than \$100,000 against Google Maps after she was struck by a car. Rosenberg had queried the map service for a "walking route" between points in Park City, Utah, but a short stretch of the suggested route lacked sidewalks. Rosenberg was hit while walking in the street. Though Google and other map services "warn" users against walking in the street, Rosenberg's route was delivered on her small Blackberry phone screen.

# NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



Matadors: Christian Hernandez, 21, making his big-time bullfighting debut at Plaza Mexico in Mexico City in June, ran from the ring trembling in fear at the first sign of his bull. He was then coaxed to return and man-up, but once again fled and immediately submitted his resignation. Though Hernandez was contrite ("I didn't have the ability. I didn't have the balls."), he was arrested for violating his contract and released only after he paid a small fine.

## WHAT ABOUT OUR 'HUMAN RIGHTS'?

Update: "News of the Weird" reported in 2005 on a Welshman's invention of the Mosquito, a device that emits an irritating, pulsating, very-high-pitched noise and is marketed to shopkeepers to drive away loitering children and teenagers, since the pitch is audible to teens but rarely to anyone in their mid-20s or older (because audio range contracts as we age). In June, following an investigation, the Council of Europe (which oversees the European Court of Human Rights) declared the Mosquito a human rights violation, in that the sounds it emits constitute torture.

Britain's Crown Prosecution Service announced a proposed anti-social behavior order against Ellis Drummond, 18, to prohibit him from wearing low-slung trousers in public that allow his underwear to show, but Drummond challenged it in Bedford Magistrates' Court. In May, Judge Nicholas Leigh-Smith ruled that such an underwear-suppressing order would violate Drummond's human rights.

## LEAST COMPETENT PEOPLE

Jihadists: They blow themselves up by mistake (such as Pakistani terrorist Qari Zafar did in June), they botch airline shoe- and underwear-bombing and buy the wrong fertilizer for urban car bombs, they brag too much, and they watch far too much Internet pornography. Evidence amassed by Daniel Byman and Christine Fair, writing in the July/August issue of *The Atlantic*, has led them to

suggest that America and its allies should treat jihadists as "nitwits" rather than as "savvy and sophisticated killers" (the latter being an image that helps them with recruiting). It is possible, the authors conclude, that there has not been a truly competent jihadist terrorist since Mohamed Atta led the September 11 missions.

## A 'NEWS OF THE WEIRD' CLASSIC (MARCH 2007)

The West Tennessee Detention Facility (Mason, Tenn.) made a video pitch for California inmates, hoping some would volunteer to be outsourced under that state's program to relieve overcrowding. The hard-timers should come east, the video urged, because of West Tennessee's "larger and cleaner jail cells; 79 TV channels, including ESPN; views of peaceful cow pastures; and ... the 'Dorm of the Week,' [with its inmates] staying up all night watching a movie and eating cheeseburgers or pizza," according to a March (2007) description in Nashville's *Tennessean*. "You're not a number here," said one inmate. "You come here, it's personalized." (California's outsourcing program is facing a lawsuit from the prison guards' union, anxious about job loss.)

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at  
[www.newsoftheweird.blogspot.com](http://www.newsoftheweird.blogspot.com)  
(or [www.newsoftheweird.com](http://www.newsoftheweird.com)).

Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or [weirdnewstips@yahoo.com](mailto:weirdnewstips@yahoo.com).  
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**WANTED SECTION OF**

**CLASSIFIEDS, P.91.**

**HOOPIN' HAPPY HOUR & CLOTHING SWAP**

Bring your hula hoop and some clothes to exchange. Why both at the same time? Because it's Austin. *Thursdays and Fridays, 5-7:30pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. www.vortexrep.org.*

**CAP METRO COMMUNITY INPUT** is sought to help make recommendations for changes in the MetroAccess program that offers transportation services to Austinites with disabilities. 6-7:30pm. ACC South Austin, 1820 W. Stassney. Free. [www.capmetro.org](http://www.capmetro.org).

**NATURE NIGHT** Tired of spending a mint on your child's edutainment? Then has the Wildflower Center got a series of outdoor exploration, habitat hikes, and crafts for you. This week, learn the fine art of wildlife tracking. 6-9pm. *Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse, 232-0100. \$1 (free for members). www.wildflower.org.*

**POPOLIO'S FIRST SHOWCASE** Lisa Marshall & Mary Harsh's Soul Femme Duo and Phil Dutra kick off Popolio's first sing, play, and Q&A. 7pm. *The Parlor, 100-B E. North Loop, 945-1376. Free. www.popolio.com.*

**ADVANCED FENG SHUI** Seriously, the placement of that ottoman is really f'ing with our chi. 7:30pm. *Whole Life Books, 1006 S. Lamar, 443-6794. Free. www.stacydavenport.com.*

**GAY PRIDE, CHAMBER-STYLE** Zounds! Some Gay Pride you can be proud of! This is the second year that the Austin Chamber Music Festival is including a rave-up of LGBT composers featuring the Waterloo Sound Conspiracy and some spoken word by one Mr. Paul Soileau. 7:30pm. *St. James' Episcopal Church, 1941 Webberville Rd., 454-0026. Free. www.austinchambermusic.org.*

**DIGITAL REVOLUTION: MASH B4 BASH** Dance the night away with DJ crew Peligrosa while helping raise money for Catalyst 8, an organization that helps underserved arts organizations. 8-10:30pm. *Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 457-5100. Free. catalyst8@thelongcenter.org. www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=130548563647838.*

**HOMOSCOPE'S ONE STATIC SUMMER** Take a look through the Homoscope at this sneak peek of films in a group show called "Static Summer," including: Bug Davidson's "Big Bright Future," Mark Taylor's "Sensing the World by Echo," Dino Dinco's "Pianos and Bricks," and selections from Karl Cronin's *The Wild Men* series. 8pm. *The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. \$7-15, sliding scale. www.homoscope.org.*

**DRAGAOKE** Another big gay night in Austin, Texas, with too many things to do! Don the facial fur to send the bois of Kings N Things to IDKE. Come as you aren't or whatever and grab the open mic. La la la! 9pm. *United States Art Authority, 2906 Fruth, 480-9562. \$5-7, sliding scale based on how they think you are dressed. www.kingsnthings.org.*

**ZILKER SUMMER MUSICAL: 'ANNIE'** Bring the family, a blanket, and your love of precocious, singing orphans. Zen Japanese Food Fast will be selling its Japanese edibles for the famished. *Through Aug. 14. Thursdays-Sundays, 8:30pm. Zilker Hillside Theater, 2206 William Barton Dr., 479-9491. Free. www.zilker.org.*

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

**Women & Their Work**

THURSDAY, JULY 22 TO THURSDAY, JULY 29

calendar

AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/COMMUNITY

BY JAMES RENOVITCH

this week's community listings

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)**

**Casino** @ Harry Ransom Center's Prothro Theater, 7pm  
**Summer Static Short Films** @ The Off Center, 8pm  
**The Black Room** @ Paramount, 8:40pm  
**The Bride of Frankenstein** @ Paramount, 7pm  
**The Human Centipede (First Sequence)** @ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm

**MUSIC (See Music Listings.)**

**Summer Slaughter Tour** Emo's  
**John Wesley Coleman** Beerland  
**Phosphorescent** ND at 501 Studios  
**Mike & the Moonpies** CD Release Continental Club

FRIDAY 23

**EAST END FOURTH FRIDAY** begins on

East 11th Street from Branch to Angelina streets with music, art, shops, free activities, books, pizza for the kids, and more. When 8pm rolls around, head over to Kenny Dorham's Backyard for live music from Joel Guzman and Sarah Fox. 3-11pm. 441-2123. [www.ibuyaustin.com](http://www.ibuyaustin.com).

**RECOMMENDED YOUNG ONES GAY PLACES**

**BENEFIT FOR GULF COAST** The live music from Papa Mali and the Lost Bayou Ramblers is free, but the shrimp boil dinner from Perla's Seafood will cost you. The meal should be extra tasty since the money goes to the Greater New Orleans Foundation Oil Spill Fund and the Gulf Restoration Network. 6-10:30pm. *Hotel San José and Jo's parking lot, 1300 S. Congress, 444-7322. Free.*

**CLASSIC GAME FEST** Sign-up starts at 6pm, and the action starts at 7pm. Show off your skills at the wildly popular and increasingly retro *Goldeneye 007* for Nintendo 64 and maybe walk away with a prize. For those who aren't tournament-ready, there will be break-dancing, Scicotics car club, and more. This is the last game fest of the season, so limber up your thumbs. 6pm. *Game Over Videogames, 911 W. Anderson #106, 454-GAME. Free. www.gameovervideogames.com.*

**MUSIC UNDER THE STAR** Join the crowd at the big star of the Texas State History Museum. Live music helps you digest the food from the concessions. If things get too loud, check out the museum's exhibits for free. *Fridays in July, 6-9pm. Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 Congress, 936-8746. Free. www.thestoryoftexas.com.*

**CRUISE THE LAKE FOR A CAUSE** Take a spin around the lake while enjoying pizza, beer, a silent auction, door prizes, and the comforting knowledge that you're helping raise funds for Big Hearts for Brave Hearts, a camp that help kids deal with grief issues. 6:45pm. *Walsh Boat Landing, 3700 Lake Austin Boulevard. \$20 (\$10, members). www.hospiceaustin.org.*

**'ANNIE JR.'** Bring the kids to see this youth production of the film and stage staple. *Fri., July 23, 7pm; Sat., July 24, noon, 4, 7:30pm; Sun., July 25, 2 & 6pm. TexARTS, 2300 Lohmans Spur, 852-9079 x101. \$15. www.tex-arts.org.*

**PFLUGERVILLE'S MUSIC IN THE PARK** features the electrified blues of *Pride & Joy*. 7pm. *Pflugger Park, 515 City Park Rd., 512/251-5082. Free. www.cityofpflugerville.com/musicinthepark.*

**BLOOMIN' BLOOM!** Another year, another crop o' hothouse artists available via silent auction or outright purchase and, of course, cocktails, all to benefit aGLIFF, our LGBTQ film fest. 8pm. *Action Figure, 3000 E. Cesar Chavez, 302-9889. \$40 (\$35, advance). www.agliff.org.*

**HARGRAVE ARCADE** More than 18 vintage gaming stations keep the masses occupied on the

off chance that all the live music (see Club Listings, p.70, for a complete lineup), movies (including the best double-bill in recent memory, *The Neverending Story* and *Pootie Tang*), beer, and vegan pasta marina are not enough. This "philanthro-punk goodtimes-artplex" will donate all of the money to East Austin Children's Promise. 9pm-3am. 1185½ *Hargrave*. \$10. [www.hargravearcade.org](http://www.hargravearcade.org).

**HOOPIN' HAPPY HOUR & CLOTHING SWAP** (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**ZILKER SUMMER MUSICAL: 'ANNIE'** (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)**

**The Black Room** @ Paramount, 7pm  
**The Bride of Frankenstein** @ Paramount, 8:45pm

**MUSIC (See Music Listings.)**

**The New Pornographers** *Stubb's*  
**Cut Chemist** *Mohawk*  
**Dave Koz** *Riverbend Centre*

BY KATE X MESSER

gayplace

**THE GREAT WHITE GAY** Nope, this week's **Gay Place** special comment isn't about Quercus sharks or a light in the loafers KKK, but about **musical theatre's** hold on teh Ghey. What is it about gays and musicals? We have no answers within. But, perhaps some clues: Why, this week alone, there are three events in gay Austin that deliver as sweetly as any cake-walk finale, and they are all related somehow to musical theatre (yet not one is related to **Zach's** call to reserve **Rent** tickets, though you can, you know). First on our radar is **Saffire Trinity Stone Hilton Todd Fisher Burton Murray O'Hare** and her new show at **Jo's on Second, Musical Tuesdays**. This first installation decimates, umm, deifies **Hairspray!**, which we still associate with **Ricki Lake**, not that cute li'l Disney actress. (Note to **Nikki Blonsky**: Stick with **Disney**, kid, and you will always get the fat roles – even after you've lost

weight. Sigh.) We have no idea what ST has up her frilly little chiffon sleeve, so you're on your own, but we bet it will be sassy. Then there's the freakin' **Glee-along** at the **Alamo Drafthouse** at the Ritz. We can handle – nay, crave! – endless vats of **Jane Lynch**, but as much as we like the show in theory, it pulls a few too many painful high school triggers for us to get too invested. *Shudder!* We weren't in anything quite so faggy as glee club, per se, but chorus was close enough for discomfort. Then for those of you who prefer to inflict your very own trip across the footlights-fantastic onto real living, breathing audiences, check out both interactive listings for **Kings N Things**. Tonight is **Dragaoke** at United States Art Authority, plus our fave foppy facial-hair freakish ones are taking submissions for skits for their upcoming **Drag Kings: The Musical**. So if submitting to drag kings is your thing, have at it. (See *Tuesday, Thursday, and Ongoing*.)

Send gay bits to [gayplace@austinchronicle.com](mailto:gayplace@austinchronicle.com). Visit [austinchronicle.com/gayplaceblog](http://austinchronicle.com/gayplaceblog).



L - R: UTILITY LINERWORKER INFO SESSION (SEE SATURDAY) | TEXAS ROLLERGIRLS (SPORTS, P.55) | CIRCLE MIRROR TRANSFORMATION (ARTS, P.54) | SALT (FILM, P.60) | MAPS & ATLASES (MUSIC, P.70)



SATURDAY 24

**AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET** features fresh organic produce, meats, and cheeses straight from surrounding Texas farms, plus live music every week. *Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe, 974-6700. Free. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.*

**SAN MARCOS FARMERS MARKET** Austin hasn't cornered the market on farm-fresh produce yet. *Saturdays, 9am-1pm. The Courthouse Square (San Antonio Street), San Marcos, 512/754-8471.*

**SUSTAINABLE FOOD CENTER FARMERS' MARKET** Organic and local meats, cheeses, and produce await you. *Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Toney Burger Activity Center, 3200 Jones, 414-2096. Free. www.sfcfarmersmarketsunsetvalley.org.*

**UTILITY LINEMAN INFO SESSION** Meet utility officials and college representatives and perhaps take a pole-climbing assessment to see if this lucrative career path suits you. Go online to reserve your place. *9am-2pm. ACC Riverside, 1020 Grove, 223-6404. Free. www.bit.ly/bnNQKb.*

**'ALADDIN'** Your kids will be rubbing every lamp in the house after they see this tale of a genie, a princess, and, of course, Aladdin himself. Suitable for kids between the ages of 3 and 10. *Through Aug. 29. Saturdays, 10am, and Sundays, 2pm. Austin Scottish Rite Theatre, 207 W. 18th, 472-5436. \$10 (\$8, children). www.srct.org.*

**BETTER PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE GARDEN** The Travis County Master Gardeners Association helps you better capture the fruits of your green thumb's labor. *10am. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 854-9600. Free. www.tcmastergardeners.org.*

**SKIN CANCER SCREENING TOUR** Get checked out by a local dermatologist on a first-come, first-served basis. *Sat.-Sun., July 24-25, 10am-4pm. Academy Sports, 12250 Research. Free. www.skincancer.org/tour.*

**NATURAL EPICUREAN ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE** Learn about their unique courses in macrobiotic, classical vegetarian, vegan, and raw foods techniques and recipes. *11:30am-2:30pm. The Natural Epicurean Academy of Culinary Arts, 1700 S. Lamar, 476-2276. Free. www.naturalepicurean.com.*

**PFURRY PFRIENDS PFUNDRaiser** Live music, food, free dog treats, a dunking booth, and various items for sale and auction help raise money for the local Pflugerville organization. *Noon-5pm. Hanovers, 108 E. Main St., Pflugerville, 512/252-7317. Free. www.pflugervillepurrpffriends.org.*

**'SUPER SMASH BROS. BRAWL' TOURNAMENT** See Thursday (7/22) for more info. *2pm. Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 974-9820. Free.*

**BLOOM FEST** Live music, comedy, and cook-offs loosen the wallets to raise money for Austin to Zambia, a nonprofit helping to broaden the horizons of orphaned children through education. *4pm-12mid. Burr Rugby Field, 6013 Loyola, 832/860-2860. Donations appreciated. www.austin2zambia.com.*

**BENEFIT FOR COLOMBIAN CHILDREN** An evening of cumbia, hip-hop, reggae, and Afro-Latin sounds helps raise funds to ensure that gifted and underprivileged kids from Colombia can take part in the upcoming Global Youth Peace Summit in Wimberley. *6-9pm. Takoba, 1411 E. Seventh, 680-5398. \$10. www.amalafoundation.org.*

**GOSPEL MUSIC FEST** Various gospel groups and religious performances channel the spirit of the Lord to help raise money for Freedom Church Outreach Ministries. *6pm. Kenny Dorham's Backyard, 1106 E. 11th, 477-9438. \$10.*

**OPEN MIC & CABARET NIGHT** Bring a song or poem to share with an audience. Teens and adults with and without disabilities are invited. *7pm. Access Gallery, 3701 Guadalupe #103, 454-9912. \$5 suggested donation. www.vsatx.org.*

**GFIRE'S HOT PINK BIRTHDAY PARTY** Think pink, drink pink, wear pink, eat pink. Show features Gfire with Nassma bellydancing, Dan Cloper, and VJ PuppetHead. All funds raised go to Gfire's new CD, *Choosing My Own Colours*. We bet pink is one of 'em. *8pm. Austin Java, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829. Free. gfire@earthlink.net, www.gfiremusic.com.*

**SPLASH PARTY MOVIE NIGHTS** continue with movies in the pool every Saturday night at dusk. Tonight's feature: *Where the Wild Things Are*. *Deep Eddy Pool, 401 Deep Eddy Ave., 472-8546. Regular pool fee.*

**GRRL ACTION SUMMER PERFORMANCES** The Rude Mechs theatre company have been teaching this group of teenage girls how to write, produce, and, now, share their performance with a crowd. Expect there to be standing room only at these very limited showings. *Sat.-Sun., July 24-25, 2pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. Free. grrlaction@rudemechs.com, www.grrlaction.org/events.php.*

**QUEER UP CHARLIE'S** The Eastside's new home-queerway-from-home hosts an array of twinkly DJ splendor. A weekly reason to dance. *To daaaaaannnce! 10pm. Cheer Up Charlie's, 1104 E. Sixth, 431-2133.*

**'ANNIE JR.'** (See Friday.)

**ZILKER SUMMER MUSICAL: 'ANNIE'** (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**ART OPENINGS** (See Visual Arts.)  
**Museum of Natural & Artificial Ephemera**

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)  
**A Night at the Opera** @ Paramount, 9:05pm  
**Alice Adams** @ Paramount, 1:45pm  
**Araya** @ Alamo Ritz, 12:30pm  
**David Copperfield** @ Paramount, 3:30pm  
**Top Hat** @ Paramount, 7pm  
**Where I'm From Contest** @ Alamo South, 4pm  
**Where the Wild Things Are** @ Deep Eddy Pool, 8:30pm

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)  
**Samantha Crain** The Parish  
**Aunt Dracula** Club 1808  
**Opposite Day EP Release** Hole in the Wall  
**Austin Gospel Music Fest** Kenny Dorham's Backyard  
**T-Model** Ford Emo's

SUNDAY 25

**ETHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTIN** Charles S. Herrman rings the bell for stewardship. *10:30am. 5555 N. Lamar Ste. L-137, 835-9008. Free. www.esoa.org.*

**DESPERATE HOUSECATS** Cats that are being cared for in private homes come back to the shelter for a reunion and to see if a permanent family might be found. That's where you come in. *Noon-4pm. Town Lake Animal Center, 1156 W. Cesar Chavez. \$35 adoption fee. www.getapetnow.com.*

**FAMILY FUN EXPO** What kid doesn't like arts, crafts, pony rides, or a petting zoo? *1-6pm. Windermere Event Center, 15803 Windermere Dr., Pflugerville, 512/573-8103. Free. www.thefamilyfunexpo.com.*

**'SUPER SMASH BROS. BRAWL' TOURNAMENT** See Thursday (7/22) for more info. *2pm. Little Walnut Creek Library, 835 W. Rundberg, 974-9820. Free.*

**FLYING THEATER MACHINE** Parents and their 4- to 10-year-olds work together to improve the improv by bringing suggestions to add to the manic comedy on stage. The current theme is made-up magic, so put on your thinking caps. *Sundays, 2pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 971-3311. \$7. www.flyingtheatermachine.com.*

**KABBALAH PRIMER** One lecture is all it takes to learn the basic tenets of Kabbalah. If it's good enough for Madonna, who are we to judge? *2pm. Austin Crowne Plaza, 6121 N. I-35, 888/898-8230. Free. www.kabbalah.com.*

**PET YAPPY HOUR** Get your furry friends a mani/pedi (or is it a pedi/pedi?), or teach them some new tricks, but be sure to bring toys, beds, food, and old towels for a local rescue group. *2-5pm. Irie Bean Coffee Bar, 2310 S. Lamar, 507-4484. Free. www.trainmydogs.com.*

**PAINTING WITH A PURPOSE** Sign up online to brush up on your painting skills while benefitting the American Cancer Society. *6pm. Painting With a Twist, 8820 Burnet Rd. #507. \$45. www.paintingwithatwist.com.*



CLASSIC GAME FEST (SEE FRIDAY)

**REI SHOAL CREEK WORKDAY** Help clear the green-belt of trash, weeds, and construction debris this morning. Beverages and snacks provided; call to register. Meet in the GSD&M parking lot near the trail. *6-9pm. 482-3357.*

**DISCUSSION WITH AFGHAN VETERANS** Afghan war veterans Jacob George and Spencer Hindmarsh talk about their experiences and their desire for a complete troop withdrawal from the region before a screening of the documentary *Sir, No Sir*. *6:30pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.*

**LIVE AID REMADE** Made up of the best rockers from rock schools across America, the School of Rock All Stars will be playing classics from the likes of Led Zeppelin, Queen, the Who, and many more. Music for Relief, which is currently helping aid efforts in Haiti, will get \$10 of each ticket. *7pm. ND at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 485-3001. \$15. www.schoolofrock.com/allstars.*

**CIRCX VORTEX: MODERNISTIC VAUDEVILLIAN CIRCUS** The Sky Candy Aerial Collective brings this spectacle of alt.circus performers, live music, visual artists, and vendors. Featuring Hoecake the Circus Monkey, the Minor Mishap Marching Band, and more. *8pm-12mid. Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$10-30 suggested donation. www.circxvortex.blogspot.com.*

**MALEBOX** See that male? He's got a box. Go stick something in it. A message: "Nice package!" "Come here often?" "Yr a Tool." Express yourself or XXXpress yourself. *Sundays, 8pm. Rain on 4th, 217 W. Fourth, 494-1150.*

**TAKE A RIDE ON YO DISCOSTICK** Gaga, goo goo. Sisters, have you lost your edge? Here's a new place to meet the baby ladies, not to mention the gold stars (as this is ho-moted by the dolls at Goldstar). Hot DJs. Hot "views." Whew. *Sundays, 9pm. Lanai, 422 Congress, 479-6600. Free.*

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD **daytrips**

The **American Airlines C.R. Smith Museum** flies through the history of commercial air travel in the U.S., but it never really soars. Just because this is a showcase of American's corporate

image doesn't mean that it's not interesting. After all, the story of the Fort Worth-based airline parallels the evolution of the airline industry.

According to United Airlines, commercial airline service in the U.S. began on April 6, 1926. That's when its parent company, Varney Airlines, started airmail service out of Boise, Idaho. Nine days later, Robertson Aircraft Corporation, a parent company of American Airlines, carried its first bag of mail from Chicago to St. Louis with Charles Lindbergh at the controls.

In 1930, four air transport companies consolidated and started the first transcontinental passenger flights from Atlanta to Los Angeles with a 12-passenger Fokker aircraft. Texas-born and educated, C.R. Smith, for whom the museum is named, became president of this joint venture in 1934. Eventually, more than 80 small airlines were merged to create the American Airlines of today. Smith led the company for 34 years, from the days of biplanes to the era of jumbo jets.

And that is what the museum is about. This is an airline museum, not an aircraft museum. American Airlines was certainly a leader in industry innovations, and the exhibits show early versions of radios, reservations machines that look like old adding machines, meals that looked more like restaurant fare than TV dinners, and a progression of flight attendants' uniforms over the years.

Aircraft buffs can get their thrills by peeking inside the cockpit of a Boeing jet or standing by a jet engine that is taller than a man or an aircraft wheel taller than a 4-year-old boy. Besides memorabilia from the heyday of commercial air travel, the exhibits offer simple explanations of how a propeller and a jet engine work. The museum has a few interactive displays but could use a few more exhibits that engage young visitors.

The centerpiece of the museum is the shiny silver DC-3 aircraft. Delivered new to American Airlines in 1940, the rugged airplane flew passengers and cargo and was a crop duster before it was retired to field in South Carolina in 1987. Restored to its passenger-flying days by American employees and retirees, the ship is a look back to the infancy of air travel. When you see what constituted luxury air service 70 years ago, you'll wonder how the idea ever got off the ground.

The American Airlines C.R. Smith Museum is almost exactly halfway between Dallas and Fort Worth at the intersection of Highways 183 and 360, three miles from the south gate of Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 6pm. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for everyone else. For information, call 817/967-1560 or go to [www.crsmithmuseum.org](http://www.crsmithmuseum.org).

993rd in a series. Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of "Day Trips" 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

**outoftown**

**GOURMET CHILI PEPPER & SALSA FESTIVAL** provides a spicy weekend with chefs giving tips on using peppers, samples of salsa, tours of the pepper and wildflower fields, and a hot air balloon show. Fri.-Sat., July 23-24. Wildseed Farms, Fredericksburg, 866/839-3378. \$10. [www.tex-fest.com](http://www.tex-fest.com).

**CRUSH FOR FUN** lets visitors stomp grapes and put their purple marks on T-shirts, as well as taste the winery's new Fume Blanc and other wines. Sat.-Sun., July 24-25, July 31-Aug. 1, Aug. 7-8, 14-15. Pleasant Hill Winery, Brenham, 979/830-VINE. \$25. [www.pleasanthillwinery.com](http://www.pleasanthillwinery.com).

**SALADO LEGENDS** is where history, legend, and memories meet on summer evenings as the story of American Indians, Spanish explorers, and Scottish settlers unfolds in the outdoor theatre. Sat., July 24

& 31 and Aug. 7. Tablerock Amphitheater, Salado, 254/947-9205. \$17, optional catered meal (reservations required for dinner). [www.tablerock.org](http://www.tablerock.org).

**LIGHT O' MOON FLOAT TRIP** takes you down the tranquil Colorado River as the darkness of night opens a unique look at the river environment. Sat., July 24 and Aug. 21. McKinney Roughs Nature Park, Bastrop, 512/303-5073. \$50. [www.lcra.org/mckinneyroughs](http://www.lcra.org/mckinneyroughs).

**SHAKESPEARE UNDER THE STARS** presents *Romeo & Juliet* on the outdoor stage with high school-aged performers. Mon.-Sat., July 27-Aug. 7. EmilyAnn Theatre, Wimberley, 512/847-6969. \$10 & \$5. [www.emiliyann.org](http://www.emiliyann.org).

**MLS ALL-STAR GAME** If the World Cup ended too soon for you, then don't miss the chance to see the best American players challenge Manchester United from England. Wed., July 28, 7:30pm. Reliant Stadium, Houston, 832/667-1400. [www.mlssoccer.com](http://www.mlssoccer.com).

- 🐼 **'ALADDIN'** (See Saturday.)
- 🐼 **SKIN CANCER SCREENING TOUR** (See Saturday.)
- 🐼 **'ANNIE JR.'** (See Friday.)
- 🐼 **GRRL ACTION SUMMER PERFORMANCES** (See Saturday.)
- 🐼 **ZILKER SUMMER MUSICAL: 'ANNIE'** (See Thursday, 7/22.)
- 🎬 **SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)
  - A Night at the Opera** @ Paramount, 3:35pm
  - Alice Adams** @ Paramount, 6pm
  - Big Trouble in Little China** @ Alamo Ritz, 10pm
  - David Copperfield** @ Paramount, 8pm
  - Lovers of Hate** @ Baby Blue Studio, 9pm
  - Top Hat** @ Paramount, 1:30pm
- 🎵 **MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)
  - Manatee Tights** Beerland
  - The Coathangers** Mohawk

**MONDAY 26**

🌱 **NEIGHBORHOOD FARM MARKETS**  
The Sustainable Food Center will be offering local, farm-fresh produce through the end of July. Mondays: Northeast WIC Clinic, 7112 Ed Bluestein (8-11am); St. Johns Community Center, 7500 Blessing (noon-2pm). Wednesdays: Rosewood-Zaragoza WIC Clinic, 2800 Webberville Rd. (9-11am); Montopolis WIC Clinic, 1416 Montopolis (11am-1pm), 236-0074 x101. [www.sustainablefoodcenter.org](http://www.sustainablefoodcenter.org).

⚖️ **LEGAL CLINIC** Free legal advice from Texas RioGrande Legal Aid. Most Mondays & Wednesdays, 6pm. Mondays: Martin Middle School, 1601 Haskell. Wednesdays: Webb Middle School, 601 E. St. Johns, 374-2700. Free. [www.trla.org](http://www.trla.org).

🦋 **AUSTIN BUTTERFLY FORUM MEETING** Berry Nail summarizes a typical life of a Starr County butterfly. 7pm. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 477-8672. Free. [www.austinbutterflies.org](http://www.austinbutterflies.org).

🌟 **EMPLOYMENT GROUP** A presentation on job-search skills is followed by networking. One-on-one guidance with a vocational expert can also be arranged. Second and Fourth Mondays, 6:30-8pm. Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, 3525 Bee Caves Rd., 327-3370. Free. [www.austinememploymentgroup.org](http://www.austinememploymentgroup.org).

🐾 **PET LOSS SUPPORT GROUP** Open to the public. No reservation necessary. Last Mondays of the month, 7pm. Austin Humane Society, 124 W. Anderson, 646-7387. Free. [www.austinhumanesociety.org](http://www.austinhumanesociety.org).

👑 **VALKYRIES HAVE THAT SPECIAL TOUCH** Austin's women reps in the Texas Rugby Union are calling for newbs. Calling all ruggers for the 2010 season! See website for details. Monday and Wednesday practices, 7-9pm, beginning July 26. Burnet Middle School, 8401 Hathaway, 841-8289. [recruiting@austinvalkyries.com](mailto:recruiting@austinvalkyries.com), [www.austinvalkyries.com](http://www.austinvalkyries.com).

🎬 **SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)  
**Comedy Gone Wrong** @ Alamo Ritz, 7:45pm  
**Funniest Filmmaker in Austin** @ Cap City Comedy, 8pm  
**Funny Face** @ Hampton Library, 6pm

🎵 **MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)  
**Maps & Atlases** Emo's

**TUESDAY 27**

👶 **ARE THE KIDS ALRIGHT?** Texas Kids Count Director Frances Deviney talks about the disparities between the well-being of Texas children compared to the nation as a whole using recently released data. Time for a dose of reality. Go online to RSVP. 10am. George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina, 320-0222 x104. Free. [www.cppp.org](http://www.cppp.org).

🌊 **WATER TREATMENT PLANT NO. 4 OPEN HOUSE** Review the designs, chat up the engineers and other city staff, and add your two cents to the debate over this controversial plant. Noon-8pm. River Place Country Club, 4207 River Place Blvd., 498-9874. [www.cityofaustin.org/water/wtpfour.htm](http://www.cityofaustin.org/water/wtpfour.htm).

🔍 **MAKE GOOGLE YOUR BUSINESS' BITCH** Find out how to get your business represented on Internet search engines. Attendees also get the instructor's book on the subject to take home. 1-4pm. Clarion Inn & Suites, 2200 S. I-35, 974-7800. \$35. [www.austinsmallbiz.org](http://www.austinsmallbiz.org).

🎭 **SUMMER PUPPETS: A TARADILLO TALE** Kids older than the age of 4 are invited to take a trip with Bubba, Louann, and the 'Dillos as they explore the territory that will become Austin. 2pm. Pleasant Hill Branch Library, 211 E. William Cannon, 974-9820. [www.cityofaustin.org/library](http://www.cityofaustin.org/library).

🍷 **CORKS FOR CANCER** All the ingredients for a good benefit – food, door prizes, a silent auction, and a huge selection of wines to taste – help raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. 5-10pm. Moonshine Patio Bar & Grill, 303 Red River, 236-9599. \$25. [wine@moonshinegrill.com](mailto:wine@moonshinegrill.com).

🦃 **WINGS FOR A CAUSE** Pluckers Wing Bar continues its series of benefits, this time with the money going to Summer Stock Austin. Twenty percent of your bill (excluding alcohol) goes to the theatre organization for teens, so eat up. 5-10pm. Pluckers Wing Bar, 3909 S. Lamar, 443-WING. [www.summerstockaustin.org](http://www.summerstockaustin.org).

👑 **LISTEN TO OUTCAST!** Tweak your knobs to 91.7FM. It's OutCast, with Heath, Stephen, intern Susan, and the Gay Place's Kate X smackin' down with the top of the LGBT crop. Listen as they welcome and grill guests from every band of the rainbow. KOOP = queer, yo! Tuesdays, 6-7pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM. [www.koop.org](http://www.koop.org), [www.outcastaustin.com](http://www.outcastaustin.com).

📖 **MOTHER-DAUGHTER BOOK CLUB** Mothers (any age) and daughters (ages 7 to 12) read the same books and get together once a month to discuss. Women of the word, unite. Last Tuesdays, 6:30pm. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr., 989-3188. Free. [www.wblibrary.org](http://www.wblibrary.org).

👑 **MAMA'S GOT A BRAND NEW CELLULOID HANDBAG** Hey Homo? Feh. Brunchtime Booyah? Whatever. Oh Rebecca, how you toy with our affections, diddle with our libidos, and challenge our very notion of truth, beauty, and the American Way. Only you could bring us the best in cinema (or sin-enema) like tonight's *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?*, as part of your new clutch, the Celluloid Handbag. 7pm. Alamo Ritz, 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320.

🏠 **TEXAS COALITION FOR COMPASSIONATE CARE** Come and find out what you can do to help pass a bill that would let a doctor's prescription be a legal defense for medical marijuana use. 7:30pm. 5555 N. Lamar, 293-7623. Free. [www.texascompassion.org](http://www.texascompassion.org).

👑 **MUSICAL TUESDAYS WITH SAFFIRE** The first musical of the season: *Hairspray!* Nice Champagne deal for all who come in costume. Might we suggest Zac Efron's left one? 8pm. Jo's Coffee, 242 W. Second, 469-9003. Free. [phillip@giantnoise.com](mailto:phillip@giantnoise.com).

👑 **KARAOKE WITH MARGARET** Margaret's one damn fine KJ. North Austin's fave neighborhood gay bar may not offer cash to the best crooners (like some other bars), but someone might offer you \$\$ to stop singing. Tuesdays, 9pm. *Bout Time*, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339. [www.bouttimeaustin.com](http://www.bouttimeaustin.com).

👶 **PREGNANCY LOSS SUPPORT GROUP** The YWCA Greater Austin offers this ongoing series of support meetings for women dealing with infertility or a miscarriage. Call to schedule a requisite interview. Tuesdays, 6pm. 326-1222. \$10. [www.ywcaustin.org](http://www.ywcaustin.org).

👑 **TUESDAYS TOGETHER** This month's last-Tuesday-of-every-month event adds two more Ts to the two Ts tease of Tuesdays Together: Tacos & Tequila! Arrrrriba! Tuesday, 6-8pm. Tacos and Tequila, 507 Pressler, 289-2198. [info@hrcaustin.org](mailto:info@hrcaustin.org), [www.hrc.org/austin](http://www.hrc.org/austin).

🎬 **SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)  
**What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?** @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm

**WEDNESDAY 28**

🦎 **JUNGLE JIM'S TRAVELLING EXHIBITION** of bugs, reptiles, and amphibians comes to the library. 2pm. Windsor Park Branch Library, 5833 Westminster, 974-9840. Free. [www.cityofaustin.org/library](http://www.cityofaustin.org/library).

**👑 'BOUT TIME FOR VOLLEYBALL!** Team play on Wednesday and Sunday nights and pickup games every day. *'Bout Time*, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339. [www.bouttimeaustin.com](http://www.bouttimeaustin.com).

**👑 ASO: CHILDREN'S DAY ART PARK** Learn about the symphony and its various instruments (and performers), take part in arts & crafts, listen to storytellers, and enjoy mimes, magicians, and more. Why not play a tune yourself at the instrument petting zoo? Each week features a performance by one of Austin's favorite kid-friendly acts. *Wednesdays through July 28, 9:30am. Symphony Square, 1101 Red River, 476-6064. 50 cents per child (free, adults accompanying a child).* [www.austinsymphony.org](http://www.austinsymphony.org).

**👑 DRAG BINGO** Saffire T. Stone presents all the plumage and pageantry of chicken shit bingo but without the, you know. *Every other Wednesday, 8-10pm. Jo's Coffee, 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800.*

**★ NEIGHBORHOOD FARM MARKETS** (See Monday.)

**LEGAL CLINIC** (See Monday.)

**👑 VALKYRIES HAVE THAT SPECIAL TOUCH** (See Monday.)

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)

**Badlands** @ Paramount, 8pm

**Ghostbusters** @ Central Market North, 8:30pm

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)

**No Mas Bodas** Beerland

**Boris** Mohawk

## THURSDAY 29

**LEGAL SERVICES & EQUITY** Learn about the local nonprofits that offer free legal representation to workers, refugees, and victims of domestic violence. *noon. San Jacinto Towers, 98 San Jacinto. Free.* [www.iliveheregivehere.org](http://www.iliveheregivehere.org).

**★ CAP METRO COMMUNITY INPUT** is sought to help make recommendations for changes in the MetroAccess program that offers transportation services to Austinians with disabilities. *6-7:30pm. Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center, 808 Nile, 478-7695. Free.* [www.capmetro.org](http://www.capmetro.org).

**👑 NATURE NIGHT** Tired of spending a mint on your child's edutainment? Then has the Wildflower Center got a series of outdoor exploration, habitat hikes, and crafts for you. This week, learn about birds of prey. *6-9pm. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse, 232-0100. \$1 (free for members).* [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org).

**STARS FOR SAFEPLACE** Why not spend your Thursday partying for a good cause? Entry gets you a free drink, food, live music from Haydn Vitera, and the option to bid on one of the many silent auction items. *6pm. Star Bar, 600 W. Sixth, 469-9595. \$15.* [jack@armstronggroup.info](mailto:jack@armstronggroup.info), [www.armstronggroup.info/events/events.html](http://www.armstronggroup.info/events/events.html).

**👑 THE GLEE-ALONG! VOL. 2** Once was most definitely not enough. Gargle with treacle, then get your sweet li'l Jane Lynch-lovin' azz on down for some serious tra-la-la. *7 & 9:45pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320.*

**MUDLARK PUPPETERS PRESENT** two new puppet tales for kids and adults. *Thu.-Fri., July 29-30, 8:30pm. Center Stage Texas, 2826 Real St., 504/872-8984. \$10 (\$5, kids).* [www.themudlarkconfectionary.com](http://www.themudlarkconfectionary.com).

**JIGGLEWATTS ANNIVERSARY SHOW** We imagine, like any burlesque troupe, they will be celebrating with scant clothing and rapidly gesticulating body parts. *9-11pm. ND at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 485-3001. \$10-18.* [www.thejigglewattsburlesque.com](http://www.thejigglewattsburlesque.com).

**👑 SISSYBUTCH!** Mssrs. Stanley Roy y Bradford Brown make with the fey, featuring the multitalented majesties of Stanley Roy & His Vice (his vice seems to have four strings), Shitheads on Dynamite (sounds like a long night after the taco truck), Bill Converse (oh, yes, please, there... but lower). *9pm. Cheer Up Charlie's, 1104 E. Sixth, 431-2133. \$5.*

**HOOPIN' HAPPY HOUR & CLOTHING SWAP** (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**ZILKER SUMMER MUSICAL: 'ANNIE'** (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)

**Blood Into Wine** @ Alamo South, 10pm

**Lights. Cameras. Help. Film Fest** @ MACC, 7pm

**The Texas Filmmakers Showcase** @ Alamo Lake Creek, 7:30pm

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)

**For Clifford Antone's**

**Peter Case Threadgill's World HQ**

**Iron & Wine** Paramount Theatre

## now . . .

**👑 'DRAG KINGS: THE MUSICAL' SKIT SUBMISSIONS** Submit your facially follicled brilliance for this year's *DKTM* at Blue Theatre. Contact Eaton for further details. *Deadline: Mon., Aug. 23.* [apuchek@gmail.com](mailto:apuchek@gmail.com), [www.kingsnthings.org](http://www.kingsnthings.org).

**ACCESSIBILITY INTERNET RALLY** Web professionals and nonprofits in need of a website face-lift should sign up online for the AIR-Austin conference later this year. Making sites accessible to those with disabilities will be at the top of the agenda, but knowledge sharing will be the order of the day. *Deadline to register is Sept. 15.* [www.knowbilly.org/air-austin](http://www.knowbilly.org/air-austin).

**👑 BISEXUAL WEIGH-IN** Get online and take a survey, you many-sex-lovin' beauties, and let your life shine. Results will be presented at the 28th annual BiCon this year in London in late August and at the Out & Equal Summit in L.A. in October. [www.outandequal.org/bisexualsexurvey](http://www.outandequal.org/bisexualsexurvey).

**BOARDS & COMMISSIONS INFO CENTER WEBSITE** Want a better way to keep up with Austin's 56 boards and commissions? The Office of the City Clerk now offers a one-stop Web portal for the goings-on and minutia of our city's inner workings. Check it. [www.cityfaustin.org/cityclerk/bc\\_info\\_center.htm](http://www.cityfaustin.org/cityclerk/bc_info_center.htm).

**CARBON FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR** You too can know the extent to which you are killing the planet, courtesy of the Austin Climate Protection Program. Go online, and let ACPP do the math for you. After that, it's up to you to change your ways or live with the guilt. [www.coolaustin.org](http://www.coolaustin.org).

**CASTING FOR HGTV SHOW** Individuals or couples looking to buy your first home and want all your successes and failures broadcast to homes across the nation, now's your chance. Call or e-mail for an application. *Casting takes place through August. 303/712-3283. Free.* [mgolliday@highnoontv.com](http://mgolliday@highnoontv.com), [www.hgtv.com](http://www.hgtv.com).

**CENTER FOR CHILD PROTECTION CALL FOR DONATIONS** You can help by contributing to the center's emergency funds, which help families in need following a traumatic event. Toiletries, bedsheets, towels, baby formula, and other items can also be donated. *Center for Child Protection, 8509 FM 969, Bldg. 2, 472-1164.* [www.centerforchildprotection.org](http://www.centerforchildprotection.org).

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** The raging heat and lack of students has put H4H at a loss for volunteers. If you're 18 or older, go online and sign up for a Saturday shift. No experience needed, and training is provided. Groups of five or more should e-mail [voldirector@ahffn.org](mailto:voldirector@ahffn.org) to sign up. [www.austinhabitat.org](http://www.austinhabitat.org).

**HOST A FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT** International Student Exchange is seeking big-hearted families to provide room and board for international students in the upcoming school year. *913-8375. jbretherick@austin.rr.com, www.culturalexchange.us.*

**INSIDE OUR GOVERNOR'S MANSION** Explore this historic house and the people who have lived there through music, videos, original artifacts, and documents. *Through Aug. 1. Bullock State History Museum, 1800 Congress, 936-4649. \$7 (\$4, kids).* [www.thestoryoftexas.com/the\\_museum/temporary\\_exhibit.html](http://www.thestoryoftexas.com/the_museum/temporary_exhibit.html).

**MEALS ON WHEELS AND MORE VOLUNTEERS** are desperately needed as summer approaches and volunteers go on vacation, not to mention an increased demand for the nonprofit's services. Go online for details, or call to volunteer. *476-6325 x105.* [www.mealsonwheelsandmore.org/volunteer](http://www.mealsonwheelsandmore.org/volunteer).

**NEIGHBORHOOD HABITAT CHALLENGE** Get the neighborhood organized, and start making your yard more hospitable to wildlife. If your neighborhood ends up with the largest number of certified wildlife habitats ... well, isn't that enough? *Through Nov. 15. 327-8181 x29.* [www.keeppaustinwild.com](http://www.keeppaustinwild.com).



WATER TREATMENT PLANT NO. 4 OPEN HOUSE (SEE TUESDAY)



CIRCX VORTEX (SEE SUNDAY)

**OUR BODY: THE UNIVERSE WITHIN** UT's H.J. Lutchter Stark Center for Physical Culture & Sports presents this educational exhibition that uses actual human bodies that have been plastinated so you can see all the inner workings. *Through Sept. 22. Stark Center, Texas Memorial Stadium, 471-0648. \$21 (\$11, kids & students).* [www.starkcenter.org](http://www.starkcenter.org).

**PET FOSTER PROGRAM** The Town Lake Animal Center needs individuals who can care for and house a cat or a dog for two to four weeks at a time. Underage and nursing animals are most in need of help. Interested individuals should fill out the application that can be found online. *Town Lake Animal Center, 1156 W. Cesar Chavez. www.getapetnow.com.*

**POWERSPEAK LANGUAGES** Want to learn a new language? Your public library now has interactive software that you can use at the library or at home. Spanish, French, German, Mandarin Chinese, and English for Spanish-speakers are available for those with a library card. *974-7400. Free.* [www.cityofaustin.org/library](http://www.cityofaustin.org/library).

**👑 PROP. 8: NO HATE! THINK GLOBAL! ACT LOCO!** Our buds at Equality Across America Texas stand at the ready – the very second that decision comes down in California's Prop. 8 trial – to send out a call for an Austin rally. Activism on a dime, baby! Sign up on the website to get the very latest and to learn how to get involved. [www.eaatexas.org](http://www.eaatexas.org).

**PUBLIC INPUT ON BUDGET PRIORITIES** Now that the public has sounded off on the city's online budget survey, it's time to see the results and sound off on them. Online, of course. [www.cityofaustin.org/citymgr/fudget\\_input.htm](http://www.cityofaustin.org/citymgr/fudget_input.htm).

**SHARE! FOREIGN EXCHANGE** Act globally right from your home by opening your door to a high school exchange student placed by the nice folks at Share! Browse the applications to find the kid who's a good fit with your family. What have you got to lose ... but your myopia? *800/941-3738. ycoffman@sharesouthwest.org, www.sharesouthwest.org.*

**STORM DRAIN MARKING PROGRAM** Help the city mark our storm drains and ensure that people know

that dumping pollutants in them is wildly uncool. Call or e-mail to sign up a small team to cover an area of our city putting markers on drains. All materials and tools will be provided. *974-2454. katie.sternberg@ci.austin.tx.us, www.cityofaustin.org/watershed/wq\_stormdrain.htm*

## & later

**ACLU TEXAS YOUTH RIGHT CONFERENCE** is a day of workshops and talks concerning discipline in the Texas education system. Co-creator and writer of the critically acclaimed HBO show *The Wire*, Ed Burns, will keynote the conference. *Sat., July 31. Omni Hotel Southpark, 4140 Governor's Row, 448-2222. \$25.* [www.aclutx.org](http://www.aclutx.org).

**CANCER CONNECTION VOLUNTEER TRAINING** is for cancer survivors and their loved ones who are interested in providing emotional support to patients currently battling the disease. Apply online at [www.thecancerconnection.org](http://www.thecancerconnection.org). *Fri., Aug. 27, 5:45-9pm; Sat., Aug. 28, 8:45am-4pm. 342-0233. \$25 (scholarships available).*

**CITYWORKS ACADEMY** pulls back the curtain on the inner workings of Austin's municipal government. *Deadline to apply: July 31. Tuesdays, Sept. 7-Nov. 23.* [www.cityofaustin.org/cityworks](http://www.cityofaustin.org/cityworks).

**👑 KIDS COOKING SCHOOL** Central Market gets the kids (ages 5 to 12) in the kitchen learning about chocolate or even an intro to knife skills (for the older kids). Call to sign up. *Through Aug. 12. Central Market North Cooking School, 4001 N. Lamar, 206-1000. \$40 per class.* [www.centralmarket.com](http://www.centralmarket.com).

**👑 WATERMELON JUBILEE** Central Texas' fave LGBT weekend wilderness hot spot cools it down for August, poolside, chillin' to live music. *Sat.-Sun., Aug. 14-15, all day. Lazy J Paradise, 270 Hidden Path, Lockhart, 210/863-9314. Tickets sold at the gate (deducted from camping fees for overnighters).* [www.lazyjparadise.com](http://www.lazyjparadise.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, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail:

Kate X Messer (Gay Place): [gayplace@austinchronicle.com](mailto:gayplace@austinchronicle.com).

Mark Fagan (Sports): [gameplans@austinchronicle.com](mailto:gameplans@austinchronicle.com).

James Renovitch (everything else): [calendar@austinchronicle.com](mailto:calendar@austinchronicle.com).

For FAQs and an online submission form, go to [austinchronicle.com/commform](http://austinchronicle.com/commform).

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# arts listings



## Circle Mirror Transformation

Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd  
[www.hydeparktheatre.com](http://www.hydeparktheatre.com)  
 Through Aug. 7  
 Running time: 1 hr., 40 min.

I've always been wary of novels about writers or plays about doing theatre: I'm all for writing what you know, but the choice seems to have an edge of self-indulgence combined with an

unwillingness to explore the unknown that bothers me. My first glance at *Circle Mirror Transformation's* stage – a windowless classroom with cubbyholes and wooden floor – brought this arrogant wariness instantly to mind. When the play opened with a hive-mind theatre game of group counting, I smiled wryly. Of course it would.

And with its premise – a motley crew taking an adult drama class in small-town Vermont – *Circle Mirror Transformation* might have veered off into the absurd insularity of *Waiting for Guffman* or some such fancy. But *Mirror* really is about reaching out. The class of five really are trying to fill voids in their lives, looking for change, hence desperate enough to take an adult drama class at a local community center.

*Mirror's* characters do have some rather absurd streaks in them, sure, but never at the price of their humanity. This distinction gives a richness to Annie Baker's comedies that many humorous plays miss the mark on. This is the second Baker work that Hyde Park Theatre has put on, following the successful spring production of *Body Awareness*. A very similar structure is seen in the two: episodic movement between scenes, an artificial touchstone demarcating the progression of plot and time.

My feeling after watching two of Baker's works is that they're almost too perfect. Each scene pulls its parachute at the exact

right moment. Baker is very adroit at using the punch line as the comedic release of a charged or awkward moment. I wanted her to dig into her characters a little more, rub their vulnerability raw. But even the tender and tragic moments are as succinct, affecting, and effective as you please. Perhaps it's a strange complaint to have: Indeed, the script won the 2010 Obie for Best New American Play.

The action happens completely in the drama course's classroom over its six weeks of training. The characters are all imminently likable, ranging from the recently divorced carpenter sporting jorts and a "Fear the Turtle" shirt to the stolid 16-year-old who would rather not be anywhere. The plot slowly shifts its focus from one romantic relationship to another and truly holds the class itself as its main character. Being in a class with other people is a relationship you can't get out of, a dangerous quality that playwright Baker and director Webster work to full effect.

Hyde Park's cast is one of its strengths as always, a marvelous ensemble highlighted by Kenneth Wayne Bradley's earnest ignorance and Xochitl Romero's standout performance as the hilariously turgid teenager. While *Body Awareness* had a stronger emotional element to its narrative, *Circle Mirror Transformation* is certainly more entertaining. – Avimaan Syam

## theatre

### OPENING

**SUMMERSTOCK AUSTIN: 'CABARET' AND 'SWEET CHARITY'** This year's Summer Stock brings the classic *Cabaret*, directed by David Valdes, and that groundbreaking *Sweet Charity*, directed by Ginger Morris. Both productions have Michael "Evil Dead: The Musical" McKelvey as music director and will be presented in repertory. See website for schedule. July 22-Aug. 7. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 428-1297. \$15-25. [www.summerstockaustin.org](http://www.summerstockaustin.org).

**'CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF'** "Sultry" and "steamy" are the relevant adjectives, of course, as City Theatre presents Jeff Hinkle directing Tim Brown, Rachel McGinnis, and Garry Peters in this Pulitzer-winning Tennessee Williams classic. July 22-Aug. 15. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5:30pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 524-2870. \$15-25 (\$12, students; \$10, Thursdays). [www.citytheatreAustin.org](http://www.citytheatreAustin.org).

**SHREWD SUMMER NIGHTS: 'THERE BE DRAGONS'** The final of the Shrewds' trio of summertime offerings, this is a staged reading of Jenny Connell's play about a 312-year-old dragon girl who falls for a boy from Texas. Magic and realism from the Brooklyn-based playwright, presented with beer, barbecue, and some shit-kickin' live music postshow. Fri., July 23, 8pm. Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale, 927-1118. \$15 (\$12, in advance). [www.shrewdproductions.com](http://www.shrewdproductions.com).

**AUSTIN DRAMA CLUB: 'ROMEO AND JULIET'** Nothing can stop the indefatigable Shakespeare-loving director Japhy Fernandes as he and his troupe bring you the most classic of classics in a new venue just a scenic drive away. Capulets, Montagues, troths being plighted, thumbs being bitten, and, oh, that wretched apothecary! July 23-Aug. 8. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. 12345 Pauls Valley, 569-7435. \$5-30. [www.austindramaclub.com](http://www.austindramaclub.com).

**'ANNIE JR.'** TexARTS presents its youth production of the comic-strip musical. July 23-25. Fri., 7pm; Sat., noon, 4pm, 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm, 6pm. Morris Theatre, 2300 Lohmans Spur Rd., Lakeway. \$15. [www.tex-arts.org](http://www.tex-arts.org).

**GRRL ACTION** Original performances created and performed by teenage girls from the 11th annual Grrl Action Summer Workshop, presented by Rude Mechs. You know this is the intersection of female, fierce, and fascinating; it's also free. Recommended. Sat.-Sun., July 24-25, 2pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. [www.rudemechs.com](http://www.rudemechs.com).

**CIRCUS VORTEX: MODERNISTIC VAUDEVILLIAN CIRCUS** From your talented and limber friends of the Sky Candy Aerial Collective comes this spectacle of circus performers, live music, visual artists, and vendors. Featuring Hoecake the Circus Monkey, the Minor Mishap Marching Band, Bethany Summersizzle, Baru Fire Spinning and Shadow Puppetry, and more. Sun., July 25, 8pm-12mid. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$10-30. [www.circusvortex.blogspot.com](http://www.circusvortex.blogspot.com).

### CLOSING

**'GIANTS IN THOSE DAYS'** Weird City Theatre presents a superhero-studded narrative adapted for the stage by Sean McGrath. In addition to a full, daring cast, the show – directed by Patti Neff-Tiven – includes film, puppetry, and panels from the original comic book. Through July 25. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 745-2636. \$15 (\$12, students, seniors). [www.weirdcitytheatre.com](http://www.weirdcitytheatre.com).

**PINOCCHIO COMMEDIA** Is this one of those shows that's great for kids but the parents will totally enjoy it, too? Hell, yes – to the point of, if you feel weird going by yourself, borrow a kid from someone and go see this Tongue and Groove Theatre take on the classic story about a wooden puppet who yearns to be a real boy. The company previously brought us *The Red Balloon*; this new show features Kelli Bland, Western Borghesi, Ben Schave, Miranda Guillory, Aja McMillan, George Riley, stars Gricelda Silva as Pinocchio, and is directed by David Yeakle. Recommended. July 24-25. Sat., 11am; Sun., 11am & 7pm. Kenny Dorham's Backyard, 1106 E. 11th, 474-8497. \$10-12 (\$6, children). [www.tongueandgroovetheatre.org](http://www.tongueandgroovetheatre.org).

**'SPIDER'S WEB'** Different Stages presents this classic Agatha Christie mystery with a cast of upper-class British culprits under the direction of Jeanette Bellemeur and T.J. Moreno. Through July 24. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$15-30. [www.vortexrep.org](http://www.vortexrep.org).

### ONGOING

**'MELANCHOLY PLAY'** Sarah Ruhl's contemporary farce is brought to the stage by Palindrome Theatre with Helyn Rain Messenger, Corley Pillsbury, Nathan Brockett, Jude Hickey, and Bernadette Nason rocking the boards under the direction of Kate Eminger. An original score is performed live by composer Matt Hines of the Eastern Sea. Through Aug. 8. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 467-0084. \$20 (\$15, students, seniors). [www.austinplayhouse.com](http://www.austinplayhouse.com).

**'THE VIRGIN W/ 10,000 ARROWS'** Debutantes & Vagabonds presents the premiere of Jason Tremblay's tale of the painter Andres Marca Relli, who, back in '94, stole his own artwork out of a New York gallery and then killed himself by jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge three days later. Whoa. Dude. Directed by Francisco Rodriguez. For more, see "The Virgin w/ 10,000 Arrows," p. 24. Through Aug. 1. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2 & 8pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601-C S. Congress, 361/648-1504. \$15 (\$12, students, starting artists; pay what you can, Thursdays). [www.bohemianblitz.com](http://www.bohemianblitz.com).

**'CIRCLE MIRROR TRANSFORMATION'** This is what won the Obie for Best American Play this year. This is the new script from Annie Baker, who wrote HPT's last, widely acclaimed production: *Body Awareness*. This is directed by Ken Webster and features him, Katherine Catmull, Kenneth Wayne Bradley, Rebecca Robinson, and Xochitl Romero. This is all the comedy that a stage can stand, and then some. Toiling in academia? This is your huckleberry, your anodyne, your just deserts. Recommended. See review, left. Through Aug. 7. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. \$19 (\$17, students, seniors, ACoT; pay what you can, Thursdays). [www.hydeparktheatre.com](http://www.hydeparktheatre.com).

**'THE DROWSY CHAPERONE'** Zach Theatre presents this wildly acclaimed musical about ... well, about a musical, really. Directed by Nick Demos and starring Martin Burke as the man whose living room is invaded by a Broadway spectacle of romance, song, and much spirited hoofing. Through Aug. 1. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. \$20-45. [www.zachscott.com](http://www.zachscott.com).

**'ANNIE': THE 52ND ZILKER SUMMER MUSICAL** Even as the comic-strip heroine's publication ceases in newspapers everywhere, the city of Austin brings her staged exploits to the annual summertime shindig on the hill. See review, p.56. Through Aug. 14. Thu.-Sun., 8:30pm. Zilker Hillside Theater, 2206 William Barton Dr., 479-9491. Free. [www.zilker.org](http://www.zilker.org).

### DINNER THEATRE

**MURDER ON THE MOVIE SET** Gary Payne and his madcap Capital City Mystery Players present a humor-laced, interactive murder mystery where you, the audience, are extras on a movie set in which the fatal crime is committed. Who done it? Solve the Hollywooded crime while you feast on sweet Italianate cuisine. Sat., July 24, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$33.50. [www.capcitymystery.com](http://www.capcitymystery.com).

### AUDITIONS

**'VAMPYRESS'** Whole lot of bloodsucking going on again these days, n'est-ce pas? This bit, though, is as real as it gets, based on the story of Countess Bathory Erzsébet – you may better ken the Anglicized "Elizabeth Bathory" rendering – and turned into an opera by Chad "Ethos" Salvata and Bonnie "Director Supreme" Cullum. Who was this woman of noble birth who bathed in the blood of young women as a bid for immortality? You could be among those who answer the question, in spectacular Vortex style. Call for appointment. Audition date: Sat., July 31. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. [www.vortexrep.org](http://www.vortexrep.org).

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# sports

BY MARK FAGAN

listings

## Texas Rollergirls 2010 Championship Bout

Threepeat. That's the word on the lips of the **Hotrod Honeys**. The local 2008-2009 flat-track Roller Derby champions are undefeated at home since 2007, but the ladies in pink and black face their toughest threat to date. For championship challengers and 2008 silver medalists the **Hustlers**, it's a chance to rewrite history. All season, the purple terrors seemed the team most likely to break the Honeys' hold



COURTESY OF BILL SMORILLA

on the trophy. In this year's opening round-robin in February, the Hustlers held the Hotrods to a knife-edge 16-13 win. When they met again in March, the points disparity of the 62-38 Hotrod win doesn't reflect how close the quality of play was. With veteran Hustler **Cheap Trixie** back off the injury roster to rejoin a squad that got tougher with every bout, the Hotrods better tighten their wheel bearings for this rematch. Plus, as if that weren't enough, the third-place bout between the **Hell Marys** and the **Honky Tonk Heartbreakers** screams slobber-knocker, as the rookie-heavy Hells aim to break the curse of a winless season. — Richard Whittaker

Sun., July 25, 6:30-10pm, Playland Skate Center, 8822 McCann. \$15 (\$12, advance). [www.texasrollergirls.org](http://www.texasrollergirls.org).

## BY NICK BARBARO **soccer watch**

The **Austin Aztex** stretched their current unbeaten streak to five games on Saturday, beating AC St. Louis 2-0 on a penalty kick by **Jamie Watson** and a second-half goal by **Max Griffin**, assisted by **Eddie Johnson**. That trio has now scored 20 of the Aztex's 30 goals, and they're each among the top five scorers in the league. The Aztex pretty well dominated the game, outshooting the visitors 27-6. They're off this week — their only bye week of the season — then home the next two Saturdays: hosting Miami July 31 and Tampa Bay Aug. 7. After that, eight of the last 11 are on the road, a grueling stretch including: two trips to Puerto Rico; trips to Portland and Vancouver (who drew and won here in Austin); home-and-aways against Carolina, a strong team that we've not played yet this year, and Tampa Bay, with whom we've drawn. And they end with a difficult final weekend of Friday night in Carolina, then Sunday afternoon in Montreal.

At the **U-20 Women's World Cup**, being played in Germany, the defending champion **U.S.** beat South Korea, 1-0, on Wednesday, to win their group and advance to the quarterfinals against Nigeria (11:30am, Sunday, July 25). Most of the attention on the U.S. surrounds star striker **Sydney Leroux**, who's playing in her third U-20 WC (!) and has scored five of the team's seven goals. But the defense isn't too shabby either: After giving up a goal seven minutes into their opener against Ghana, they haven't allowed another since. The quarterfinals (Saturday-Sunday, July 24-25), semifinals (Thursday, July 29), and final (Sunday, Aug. 1) will all be shown on ESPNU or ESPN2 and online at ESPN3.com.

It's been a big week for **MLS** signings: New York's Red Bulls are reportedly close to signing **Rafa Marquez** — perhaps the most popular and influential player in Mexico, and a huge coup on top of last week's signing of **Thierry Henry**. The Chicago Fire have signed Mexican international **Nery Castillo** as their designated player. And San Diego native **Sal Zizzo** also signed with MLS this week, after spending the last three seasons in the German Bundesliga.

Got a sporting event you'd like to see listed in *The Austin Chronicle*? Submit your sporty happening online at [austinchronicle.com/commform](http://austinchronicle.com/commform).

### THE HOME TEAMS

★ **TEXAS ROLLERGIRES** The Hotrod Honeys and the Hustlers will fight for 2010 championship honors while the Honky Tonk Heartbreakers and the Hell Marys duke it out in the consolation game. Sun., July 25, 6:30pm (doors). Playland Skate Center, 8822 McCann. \$12 advance, \$15 at the door. [www.trollergirls.com](http://www.trollergirls.com).

★ **TXRD LONESTAR ROLLERGIRES** It's the Holy Rollers vs. the Rhinestone Cowgirls in banked-track Roller Derby action. If you can't make it to the bout, follow the action live on their website. Sat., July 24, 7pm (doors at 6). Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. \$15 (\$13, advance); kids under 12 free. [www.txrd.com](http://www.txrd.com).

★ **ROUND ROCK EXPRESS** As Bill Veeck said, "There are only two seasons — winter and baseball." Wednesday's game will be a benefit for breast cancer survivors with the Express donning pink uniforms and donating a portion of the proceeds toward the cause. For more on the Express, see *Chronicle Sports* blog "The Score." Vs. New Orleans: Thu., July 22, 7:05pm. Vs. Iowa: Fri.-Mon., July 23-26, 7:05pm. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock. \$6-30. [www.roundrockexpress.com](http://www.roundrockexpress.com).

### RECREATION & FITNESS

★ **SOUTH AUSTIN SUMMER ADULT BASKETBALL LEAGUE** Sign up now for this league that gets started Aug. 4. Wednesdays, Aug. 4-Sept. 22, 7-9pm. \$350 per team. [www.austinsportscenter.com](http://www.austinsportscenter.com).

★ **COSMIC BOWLING THURSDAY** The new season has begun, featuring the new QubicaAMF scoring system, flat-screen monitors, and kick-butt sound system bumpin' all the hot R&B, old-school, and hip-hop jams. Thu., July 15, 5-9pm. Millennium Youth Center, 1156 Hargrave. 472-6932. \$3.50 (\$2.50, children). [www.myec.net](http://www.myec.net).

★ **WAYA FLAG FOOTBALL** Register now for the West Austin Youth Association's five-on-five flag football season. Kids in grades kindergarten through sixth are welcome to join up. Deadline is Fri., Aug. 27. [www.waya.org](http://www.waya.org).

★ **HILL COUNTRY OUTDOORS** Learn more about Austin's most active outdoors and social club. More than 40 events each month: hiking, camping, biking, kayaking, sports leagues, socials, and more. Mon., July 26, 6:30pm. Opal Divine's at Penn Field, 3601 S. Congress, 383-1191. Free. [www.hillcountryoutdoors.com](http://www.hillcountryoutdoors.com).

★ **TEXAS OUTDOORS WOMAN NETWORK** is open to ladies of any age who are interested in outdoor fun. Learn how to make a survival kit at this meeting. Tue., July 27, 6pm. LCRA Red Bud complex, 3601 Lake Austin Blvd. [www.townaustin.org](http://www.townaustin.org).

★ **ADULT KICKBALL** The World Adult Kickball Association has teams throughout the country, and now there's one in Austin too. The TX Waterloo Division plays games on Mondays at Gillis Park (2504 Durwood). [www.kickball.com/season/txwaterloosummer2010](http://www.kickball.com/season/txwaterloosummer2010).

### RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

★ **SUNSTROKE SUMMER STAMPEDE RACE NO. 12** The SSS is a series of 12 chip-timed 5K races each Wednesday night, and this is the last race. Wed., July 28, 7pm. Town Lake Trail (near the I-35 & Riverside lot), 444-2800 x8900. [www.summerstampe.com](http://www.summerstampe.com).

★ **COUGAR COUNTRY CLASSIC 5K** Men get a 30-second head start before the cougars are let out of their cages to try and catch them. Proceeds benefit SafePlace. Sat., July 24, 8am. Hill Country Galleria, 2912 Hill Country Blvd. 979/732-0109. [www.redlicoriceevents.com/events/Cougar\\_Country\\_Classic\\_5k\\_2010.html](http://www.redlicoriceevents.com/events/Cougar_Country_Classic_5k_2010.html).

### NONE OF THE ABOVE

★ **LONGHORN BASEBALL CAMP** Longhorn Baseball runs camps year-round. High school level players can sign up for the full-day (\$499), or overnight (\$599) camps. See website for further details. Mon.-Wed., July 26-28. [www.longhornbaseballcamp.com](http://www.longhornbaseballcamp.com).

★ **PONY NATIONAL SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP** Kids 8 to 18 will show off their softball skills as they play for the national title in their respective divisions. Mon.-Sun., July 26-Aug. 1. Old Settlers Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock. [www.sportscapitaloftexas.com](http://www.sportscapitaloftexas.com).

★ **INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S FOOTBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS** The IWFL is hosting its women's tackle football championships in the self-proclaimed sports capital of Texas, Round Rock. Thu.-Sun., July 21-25. Round Rock ISD Athletic Complex, 10211 W. Parmer. [www.sportscapitaloftexas.com](http://www.sportscapitaloftexas.com).

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WEB treescale CAUTION The Statesman TIME WARNER

# Annie

Beverly S. Sheffield Zilker Hillside Theatre, 2206 William Barton Dr.,  
[www.zilker.org](http://www.zilker.org)  
 Through Aug. 14  
 Running time: 2 hr., 20 min.



Few American musicals are as beloved as the Thomas Meehan/Charles Strouse/Martin Charnin collaboration *Annie*, and nothing could attest to this fact more than the overflow crowd that I encountered upon arriving close to curtain time on

the second night of the 52nd annual Zilker Summer Musical's run at the Hillside Theater. Despite the rainy weather and the better than 90-degree heat, people were seated all over the cliffs and far to the right and left sides of the stage. And with good reason. With more than a half-dozen memorable songs, including "Maybe," "It's the Hard Knock Life," "Easy Street," "You're Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile," and the perennially popular "Tomorrow" among them, and with the Cinderella story about the little red-haired orphan miraculously chosen to spend Christmas with and ultimately adopted by the billionaire Oliver Warbucks, it's difficult to find a more melodious, magical, and just plain sweet story.

I remember when the Zilker stage was little more than a painted plywood platform, so it's heartening indeed to see the solid concrete structure now standing by Barton Springs Pool and thrilling to encounter so many River City citizens seated on the hillside. The massive production group that supports the summer musical certainly has set the performance bar high, but this year's offering doesn't quite make it over that bar. Jen J. Madison's costumes do, though. The orphans put the "rag" in "ragamuffin," and the maids and butlers of the Warbucks mansion look spiffy and sharp. Jason Amato lights the stage with good old American sass and panache, and, as a group, the young ladies who play the orphans provide more than a couple of highlights. And Annie's dog, Sandy – played obediently by a rescue dog that will be available for adoption at the end

of the show's run – looks like they pulled him straight from the comic strip. But while some of the numbers stand out – particularly Emily Bem, Kirk German, and Liz Newchurch traveling a comically seductive "Easy Street" and Joe Hartman looking put-upon but still nailing his part of "Fully Dressed" – Stuart Moulton's choreography often looks like lackluster marching, and the production as a whole sometimes feels as soppy as Austin after a summer rain. Nowadays, Michael McKelvey seems to direct every musical that isn't staged at Zach Theatre, and here he takes on both the stage and musical direction. McKelvey is an excellent director and voice coach, and while taking on both of those jobs for a chamber musical is quite conceivable, attempting to do both, and do both equally well, for a full-scale production of *Annie* on the hillside might have stretched even the talented McKelvey beyond his far-reaching limits.

But the flaws in the production can't all necessarily be laid at McKelvey's feet. On the night I attended, the actors looked worn and tired, and it could have been the heat (although I've seen other groups of hillside actors do Broadway-level work in the same conditions). It could have been the humidity (the final dress rehearsal was canceled due to the massive rainstorm that hit Austin just before opening). It could have been that old theatrical saw, the second night letdown. And it could very well be that, by the time you attend, you'll see a sweet performance to match the sweetness that is *Annie*. – Barry Pineo

## THEATRE CALL BOARD

**AUDIO DESCRIPTION TRAINING FOR FINE ARTS ORGANIZATIONS** Audio describers describe the visual elements of performances, art exhibits, sculptures, concerts, and more for people who are blind or of low vision. Learn how! See website for details. 454-9912. \$30. [www.vsatx.org](http://www.vsatx.org).

**ESTHER'S FOLLIES: CASTING NOTICE** Needed: A new female cast member with singing and dancing skills to be a main stage performer and magician's assistant (for that dreamy Ray Anderson). It's hot stuff on a popular stage, and you know they pay. E-mail headshots, full body picture, and résumés to schedule an audition. *Esther's Pool*, 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. [esthersfollies@aol.com](mailto:esthersfollies@aol.com).

## comedy

### IN THE CLUBS

**CAFE CAFFEINE** 909 W. Mary, 447-9473.

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

**Comedysportz** Competitive improv? Yes, a vigorous battle between skilled improvisers – sort of like *Highlander* but unscripted – and maestro **Les McGehee** and his talented friends bring it in full force each weekend to one of the sweetest little coffeehouses in the 78704. *Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30pm. \$7.*

**CAP CITY COMEDY** 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. [www.capcitycomedy.com](http://www.capcitycomedy.com).

**Paul Varghese** You think humor with an Indian perspective begins and ends at Apu's Kwik-E-Mart? Oh sweet Shiva, do you have another think coming as Varghese sets the record straight with takes on family and life that'll hit you like a comedy juggernaut. And **Mitch Hansen** opens. *July 22-24. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

**Cap City Open Mic** Hey, it could be you up there slaying your friends and neighbors as they've slain you. *Sundays, 8pm. Free with college ID.*

**John Heffron** This Detroit native was the second-season winner of *Last Comic Standing*, has performed at Montreal's Just for Laughs Festival, was part of the Real Men of Comedy tour, and now takes a break from heavy TV development to slay you laughwise at Cap City, following opener **Tim Harmston**. *July 28-31. Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

**COLDTOWNE THEATER** 4803-B Airport, 524-2807.

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

**The Week in Coldness:** ColdTowne presents **3, 2, 1 ... Kill!**, the troupe's special brand of *video-infused* improv. *Thu., 8pm. Commentary Track* cracks wise on weird cinematic shit and some that doesn't even exist in this moviegoing snarkmeister's wet dream of a show. *Thu., 10pm. Shanty Town Lake* is a full-length revue of social and political satire, music, and absurd comedy, helmed by the redoubtable **Dave Buckman**. We suggest: You will love this show. *Fri., 8pm. Punchline* Stand-up comedy, ColdTowne style: some of Austin's best. *Fri., 10pm. Speakeasy* This open mic paves the way to **Turn of the Century Paris**. *Fri., 11pm. Free. Boy Toy* offers a free show, featuring **Unfurled**. *Sat., 7pm. Stool Pigeon* features improv legend **Miles Stroth** jump-starting the night with a thrice-told tale. *Sat., 8pm. Cage Match* Two improv teams go all *lucha libre* on each other for your grins and giggles. *Sat., 9pm. Frank Mills and Miles Stroth* team up to do **The Deconstruction**. *Sat., 10pm. The Late Night Show* sizzles with **Midnight Society** and, yes, the everlovin' **Frank Mills**. *Sat., 11pm.* Also, the **Monday Night Mash** happens each week, with free admission, and can you guess the night on which it occurs at 8:30pm?

**ESTHER'S POOL** 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553.

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

**Esther's Follies** Esther's popular jesters bring you this red, white, and blue summer of musical satire and lively vaudeville, Texas-style! The magic of **Ray Anderson**, topical satires on the news of the day – Tea party antics! Rick Perry parodies! Oil spill filibusters! – and musical production numbers unleash a spectacle of hilarity right there on Sixth Street. What do the mistresses of Tiger Woods, Jesse James, and John Edwards have in common? They're lampooned here, by some of Austin's cleverest. Reservations highly recommended. *Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20-22 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). Additional \$5 for special reserved seats. \$12-20.*

**THE HIDEOUT THEATRE** 617 Congress, 443-3688. [www.hideouttheatre.com](http://www.hideouttheatre.com).

**Thursday:** Oh, how **Threefer Madness** brings you a trio of improv troupes! Oh, how they work without a script! *8pm. \$3.*

**Friday:** **Girls Girls Girls: The Boys of Summer** Austin's favorite musical bevy of improv beauties adds a different Y-chromosomal hottie to the mix each week, for superior comedy hijinks in July and August. This week: **Josh Krilov**. *8pm. \$10. The Spectacle!* This week the improv showcase gets a visit from those shady Mameitian characters known as **Confidence Men**. *10pm. \$10.*

**Saturday:** **Who Is T. Henry Baudecliffe?** is comedy improv based among the rediscovered creations of a Henry Darger-like reclusive genius. Outsider art spurs narrative tropes! Freaky! Wild! *8pm. \$10. Maestro* is a fierce, elimination-style battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by you, the audience, sure to bring out the wackiest. *10pm. \$10.*

**Sunday: The Weekender** Just a five-spot gets you into the perfect capper to your steady two-day vacation: sketch comedy somewhere between pure silly and near brilliant, from one of Austin's up-and-coming troupes. (Except that, in the case of Your Terrific Neighbors on the first Sunday of each month, it's a troupe that's already arrived – and will rock your comedy world.) *\$5.*

**VELVEETA ROOM** 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116.

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

**Open Mic Night** They're coming out of the alcohol-sodden woodwork to try to make you laugh, with your host, **Joe Faina**. *Thursdays, 10pm.*

**John Ramsey** Austin's favorite hyphenate – lawyer-comic, comic-lawyer – is going to show you why his 2005 Funniest Person in Austin win was just the *beginning* of a career of making that White Russian come out your nose from laughter. *Sure he's good: You think just anybody could follow Brian Gaar and Joe Faina? Fri.-Sat., July 23-24, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

## BUT WAIT - THERE'S MORE!

**STAND UP NO MATTER WHAT** This stand-up show features the amazing Tom Hester and Martha Kelly and is a fundraiser for the indie film of the same name. *Wed., July 28, 8pm. Club Encore, 611 Red River. \$10 (\$8, students).*

**CONFIDENCE MEN: AFTER THE TRANSFORMATION**

Austin's favorite troupe of Mameit-inspired improvisers bring their scheming, foulmouthed, this-is-how-men-are ways to the Hyde Park Theatre stage, following this Saturday's performance of *Circle Mirror Transformation* and using that show's set. We predict: Fuckin' hilarious. *Sat., July 24, 10:30pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. \$10. www.confidencemenimprov.com.*

**THE INSTITUTION'S GREATEST SHOWCASE ON EARTH**

Well, it's no circus except a circus of the latest graduates from the Institution Theatre's groundbreaking school of comedy improv ... which, OK, is something of a circus indeed. Two shows – each featuring three different troupes and the I.T.'s celebrated performers (Tom Booker and Asaf Ronen) – are good reason to hallow and huzzah and join the crowd for a night of fun. *Sun., July 25, 6 & 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. \$5 each show.*

[www.theinstitutiontheater.com/greatest-showcase](http://www.theinstitutiontheater.com/greatest-showcase).

**THE AUSTIN COMEDY TRAINWRECK** Stand-up comedy – right there in the Hole, on the Drag, in the heart of collegiate Texas. *Tuesdays, 10pm. Hole in the Wall, 2538 Guadalupe. \$5. www.myspace.com/austincomedytrainwreck.*

**KICK BUTT COMEDY Open Mic Comedy** Bring it or have it brought to you, clever citizen. *Wednesdays, 8pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425.*

**TUESDAYS WITH BRENTLY** Brently Heilbron, ladies and gentlemen. Oh, sweet Jesus. This is a comic who is possibly 1) a genius, 2) a madman, 3) interestingly fucked in the head, or – most likely – 4) all of the above, simultaneously. You don't simply watch a Heilbron show; you brace for the hilarious impact. This creator of *Hooray for Gregory Peck's Ass!* and the *Ask a Ninja* theme will be rocking Lamberts throughout July. *Tuesdays, 10pm. Lamberts, 401 W. Second. Through July 27. 494-1500. \$5. www.lambertsaustin.com.*

**TIKI TUESDAYS @ CHERRYWOOD** Local funnyman **Seth Cockfield** hosts an open mic where anybody can do a short set, but – much better – some of the city's top comedy talents break in their new material. Catch 'em here before they bolt for L.A.! *Tuesdays, 10pm. Cherrywood Coffeehouse, 1400 E. 38½.*



**COMEDY GONE WRONG** How wrong? Badly, horribly, awesomely wrong, as **Charlie Sotelo**, the man behind Austin's legendary *The Show With No Name*, and the hilarious **Andy Ritchie** present a night of excerpts from the worst audition tapes and demo reels ever gathered from would-be, wannabe, and (whoa, shit) actual working comedians from across the country. You think you know awkward? This night will (cue the crickets) show you the true meaning of the word, comedy lover. Recommended. *Mon., July 26, 7-45pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320. www.originalalamo.com.*

**THE NEW MOVEMENT** Acclaimed comedy instructors **Chris Trew** and **Tami Nelson** execute their brand of hijinks with talented friends and disciples. Yes, a regular ongoing series of shows of all kinds, right there in the theatre next to Nubian Queen Lola's, in inimitable Chris 'n' Tami style. You want comedy? Check this: **The Megaphone Show** *Wednesdays, 9:30pm. Free. Block Party Thursdays, 9:30pm. \$2. The 11:11 Cinematheque* Comedy evisceration of an entire cult film. *Thursdays, 11:11pm. \$1. The Main Event* Competitive improv and joke wrestling. *Fridays, 9:30pm. Megaphone Public Access Saturdays, 9:30pm. New Movement Theater, 1819 Rosewood. www.newmovementtheater.com.*

**SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL** Two Gnap!tastic improv troupes, one after the other, for maximum compare-and-contrast opportunities of comedy styling and schools of prov-fu. This weekend, **Techno Forest of Doom** brings the power and the glory, followed by the night's surprise guest. *Sat., July 24, 10pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$10. www.gnaptheater.org.*

**GUILDS OF STEEL: THE REIGN OF HAGGOTH** Live, unscripted tales based on **World of Warcraft** quests and the AFK lives of the people who play it. This was a "Best of Austin" winner last year because it was so geekily inspired that we laughed ourselves out of mana before the show was half over, and now it's back with a new quest. Recommended. *Through July 31. Fri-Sat., 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$10. www.gnaptheater.org/gos.html.*

## classical music

### OPENING

**RAUL JAURENA & THE TEXAS TANGO FIVE** This encore performance from ACMC's 2009 Tango on the Terrace is part of the 14th annual Austin Chamber Music Festival. For more about the festival, see "Austin Chamber Music Festival 2010," p.24. *Fri., July 23, 7:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0026. \$25. www.austinchambermusic.org.*

**CARPE DIEM STRING QUARTET & CLARINETIST PAUL GREEN: 'DER GOLEM'** Excellent performance of this suite from the film score composed by Betty Olivero to the backdrop of the legendary silent film by Paul Wegener. *Sun., July 25, 7:30pm. First Unitarian Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0026. \$25. www.austinchambermusic.org.*

**SPOTLIGHT ON OPERA: AN ARIA EXTRAVAGANZA** The St. Edward's University Music Department announces its summer season, an ambitious four-week program from the world of opera. This week: **An afternoon of opera's most beautiful arias, duets, and ensembles.** *Sun., July 25, 3pm. Bachus Conservatory, 8000 Anderson Square #113. 246-1914. \$10. www.spotlightonopera.com.*

**AUSTIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: CHILDREN'S DAY ART PARK** Learn about the symphony and its various instruments (and performers), take part in arts & crafts, listen to storytellers, and enjoy mimes, magicians, and more. Each week is capped with a performance by one of Austin's favorite kid-friendly acts. After the performance, follow the Pied Piper down the Lemonade Trail to the Magic Oak Tree, where the fun continues under the Big Top. This week (the final week!): **The Biscuit Brothers.** *Wed., July 28, 9:30-11:30am. Symphony Square, 1101 Red River, 476-6064. 50 cents (adults free when accompanying a child). www.austinsymphony.org.*

### ONGOING

**CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: NOONDAY CONCERT** This weekly series features local professionals, students, and special guests. A light lunch is served after the concerts (reservations required by 10am on day of the concert; if e-mailing, write "lunch" in the subject line). *Thursdays, noon. Central Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Eighth, 472-2445. Free (lunch: \$5, adults; \$3, children). www.cpcAustin.org.*

## visual arts

### EVENTS

**SMUT X PRINT + ADDICTION** The juggernaut of on-the-spot DIY screenprinting from the gang at Industry returns, this time with designs created for the eight-color press by Austin street artist SMUT. You know the gig: It's like an ink-stained party in East Indiewille, and this sexy one's also got popscapes and lollipops for your licking and sucking pleasure. *Fri., July 23, 6-9pm. 2503-B E. Sixth, 750-5406. Free.*

**TESTSITE: JUST BECAUSE** Sculpture and installation artist Michael Krumenacker, 2007 Chinati Artist in Residence, creates his newest work, *Your Hair Is Mine.* *Sun., July 25, 3pm. 502 W. 33rd. www.fluentcollab.org/testsite.*

**BIRDHOUSE GALLERY: WIZARD SLEEVE** Joshua Sanders presents his latest investigations of, ah, oh, maybe you should go and see for yourself what the man has perpetrated in the name of art. *1304 E. Cesar Chavez, 789-9242. www.birdhousegallery.com.*

### OPENING

**WOMEN & THEIR WORK: PERSISTENCE OF MOMENT** Karen Mahaffy uses video, sculpture, and drawing to create reminders of the exceptional contained among the ordinary. Reception: *Thu., July 22, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through Sept. 22. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.*

**MUSEUM OF NATURAL & ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA: UNDERGROUND** Huzzah! It's a new exhibition from one of Austin's most quirkily delightful galleries. What goes on underground, whether culturally or geologically? Some of what goes on also goes on here, especially with an opening reception that features music by Christy & the Plowboys (old mining songs and Austin underground psychedelia played string-band style): *Fri., July 23, 7-10pm. Curator-led tours: Thursdays, 4-7pm; Saturdays, 1-4pm; and by appointment. Through Nov. 30. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566. www.mnae.org.*

### CLOSING

**DOMY BOOKS: RON REGÉ JR.** This colorful show is the third annual exhibition of drawings from the celebrated "Cute Brut" artist's ongoing project, "The Cartoon Utopia." *Through July 29. 913 E. Cesar Chavez, 476-3669. www.domystore.com/austin.*

**GRAYDUCK GALLERY: OBJECTIVITY** This exploration of objects features mixed media and photography by Annie Feldmeier Adams, Jennifer Leigh Jones, Nadine Y. Nakanishi, and Scott Wright. *Through July 25. 608 W. Monroe, 826-5334. www.grayduckgallery.com.*

**BIG MEDIUM: TOO MANY UNIQUE USERS OF THE SUN** Michael Merck's show features new and recent large-format works on canvas which focus on "the cerebral and experiential aspects of painting while ignoring or drawing comparison to the medium's formal concerns." *Through July 24. 5305 Bolm, 385-1670. www.michaelmerck.com.*

**FRESH BLACK PAINT: TIGHTROPE REALITIES** This annual exhibition is curated by Nailah Sankofa and features new work by John Yancey, Arleen Polite, Bob Jones, Ifaniike "Taiwo" Sankofa, Jonathan Clark, Ketu'rah Glore, Kelly Stafford, and others. *Through July 24. DiverseArts New East Gallery, 1601 E. Fifth #106. www.diversearts.org.*

**CO-LAB: TODAY'S HEADLINES WRAP TOMORROW'S FISH** is a multimedia installation by that ceaselessly provocative William Hundley. *Through July 24. 613 Allen. 300-8217. www.colabspace.org.*

### ONGOING

**DIBONA STUDIO** Oil paintings and "sculptural tattoos" by Joyce DiBona. *404 W. Milton, 851-2646. www.joycedibona.com.*

**THE MARCHESA: RENE NORMAN & ANDREA NELSON** An exhibition of new work in what used to be the Monarch Event Center, yes. *Through Aug. 30. Lincoln Village, 6406 N. I-35. 454-2000. Free. www.themarchesa.com.*

**WYATT BRAND GALLERY: KENNY BRAUN** The (astonishingly good) photographer presents "Surf" in glorious black and white. *Through October. 107 Leland #4, 904-9928. www.wyattbrand.com.*

**CHAN CHAN: PHOTOS AND PAINTINGS OF CUBA** The photography of Piercarlo Abate and the paintings of Luis Abreu show a side of Cuba that's seldom seen. *81 San Marcos St. www.piercarloabate.com.*

**DAVIS GALLERY: THAT SUMMER FEELING** The gallery's regular (read: excellent) artists explore their memories of summer in this group show. *Through Aug. 28. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929. www.davisgalleryaustin.com.*

**AUSTIN ART GARAGE** Original art by local artists. *2200-J S. Lamar, 351-5934. www.austinartgarage.com.*

**CITY GLASS** See what the professionals create with this liquidlike solid (or solid-seeming liquid). Glassblowing classes available, too! *1105 E. Sixth. 584-9323.*

**DUMONT GALLERY** Linda Dumont: cityscapes, abstracts, and portraits. Call for appointment. *906 E. Fifth. 698-1890. www.lindadumont.com.*

**GALLERY 5619: I AM HUMAN. I AM SPIRIT.** This immersive exhibition of photography, sound clips, and narrative by writer Trevor Boehm and photographer Kara Payne explores the lives of the Sioux Indians of Montana. *Through Aug. 29. 5619 Airport, 751-2360. www.gallery5619.org.*

**CORONADO STUDIOS** The Serie Project, a nonprofit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix, 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.*

**VSA ARTS: ON MOUNTAIN TIME** Work by four artists from El Paso: Elena Octuna Batista, Lorene Glenn Rogers, Leonardo Ceniceros, and Elisha Rachele. *Access Gallery, 3701 Guadalupe #103. 454-9912. www.vsatx.org.*

**GAY FAY KELLY: UP AGAINST THE WALL ... AGAIN** Fidencio Duran, Daphne Holland, Tim Kerr, Mo Scollan, and many others are part of this excellent summertime group show. *Exhibition: Through July. 1811 W. Eighth, 478-7676. www.gayfaykellyart.com.*

**AUSTIN ART SPACE: WHAT TEXAS MEANS TO ME** Work by 35 different artists, juried by Phillip Wade. *Through Aug. 28. 7739 Northcross, 771-2868. www.austinartspace.com.*

**SUPERIALRIGHT!: DISPOSABLE EDITS** Seventeen Austin artists come together for this unique photography project, with each artist displaying one unaltered, enlarged photograph taken with a standard single-use disposable 35mm camera. *301 Chicon. www.digitalpurity.com.*

**DRAGONFLY GALLERY: MIXED-MEDIA ARTISTS OF HOUSTON** *Through Aug. 12. 4007 Marathon, 420-9000. Free. www.dragonflygallerytx.com.*

**ART IN A NUTSHELL** This is the gallery of Ismael Cavazos, creator of "The Old Man in the Peanut," featuring his creations involving scribbles, drip paintings, rocks, inkblots, and clouds. *2209 S. First, 436-6551. www.ismaelcavazos.com.*



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After hearing this tremendous Sunday evening concert, my mind kept floating back to the question of greatness. What are its qualities? What differentiates a first-rate performance from

a great one? Lest I ramble, though, I'll get to the performance in question, smack in the middle of the 2010 Austin Chamber Music Festival and the result of years of recruitment: the Brentano String Quartet.

The ensemble concluded its first-ever appearance at the festival with the sprawling Beethoven *Quartet in E-flat major*, the first of the composer's late quartets marked by the master's complete deafness. To be honest, the late quartets aren't my favorite – I like my Beethoven stormy and hot-headed, bursting with tension, and the late works are more balanced, majestic, or in Artistic Director Michelle Schumann's own words, "transcendent." My personal bias aside, the performance was everything you'd hope it to be. Grand and full of vigor, the four musicians were sumptuously attuned to one another throughout. The exciting scherzo third movement was a highlight, with its bursts of sound that bounced up the hall's steep aisles.

Prior to intermission, the audience was treated to the Austin premiere of Stephen Hartke's *Night Songs for a Desert Flower*, composed for the quartet in 2009. Inspired by the medieval madrigal form but by all means modern, the piece was an intriguing departure from traditional form. Hartke's organic, ethereal style captured the otherworldliness of his title, and with it the Brentano created a hushed and vulnerable soundscape. The undulating first movement introduced the material that wove itself throughout the quartet, utilizing oscillating open harmonics in the inner voices. The result was an alien sonority that provoked much discussion at intermission. Among the comparisons I overheard were the whistles

of distant approaching trains, and my favorite, the razor-sharp sounds of wet fingers against the rims of crystal glassware. The conclusions of Hartke's movements were particularly memorable, as they didn't as much end but seemed to just slip away. Following the longing "Lament" and the anxious "Intermezzo," the piece shifted gears for the final "Rejouissance" movement, giving the quartet energetic, sweeping material. Much credit is due violinist Serena Canin and violist Misha Amory for sustaining the harmonics material throughout with tremendous consistency and control.

That brings us to the night's opener, Haydn's optimistic, lighthearted *Quartet in F major*. Reminiscent of the genteel nature of the late classical period, the piece was lovely and perfectly executed. From exciting big moments to its gorgeous quiet material, the members of the Brentano String Quartet nailed the entire thing. You could envision this performance was what Haydn imagined as he wrote it. It's what originally brought the question of greatness to my mind.

Emerson said "to be simple is to be great." No doubt the Brentano String Quartet came to Austin with a distinguished 19-year résumé: artists-in-residence at Princeton University, the original winners of the Cleveland Quartet Award, lauded tours to the world's sanctuaries of classical music. So, yes, the reputation that preceded their visit was huge. On this night, though, dressed in no-frills summer outfits and set on Bates' stark stage, the quartet simply made exceptional, moving music. The result was, in a way that was at once intangible and certain, nothing short of great. – Michael Kellerman

**GALLERY BLACK LAGOON** The husband-and-wife team of David Lujan and Singer Mayberry (of the Parlor family) have turned the former Movie Store at 43rd & Guadalupe into an art gallery. Now featuring work by Jeffrey Swanson, Ryan Davis, and Christa Palazzolo. 4301 Guadalupe. [www.galleryblacklagoon.com](http://www.galleryblacklagoon.com).

**EYE CONTACT ART** showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. 12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577. [www.eycontactart.com](http://www.eycontactart.com).

**NORTH HILLS GALLERY: DREAMING IN RED, WHITE, AND BLUE** Americana-inspired art by members of the Creative Arts Society. Through Aug. 1. 7050 Village Center Dr. [www.creativeartsociety.org](http://www.creativeartsociety.org).

**GREYSTONE SQUARE: LIQUID THOUGHTS** Artwork by French artist Bernard Perroud. Through July 31. 3435 Greystone #108. 310/392-5079. [www.lingni-net.blogspot.com](http://www.lingni-net.blogspot.com).

**ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY** 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 St., 457-0171. [www.pablotaoboadastudio.com](http://www.pablotaoboadastudio.com).

**COURTYARD GALLERY: JENNIFER CHENOWETH** The artist's flowing three-dimensional wall installation is inspired by the four elements: earth, water, air, and fire. Through Aug. 27. AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center, 1900 University Ave., 404-1900, 877/744-8822. [www.jenchenoweth.com](http://www.jenchenoweth.com).

**AUSTIN ART GLASS** This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, classes, and more. 1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. [www.austinartglass.com](http://www.austinartglass.com).

**AMOA: RUNNING THE NUMBERS** Photographer Chris Jordan "takes numbers that are too big for the mind to grasp and makes them shockingly beautiful for the eye to behold." As if that weren't enough, two huge and intriguing sculptures by Sunyong Chung gorgeously complicate AMOA's locals-only space, and another gallery is bedecked by the stunning conglomerations of the "Collection Selections" showcase. Recommended. Through Aug. 15. 823 Congress, 495-9224. [www.amoa.org](http://www.amoa.org).

**BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS** Unique handmade glass art and jewelry. 108 W. 43rd, 380-0770. [www.austinbluemoon.com](http://www.austinbluemoon.com).

**D BERMAN GALLERY: FAITH GAY AND RAYMOND UHLIR** The newest works from these Austin artists are twin explosions of color and (in Uhlir's case) strange narrative. Through Aug. 21. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. [www.dbermangallery.com](http://www.dbermangallery.com).

**REALITY X 2: IMAGINATION AS LIVED EXPERIENCE** Paintings by Brazilian artist Werllayne Nunes. Through Aug. 28. Carver Museum and Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina, 974-4926. [www.werllayne.com](http://www.werllayne.com).

**BLANTON MUSEUM: MATISSE AS PRINTMAKER** Printmaking's such a beautiful craft when done well, and who better to represent old-school lithography and such than Monsieur H. Matisse? Recommended. Through Aug. 23. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. [www.blantonmuseum.org](http://www.blantonmuseum.org).

**L. NOWLIN GALLERY: THE PORTRAIT** A wide array of portraits, in fact, captured by photographers so diverse, so skilled in color or black-and-white, that it's like having a pair of perfect eyes roaming the world for your consideration and awe. Through Aug. 14. 1202-A W. Sixth, 626-9301. [www.lnowlingallery.com](http://www.lnowlingallery.com).

**LE PEÑA: HELLO ... REMEMBER ... GOODBYE** The work of Frank Guerra bridges the gap between Hispanic art and modern American culture. Through July 30. 227 Congress #300, 477-6007. [www.lapena-austin.org](http://www.lapena-austin.org).

**AMOA – LAGUNA GLORIA: CAROLE MCINTOSH SIKES** Through Aug. 23. 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191. [www.amoa.org](http://www.amoa.org).

**LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: CORDY RYMAN** The New York-based artist's paintings and sculptures address elements of architecture with rich texture and a unique color palette, expertly displayed in this new solo show called "Scrapple." Through Sept. 4. 360 Nueces #50, 215-4965. [www.lorareynolds.com](http://www.lorareynolds.com).

**MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM: YOUNG LATINO ARTISTS** Claudia Zapata is the curator of "Consensus of Taste," the 15th iteration of the popular series which includes, this year, a commemorative serigraph by Matthew Rodriguez and an entrance mural by James Huizar among the vibrant works on display. Through Aug. 30. 419 Congress, 480-9373. [www.mexic-artemuseum.org](http://www.mexic-artemuseum.org).

**MACC: TOWN OF CLOUDS** Visual documentation of the Wirranrika (Huicholes) culture in Jalisco, by Mexican photographer Diego Huerta. Through Aug. 14. 600 River, 974-3772. [www.maccastin.org](http://www.maccastin.org).

**MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART** presents an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork. 7801 N. Lamar Ste. B-148, 323-6901. [www.mitchie.com](http://www.mitchie.com).

**ARTHOUSE: ADVANCED YOUNG ARTISTS** Arthouse, as its Downtown headquarters are still being remodeled, presents this exhibition of works by exemplary high school students at Okay Mountain. Through July 31. 1312-B E. Cesar Chavez. [www.okaymountain.com](http://www.okaymountain.com).

**PUMP PROJECT: WOMEN PRINTMAKERS OF AUSTIN** So many women, so many prints, so much beautiful ink and industry. Through July 31. 702 Shady. [www.pumpproject.org](http://www.pumpproject.org).

**REVERSE GALLERY: WORKS OF SPRING** Michael Bacon paints abstracts on the back of clear vinyl, and his works are viewed through the untouched side. 612 Brazos #100, 592-0219. [www.michaelbacon.com](http://www.michaelbacon.com).

**SOUTH AUSTIN POPULAR CULTURE CENTER** This exhibition features posters and more from the heyday of Austin's Vulcan Gas Company and Armadillo World Headquarters. Through Aug. 28. 1516-B S. Lamar, 440-8318. [www.samopc.org](http://www.samopc.org).

**STUDIO2GALLERY: AVAA SHOW** Here's a diversity of new works by members of the Austin Visual Arts Association, chosen by Donna Crosby and Tina Weitz. Through Aug. 7. 1700 S. Lamar #318, 386-9233. [www.studio2gallery.com](http://www.studio2gallery.com).

**WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: ADULT ALTERCATIONS** Not much more to be said, considering this issue's cover story, get it? Good. Now drop that roscoe and feast your eyeballs. For an interview with the artist, see "Covert Stories," p.26. Through July 31. 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428. [www.wallyworkmangallery.com](http://www.wallyworkmangallery.com).

**YARD DOG: BRAD & SUNDIE RUPPERT** The Rupperts are a husband-and-wife team from Iowa who use wire, vintage ceiling tin, watch parts, vintage fabrics, and architectural salvage to create their unique sculptures. Through Aug. 22. 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613. [www.yarddog.com](http://www.yarddog.com).

## SPACES

**FARM TO MARKET: LANCE BRADLEY** Paintings and prints. 1718 S. Congress, 462-7220. [www.thelancebradley.com](http://www.thelancebradley.com).

**DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY** Stained and leaded glass and mosaics. 701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. [www.decola-eusebi.com](http://www.decola-eusebi.com).

**ZOOT: L.P. ZIMMERMANN** Through July 31. 11715 Bee Caves Rd., 477-6535. [www.lpzimmermann.com](http://www.lpzimmermann.com).

**EASTSIDE BOOKS** Currently showing works by Patrick King, Ramon Lozano, and John Metcalf. 2415 E. Fifth. 472-2665. [www.eastsidebooksaustin.com](http://www.eastsidebooksaustin.com).

**RUSSELL'S BAKERY: NORMAN GARRETT** Photodocumentation of brides and their weddings. 1601 W. 38th, 619-9633. [www.thanksforthememories.biz](http://www.thanksforthememories.biz).

**BENNU: VISUAL LANGUAGE & CULTURE** Photography by Poet on Watch and Emily Kinsolving, paintings by Andrea McArdle. 2001 E. MLK, 972/836-4255. [www.malisite.ning.com](http://www.malisite.ning.com).

**CONTINENTAL CLUB: DANA SMITH** A retrospective of 10 years of artwork by the Louisiana native. Through July 30. 1315 S. Congress, 441-2444. [www.continentalclub.com](http://www.continentalclub.com).

**CORONA CAFE: DESERT MOTORSPORTS RACING** Photography by Terry Raven. Through Aug. 25. 1215 Corona, 524-0014. [www.coronacafeaustin.com](http://www.coronacafeaustin.com).

**THE ART OF LIFE ART WORKS** Calligraphy and design by Irene Konig. Through July 31. 4700 Grover, 452-6168. [www.artoflife.us](http://www.artoflife.us).

**KERBEY LANE CAFE: MARIA LYLE** 3704 Kerbey, 451-1436. [www.kerbeylanecafe.com](http://www.kerbeylanecafe.com).

**KERBEY LANE: MOT'S 3-D ART** 2700 S. Lamar, 445-4451. [www.kerbeylanecafe.com](http://www.kerbeylanecafe.com).

**PARADISE CAFE: LIZ BOATMAN** Watercolor art of seascapes, bayous, and Hopperesque scenes. Through July 31. 401 E. Sixth, 476-5667. Free. [www.paradiseonsixth.com](http://www.paradiseonsixth.com).

**JOEY SEAMAN: CHOLAS POR VIDA** The artist's work pays tribute to the *cholas*, *pachucas*, *rucas*, gang girls, prison art, and lowrider culture. Through Aug. 9. 1308 E. Sixth, 524-0384. [www.joeyseaman.com](http://www.joeyseaman.com).

**ROADHOUSE RELICS** Vintage neon, carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture by Todd Sanders. 1720 S. First, 442-6366. [www.roadhouserelics.com](http://www.roadhouserelics.com).

## CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

**PUMP PROJECT LONG POSE DRAWING/PAINTING GROUP** Tue., July 27. \$8 per session, or \$25 for four-session package. [www.nightmovesart.com](http://www.nightmovesart.com).

**CITY GLASS: WORKSHOPS AND CLASSES** Glass blowing? Yes, and more. 1105 E. Sixth, 584-9323. [www.cityglass.us](http://www.cityglass.us).

**ATELIER 3-D: A SCULPTORS' STUDIO** is a centrally located sculpture studio (featuring the work of Steve Dubov, Heather Tolleson, and Terry Wilemon) that offers ongoing classes and workshops for all skill levels; the venue's also open to artists looking for workspace and tools. Call or see the website for details. 701 Tillery, 385-1115. [www.atelier3-d.com](http://www.atelier3-d.com).

**DRAGONFLY GALLERY: LIZ HILL FIGURATIVE WORKSHOP** See website for details. Fri.-Sun., July 23-25. 420-9000. Free. [www.dragonflygallerytx.com](http://www.dragonflygallerytx.com).

**AMOA: CALL FOR ENTRIES** You know how the Austin Museum of Art - Downtown has the fine good sense to showcase work by a local artist as an addition to whatever giant main exhibition is filling the big beautiful space? Well, this is an opportunity to submit your own work for consideration as the February-May 2011 part of that ongoing series. See [www.amoa.org](http://www.amoa.org) for details. Deadline: July 29. 823 Congress, 495-9224.

**BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS: CLASSES** This Hyde Park epicenter of everything silica-based and lovely offers instruction on glass fusing, leaded glass, precious-metal clay, and much more. See website for details. 108 W. 43rd, 380-0770. [www.austinbluemoon.com](http://www.austinbluemoon.com).

**MACC: ART CLASSES** Sculpting, working in clay and paper pulp, painting with acrylics: many opportunities for learning a craft here. See website for details. 600 River, 478-6222. [www.maccaustin.org](http://www.maccaustin.org).

**AUSTIN FIGURATIVE GALLERY** Art Seen Alliance presents a live model painting and drawing session. Poses are for 15 minutes each, except on the third Monday of the month, when the entire session is of one pose for two hours. Bring your own supplies. Mondays, 7-9pm. 2906 Fruth, 480-9562. \$5. [www.artseenalliance.com](http://www.artseenalliance.com).

## litera

### READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

**ANASTASIA HOPCUS AND PHOEBE Kitanides** present Hopcus' debut novel, *Shadow Hills*. Wed., July 28, 1pm. [BookPeople](http://BookPeople), 603 N. Lamar, 212/576-2700. [www.egmontusa.com](http://www.egmontusa.com).

**ROB SHEFFIELD** of *Love Is a Mix Tape* fame burns another coming-of-age playlist with his latest *Talking to Girls About Duran Duran*. He dishes with *Austin American-Statesman* reporter Joe Gross. Wed., July 28, 7pm. [BookPeople](http://BookPeople), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

**DAVID HERLIHY** tells the thrilling story of Frank Lenz, one of the earliest bicyclists, who in the late 1880s dreamed of cycling around the world but became *The Lost Cyclist* when he disappeared in Turkey in 1894. Tue., July 27, 7pm. [BookPeople](http://BookPeople), 603 N. Lamar.

**NOIR AT THE BAR** features Tony O'Neill, Jesse Sublett, and Harry Hunsicker, as well as some musical interludes. Highly recommended. Tue., July 27, 7pm. *Continental Club Gallery*, 1315 S. Congress, upstairs, 441-2444. [www.continentalclub.com](http://www.continentalclub.com).

**BORDERLANDS' COMMUNITY OF POETS** features an open mic because of a last-minute cancellation. Hosted by Deb Akers. Sun., July 25, 4pm. *Barnes & Noble South*, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493. Free. [www.borderlands.org](http://www.borderlands.org).

**THE CHRONICLE'S OWN BELINDA ACOSTA** introduces us to her *Sisters, Strangers, and Starting Over*, the second novel in the Quinceañera Club series. Yay! Family matters in all its strange permutations. Highly recommended. Fri., July 23, 7pm. [BookPeople](http://BookPeople), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. [www.bookpeople.com](http://www.bookpeople.com).

**BORDERLANDS: TEXAS POETRY REVIEW** A selected group of poets from the spring/summer 2010 edition read to celebrate the publication of this special translanguing issue. Featured poets are Tony Beckwith, Rachel Jennings, Marcelle Kasproicz, Pat LittleDog, Jenny Molberg, Trey Moore, and Nick Norwo. Hosted by guest Editor



PRINT + ADDICTION ALSO BRIGHTENS AUSTIN'S FRIDAY WITH A DIY PARTY FEATURING WORK BY POSTER ARTIST SMUT.

Liliana Valenzuela. Highly recommended. Fri., July 23, 7pm. *La Peña Gallery*, 227 Congress, 477-6007.

**JAMES MCGRATH MORRIS** offers a fascinating portrait of the legendary king of mass media in his Pulitzer, a man Teddy Roosevelt wanted to jail. Thu., July 22, 7pm. [BookPeople](http://BookPeople), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

**TEXAS NAFAS** presents Ric Williams' interviews with cowboy poet Neil Meili. Taped in the Austin backyard of Texas Nafas. Every week in July on channels 10 and 16. See website for exact times. [www.channelaustin.org](http://www.channelaustin.org).

## WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

**AUSTIN FICTIONISTS** meet twice a month to workshop members' short stories, novel chapters, and personal essays. They're accepting new applications for membership. Send a writing sample of no more than 10,000 words with a brief statement on why you want to join to [jamfab1@hotmail.com](mailto:jamfab1@hotmail.com).

**AUSTIN WRITERS WORKSHOP** meets to write, read, and discuss screenplays. Mondays, 6:30pm. *Barnes & Noble Westlake*, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

**SOUTH AUSTIN SPIRITUAL GROUP** is nondenominational and welcomes you to discuss *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*. Thu., July 22, 1pm. *Barnes & Noble South*, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493.

**BOOKWOMAN** snaps to *Click: When We Knew We Were Feminists* edited by Courtney Martin and J. Courtney Sullivan. Thu., July 22, 7pm. [BookWoman](http://BookWoman), 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 472-2785. [www.ebookwoman.com](http://www.ebookwoman.com).

**NEW & NOTEWORTHY** discreetly discusses *A Personal Matter* by Kenzaburo Oe. Paul and Kester keep it zipped. Mon., July 26, 7pm. [BookPeople](http://BookPeople), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. [www.bookpeople.com](http://www.bookpeople.com).

**HARD WORD CLUB** plumbs *Still River* with author Harry Hunsicker live in person, breathing, spitting bullets, knocking dames about, and pulling on the bottle hard. Scott and Nolan case the joint. Wed., July 28, 7pm. [BookPeople](http://BookPeople), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

**NOT JUST ANOTHER TEEN BOOK CLUB** gets the chills with *Shiver* by Maggie Stiefvater. Ages 13-18. Sat., July 24, 2pm. [BookPeople](http://BookPeople), 603 N. Lamar.

**VOYAGE OUT** gets all jumpy with *Look at Me* by Jennifer Egan. Brian C. and Daniel host. Sun., July 25, 5pm. [BookPeople](http://BookPeople), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

**HOWSON SCIENCE FICTION CLUB** parses *The Year's Best Science Fiction*, 26th annual collection. Tue., July 27, 7pm. *Howson Library*, 2500 Exposition, 472-3584.

**HOWSON LIBRARY** wades into *The Sea* by John Banville. Wed., July 28, 7pm. *Howson Library*, 2500 Exposition, 472-3584.

**ROMANCE READERS CIRCLE** is for those who read, live, or even write romance. Sat., July 24, 10:30am. *University Hills Library*, 4721 Loyola, 929-0551.

## OPEN MICS

**POETS' CORNER AT LOVEY'S LOOT** Poetry- and story-reading and all-around silliness. Fri., July 23, 8-10pm. 8650 Spicewood Springs Rd. #107. 258-7500.

**CAFE CAFFEINE** features acoustic music, poetry, free speech, improvisations, and collaborations. All-ages performance. Hosted by Thom Moon Bird. Sundays, 2-4pm. *Cafe Caffeine*, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473. [www.cafecaffeine.com](http://www.cafecaffeine.com).

**FAIR BEAN** Hosted by Amy Zamarripa. Fridays, 5-7pm. *Fair Bean Coffee*, 2210-I S. First, 444-BEAN. [www.fairbeancoffee.com](http://www.fairbeancoffee.com).

**GENUINE JOE** Thursdays, 7:30-10pm. *Genuine Joe Coffeehouse*, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. [www.genuinejoe.com](http://www.genuinejoe.com).

**THE HIDEOUT** is hosted by Thom Moon Bird. Next up is Tracy Farrow as in TraC, the YouTube Poet! Mondays, 7-10pm. *The Hideout Theatre*, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry). [www.hideouttheatre.com](http://www.hideouttheatre.com).

**HOT MAMA'S** Sundays, 4-6pm. *Hot Mama's Espresso Bar*, 2401 E. Sixth, 476-MAMA. [www.hotmamasaustin.com](http://www.hotmamasaustin.com).

**SPOKEN & HEARD** Bring words, make noise, bring yourself, make friends. ASL interpreter available. Hosted by the Crew. Sundays, 7-10pm. *Kick Butt Coffee*, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425. [www.kickbutcoffee.com](http://www.kickbutcoffee.com).

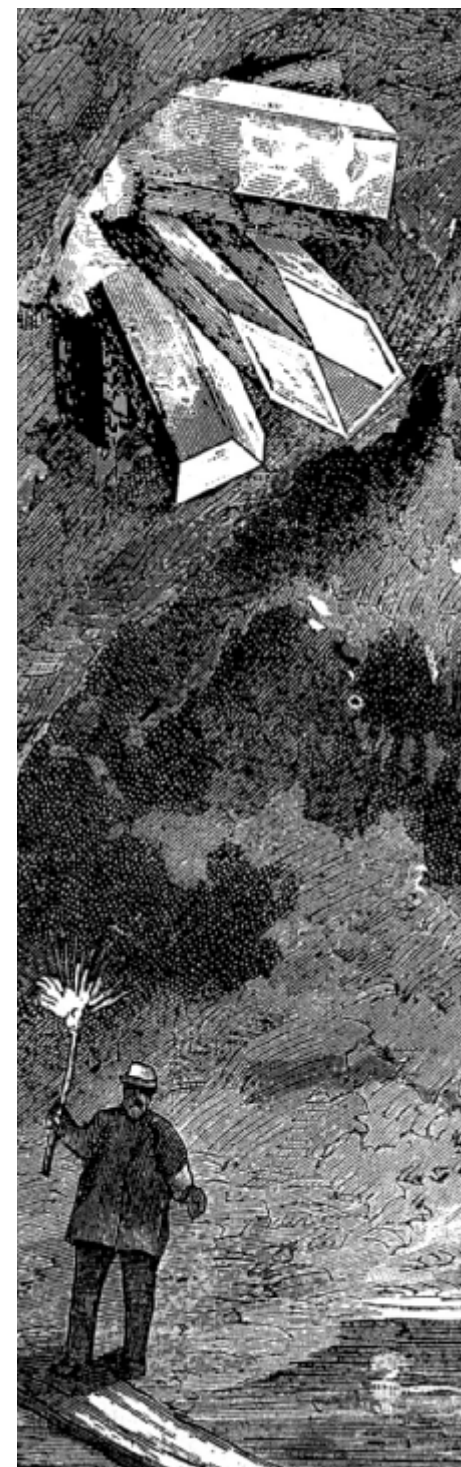
**THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM** Mike Henry and a rotating group of slam ninjas captain the crew that has all the best of stand-up, porno theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one cosmic-heat blast. Wednesdays, 8pm. *ND at 501 Studios*, 501 N. I-35, 485-3001. \$5 (21 and older). [www.austinslam.com](http://www.austinslam.com).

**RUTA MAYA POETRY** is one of the longest-running weekly open mics in Texas. Hosted by David Bates. Tuesdays, 6-9pm. *Ruta Maya*, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. [www.rmpoetryaustin.com](http://www.rmpoetryaustin.com).

## MISCELLANEOUS

**MORE POETRY!** she speaks of vectors scalars: weight plus velocity equals a vector a number that varies. "it could be an equation." trajectories he figures: varied, not a sine wave. progress is not a direction, not up or out or stepping back stuttering, dropping like flies. surging slow leaden dull X Y a blah Z caught between a nothing & infinity. i don't know is not meaningless: a dream of a cat red faces of boys wincing to wrinkles the wound that heals the burning of the sea. it was there all along those fine equations hanging in thin air in a tree on fire turning north east south ambivalent in the green of new accounts. Namaste. Make it up.

**THE UNIVERSITY HILLS WEEKLONG BOOK SALE** Paperbacks \$1 and hardbacks \$2. All proceeds directly benefit the Austin Public Library. July 26-31. *University Hills Library*, 4721 Loyola, 974-9940. [www.cityofaustin.org/library](http://www.cityofaustin.org/library).



ENJOY THE RECEPTION FOR THE NEWEST SHOW, "UNDERGROUND," AT THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA THIS FRIDAY.

## POEM OF THE ISSUE

I know why she's painting the bird green  
here in the tree in the garden of dream  
coming to presence undamagedly  
serene & why without thinking,  
something new still grows  
in the a-bombed soul where  
nothing new was ever meant to  
reappear ...

— Stephanie Pope, from "Trash & Treasure"

# film listings



## The Kids Are All Right

D: Lisa Cholodenko; with Annette Bening, Julianne Moore, Mark Ruffalo, Mia Wasikowska, Josh Hutcherson. (R, 105 min.)

*The Kids are All Right*, a grin-cracking great portrait of a modern American family in minor and then major crises, arrives

smack in the midst of our matrimonially schizophrenic culture's

seemingly endless, probably pointless debate on the institution of marriage. The ongoing, increasingly hysterical, and, for the most part, just plain dumb brouhaha surrounding the assumed sanctity of wedlock and its satellite piffle – the silly question of whether gay men and women deserve to suffer the same potentially dreary, infrequently rapturous two-person fate as their more “traditional” countrymen (well, duh) – and all the attendant natter, blather, and hot air are making a mud fight of what used to be the gayest of all the dreamy days in lovers' lives. Cholodenko, who directed the superlative, heart-crushingly excellent *High Art* in 1998 and the under-rated *Laurel Canyon* in 2002, has here crafted one of the most honest and painfully, hilariously accurate portraits of an American marriage and its resultant, tumultuous family ever put on film. It may be the most honest. It's certainly the only one I can recall in recent years that made me both laugh out loud one moment and then recognize myself – part of myself, anyway – the very next, and then, as if that weren't enough, go all teary-eyed when I least expected it. The kids of the title are 18-year-old Joni (Wasikowska), a smart, introspective young lady who will soon be leaving for college, and her younger, less academically focused brother, Laser (Hutcherson), who, as the film begins, has fallen in with the archetypal Bad Friend. The parents of these two astonishingly realistic kids – in action, word, deed, and, not least, their mastery of the parentally irksome single-eyebrow-raise – are middle-aged lesbian couple Nic (Bening), an ob-gyn type-A personality, and Jules (Moore), a sensitive, pragmatic sort currently thinking about getting into landscaping. The fact that they're gay and have raised a pair of offspring who

are, indeed, all right isn't the crux of the film, however. That phallic fulcrum arrives when Joni and, in particular, Laser seek out the sperm donor who is, genetically speaking, their “real” father. As fate – and the script (from Cholodenko and Stuart Blumberg, fine enough a thing to be required reading for all would-be scenarists) – would have it, Dad turns out to be Ruffalo. After an initial meeting between the donor and his DNA strands, which is pitch-perfectly awkward and wholly natural, Ruffalo's locavore restaurateur Paul is invited to dinner to meet the

moms. After that bit of awkward comic mesmerism, during which Bening and Moore establish the sort of onscreen rapport most movie spouses strive for but rarely achieve, the film takes off in all sorts of capricious, antic directions. Nic is worried about the impact this motorcycle-riding, ultra-cas (as in casual), SoCal locadude will have on her carefully reared children, and Jules is discombobulated for similar (albeit ultimately very different) reasons. Anyway, it's a joy to watch Bening, Moore, and Ruffalo acting not so all right so perfectly. The chemistry between all three adults (and the kids, too) is as real as it ever gets on celluloid. *The Kids Are All Right* isn't, in the end and in its heart, a melodrama about gay marriage or even a comedy about the sudden appearance of Ruffalo in someone's life (been there, seen that). It's about the slow, inevitable grind of marriage – any kind of marriage – with all of its giddy peaks and melancholy, abyssal trenches. It's about the eternally unknowable curveballs life throws at you and how you either step up to the plate toward triumph or turn away in tears or terror or both. It's about love. – *Marc Savlov* ★★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor



## new reviews

**KHATTA MEETHA** D: Priyadarshan; with Akshay Kumar, Trisha Krishnan, Makrand Deshpande. (NR, 144 min., subtitled)

*Not reviewed at press time.* This Indian film is based on comic creation *The Common Man* by *The Times of India's* legendary cartoonist R.K. Laxman. – *Kimberley Jones* Tinseltown South

## RAMONA AND BEEZUS

D: Elizabeth Allen; with Joey King, Selena Gomez, John Corbett, Bridget Moynahan, Ginnifer Goodwin, Josh Duhamel. (G, 104 min.)

*Not reviewed at press time.* Beverly Cleary's beloved Ramona Quimby – a pest, yes – makes the leap to the big screen with this adaptation, which co-stars Disney Channel star Gomez as Ramona's big sister, Beatrice. – *Kimberley Jones* CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate



**SALT** D: Phillip Noyce; with Angelina Jolie, Liev Schreiber, Chiwetel Ejiofor. (PG-13, 100 min.)

Is it life imitating art or the other way around? Ultimately it doesn't matter: *Salt* reboots the cinematic cloaks and daggers of the Cold War espionage thriller in exactly the same way as the recent, real-life Russian spy case reminded us all that, 19 years after the collapse of the Soviet Union, there are still plenty of spies waiting to come in from the cold. Noyce's film – more Ian Fleming than John le Carré – is adult popcorn fun, lightweight but durable, with Jolie trading up from her tomb-raiding Lara Croft days for a more complex but equally seductive blend of parkour-based action (one sequence, designed by stunt master Simon Crane, has Jolie's renegade CIA agent leaping from the roofs of speeding tractor trailers; it rivals anything Daniel Craig's yet done as James Bond). Jolie's titular veteran agent, blond and bee-stung, takes it on the lam when a cancerous Russian defector (Daniel Olbrychski) drops by CIA headquarters and outs her as a deep-planted Soviet mole. Initially backed by her supportive if increasingly suspicious superior (Schreiber), the FBI and CIA are forced by circumstance to collude in the pursuit of this sudden quarry in their midst. That's *Salt's* most cunning bit of reel world fictionalizing, really. The rest of the film, breathlessly paced though it is, plays like a nostalgic revision of the original *The Manchurian Candidate* meets *The Boys From Brazil*, hopped up on video-gamer steroids. Which, frankly, is a downright kickass premise. Jolie manages to infuse the character of Evelyn Salt with multiple shades of gray – “is she or isn't she?” multiplied by the power of contemporary terror paranoia – and the script by Kurt Wimmer (*The Thomas Crown Affair*) is convoluted enough to evoke the labyrinthine corridors of Langley-based power while never sacrificing action for anything so dreary as post-Cold War polemics. It's nail-biting good fun, sporting some très haute couture nails. – *Marc Savlov* ★★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Gold Class, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

## first runs

\*Full-length reviews available online at [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com). Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

## COCO CHANEL & IGOR

**STRAVINSKY** D: Jan Kounen; with Anna Mouglalis, Mads Mikkelsen, Elena Morozova, Natacha Lindinger, Grigori Manoukov. (R, 115 min., subtitled)

*Coco Chanel & Igor Stravinsky*, based on a book by Chris Greenhalgh, takes a harsher approach toward Chanel, depicting the fashion icon as a person who put her own interests above others' and who cut a direct path between herself and what she wanted. What she wants here is the married Russian musician Stravinsky, whom she sees as a kindred soul, a daring artist working outside cultural boundaries. Years after their first encounter, Chanel sees him again, in Paris with his wife and four children. She invites the family to live at her country home, and here begins the sexual affair. The filmmaking style is rote biopic mode; events sinuously follow one another yet disclose few details. Mouglalis and Mikkelsen are fine as Chanel and Stravinsky, though the film's costume design is its most enthralling aspect. Alas, *Coco Chanel & Igor Stravinsky* unfolds on a screen instead of a catwalk. (07/16/2010) – *Marjorie Baumgarten* ★★★ Arbor



**CYRUS** D: Jay Duplass, Mark Duplass; with John C. Reilly, Jonah Hill, Marisa Tomei, Catherine Keener, Matt Walsh. (R, 93 min.)

With *Cyrus*, the transition of the Duplass brothers from their germinal Austin filmmaking roots into full-blown Hollywood filmmakers is complete – even though their new comedy will not be mistaken for any studio-generated yukfest. However, the addition in their work of an Oscar-tier cast raises the Duplasses' off-kilter material to a new high, though the team's visual improvements remain less noticeable and more predictable. As with the brothers' previous features, *The Puffy Chair* and *Baghead*, they manage in *Cyrus* to spin an appealing yarn from thin narrative threads. Their end result is less the point than the process of getting there (which may help explain why the ending of *Cyrus* is so unsatisfying). Even though the film is a story about psychological incest between a 21-year-old man-boy and his mother's suitor, the tone of the film is more comic than icky. (06/25/2010) – *Marjorie Baumgarten* ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Metropolitan

## DATE NIGHT

D: Shawn Levy; with Steve Carell, Tina Fey, Mark Wahlberg, Jimmi Simpson, Common, Taraji P. Henson, Leighton Meester, James Franco, Mila Kunis, Ray Liotta, William Fichtner, Kristen Wiig, Mark Ruffalo. (PG-13, 88 min.)

For a date-night outing unburdened by high expectations, the transparently titled comedy *Date Night* will fit the bill. Carell and Fey create a totally believable portrait of a New Jersey husband and wife whose jobs, child-rearing, and home-maintenance responsibilities dominate their lives and leave little time and energy left over for romantic pursuits and time alone as a couple. Despite the suitability of the casting and the naturalistic performances of the stars, *Date Night* never breaks out of its dullsville rut. The film is only mildly amusing, utterly predictable, and a sad spectacle to watch, as two of television's cleverest comic personalities (on *The Office* and *30 Rock*, respectively) dumb down their banter to reach the broader tastes of the filmgoing audience. The plot involves a case of mistaken identity, which leads to a long night of chase-and-escape from mob toughs. *Date Night*, however, shoots mostly blanks. (04/09/2010) – *Marjorie Baumgarten* ★★ Movies 8

## DESPICABLE ME

D: Chris Renaud, Pierre Coffin; with the voices of Steve Carell, Jason Segel, Russell Brand, Julie Andrews, Miranda Cosgrove, Dana Gaier, Elsie Fisher, Will Arnett, Kristen Wiig. (PG, 95 min.)

Everyone knows that the villains are usually the most interesting characters. So the filmmakers were wise to give the megalomaniacal Gru

(voiced amusingly by Carell) his own animated movie. The world of *Despicable Me* is reminiscent of *The Incredibles*, where superheroes and supervillains fully participate in suburban life, blending in unnoticed by ordinary folk. Then, snotty new-villain-on-the-block Vector (Segel) pulls a stunt that bumps Gru from his No. 1 supervillain ranking. Gru retaliates by plotting to steal the moon. Part of his plan involves the adoption of three orphaned sisters (Cosgrove, Gaier, and Fisher), whose demands for him to accompany them to ballet class and read bedtime stories – as well as some flashbacks that reveal him to be a villain with justifiable mommy issues – Gru discovers his sensitive side. Gru's Minions – yellow, pill-shaped, bespectacled beings that gurgle in some sort of fractionally understandable language – are the movie's ultimate scene-stealers. (07/09/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Gold Class, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

## EXIT THROUGH THE GIFT SHOP

D: Banksy; narrated by Rhys Ifans. (R, 87 min.)  
Documentary? Artwork? Puzzle? Prank? Social commentary? This film by the internationally renowned British graffiti artist known only by his nom de plume Banksy is, indeed, all of the above. The film's multiplicity of entry points and takeaways is part of what makes it such a hot commodity among viewers. And don't doubt for a second that Banksy's film is a commodity, too, as clearly implied by the sardonic title. With *Exit Through the Gift Shop*, the outlaw street artist makes a stunning debut into the world of film. The film intrigues and baffles at the same time, and lingering questions about its origins, along with its inherently subversive spirit, should keep filmgoers poring over it for some time to come. The one thing we can all agree on is that Banksy has found a new wall on which to plaster his art – that of the silver screen. (05/14/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten  
★★★★ Dobie

## THE GIRL WHO PLAYED WITH

**FIRE** D: Daniel Alfredson; with Noomi Rapace, Michael Nyqvist, Lena Endre, Sofia Ledarp, Peter Andersson, Georgi Staykov, Yasmine Garbi, Mikael Spreitz. (R, 129 min., subtitled)

"Played with fire" may be misleading, playfulness not being one of the leading characteristics of Lisbeth Salander, the black-leathered, dragon-tattooed, hog-riding hacker – bisexual to boot! Back in her native Sweden, Salander reconnects with an old flame, Miriam Wu (Garbi), and assiduously avoids her more recent paramour, Mikael Blomkvist (Nyqvist), a journalist at *Millennium* magazine and the series' co-lead. *The Girl Who Played With Fire's* chief frustration is in how removed Salander and Blomkvist are from each other: Even as their plots dovetail – Blomkvist's sex trafficking investigation dead-ends in a double homicide, and Salander's fingerprints are on the murder weapon – the two leads share nary a word. There are no complaints to be made with the casting; Rapace, especially, is dead-on as Salander, who, like some kind of hyperjuiced, anti-Energizer bunny, takes a licking and keeps on ticking. Too bad this adaptation feels just as automatic. (07/16/2010) – Kimberley Jones  
★★★ Arbor, Tinseltown South

## THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO

D: Niels Arden Oplev; with Michael Nyqvist, Noomi Rapace, Lena Endre, Peter Haber, Sven-Bertil Taube. (NR, 152 min., subtitled)

No one escapes untainted in this grimly fiendish adaptation of Stieg Larsson's bestselling novel. On the face of it, the film is something of an investigatively inclined thriller. The film quickly realizes itself as vastly intriguing, well-written, and sensationally topical. Chief among those intrigues is the disappearance, some 40 years earlier, of a young girl from a Swedish island. She was the niece of a now-82-year-old retired industrialist who hires Stockholm-based journalist Mikael Blomkvist (Nyqvist) to investigate the

## openings & ratings

*The Kids Are All Right* (R)

*Khatta Meetha* (NR)

*Ramona and Beezus* (G)

*Salt* (PG-13)

★★★★★ 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

cold case. Running parallel to and finally weaving its way into Blomkvist's own storyline is the scrutiny of the fearsomely independent and black-clad, cycle-riding female hacker Lisbeth Salander (Rapace): the girl with the dragon tattoo. Oplev's film is deftly calculated to thrill even as it repulses. This is not your mother's murder mystery, unless your mother's maiden name is de Sade and she has an appallingly bleak vision of modern society that occasionally fixates on the historical misdeeds of the corporate/industrial world and the correction thereof. (04/02/2010) – Marc Savlov  
★★★★ Dobie

**GROWN UPS** D: Dennis Dugan; with Adam Sandler, Chris Rock, Kevin James, David Spade, Rob Schneider, Salma Hayek, Maria Bello, Maya Rudolph, Joyce Van Patten, Ebony Jo-Ann, Steve Buscemi, Colin Quinn, Tim Meadows. (PG-13, 102 min.)

A review of Sandler's checkered past roles reveals a once-daring comic slooowly sinking out of sight in a cookie-cutter quicksand career that – *Funny People* notwithstanding – has turned into a rote, staggeringly unchallenging, and generally unfunny series of riffs on none other than Adam Sandler™. *Grown Ups* is the latest in an ongoing series of Sandlerian schmaltzests that are at once achingly nostalgic morality tales and stuttery repetitions of everything that has come before. The manic, hair-trigger man-child is almost entirely replaced by some sort of child-man who looks longingly to the past in an effort to forestall the future. Thus we get the harried dad of *Click*, the other harried dad of *Bedtime Stories*, and *Grown Ups'* successful (but harried) Hollywood agent (and dad) Lenny Feder, who reunites with his four best friends from the old junior high school basketball team only to realize that his current life, wife, and kids are drowning in the shallows. (06/25/2010) – Marc Savlov

★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Gold Class, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

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**IRON MAN 2** D: Jon Favreau; with Favreau, Robert Downey Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow, Scarlett Johansson, Mickey Rourke, Don Cheadle, Sam Rockwell, Samuel L. Jackson, Clark Gregg, Paul Bettany, Leslie Bibb, Garry Shandling. (PG-13, 124 min.)

Despite its high tech sheen and overstuffed cast of characters, played by some of the best actors in the land, this mega-mecha melee manages to give short shrift to both the airborne action set-pieces that define Iron Man's zoomy panache and incoming supervillain Whiplash, aka Ivan Vanko (Rourke). Vanko's interactions with Iron Man (Downey Jr.) and Iron Man knockoff/upgrade War Machine (piloted by Cheadle's Col. Rhodes) seem poorly thought out, and the climactic battle scene busies itself with explosions and comes to a perfunctory conclusion. It's admittedly tough to follow up the slam-bang snark of Favreau's initial *Iron Man*. Thankfully, Downey is every bit as good this time around as he was previously. In a comic-book universe crammed to bursting with almost 50 years of Stan Lee's four-color melodramatics, *Iron Man 2*, while no slouch in the summer matinee department, finally feels like a setup for the upcoming *Avengers* movie. (05/07/2010) - Marc Savlov

★★★ Movies 8

★ **JOAN RIVERS: A PIECE OF WORK** D: Ricki Stern, Anne Sundberg. (R, 84 min.)

Stern and Sundberg (award-winning filmmakers of such politically conscious docs as *The Trials of Darryl Hunt* and *The Devil Came on Horseback*) could hardly avoid the subject of Rivers' famously doctored face. In fact, an early montage deftly charts both the evolution of that face, from a not-unattractive angularity to her modern-day, tautly puffed and leonine look, and her remarkable career. The mounting of an autobiographical play in 2008 gives the film an early structure and tension; when it abruptly closes after lackluster reviews, the film becomes more scattershot. Never uninteresting - and often wickedly funny, with the sardonic, canny comedienne not at all censoring herself for the camera - *Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work* is a softball, an entirely sympathetic portrait of the artist at an advancing age. And to a generation that knows Rivers only as a screeching red-carpet provocateur or as an overknifed monstrosity, that revelation alone is worth the cost of admission. (06/25/2010) - Kimberley Jones

★★★★ Dobie

**JONAH HEX** D: Jimmy Hayward; with Josh Brolin, John Malkovich, Megan Fox, Michael Fassbender, Will Arnett, Aidan Quinn, Michael Shannon, Tom Wopat. (PG-13, 80 min.)

Jonah Hex: He's not dead, but he's all messed up. Screenwriters Mark Neveldine and Brian Taylor (of the hyper-added *Crank* franchise) provide this DC Comics' middle-tier Weird Western Tale with the X-treme/wicked/gnarly/"Dude, smash-cuts for everyone!" treatment. This punch-drunk exercise in extraneous exposition and Adderall editing is devoid of narrative sense as well as the inherent coolness of DC's straight-shootin', spook-talkin', bounty-huntin' killer with a conscience. Nonetheless, Brolin turns in a solid performance as Hex, a former Confederate soldier haunted by the death of his wife and son at the hands of his former ranking officer, Quentin

Turnbull (a ham-on-wry Malkovich). Romance was never high on DC's list of priorities, and accordingly Fox's whore with a heart of gold pales. Where *Jonah Hex* does succeed is in the intensely detailed production design that especially re-creates the look and feel of a post-Civil War America gone freakish, which is backed by some sporadically splendid cinematography, courtesy of Mitchell Amundsen (*Transformers*). (06/25/2010) - Marc Savlov

★★ Movies 8

**THE KARATE KID** D: Harald Zwart; with Jaden Smith, Jackie Chan, Taraji P. Henson, Han Wenwen, Yu Rongguang, Wu Zhenwu, Wang Zhenwei. (PG, 140 min.)

John G. Avildsen's 1984 original has become, in the fullness of time, a genuine pop-cultural touchstone. The intense remake by Zwart isn't likely to take the gleam off Avildsen's *Kid*, but it's directed with sympathetic panache and arrestingly shot on location in China with an eye toward the epic by Roger Pratt. It also benefits tremendously from Christopher Murphey's deliberate and fine script, which takes its time setting up the story and then hits all the right beats until it slips up in a puddle of sappiness mere minutes before the end of the film's lengthy running time. Jaden Smith, son of Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith, is fine and realistically precocious as 12-year-old Dre, who finds himself in Beijing after his mother (a smart, sassy, entirely momworthy performance from Henson) is transferred from their hometown of Detroit. Chan does some of his most nuanced work in ages here. (06/18/2010) - Marc Savlov

★★★ Metropolitan

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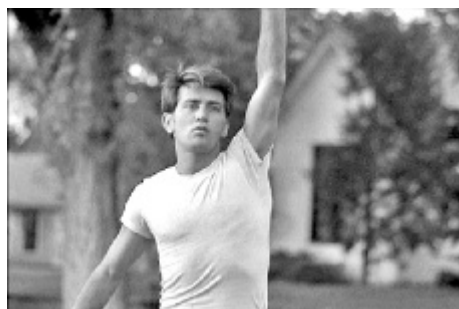
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## The Cave of the Yellow Dog

**The Cave of the Yellow Dog (2006)**

D: Byambasuren Davaa; with Batchuluun Urjindorj, Buyandulam Daramdadi, Nansal Batchuluun, Nansalma Batchuluun, Babbayar Batchuluun. (G, 93 min.) **UT Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies.** Shot on location in Mongolia with a real nomad family, this film blurs the line between documentary and fiction and, in doing so, creates its own singular dramatic language. (\*) @Geography Bldg., Rm. 102 (UT campus on 24th), Wednesday, 7pm; free.



## Badlands

**Badlands (1973)** D: Terrence Malick; with Martin Sheen, Sissy Spacek, Warren Oates. (PG, 95 min.) **Summer Film Classics: Launching Legends.** Young Sheen and Spacek burn up the screen as this story's young, lethal lovers on the lam. It's based on the Starkweather-Fugate murders of the Fifties, but the poetry of the thing is all Malick's. Following the screening, there will be a discussion with Sam Beam (Iron & Wine). @Paramount, Wednesday, 8pm; no passes or Flix-Tix.



## The Texas Filmmakers Showcase

**The Texas Filmmakers Showcase Austin Film Festival.** This collection of Texas shorts curated by Alfred Cervates of the Houston Film Commission includes "Der Vater" by James T. Moore, "Katrina's Son" by Ya'Ke Smith, "Love Bug" by Kat Candler, "Mnemosyne Rising" by Miguel Alvarez, "The Natural Order of Things" by Van Blumreich, and "Never Do This" by Scott Rice. The filmmakers will be in attendance. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Thursday (7/29), 7:30pm; \$4, AFF members free.



Salt

**KILLERS** D: Robert Luketic; with Ashton Kutcher, Katherine Heigl, Tom Selleck, Catherine O'Hara, Kathryn Winnick, Kevin Sussman, Lisa Ann Walter, Casey Wilson, Rob Riggle, Martin Mull. (PG-13, 100 min.)

Heigl reteams here with her director of *The Ugly Truth* to see, apparently, if they could stoop any lower. The sad truth is that they can and did, although the hackneyed script is a not-insubstantial factor in this tedious romp. Premise: A woman marries her dream guy only to abruptly discover that he was once an assassin for the CIA. *Killers* coasts on the strength of its eye-candy casting of two handsome former models-turned-actors, Heigl and Kutcher. Both have in common a limited emotive range, which grows quickly tiresome, though Heigl, with her ability to play both a shrieking hysteric and an uptight sexpot, has double the range of Kutcher. There was potential in the setup to make a mockery of suburban values and lifestyles, but instead the script only calls for violent mayhem and chaotic, nonsensical plotting. Only the underplaying Selleck gets out of this with any dignity, while O'Hara is totally wasted as Jen's (Heigl) one-note tiptling mom. (06/11/2010) - Marjorie Baumgarten ★ Movies 8

**KNIGHT AND DAY** D: James Mangold; with Tom Cruise, Cameron Diaz, Peter Sarsgaard, Jordi Mollà, Paul Dano, Viola Davis. (PG-13, 110 min.)

Cruise plays a CIA agent gone rogue named Roy Miller. He's unfailingly polite to women, especially Diaz's enthusiastic June Havens, quick to compliment her pretty dress or bodily shield her from a fresh barrage of artillery. But all attentiveness aside, Cruise's Roy doesn't seem all that interested in women, either; he radiates about as much sex and danger as an Eagle Scout (which he proudly points out he used to be). We must settle, then, for a sort of sexless chumminess struck between Cruise and Diaz, and they do seem awfully companionable as the wronged spy trying to right his name and his sparky civilian charge. Diaz's June doesn't get interesting until midway through the movie, when she makes the switch from mostly helpless to adventure-seeking. Logistics don't worry director Mangold - fade-to-black is his winking way of addressing the plot holes - and clearly he expects his wink to be met by our smile. (06/25/2010) - Kimberley Jones ★★ Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, Gateway, Gold Class, Metropolitan, Westgate

**THE LAST AIRBENDER** D: M. Night Shyamalan; with Noah Ringer, Dev Patel, Nicola Peltz, Jackson Rathbone, Shaun Toub, Aasif Mandvi, Cliff Curtis, Seychelle Gabriel. (PG, 103 min.)

There's a new avatar at the cineplex, but this one comes not from the imagination of James Cameron but, rather, the animated Nickelodeon series *Avatar: The Last Airbender*. This film version, however, arrives with a surprising lack of verve, humor, and narrative tension. Despite the rampant tribal fight-

ing that drives the narrative, *The Last Airbender* is a fairly bloodless PG affair, although that is not the real problem with the story. Action sequences are just not constructed or paced very well. The story is set in a world where the tribal Air, Water, and Earth nations have been under siege for the last 100 years by the industrialized Fire Nation, which has turned its collective back on the spirit world and seeks global domination. The bending of the elements makes for some nifty images, until they, too, grow increasingly repetitive and ordinary. Patel (*Slumdog Millionaire*) provides the film's only exciting performance. (07/02/2010) - Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ Southpark Meadows, Highland, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

**LETTERS TO JULIET** D: Gary Winick; with Amanda Seyfried, Vanessa Redgrave, Christopher Egan, Gael García Bernal. (PG, 101 min.)

Nothing here is meant to raise pulses or ruffle feathers, and yet this film very nearly overcomes its limited ambition to become something very special. There is a lovely little arthouse movie buried in here - something in the vein of *Enchanted April*, say - but it's been dimmed by Winick's commercial instincts. *Mamma Mia!*'s Seyfried, radiating a quick cleverness, plays Sophie, an aspiring journalist who travels with her chef fiancé, Victor (Bernal), to Verona, Italy, for a prewedding getaway. Italy excites and inspires both of them; trouble is, different excitements, different enthusiasms. Sophie's story brings her into contact with seventysomething Claire (Redgrave). The two actresses bring contrasting but not clashing styles. It's a disappointment if not exactly a surprise when a new love story comes to dominate the bottom half of the film. Still, everyone here acts, more or less, like a grownup. (05/14/2010) - Kimberley Jones ★★ Movies 8

**MARMADUKE** D: Tom Dey; with Lee Pace, Judy Greer, William H. Macy; with the voices of Owen Wilson, Emma Stone, George Lopez, Raugi Yu, Christopher Mintz-Plasse, Steve Coogan. (PG, 87 min.)

You don't get much flimsier than the live-actioning of a 45-year-old comic strip about a big, dumb dog. Marmaduke (amiably voiced by Wilson) is the dog in question: a mammoth Great Dane mix who, in his own words, is going through his awkward teenage years. Marmaduke means well, but he's too ungainly, too uncoordinated, too sloppy and eager to make mischief. He's also a mutt, which docks him major points when Marmaduke's family, the Winslows, moves from Kansas to Orange County, where the dog park division between pedigrees and mixed breeds is framed as a kind of canine clique war. There's also a makeover sequence, hard partying, light ethnic humor, and a princess vs. tomboy love triangle - which sounds

like the makings of a totally rad John Hughes movie. Instead, it's an intermittently amusing parable about an outcast's ascension, as performed by a pack of digitally manipulated dogs. Next. (06/11/2010) - Kimberley Jones ★ Movies 8

**MICMACS** D: Jean-Pierre Jeunet; with Dany Boon, André Dussollier, Omar Sy, Dominique Pinon, Julie Ferrier, Nicolas Marié, Jean-Pierre Marielle, Yolande Moreau, Marie-Julie Baup, Michel Créamadès. (R, 104 min., subtitled)

Jeunet's *Micmacs* resembles a live-action cartoon, one in which the set-pieces, the characters, and their actions all have the flavor of physical impossibility and unfettered imagination. Best known on these shores as the director of *Amélie*, Jeunet maintains some of that film's puckish naivete in *Micmacs* while also utilizing some of the bizarrely makeshift visual aesthetics and discreet social commentary of his breakthrough films, *Delicatessen* and *The City of Lost Children*. *Micmacs* is not as sharply delineated as any of these prior films but is still charmingly packaged. The *Micmacs* are an odd collection of junkyard angels whose personal narratives are as inventive as their surroundings. The bad guys are also cartoon villains with strange fetishes and ambitions. As the *Micmacs'* plan of action takes shape and unfolds, the film bogs down and Jeunet's gentle political barbs come to the surface, though the film is never at a loss for imaginative frills. (06/25/2010) - Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

**PREDATORS** D: Nimród Antal; with Adrian Brody, Topher Grace, Alice Braga, Walton Goggins, Oleg Taktarov, Laurence Fishburne, Danny Trejo. (R, 106 min.)

Here's the truth: Summer was made for this kind of badass retro sci-fi film, and *Predators* is almost exactly what you need to fix this otherwise busted summer cinema season. Produced by Robert Rodriguez's Troublemaker Studios and largely shot in and around Austin, *Predators* is the sequel to John McTiernan's 1987 *Predator*; it's the "aliens on a hunting spree" sci-fi-actioneer classic that should have been. A seriously ripped and very serious Brody leads a cast of buff, tough, multinational bad guys as they're dropped out of the sky and into an alien hunting preserve. The tropes are ancient, the action is abundant, and the final shot is a doozy. If you're lucky enough to have an honest-to-grindhouse drive-in theatre within cruising distance of your home planet, then by all means, head on over to that eye-popping, mind-warping, starlit screen of endless sexy mayhem. (07/16/2010) - Marc Savlov ★★ Alamo Ritz, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Gold Class, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

## PRINCE OF PERSIA: THE SANDS

**OF TIME** D: Mike Newell; with Jake Gyllenhaal, Gemma Arterton, Ben Kingsley, Alfred Molina, Steve Toussaint, Toby Kebbell, Richard Coyle. (PG-13, 116 min.)

What is Brit director Newell (*Four Weddings and a Funeral*) doing helming an epic, CGI-intensive, scimitar-propelled riff on *1001 Arabian Nights*, one that's based on a video game, no less? He's having a whale of a time, to all appearances, mining classic Hollywood swords-and-sandals tropes. *Prince of Persia* is by no means a great film, but it is an entertaining one, a nearly bloodless, family-friendly throwback. The film sports the same convoluted, logic-free plotting we've come to expect from films based on gamer favorites, but that doesn't really hinder its ability to hold your attention and, occasionally, move you to the edge of your seat. The film's wittiest and most playful moments come from Molina as a desert entrepreneur with rusty scruples. At times, the story threatens to topple from the sheer weight of the exposition being delivered, but, this being a Jerry Bruckheimer production, you can count on massive, explosive set-pieces to arrive to divert imminent boredom and save the day. (05/28/2010) - Marc Savlov ★★ Tinseltown South



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## Dance With the One

**Dance With the One (2010)** D: Mike Dolan; with Gabriel Luna, Xochitl Romero, Mike Davis, Gary McCleery, Paul Saucido, J.T. Coldfire, Dana Wheeler-Nicholson, Barry Tubb. (NR, 84 min.) This locally made drama about a stolen stash of hashish and its devastating effects on one family premiered at the 2010 South by Southwest Film Festival. Proceeds from the screening benefit the Paper Chairs theatre company. See "Hot Summer, High Stakes," p.37, for an interview with director Mike Dolan. @Dobie, Tuesday, 7pm.



## Funny Face

**Funny Face (1957)** D: Stanley Donen; with Audrey Hepburn, Fred Astaire, Kay Thompson. (NR, 103 min.) **Austin Public Library: Summer Musicals.** This musical gem features Astaire as a fashion photographer and Hepburn as the Greenwich Village bookstore clerk he transforms into an overnight modeling sensation. @Hampton Branch Library, Monday, 6pm; free.



## Summer Static Short Films

**Summer Static Short Films Homoscope.** Homoscope, the Austin-based queer arts festival, doesn't happen 'til Aug. 29, but you can get a taste at this event, which includes new experimental shorts (including the premiere of Austin director Bug Davidson's "Big Bright Future"), as well as selections for the Homoscope archive. For more information, visit [www.homoscope.org](http://www.homoscope.org). @The Off Center, Thursday (7/22), 8pm; \$7-\$15 (suggested donation).



Ramona and Beezus

**ROBIN HOOD** D: Ridley Scott; with Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett, Max von Sydow, William Hurt, Mark Strong, Oscar Isaac, Eileen Atkins, Danny Huston, Mark Addy, Matthew Macfadyen. (PG-13, 139 min.)

Scott's *Robin Hood* ends at just about the point that other renditions of the tale begin. His is the story of how Robin Longstride (Crowe), an archer in Richard the Lionheart's last Crusade, became Robin of the Hood, the wily defender of the overtaxed people of Nottingham. In this origin story that's full of handsomely staged battle sequences, Scott and screenwriter Brian Koppleman strive to rectify certain historical inaccuracies in the Robin Hood legend, but also create some new lore of their own. The film does an admirable job of parsing dense swaths of history and making the events and players understandable, but *Robin Hood* is notably lacking in warmth. Scott is at his best directing the action sequences and moving the story forward but is unable to imbue the characters with any dimensionality. This new, focused *Robin Hood* is free of rousing emotions. (05/14/2010) - Marjorie Baumgarten  
★★★ Tinseltown South

**THE SECRET IN THEIR EYES** D: Juan José Campanella; with Ricardo Darín, Soledad Villamil, Pablo Rago, Javier Godino, Guillermo Francella, Carla Quevedo. (R, 127 min., subtitled)

Winner of the Best Foreign Language Film award at this year's Oscars, this Argentine film is a reflective mystery story. Benjamín (Darín), a retired court investigator, is trying to write a novel about an old case of his that was never resolved to his satisfaction. For help, he returns to his old office and bounces his thoughts off Irene (Villamil), whom he has always loved despite never acting on those feelings. The past and the present merge as pieces of the case are reinvestigated and aspects of it reflect situations in Benjamín's own life. Campanella's uneven script bogs down when the focus of the story is on Benjamín, who is dogged by his memories and his inability to make a play for Irene. The character is just too reserved to arouse passions in either Irene or the viewers. Obviously, though, the Academy voters disagreed. (05/14/2010) - Marjorie Baumgarten  
★★★ Dobie

**SHREK FOREVER AFTER** D: Mike Mitchell; with the voices of Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy, Cameron Diaz, Antonio Banderas, Walt Dohrn, Julie Andrews, John Cleese, Jon Hamm, Jane Lynch, Craig Robinson, Lake Bell, Kathy Griffin. (PG, 95 min.)

What's an ogre with a midlife crisis to do? Now that Shrek (voiced by Myers) has settled into connubial bliss with his wife, Fiona (Diaz), a feeling of impotence begins to eat at the big green ogre. Shrek's depression is ripe for the picking when he's offered a shady deal by Rumpelstiltskin (Dohrn) that allows him to be a scary ogre for a day in exchange for any past day in his life. With this, Shrek ventures into *It's a Wonderful Life* territory, getting to see what the community would be like for others had he never been born. The story jumps from the land of fairy tales into the land of the real, and it becomes evident that this irreverent, fairy-tale-tweaking series has run out of ideas. Yet even though *Forever After* is not as fresh-seeming as its predecessors, it provides passable entertainment, especially for the kids. (05/21/2010) - Marjorie Baumgarten  
★★★ Tinseltown South

**SOLITARY MAN** D: Brian Koppelman, David Levien; with Michael Douglas, Susan Sarandon, Danny DeVito, Mary-Louise Parker, Jenna Fischer, Imogen Poots. (R, 90 min.)

Ben Kalmien (Douglas) is one downward dog. No, this solitary man of the title is not into yoga, he's just a skirt-chaser who makes one bad decision after another. A formerly successful businessman, Ben is already well-entrenched in his downward spiral at the time of the movie's start (that is, apart from a short preamble that is supposed to provide the explanation for all his bad behavior - which it doesn't). This character study, ultimately, doesn't add up, but with Douglas playing the subject under investigation, the character is never slack or lacking definition. If anything, *Solitary Man* seems a bit overwritten, although it is indeed a pleasure to watch Douglas and the rest of this impressive cast deliver the dialogue. In light of Douglas' imminent re-emergence as the stock-market titan Gordon Gekko in this summer's *Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps*, it is especially interesting to see him playing an entirely different version of a rich weasel. (06/18/2010) - Marjorie Baumgarten  
★★ Tinseltown South

## THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE

D: Jon Turteltaub; with Nicolas Cage, Jay Baruchel, Alfred Molina, Teresa Palmer, Monica Bellucci, Alice Krige, Jake Cherry. (PG, 121 min.)

In *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, Cage teams up with the director of *National Treasure* to mine for another family-friendly adventure story, but the territory they cover has already been stripped to near-death. The sorcerer Balthazar (Cage) is in New York City searching for the Prime Meridian, an individual - apparently Dave (Baruchel), an ordinary NYU physics nerd - able to break free Balthazar's sorceress love, Veronica (Bellucci), from the curse that causes her to reside inside a nesting doll with the evil Morgana (Krige), who wishes to enslave the world. Or something like that. *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* makes good use of some New York City landmarks, though, on a more mystical plane, the film's magic tricks do little to dazzle the eye. In fact, magic is the one thing in very short supply in this modern-day sorcery tale that comes off as little more than tired druck. (07/16/2010) - Marjorie Baumgarten  
★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Gold Class, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

**TOY STORY 3** D: Lee Unkrich; with the voices of Tom Hanks, Tim Allen, Joan Cusack, Ned Beatty, Don Rickles, Michael Keaton, Wallace Shawn. (G, 102 min.)

While the first *Toy Story* triumphantly announced Pixar's arrival back in 1995, the franchise has never felt on par with the studio's later, more overtly lyrical pieces (*WALL-E*, *Up*). *Toy Story 3* doesn't attempt the kind of narrative artistry of those films, but that doesn't mean it's unsophisticated: In its own unassuming way, it says as much as *Up* did about the often-uneasy transition from one stage of life to the next - and all the more ingenious, then, that it's the life cycle of a pliable, plastic doll we genuinely worry over here. At the film's beginning, the toys - including series regulars Sheriff Woody (voiced by Hanks), and Buzz Lightyear (Allen) - are confronted with the question of their own continued

usefulness when owner Andy packs up to go to college. The 3-D format is well-used but never intrusive, and one of the essential pleasures of the piece is its toy-sized perspective. (06/18/2010) - Kimberley Jones

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Millennium, Tinseltown North, Westgate

## THE TWILIGHT SAGA: ECLIPSE

D: David Slade; with Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Taylor Lautner, Ashley Greene, Bryce Dallas Howard. (PG-13, 124 min.)

The dominant dramatic struggle of this third installment is Bella's (Stewart) push-pull between two suitors: her hot-blooded wolf friend, Jacob (Lautner), and her cold-to-touch vampire beau, Edward (Pattinson). The two rivals bicker and tussle like schoolboys over a prized toy - and, really, for long stretches of the film, Bella might as well be an inanimate object. Bella has always been a milquetoast, but what especially rankles here is that when sexually curious Bella does try to initiate sex with Edward, she's swatted away, with Edward - the mouthpiece for author Stephenie Meyer's hectoring pro-abstinence message - murmuring paternalistically about her "virtue." New director Slade splits the difference between kickstarter *Twilight*'s stylish camp and follow-up *New Moon*'s turgid drama, and, as a piece, it's superior to the latter film. But the supposedly epic battle the entire film builds toward - the single action set-piece - is a ho-hummer. (07/02/2010) - Kimberley Jones

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Gold Class, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

**WINTER'S BONE** D: Debra Granik; with Jennifer Lawrence, John Hawkes, Lauren Sweetser, Kevin Breznahan, Dale Dickey, Garret Dillahunt, Shelley Waggner, Isaiah Stone, Ashlee Thompson. (R, 100 min.)

"Never ask for what ought to be offered," 17-year-old Ree Dolly (Lawrence) admonishes her younger brother and sister. Despite their hunger and destitution, the Dolly clan will know the difference between right and wrong and learn the codes of behavior that govern the isolated social milieu in these Ozark Mountain backwoods of Missouri. It's an almost hermetically sealed environment ruled by its own moral laws and customs, traditions that have been further skewed by years of poverty, rampant methamphetamine abuse, and the callous concern of outsiders. Dolly carries the weight of her family on her young shoulders. "Never ask for what ought to be offered" could also sum up my feelings about Granik's film, a work so finely wrought that it makes other movies appear wanting. With piercing characterizations and as tense and harrowing a plot as I've seen in a long time, *Winter's Bone* never hits a false note. (06/25/2010) - Marjorie Baumgarten  
★★★★★ Arbor



## Blood Into Wine

**Blood Into Wine (2010)** D: Ryan Page and Christopher Pomeroy. (NR, 98 min.) **Food and Film.** This documentary shares the story of Tool/A Perfect Circle/Puscifer frontman Maynard James Keenan and his mentor, Eric Glomski, as they pioneer winemaking in the hostile deserts of Arizona. A variety of wines featured in the film as part of this screening. @Alamo Drafthouse South, Thursday (7/29), 10pm.

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WITH LOVE. THOROUGHLY ENTERTAINING."

ANNETTE BENING JULIANNE MOORE MARK RUFFALO

# THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT

MIA WASIKOWSKA JOSH HUTCHERSON

Written by Lisa Cholodenko & Stuart Blumberg Directed by Lisa Cholodenko



KidsAreAllRightMovie.com



FOCUS  
FEATURES



**EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENTS START FRIDAY, JULY 23RD**

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema **ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR** 1120 S Lamar 512/476-1320  
Regal Cinemas **ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS** Jollyville Rd N Of Great Hills 800/FANDANGO 684#

CHECK THEATRE DIRECTORIES OR CALL FOR SOUND INFORMATION AND SHOWTIMES SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED

MOBILE USERS: For Showtimes - Text KIDS with your ZIP CODE to 43KIX (43549)

# special screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (\*) indicates full-length reviews available online: [austinchronicle.com/film](http://austinchronicle.com/film).

## THURSDAY 22

**The Black Room (1935)** *D: Roy William Neill; with Boris Karloff, Marian Marsh. (NR, 65 min.)* **Summer Film Classics: Karloff – King of Horror.** Karloff plays twin brothers living under a curse in this atmospheric creep story. (Double bill: *The Bride of Frankenstein.*) @Paramount, 8:40pm.

**The Bride of Frankenstein (1935)** *D: James Whale; with Boris Karloff, Elsa Lanchester, Colin Clive, Valerie Hobson, Ernest Thesiger. (G, 75 min.)* **Summer Film Classics: Karloff – King of Horror.** This is the film that features Lanchester with that memorable shock of white streaked through her electric hairdo, the one so lovingly invoked in *Gods and Monsters*. (Double bill: *The Black Room.*) (\*) @Paramount, 7pm.

**Chocolat (2000)** *D: Lasse Hallström; with Juliette Binoche, Judi Dench, Alfred Molina, Carrie-Anne Moss, Victoire Thivisol, Johnny Depp, Lena Olin, Peter Stormare, Hugh O'Connor, Leslie Caron. (PG-13, 121 min.)* **Date Night.** Can the seductive and mysterious powers of chocolate soothe the priggish tendencies of a French village's townsfolk? (\*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm.

**The Goonies Quote-Along Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

**The Human Centipede (First Sequence) (2009)** *D: Tom Six; with Dieter Laser, Ashley C. Williams, Ashlynn Yennie, Akihiro Kitamura, Andreas Leupold, Peter Blankenstein. (NR, 90 min.)* Coprophiliacs looking for a movie that really rings their chimes will be positively tintinnabulating from this arthouse horror number. (\*) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm.

**Pop Princess Sing-Along Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

**Turandot (2009)** *D: Franco Zifferilli. (NR, 125 min.)* **Metropolitan Opera: Encore Presentation.** Maria Guleghina plays the ruthless Chinese princess of the title, whose hatred of men is so strong that she has all suitors who can't solve her riddles beheaded. Marcello Giordani sings Calaf, the unknown prince who eventually wins her love. @Southpark Meadows, CM Cedar Park, 10am; Hill Country Galleria, Tinseltown North, noon.

## SPACES

**Casino (1995)** *D: Martin Scorsese; with Robert De Niro, Sharon Stone, Joe Pesci, James Woods, Don Rickles, Alan King, Kevin Pollak, L.Q. Jones. (R, 178 min.)* **Making Movies Film Series.** Stone jumps into the deep end with Scorsese made guys, De Niro and Pesci, as the director moves the action from New York to Vegas. Leave time to see the accompanying museum exhibit; theatre doors open at 6:30pm. (\*) @Harry Ransom Center's Prothro Theater, 7pm.

**Summer Static Short Films Homoscope.** See p.66.

## KIDS

**Aliens in the Attic (2009) Family Film Festival.** Free. (\*) @Westgate, 10am.

**Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (2009) Family Film Festival.** Free. (\*) @Arbor, 10am.

## 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 Aug. 6 issue is Monday, July 26.** 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, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): [specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com](mailto:specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com); Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): [calendar@austinchronicle.com](mailto:calendar@austinchronicle.com).

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**Spider-Man** *D: Sam Raimi; with James Franco, Bruce Campbell, J.K. Simmons, Willem Dafoe, Rosemary Harris, Cliff Robertson, Kirsten Dunst, Tobey Maguire. (PG-13, 121 min.)* **Master Pancake Theater.** Surely there's nothing funny about a guy in a red arachnid suit that can fling webs better than anyone around. (\*) @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10:15pm.

## KIDS

**Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (2009)** @Southwest Bistro at the Hyatt Regency, 6:30pm. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

## SATURDAY 24

**Alice Adams (1935)** *D: George Stevens; with Katharine Hepburn, Fred MacMurray, Evelyn Venable. (NR, 99 min.)* **Summer Film Classics: Classic Novels, Classic Films.** A mother and daughter are social climbers in Booth Tarkington's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel about social mores in small-town America. (Double bill: *David Copperfield.*) @Paramount, 1:45pm.

**Araya (1959)** *D: Margot Benacerraf. (NR, 82 min.)* **Austin Film Society: A Summer of Restoration – Selections From Milestone Films.** Another of Milestone's restoration projects, this documentary records the details of the lives of the salt gatherers on the remote and barren peninsula of Arayan peninsula of Venezuela. The conditions are harsh, though the images are beautiful. @Alamo Ritz, 12:30pm; \$6, AFS members free.

**Cartoon Cereal Party: Superhero Edition** Film nutrition at its finest. Pajamas and stuffed animals encouraged. @Alamo Ritz, noon.

**David Copperfield (1935)** *D: George Cukor; with Freddie Bartholomew, W.C. Fields, Lionel Barrymore, Basil Rathbone, Maureen O'Sullivan, Elsa Lanchester. (NR, 130 min.)* **Summer Film Classics: Classic Novels, Classic Films.** No one spins a yarn about a boy's harsh but colorful life growing up in Victorian England like Charles Dickens. This film adaptation captures the flavor in seamless fashion. (Double bill: *Alice Adams.*) @Paramount, 3:30pm.

**Grease Sing-Along (1978)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 4pm. (See Friday.)

## offscreen

**"Bloom" Art Exhibition & Benefit** AGLIFF presents a *fabulous* celebration of artists who surprise, delight, and challenge the status quo and buck tradition across all mediums including digital, canvas, performance, photography, theatre, dance, sculpture, and film. Not just another art show – this is a full-on party with live music and cocktails, too! *Fri., July 23, 8pm. Action Figure Studios, 3000 E. Cesar Chavez. 302-9889. \$40 (\$35, in advance).* [www.agliff.org](http://www.agliff.org).

**Austin Film Festival Presents Conversations In Film With Chuck Sklar** *Sun., July 25. \$8 for AFF members/\$10 for nonmembers.* [www.austinfilmfestival.com/new/conversation\\_with\\_chuck\\_sklar](http://www.austinfilmfestival.com/new/conversation_with_chuck_sklar).

**Austin FilmWorks: Production One** Filmmaker Steve Mims covers the issues of technology, design, and practical application of technique with this comprehensive, hands-on, 14-week series of classes. Registration now open; see website for details. *Sept. 7-Dec. 7. Tuesdays, 6:30pm. Studio A-7, 701 Tillery. \$960.* [www.austinfilmworks.com](http://www.austinfilmworks.com).

**Austin School of Film Classes** Prime your cinematic advancement at the Austin School of Film, with professional instruction in **Final Cut Pro** (techniques for cutting dialogue scenes, action scenes, multicamera projects, and scene-by-scene color correction), **After Effects** (basics of animation & compositing), **Directing 1** (the fundamentals of the craft), DV and HD cameras, screenwriting essentials, and more. See website for details. [www.austinfilmsschool.org/classes](http://www.austinfilmsschool.org/classes).

**Central Texas African-Americans in Film** Here's a mixer for networking and celebration, open to all in the TV/film industry: actors, directors, writers, entertainment attorneys, cinematographers, makeup artists, graphic designers, and so on. *Sat., July 24, 5-9pm. MoJoe Room Bar & Grill, 6405 N. I-35 #1600, 206-4110.* Free. [www.mojoeroom.com](http://www.mojoeroom.com).

**channelAustin Classes** Austin's digital media center offers filmmakers professional, hands-on instruction in HD field equipment and studio production, plus affordable access to the latest high-end gear and software by Sony and Apple. Learn more on Mondays from 6 to 7pm. See website for details. *1143 Northwestern.* [www.channelaustin.org](http://www.channelaustin.org).

**Harry Ransom Center: "Making Movies"** This revealing exhibition – arranged from documents of film producer and director David O. Selznick, actors Gloria Swanson and Robert De Niro, screenwriter Ernest Lehman, acting teacher Stella Adler, special effects master Norman Dawn, and others – explores the collaborative processes that take place behind the scenes in filmmaking. *Through Aug. 1. Tue., Wed., Fri., 10am-5pm; Thu., 10am-7pm; Sat.-Sun., noon-5pm. Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944.* [www.hrc.utexas.edu/exhibitions/2010/movies](http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/exhibitions/2010/movies).

**Homoscope: Call for Entries** The third annual Queer Arts Festival is now accepting experimental film shorts to complement its showcase of visual art and live performance in August. (Also wanted are feature-film submissions for ongoing screenings.) See website for details. [www.homoscope.org](http://www.homoscope.org).

**The Screenplay Workshop** All programs taught by professional screenwriters in Central Austin classrooms. **Tuesday Night Workshops** 7-9:30pm. Five-week fundamentals: \$225. Ten-week Master Class: \$390. **Private Screenwriting Coaching and Consultation** also available. See website for details. [www.thescreenplayworkshop.org](http://www.thescreenplayworkshop.org).

**Thursday Night Blockbuster** ColdTowne Theater and I Luv Video present a pair of video-making, movie-mocking merriments each Thursday, featuring a troupe of cut-ups who create meshing and battling narratives from an on-the-spot mix of live performance and instant video (**3, 2, 1, Kill!**, 8pm) and improvise commentary tracks to the most popular movies of today, yesterday, and tomorrow (**Commentary Track Live**, 10pm). And there's free popcorn all night long! *ColdTowne Theater, 4803-B Airport, 524-2807. \$5 each show.* [www.coldtownetheater.com](http://www.coldtownetheater.com).

**Maryadha Ramanna (2010)** @Tinseltown South, 11:15am, 3, 6:30, 9:30pm. (See Friday.)

**A Night at the Opera (1935)** *D: Sam Wood; with Groucho Marx, Chico Marx, Harpo Marx, Kitty Carlisle, Allan Jones, Margaret Dumont. (NR, 92 min.)* **Summer Film Classics: Great Movie Teams.** The Marx Brothers take on high society with typically zany results. (Double bill: *Top Hat*) @Paramount, 9:05pm.

**The People You Know (2010)** *D: Elizabeth Spear; with James Teems, Kendall Lynch, Anne Wolfe Andersen, Matt Arbo.* Austinite Elizabeth Spear directs this relationship comedy about two couples who go on vacation together. This fundraiser screening will be followed by a party at the Highball. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 4pm.

**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](http://www.austinrocky.org). @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

**Spider-Man** @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10:15pm. (See Friday.)

**Top Hat (1935)** *D: Mark Sandrich; with Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers, Edward Everett Horton, Lucille Ball. (NR, 99 min.)* **Summer Film Classics: Great Movie Teams.** Hands down, this is the best Astaire-Rogers musical ever. Nothing more needs to be said. (\*) @Paramount, 7pm.

**Where I'm From Film Contest** *D: Various.* **'Texas Monthly.'** The top entries in all categories will screen. Each movie is less than five minutes in length and showcases the filmmaker's personal view of Texas. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 4pm.

## SPACES

**The Last Emperor (1987)** *D: Bernardo Bertolucci; with Peter O'Toole, Joan Chen, John Lone. (PG-13, 160 min.)* **Austin Public Library: Books to Movies Club.** This historical drama is inspired by the life story of Pu Yi, the last emperor of China, whose rule was governed by the vagaries of history. Stunning opulence dazzles the eye, and this film won nine Academy Awards. (\*) @University Hills Branch Library, 1pm; free.

**Where the Wild Things Are (2009)** *D: Spike Jonze; with Max Records, Catherine Keener, Mark Ruffalo, Pepita Emmerichs, Steve Mouzakis; with the voices of James Gandolfini, Lauren Ambrose, Paul Dano, Catherine O'Hara, Chris Cooper, Forest Whitaker. (PG, 94 min.)* **Parks and Recreation Department: Splash Party Movie Nights.** This is the rare children's offering that isn't coded for adults or made corny and flip for kids. Movie at dusk; pool entrance fee required. (\*) @Deep Eddy Pool, 8:30pm.

## KIDS

**Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (2009)** @Southwest Bistro at the Hyatt Regency, 6:30pm. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

## SUNDAY 25

**Alice Adams (1935)** @Paramount, 6pm. (See Saturday.)

**Big Trouble in Little China (1986)** *D: John Carpenter; with Kurt Russell, Kim Cattrall. (PG-13, 99 min.)* **Zzang!!!.** Carpenter's jokey adventure tale stars Russell as a truck driver who becomes involved in a battle between good and evil in San Francisco's Chinatown. The Alamo will be screening a new 35mm print. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

**David Copperfield (1935)** @Paramount, 8pm. (See Saturday.)

**A Night at the Opera (1935)** @Paramount, 3:35pm. (See Saturday.)

**Top Hat (1935)** @Paramount, 1:30pm. (See Saturday.)

## SPACES

**An Evening With Frankenstein** In anticipation of the Trouble Puppet Theater Company's fall production of *Frankenstein*, the TPT presents a double hit of Karloff, screening James Whale's classic *Frankenstein* (1931) and *Bride of Frankenstein* (1935). Puppet master Connor Hopkins will talk briefly about both films' influence on the upcoming production. @Salvage Vanguard Theater, 7pm.

**Lovers of Hate (2010)** D: Bryan Poyser; with Chris Doubek, Heather Kafka, Alex Karpovsky, Zach Green. (NR, 93 min.) **Cinema East.** Local filmmaker Poyser's dark comedy was a hit at the Sundance Film Festival with its story about a contentious relationship between two brothers and their love for the same woman. The filmmaker will be in attendance for a Q&A. @Baby Blue Studio, 9pm; outdoors, free.

**True Blood** @Jo's, 7pm.

## MONDAY 26

**Black and Blue (1981)** D: Jay Dublin. (NR, 87 min.) **Music Monday.** This rarely screened Black Sabbath/Blue Öyster Cult performance documentary showcases Ronnie James Dio in prime form. @Alamo Ritz, 10:15pm.

**Comedy Gone Wrong The Show With No Name.** Comedian Andy Ritchie and *The Show With No Name's* Charlie Sotelo have combined their individual collections of deranged amateur audition tapes and disastrous onstage appearances by well-known figures to create this unique show. Special guests and surprises are promised. @Alamo Ritz, 7:45pm.

### SPACES

**Funniest Filmmaker in Austin Austin Film Festival, 'The Onion,' Last Gas Comedy.** See the entries in this year's competition. The night's winner will screen during the Austin Film Festival in October. @Cap City Comedy, 8pm.

**Funny Face (1957)** See p.66.

### KIDS

**Clash of the Titans (2010) Summer Kids Camp.** Free. (\*) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 11am.

**Monsters vs. Aliens (2009)** @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 11am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 11am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

## TUESDAY 27

**Bicycle Dreams (2009)** D: Stephen Auerbach. (NR, 104 min.) The documentary records the 2005 Race Across America, a particularly dramatic year in the endurance competition's long history. The race goes from San Diego to Atlantic City in 12 days. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7:30pm.

**Blood Bath (1976)** D: Joel M. Reed; with Harve Presnell, Jack Somack, Curt Dawson, Doris Roberts. (PG, 86 min.) **Terror Tuesday.** The cast of a horror film exchanges stories over dinner. @Alamo Ritz, 10:45pm.

**Dance With the One (2010)** See p.66.

**Eric Clapton's Crossroads Guitar Festival 2010** (NR, 120 min.) **NCM Fathom.** In addition to performances by Clapton, this show includes appearances by Steve Winwood, BB King, Jeff Beck, Vince Gill, Sheryl Crow, Buddy Guy, John Mayer, Bill Murray, and others. @CM Cedar Park, Metropolitan, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Hill Country Galleria, 7:30pm.

**RIN: Daughters of Mnemosyne Anime at the Alamo.** Japanese animated television series. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm.

**What Ever Happened to Baby Jane? (1962)** D: Robert Aldrich; with Bette Davis, Joan Crawford, Victor Buono. (NR, 134 min.) **Celluloid Handbag.** The Bette Davis/Joan Crawford Grand Guignol thriller will be hosted by Rebecca Havemeyer. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

### KIDS

**Aliens in the Attic (2009)** @Arbor, 10am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**Clash of the Titans (2010)** @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 11am. (See Monday.)

**Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (2009)** @Movies 8, 10am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**Doogal (2006)** @Arbor, 10am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**Jonah: A Veggie Tales Movie (2002)** @Westgate, 10am; free. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**Kung Fu Panda (2008) Summer Movie Camp.** \$1. (\*) @Barton Creek Square, 10am.

**Monsters vs. Aliens (2009)** @Westgate, 10am; Alamo Drafthouse Village, 11am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 11am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggieTales Movie (2008) Summer Movie Clubhouse.** \$1. (\*) @Tinseltown South, 10am.

**Planet 51 (2009) Family Film Festival.** Free. (\*) @Lakeline, 10am.

**The Tale of Despereaux (2008) Family Film Festival.** Free. (\*) @Lakeline, 10am.

## WEDNESDAY 28

**Badlands (1973)** See p.64.

**Candy Tangerine Man (1975)** D: Matt Cimber; with John Daniels, Angel (Tracy) King, Pat Wright. (R, 93 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** In this off-beat blaxploitation film, a pimp works the inner city by night and goes home to suburbia and his family by day. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid.

**Carmen (2010)** D: Richard Eyre. (NR, 170 min.) **Metropolitan Opera: Encore Presentation.** Eyre debuts as a director at the Met with this new production of the popular Georges Bizet opera. Elina Garanca and Roberto Alagna perform the leads with Yannick Nézet-Séguin conducting. @Tinseltown North, Hill Country Galleria, CM Cedar Park, Metropolitan, Southpark Meadows, 6:30pm.

**Citizen Architect: Samuel Mockbee and the Spirit of the Rural Studio (2010)** D: Samuel Wainwright. (NR, 59 min.) **Austin Film Society.** This SXSW Film Festival '10 premiere documents Mockbee's Rural Studio, a architectural charity program in which students design and build structures for impoverished communities in rural Alabama. Proceeds from screening benefit the Texas Filmmakers Production Fund. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

**Grease Sing-Along (1978)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7:15pm. (See Friday.)

### SPACES

**Agente XU 777 (1963)** D: Miguel M. Delgado; with Cantinflas, Gina Romand. (NR, 110 min.) **Austin Public Library: Mexican Comedy Wednesdays Featuring Catinflas.** Comedy. @Cepeda Public Library, 6pm; free.

**The Cave of the Yellow Dog (2006)** See p.64.

**Ghostbusters (1984)** D: Ivan Reitman; with Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, Harold Ramis, Sigourney Weaver, Rick Moranis, Annie Potts, Ernie Hudson. (PG, 107 min.) **101X Summer Cinema.** The original *Ghostbusters* mined the comedy-horror genre way before it became the fashionably ironic and over-used format it is today. Get slimed. (\*) @Central Market North, 8:30pm; outdoors, free.

### KIDS

**Aliens in the Attic (2009)** @Arbor, 10am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**Clash of the Titans (2010)** @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 11am. (See Monday.)

**Doogal (2006)** @Arbor, 10am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**Jonah: A Veggie Tales Movie (2002)** @Westgate, 10am; free. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**Monsters vs. Aliens (2009)** @Westgate, 10am; Alamo Drafthouse Village, 11am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 11am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggieTales Movie (2008)** @Tinseltown South, 10am. (See Tuesday.)

**Planet 51 (2009)** @Lakeline, 10am. (See Tuesday.)

**The Tale of Despereaux (2008)** @Lakeline, 10am. (See Tuesday.)

## THURSDAY 29

**Blood Into Wine (2010)** See p.66.

**Carmen (2010)** @CM Cedar Park, Southpark Meadows, 10am; Tinseltown North, Hill Country Galleria, noon. (See Wednesday.)

**Elvis on Tour: 75th Anniversary Celebration (2010) NCM Fathom.** Commemorating the 75th birthday of Elvis' birth, this film features remastered footage of the King in concert, as well as performances and interviews from the 1972 film *Elvis on Tour*. @Hill Country Galleria, CM Cedar Park, Metropolitan, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, 7pm.

**Glee-Along Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10pm.

**Golden Girls Celebration** The hosts of Alamo series *Celluloid Handbag* and *Zzang!!!* join together for a heartfelt tribute to the women of *Golden Girls*. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

**The Texas Filmmakers Showcase Austin Film Festival.** See p.64.

### SPACES

**Lights. Cameras. Help. Film Festival** The festival is dedicated entirely to nonprofit and cause-driven films. Screenings continue through Aug. 2 at various locations. See [www.lightscamerahelp.com/film-festival](http://www.lightscamerahelp.com/film-festival) for more info. @MACC, 7pm.

### KIDS

**Aliens in the Attic (2009)** @Arbor, 10am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**Clash of the Titans (2010)** @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 11am. (See Monday.)

**Doogal (2006)** @Arbor, 10am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

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**The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 11am. (See Thursday, 7/22.)

**The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggieTales Movie (2008)** @Tinseltown South, 10am. (See Tuesday.)

**Planet 51 (2009)** @Lakeline, 10am. (See Tuesday.)

**The Tale of Despereaux (2008)** @Lakeline, 10am. (See Tuesday.)

# imax

**Arabia 3D (2010)** D: Greg MacGillivray. (NR, 40 min.) A combination of historical re-creations and contemporary scenes of everyday life, this film follows the story of Hamzah Jamjoom, a 22-year-old Arabian filmmaking student, as he returns home from Chicago to make a film about his native culture. Thu. (7/22)-Sat., noon; Mon.-Thu. (7/29), noon.

**Hubble 3D (2010)** D: Toni Myers; narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio. (NR, 45 min.) This breathtaking documentary follows NASA's May 2009 mission to repair the Hubble Space Telescope. (\*) Thu. (7/22)-Sat., 11am, 1pm; Sun., 1pm; Mon.-Thu. (7/29), 11am, 1pm.

**Inception (2010)** D: Christopher Nolan; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Ellen Page, Tom Hardy, Ken Watanabe, Dileep Rao, Cillian Murphy, Marion Cotillard. (PG-13, 149 min.) See review, p.62. (\*) Thu. (7/22)-Thu. (7/29), 2, 5, 8, 11pm.

**Texas: The Big Picture (2003)** D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.) Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as the state is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips. Thu. (7/22)-Sat., 10am; Mon.-Thu. (7/29), 10am.

## HARRY RANSOM CENTER THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

### CLOSING SOON

#### Making Movies

Featuring items from the Ransom Center's extensive film collections, *Making Movies* reveals the collaborative nature of the film-making process and focuses on how the artists involved—from writers to directors, actors to cinematographers—transform the written word into moving image.

#### ¡Viva! Mexico's Independence

The year 2010 marks the 200th anniversary of Mexico's independence from Spain and the 100th anniversary of the Mexican Revolution. This exhibition showcases original materials that illuminate these historic touchstones.



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HARRY RANSOM  
CENTER

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

# music

EDITED BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

listings



## T-Model Ford

Emo's, Saturday 24

The Crack Pipes and John Schooley &amp; His One-Man Band open.

Blues has no better biography than T-Model Ford. The Mississippi-born guitarist was plowing fields by the age of 6 and was beaten so badly by his father that he lost a testicle. He spent two years on a chain gang for murder, sired 26 children, and, despite never learning to read or write, doled out relationship advice for the now-defunct *Arthur* magazine. From his Greenville home, the man born James Lewis Carter Ford describes the shanking that landed him in shackles the same no-nonsense way he plays the blues:

"Me and a guy got into it. He cut me; I cut him back."

To the best of his knowledge, the self-proclaimed "Boss of the Blues" turned 90 last month (the birth date on his passport and driver's license are three years apart) and recently married his sixth wife, Stella. His latest release, an acoustic session on California's Alive Naturalsound Records, is no empty boast. T-Model is still *The Ladies Man*.

Like late Mississippi Hill Country bluesmen R.L. Burnside and Junior Kimbrough, Ford didn't earn wide recognition until recording with Fat Possum in the 1990s. Growing up, the devil's music wasn't allowed in his home, but songs he heard by Muddy Waters and Howlin' Wolf stayed with him.

"I was 58 years old when I picked up my first guitar," he says. "My third wife bought me a guitar and a little amplifier. I just picked it up and started trying to play it."

Blues has become a Ford family tradition. After tiring of questions, T-Model put his 12-year-old grandson on the line. "Stud" has been backing granddad on drums since age 6 and cites Johnny Winter and Johnny Cash as his favorite artists. Will he too lead the life of a bluesman?

"Yeah, if I don't go pro in football or be a lawyer." — Thomas Fawcett

## in-stores

Friday: **Serious Tracers**, **Slang Chickens**, the **French Inhales**, Trailer Space, 7pm  
Saturday: **Vulture**, **Venison Whirled**, **Book of Shadows**, **Lead Sister II**,

**Shunsuke Suzuki**, Trailer Space, 7pm

Monday: **Maps & Atlases**, Waterloo Records, 5pm

Tuesday: **Ivoryline**, Waterloo Records, 2:30pm; **Black Vomit**, **m30w**, **Sam & Steve**, **Destroyed for Comfort**, Trailer Space, 7pm

Wednesday: **John Wesley Coleman**, **Fletcher C. Johnson**, Trailer Space, 7pm

Thursday: **Peter Case**, Waterloo Records, 5pm; **Everyday Destruction**, **Weekend Aggression**, Trailer Space, 7pm

## THE NEW PORNOGRAPHERS

Stubb's, Friday 23

In the decade since its starry-eyed debut, *Mass Romantic*, this Canadian revolving door has proved a platform for the singular talents of Neko Case and Dan Bejar, but as a whole, the New Pornographers demonstrates the most kinetic energy. *Together*, the group's latest for Matador, agrees, chiseling away at perfect sing- and whistle-alongs like "Crash Years." San Francisco's fresh-faced French-kissers the Dodos and L.A. psych dealer Imaad Wasif riff first.

— Audra Schroeder

## SAMANTHA CRAIN

The Parish, Saturday 24

Moving from the spiky Americana of her 2009 debut, *Songs in the Night*, to the avant-folk of follow-up *You (Understood)*, Okie singer-guitarist Samantha Crain is poised to break out like Joanna Newsom or Cat Power, maintaining a Southern Gothic vision that's curiously bewitching. When she shares the stage with like-minded locals Royal Forest, the Georgian Company, and (the Ghost of) Mice & Rifles, expect a night of tangled 21st century folk.

— Jim Caligiuri

## AUSTIN GOSPEL MUSIC FEST

Kenny Dorham's Backyard, Saturday 24

No need to wait until Sunday to refresh the soul. The Austin Gospel Music Fest brings an array of local voices raised in worship. Watch for appearances by Minister Leland Adams, the Unity Mass Choir, Trudy Nunez, Melanie Watson, A Remnant of Levites, Onesimus, Ella Scott, Anointed Master Mimes, and more. First act at 6pm. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Freedom Church Outreach Ministries. — Margaret Moser

## THE COATHANGERS

Mohawk, Sunday 25

Atlanta's the Coathangers beat punk rock over the head with screaming choruses and blunted beats, dragging it back into its cave with last year's Suicide Squeeze debut, *Scramble*. The quartet's new 7-inch, with remixes of "Arthritis Sux" and "143," gives the gals a little polish. L.A.'s Slang Chickens and locals Rayon Beach and Predator open. — Audra Schroeder

## MAPS & ATLASES

Emo's, Monday 26

The latest entry in Barsuk's neo-sincerity journal, Chicago's Maps & Atlases honed its homegrown math-rock and art-school leanings into a dense pop template for the quartet's label debut, *Perch Patchwork*. It's jagged and challenging; frontman Dave Davison shows flashes of the Dirty Projectors' high-wire dexterity. Brooklyn's Cults has a pair of summertime pop singles blowing up the blogosphere, and Seattle's the Globes open with EP *Sinter Songs*.

— Austin Powell

## NO MAS BODAS

Beerland, Wednesday 28

Austin female quartet No Mas Bodas married one another earlier this year, in tandem with the release of excellent cosmic debut *Erotic Stories From the Space Capsule*, a testament to their unconventional approach to both electronica and domestic partnerships. They put their love to the test with *Rescue Mission*, *Ichi Ni San Shi*, and the *Persian Wars*. — Audra Schroeder

## FOR CLIFFORD

Antone's, Thursday 29

Antone's has reached out to the women of blues since it opened its doors in 1975, cultivating its own list of names over the years, so this night of femmesational talent is star-studded indeed. Antone's queens Marcia Ball and Angela Strehli headline a royal roster that includes Carolyn Wonderland, Patricia Vonne, Toni Price, Teal Collins, Shelley King, Cindy Cashdollar, Sarah Brown, Livvy Bennett, and Kathy Valentine's BlueBonnetts. Need we say Clifford is beaming? — Margaret Moser

## THE LINEUP

The sounds of summer  
at [austinchronicle.com/thelineup](http://austinchronicle.com/thelineup)

## soundcheck

BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

### DAVE KOZ

Riverbend Centre, Friday 23

Smooth sax rains down, with Sheila E. on drums and Jonathan Butler on guitar.

### TV TORSO, THE GARY, MARTIN CRANE

Mohawk, Friday 23

Local three-headed dog humps your leg.

### AUNT DRACULA

Club 1808, Saturday 24

Philly's lost boys jam eternal.

### OPPOSITE DAY EP RELEASE

Hole in the Wall, Saturday 24

Mandukhai in your eye, with Muchos Backflips and Lotus Effect.

### MANATEE TIGHTS

Beerland, Sunday 25

Blown-out pop-punk.

### ROBERT PLANT & BAND OF JOY

Stubb's, Monday 26

Sold out.

### BORIS

Mohawk, Wednesday 28

See "Your Satori Mind," p.42.

### IRON & WINE

Paramount Theatre, Thursday 29

The adopted Texan benefits the Midwives Alliance of North America and the Health Alliance for Austin Musicians, aided by the Southwest air of Calexico.

### PETER CASE

Threadgill's World HQ, Thursday 29

The Plimsouls frontman's back in the saddle, kicking off the 40th anniversary of the Armadillo.

live music venues p.72

roadshows + club listings p.74



L - R: SAMANTHA CRAIN (SAT., 7/24) | THE COATHANGERS (SUN., 7/25) | PETER CASE (THU., 7/29)

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 8:30PM

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 THURSDAY // 10PM  
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**MIKE FLANIGIN'S B-3 TRIO**  
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 SUNDAY 8PM: JON DEE GRAHAM  
 AND JAMES MCMURTRY  
 SUN 10:30PM  
**MIKE FLANIGIN w/ DEREK O'BRIEN**  
 MONDAY // 10:30PM  
**DAN DYER**  
 TUESDAY  
 7-9PM "NOIR AT THE BAR"  
**RED YOUNG**  
 WEDNESDAY  
 10:30PM **SNIZ-O-RAMA**  
 8:30PM: JON BLONDELL

UPSTAIRS IN THE GALLERY

THUR JULY 22  
 HAPPY HOUR  
**PLANET CASPER**  
 12:30AM **Leo Rondeau**  
**MIKE AND THE MOONPIES**  
 11:15PM CD RELEASE PARTY  
**FLATCAR RATTIERS**  
 10PM

FRIDAY JULY 23  
 HAPPY HOUR  
**THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS**  
 12:30AM **ADRIAN AND THE SICKNESS**  
 11:15PM **The Bluebonnets**  
 10PM **The All-Girl Boys Choir**  
 H. H. SHOTGUN PARTY  
 WEDNESDAY JULY 28

THURSDAY JULY 29  
 12AM **WHITE GHOST SHIVERS**  
 10:45PM **CLYDE & CLEM'S WHISKEY BUSINESS**  
 9:30PM **ERIN IVY'S GRAND HOTEL**  
 SATURDAY JULY 24  
 MATINEE 3-7PM  
**JAMES HAND**  
**MIGUEL GARCIA**  
 12AM **AND THE VAQUETONES**  
**WOODSBOSS**  
 10PM

SUNDAY JULY 25  
**JUNIOR BROWN**  
**TANYA RAE**  
 AND HEYBALE  
 WITH REDD VOLKAERT AND EARL POOLE BALL  
 DOORS 6:30PM SHOWTIME 7PM

MONDAY JULY 26  
 H. H. Olivier Giraud's Continental Graffiti  
**DALE WATSON**  
 AND HIS LONESTARS  
 10PM  
 TUESDAY JULY 27  
 HAPPY HOUR 6:30  
**TONI PRICE**

12AM **JAMES MCMURTRY**  
 10:30PM **JON DEE GRAHAM**  
 THURSDAY JULY 29  
 H. H. PLANET CASPER  
 12:30AM **MOONLIGHT TOWERS**  
 11:15PM **THE DISAPPEARING TWINS**  
 10PM **HILARY YORK**  
 FRIDAY JULY 30  
 H. H. THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS  
 9:45PM "Lucy The Poodle Presents"  
**English Teeth**  
 12AM **THE CARROTS**  
 The Hi-Tones EP RELEASE  
 11:15PM **AGENT RIBBONS**  
 10:30PM **REDD VOLKAERT**  
 MATINEE 3-7PM  
**PONG BUTCHER BEAR**  
 12:30AM 10PM **TRANSMOGRAPHY**

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**ARTZ RIB HOUSE**, 2330 S. Lamar, 442-8283  
**AUNT JULIE'S COUNTRY KITCHEN STEAK HOUSE**, 1208 N. I-35 Ste. Z, Round Rock, 512/246-1144  
**AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN**, Fourth & Guadalupe, 236-0074  
**BAR 141**, 141 E. Hopkins St., San Marcos, 512/558-7399  
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**BB ROVERS**, 12636 Research Ste. B-101, 335-9504  
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TEAL COLLINS, SHELLEY KING, TONI PRICE, PATRICIA VONNE,  
CINDY CASHDOLLAR, SARAH BROWN, THE BLUEBONNETS  
WITH KATHY VALENTINE, EVE MONSES, LISA PANKRATZ,  
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THURSDAY JULY 22<sup>ND</sup>



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25<sup>TH</sup>

**GIRL  
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JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>



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THURSDAY JULY 22 \*REGGAE/SOUL/FUNK\* DOORS 9:00  
**SOUL TRACK MIND**  
**CARLTON PRIDE & ZION**

FRIDAY JULY 23 \*BRAZILIAN GROOVE\* DOORS 9:00  
BRAZILIAN GROOVE NIGHT IV  
**F7 & THE HASHASHIN**  
**MANGA ROSA & OS ALQUIMISTAS**

SATURDAY JULY 24 \*SKA\* DOORS 9:00  
**LOS SKARNALES**  
**BENNY VS THE BEAST**  
**& VIET RUSE**

WEDNESDAY JULY 28 \*REGGAE\* DOORS 8:30  
**DREADNECK NIGHT: NO COVER**  
**WITH THE MAU MAU CHAPLAINS & STT**

**UPCOMING SHOWS**

07.29: NATURAL HEIGHTS, CONTRABANDITS, THE STOICS  
07.30: EL TULE & RADIO LA CHUSMA  
07.31: DON CHANI, LIONHEAD & AIMANN  
08.05: KARA BOWERS & THE BOO BONIC ALBUM RELEASE PARTY  
08.06: PANTEON ROCOCO \*TX ON SALE NOW\*

**White Trash Wednesdays**  
\$1 PBR CANS  
\$1 MILLER HIGH LIFE CANS

Time to bust out the fanny packs, mullets, wife beaters, and general disregard for good taste.  
[LibraryBars.com](http://LibraryBars.com)



407 East 6th St.  
512.236.0662  
Specials are subject to change

# club listings

ALL AGES VENUE ROADSHOW RECOMMENDED HEAR MUSIC ONLINE

THU 22

**ANTONE'S** Black Bone Child, American Bang, Jonathan Tyler & the Northern Lights (9:00) **R**

**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Mary Reynolds (7:30)

**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Sean Orr (8:00)

**BEERLAND** The Formation, Followed by Static, John Wesley Coleman, Coma in Algiers **J** **C**

**BOTTICELLI'S** Dennis Ludiker (7:30)

**BROKEN SPOKE** Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton **J** (6:00)

**CACTUS CAFE** Ray Bonneville (8:30)

**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Cliff Brown Jr., Brother Machine, Bad Lovers (9:00)

**CEDAR STREET** Karen & Kaki, Suede (6:00)

**CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** Shotgun Party (6:30)

**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Kent Finlay, Houston Marchman (9:00)

**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Continental Graffiti (10:30); In the Club: Planet Casper (6:30), Flatcar Rattlers, Mike & the Moonpies **J** CD Release, Leo Rondeau (10:00) **C**

**COOL RIVER CAFE** The Sophisticates

**COPA BAR & GRILL** Salsa Lessons w/ Dance U2, Alvaro Aguilar (8:30)

**DONN'S DEPOT** Murphy's Inlaws

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND PRINTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. Acts are listed chronologically. Schedules are subject to change, so call clubs to confirm lineups. Start times are provided where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: Music listings deadline is Monday mornings, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Please indicate roadshows and residencies. Send venue name, address, phone, acts, and start times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; phone, 454-5766 x159; e-mail, [clubs@austinchronicle.com](mailto:clubs@austinchronicle.com).

Austin bands: We want to hear from you. If you haven't registered and uploaded your MP3s to the Musicians Register, go to [austinchronicle.com/register](http://austinchronicle.com/register). Wherever your band is mentioned, your music will be featured.

## roadshows

### July

THU 22

**Jonathan Tyler & the Northern Lights**, American Bang, Antone's  
**Decapitated, the Faceless, All Shall Perish, the Red Chord, Veil of Maya, Cephalic Carnage, Decrepit Birth, Carnifex, Animals as Leaders, Vital Remains**, Emo's  
**Drink Up Buttercup, Hanna Barbarians**, Mohawk  
**Meggan Carney**, Momo's  
**Phosphorescent**, ND at 501 Studios  
**Clare Means**, One 2 One Bar  
**Ledaswan**, Red 7  
**The Castaneda Project**, the Scoot Inn  
**Keith Moody & My Band**, Stubb's  
**A Corpse Vanishes, Stellar Corpses**, Triple Crown  
**Jonathan Tyler & the Northern Lights**, Waterloo Records

FRI 23

**Bob Cheevers**, Artz Rib House  
**Bass Drum of Death**, Beerland  
**Gifts From Enola**, Club de Ville  
**Miguel Garcia & the Vaquetones**, the Driskill Hotel  
**Parson Red Heads, Holy Rolling Empire, A Rose by Any Other Name, Ryan Hegefled, Colby James**, Emo's  
**Frederico 7 & the Hashashins**, Flamingo Cantina  
**Sore Losers, Bassturd**, Headhunters  
**Bexar County Bastards**, Hole in the Wall  
**Harry Bodine**, Momo's  
**Fremen**, One 2 One Bar  
**The Cold Snap**, the Parish  
**Landmine Marathon**, Red 7  
**Another Addiction**, Red Eyed Fly  
**Sheila E., Jonathan Butler, Dave Koz**, Riverbend Centre  
**Jay Boy Adams**, Saxon Pub  
**King Louie**, the Scoot Inn  
**The New Pornographers, the Dodos, Imaad Wasif**, Stubb's  
**Slang Chickens**, Trailer Space Records

SAT 24

**Richard Bowden**, Cactus Cafe  
**Aunt Dracula**, Club 1808  
**Miguel Garcia & the Vaquetones**, Continental Club  
**T-Model Ford, the Rocketboys, Deas Vail**, Emo's  
**Leonel Soto**, EsquinaTango  
**Wisecracker**, Flamingo Cantina  
**Los Skarnales, Viet Ruse**, Flamingo Cantina  
**Anchor in the Valley**, Flipnotics Coffeespace  
**Screaming Red, the Butts**, Headhunters  
**Melogrand, Red Falcon**, Mohawk  
**Denitia Odigie**, Momo's  
**Auto Body**, ND at 501 Studios  
**Heart to Joy, American Fangs, For Hours & Ours, Searcher**, Red 7  
**Plague of '98**, Red Eyed Fly  
**J Boogie**, the Scoot Inn  
**Amanda Monaco**, Space 12  
**Lovehatehero, Venitia Fair, Young & Divine**, Stubb's  
**Cody Canada**, Threadgill's World HQ  
**Shunsuke Suzuki, Lead Sister II, Vulture**, Trailer Space Records

SUN 25

**The Lilies**, Beerland  
**Bugs Henderson**, Gruene Hall  
**Miguel Garcia & the Vaquetones, Kraneos**, Headhunters  
**The Coathangers, Predators, Slang Chickens**, Mohawk  
**Miguel Garcia & the Vaquetones**, Roadhouse Rags

MON 26

**Randy Rogers**, Cheatham Street Warehouse  
**Maps & Atlases, Cults, the Globes**, Emo's  
**Maps & Atlases**, Waterloo Records  
**Miguel Garcia & the Vaquetones**, Hole in the Wall  
**Peace of Mind Orchestra**, Mohawk  
**Robert Plant & the Band of Joy**, Stubb's

TUE 27

**Hubert Sumlin, Willie "Big Eye" Smith, Bob Stroger, Angela Strehli**, Antone's  
**William Fitzsimmons**, Cactus Cafe  
**Silverstein, Emery, I Set My Friends On Fire, Dance Gavin Dance, We Came as Romans, Sky Eats Airplane, Ivoryline, Close to Home, Emo's**  
**Peace of Mind Orchestra**, Hole in the Wall  
**Stasis**, Red 7  
**Waylon Payne**, Saxon Pub  
**Rocco DeLuca**, Saxon Pub  
**Black Vomit, m30w, Sam & Steve**, Trailer Space Records  
**Ivoryline**, Waterloo Records

WED 28

**Corey Smith**, Antone's  
**Ceremony, Tiger's Jaw, the Sidekicks**, Emo's  
**Jenifer Jackson**, Flipnotics Coffeespace  
**Milk Thistle**, Hole in the Wall  
**Boris, Russian Circles, Saade**, Mohawk  
**The Poison Control Center**, the Parish  
**City of Ships**, Red 7  
**Sour Soul, Speakeasy**, Red Eyed Fly  
**DJ Architektur**, Townhouse  
**Fletcher C. Johnson**, Trailer Space Records

THU 29

**Angela Strehli**, Antone's  
**Shake Russell**, Cactus Cafe  
**Natural Heights, Contrabandits, the Stoics**, Flamingo Cantina  
**Jeff Allen**, Gruene Hall  
**Sex Dragon, El Cento**, Hole in the Wall  
**Kid Congo Powers & the Pink Monkeybirds, Hunx & His Punx**, Mohawk  
**Meggan Carney**, Momo's  
**Calexico**, Paramount Theatre  
**Flosstradamus**, Red 7  
**Cardinal Cool & the Nuns of Justice**, Red Eyed Fly  
**Rocco DeLuca**, Saxon Pub  
**House of Songs**, Stubb's  
**Peter Case**, Threadgill's World HQ  
**Weekend Aggression**, Trailer Space Records  
**Peter Case**, Waterloo Records

See [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com) for complete listings.

## Free Play Sunday



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CROSS CANADIAN RAGWEED  
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MICKY & THE MOTORCARS • CHARLIE ROBISON  
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AARON EINHOUSE BAND • SETH JAMES

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**THURSDAY JULY 22 \$5**

PETE MINDA NO COVER HAPPY HOUR 5:15  
 MELANIE EDWARDS 6:30  
 WINTER WALLACE 8  
**ABRA MOORE** 9:15 EVERY THURS  
 MEGGAN CARNEY 10:30  
 JOSH WEATHERS & THE TRUE ENDEAVORS 11:45

**FRIDAY JULY 23 \$10**

TY GRAHAM 6 GRAHAM WILKINSON 7  
 LA TAMPIQUENA 8:30  
**SPIVEY** 10:15  
 ALTABIAH BELLY DANCERS 12  
 MOVING MATTER 12:30

**SATURDAY JULY 24 \$10**

AMANDA PEARCY 6:30 A FORMAL AFFAIR 8

**Denitia Odigie** 9

KALU JAMES 10  
 DERRICK DAVIS BAND 11  
 RYAN HARKRIDER 12:15

**SUNDAY JULY 25 \$5**

MALCOLM HOLCOMBE 6:30 \$8  
 LA TAMPIQUENA 8  
 CURTIS McMURTRY & GODS CHOSEN PEOPLE 9:30  
 GREG SCHROEDER 12:15

**MONDAY JULY 26 \$5**

16 STRINGS 6:30  
 JENNY REYNOLDS 8  
 BRANDON JENKINS 9:15  
 DUSTIN WELCH & SAM HILL 11  
 CRAIG MARSHALL 12:30

**TUESDAY JULY 27 \$5/\$3 W/ STUDENT ID**

HOUSE OF SONGS PRESENTS STRAWBERRY BLONDE 5:15  
 9850 World Music Night  
 AMIE & SANGHEE MILLENIUM 8  
 CERRONATO 10  
 MYSTIC MOOT 12

**WEDNESDAY JULY 28 \$5**

LINDSAY SCHULZ NO COVER HAPPY HOUR 5:15  
 SONGWRITERS JAM PRESENTED BY ASTARA MANG.  
 JAKE MORRISON 8 BENTLI 9  
 JACK VALEN 10  
 JOSH HALVERSON 11  
 ERIC HEARD 12  
 GRRLZ WILL BE BOYS!

**UPCOMING SHOWS**

AMALA FOUNDATION BENEFIT FEAT: Manga Rosa, Marc Utter, La guerrilla y mas!  
 AMALAFUNDATION.ORG

4TH ANNUAL BOOGALOOIN BDAY BASH WITH WILL BERNARD / MUDPHONIC & MORE  
 PUNKYBATZ.COM 6TH JULY 31

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 Free Valet Parking



Italian Bar & Grill

**Live Local**  
 music  
 thu fri sat  
 10pm Happy Hour

**Thursday, July 22**

7:30 Calico Jazz Trio  
 8:30 Dan & the Deerlicks  
 9:30 Ghosts Along the Brazos

**Friday, July 23**

**Friday Night Supper Club**  
 6:00 Anna Mae Mitchell Trio  
 7:00 Albanie  
 7:30 Erica Noble  
 8:00 Strawberry Blonde  
 Anna Rosenkilde from Denmark  
 8:30 Karen Chisholm Band  
 9:30 Mike Molaro  
 10:00 Craig Marshall

**Saturday, July 24**

7 Anna Lively  
 8 Strawberry Blonde  
 Anna Rosenkilde from Denmark  
 9 Nano  
 10 Steadfast Ramblers

late night  
**Happy Hour**  
 thurs fri sat  
 10pm  
 crazy drinks & food

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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM THURSDAY

**THE DRISKILL HOTEL** Driskill Bar: Stephen Doster & Bill Carter (7:00)  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Lucky Strikes (7:30)  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Albanie & Her Fellas (6:00), Red Young (9:30)  
**EMO'S** Outside: Vital Remains, Animals as Leaders, Carnifex, Decrepit Birth, Cephalic Carnage, Veil of Maya, the Red Chord, All Shall Perish, the Faceless, Decapitated; Inside: Necrowolf, Killing in Apathy, Disfigured, Faltsetta, Indisgust  
**EVANGELINE CAFE** Amanda Pearcy ♪ (7:00)  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Carlton Pride & Zion, Soul Track Mind (9:00)  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Troy Campbell (6:00), Open Mic w/ Lisa Ketylle (8:00)  
**GIDDY UPS** Mark Jungers (8:00)  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Alvin Crow (9:00)  
**GRUENE HALL** Stonehoney (7:00)  
**GÜERO'S TACO BAR** Johnny Gimble (6:30)  
**HEADHUNTERS** Patio: Forced to Genocide, Shadows Entwined; Inside: Kevin Ball & the Busters, A Hero En Route, Reverend Glasseye  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Paper Shapes, the Frontier Brothers, Prayer for Animals (9:00)  
**HOUSE WINE** Steven Baranowski (8:00)  
**JOVITA'S** Adrian Emberly, Suicide Pistols, Country Willie, Shakey Graves (6:00)  
**LA FUENTES RESTAURANT & TEXAS BEER GARDEN** Luke Kirkpatrick (7:00)  
**LAMBERTS** A House a Home, (the Ghost of) Mice & Rifles (10:30)  
**THE LION AND ROSE** Open Mic w/ the Cole Williams Band (8:00)  
**LUCKY LOUNGE** Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00), SuperLiteBike (10:00)  
**MAGGIE MAE'S** Rick Harvey & the Textcellorators (8:00)  
**MEAN-EYED CAT** Damon Bramblett (8:00)  
**MI CASA TAMALES & CANTINA** Open Mic w/ Jeremy Parker  
**MOHAWK** Hanna Barbarians, Stella Rose, Drink Up Buttercup (10:00) ♪  
**MOMO'S** Abra Moore, Meggan Carney, Josh Weathers & the True Endeavors ♪  
**ND AT 501 STUDIOS** Shiny Around the Edges, Phosphorescent (9:00) ♪ ♪  
**NEWORDELI** Austin Poetry Society  
**NORTH BY NORTHWEST RESTAURANT & BREWERY** Steve Tice  
**THE OASIS** The Cornell Hurd Band  
**ONE 2 ONE BAR** Clare Means, Jumbo Shrimp (8:00) ♪  
**OPA! COFFEE AND WINE BAR** Naked Folk Collective (6:00)  
**THE PARLOR** Phil Dutra, Lisa Marshall  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Aaron Einhouse  
**RED 7** Post Society, the Night, Ledaswan, Sally Crewe & the Sudden Moves, Tassels (10:00) ♪  
**RED EYED FLY** Midnight Riot, the New, Powered by Indifference, When Words Attack, Ross Pat Band  
**RED FEZ** DJ Tako (10:00)  
**RILEY'S TAVERN** Forest Wayne Allen  
**RUTA MAYA** Bocastralia, Infinite Partials, Ole Salt (9:00)  
**RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE** Jeff Lofton (7:00)  
**SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR** Paul Eddy (7:00)  
**SAXON PUB** Eightysixxed (6:00), Kenny Daniel, George Devore, Tom Gillam (8:00)  
**THE SCOOT INN** The Castaneda Project (8:00) ♪  
**SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILLE** The Max  
**SPEAKEASY** Video Stars (9:30)  
**STUBB'S** Nay Says, Keith Moody & My Band, Hector Ward & the Big Time ♪ (10:00) ♪  
**TEXAS BAR & GRILL** Acoustic Open Mic  
**TRIPLE CROWN** Mashed Potato Johnson (6:00); The Belgraves, Stellar Corpses, A Corpse Vanishes (10:00) ♪

**TROPHY'S** The Long Tangles  
**WATERLOO RECORDS** Jonathan Tyler & the Northern Lights (5:00) ♪  
**Z'TEJAS** Eagle Pritchard Murray (6:00)

**FRI 23**

**ANTONE'S** Southern Sirens, Zapata!, the Scabs (9:00)  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Bob Cheevers (7:30) ♪  
**AUNT JULIE'S COUNTRY KITCHEN STEAK HOUSE** Stetson Walker (7:00)  
**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Eric Tessmer (10:30)  
**BEERLAND** John Wesley Coleman, the Flesh Lights, Bass Drum of Death, Bad Sports ♪  
**BOTTICELLI'S** Jacob Jaeger (8:00)  
**'BOUT TIME** DJ Element  
**BROKEN SPOKE** Dance Lessons, Billy Mata (8:00)  
**BUDDY'S PLACE** Son Geezinslaw, Glenn Collins (8:00)  
**C. HUNTS ICE HOUSE** Glenn Collins  
**CACTUS CAFE** Junior Brown (8:30)  
**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Chaparral Dixielanders, Vireos (7:00)  
**CEDAR STREET** Trent Durham (6:00), Radiostar (9:30)  
**CENTRAL MARKET NORTH** Austin Piazzolla Quintet ♪ (6:30)  
**CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** Noelle Hampton (6:30)  
**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Brian Burke, Whiskey Myers  
**CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE** Abram Taber (8:00)  
**CLUB DE VILLE** Gifts From Enola (9:00) ♪  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Mike Flanigin Trio w/ Derek O'Brien & Frosty (10:00); In the Club: The Blues Specialists (6:00); Erin Ivey's Grand Hotel, Clyde & Clem's Whiskey Business ♪, White Ghost Shivers (9:30)  
**COOL RIVER CAFE** Newsboyz  
**COTTON CLUB** Courtney Now (8:30)  
**DONN'S DEPOT** Donn & the Station Masters

**HANOVERS**

FRIDAY, JULY 23RD @ 9:30PM  
**SKYROCKET** \$10 COVER  
 SATURDAY, JULY 24TH  
 12-5PM **BENEFIT FOR LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER**  
 9PM **VALLEJO W/ROBERT JOHNSON'S SOUL** \$10 COVER  
 FRIDAY, JULY 30TH @ 9:30PM  
**RADIOSTAR "THE BAND IN TRACK SUITS"** \$5 COVER  
 SATURDAY, JULY 31ST @ 9:30PM  
**BLUE FINGER DISCO** \$5 COVER  
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WHO  
 WHAT  
 WHEN  
 &  
 WHERE

**AMDB**  
 AUSTIN MUSIC DATABASE

AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/AMDB  
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# AUSTIN SPORTS TAVERN

## HAPPY HOUR

Monday-Friday 4-8pm  
 features 50¢ wings &  
 3<sup>99</sup> blackened mini burger sliders  
 Monday Open Mic 9pm-2am  
 Tuesday Karaoke 10pm-2am  
 Wednesday Free Salsa Lessons  
 at 10pm  
 Thursday Live Music 6pm-2am  
 Friday Karaoke 10pm-2am  
 Saturday Free Texas Hold'em  
 6:30pm & 9:30pm  
 Sunday Happy Hour All Day

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Live Music  
 Early ...



Late Night  
 Loungin'

# Lucky lounge

NO COVER • FREE SHOWS

6PM THE RETURN OF HAPPY HOUR  
 FEATURING THE LEGENDARY

**IAN MCLAGAN & THE BUMP BAND**

LATER 10PM:  
**SUPERLITEBIKE**

**DARK RABBIT**

9PM **DESCENDANTS OF ERDRICK, SHEER KHAN & THE SPACE CASE**

LATER: **DJ SPYDA** SPINS 'TIL 2AM

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**FRI JUL 23**  
**THE NEW PORNOGRAPHERS**  
  
 WITH **THE DODOS**  
 AND **IMAAD WASIF**

**WED AUG 4**  
  
**Crowded House**  
 2010  
 WITH **LAWRENCE ARABIA**

**WED AUG 11**  
  
**HARD**  
 Summer Tour 2010  
 featuring **Crystal Castles**  
 w/**Rusko, Sinden,**  
**Destructo**  
 and **Proxy** 101X

**WED AUG 18**  
  
**MATISYAHU**  
 WITH **NATHAN MAXWELL & THE ORIGINAL BUNNY GANG** 101X

**TUE AUG 24**  
  
**Chromie's Business Canal**  
 SUMMER 2010 TOUR  
 WITH **HOLY GHOST!** 101X

**FRI SEP 3**  
**rodrigo y gabriela**

**FRI SEP 17 & SAT SEP 18**  
  
**CITIZEN COPE**  
 TWO NIGHTS! 101X

**FRI SEP 24**  
  
**DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS**

**SAT SEP 25**  
  
**The Black Crowes**  
 Say Goodnight To The Bad Guys  
 2010 Tour

**IN THE CLUB**  
**THU JUL 22 DOORS 9PM**  
**HECTOR WARD & THE BIG TIME**  
 WITH KEITH MOODY & MY BAND & NAYSAYS  
**FRI JUL 23 DOORS 11PM**  
 NEW PORNOGRAPHERS AFTERSHOW  
**THE EASTERN SEA**  
 FREE ENTRY W/ NP WRISTBAND  
**SAT JUL 24 DOORS 9PM**  
**LOVEHATEHERO**  
 WITH THE VENITIA FAIR & YOUNG AND DIVINE  
**SUN JUL 25**  
 GOSPEL BRUNCH  
**SHIELDS OF FAITH**  
 CALL 512.480.8341 x306 FOR RESERVATIONS  
**SUN JUL 25 DOORS 9PM**  
**ANDREW BELLE & HE IS WE**  
**THU JUL 29 DOORS 9PM**  
**DANNY MALONE**  
 WITH THE STEPS, THE WINDOW THEATRE & THE HOUSE OF SONGS

**FRI JUL 30 DOORS 9PM**  
**DIRTY PENNY**  
 WITH NEW DISASTER & YAYO  
**SAT JUL 31 DOORS 9PM**  
**SHE CRAVES**  
 WITH BLONDES MAKE BETTER VICTIMS  
 TREBUCHET & OAK IS KEEPING  
 TIX ON SALE AT DOORS ONLY  
**TUE AUG 3 DOORS 9PM**  
**MINIATURE TIGERS & THE SPINTO BAND**  
 WITH MICHELLE ARMSTRONG & THE STEPS  
**FRI AUG 6 DOORS 11PM**  
 JOAN BAEZ AFTERSHOW  
**CURTIS GRIMES**  
 FREE ENTRY W/ JB WRISTBAND  
**WED AUG 11 DOORS 10PM**  
 CRYSTAL CASTLES AFTERSHOW  
**ART VERSUS INDUSTRY**  
 FREE ENTRY W/ HARD SUMMER WRISTBAND  
**FRI AUG 13 DOORS 9PM**  
**A LETTER OF WARNING**  
 WITH THE BANNER YEAR  
 MEGAFUNA & SECOND TO LAST  
**SAT AUG 14 DOORS 9PM**  
**BLACK BONE CHILD**

**CALENDAR**  
 » OUTSIDE SHOW » INSIDE SHOW  
 8-6 **JOAN BAEZ**  
 JAMES MCMURTRY  
 8-18 **RYAN STAR**  
 SIX GALLERY  
 8-21 **PHOENIX DOWN**  
 ART VERSUS INDUSTRY  
 LOVE HATE AFFAIR & LONGWOODSON  
 8-26 **FEVER IN THE FUNKHOUSE**  
 NEW BOHEMIANS  
 8-27 **CIVIL TWILIGHT**  
 8-28 **WEEN AFTERSHOW**  
 SOUTHPAW JONES  
 FREE W/ WEEN WRISTBAND  
 9-2 **UNCLE LUCIUS**  
 9-10 **GUNS OF NAVARONE**  
 CLYDE & CLEM'S WHISKEY BUSINESS  
 9-11 **SOUNDS UNDER RADIO**  
 9-16 **REBIRTH BRASS BAND**  
 MANDRICO  
 9-27 **RATATAT** 101X  
 10-20 **FRIGHTENED RABBIT**  
 PLANTS & ANIMALS  
 11-12 **DR. DOG**  
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 1200 E. 11th St.  
 FREE SNACKS & DRINKS, SPECIAL 1/2 OFF HANK & PAULLEE BABY ONESIES

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 1209 Rosewood Ave.  
 FREE WINE TASTINGS 1900-2000 PM, 15% OFF OF 12 OR MORE

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 1202 E. 11th  
 FEATURING THE MARY GIGGS INDIAN TRIBE'S YOUNG NAVAJO & FLAMING ARROW

**EAST SIDE YOGA**  
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 FREE 5PM YOGA FLOW CLASS & FIRST CLASS FREE PASSES TO VISITORS

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**Small Business Development Program**  
 CITY OF AUSTIN

CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

- CLUB LISTINGS FROM FRIDAY**
- THE DRISKILL HOTEL** Driskill Bar: Miguel Garcia & the Vaquetones, Darren Hoff & the Hard Times (6:00) **R**
- DRY CREEK SALOON** Damon Bramblett (8:00)
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Kris Kimura Quartet (8:00)
- ELEPHANT ROOM** In These Shoes, Beto y los Fairlanes
- EMO'S** Inside Early: Colby James, Ryan Hegefled, Nick Stiles, A Rose by Any Other Name (5:00); Inside Later: The Del-Vipers, Holy Rolling Empire, Parson Red Heads, the Happen-Ins (9:00) **R**
- ENCORE CTRL**, Caustic, CAT (10:00)
- EVANGELINE CAFE** Jon Dee Graham & Jesse Sublett (10:00)
- FAIR BEAN COFFEE** Open Mic w/ Amy Zamarripa (5:00)
- FLAMINGO CANTINA** Os Alquimistas, Manga Rosa, Frederico 7 & the Hashashins (9:00) **R**
- FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs (6:00), The Ashes, Loose Leaves (10:00)
- GIDDY UPS** Teri Joyce (9:00)
- GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Dane Sterling, Jason Arnold & the Stepsiders (6:00)
- GRUENE HALL** Hayes Carll (8:00)
- GÜERO'S TACO BAR** Los Flames (6:30)
- HANOVERS** Skyrocket! (9:30)
- HARGRAVE ARCADE** East Austin Children's Promise Benefit w/ Peace Phoenix, Herman the German, the Love It Band, Two Spirit (8:00)
- HEADHUNTERS** Patio: How I Quit Crack, Rival Wife, Lipstick Homicide, Coolzey, Bassturd; Inside: Me vs. Everybody, Confused, Those Unruly, Iron Guts Kelly, Sore Losers, the O'isters **R**
- HILL'S CAFE** Billy Garza
- HOLE IN THE WALL** Martyrhead, Bexar County Bastards, Amplified Heat, (10:00) **R**
- HOUSE WINE** A.J. Vincent (8:00)
- JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE** Corrina's Dreamland Band (9:00)
- JOE'S CRAB SHACK** Burnevik Vega (7:00)
- JOVITA'S** Girl Guitar, Mike Murphy Camp Show (6:00)
- LA FERIA RESTAURANT** Open Mic w/ Bob Sarnataro (10:00)
- LA FUENTES RESTAURANT & TEXAS BEER GARDEN** Pete Benz (7:00)
- LOS REYES MEXICAN GRILL & BAR** Johnny Gonzales (6:00)
- LUCKY LOUNGE** Dark Rabbit (9:00)
- MARIA MARIA** Lucas Cook & Abel James (8:00)
- MARIA'S TACO XPRESS** Leeann Atherton (7:00)
- MOHAWK** Inside: Martin Crane, the Gary, TV Torso **R**
- MOMO'S** Harry Bodine, La Tampiquena, Spivey, Moving Matter **R**
- NEWORLEDEL** Joel McColl, Bill Browder
- NORTH BY NORTHWEST RESTAURANT & BREWERY** Rick Hornyak
- THE OASIS** Brother Magnum
- ONE 2 ONE BAR** Doc Deuce, Fremen, Michael Dillard (9:00) **R**
- THE PARISH** The Cold Snap (9:00) **R**
- PFLUGER PARK** Pride & Joy (7:00)
- THE PIER ON LAKE TRAVIS** The Incidents
- POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Clint Martin, Gary P Nunn
- RED 7** The Brigade, Landmine Marathon **R**
- RED EYED FLY** Chronolung, Another Addiction, Oklahomos, Killa Maul **R**
- RED FEZ** Get Right Kids (10:00)
- RILEY'S TAVERN** Tres Womack
- RIVERBEND CENTRE** Dave Koz, Jonathan Butler, Sheila E. (8:00) **R**
- SAM'S TOWN POINT** Classic Rock Open Jam w/ Breck English, Texas Love Band (6:00)
- SAXON PUB** Earl Poole Ball & the Cosmic Americans (6:00), Jay Boy Adams, Iron City Soul Shakers (11:00) **R**
- THE SCOOT INN** Hoodie Allen, King Louie, Richard Gear, Gobi EP Release (9:00) **R**
- SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILLE** The Max
- SHOOTERS BILLIARDS** Suede (9:00)
- SPEAKEASY** Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)
- STUBB'S** Outside: Imaad Wasif, the Dodos, the New Pornographers; Inside Later: the Eastern Sea **R**
- SULLIVAN'S STEAKHOUSE** Hank Hehmsoth, Spencer Starnes
- TEXAS BAR & GRILL** Track 5
- THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ** Quiet Company (9:00)

**THURSDAY, JULY 22 • 6:30PM**  
**AMANDA PEARCY**

**FRIDAY, JULY 23 • 10PM • \$5**  
**JON DEE GRAHAM & JESSE SUBLETT**

**SATURDAY, JULY 24 • 10PM • \$5**  
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**MONDAY, JULY 26 • 6:30PM**  
**AUSTIN CAJUN ACES**

**TUESDAY, JULY 27**  
 6PM **BRENNEN LEIGH**  
 8PM **KEVIN GALLAUGHER**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 28 • 7PM**  
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by Lisa Kettyle

FRI Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs  
Loose Leaves, The Ashes

SAT Curtis McMurtry & God's  
Chosen People  
Margot West  
Anchor in the Valley  
Nicholas Altobelli

SUN Flying Blalalaika Brothers  
Nefesh

MON Nic Walker  
Robert Steele & Friends of  
Annie St. Arts Collective

TUE Austin Weekly Presents  
Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory

WED Jenifer Jackson  
Black Jesus

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THURSDAY, JULY 22  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**Kenny Daniel**  
of Kenny & The Casuals 8PM \$10  
**GEORGE DEVORE** 10PM \$5  
**Tom Gillam** 12AM \$5  
NO COVER HAPPY HOUR **EIGHTYSIXED** 6PM  
w/ DAVID HOLT, TOMMY SHANNON, & GUESTS

FRIDAY, JULY 23  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**Iron City Soul Shakers**  
11-30PM \$10  
**Jay Boy Adams** 9PM \$10  
NO COVER HAPPY HOUR  
**EARL POOLE BALL & THE COSMIC AMERICANS** 6PM

SATURDAY, JULY 24  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**Omar and the Howlers**  
8PM \$10  
**MATT KING** 12AM \$5  
**Tracy Conover** 10:30PM \$10  
**Instigators** 3PM NO COVER

SUNDAY, JULY 25  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**THE RESENTMENTS**  
with Bruce and Scroopy 7:30PM \$7  
**Bobby Whitlock & Coco Carmel** 6PM \$10  
**Walter Tragert** 10:30PM \$5  
**MAMA SWEET** 12AM \$5  
**Bob Cheevers** 3PM NO COVER

MONDAY, JULY 26  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**LONELYLAND**  
WITH **BOB SCHNEIDER** 8:30PM \$10  
**Julianne Banks** 7PM \$10  
**Jeff Plankenhorn** 11PM \$5  
**BLACK EYED JESUS** 12:30AM \$5

TUESDAY, JULY 27  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**Bruce Hughes & the All Nude Army** 8PM \$5  
**Rocco DeLuca** 10PM \$5  
**LINCOLN DURHAM** 12AM \$5  
NO COVER HAPPY HOUR **WAYLON PAYNE** 6PM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**WALT WILKINS & THE MYSTIQUEROS** 9PM \$10  
**Dime Store Poets** 11PM \$5  
**Uncle Lucky** 12:30PM \$5  
NO COVER HAPPY HOUR **The Nortons** 6PM

COMING UP  
JULY 30 **PAULA NELSON** CD RELEASE  
AND **NELO**  
JULY 31 **MALFORD MILLIGAN**  
AND **JOSEPH KING**

**THREADGILL'S South** www.threadgills.com

FRI. 7/23  
**Quiet Company**  
**Calliope Musicals**  
9pm \$10

SAT. 7/24  
 **Cody Canada**  
OF **CROSS CANADIAN RAGWEED**  
**Seth James**  
9pm \$18 adv / \$20 d.o.s

SUN. 7/25  
**Gospel Brunch** **Bells of Joy**  
11am no cover

THUR. 7/20  
**Peter Case**  
**Right or Happy (of The Reivers)**  
8pm \$15

FRI. 7/30  
**The Mother Truckers**  
**Deadman**  
9pm \$12 adv. / \$15 d.o.s

SAT. 7/31  
**The Belleville Outfit**  
**BettySoo**  
9pm \$10 adv. / \$12 d.o.s

AUGUST 1-31 CELEBRATING THE  
**40th Anniversary of**  
**Armadillo World Headqts.**

SUN. 8/1  
**The Johnny Cash Bash**  
Jeremy Steding & The Band of Bastards,  
AVO w/ special guest Shandon Sahn,  
Earl Poole Ball & The Rockabilly Bluze, The Cash Band  
6pm \$12 adv. / \$15 d.o.s

SAT. 8/7  
**The Cobras**  
Paul Ray & Special Guest  
9pm \$15 to \$25

FRI. 8/13  
**Bob Schneider**  
9pm \$15 adv / \$20 d.o.s

SAT. 8/14  
**The White Ghost Shivers**  
with special guest Minor Mishap  
9pm \$10

SAT. 8/21  
**Joe Ely Band**  
9pm \$20 to \$50

TUE. 8/31  
**BEN KWELLER**  
8:30pm \$20  
301 W. Riverside Dr. 512.472.9304

CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

**CLUB LISTINGS FROM FRIDAY**

**TRAILER SPACE RECORDS** The French Inhales, Slang Chickens, Serious Tracers (7:00)

**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Blue Broussard, Paul Eason

**CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE** Night Viking Record Release (8:00)

**CHUCK'S DELI & COFFEE SHOP** Jay DiBiasio

**CLUB 1808** How I Quit Crack, Telepathik Friend, Hatchet Wound, Aunt Dracula

**CLUB 21** Blue Clear Sky (9:00)

**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Mike Flanigin Trio w/ Derek O'Brien & Frosty (10:00); In the Club: James Hand (3:00); Woodsboss, Miguel Garcia & the Vaquetones (10:00)

**COOL RIVER CAFE** The Sophisticates

**COTTON CLUB** The Debonaires (9:00)

**DONN'S DEPOT** Albert & Gage

**THE DRISKILL HOTEL** Patricia G. (8:00)

**EL SOL Y LA LUNA** Rudy Salsa Band (10:00)

**ELEPHANT ROOM** Alex Coke Rich Harney, Tenor Madness w/ Alex Coke Dr. John Mills (9:30)

**EMO'S** Inside Early: Deas Vail, the Rocketboys, Lydia (6:00); Inside Later: John Schooley & One-Man Band, the Crack Pipes, T-Model Ford (9:00)

**ESQUINATANGO** Leonel Soto (6:00)

**EVANGELINE CAFE** Alan Haynes (10:00)

**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Viet Ruse, Benny vs. the Beast, Los Skarnales (9:00) Wisecracker (9:00)

**CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** Willie & Wills w/ Will Taylor & Strings Attached (8:30)

**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Curtis McMurtry & God's Chosen People, Nicholas Altobelli, Anchor in the Valley, Margot West (6:00)

**GIDDY UPS** Too Good Dogs (9:00)

**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Teddy & the Tall Tops (9:00)

**GRUENE HALL** Dana Cooper (1:00); Cody Johnson, Roger Creager (9:00)

**GUERO'S TACO BAR** Mike Milligan & the Altar Boyz (6:30)

**HANOVERS** Animal Shelter Benefit w/ Robert Johnson's Soul, Vallejo (9:00)

**HEADHUNTERS** Patio: Think Lizzy, Captain Incredible|The Butts; Inside: Crash at Crush, Go Go Beware, Screaming Red, the Heroine

**HILL'S CAFE** Nick Krauss

**HOLE IN THE WALL** Opposite Day EP Release Lotus Effect, Muchos Backflips! Opposite Day (10:00)

**HOUSE WINE** Scott Andrews

**JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA** Gfire's Birthday w/ Daniel Cioper Gfire (8:00)

**JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE** Houston Jackson (9:00)

**JOVITA'S** Girl Guitar, Boom Swagglers, Possessed by Paul James (6:00)

**KENNY DORHAM'S BACKYARD** Gospel Music Fest w/ Ella Scott, A Remnant of Levites, Onesimus, Trudy Nunez, Unity Mass Choir, Melanie Watson (5:00)

**THREADGILL'S North**

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SAT. 7/24  
9pm **Kori Jean** no cover

SUN. 7/25  
11am **Precious Blood** Bluegrass Brunch no cover

WED. 7/28  
7pm **The McKay Bros. w/ special guest** Sittin' Singin' & Supper no cover

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SATURDAY, JULY 31  
CELEBRATE  
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8.12 Honky, Shed Alfred, Vagabond Swing

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FRIDAY, JULY 23, 9PM  
**KNUCKLE RUMBLER PRESENTS A SPACE ODYSSEY W/ GOBI (EP RELEASE!)**  
**TRIPLE-HEADED DJ SET FEAT. RICHARD GEAR KING LOUIE & HOODIE ALLEN ZORCH**

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 9PM  
**STRANGETRIBE & SOUL OF THE BOOT PRESENT NIGHT FEVER! VOL. 3 R&B FEAT. J BOOGIE (SAN FRANCISCO)**  
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SUNDAY, JULY 25, 5PM  
TUESDAY, JULY 27, 6PM  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 6PM  
**BREWSKEEBALL LEAGUE PLAY**

THURSDAY, JULY 29, 9PM  
**BLOODY WORK SERIOUS TRACERS LIGHT ME UP (EX KNIFE IN THE WATER)**

FRIDAY, JULY 30, 9PM  
**RAW WORD • KNUCKLE RUMBLER • GLITORIS PRESENT NO LIMIT! BIG FREEDIA & DJ RUSTY LAZER ORION CAUZE ONE**

SATURDAY, JULY 31, 9PM  
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**THURSDAY, JULY 22**

OUTSIDE, DOORS@3PM:  
**SUMMER SLAUGHTER TOUR DECAPITATED • THE FACELESS ALL SHALL PERISH • THE RED CHORD VEIL OF MAYA • CEPHALIC CARNAGE DECREPIT BIRTH • CARNIFEX ANIMALS AS LEADERS • VITAL REMAINS**

INSIDE, DOORS@3PM:  
**SUMMER SLAUGHTER TOUR INDISGUST • FALSETTA DISFIGURED • KILLING IN APATHY • NECROWOLF**

**FRIDAY, JULY 23**

INSIDE, DOORS@9PM: **THE HAPPEN-INS PARSON RED HEADS (LOS ANGELES) HOLY ROLLING EMPIRE (TUCSON)**

INSIDE, MATINEE DOORS @5PM:  
**A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME (JOSH SCOGIN SOLO OF THE CHARIOT, NORMA JEAN) NICK STILES • RYAN HEGEFELD (NO SUCH THING) COLBY JAMES (OF BROTHER/GHOST)**

**SATURDAY, JULY 24**

INSIDE, DOORS@9PM:  
**T-MODEL FORD • THE CRACK PIPES JOHN SCHOOLEY AND HIS ONE MAN BAND**

INSIDE, DOORS@6PM: **THE LYDIA FINALE: A GOODBYE & FAREWELL TOUR LYDIA**

**THE ROCKETBOYS • DEAS VAIL**

**MONDAY, JULY 26**

INSIDE: **MAPS & ATLASES • CULTS THE GLOBES**

**TUESDAY, JULY 27**

OUTSIDE, DOORS@4:30PM:  
**SCREAM IT LIKE YOU MEAN IT TOUR SILVERSTEIN • EMERY I SET MY FRIENDS ON FIRE DANCE GAVIN DANCE • WE CAME AS ROMANS SKY EATS AIRPLANE • IVORYLINE • CLOSE TO HOME**

COMING SOON: • 8/9 NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENTS: BLACK COBRA, HOWL, EAGLE CLAW, THE ROLLER (IN)

- 8/10 VEARA, I AM ABOMINATION, THE STAMPEDE, GO ACTION TEAM (IN) • 8/11 NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENTS: ENTHRONED, DESTROYER 666, PATHOLOGY, HOD, DISFIGURED (IN) • 8/12 JUNGLE ROT, LIGHTNING SWORDS OF DEATH, WOE OF TYRANTS, SAKREFIX, PROLICIDE (IN)
- 8/13 CORROSION OF CONFORMITY (ORIGINAL 3-PIECE ANIMOSITY/ TECHNOCRACY LINE-UP)/ RIGHTEOUS FOOL, IRON AGE (OUT)
- 8/15 GRAM RABBIT (IN) • 8/20 SCOTT H. BIRAM, BLACK EYED VERMILLION, DAD JIM (IN, LATE) / NATIVE, FORMER THIEVES, BROTHER/GHOST, HONEY & SALT (IN, EARLY) • 8/20 NATIVE, FORMER THIEVES, BROTHER, GHOST, HONEY & SALT (IN, EARLY) • 8/21 RIVER CITY EXTENSION (IN)
- 8/23 TWIN SISTER, MEMORYHOUSE, SLEEPOVER (IN) • 8/24 THE DELTA MIRROR, ONE HUNDRED FLOWERS, CANDI AND THE STRANGERS (IN) • 8/26 FU MANCHU, BLACK TUSK, IT'S CASUAL (IN) • 8/27 HOT HOT HEAT W/ HEY ROSETTA! (IN) • 9/1 TITUS ANDRONICUS (OUT)
- 9/2 THE ENGLISH BEAT, BAD MANNERS (OUT) • 9/7 BLEEDING THROUGH, AFTER THE BURIAL, FOR TODAY, THE WORD ALIVE, STRAY FROM THE PATH, FALSETTA (OUT) • 9/25 COTTON JONES (IN) • 9/29 JENNY AND JOHNNY (OUT, ONSALE FRI 7/23) • 10/2 DIRT NASTY WITH ANDREW LEGACY (IN)

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\*ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: **emosAustin.com, Waterloo Records, Trailer Space, and End of an Ear Records**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 28**

INSIDE, DOORS@7PM: **CEREMONY PUNCH • TIGERS JAW THE SIDEKICKS • MINDLESS**

**THURSDAY, JULY 29**

INSIDE: 101X & NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENT  
**ZORCH • NECKLACE OF HEADS**

**FRIDAY, JULY 30**

INSIDE: **BRAD'S BENEFIT SHOW HOD • THE ROLLER ME VS. EVERYBODY DIRTY CHARLEY BAND**

**SATURDAY, JULY 31**

INSIDE: **YELLOWFEVER SILENT DIANE • MY GOLDEN CALF (EX-RHYTHM OF BLACK LINES) GENTLEMEN ROGUES (EX-FALL COLLECTION)**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 1**

INSIDE: **ROBERT FRANCIS • TBA**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 3**

INSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM:  
101X & NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENT  
**THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA MISS MAY I • YOUR DEMISE**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4**

OUTSIDE: 101X PRESENTS  
**HERE WE GO MAGIC BEACH FOSSILS • OH NO OH MY**

INSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM:  
101X & NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENT  
**THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA MISS MAY I • YOUR DEMISE**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 5**

OUTSIDE: 101X & NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENT  
**SOILWORK • DEATH ANGEL AUGURY • MUTINY WITHIN • SWASHBUCKLE**

INSIDE, DOORS @ 6PM: **STEREO SKYLINE THE AUDITION • CASH CASH • CADY GROVES THE DOWNTOWN FICTION**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 6**

INSIDE: **UME • O'BROTHER THE SOUR NOTES**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 7**

INSIDE: **TY SEGALL • THE BATHS THE HEX DISPENSERS • A GIANT DOG**

The Old **COUPLAND** Inn & Dancehall  
512.856.2226

Friday, July 23rd  
**JEFF ALLEN**

Saturday, July 24th  
**RICKY CALMBACH**

Friday, July 30th  
**CURTIS GRIMES**

Saturday, July 31st  
**HONEYBROWNE**

Friday, August 6th  
**PAULINE REESE**

Saturday, August 7th  
**JODY NIX**

**NEW AIR CONDITIONERS!**

Thursdays in the Restaurant  
\$5.99 Petite Sirloin Dinner  
\$14.99 All You Can Eat Sirloin  
Thursdays in the Dancehall  
NO COVER--\$1.00 PITCHERS \$1.00 WELL DRINKS

Purchase Advance Tickets Online At:  
[www.couplanddancehall.com](http://www.couplanddancehall.com)  
Also Available At:  
Allen's Boots - Round Rock  
Cavender's Boot City  
North and South Locations

# The HighBall

WEEKLY DRINK SPECIALS

SIGNATURE SUNDAYS:  
\$2 off signature drinks

MAD MEN MONDAYS:  
all classic drinks on special for \$5

TEQUILA TUESDAYS:  
a selection of top shelf margaritas for \$5

HUMPDAY SPECIAL:  
all day happy hour  
(excludes free karaoke)

TEXAS THURSDAY:  
all local pints \$2.50

HIGHBALL BRUNCH  
Now serving brunch every Saturday from 10a - 3p, featuring \$1 mimosas!

BOOMBOX ATX  
Hip hop and funk straight outta the ATX, every Tuesday at 10p!

ACTION PACK'S FLASHLIGHT PARTY  
Featuring DJ Mel busting out the tunes, free flashlights, and lots of fog!  
- Saturday, 7/24, no cover!

more events and info online at  
[www.TheHighball.com](http://www.TheHighball.com)  
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# Patsys

Live Music! Cold Drinks! Hot Food! Good Times!

## CAFE

all ages welcome!

**Music Line-up**  
MONDAYS now serving \$2 DRAFTS ALL NIGHT

Thur 7/22 Slim Bawb Pearce  
Fri 7/23 Twilight Hotel  
Sat 7/24 Bryan Byrne & Borrowed Time  
Tues 7/27 Sand & Sunnie  
Wed 7/28 Gin Joint  
Thur 7/29 Mark Alan

5001 E. Ben White | 512-444-2020

VOTED BEST NEW CLUB FOR 2009 AUSTIN MUSIC AWARDS!

# THE GHOST ROOM

Thursday July 22nd 9pm

New Roman Times  
Oh No Oh My  
End Wave

Friday July 23rd 9pm

## Mobley

# The Baker Family

## We Landed On The Moon

Saturday July 24th 9pm

Weight  
Dread Foxx | Bukkha | Innerlign  
Grommit | I/O | Sloppy Jackson

Upcoming shows

7/30 - Candi and The Strangers  
7/31 - Hard Proof Afrobeat | Focus Group  
8/12 - Will Johnson

Sundays

music trivia 4pm  
every other sunday  
Vintage 15 6pm

HAPPY HOUR WED-FRI 4-7PM  
\$2 LONESTARS, \$3 WELL DRINKS

OPEN W-SAT 4 P.M.-2 A.M. SUN 2 P.M.-10 P.M.  
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Austin's far-out music hall in San Marcos  
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TH 7/22	<b>HOUSTON MARCHMAN &amp; KENT FINLAY - SONGSWAP</b>
FR 7/23	<b>WHISKEY MYERS</b>
SA 7/24	<b>PAUL EASON BAND</b>
MO 7/26	<b>RANDY ROGERS &amp; WADE BOWEN</b>
TU 7/27	<b>MIDNIGHT RIVER CHOIR</b>
WE 7/28	<b>KENT FINLAY'S SONGWRITERS CIRCLE</b>

COMING SOON  
JULY 30 HOGG MAULIES  
JULY 31 BEN DANAHER  
TICKETS ON SALE AT CHEATHAMSTREET.COM



# Lion & Rose

## BRITISH RESTAURANT & PUB

701 S. Capitol of Texas Hwy. (Inside the Village at Westlake)  
512-335-5466

**OPEN LATE NIGHT**

Half Price Appetizers 4pm-6pm

Daily Drink Specials

- Monday - Trivia
- Tuesday - Karaoke
- Thursday - Open Mic
- Friday - Live Music
- Saturday - Pint Night
- Sunday - Karaoke

www.thelionandrose.com/events

## CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

### CLUB LISTINGS FROM SATURDAY

- LA FUENTES RESTAURANT & TEXAS BEER GARDEN** Slim Bawb & Gator Bait, Bill Johns (7:00)
- LOS REYES MEXICAN GRILL & BAR** Johnny Gonzales (6:00)
- LUCKY LOUNGE** Descendants of Erdrick, Sheer Khan & the Space Case, DJ Spzda (9:00)
- MEAN-EYED CAT** Two Hoots & a Holler (8:00)
- MOHAWK** Dead Black Hearts, One Hundred Flowers, Red Falcon, the Elevated Lines, Melogrand, the Midgetmen, Stereo Is a Lie (7:00)
- MOMO'S** Amanda Pearce, A Formal Affair, Denitia Odigie CD Release, Kalu James, Derrick Davis, Ryan Harkrider (6:30)
- ND AT 501 STUDIOS** DJ Gmau, Freshmillions, Auto Body (9:00)
- NEWORLDDELI** Mark Viator & Susan Maxey
- NORTH BY NORTHWEST RESTAURANT & BREWERY** Stephen Doster & Bill Carter
- THE OASIS** Two Tons of Steel
- ONE 2 ONE BAR** Afrofreque, the Hi-Def's (9:00)
- THE PARISH** (The Ghost of) Mice & Rifles, Samantha Crain, the Georgian Company, Royal Forest
- THE PIER ON LAKE TRAVIS** Drew Womack
- POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Jon Napier
- RED 7** Searcher, the Pulse Electric, For Hours & Ours, American Fangs, Like Dogs, My Heart to Joy, Hobomouth, Bridge Farmers, Parking (7:00)
- RED EYED FLY** Sever the Cords, Plague of '98, Kaos Calling, Lug, Manifesto
- RED FEZ** DJ Digg (10:00)
- RENAISSANCE HOTEL** Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)
- ROADHOUSE RAGS** Sumner Erickson & the Texcentrics, Big Chris Gates & Gatesville, Noble Dog (8:00)
- SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR** In the Pocket (7:00)
- SAXON PUB** Omar & the Howlers, Clay McClinton, Slow Down Lady (8:00)
- THE SCOOT INN** Night Fever w/ DJ Coolhands, DJ Sun, J Boogie (9:00)
- SENGELMANN HALL** Aaron Navarro (5:00)
- SFC FARMERS' MARKET AT SUNSET VALLEY** Sara Shansky (10:00am)
- SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILLE** The Max
- SPACE 12** Amanda Monaco (7:30)
- SPEAKEASY** The Space Rockers (9:30)
- STUBB'S** Young & Divine, Venitia Fair, Lovehatehero
- SULLIVAN'S STEAKHOUSE** Hank Hehmsoth, Spencer Starnes
- THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ** Seth James, Cody Canada (9:00)
- TRAILER SPACE RECORDS** Shunsuke Suzuki, Lead Sister II, Book of Shadows, Venison Whirled, Vulture (7:00)
- TRIPLE CROWN** The Beaumonts, Turbo 350 (10:00)

## SUN 25

- ANTONE'S** Girl Guitar (8:00)
- ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Eddie Collins (6:30)
- BB ROVERS** Open Mic (7:00)
- B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Irish Tunes Session (9:00)
- BEERLAND** These Are Words, the Lilies, the Baker Family, Manatee Tights (9:00)
- BLU** Open Mic w/ Phil Rea (6:00)
- BOTTICELLI'S** Adam Carney (6:00)
- 'BOUT TIME A.J.** Kline (8:00)
- CENTRAL MARKET NORTH** Rumbullion (6:30)
- CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** Kris Kimura (12:30)
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Jon Dee Graham & James McMurtry, Mike Flanigin Trio w/ Derek O'Brien & Kyle Thompson (8:30); In the Club: Junior Brown & Tanya Rae (7:00); Heybale! (10:00)
- COTTON CLUB** Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00)
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)
- EL SOL Y LA LUNA** Soniquete (11:00am)
- ELEPHANT ROOM** Glenn Rexach (9:30)
- ELYSIUM** Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice
- FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Nefesh, Flying Balalaika Brothers (8:00)
- FRIENDS** Open Mic Blues Jam (5:00)
- GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Dale Watson (4:00)
- GREEN PASTURES RESTAURANT** Jacques Vilmain (11:00am)
- GRUENE HALL** The Fireants (12:30), Bugs Henderson (5:00)
- GUERO'S TACO BAR** Mark Alan (3:00)
- HEADHUNTERS** Dave Insley, Kraneos, Miguel Garcia & the Vaquetones
- THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Amy Zamarripa, Jim Spector & Jim Betz (7:00)
- HILL'S CAFE** Brunch w/ Jon Emery
- HOLE IN THE WALL** Colin Swietek, Girling, Long Woodson (10:00)
- HOUSE WINE** Doug Anthony (6:00)
- HYDE PARK BAR & GRILL** The Swingsters (7:30)
- JOVITA'S** The Little Morts (6:00)
- LUCKY LOUNGE** Natalie Zoe Project w/ Candi Sanders (10:00)
- MEAN-EYED CAT** Bear & the Essentials (8:00)
- MOHAWK** Slang Chickens, Rayon Beach, Predator, the Coathangers (9:30)
- MOMO'S** Malcolm Holcomb, La Tampiquena, Greg Schroeder
- ND AT 501 STUDIOS** Live Aid Remade w/ Paul Green School of Rock Music (7:00)
- NUOVO LEÓN** Mariachi Relampago (1:00)
- NUTTY BROWN CAFE** Java Jazz (11:00am)
- THE OASIS** Salsa Lessons w/ Dance U2, the Brew (7:00)
- THE PIER ON LAKE TRAVIS** Funky Apples
- RED EYED FLY** R. Father & the Dashing Bastards, Monkey Soop, Landing Station, the Love Letter
- RED FEZ** DJ Krupt, DJ Cauze-One (10:00)
- RILEY'S TAVERN** Ruby Dee & the Snakehandlers, Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen
- RIO RITA** Ready Steady Go
- ROADHOUSE RAGS** Miguel Garcia & the Vaquetones, Stonehoney (7:00)
- SAXON PUB** Bobby Whitlock & CoCo Carmel, the Resentments, Walter Tragert, the Highway
- SPEAKEASY** Adam Rogers (9:30)
- STOMPIN' GROUNDS COFFEE & COCKTAIL LOUNGE** Outlaw Sunday Open Mic
- STUBB'S** The Shields of Faith (11:00am), He Is We, Andrew Belle (10:00)
- T.C.'S LOUNGE** Jeff Lofton's Sunday-Go-to-Meetin' Jazz (3:00)
- TRIPLE CROWN** Open Mic w/ Grant Ewing, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds
- WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Jeff Lofton Quartet (11:00am)
- WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Open Mic w/ Julie Nolen (10:00)
- Z'TEJAS** Trés (6:00)

## MON 26

- ANTONE'S** Austin Blues Society Open Jam (7:00)
- ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30)
- BAR 141** Robbie's Open Mic (9:00)
- B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Open Mic (7:00)
- BOTTICELLI'S** Jamie Thomas (7:30)
- 'BOUT TIME A.J.** Kline (9:00)
- CACTUS CAFE** David Garza (8:30)

**THUR 7/22** C3 Presents: **PHOSPHORESCENT** w/ Shiny Around the Edges doors: 9pm / show: 10pm

**SAT 7/24** C3 Presents: **AUTOBODY** w/ Freshmillions and DJ gmau doors: 9pm / show: 10pm

Upcoming Events at **ND AT 501 STUDIOS** (Corner of E. 5th and Brushy)

- 7.25 School of Rock
- 7.27 Jigglewatts
- 7.28 Austin Slam Sendoff party
- 7.29 Excited States / My Golden Calf
- 7.31 Eastside Hookup Party

www.ndvenue.com

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**LIVE MUSIC**

**NO COVER! THURSDAY, JULY 22**  
 **MATT** 6-7PM  
**COLIN ROSE** 7-8PM  
**COUNTRY WILLIE** 8-9PM  
**SHAKY GRAVES** 9-10PM  
**JACK BREWER** 10-11PM

**NO COVER! FRIDAY, JULY 23**  
**GIRL GUITAR** 6-8:30PM  
**MIKE MURPHY**  
**CAMP SHOW** 9-11PM

**NO COVER! SATURDAY, JULY 24**  
 **GIRL GUITAR** 6-7PM  
**THE BOOMSWAGGLERS** 7:30-9PM  
**POSSESSED BY PAUL JAMES** 9:30-11PM

**NO COVER! SUNDAY, JULY 25**  
**LITTLE MORT & FRIENDS** 6-9PM

**MONDAY, JULY 26 - CLOSED**

**NO COVER! TUESDAY, JULY 27**  
**NICK HIRSCH** 6:30-7:30PM  
**THE MERLES** 8-10PM

**NO COVER! WEDNESDAY, JULY 28**  
 **CORNELL HURD BAND** 8-10PM

**HAPPY HOUR**  
TUE-FRI 4-7PM / ALL DAY SUN 4pm-CLOSE  
\$2.50 all beers / \$2 well drinks  
\$3 house margs / 1/2 price apps  
**SIN TUESDAYS** 4pm-CLOSE  
\$1 Select Beers \$2 Wells  
Food Specials All Night!

**HOLE IN THE WALL**  
EST. 1974  
**AUSTIN TEXAS**

**THURSDAY, JULY 22 ★ 10 PM ★**  
**PRAYER FOR ANIMALS**  
**FRONTIER BROTHERS**  
**PAPER SHAPES**

**FRIDAY, JULY 23 ★ 10 PM ★ \$5**  
**AMPLIFIED HEAT**  
**BEXAR COUNTY BASTARDS**  
**MARTYRHEAD (MOTORHEAD TRIBUTE)**

**SATURDAY, JULY 24 ★ 10PM ★ \$5**  
**OPPOSITE DAY (CD RELEASE)**  
**MUCHOS BACKFLIPS**  
**LOTUS EFFECT**

**SUNDAY, JULY 25 ★ 10 PM ★**  
**GIRLING**  
**COLIN SWIETEK**  
**SPECIAL GUESTS**

**MONDAY, JULY 26 ★ 10 PM ★ \$3**  
**LEO RONDEAU**  
**MIGUEL GARCIA AND THE VAQUETONES**

**TUESDAY, JULY 27 ★ 10PM ★**  
**MIKE AND THE MOONPIES**  
**THE BREAD**  
**PEACE OF MIND ORCHESTRA**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 28 ★ 9 PM ★**  
**SPARTA PHILHARMONIC**  
**MILK THISTLE**  
**THE SOUR NOTES**  
**WHITE DRESS**

**COMING SOON:** 7/29 SEX DRAGON, EL CENTO, EAGLE EYE WILLIAMSON, 7/30 MOSTLY DEAD, HOUSEHOLD NAMES, CHURCHWOOD, 7/31 JUNGLE ROCKERS, SALESMAN, FLATCAR RATTLES AND A FREE KNIFE SHARPENING HAPPY HOUR!!! 8/1 ROCK AND ROLL FREE FOR ALL 8/5 RICKY STEIN AND THE 44, 8/12, 8/13, 8/14 NORTH VS. SOUTH, 8/21 LUCY THE POODLE BACK TO

**the PARISH™**

**Saturday, July 24**  
**ROYAL FOREST**  
W/ THE GEORGIAN COMPANY, SAMANTHA CRAIN, MICE AND RIFLES

**Tuesday, July 27**  
**BASS SCIENCE**  
W/ TRULY GRIMY, FRESH2DEATH, NUGGATRON AND PHARO

**Wednesday, July 28**  
**THE POISON CONTROL CENTER**  
W/ LEATHERBAG, MINORCAN, FOLLOW THAT BIRD!

**Friday, July 30**  
**THE SOLDIER THREAD**  
**CD RELEASE**  
W/ QUIET COMPANY, WIRETREE

**Saturday, July 31**  
**BOWLING FOR SOUP**  
W/ THE DOLLYROTS, HOLY MOLY

**Friday, August 6**  
 **RASPUTINA**  
W/ LARKIN GRIMM

**ON SALE NOW:**

**Friday, August 20**  
**THE WOODEN BIRDS**  
W/ DAN MANGAN

**Saturday, September 18**  
**SLEEPY SUN**  
W/ TRUE WIDOW

**Friday, September 24**  
**STEPHEN KELLOGG AND THE SIXERS**

214 East 6th St.  
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**Transmission Entertainment**

**Mohawk**  
AUSTIN, TEXAS  
912 red river all are welcome.

Th 7/22 - Drink Up Buttercup, Stella Rose, Hanna Barbarians - 10pm // HEADROOM w/ Dubbel Dutch & Orión - 10pm (greenroom deck)  
F 7/23 - Cut Chemist w/ Brede - 9pm (out) POSTPONED // TV Torso, The Gary, Martin Crane (of Brazos) - 10pm (in)  
Sa 7/24 - Fête d'Lorenza: A Birthday bash honoring Laurie Gallardo w/ STEREO IS A LIE, The Midgetmen, Melogrand, Elevated Lines & more! - 7pm  
Su 7/25 - The Coathangers, Predator, Rayon Beach, Slang Chickens - 10pm  
M 7/26 - Peace of Mind Orchestra, tba - 10pm  
Tu 7/27 - Mike and the Moonpies - 10pm  
W 7/28 - Boris, Russian Circles, SAADE - 8pm (out) // Bridge Farmers, Watching the Moon, Smoke and Feathers - 11pm (in)  
Th 7/29 - FREE! - Hunx and His Punx & Kid Congo Powers and the Pink Monkeybirds - 10pm // HEAD ROOM w/ Dubbel Dutch & Orión - 10pm (greenroom deck)  
F 7/30 - Sock Hop vs Soul Happening - 9pm  
Sa 7/31 - Maneja Beto w/ DJ Chorizo Funk - 9pm

www.mohawkaustrin.com

**RED7**  
611 east 7th venue & wreck room

Th 7/22 - Tassels, Sally Crewe and the Sudden Moves, Ledeswan, The Night, Posh Society - 10pm  
F 7/23 - Landmine Marathon, The Brigade, tba - 10pm  
Sa 7/24 - Giant Steps Productions 5th Anniversary w/ Parking, Bridge Farmers, Hobornmouth, Like Dogs, American Fangs and more - 8pm  
M 7/26 - Say Hello to Angels, The Riot Scene, A Shattered Hope, Monsters Scare You, No Champions - 9pm  
Tu 7/27 - FREE in the Lounge: Pink Sugar, A Sky Jet Black, Stasis - 9pm  
W 7/28 - Rosetta, City of Ships, DSGNS, Golden Ends - 9pm // Boris After Party w/ Special Guest DJs: Russian Circles - 12am  
Th 7/29 - Flosstradamus w/ DJ Mel - 10pm  
F 7/30 - Within Chaos, Course of Ruin, By Any Means Necessary, Sinister - 10pm  
Sa 7/31 - Abstract Rude, Musab - 10pm

www.red7austin.com

for info on upcoming tours, check out www.transmissionentertainment.com

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NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE

THE HAPPIEST OF HAPPY HOURS  
3-7 WEEKDAYS

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**Fri 7/23**  
On The Patio 5:30-7:30  
**TOO BAD DOG**  
Inside 9-11:30  
**CORRINA'S DREAMLAND**

**Sat 7/24**  
Inside 9-11:30  
**HOUSTON JACKSON**

**Wed 7/27**  
On The Patio 5:30-7:30  
**JIMI LEE & ACOUSTICATS**  
8-10  
**GEEK TRIVIA**

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PHOTO BY ML DAPRA

THU, JULY 22	6-8PM	TONY HARRISON
	8-9PM	DANCE LESSONS
	9:20PM	JESSE DAYTON
FRI, JULY 23	8-9PM	DANCE LESSONS
	9:20PM	BILLY MATA
SAT, JULY 24	8-9PM	DANCE LESSONS
	9:30PM	DALE WATSON
TUE, JULY 27	DEBRA PETERS AND THE ACCORDION ROUNDUP (NO COVER)	
WED, JULY 28	6-8PM	BLAZING BOWS RECITAL
	8-9PM	DANCE LESSONS
	9:20PM	DALE WATSON

# Don Juan's

formerly la feria Bee Cave, TX

**friday is Open Mic nite 'til 1:30am**  
*get heard & get a gig !!!*

## LIVE MUSIC SCHEDULE JULY 21-25th

**inside stage:**

**WED: 7-9:30 MIKE JASPER**

**THURS: 7-9 MARIACHIS ROMANCE!!!**

**FRI: 7-9:30 IAN WOLF**

**SUN: 10 AM-2 PM BRUNCH  
12-2 PM GOSPEL MUSIC**

**outside stage:**

**FRI: 9 PM - 12 VINCE MORENO**

**512-263-8888**  
**3595 RR 620 South Bee cave, TX 78738**

**\$2 HAPPY HOUR**  
Wells, Ritas, Tallboys, Frozen Jack

**WEEK'S MUSIC LINE-UP**

- Thu, 7/22 @ 6pm Michael Shane Borden
- Fri, 7/23 @ 6pm Pee Wee Moore
- Sat, 7/24 @ 6pm Moonhowlers
- Sun, 7/25 @ 5pm Tom Gillam

1703 South First 445-9197

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### CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

**CLUB LISTINGS FROM MONDAY**

- CEDAR STREET** Jordan Tanner (6:00), Open Mic w/ Jordan Tanner (9:30)
- CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Randy Rogers, Wade Bowen (6:30)
- CHEZ ZEE** Rich Demarco (6:30)
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Dan Dyer (10:00); In the Club: Continental Graffiti (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)
- DONN'S DEPOT** Chris Gage
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)
- ELEPHANT ROOM** Milkdrive, Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (6:00)
- EMO'S** The Globes, Cults, Maps & Atlases (6:30)
- EVANGELINE CAFE** Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces (6:30)
- FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** La La Quarry, Robert Steel, Graham Weber & Randy Horvath (6:00)
- GRUENE HALL** McKay Bros. (7:00)
- HALCYON** Roberto Riggio (10:00)
- HOLE IN THE WALL** Miguel Garcia & the Vaqueteros, Leo Rondeau (10:00)
- HOUSE WINE** Singer-Songwriter Open Mic w/ Scott Andrews (8:00)
- LA PALAPA** Baby Dallas
- LUCKY LOUNGE** Francis (10:00), Cadence Showcase (10:00)
- MEAN-EYED CAT** Mudslyde (7:30)
- MOHAWK** Peace of Mind Orchestra (10:00)
- MOMO'S** Jenny Reynolds, Brandon Jenkins, Sam Hill w/ Dustin Welch, Craig Marshall
- MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS** John Wilson (8:00)
- MUGSHOTS** Open Mic w/ Chuck Miller (8:00)
- QUALITY SEAFOOD MARKET** Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (6:30)
- RED 7** No Champions, Monsters Scare You, Shattered Hope, the Riot Scene, Say Hello to the Angels
- RED EYED FLY** Sara Joyner, Fiesta Con Lobos, A/B, Wildshire
- RED FEZ** DJ Cauze-One & DJ Taco (10:00)
- RUTA MAYA** Flying Balalaika Brothers, Red Army Surrender Jam (9:00)
- SAXON PUB** Lonelyland, Matt the Electrician, Jeff Plankenhorn, Black-Eyed Jesus
- SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILLE** Brent Michael Wood (9:45)
- STUBB'S** Robert Plant & the Band of Joy
- SULLIVAN'S STEAKHOUSE** Paul Matthews Trio
- TRIPLE CROWN** Beth Lee (6:00), Monday Mashup (9:00)
- VICTORY GRILL** Open Pro Blues Jam w/ Matthew Robinson, Harold McMillan (9:00)
- VINO VINO** Blue Monday w/ Mike Flanigin, Gary Clark Jr. (9:00)
- WATERLOO RECORDS** Maps & Atlases (5:00)
- ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE** Troubadillos (6:00)
- ANTONE'S** Angela Strehli, Larry Fulcher, Denny Freeman, Derek O'Brien, Bob Stroger, Willie "Big Eye" Smith, Pinetop Perkins, Hubert Sumlin (8:00)
- ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30)
- BASTROP SENIOR CENTER** The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)
- B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Suzanne Smith (7:00)
- BOTTICELLI'S** George Macias (7:30)
- 'BOUT TIME** A.J. Kline (9:00)
- BROKEN SPOKE** Debra Peters' Accordion Roundup
- CACTUS CAFE** Rose Golan, William Fitzsimmons (8:30)
- CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Lili & Walter (7:00), Lili & Walter (7:00)
- CEDAR STREET** Mark Gibson, the Standouts (6:00)
- CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Midnight River Choir (9:00)
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Tony O'Neill, Jesse Sublett, Harry Hunsicker; Ephraim Owens Experience (7:00); In the Club: Toni Price (6:30); All-Girl Boys Choir, the BlueBonnets, Adrian & the Sickness (10:00)
- DONN'S DEPOT** Donn & the Station Masters
- THE DRISKILL HOTEL** Driskill Bar: Jamie Thomas (7:00)
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
- ELEPHANT ROOM** Stanley Smith w/ Jon Doyle (6:00), Brannen Temple Underground (9:30)
- ELYSIUM** Nineties Night w/ DJ Boba Fett, DJ Minimus
- EMO'S** Close to Home, Ivoryline, Sky Eats Airplane, We Came as Romans, Dance Gavin Dance, I Set My Friends On Fire, Emery, Silverstein
- EVANGELINE CAFE** Brennen Leigh (6:00), Kevin Gallaugh (8:00)
- FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (9:00)
- GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** James Hand, the Conclusion Jumpers (9:00)
- GRUENE HALL** Two Tons of Steel (7:00)
- HILL'S CAFE** Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Jon Burklund
- HOLE IN THE WALL** Peace of Mind Orchestra, the Bread (10:00)
- HYDE PARK BAR & GRILL** Jimi Lee, Donny Silverman (7:30)
- JOVITA'S** Nick Hirsch, the Merles (6:30)
- LA PALAPA** Baby Dallas
- LUCKY LOUNGE** Boombbox Tuesday w/ In the Pink (10:00)
- MEAN-EYED CAT** The Texas Sapphires (8:00)
- MI CASA TAMALES & CANTINA** Jeremy Steding & His Band of Bastards (10:00)
- MOHAWK** Mike & the Moonpies (10:00)
- MOMO'S** Amie Maciszewski's Sangeet Millenium Ensemble, Cerronato
- ONE 2 ONE BAR** The Dank Trio (8:00)
- THE PARISH** Pharo, Nuggatron, Fresh2Death, Truly Grimy, Bass Science
- PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE** Sand & Sunnie (7:30)
- POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Paul Minor, Brooks Alan Brannon
- RED 7** Stasis, A Sky Jet Black, Pink Sugar
- RED FEZ** DJ Manny (9:00)
- RILEY'S TAVERN** Amanda Percy
- RUTA MAYA** Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00)
- SAM'S TOWN POINT** Open Mic w/ Michael Welch (8:30)
- SAXON PUB** Waylon Payne (5:00), Bruce Hughes & the All-Nude Army, Rocco DeLuca (8:00)
- SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILLE** Five Ways From Sunday (9:45)
- SHOOTERS BILLIARDS** Ember (9:00)
- SULLIVAN'S STEAKHOUSE** Paul Matthews Trio
- TRAILER SPACE RECORDS** Destroyed for Comfort, Sam & Steve, m30w, Black Vomit (7:00)
- TRIPLE CROWN** Ben Schane (6:00); Grant Ewing Band (10:00)
- TROPHY'S** Armadillo Road, Singer-Songwriter Night (7:00)
- VINO VINO** Son y No Son (9:00)
- WATERLOO RECORDS** Ivoryline (2:30)

## TUE 27

## WED 28

<p><b>Poodie's Hilltop ROADHOUSE</b></p> <p>EVERYDAY DAY SUMMER SPECIALS* DOMESTIC BEER \$2.50</p> <p>\$5 BURGERS</p> <p>PREMIUM BEERS \$3</p> <p>PITCHERS \$6</p> <p>\$3 RITAS ALL DAY SAT. &amp; SUN</p> <p>*EXCEPT ROAD SHOWS</p>	<p>THURSDAY, JULY 22 <b>AARON EINHOUSE BAND</b></p> <p>FRIDAY, JULY 23 <b>GARY P NUNN</b> CLINT MARTIN OPENER</p> <p>SATURDAY, JULY 24 <b>JOHN NAPIER BAND</b></p> <p>TUESDAY, JULY 25 SONGWRITERS &amp; STORYTELLERS W/ <b>BROOKS &amp; PAUL MINOR</b></p>	<p>WEDNESDAY, JULY 26 OPEN MIC W/ <b>MARK ALLAN ATTWOOD</b></p> <p>THURSDAY, JULY 27 <b>MOVIN TARGET</b></p> <p>FRIDAY, JULY 28 <b>LA TAMPIQUENA</b></p> <p>SATURDAY, JULY 29 <b>AMBER LUCILLE</b></p>
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**FOWLER**  
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Plus  
**AARON WATSON**  
**KYLE PARK**  
**CURTIS GRIMES**



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**SUNDAY BRUNCH**  
LIVE MUSIC JAVA JAZZ BAND  
Brunch Buffet & \$2.50 Bloody Marys & Mimosas

**TUESDAY KIDS NIGHT**  
FREE MUSIC by THE HEY LOLLIES  
Moonwalk • Balloon Art • 99¢ Kids Meals

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July 30 . . . ROTEL & THE HOT TOMATOES

SAT, JULY 31  
**RANDY ROGERS**  
Band



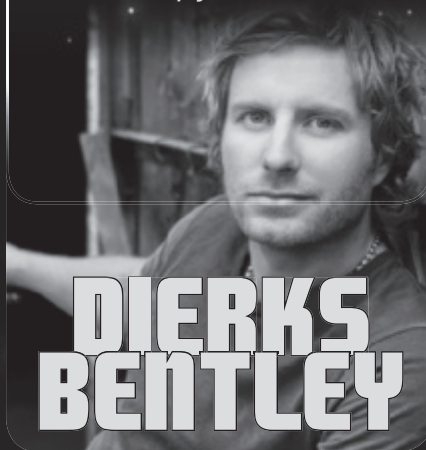
SPECIAL GUEST: BRUCE ROBISON

August 6 . . . . . ALPHA REV

August 7 . . . . . CARPORT CASANOVAS

August 14 . . . . . THE GOURDS

SAT, JULY 31



**DIERKS BENTLEY**

# LIVE MUSIC @ Central Market

FRIDAY,  
SATURDAY &  
SUNDAY  
6:30 - 9 PM

@ CENTRAL PARK  
40th and North Lamar  
call 512.206.1000 for details

@ WESTGATE  
4477 South Lamar  
call 512.899.4300 for details

WEDNESDAY-  
SATURDAY  
6:30 - 9 PM  
SUNDAY  
12:30 - 3 PM

THURSDAY, JULY 22  
starts at sundown\*  
101X SUMMER MOVIE IN THE PARK SERIES  
**BEETLEJUICE**

FRIDAY, JULY 23  
**AUSTIN PIAZZOLLA QUINTET**

SATURDAY, JULY 24  
**SUZANNA CHOFFEL**

SUNDAY, JULY 25  
**RUMBULLION**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28  
starts at sundown\*  
101X SUMMER MOVIE IN THE PARK SERIES  
**GHOSTBUSTERS**

FRIDAY, JULY 30  
**TINY TIN HEARTS**

SATURDAY, JULY 31  
**CHARLES THIBODEAUX & THE AUSTIN CAJUN ACES**

THURSDAY, JULY 22  
**SHOTGUN PARTY**

FRIDAY, JULY 23  
**NOELLE HAMPTON**

SATURDAY, JULY 24  
**SARAH DINAN**

SUNDAY, JULY 25  
**KRIS KIMURA**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28  
**BOCK, BBQ & THE BLUES**  
**JIMI LEE BAND**

THURSDAY, JULY 29  
**LOST PINES**

FRIDAY, JULY 30  
**THE FLYING A'S**

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Every Day, All Day

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5PM-CLOSE: 23OZ BEERS FOR PINT PRICE (20OZ  
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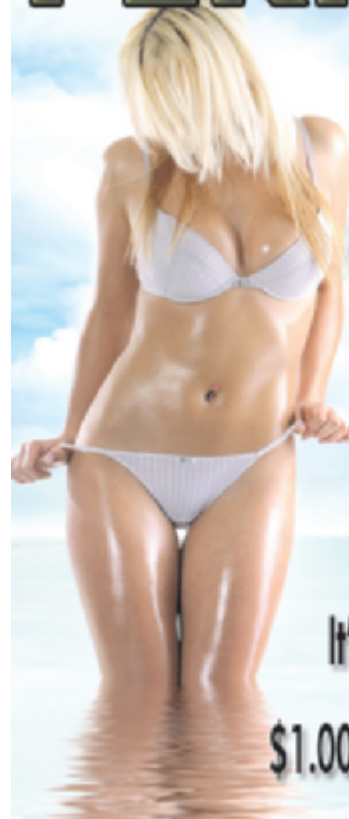


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**WEDNESDAY JULY 21<sup>ST</sup>**

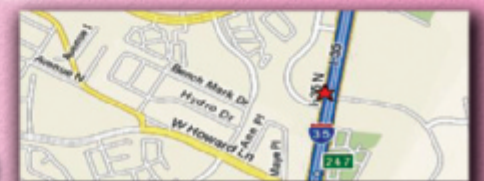
*Shows at 11pm, 12am & 1am*

*Couples Night  
Ladies get in FREE*



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**THE DOLL HOUSE**  
**DAILY HAPPY HOUR! 1/2 OFF**  
**DOOR FEE 4-9pm!**  
 COME SEE  
 KAMYRN, SOFIA, MISHA  
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**PERSONALS** The Austin Chronicle's personals is one of the best ways in town to meet quality people. Check out a variety of listings in this week's paper, or call 454-5768 for info on how to place an ad. It's time to leave the TV Guide at home.

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IEG is currently seeking beautiful escort companions to work with our agency.  
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Free Buffet From 6-8 & \$4 DK Shots & Drink Specials ALL NIGHT LONG!!!

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Friday, August 6th  
FREE Buffets & Two 4 One Table Dances  
11 - 2 & 6-8  
All Girls In Their Sexiest Swimwear

**BOOTY JIGGLE**  
Sunday, August 1  
With DJ Fixx, Keith Mackenzie, Sporty-O, Whiskey Pete & More!

**1/2 PRICE HAPPY HOUR**  
Half Priced Drinks & Appetizers  
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AN AUSTIN LEGEND

How to Be Happy (ESPRESSO GUY) by Shannon Wheeler



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TROUBLETOWN

BY LLOYD DANGLE



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MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS



In a series of studies in 2005-2006, researchers at the University of Michigan found that when misinformed people, particularly political partisans, were exposed to corrected facts in news stories, they rarely changed their minds. In fact, they often became even more strongly set in their beliefs.

Ten years ago, the record at the Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest was 25 hot dogs. Now it's 68, and competitor Joey Chestnut claims he ate 72 in a practice session.

The 1957 film *The Story of Mankind* featured the Marx Brothers in their last film together. Groucho plays Peter Minuet, Harpo plays Sir Isaac Newton, and Chico plays a monk. The film also features Vincent Price as the devil and Dennis Hopper as Napoleon Bonaparte.

"Taser" is an acronym for Thomas A. Smith's electric rifle, a fictional weapon from Victor Appleton's 1911 children's science fiction novel, *Tom Swift and His Electric Rifle*.

Some gas flares have been burning in Nigeria since the 1960s. The process of burning off "associated gas" brought up when oil is pumped out of the ground has been illegal in Nigeria since 1984.

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.

# jobs

## administrative/office

**ONLINE TRAINERS** Needed. Earn full time \$\$ work part time hours. Turn 5-10 hours per week into \$2000 - \$4000 monthly  
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## beauty/salon/spa

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Do You want to work for a "Fun, Energetic, Tropical Shirt/Shorts Kind of Company?"

We believe in working hard in a fast-paced environment.

The Customer Service Rep is an entry-level position demanding excellent computer & communication skills, interpersonal skills, high integrity, self-motivation and multi-tasking skill set. \$10 pr hr. We are located in 78704, South Austin & on the Bus Line. We are open 7 days a week, 15 hours a day, weekends are a must and our schedules fall within those operating hours. Schedules tend to remain fixed but flexibility is a requirement. Weekends are a must, South Austin, on the bus line. Resume to [hr@satcountry.com](mailto:hr@satcountry.com)

## education/schools/training

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## Extend-A-Care for Kids

**Children are our future.** Be a positive role model working with elementary age kids in the afternoons. Work hours 2:15-5:45 p.m. M-F. Starting pay \$9.00-\$9.60/hr. EOE. Sites at over 70 elementary schools. Spanish speakers needed. Apply at [www.eackids.org](http://www.eackids.org), 55 North IH 35, or call 472-9929 x408.

## entertainment/casting

**DANCERS** Male/Female Dancers needed immediately for new touring theatrical company and club promotions. Dance experience a plus. Call (512) 743-4568 to set up an audition or email [bio/pic to jobs@tropicallevents.com](mailto:bio/pic to jobs@tropicallevents.com)

**MODELS** \$300-\$500, Glamour figure models needed 18-50. Call (512) 257-0484.

## general

**ASSEMBLY \$\$\$HELP WANTED\$\$\$** Earn Extra income assembling CD cases from Home. CALL OUR LIVE OPERATORS NOW! 1-800-405-7619 ext. 2450 <http://www.easywork-greatpay.com> (AAN CAN)

**CHILD CARE** Nanny needed from Mon-Fri to care for two children. Job will include keeping the house clean and some outgoing activities. Experience is required to apply for the job. Please send resumes to [kerilyn25@hotmail.com](mailto:kerilyn25@hotmail.com)

**HARD WORK** Adventurous people for Buddhist Retreat Center, rural North CA. Hard work in foundry, construction, trades, land work, garden, kitchen. Will train or bring skills. =Incl housing, meals, \$150 per month [www.odiyar.com](http://www.odiyar.com)= [vols@mcn.org](mailto:vols@mcn.org)

## healthcare

**ATTENDANT** Needed for quadriplegic man. Free rent/ util in exchange for help from 10pm-9am. Ronnie 442-0556

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## hospitality

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## research study

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## events

**AUSTIN MARTIAL ARTS FESTIVAL**  
**www.amafest.org**  
**October 9**  
Registration is now open & online!

**CHINA NHPO** has taken over 500 people to China in the past several years. This upcoming trip, October 17 - 25, 2010 will also include a day at the World Trade Expo in Shanghai. This amazing all inclusive, nine-day, four-city tour offer of only \$1,899 per person is a limited offer. The deadline for registration is July 26, 2010. Participants also have the option to see the Terra Cotta Warriors. Departing from Los Angeles International Airport, this \$1,899 package price includes: \* round trip airfare on China Eastern Airlines \* four-city tours of Beijing, Shanghai, Suzhou and Hangzhou \* accommodations in 4 and 5 star hotels \* three meals each day \* deluxe bus tours \* English speaking tour guides \* admission tickets to tourist attractions \* airport taxes throughout the trip \* post departure insurance For more information, visit [www.mission2china.com](http://www.mission2china.com) or telephone (512) 662-0249. Space is limited so don't wait, call today. Where & When Date: October 17 - 25, 2010 Deadline to Register: July 26, 2010 Location: China

**STARVING ARTIST** call for artist L.Lano Starving Artist Sale and Show Sept 18th call for entry and application 325-247-4963 or go to [www.circleartgallery.com](http://www.circleartgallery.com) event page. deadline august 30th

## general

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## lost & found

**LOST DOG REWARD** lost 7/8 near Yager/Dessau neutered male austr shepherd brown/white, docked tail 512-569-3571 or [acripscomb@gmail.com](mailto:acripscomb@gmail.com)

**LOST DOG** Female Chihuahua, brown/white, lost June 8 in S. Congress area. Please call 478-8179 or 477-4247. Reward.

## volunteers

**FOREIGN STUDENT HOSTING**

**Host a Foreign Exchange Student!**  
Looking for qualified Austin families to host foreign high school students for the '10-'11 school year. For details Call 512.553.0577 or email [ashleyblake@clear.net](mailto:ashleyblake@clear.net)

**PTSD STUDY** I am conducting a study on Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). I am looking for people who have been diagnosed with PTSD to answer questions about their stressful experiences and about their relationships. The information will hopefully lead to PTSD treatments being more effective. I am a student, and this study is one of the requirements for my PhD in Clinical Psychology. If you would like to participate, please go to the following website: <http://www.myPTSDstudy.net>. Thank you for your help. Jennifer Cain, M.S. Doctoral Candidate, Walden University

## legal notices

**ALIAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION**  
**AUSTIN CHRONICLE**  
**THE STATE OF TEXAS**  
**TO: JOSEPH G. BEAN**  
Defendant, in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your Attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this alias citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this alias citation, the same being MONDAY 08/16/2010, a default judgment may be taken against you.  
**CAUSE NUMBER: C-1-CV-09-010880**, filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 1  
**CASE TITLE: POWELL V ARRELLANO ET AL** Filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 1 (Travis County Courthouse, corner of Tenth Street and Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas) on October 7, 2009.  
**STYLED: POWELL V ARRELLANO ET AL**  
**NATURE OF SUIT: PERSONAL INJURY MOTOR VEHICLE DAMAGES** Given under my hand and the seal of Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk on JUNE 29, 2010.  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. BOX 149325  
Austin, Texas 78714-9325  
By Deputy: /s/ C. JONES  
Plaintiff Attorney:  
LEONARD B. GABBAY  
600 WEST 12TH STREET  
AUSTIN, TX 78701

**BRYAN UNGER, PARTNER, LINDA HAUS, PARTNER, DBA BLUE MOON ROCK N BLUES IS MAKING APPLICATION WITH THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION FOR A MIXED BEVERAGE/LATE HOURS PERMIT ON THE ADDRESS OF 422 E. 6TH ST., AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS.**

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**  
**THE STATE OF TEXAS**  
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF VAUGHN KEITH RITCHIE, Deceased, No. C-1-PB-10-001149 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.  
CLINTON ALAN RITCHIE MONTANIO FKA CLINTON ALAN RITCHIE The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on July 15, 2010, an Application to Determine Heirship and for Appointment of Independent Administrator in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said VAUGHN KEITH RITCHIE, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.  
Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.  
All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.  
If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.  
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on July 15, 2010.  
DANA DEBEAUVOIR  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714-9325  
By Deputy: /s/ MONICA LIM-ON

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**  
**THE STATE OF TEXAS**  
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF CHARLES F SUMMERS, Deceased, No. C-1-PB-10-001131 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.  
CALENE SUMMERS and all The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on July 13, 2010, an Application for Letters of Independent Administration and for Determination of Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said CHARLES F SUMMERS, Deceased, and their respective shares and interest in such estate.  
Said application will be heard at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from the date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.  
All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to ap-











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