

JANUARY 27, 2012

THE AUSTIN

CHRONICLE



THE GOSPEL
ACCORDING TO

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MUSIC Raoul Hernandez

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SCREENS, BOOKS Kimberley Jones

Messer

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Margaret Moser, Marc Savlov, Jordan Smith, Richard Whittaker

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

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FASHION Stephen MacMillan Moser

LETTERS AT 3AM Michael Ventura

DAY TRIPS Gerald E. McLeod

MR. SMARTY PANTS R.U. Steinberg

LITERA Ric Williams

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Going Places

A metaphysical jumping-off point for a return to the good fight

Many weak men lied
They came to God in secret
And though they left Him nourished
They would not tell who healed
Though mountains danced before them
They said that God was dead
Though his shrouds were hoisted
The naked God did live
This I mean to whisper to my mind
This I mean to laugh within my mind
This I mean my mind to serve
Till service is but magic
Moving through the world
And mind itself is magic
Coursing through the flesh
And flesh itself is magic
Dancing on a clock
And time itself
The magic length of God
— “God Is Alive, Magic Is Afoot,”
Leonard Cohen

I

After my congestive heart failure at the hospital, in the depths of my illness and madness, draining body and healing sores, hallucinations and chaos, I remembered a piece by Ken Kesey that appeared in a 1971 supplement to the *Whole Earth Catalog*.

In the piece, he remembers traveling in a car “on old west Q Street,” where the “house where my mother and father and brother and I lived all our school years until Chuck and I left to get married,” which he considered “home in my sentimental mind,” was just up ahead. He remembered that “a little logging train used to come ... [through] a few times a week at 11:45 P.M. and then fewer times and fewer times until, well, I guess it’s been clear back in high school I can last remember hearing that whistle, lying there blinking out past the coon cage at my mysterious futures, thinking, ‘Someday I’ll go someplace on that train ...’”

The train had stopped running, only it hadn’t. Kesey goes on, “Now, here it is, ten feet away coming across the road and the Bonneville is already on the tracks and for once added power is important and I tromp

at least the front half of the car across before that awful black noise running on a track red with rusted neglect ripped away everything from the backdoor back and sent the rest spinning on down West Q.”

He thought of his son: “The train was stopping somewhere behind me. Where was Jed?”

Kesey found him, “picked him up and carried him into the Walkers’. He didn’t look hurt anywhere but oh he was such desolate heaviness in my arms. I sat down in a chair, holding him. ... My ear found no beating at his chest. I looked up. There I sat across the room in the Walkers’ big diningroom mirror holding my dead son in my arms.”

Kesey had a head wound but, looking at his son, thought, “‘If anything ever counts, this counts,’ then I closed my eyes on my reflection and called aloud:

“O dear Lord, please don’t let him die.”

“Then things became completely calm,” Kesey continues, “opening my eyes I leaned back to Jed and began to give him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. The ambulance drivers came in but made no move to interrupt me ... while I worked over Jed. Finally Jed sighed again.

“I knew I had participated in a miracle and I was absolutely amazed. As the days went by and Jed drew out of danger in the hospital I found that it wasn’t the miracle that had amazed me. That returning sigh will sound through all the rest of my life and I will be ever thankful. What amazed me, though, was that when the chips were down I knew where to call, and that I knew Who answered. I had interceded in my son’s behalf, and talked the powers into letting us have him for a time more, Thank God.” (©2002 Point Foundation, ©2002 Gale Group)

The sentences to note: “What amazed me, though, was that when the chips were down I knew where to call, and that I knew



Oops! In our article about the labor dispute between Bomax Contractors and Carpenters Local Union 1266 (“Prevailing Wage Doesn’t Always Prevail,” Jan. 20) we said that Bartlett Cocke was hired by the Texas Facilities Commission as the general contractor on the Dewitt C. Greer State Highway Building renovation. The construction firm was actually hired directly by the Texas Department of Transportation.

Who answered. I had interceded in my son’s behalf, and talked the powers into letting us have him for a time more, Thank God.”

I went a lot of places in my endless, rolling, free-form, dreaming madness in the hospital. As Bob Dylan sings, “You’re gonna have to serve somebody,” but you can do that without getting all mystically mushy about it. I knew where to go, and I went there. And so it was – there where I went inside myself (outside myself).

Just because this column has brought up Kesey, I think it is well worth noting that the left, quite properly, embraced *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*, but *Sometimes a Great Notion* – his second, more neglected novel – argues for the two as Libertarian masterpieces. I’m not advocating Libertarian politics, but I always do love to mention that the best and most devoted novel expressing the author’s political beliefs not written by Ayn Rand is *Sometimes a Great Notion*. Read it. I’m not kidding.

II

Now, we all have to serve somebody, but the act of serving does not legitimize the forces and/or beliefs served. In the hub and ho, bubble and trouble of health chaos and hospital soothing, I forgot to get out my annual messages to all my beloved kin in the conspiracy community.

We are now so many years past the Kennedy assassinations, the Oklahoma City bombing, and 9/11. The conspiracy hobbyist collector gang still insists that I’m the closed-minded, scared idiot and that they are the fearless “patriot” Constitution-loving truth-seekers. Yet for the hundreds of thousands, and likely millions of hours invested in research, they have not a solid indictment to show. Cotton candy, whipped out of sugar and air, seems substantial till you put it to tongue.

I can practically promise that way too much research is worse than no research at all when it comes to obscuring and neglecting the history being considered.

My favorite historical reporting this year was by Super Wing Commander Space

Ranger Alex “Rocky” Jones and his tribe of super true patriotic Space Cadets. In an effort to indicate the enormity of the cold-blooded, anti-human callousness of the New World Order and Quilting Circle, he argued that both the Nazis and the Japanese did not initiate campaigns that in their scope included large number of civilian casualties until the Allies did it first, citing the Allies’ bombings in Germany proper and the Doolittle Raid on Tokyo.

Arguing dates here is doomed to failure, the entire supposition being preposterous. But if we accept that Super Jones does not deal in opinions but only facts, and therefore all the recorded histories have been obscured to cover up the truth, still he is evidently giving Japan a complete pass on its activities in Nanking (1937 – Doolittle’s raid was in 1942); Nazi Germany’s ethnic, political, personal preference, and religious cleansing (Jews, Gypsies, Catholics, lefties, labor organizers, gay people, etc.); and Italy’s misadventures in colonial Africa.

I would love to add that given the amount of misperception and interpretive manipulation one finds when dealing with modern history and politics in general, the arguments that the good Ranger and his armies of stalwart followers make perhaps don’t seem like much, being only a bit more of the same. But explaining and justifying genocide against the Chinese, Jews, labor leaders, Catholics, Ethiopians, Gypsies, lefties, nationalists, etc. is just beyond the pale.

Junior, novice, and trainee “Lost Boy” Space Rangers, remember: Ranger “Bucky” Jones represents the truth, and I gleefully work for the lying devils out to destroy us all. It is probably going to work out that in order to stop us, it will be best to exterminate us before we “kill” you all off. At least that is the logic that has driven almost all modern campaigns of genocide. Get us in our beds before we get you in yours. Not that I care or know where you live.

Foolishly, while doing the devil’s work, I feel like all I’m really doing is supporting and defending the United States Constitution. How silly, right? ■



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Postmarks

AND ALL THE MERRY WASSAILERS ...

Dear Editor,
A big thank you from all of us here at Wassail 2011 for your support of our December event. Thanks in part to your media donation, we had a packed house at Spider House and raised \$3,000 for the Kids for Kids charity helping children in the Darfur region of Sudan. Our \$3,000 donation purchased 24 goats, four donkeys, 100 trees, two water carts, 100 vaccinations, two donkey ploughs, farm tools, and solar lanterns for the Sudanese. Thank you, *Austin Chronicle*, and all the merry wassailers who attended our event.

Best wishes,
Darrel Mayers

ARGENTINIAN, NOT MEXICAN

Dear Editor,
Re: "South-of-the-Border Speculation" [Books, Jan. 20]: I was startled to read Roberto Ontiveros' opening line, which began, "The notion of Mexican science fiction may, to some minds, go no further than that Borges story 'There Are More Things.'" Surely Ontiveros is aware that Jorge Luis Borges was not a Mexican. He was an Argentinian.

Jesse Mischel

[Roberto Ontiveros responds: Thanks for bringing up where Borges, one of my favorite writers, is from. I was attempting in my introduction to point out the invisibility of Mexican science fiction, by noting a Latin American parody of a Lovecraft story that begins in North America, ends in South America, and somehow skips Mexico all together.]

HAPPY TO SEE VENTURA STILL WRITING ON SILLIPHANT

Hi Mike,
Re: "Letters at 3AM: Stirling at Road's End" [April 22, 2011]: Glad to see you are still remembering and writing about Stirling Silliphant and *Route 66*. Your newest piece last April (which I just discovered on the Internet) was pretty hard on him, but it was honest. Quite a good piece of writing. Amazing the influence he had on a generation of people, which no one ever writes about. Your notion about his characters having ideas and that the ideas shaped them I find intriguing. A good analysis. I don't know why but I find it hard to analyze or be critical of his work. It seems too close, too emotionally stirring for rational analysis, but I'm glad others can. His work influenced me enough to write a novel which is dedicated to both him and David Morrell, another writer who became what he is today because of *Route 66*. My novel is science fiction, a space Western, to be precise, but a careful reading will reveal many hidden and some not-so-hidden references, riffs, and outright rip-offs of some of Stirling's ideas, characters, and themes. Meantime, good luck

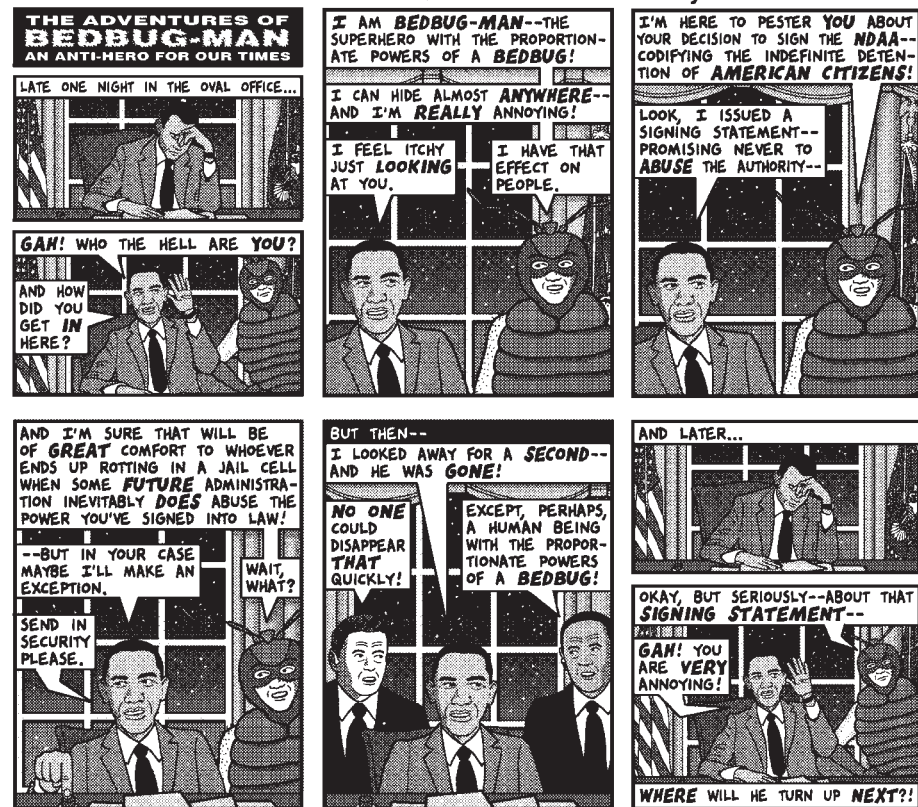
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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with your road-trip book and whatever other ventures you undertake on the endless road.

Best wishes,
John M. Whalen

'CHRONICLE' DISPLAYS AUDACITY PLACING STORIES NEXT TO EACH OTHER

Dear Editor,
I would like to respond to two articles placed next to each other on p.12 of the Jan. 6 *Austin Chronicle*. The first being about the death of James Clayton ["Bicycle Thief Deceased," News], where you begin the story with the phrase, "In a strange conclusion to a strange Austin news story ..." this "story" being an article printed in 2009 about James Clayton pleading guilty to bike thefts ["The Bicycle Thief," News, April, 10]. Your current article of 2012 is about his untimely death by heart attack at the age of 39. This is a man who spent time in prison paying for his crimes and who no longer lived in Austin. The 2009 and 2012 articles have nothing to do with each other, thus I don't see how his death is a "conclusion" to a separate story done on him about bicycle theft years ago. If his death is somehow a conclusion to your 2009 article, this seems to imply that his death was somewhat justified.

And then you have the audacity to place this article in a box within the article about Esme Barrera's tragic death ["Barrera Death a Great Loss," News]. You have disrespected both of these deaths by placing them next to each other because both of these persons' stories have nothing at all to do with each other. I don't know either of these people, and I'm not religious, but I simply have an old-fashioned belief that the dead cannot speak for themselves. So it is our responsibility to

continued on p.8

A Ticket To Ride

February is the month to have a ticket to ride! Not only are the Sweetheart Special and Murder at the Masked Ball trains running, but the classic Hill Country Flyer explores Central Texas during the month. Romantics and aspiring detectives will love this month's specialty trains. Visit the website for upcoming schedules, directions to the depot and to purchase tickets. Enter online code "CHRON" for 10% off February trains! Hop online, then hop aboard!

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try, as much as it may pain us, to remember them as if we knew and loved them, if their crimes were in any way forgivable. My thoughts and prayers go out to the Barrera family, as well as every one that has been graced by her life.

After having written all this, it now occurs to me in a nutshell – the article on Esme Barrera is quite rightly written in a tone that suggests an unjustified death, while the article on James Clayton is quite wrongly written in a tone that suggests a justified death.

Nic Walker

WHY NOT MORE ON TOMMY TAYLOR AND ANDY SALMON

Dear Editor,

Interesting article about Christopher Cross ["The Reluctant Celebrity," Music, Jan. 20]. I was surprised more mention wasn't made of Andy Salmon or Tommy Taylor, who, whether they agreed or declined to be interviewed, were a huge part of the band's success, and who each remain a vibrant and important member of Austin's music scene. Tommy tours with Eric Johnson and has several other projects including the new band 86'D. Andy plays regularly, including with Stevie Ray Vaughan songwriter Bill Carter, whose latest gig was attended (and had a sit-in from) Johnny Depp – a week or two ago. James Fenner, the great percussionist, who was a huge part of the band's sound, wasn't mentioned at all. It was fair to quote the gifted Rob Meurer, who however still enjoys a working relationship with Mr. Geppert. But as so often happens, the person out front is perceived to be the "artist" while the band gets kicked over the side – often after years and even a decade or more of effort to get the "artist"



in position to claim (and begin) a larger career. Christopher Cross was a band name. Like my late friend Willy DeVille (né William Borse), Mr. Geppert took the band's name unto himself, while those who helped put him on the map in the first place are certainly as vibrant and significant contributors to music and specifically Austin. They have made lemonade out of bitter lemons after being left in the lurch – whether at the urging of management, record label, or in some cases, an "artist" believing the group's success to be his (or hers) alone.

As far as the sound of the band, I liked it before I moved to Austin in 1980. I came from New York where I worked and hung out with Steve Forbert, the Roches, Paul Siebel and others in a singer-songwriter scene. But I liked lots of other stuff, and to me, they just sounded like great California-style rockers, like the Eagles or Beach Boys, whom they each admired. Why so many in Austin hold the band (and certain other artists) in

such scorn, despite their doing great everywhere else, is a mystery to me.

Mandy Mercier

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, 'AUSTIN CHRONICLE'?

Dear Editor,

You're just not going to cover the Antonio Buehler story, are you? It's like it never happened. Twenty years ago, the *Chronicle* would have been on top of a police brutality and corruption story like gravy on the rice. What happened to you, *Austin Chronicle*?

Richard Boland

[Editor's note: For the record, Antonio Buehler was arrested on New Year's Day, allegedly for interfering with an arrest and resisting, both of which he is contesting. Buehler was recording on a cell

phone the arrest of a woman on North Lamar for alleged intoxication.]

RON PAUL FAILS TEST

Dear Editor,

Mrs. Jordan gave us a 10-question math quiz once a week. One incorrect answer and you got a B; two wrong answers were a C; three earned you a D; and four were an F.

Sixty percent is failing. This is why Ron Paul fails. His wrong answers: the Christian nation; the war on Christmas; no separation of church and state; desegregation of private business is bad; the EPA is bad; OSHA is bad; equal pay for women is bad; all abortions are bad; the Civil War was unnecessary (the North could have bought the slaves from the South – that's a good one). It's a long list. Will Barack Obama bomb Iran or support Israel if

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it does? I hope not. What sort of Supreme Court justice would Ron Paul appoint? Ultraconservative, of course, and all that would entail (for the lifetime of the justice). All of our choices are rotten, including the incumbent, but Ron Paul is no more the messiah than the last guy we elected.

Tim Pipe

GOP CANDIDATES ALL LACKING

Dear Editor,

So, where are the good GOP presidential candidates to run against Obama? The GOP resembles the Democratic Party in 2000, which also had no real leaders. That year George W. Bush won the presidency.

Mitt Romney is a slick guy who still gets income and a retirement package from Bain Capital, a company where he was a top dog.

Newt Gingrich shows a history of conflict in politics. Even former President George H.W. Bush wouldn't support the former House speaker, and that says a lot.

Rick Santorum tries too hard to present a blue-collar image, using a "Hey, I'm just one of the guys ..." type of political ploy.

Ron Paul has many issues as a GOP candidate. First of all, he is not a Republican but a true Libertarian, which has always hindered him from getting the GOP support he needs to make a difference.

Jon Huntsman represents an enigma from Utah, who professes to be a conservative, but many of his views appear moderate to liberal.

As for Rick Perry ... he may be the worst governor the state of Texas ever had. Perry has single-handedly hurt Texans and their families while ensuring that his wealthy special interest contributors continue to get whatever they need instead of working for the community good.

Apparently, there are no significant, honest, and capable leaders in the GOP from which American voters may elect a winner.

American voters are sick of all the GOP hype and game-playing and may be willing to provide Obama with another term to see if Congress will decide to work with him on the urgent issues. So far, Obama remains the best candidate.

Peter Stern

REPUBLICAN RACE IN A NUTSHELL

To the Editor:

After watching several debates by the Republican presidential hopefuls, I have come to the following conclusions:

1) Mitt Romney, the perennial candidate, has a ton of money, which will probably secure the nomination. He accepted \$7 million from the head of the Mormon church. Will that influence him in any way?

2) Newt Gingrich, without a doubt the most knowledgeable and experienced in high-level political events, has some baggage. It didn't hurt Clinton did it?

3) Rick Perry's got a great smile but changes course every three or four days.

4) Rick Santorum answered every one of my letters during his 12 years in office but was defeated for a third term in Congress when he let his faith influence a decision.

5) Ron Paul is an engaging personality but too old for the pressure of the presidency.

6) Congresswoman Michele Bachmann is a dedicated officeholder but in over her head.

There you have it, six candidates, none of whom have the appeal to defeat President Obama.

Ephraim Levin
Philadelphia, Pa.

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Jo Jo Dancer, Your Life is Calling
Fri Jan 27, 8:55; Sun Jan 29, 4:05



MAR 3

ScrapArtsMusic



MAR 4

THE LAURIE BERKNER BAND



MAR 6

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1/28 JACK HANNA'S INTO THE WILD LIVE

1/31 THE STORY WRANGLERS

1/31 SHAUN OF THE DEAD (PUB RUN + SCREENING)

2/2 ROYAL WINNIPEG BALLET'S MOULIN ROUGE: THE BALLET

2/3 ROBERT ELLIS

2/4 DEMETRI MARTIN

2/8 ANTHONY BOURDAIN & ERIC RIPERT

2/9, 2/10, 2/11 JOHN LEGUIZAMO - GHETTO KLOWN

2/17, 2/18 PILOBOLUS

2/24 DOIN' IT FOR LOVE

2/26 JEANNE ROBERTSON

3/2 THE SECOND CITY'S LAUGH OUT LOUD TOUR

3/3 ScrapArtsMusic

3/3 CHRIS HARDWICK - NERDIST PODCAST LIVE

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NEWS



Corey Williams (with pitchfork) and Kris Sleeman (in clown face) join in a street theatre performance that involves trying, sentencing, and executing a piñata representing “corporate personhood” as part of Occupy Austin’s Bank Action Day on Jan. 21.

Headlines

- **City Council** meets today (Thursday, Jan. 26), with a morning quarterly briefing from **Austin Energy** (expect proposed rate schedules to be more than subtext) and a debate over how best to readdress the misinformation provided by local crisis pregnancy centers.
- Specifically, two items on the agenda concern revising or repealing an ordinance requiring **crisis pregnancy centers** to publicly post information about their operations – namely that they do not provide abortion-related services or birth control (or much more than anti-abortion propaganda). In response to the 2010 ordinance, several local CPC operators sued, claiming the ordinance violates free speech protections. The city’s legal department is recommending repeal pending resolution of national litigation.
- It never rains, but it pours. **Heavy storms** hit Central Texas Tuesday and Wednesday, carrying hail and several inches of rain, causing numerous outages, and flooding **Barton Springs Pool** – which is temporarily closed.
- The Austin Police Department is looking for help to identify a **burglar in West Campus**. A woman awoke in her apartment Tuesday to find a man crouching at the foot of her bed; he fled when she screamed. She was unable to give a description, but police have reportedly said there is nothing to suggest at this point that the man is the same suspect wanted for questioning in connection with the Jan. 1 murder of **Esme Barrera** (see “Excited About Life,” Jan. 13).
- Austin Police Association President **Wayne Vincent** has asked the city to investigate who leaked confidential information from a Citizen Review Panel that recommended firing the police officer who shot and killed 20-year-old **Byron Carter**; see “Who Leaked Police Info?” p.14.
- Travis County Constable **Bruce Elfant** kick-starts his campaign today (Thursday, Jan. 26) as a Democratic candidate for tax assessor-collector. This year’s **property taxes** are due to interim tax assessor-collector Tina Morton by Tuesday, Jan. 31; monthly payment plans are available.
- Mayor **Lee Leffingwell** last week joined 100-plus mayors from across the nation in signing the Mayors for the **Freedom To Marry** pledge, an effort toward ending marriage discrimination.
- Gov. **Rick Perry**’s presidential aspirations collapsed Jan. 19 when he announced he was suspending his campaign and endorsing **Newt Gingrich**. Democrats are now asking that his campaign refund the \$2.6 million Texans spent on his security detail during his abortive campaign. (See “Point Austin,” left, and “Cain: 6,324 ... Perry: 2,494,” p.18.)
- As the legal tussle over Texas’ **redistricting** maps continues (see “The Texas Map Morass,” p.17), Attorney General **Greg Abbott** is getting into another fight with the Department of Justice, this time over Senate Bill 14, the voter ID bill passed last session. He has asked a three-judge federal panel in D.C. to bypass the DOJ preclearance system and approve the law.

PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

Shameless

Perry hands the torch to a kindred spirit

There aren’t too many good ways to admit you committed the fatal turnovers and lost the big game.

Saying farewell to his bungled presidential campaign, Gov. Rick Perry called on (in order) Newt Gingrich, God, and Sam Houston, and suggested his national embarrassment might be only temporary. “As a Texan, I have never shied away from a good fight, especially when the cause was right,” Perry said. “But as someone who has always admired a great Texas forefather – Sam Houston – I know when it is time for a ‘strategic retreat.’” In fact, Perry hadn’t known that at all. He first decided to quit the race after the debacle in Iowa, then undecided (reportedly after a morning jog and a family chat), then vowed to fight on through South Carolina (while ignoring New Hampshire, which returned the favor), then redecided that South Carolina wasn’t worth the good fight after all.

Somehow, I don’t think that’s the way Gen. Houston would have played it.

Indeed, “retreat” had not previously appeared in the Perry campaign lexicon – he was too busy engaging in arrogance, bellicosity, grandiosity, and flat dishonesty. The *Chronicle*’s Richard Whitaker has catalogued with relish the embarrassing dominoes of Perry’s final collapse (“Cain 6,324 ... Perry 2,494,” p.18), and the tone of Perry’s entire campaign was aptly represented by his notorious December TV ad: “You don’t need to be in the pew every Sunday to know that there’s something wrong in this country when gays can serve openly in the military but our kids can’t openly celebrate Christmas or pray in school.”

Widely mocked as both gay-bashing and false – schoolkids go right on praying and celebrating Christmas, whatever Perry says – the ad marked the campaign’s desperation

and had no tangible effect on the candidate’s dismal vote totals. It simply amplified the list of his tone-deaf moments, highlighted by the “Oops!” when he couldn’t remember his own talking points, and running the gamut from describing the United States’ Turkish allies as “Islamic terrorists” to declaring he would return American troops to Iraq – a proposal as politically stupid as it is militarily unthinkable.

Spewing Poison

What Perry’s most embarrassing moments generally had in common was their reliance on hard-right code words calculated to rile the Republican base – an understandable strategy, since the peak of his popularity coincided with his debate identification as the Texas Executioner, and his downfall

continued on p.12



QUOTE of the WEEK



“It’s time to apply the same rules from top to bottom: No bailouts, no handouts, and no copouts.”

– from President Barack Obama’s State of Union address Tuesday

CAN WOMEN CHANGE POLITICS?

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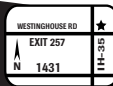
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10 Volvo XC90 3.2 ASR7 - 19k mi	\$33,200
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POINT AUSTIN *continued from p.10*

began when he was perceived as soft on the student children of undocumented immigrants. The contemporary GOP has become a party in which it is simply impossible to run too far to the right.

So it's fitting that Perry would endorse Gingrich, who in his brief and disgraced tenure as U.S. House Speaker was singularly responsible for polarizing national politics and intentionally poisoning the public discourse. It was Gingrich who counseled campaigning Republicans to reflexively attach terms like "traitors," "liars," and "corruption" to their opponents. And it is Gingrich who has now risen in the polls in direct proportion to his willingness to use explicit racism and fake populism as the means to gin up the most rabid tea partiers. On the Gingrich demagoguery scale, Perry is a relative amateur, and he finally bowed to the master.

The Soft Sell

But for the same reason, Gingrich makes GOP big shots nervous, because they know that what works in the blood-thirsty primaries they have created will be a much harder sell in the general election. Mitt Romney remains their default option, but not because his policy proposals are substantially different or "more conservative" (whatever that terminally abused term has come to mean) than those of Gingrich or Rick Santorum or the rest. The mild-mannered and soft-spoken Romney is most easily sold as a "moderate" who will, as Hamlet says, "smile and smile, and be a villain." The vainglorious Gingrich, sneering at anyone who dares question him, gives the Republican game away.

On the Gingrich demagoguery scale, Perry is a relative amateur, and he finally bowed to the master.

As Salon's Joan Walsh wrote this week: "Mitt and Newt are the two faces of the modern GOP. Romney, the man from Bain, provides a case study in how finance capital has hollowed out the middle class and enriched the top 1 percent over the last 30 years. Gingrich personifies the GOP's politics of resentment, often fired by racism, that let the top 1 percent do that, driven by fear that government was favoring the undeserving poor. Instead government began to favor the undeserving wealthy."

However, it remains much easier to turn on the bloodlust – to sow the wind – than to turn it off again, as both Gingrich and his successor, John Boehner, learned to their embarrassment in Washington. The current GOP race confirms that we live in a political culture that amply rewards appeals to the electorate's basest instincts. Whether the Democrats represent a sufficient counterforce remains to be seen. ■

Sound and Light

OUTDOOR MUSIC VENUE + ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE = SENSORY OVERLOAD

Say you were rattled awake one Sunday morning by the amplified strains of "How Great Thou Art" issuing from an immense amphitheater in your neighborhood. There's truly nothing like the jolt of a high C to start your day. That potential scenario may seem preposterous (An amphitheater? Not in my backyard!), but variations of that sound-intrusive theme have become recurring nightmares for dozens of Southwest Austin residents who live near the future home of "Dream City." That is the site of the new campus of

PromiseLand West church, currently under construction along Highway 71. The rolling 53-acre tract is ringed by three subdivisions tucked off the crowded roadway leading to the Hill Country.

Unsurprisingly, the amphitheater is the single most contentious feature of the entire \$25 million campus. And as luck would have it, the state-of-the-art 1,000-plus-seat outdoor music venue will be the first structure out of the ground. Some city officials are now trying to figure out how such a complex and controversial project made it through a multilayered review process with virtually no public input. Sure, religious-assembly developments are granted a good deal of leeway under the city's land-use code; many churches only require administrative approval for building permits and such, which is how PromiseLand obtained the green light on Dream City last year. A neighborhood group was subsequently denied a request to appeal the decision (See "Point Austin: Suburban Nightmare," Nov. 18, 2011). That's when various neighborhood leaders began knocking on the City Council office doors.

Given that two neighborhood groups – Hill Country Estates and Covered Bridge –

are considering their next steps, the city's legal staff will provide City Council with a background briefing today (Thursday, Jan. 26) in executive session. Council Member Laura Morrison said she requested the briefing to determine if there were any options available to resolve the logjam between the church and its neighbors. The most critical point of disagreement centers on the church's claim that it's not required to apply for a sound permit because commercial entertainment venues and religious assemblies are not bound by the same rules.

PROMISES, PROMISES

Neighborhood groups counter the letter-of-the-law argument based on statements made by the church's attorney, Steve Metcalfe, during a packed neighborhood meeting earlier this month in Oak Hill. (Metcalfe did not respond to a *Chronicle* request for comment.) Under the terms of a restrictive covenant with the city, the church agreed not to operate the amphitheater as a for-profit venue, with the exception of occasional charitable benefits. But according to residents who attended the neighborhood meeting, Metcalfe claimed that the church's status as a charity allows PromiseLand to benefit from the profits generated from performances at the amphitheater. Clearly, there are a raft of issues council will need to hash out before the dust settles on Dream City.

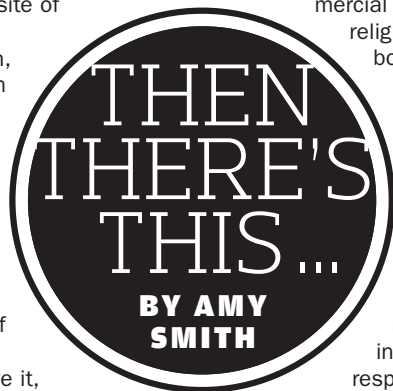
Also today, Morrison will introduce a resolution that calls for a thorough vetting of the city's policy on administrative appeals in land-use decisions. "After looking at the appeal process from a more general standpoint, it became clear that we have inconsistencies and potential problems in a lot

of different areas," she said, adding that the PromiseLand case was the red flag that precipitated the resolution. Indeed, if one church is allowed to build an outdoor performance theatre in one neighborhood, what's to stop another church from doing the same thing in someone else's neighborhood? "From my perspective," Morrison said, "it really doesn't make sense to put an outdoor music venue that's going to have multiple and frequent events in the middle of a neighborhood."

Kim Butler of Hill Country Estates said residents' grievances are aimed directly at the city, not the church. "They simply want to do what they want to do, and have been willing to do whatever it takes to get it," he said of the church drivers. "Blaming them for this outcome would be akin to blaming a 5-year-old for wanting candy. Our issue is with the city ... and the manner in which the administrative review process was managed."

ELECTRIC SHOCK

On another high-voltage front, the highly unpopular Austin Energy rate case isn't going away anytime soon. Electric Utility Commission Chair Phillip Schmandt, who was among the 4-3 panel majority favoring the proposal, says he's hopeful a middle ground can be achieved in order to secure approval from the Council, which has already signaled its distaste for the existing plan. The next public hearing is set for Feb. 2, and more hearings will follow after that. On Saturday (Jan. 28), Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole will host a "community conversation" on the rate proposal at Austin Community College's Riverside Campus (see "Civics 101," below). According to a press release, the discussion will focus on the adverse impact the rate increase would have on low-income residents, public schools, houses of worship ... and maybe even a certain house-of-worship amphitheater in Southwest Austin. ■



CIVICS 101

THURSDAY 26

UT PROFESSOR DANA CLOUD discusses her new book, *We Are the Union: Democratic Unionism and Dissent at Boeing*, which "analyzes the opportunities and forces at play in modern unions." 7-9pm. 5604 Manor Rd. www.thirdcoastactivist.org.

FRIDAY 27

'HIDDEN BATTLES' SCREENING This documentary tracks five soldiers as they contend with the psychological fallout of killing. Afterward, volunteers will discuss Operation Recovery, which provides support to traumatized veterans. 7pm. 5604 Manor Rd. \$10 suggested donation. www.thirdcoastactivist.org.

SATURDAY 28

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole hosts a panel discussion of how the proposed energy rate hike would affect Austin's low-income families and public schools – and how to mitigate those effects. 9:30-11:30am. ACC Riverside, 1020 Grove, Rm. 8100.

MONDAY 30

PLASTIC BAG FORUM This moderated forum will put discussion about the issues surrounding the proposed plastic bag ban in one convenient (and not disposable) place. 6pm. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second.

SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAMS MEETING The Parks and Recreation Department seeks input on the community's priorities for summer programming around town. 6:30-8pm. Rosewood Recreation Center, 2300 Rosewood.

TUESDAY 31

SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAMS MEETING See Monday. 6:30pm. Northwest Recreation Center, 2913 Northland, 458-4107.

WEDNESDAY 01

SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAMS MEETING See Monday. 6:30pm. Gus Garcia Recreation Center, 1201 E. Rundberg.

COURT PLANNING MEETING A consultant will discuss financing and development options for the site of Travis County's new courthouse across from Republic Square Park; residents are invited to give their input. Travis County Commissioner's Courtroom, Granger Bldg., 314 W. 11th.

THURSDAY 02

CHARTER REVISION COMMITTEE MEETING Get in on some citywide redistricting fun while we wait to hear from the Supreme Court about the state maps. 6:30pm. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, Boards and Commissions room, 539-0070. www.austintexas.gov/charter.

ONGOING

DEEP EDDY CONSTRUCTION The portion of the Lady Bird Lake Hike & Bike Trail between the MoPac pedestrian bridge and Eilers Park is closed for construction at Deep Eddy Pool through March 15.

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

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

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Trying To Hit the Right Note

Last fall, the **Austin Police Department** stared down a difficult set of statistics. During the months of October and November, city 311 and 911 operators took nearly 160 noise complaint calls. Even in the live music capital of the world, excessive volume does not qualify for hotshot response. Still, “It had reached a crescendo where the number of complaints coming in about noise weren’t adequately being addressed by APD,” says APD Downtown Cmdr. **John Romoser**.

What followed was the sort of Sturm und Drang that some observers might argue was inevitable as soon as plans were filed for the first set of lofts along Red River Street: Four consecutive weekends of what Romoser characterizes as “proactive” police enforcement produced nearly 40 warnings and citations for various violations of city permits and sound regulations. In response, club honchos turned up at a meeting of the **Austin Music Commission** to complain (see “Live Music Lands on Police Radar,” Dec. 30). **Don Pitts**, manager of the music division in the city’s Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office, says he was “disappointed” in the police action. He notes that, though the effort did pick up some habitual offenders, some of the cited venues were proceeding as they had been for years – with such features as outdoor speaker setups for piped-in tunes. They “were more confused than ever before,” he says.

In a city where the next huge music festival is perpetually around the corner, a crackdown on noise is never well-timed. But this one came just a month before Austin began issuing press releases to prepare venue owners for its annual **March South by Southwest** economic smorgasbord. What may be more troubling to Austin’s many bar operators is the potential shift in tactics that the action may have signaled. In any case, the resulting confusion compounds – and highlights – an already difficult situation for both nightlife peddlers and the city’s still-young music division: how to balance an evolving set of regulations, the needs of a major local business community, and the concerns of the various neighbors and businesses who are most directly affected by it all?

For the record, Romoser says that there has been no broader shift in APD enforcement. And, as he points out, citation figures dropped from 18 to 10 to nine to just two on the last weekend of stepped-up enforcement, the weekend of Dec. 17. On top of that, Romoser notes a decline in noise complaint calls from 72 in November to 44 in December. “I’d like to think that it all plays together,” he says.

Still, Austin Music Commission chair and SXSW marketer **Brad Spies** worries about the future implications of



(l-r) Kent Roth, Collin Ballard, Ben May, and the Austin Fire Department’s Lt. John Ham review schematics at last week’s open house.

JANA BIRCHUM

the proactive approach. At the commission’s January meeting, Spies told his colleagues that he’d spoken with Romoser. APD “changed their enforcement tactics for the sound ordinance,” said Spies. “Whereas it used to be solely complaint-driven ... around Thanksgiving APD had a pair of officers that were out and actively enforcing the sound ordinance Downtown.” Spies suggests that, even though the period of stricter enforcement has passed, it represents a shift in the way APD addresses noise issues. “This is a change in tactics,” Spies affirmed in an interview later, “and it remains to be seen how it plays out.”

However APD decides to enforce the regulations, which continue to be tweaked, bar owners can take comfort in at least one coming change. According to Pitts, on Feb. 20 – just in time for SXSW – Austin’s 311 system will start giving callers an automated option for noise complaints. Those calls will be referred to Pitts’ office for follow-up. Which is

to say that a stick is being traded for a carrot. “We try to stay out of enforcement,” says Pitts, who adds that his division tries to work with various parties to solve problems. “A lot of times we find that it’s not the venue [complainants] think it was,” he says.

Back to that question of balance: On Thursday, Jan. 19, city officials hosted an open house for parties interested in hosting a music event during SXSW. The goal, according to the press release, was to offer operators “more [information] about permitting, temporary events, amplified sound and other information for creating safer, successful SXSW events. ... The event is an informational session to help make the change in the sound permitting process easier on participants.” The change it referred to was one of timing. Operators now have to turn in permit applications for temporary sound permits 21 days in advance for single-day events and a full month ahead of multiday gatherings. City officials say this should allow for better vetting of permits and venues, and fewer day-of or two-days-into enforcement visits.

Whatever the regulations – or whoever is enforcing them – most operators only want to keep straight what the city expects. **C3 Presents** Operations Manager **Mike Walker** came to the SXSW open house with a written list of questions. Though he notes that he thinks “it’s getting better,” and appreciates the advent of Pitts’ office, whom he says he met for the first time at last week’s event – he adds that the city offers “really no one person to go to.”

“Right now, if you don’t know that you have to go to the Fire Department, or you don’t know you have to go to transportation or [planning] or whoever – if you don’t know that, you are messed up,” Walker continued. “It seems like every time you do an event, and you walk in these big rooms, and you have these big safety meetings and so forth, they start talking about stuff that was never on your radar.”

– Mike Kanin

Who Leaked Police Info?

Austin Police Association President **Wayne Vincent** on Jan. 23 asked Deputy City Manager **Mike McDonald** and Austin Police Chief **Art Acevedo** to investigate who leaked confidential information from the **Citizen Review Panel** in the officer-involved shooting case of 20-year-old **Byron Carter**. Carter was shot four times last May by Officer **Nathan Wagner**; he was the passenger in a car driven by a juvenile who Wagner said tried to drive into his partner, Officer **Jeffrey Rodriguez**. The CRP reviewed the case last year, and last week the panel’s conclusion – that Wagner should be fired for the shooting – was leaked to the *Austin American-Statesman*. “Due to the gravity” of the leak, Vincent wrote in a letter to the two city officials, “we are requesting an outside investigation be initiated with the goal of determining who had access to this information, and who of that group released the information.” At press time, city officials had not said whether they would investigate the matter. In a message to union members also sent Monday, Vincent wrote that he was outraged by the release, which he characterized as an “obvious attempt to diminish what little protections [our] officers are afforded during an intimidating administrative and criminal investigation.”

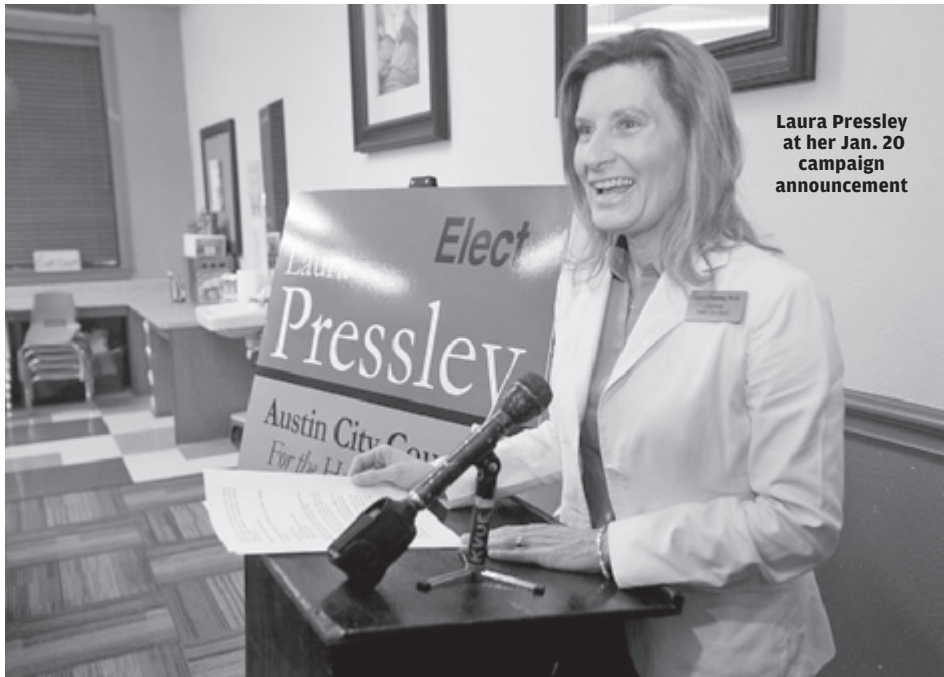
The criminal investigation into the shooting is slated to go to a Travis County grand jury by the end of the month; Acevedo has said he will wait to decide whether the officers will face any administrative sanction until after the criminal inquiry has concluded.

– Jordan Smith



Byron Carter

PHOTO COURTESY OF DEPT. OF PUBLIC SAFETY



Laura Pressley
at her Jan. 20
campaign
announcement

JANA BIRCHUM

Pressley Settles on Martinez

Someone popping her head into the meeting room of the Terrazas Branch Library on East Cesar Chavez last Wednesday morning might be forgiven for presuming the 10 people gathered there were members of a book club, or perhaps a small community organization. There was nothing about the scene to indicate that they were actually a political team debating the finer points of **City Council** campaign strategy – no chain-smoking men in rumpled suits pounding their fists on tables or well-heeled professional political consultants whispering tactics into one another's ears.

Instead, around the table sat an unpaid, ad hoc collection of Hispanic community activists, libertarian rabble-rousers, professional protesters, City Council bugbears, and fringe political figures from the left and the right, representatives of **Texans for Accountable Government** and the **Sierra Club** and **Fluoride Free Austin** and the **Greater East Austin Neighborhood Association**, owners of radical bookstores and hosts of right-wing public-access television shows and members of the **Republican Liberty Caucus** who with straight faces call themselves "industrialists." This patchwork coalition is politically bound together by almost nothing but a shared suspicion of City Council and a shared affinity for candidate **Laura Pressley**, who had gathered them there that morning to help her decide which sitting council member she should run against in the upcoming May election.

It didn't take long for the group to come to a consensus on Place 2 Council Member **Mike Martinez**. Pressley said Place 6's Sheryl Cole hasn't "done enough wrong, aside from sometimes ignoring citizens," and the group is convinced Bill Spelman will have the support of environmentalists and the Democratic establishment. But Martinez is another story. They say he's come down

on the wrong side of too many issues – from the construction of **Water Treatment Plant No. 4** to the **Nathaniel Sanders II** shooting case to corporate subsidies. Plus, they say he has consistently advertised himself as the representative of the Eastside Hispanic community while doing little to improve the lives of Eastside Hispanics.

John Bush, former head of TAG, a self-described "liberty activist," and dedicated thorn in the side of Mayor **Lee Leffingwell**, thinks Pressley will have a chance to beat Martinez if she can convince Eastsiders that all of his talk about representing them has been nothing more than talk. "On a variety of issues – from rising property taxes to environmental issues on the Eastside, social justice on the Eastside, police brutality as well – we'll be able to say to Martinez, 'You're supposedly representing this community, and you've failed,'" Bush said.

The only concern the coalition seems to have with Pressley running against Martinez is that doing so would defy the "**gentleman's agreement**" – the city's 40-year understanding that two of its six council places will be reserved for Hispanic and African-American representatives. Would Pressley, a white woman, be setting her

campaign up for a public-relations disaster by ignoring the gentleman's agreement and challenging Martinez?

Allandale neighborhood activist **David Orshalick** put forth a simple strategy for dealing with that issue and for improving Pressley's chance of winning the election. "Based on the demographics of Austin, there should be more Hispanics on City Council," he told the candidate. "You should have the message that you're for more Hispanics on the council, more geographic representation. You can say to them: 'Vote for me, and I will push single-member districts down their throats, and we will get true representation.'" It's a risky strategy, but it may represent Pressley's best hope for an upset: convincing voters that the best way to ensure greater Hispanic representation on the council is by replacing the one Hispanic on the council.

Businesswoman Pressley – she sells rain-water, and her distinguishing political credential is as an anti-fluoride activist – recognizes a good pitch when she hears one. She decided to give Orshalick's strategy a try. Two days after the meeting, at a press conference held in the YMCA Learning Center on East Sixth Street, she announced that she has chosen to challenge Martinez because, she says: "If you look at the distribution of the Latino community, there should be two or three seats for the Latino community. If we could get real geographic representation in this city, and have a single-member system, it would fix what's really broken." The pitch seems to work, at least among the small group of Pressley supporters – some of them members of well-known Hispanic community groups on the Eastside.

In response, Martinez's campaign declared that its candidate also supports a single-member system, but that he's waiting to hear the recommendations of the **Charter Revision Committee** before he throws his support behind any particular plan. "The roots of the gentleman's agreement are deep, but we need a better representation of Hispanics on the council. That's why Mike is pushing for single-member districts," said Martinez re-election campaign manager Sylvia Camarillo. As for Pressley's announcement, Camarillo said Martinez is ready to take on any opponent who gets in the race.

"It was spin-the-bottle for Pressley, and in the end the bottle ended up on Mike," Camarillo says. "But she's going to find a force she didn't know was out there. Mike has strong, deep roots in the community, and the community supports him." – *Josh Rosenblatt*

Clinics Without Care

City Council is scheduled today (Thursday) to consider revising or repealing an ordinance requiring **crisis pregnancy centers** to post information about their operations. A 2010 **Bill Spelman**-sponsored ordinance required the pregnancy centers – mainly faith-based groups that do not provide medical care – to post signage stating that they do not provide abortion-related services or birth control. In response, several local CPC operators sued – as did similar clinics elsewhere – claiming the ordinance violates First Amendment protections. The city's legal department is advising a repeal of the ordinance pending resolution of national litigation. Two items on this week's agenda address the issue: The first (Item 17) would repeal the current ordinance, while the second (Item 45) proposes a new ordinance that would require a CPC to post signage stating simply whether it employs a licensed health care provider and whether the center is regulated by state or federal authority to provide medical services. As with the current ordinance, a failure to comply would be a class C misdemeanor, punishable by fine only.

– *Jordan Smith*



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EST. HWY.

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Travis County Judge John Dietz

School Finance Back in Dietz's Court

In 2004, Judge **John Dietz's** ruling on the Texas' public school finance system lead lawmakers to make massive reforms. Now, eight years later, the replacement system they concocted is in back in his court. On Jan. 19, the **Texas Taxpayer & Student Fairness Coalition** announced that its challenge to the massive public school funding cuts passed during the 82nd Legislature will be heard before Dietz in the 250th District Court in Austin. Dietz is already hearing three other school finance lawsuits, filed by three different groups of school districts, each of which has been afflicted in different ways by the legislation. The **Austin ISD** is part of a suit represented by the law firm of Thompson & Horton; along with attorneys for the **Texas School Coalition** (which represents roughly 120 property-wealthy districts including Eanes ISD), they argue that the current system is not equitable, nor does it provide adequate funding as required by the Texas Constitution. The Fairness Coalition (representing nearly 400 mid-to-low-property-wealth districts) and the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund also make those arguments but also contend that the state has created a de facto and unconstitutional statewide property tax. There's no word whether Dietz will hear these suits separately or jointly.

— Richard Whittaker

Ultrasound Reimposed by Appeals Court

Last week's **5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals** opinion – overturning an injunction that had barred final implementation of Texas' new **ultrasound-before-abortion** law – may “barely have touched on the issues” raised in a lawsuit before the district court last year. “But that’s the Circuit,” federal district Judge **Sam Sparks** said from the bench on Jan. 20.

Indeed, during a short hearing Friday afternoon, Sparks seemed resigned that the 5th Circuit had hijacked the case, offering a ruling that may legally bind his hands. As always, Sparks was Sparksian – he apparently found the situation absurd, commenting that the appellate court is now doing the district court’s job, and was unconvinced that the 5th Circuit had made the right decision for the right reasons. At times he’s waited a year for an opinion from the appellate court, he noted, but in this case, the court ruled and then ordered the law immediately implemented – even before the plaintiffs, a group of Texas doctors represented by the **Center for Reproductive Rights**, had time to respond.

The 5th Circuit’s opinion – not a stretch to call “activist” – curtailed a legal challenge to the law, which requires women to submit to an ultrasound examination 24 hours before seeking a termination, to view a sonogram image, and to listen to the fetal heartbeat and a doctor-delivered description of fetal development. By statute, doctors are required to comply with each provision – regardless of medical necessity or the woman’s wishes – and doctors who fail to comply could lose their medical licenses. A woman may opt not to view the image or hear the heartbeat, but unless she can certify that she is a victim of rape or incest or can prove her fetus has a gross abnormality, she must listen to the fetal description.

Those are among the provisions which prompted the CRR to sue. Sparks heard the case last year when CRR argued that by



Judge Sam Sparks

mandating medical procedures, the law violates doctors’ First Amendment protections. Sparks granted a temporary injunction pending appeal, but the 5th Circuit ruled, essentially, that the law is constitutional. A three-judge panel, led by Chief Judge **Edith Jones**, ruled that the new law fell within the state’s right to regulate medical practice, ensuring the “informed consent” of any woman seeking an abortion. And just days later, the 5th Circuit granted Texas’ request to force immediate implementation.

Friday’s hearing was a truncated affair; the 5th Circuit had made it clear it was taking over the case, and Sparks seemed resigned to let them have it. Arguing for Sparks to instead make a finding consistent with his previous ruling, CRR attorney **Julie Rikelman** argued that the 5th Circuit “overlooked some of the key arguments.” For example, she said, the court ruled that displaying an image or providing audio of a fetal heartbeat is merely “factual” information and not furthering an “ideological” message. However, she argued, “forcing those images and sounds” on a woman who may not want them as part of a procedure that may not be medically necessary, “is ideological” and not “reasonable regulations to the practice of medicine.” Sparks

seemed sympathetic, agreeing that the 5th Circuit didn’t directly address the actual arguments the CRR had raised in its suit. But, he said, “I don’t know what you want me to do – you just can’t ride a horse that’s been buried.”

The state’s lead attorney, **Jonathan Mitchell** of the Solicitor General’s Office, also asked Sparks for a ruling that Sparks didn’t think he could give – a declaratory judgment that the law does not offend the Constitution and does not “pose an undue burden on women” seeking abortion. Sparks reminded Mitchell that the federal courts do not file “advisory” opinions on issues not before them. It now appears that the fight over Texas’ ultrasound law will remain an issue for the 5th Circuit (and potentially the Supreme Court) to resolve. On Jan. 18, the CRR announced that it has filed for a rehearing before the entire court.

There may yet be a way for Sparks to thread the needle the 5th Circuit has offered, suggests **Blake Rocap**, legislative counsel for **NARAL Pro-Choice Texas**, which has also challenged the law as having provisions too vague to enforce. While the 5th Circuit found nothing opaque in the statutory language, its Jan. 10 opinion reflects a major contradiction – noting that the woman who must undergo the ultrasound procedure (generally, an invasive transvaginal probe) may opt out from receiving the information gleaned from it. But the law itself says that doctors “shall” conduct the procedure and deliver the information obtained. If a woman opts out, why must a doctor then conduct the examination, if not for medical necessity? “What [then] is the state’s compelling interest,” Rocap asked, in performing a procedure on an unwilling patient?

Sparks’ ruling is pending, and any ruling will almost certainly again be appealed to the 5th Circuit.

— Jordan Smith

the hightower report BY JIM HIGHTOWER

AN UGLY SURPRISE FROM BIG OIL

The corporatists in Congress barked at Obama that he must approve the Keystone XL pipeline from Canada to the Gulf Coast because the Exxons and Chevrons need a way to get all that Canadian tar sands oil to their Texas refineries. That’ll increase the supply of gasoline and lower the price at the pump. It’s Economics 101, Bucko.

Really? Well, consider this complicating fact: Rather than shipping an abundance of gasoline to our gas stations, Big Oil has quietly been siphoning oceans of fuel from its U.S. refineries and shipping it to Asia, Europe, and Latin America. Last year, for the first time ever, fuel became the top export of the United States; the big refineries shipped 117 million gallons of gasoline, diesel, and jet fuel per day out of our country. Suddenly, fuel exports are bigger in dollar value than the foreign sales of American aircraft, agriculture, or any other product.

Commuters, truckers, farmers, airlines, and others who are dependent on those fuels have been soaked in the past year by gasoline

pump prices averaging \$3.52 a gallon – a record high. This price shock has given Big Oil’s political puppets an excuse to yap ceaselessly about the urgent need to “build that pipeline.” The environment be damned, is their cry, full speed ahead to increase supply.

These ranters don’t mention (shhhh) the giant refiners’ control and manipulation of our gasoline supply for their own fun and profit. While the refiners refuse to reveal how much they profit from exporting fuel, the more they send overseas, the less there is at home, allowing them to jack up our prices. No surprise then that the Big Five gasoline makers enjoyed record profits in 2011.

Rather than ripping apart our environment to serve these finaglers, America urgently needs a full conversion to alternative fuels.

[Editor’s note: This syndicated column was written just before the Obama administration announced it would reject the Keystone XL proposal, though these arguments would still hold forth were the company to reapply with a different route.]

For more on Jim Hightower’s work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, “The Hightower Lowdown” – visit www.jimhightower.com. You can hear his radio commentaries on KOOP Radio 91.7FM, weekdays at 10:58am and 12:58pm.

Austin Rep. Eddie Rodriguez says he's hopeful the final maps will be similar to the interim maps.

JOHN ANDERSON



The Texas Map Morass

Texas has been in limbo over its primary season as lawyers argue over the House, Senate, and congressional maps. Now the latest ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court – which many expected to slash through this Gordian knot – has done little to resolve the situation, instead restarting the **map-drawing process**.

The justices were debating the relative merits of the heavily gerrymandered maps passed by the Legislature last session (see “Riding the Pinwheel,” Aug. 26, 2011) against the more balanced interim maps drawn by a three-judge panel in San Antonio (see “New Map Tweaks Local House Seats,” Nov. 25, 2011). On Jan. 20, the high court sent the redistricting question back down to the San Antonio panel to redraw the maps again.

In a triumphal statement, Attorney General **Greg Abbott** said, “The Supreme Court confirmed that the San Antonio court drew illegal maps, without regard for the policy decisions of elected leaders.” However, Democrats and voting rights groups countered that the Supreme Court did nothing of the sort. The high court’s instructions to the lower court are very simple. When drawing up the interim map, the San Antonio court completely ignored the gerrymandered map passed last year. Instead, it modified the maps passed after the 2001 redistricting. The Supreme Court ruled that the San Antonio court should have used the Legislature’s new maps

and simply fixed them to ensure compliance with the Voting Rights Act. In a statement analyzing the ruling, **Texas Democratic Party** spokesman Anthony Gutierrez said, “The issues they had pertained to the process by which the court arrived at new maps, not necessarily the maps themselves.”

Theoretically, the San Antonio court could return with exactly the same maps that it drew in November. Rep. **Eddie Rodriguez**, D-Austin, was in Washington, D.C., last week giving testimony in another redistricting trial and said: “I remain hopeful that the final maps will be very similar to the interim maps. After all, the courts are still responsible for protecting the voting rights of all Texans under the **Voting Rights Act** and the Constitution.”

This all does little to nothing to resolve the other big question about the primaries: when they will be. State GOP and Democratic leaders had already agreed to shift primary day back from March 6 to April 3 while the courts finish their deliberations. Both parties have voiced concerns about moving the date again, because it would leave campaigns in limbo and force them to reschedule their state conventions. Abbott has already asked the San Antonio court to issue its new maps by Jan. 30, but that seems unlikely since those judges are not scheduled to meet until Jan. 27.

– Richard Whittaker

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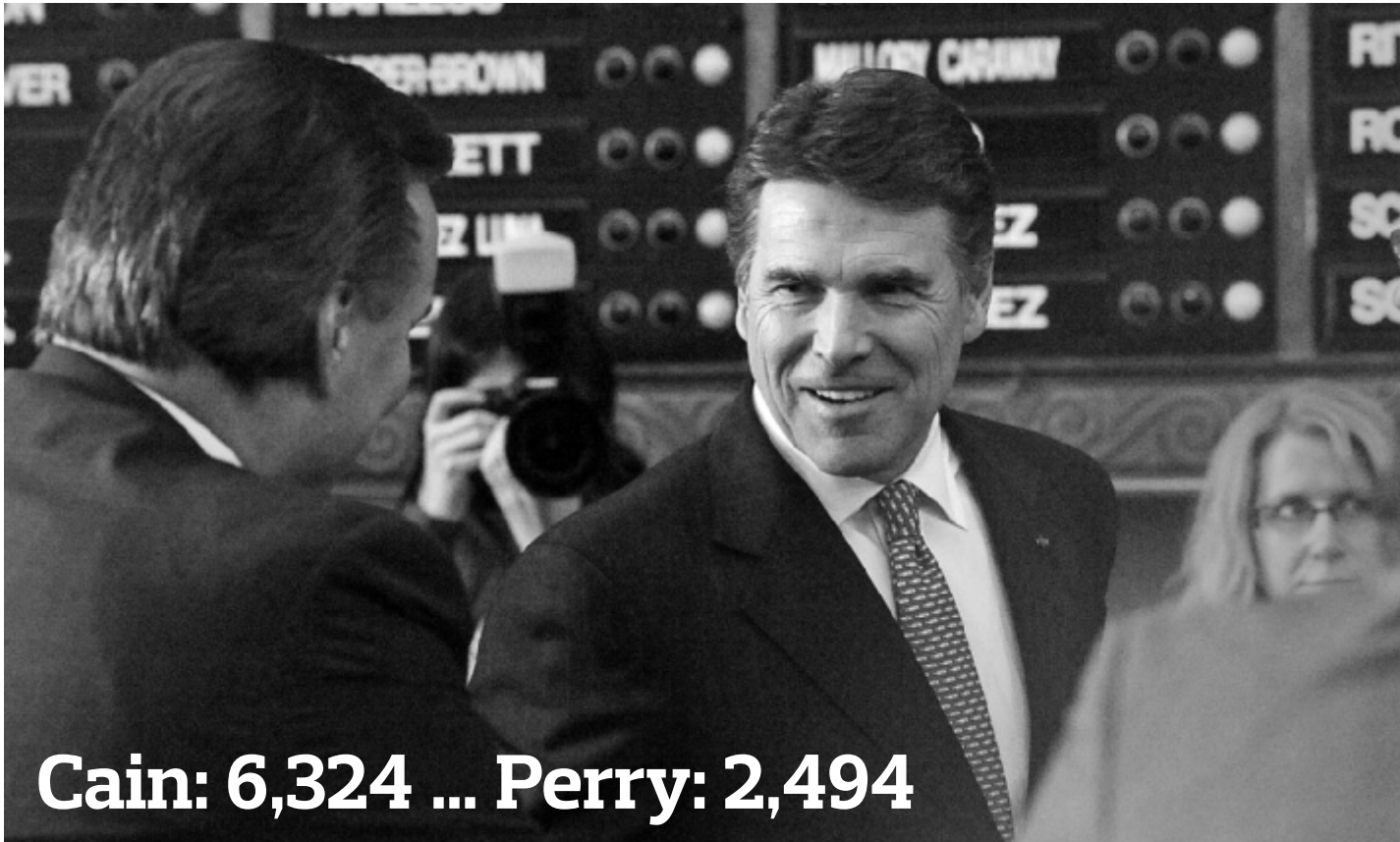
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JOHN ANDERSON

Farewell, presidential hopeful **Rick Perry**. On Jan. 19, the Texas governor folded up the tent on his miserable misfire of a campaign, announcing that he was endorsing **Newt Gingrich** and heading back to Texas. We chronicled our favorite flubs from his collapsing aspirations of 2011 during our end-of-year survey (see "Top 10 Rick Perry Campaign Misfires," Jan. 6), but now seems the right time to highlight the career-crushing mistakes he crammed into those final 19 days on the stump.

— *Richard Whittaker*

1) Iowa Owie: If the Jan. 3 Iowa caucus used Texas school accountability stan-

dards, count Perry as "Presidentially Unacceptable." He limped over the line in fifth place with 10.3% in a state where he had been leading in August.

2) Will You, Won't You?: After his Iowa drubbing, rumors were circulating that his staff were sitting in bars as if the campaign were already over, and Perry himself was telling everyone he would decamp to Texas to consider his options. Instead, he just went for a jog and decided, yup, he was staying in for the long haul — which turned out to be a grand total of 16 days.

3) Iraq the Third: What's a Texas Republican presidential hopeful without a Gulf War? At

the Jan. 7 ABC debate, Perry announced that he would send troops back into Iraq. Really, he actually said that.

4) No, No, New Hampshire: Accepting that the Northeast was always stony ground for his brand of good ol' boyism, Perry announced he was bypassing the Granite State's Jan. 10 vote and heading straight to South Carolina, which he declared to be his Alamo. The result? A mortifying 0.7% showing in the nation's first primary.

5) Perfect, Immobile Hair: On a Jan. 13 trip to the Squat 'n' Gobble in Bluffton, S.C., the governor seemed to take a question from a

store mannequin. There was back-and-forth among the press whether Perry was joking or not, but the discussion just proved that no one took him seriously.

6) Oops, He Did it Again: Commerce, Education, Energy: "Oops" became an Internet meme in November when Perry flubbed that list of three federal agencies he would shutter, but his talking-point memory failure was not a one-off. Phoning in to WTBS in Savannah, Ga., on Jan. 13, Perry said he would shutter Commerce, Education, and ... Interior. Right number, wrong list.

7) No, Virginia: After failing to grab enough signatures to get on the Virginia ballot, Perry did what any critic of activist judges would do — ask the court to let him in the primary anyway. On Jan. 13, U.S. District Judge John Gibney rejected his lawyers' request, writing, "They played the game, lost, and then complained that the rules were unfair."

8) Evangelical Snub: Perry's campaign started with his bizarre stadium-sized tent revival meeting, the Response, and was supposed to be carried on the wings of evangelical votes. But when the religious right's leaders gathered, they threw their weight behind Rick "Google Me" Santorum instead. To add geographical insult to injury, their Jan. 14 meeting was in Texas.

9) Stuffed Turkey: Ignoring the fact that U.S.-Turkish relations are less tense than usual, during the Jan. 16 Fox News debate in South Carolina, Perry accused the Muslim nation and NATO member of being run by "Islamic terrorists." Even after withdrawing from the race, Perry refused to walk his claims back, sparking international uproar.

10) Bad Money After Worse: In a year of heavy spending and big money candidates, no one spent more for less result than Perry. He flushed away \$62.11 per vote in New Hampshire, but that was nothing compared to the \$480 per vote he spent in Iowa, making his campaign the worst return on investment in both states.

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Will Perry Throw His Weight Behind Disclosure Law?

Mary Anne Wiley, deputy general counsel for Gov. Rick Perry, knows her boss has a reputation for being "tough on crime" and as a "very conservative" guy, she told the **Texas Criminal Justice Integrity Unit** Jan. 20, but he's also "amazed that we have this inequality going on in this state." At issue is the manner in which individual counties in Texas handle discovery requirements in criminal cases – otherwise known as Brady material, shorthand for the 1963 U.S. Supreme Court case *Brady v. Maryland*. In that case, the court ruled that the state had a duty to turn over to a defendant any exculpatory, mitigatory, or impeachment material that would bear on guilt or punishment for a crime.

While that charge seems fairly straightforward, it hasn't exactly panned out – the most recent, high-profile case where there are allegations that Brady material was illegally withheld is that of **Michael Morton**, freed last year after spending nearly a quarter-century behind bars for the murder of his wife, a killing that DNA evidence revealed he did not commit. At issue is whether Williamson County prosecutors withheld from Morton's defense exculpatory material that could have kept him from being convicted – or helped the state to apprehend the real killer back in the Eighties.

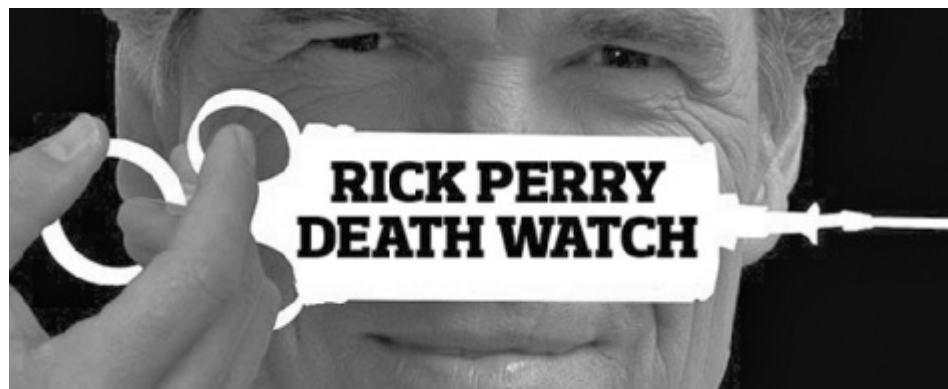
Lawmakers and lawyers have been wringing their hands for years over whether to pass a statute to standardize discovery practices in Texas, but with little success. Thus, Wiley's comments about her boss' concerns during the TCJIU meeting were welcomed, if unexpected. Discovery issues have become a hot-button topic of late, not only in Texas but across the nation. In Texas, discovery policies vary from county to county, which Wiley says she believes is a distinct problem: "the



JOHN ANDERSON

"There should be no secrets where justice is concerned," Rep. Pete Gallego told Gov. Perry's deputy general counsel

idea that we do not have uniformity ... it's like justice is different in Smith County than it is in Lubbock County," she said. "As a state, I'm not sure that's a good thing. Justice should be as equal as possible." Stakeholders have to get together to figure it out, she said, to "promote justice"; fixing discovery issues "is just beyond essential." Alpine Democratic Rep. **Pete Gallego**, also a member of the TCJIU, agreed. "There should be no secrets where justice is concerned," he said. And perhaps, he suggested to Wiley, she could get her boss to help break the logjam that the issue has become in recent sessions. "It would be helpful next time around," he said, "if your boss would be willing to put his weight behind it." – Jordan Smith

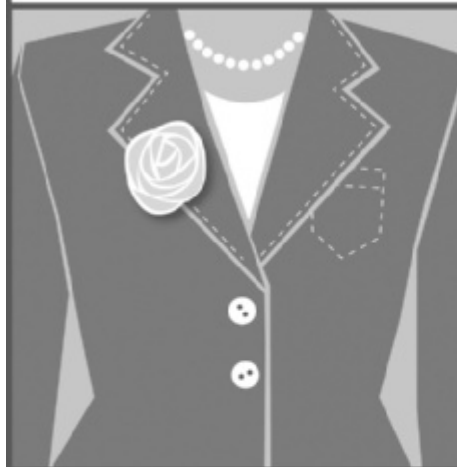


Rick Perry Death Watch

Today (Thursday, Jan. 26) Texas is slated to carry out its **478th execution** since reinstatement of the death penalty. For Gov. Rick Perry, the scheduled execution of Rodrigo Hernandez this evening will mark a milestone: the 239th execution he's presided over, meaning Perry will have overseen half of all Texas executions, securing his spot as the **killinest governor in the U.S.** Hernandez was convicted and sentenced to death for the abduction, rape, and murder of 38-year-old Susan Verstegen, a Frito-Lay saleswoman who disappeared in February 1994 while working a late-night shift. Her body was later found stuffed into a 55-gallon trash can behind a San Antonio church. Her murder went unsolved for eight years until DNA found at the scene was matched to Hernandez, who reportedly supplied the DNA sample to jailers in Michigan, where he was incarcerated on an unrelated charge, as a condition of his release. – J.S.

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MORE PANELISTS ANNOUNCED to join an already stellar lineup. See the full lineup at sxsw.com/films/talks

- A Conversation with Joss Whedon
- *Girls* Panel featuring Judd Apatow and Lena Dunham
- The Business of Kevin Smith
- A Conversation with Cliff Martinez



Kevin Smith





PHOTO BY JANA BIRCHUM

Creating Sustainability

City plans Colony Park project as a long-term Eastside neighborhood

BY RICHARD WHITTAKER

If you drive east along Loyola Lane past Highway 183 until you're almost floating in Walter E. Long Lake, you'll pass on the way a big slab of nothing. But not for much longer. The city has three years – and a \$3 million planning grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – to develop an environmentally driven master plan for a shovel-ready project that could house 750 families, plus retailers and employers. In part, the work is intended to break the long-held conviction that East Austin is the dumping ground for every undesirable public project, from power plants to animal shelters – without any forward-thinking investment. For Rebecca Giello, assistant director of the Neighborhood Housing & Community Development Office, the purpose is to create “self-sufficiency for a community in need.” The goals are fairly lofty: to turn the 200-plus-acre site into a perfect melding of affordability and ecology, implementing every environmental best practice – from energy-efficient building techniques to water conservation to zero-waste technology – while providing the population and commercial boost the area needs. The buzz word is sustainability, but the challenge for the city is balancing and meshing the concepts of environmental and economic sustainability, as well as – the most nebulous goal of all – creating a truly sustainable *community*.

Why Colony Park, and why now? “Why not?” responds Giello. The site is less than a third of the size of the city’s last big master-planned community, now the Mueller neighborhood. “It’s big enough to be a big deal,” she said, “but it’s not a mini Mueller.” Instead of repeating what was done at the old airport site, the plan is to take the best practices and lessons learned there and everywhere else in the city to make Colony Park something unique. In May 2001, the city paid \$3 million for the 258-acre site. Under the administration of the Austin Housing Finance Corporation, 50 acres have already been dedicated to parkland, the Turner-Roberts Recreation Center, and Austin Independent School District’s Overton Elementary. Besides the original purchase price for the land, the city has sunk \$5.6 million into Turner-Roberts and \$22 million into infrastructure and flood control for Loyola Lane. “You’re looking at an area where the infrastructure’s there, to a great degree,” Giello said. The next step is attracting the people and the businesses to make that infrastructure investment worthwhile.

Building a Neighborhood

All the money already spent could be a drop in the bucket compared to the potential cost of the project itself. That’s why the federal grant is pivotal, giving the city

money and breathing room to not just create a dream project, but to find realistic ways to fund it. NCHD policy and planning manager Kelly Nichols called the grant “a convergence of opportunity. We had this piece of land that Betsy [Spencer], our new director, is very interested in developing, but not necessarily in the same old way. She and [Chief Sustainability Officer Lucia Athens] had spent the last year taking city officials out [to see] and really focusing on sustainability before this came about.”

A key aspect of the job for Nichols and her office is tracking notices of funding availability coming out of HUD – in fact, roughly 52% of the office’s budget comes from federal sources – and sustainability has become an increasingly significant requirement for successful applicants. This particular slab of HUD funding, called a Community Challenge Planning Grant, is intended to promote local sustainability hand in hand with affordable housing. Nichols said, “When we saw this opportunity, we thought, ‘This is a home run.’”

Not only did the nature of the grant help crystallize the concept for the project, but it could also open further funding sources when the project breaks ground. At the launch, HUD’s San Antonio field office director Richard Lopez told the city that HUD is “your forever partner” and noted that the grant could be used to research and apply for other grants for the construction phase. Mayor Lee Leffingwell has taken an interest in this as a pilot project, one that could be duplicated in other underdeveloped areas such as East

Riverside and Airport Boulevard. And not just Austin: As part of the grant, the city and its partners must host a national conference, designed to disseminate the best practices and policy lessons learned from the planning experience. Nichols said, “Three years from now, we will be ready to dig our shovels in.”



Rebecca Giello

Colony Park is “big enough to be a big deal, but it’s not a mini Mueller.”
– Rebecca Giello, Neighborhood Housing & Community Development

To a certain degree, this project is about kick-starting and controlling development in a stretch of East Austin that is relatively underdeveloped and underpopulated. That story is probably told most clearly in the closest AISD middle school, Garcia. Although demographic projections point to growth in the area, population has been a problem for the school district since it opened the campus in 2008, with 46% of its 1,215 seats empty in the 2010-11 school year. Even if every one of the 829 eligible children in its attendance zone had gone to Garcia, it still would have had 386 spare seats last year. And even with Austin’s ever-swelling population, AISD forecasts only 901 middle schoolers in the area by 2015. There was little doubt that the area needed a middle school to make student travel times reasonable, but the population simply is not there yet to fill the rooms. Placing 750 homes right on Garcia’s back doorstep could be a big boost for the campus.

AISD’s executive director of facilities, Paul Turner, said that the district tracks all multiunit projects through the planning phase, “but we normally don’t start projecting the enrollment rates and calculating the absorption rates until they start on the infrastructure.” However, the back-of-an-

Turner-Roberts Recreation Center



JANA BIRCHUM

envelope calculation is that for every 300 single-family units in this area of Austin, the district could be looking at an additional 240 students – 120 for its elementaries and 120 split between middle and high schools.

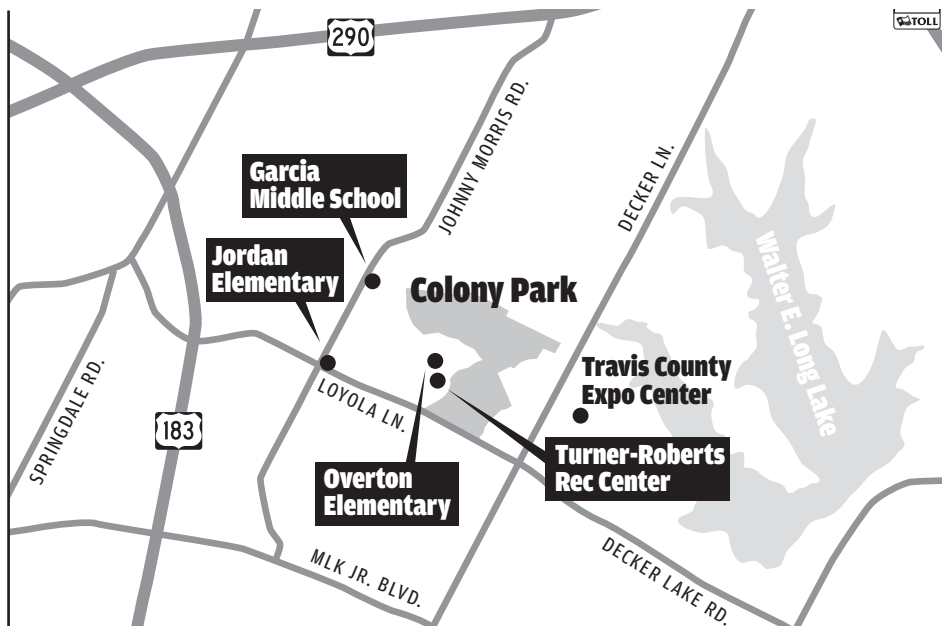
Finding Partnerships

AISD is not alone in having a vested interest in the project. Indeed, at the launch announcement, Lopez said that the number and strength of the partnerships listed in Austin's proposal were big selling points for HUD. The list of partners already on board includes obvious ones, such as Austin Energy and Austin Resource Recovery, but Nichols and Giello said their office has been contacted by other city agencies, including the Austin Fire Department, which has a real interest in getting involved at the planning stage. Giello said, "There's a mobile unit that [the county's] Health and Human Services [Department] has that services that area, so maybe a clinic would be an ideal thing to look at."

One component Lopez called vital to HUD is transportation: Enter Capital Metro. The transit agency's principal planner, James Gamez, called the neighborhood "a high ridership area" and noted that his office and the city have been in discussions about the Colony Park plot since 2009. Currently this stretch of Loyola Lane is effectively two disconnected population blocks, separated by the city's land. Gamez said, "We basically see it as an opportunity to improve the connectivity within the neighborhood, to make it easier for people to get to our current bus service." Since the grant was announced, there have been preliminary talks about timelines and the creation of an interagency coordination team, which Cap Metro would likely join. "We're one of the agencies that they've talked about as being crucial to stay involved throughout the project," Gamez said.

While much of the master-planning phase will be about finding cash for construction and development, the city has already split the planning grant among three key activities. First, there's the master plan itself, a \$750,000 study that will include market and economic studies, anchor tenant negotiations, land use, and roadway planning. Next up, \$1.2 million for the entitlement and infrastructure planning phase, to pay for rezoning the property as a Planned Unit Development; and finally, \$1 million for the sustainable design.

To a certain degree, this project is about kick-starting and controlling development in a stretch of East Austin that is relatively underdeveloped and underpopulated.



WHAT'S PLANNED FOR COLONY PARK

The whole purpose of a Community Challenge Planning Grant is to allow municipalities time to plan in detail the best possible master-planned community. The city of Austin already knows, in the broadest strokes, its goals for the Colony Park Sustainable Community Pilot Project. The exact details may change over time, but the targets should remain roughly the same. – R.W.

- Build 500 single-family ownership units and 250 multifamily rental units
- Make 40% of total units affordable to households at or below 80% of median income
- Encourage private sector and local business investment within the project for economic development and job creation
- Ensure all units meet a minimum of 3-star Austin Energy Green Building rating
- Meet or exceed SMART Housing Program standards for safe, mixed-income, accessible, reasonably priced, transit-oriented, green development
- Incorporate zero waste diversion for the whole project, including the construction phase, meaning no waste goes to a landfill
- Include on-site recycling and composting

Making Sustainability Affordable

It's the definition of "sustainable" that may come under the closest inspection. The obvious component is the environmental aspect, as shown in the commitment to zero-waste. But there's also the broader idea of a "sustainable community" – one that will provide homes and jobs for families for as long as they want to remain. Unfortunately, there is political tension between those two concepts of sustainable. Take the recent rate-increase proposal from Austin Energy: Some of its opponents, including the *Austin American-Statesman* ("Is Austin Energy Too Green," Jan. 17, p.A-1) have suggested that green energy and affordable living may be mutually exclusive. This also taps into another fear prevalent in East Austin – the dreaded specter of gentrification. County Commissioner Ron Davis, whose Precinct 1 includes the planned development, is just as sure as Giello that he doesn't want Colony Park to be another Mueller, but for different reasons. "They had intended for a lot of that housing to be affordable for persons in the surrounding area," he said, "and of course that's not the case." While he backs the environmentally sustainable parts of the plan,

his concerns as commissioner are twofold: that the project meshes with the county's own long-term facility and infrastructure planning in the area, and that it does not dislodge the current population by pricing them out of the neighborhood. As the project is on city-owned property and within city limits, Davis' office has no direct jurisdiction, but he said he wants to make sure affordability remains part of the discussion. While he backs mixed-use and mixed-income development, he asked: "Is it going to drive people out of the area? ... There have to be some safeguards."

Davis is not alone in that concern. As part of its livability principals, HUD requires that a project support existing communities. The city has already budgeted \$294,466 – nearly double what the terms of the HUD grant require – for its public engagement process, and the NCHD will be relying a great deal on local members of the Community Development Commission to lead the discussion. For NCHD's Nichols, bringing community stakeholders and interested agencies into that consultation process "is the heart of sustainability. That's what this project is about, taking the time to plan this piece of land so that it's the best public investment it can be." ■

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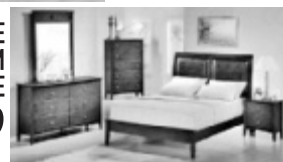
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JASON STOUT

NDAAs: Obama's Betrayal

BY MICHAEL VENTURA

The president signed the 2012 National Defense Authorization Act on New Year's Eve, certain of lax-to-nonexistent coverage over the three-day, binge-and-hangover weekend.

This is part of what he signed:

"Congress affirms" that the president's power "includes the authority for the Armed Forces of the United States to detain covered persons (as defined in subsection (b))." A covered person may be "a person who was a part of or substantially supported al-Qaeda, the Taliban, or associated forces that are engaged in hostilities against the United States or its coalition partners, including any person who has committed a belligerent act or has directly supported such hostilities in aid of such enemy forces."

The government may define as it pleases "associated forces," "belligerent act," and "support." Peaceful but noisy, intense demonstrators may easily be considered "belligerent."

Read on: "The disposition of a person under the law of war as described in subsection (a) may include the following: (1) Detention under the law of war without trial until the end of the hostilities ... (4) Transfer

to the custody or control of the person's country of origin, any other foreign country, or any other foreign entity."

You can be arrested by order of the president, held without trial "until the end of hostilities," and put under "the custody and control" of a foreign country or entity. Translation: They can do what they please with you. Your rights are no longer protected by law.

In a signing statement, Obama "promised the provisions would comply 'with the Constitution, the laws of war, and all other applicable law'" (FoxNews.com, Jan. 2).

It is Orwellian to the max to suggest that arrest without warrant and detention without trial comply with the Constitution. As for "all other applicable law" – that's a corker.

Try this for applicable law: the USA PATRIOT Act's definition of "terrorism": "Acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws ... [or that] appear intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population, to influence the policy of the government by intimidation or coercion, or to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping."

Only the last clause specifies violence; the definition mainly concentrates on "dangerous" acts that "appear intended to intimidate or coerce." Most demonstrations are intended to intimidate and coerce government. Why say "dangerous" rather than "violent"? Because everyone knows what "violent" means, but this law lets government define "dangerous." The vague word "appear" means government needn't prove substance, merely appearance.

But even the PATRIOT Act says they need some kind of warrant (albeit secret) and some kind of trial (also secret). Obama's NDAA dispenses with those formalities. No warrant, no trial, indefinite detention. Obama's law.

"He will forever be known as the president who signed indefinite detention without charge or trial into law," said ACLU Executive Director Anthony Romero in a press statement on New Year's Eve. "Any hope that the Obama administration would roll back the constitutional excesses of George Bush in the war on terror was extinguished today."

"Glenn Greenwald ... notes that section 1022 exempts US citizens from the requirement of military detention but still leaves the option open to the state," Forbes.com reported. In a Salon editorial, Greenwald wrote, "The proof that this bill does not expressly exempt U.S. citizens or those captured on U.S. soil is that amendments offered by Sen. Feinstein providing expressly for those exemptions were rejected."

In his signing statement, Obama wrote: "The fact that I support this bill as a whole does not mean I agree with everything in it. In particular, I have signed this bill despite having serious reservations with certain provisions that regulate detention, interrogation, and prosecution of suspected terrorists. ... Moreover, I want to clarify that my Administration will not authorize the indefinite military detention without trial of American citizens."

Mother Jones blog, Jan. 2: "Note what the president does not say: that indefinitely detaining an American suspected of terrorism would be unconstitutional or illegal. Obama's signing statement seems to suggest he already believes he has the authority to indefinitely detain Americans – he just never intends to use it."

The president's cavalier attitude toward our future was demonstrated when ABC's Jake Tapper questioned White House Press Secretary Jay Carney, as transcribed on ABCNews.com, Jan. 17:

Tapper asked, "Is President Obama doing anything to rescind this provision that gives the military this new power?"

Carney diddled with a nonanswer that ended, "The president retains the flexibility that he believes is essential for the commander in chief to make sure that our people

in the field have all the tools necessary to do their job and that make sure that we are handling these matters in a way that are consistent with our values. So we will implement the law in a way that makes that achievable."

Tapper persisted: "But that's a signing statement that says that 'This is how we are interpreting the law.' But the law is [that] the military now has the power to indefinitely detain an American citizen if they suspect them of terrorism. And I understand that the president is going to interpret it his way. But he's not going to be president forever. He might not even be president in two years."

"Well," Carney stammered, "I have no updates for you on – since the law was just passed and signed, on –"

"There's no effort –"

"Well, I would just say that we've made clear our concerns about it. We've made clear how we will approach implementation of it. And you know, how this is revisited, if it is revisited, remains to be seen. But at this moment I think the president has been very clear about the values he brings to it and his – the method – or rather, the approach he will take when the law is implemented."

More back-and-forth to little effect, until Tapper said, "I'm not talking about how he's going to implement it. I'm just talking about the law as it stands on the books."

"Well," Carney said, "I understand that. And we've made clear that our position is on how it needs to be implemented in a way that's consistent with our values, in a way that – and in a way that maintains maximum flexibility for our operators in the field."

"Well," said Tapper, "let me just ask this final question: Are you comfortable with how any president in the future might interpret that law?"

"Well –"

"Is the president comfortable?"

"Again, you're – that's a hypothetical about the future. And in terms of how we will approach this issue in the future, I won't want to speculate."

The Obama administration poses as a somehow innocent bystander to an act of Congress. Not so.

The co-sponsor of this bill was a Democrat, Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan. "[Levin] said during congressional hearings that Obama asked him to preserve language in the bill making Americans subject to indefinite detention" (Courthouse News Service online, Jan. 17).

The great American jurist William O. Douglas wrote: "As nightfall does not come at once, neither does oppression. In both instances, there is a twilight when everything remains seemingly unchanged. And it is in such twilight that we all must be most aware of change in the air – however slight – lest we become unwitting victims of the darkness." ■



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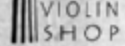




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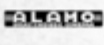
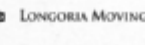

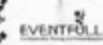
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'THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE' SHORT STORY RECEPTION

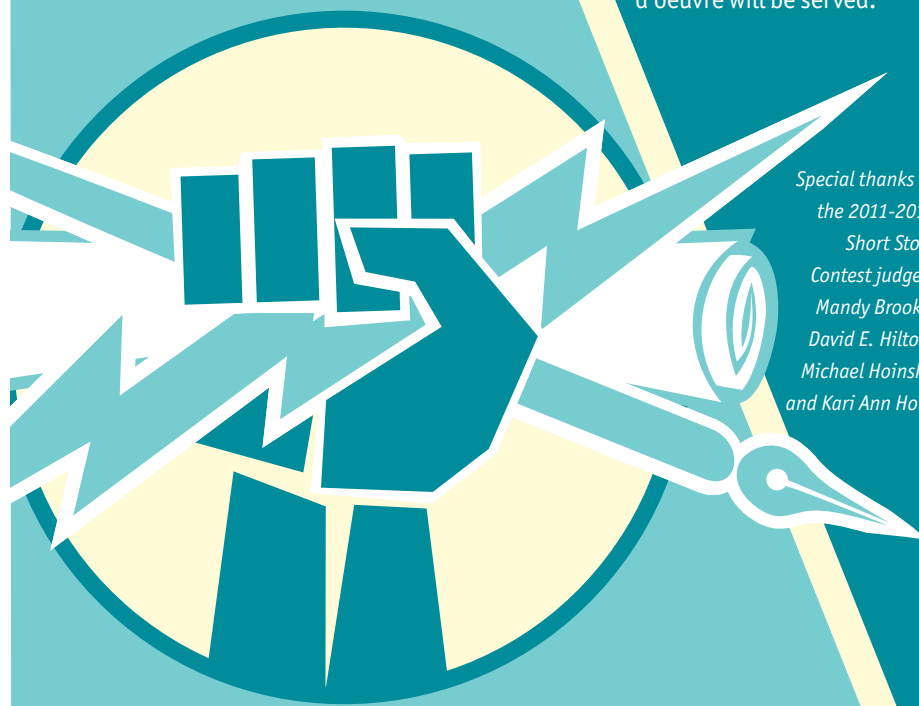
In 2011, almost 600 people submitted short stories for consideration, and five will be recognized for their work. All the manuscripts submitted were the original work of the contestants and have never before been published. The first-place winner's story will be published in the Feb. 10 issue of *The Austin Chronicle*.

Join *The Austin Chronicle*, BookPeople, and 93.3FM KGSR for the 20th annual Short Story Contest Reception.

You are invited to hear the first-, second-, and third-place winners read their short stories at the special reception.

Honorable mentions will also be announced.

Refreshments and light hors d'oeuvre will be served.



Special thanks to the 2011-2012 Short Story Contest judges: Mandy Brooks, David E. Hilton, Michael Hoinski, and Kari Ann Holt.

WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED ON WED., FEB. 8, AT BOOKPEOPLE AT 7PM.

1st place: \$800, 2nd place: \$350, 3rd place: \$250
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Photos: Christina Steiner

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THE ARTS



Judith and Gerre Hancock, from a 2009 *Chronicle* feature

He'd come a long way from Lubbock and his Southern Baptist roots. You don't grow up in West Texas without a keen appreciation for wind, which may have been what drew Hancock to the organ when he first encountered one on a trip to Dallas at age 10. "It was the most beautiful sound I'd ever heard," he told a reporter for *The New York Times* in 1995. "I couldn't believe the sound of wind-blown pipes. I heard the organ and that settled that." Eight years later, he was in Austin studying under E. William Doty, the legendary founding dean of the College of Fine Arts and an organist of some renown. Then he leaped from Texas to Paris for a year of study with Nadia Boulanger and Jean Langlais. Then, after a stint in the Army (which involved lugging a field organ around Korea), Hancock headed to New York for graduate school.

It was in the School of Sacred Music at the Union Theological Seminary that he met his wife, Judith. Their marriage of 50 years was sealed by a love of not only each other but also the organ. During Gerre Hancock's 33-year tenure at Saint Thomas, Judith served 27 years as associate organist. She developed a strong national reputation in her own right as an interpreter of Romantic music for the organ, but the couple enjoyed playing recitals together, and when they made the move to UT, they jointly developed a sacred music program for the music school. Not surprisingly, the living room of their Central Austin condo boasts an organ with some 2,500 pipes.

At the end of *The New York Times'* feature, when asked about the difference between sacred and popular music, Hancock replied: "It's all sacred as far as I'm concerned. Some works better in nightclubs than in churches, but anything beautiful is sacred." A fitting epitaph, and by that measure, he gave the world a vast treasure of sacred music.

Hancock is survived by his wife, Judith, and their daughters, Deborah and Lisa. A memorial mass will be celebrated at his former church, Saint Thomas, on Saturday, Feb. 4, and his ashes will be interred beneath the floor of the chancel where the choir directors stand to lead the choir. For more information, visit www.music.utexas.edu. — Robert Faires

Gerre Hancock IN MEMORIAM

A giant among organists, whose mastery of improvisation made him widely considered to be the finest organ improviser in the country, has passed away. Gerre Hancock, professor of organ and sacred music at UT's Butler School of Music, died unexpectedly of a heart attack on Saturday, Jan. 21. He was 77. Hancock returned to his alma mater in 2004 after more than 30 distinguished years in the field of church music, during which he served as the organist and choirmaster for the Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue in Manhattan; performed across the U.S. and in Europe, Japan, and South Africa; penned more than a dozen works for organ, more than two dozen for choir, and the popular textbook *Improvising: How To Master the Art*; taught at the Juilliard School, the Eastman School of Music, and Yale University; and earned more honors than there are stops on an organ, including the Cross of St. Augustine, an award given for notable contributions to the Anglican church by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Austin Cabaret Theatre

CAUTION: CABARET CROSSING

After more than a decade Downtown, Austin Cabaret Theatre is moving uptown ... or at least north. That's right: You'll no longer be able to get your steady diet of Broadway beltlers and standards-slingers in the heart of the city the way you have since Artistic Director Stuart Moulton began bringing the likes of Elaine Stritch, Eartha Kitt, Carol Channing, and Ann Hampton Callaway to town in 2001. Now Moulton is putting his act together and taking it on the road — specifically MoPac. Between Steck and Research Boulevard, Sterling Affairs Catering and Event Planning has taken over the space previously occupied by Harold's Outlet Barn — and known to local old-timers as The Barn restaurant or the clubs Dallas or the Edge of Town — and reinvented it as a 13,000-square foot special-events facility ideal for weddings, banquets, and meetings. ACT will set up shop in the main ballroom of the venue, now rechristened Shoal Crossing. Moulton

expects to seat 120 people — about the same number he did in ACT's most recent home, the Long Center's Kodosky Lounge, but in a slightly roomier arrangement. Patrons will lose that killer view of the Austin skyline from the Kodosky's curved glass wall — and oh, how that upped the level of urban elegance for a cabaret in Central Texas — but they'll gain what promises to be a more convenient parking setup.

Breaking in the new space is an old friend of ACT's: Sam Harris, whose previous appearance eight years ago earned a nomination for an Austin Critics Table award. The Tony-nominated, multimillion record-selling Harris is like a double-triple threat onstage: actor/singer/dancer/songwriter/writer/director. He's been busy of late cooking up a new act, *Schmooli and Minnooli*, with old pal Liza Minelli; working



Moulton (left) surveys ACT's new venue

to bring a musical about Al Jolson to Broadway; and promoting marriage equality with his self-penned anthem "My Reclamation." There appears to be nothing Harris can't do. Here's hoping this new venue can contain all that energy. — R.F.

Sam Harris will perform Thursday and Friday, Jan. 26 & 27, 8:30pm, in the Main Ballroom at Shoal Crossing, 8611 N. MoPac. For more information, visit www.austincabaret.org.

Light/The Holocaust & Humanity Project, 2005

COURTESY OF AMITAVA SARKAR



Ballet Austin 1,000 POINTS OF 'LIGHT'

Ballet Austin has once again turned on the *Light*, but this time it's even brighter — 50 times brighter. When it first produced *Light/The Holocaust & Humanity Project* in 2005, the company made the work as much a community conversation on tolerance as the premiere of Stephen Mills' ballet. The performances were supplemented by a touring exhibit of artwork with the theme of coexistence, Holocaust education workshops, a town hall meeting, and lectures, including one by Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel. Now, as it revives *Light* for the very first time, Ballet Austin is boldly expanding that conversation to include almost 50 community partners and the productions, exhibits, literary events, screenings, programs, discussions, and award ceremonies that they're presenting in the first months of this year. From Martin Luther King Jr. Day last week to Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) on April 19, hardly a day will go by in Austin without some event shining a light on human rights and social justice.

With the conversation this time comes a campaign. Taking its cue from Wiesel's comment that "in every area of human creativity, indifference is the enemy," Ballet Austin is sending the message to the community to be vigilant when it comes to bigotry and hate. "Stay Awake" is the slogan. If that's something you want to do, go to www.balletaustin.org/light and scroll through the calendar of events for the next three months. For instance, this Sunday, Brent Hasty, executive director of mindPOP and a clinical assistant professor at the University of Texas at Austin, will speak about "Creating Community and the Challenges of Holocaust Arts and Education" at the Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart Lane. (Sunday, Jan. 29, 4:10pm) You can also check out video of the 2005 production of *Light* and the Emmy Award-winning video about the project made by KLRU's *In Context* series. Take advantage of this wake-up call. You're needed. — R.F.

Light/The Holocaust & Humanity Project will be performed March 23-25, Friday & Saturday, 8pm; Sunday, 3pm, in Dell Hall at the Long Center, 701 W. Riverside. For more information, call 476-2163 or visit www.balletaustin.org.

Method to Their Madness

Two leading ladies reflect on their psychotic characters' unique relationships with the score

BY ADAM ROBERTS

To begin with, the “method” in this feature’s title? That’s a method, not *the* Method. For a performer to wrestle with a character’s psychological pathologies through the approaches prescribed by Method acting would probably not be the wisest of actions. This isn’t to say that Austin actress Meredith McCall and Russian soprano Lyubov Petrova haven’t given careful thought to the mental illnesses that plague their characters, however. On the contrary, the pair – who open this weekend as Diana in Zach Theatre’s *Next to Normal* and Lucia in Austin Lyric Opera’s *Lucia di Lammermoor*, respectively – have devoted significant watts of brainpower to considering the ways in which musical situations rendezvous to inform their characters.

The women portrayed by Petrova and McCall are linked by psychosis. Lucia’s third act features what is likely the most famous “mad scene” in all of opera, with the title character murdering the man she married just minutes before, then returning, blood-soaked with knife in hand, to her own wedding reception. The modern-day Diana of the 2008 musical *Next to Normal* subsists on nearly every psychiatric drug imaginable and attempts suicide after making the decision to flush her entire supply down the toilet once and for all. Her doctor intervenes this time with electroconvulsive therapy, which results in the loss of some of Diana’s most treasured memories.

Though these two characters are united by psychiatric crises and a penchant for apparitions, their musical treatments are about as far afield from each other as one could conceive. After all, Donizetti’s *Lucia* debuted nearly 175 years before Brian Yorkey and Tom Kitt’s *Normal*, and compositional practice has changed a lot over the intervening centuries. Even so, both Petrova and McCall point to similar aspects of their respective scores when asked for their vantage points on the composers’ choices.

“When I first looked at the score, it was quite clear for me that both the story and the music have the whole character written in a way that is very fragile,” Petrova observes. “For example, from number to number, Lucia is shown in completely different moods and states of mind. She is telling a scary story one moment about the ghost and the next is ecstatic about her lover. Then in the next scene, we see her as quite a strong woman in a fight with her brother, and in the next, completely collapsed and passive.”

McCall describes how the similarly shifting terrain of her character’s arc is supported by the evocation of diverse musical genres throughout the show: “I think there’s something about the variety of musical styles that takes you on the journey of these manic, a little bit out-of-control moments and then these sort of flat moments and also these terribly sad moments. I find that the music most definitely takes the actor, and I think also the listener, on her ride – which is not what we would call a ‘normal’ ride.”

Orchestrations also play a primary role in a performer’s interpretation of the score. Like most opera orchestras, *Lucia*’s ensemble is large. This contrasts dramatically

with the chamber-sized ensemble of *Next to Normal*, which includes only seven instrumentalists. Though economic constraints factor heavily in the making of such decisions where musicals are concerned, even in Broadway pits, *Normal* orchestrator Michael Starobin is a master at making the most of each instrument he’s been allotted – a trait lauded by McCall in discussing the show’s palette of instrumental colors.

“I love that in spite of it being, perhaps, a pop-rock score, it also includes a cello and violin, which I find to be such beautiful instruments. To include them in the piece gives it a different feel, a different depth. There’s a different place you go with a cello than you do with an electric guitar. There are a lot of really great acoustic songs, and I think that some of those places where it can be a little calmer, a little warmer, are really wonderful in contrast.”

In *Lucia*, Donizetti originally wrote “Il dolce suono” (“The sweet sound,” as Lucia’s “mad” aria begins) to be accompanied by glass harmonica; that instrument is often replaced by flute in performance. For Petrova, the eerie give-and-take of voice and instrument in this case is significant in interpreting her character. “The mad scene’s famous cadenza with the flute ... nobody else hears it,” she says. “It’s a fantastic way of expressing the madness. There are tons of people around, but Lucia is in her own world, and she hears music and voices that nobody else can.”

“I find it interesting to play with the idea that some voices come to her, and some she creates,”

she continues. “I play the cadenza with the flute as a dialogue with the voices in her head. She’s communicating with her lover first. Then it’s a ghost – it’s all changing very quickly.”

Both Petrova and McCall point to the scores of *Lucia di Lammermoor* and *Next to Normal* as keys to playing the mental distress of two women past the verge of a nervous breakdown.

McCall finds similar significance in a lone instrument where her own character is concerned, and like Lucia’s, it is a sweet sound: that of a music box. “I think about the song ‘I Dreamed a Dance,’ which is this music box lullaby that takes you into a very specific place. In that particular scene, Diana is going someplace emotionally with her longing for her child – so it makes perfect sense that she encounters this music box, opens it, and then is taken to this other place. And I feel like that music takes me to that place very easily.”

But for Diana, not every musical moment is as predictable and reassuring as a music box waltz. “I think that



Meredith McCall as Diana in Zach Theatre’s *Next to Normal*



Lyubov Petrova as Lucia in Austin Lyric Opera’s *Lucia di Lammermoor*

the composer and lyricist have found ways to use both unusual time signatures as well as shifting meters that indicate a certain erratic or uneven feel, so that it seems to mirror her emotional state at the time,” says McCall. She points out, for example, that her song “Wish I Were Here,” “which is really driving but then goes into 7/8, puts you in sort of an unusual feel – of course, at that point Diana is undergoing electroshock therapy, but that seems indicative of what’s going on, where things are starting and stopping.”

For all of the shaky psyche exposed through the music of both characters, though, one mustn’t forget the invocation of those happier moments, like

Diana’s music box waltz or the ironically sweet sound of Lucia’s musical setting in the depths of her trauma. “She’s very faithful to her love, and very strong in her feelings,” reminds Petrova. “That has stayed with her through the whole piece. Her loyalty is where she finds her strength. She kills because of her loyalty. The most interesting twist in the story is that only in that madness does she find her happiness. That strength and loyalty is still there. All she sees is her beloved. It amazes me.”

Lucia di Lammermoor will be performed Saturday, Jan. 28, 7:30pm; Friday, Feb. 3, 7:30pm; and Sunday, Feb. 5, 3pm, in Dell Hall at the Long Center, 701 W. Riverside. For more information, visit www.austinyricopera.org.

Next to Normal runs Jan. 25-March 4, Tuesday-Saturday, 8pm; Sunday, 2:30pm, on the Zach Theatre Kleberg Stage, 1421 W. Riverside. For more information, call 476-0541 or visit www.zachtheatre.org.

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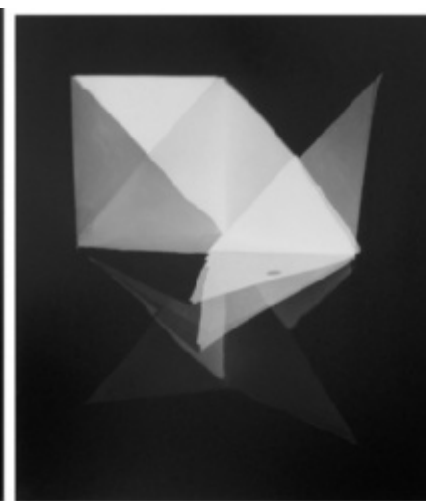
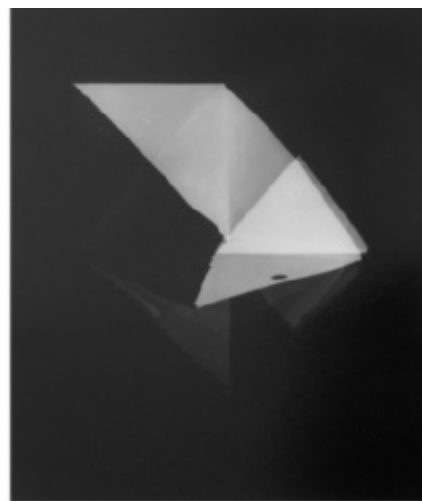
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Meredith McCall, Photos: KikiTuck.com

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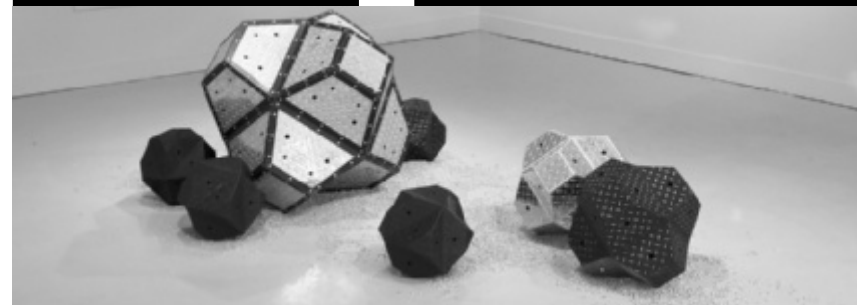
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Katja Mater, *Time Passing Objects 02*, 2012, Two C-prints, 16.5 x 14 & 16.1 x 14 inches, Courtesy of the artist and Martin van Zomeren Gallery, Amsterdam

Buster Graybill, Detail of *Progeny of Tush Hog* installation, 2011, Mixed media, Courtesy of the artist.

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EXHIBITIONISM



Duncan McLean sings the praises of Thomas Fraser

COURTESY OF REBECCA MARR

Long Gone Lonesome

Bass Concert Hall

Jan. 19

A keening wind. A whip-poor-will. A midnight train whistle. Some things are just born with a lonesome sound – that high, plaintive tone full of longing. Hank Williams was born with it. And Jimmie Rodgers. And when Scotsman Duncan McLean flips on the vintage reel-to-reel recorder and you hear this countryman sing, you know Thomas Fraser was born with it, too. His voice seems to hold all the vast, empty space around him and the ache for some companionship to ease the suffering of a solitary life. It's a voice ideal for capturing the heartbreak shot through the songs of Williams, Rodgers, and other country legends, but Fraser was an unlikely enthusiast of American country music. A son of the far-flung Shetland Isles and a fisherman by trade, he had no connection to that steel geetar 'n' Stetson world except through the radio and 78s brought back from the States by his uncle in the merchant marine. Country music spoke to him so deeply, though, that he devoted most of his 50 years to learning as much as he could and committing his versions to tape on a recorder that he purchased in 1953.

In *Long Gone Lonesome*, McLean serves as Fraser's Boswell, spinning out from the stage the Burra Isle native's country song of a life: a childhood bout with polio, shyness that bordered on painful, a reputation in his village as an eccentric and a drinker, a near-death experience when his fishing boat sank, and a blow to the head that ultimately cost the man his life. For Fraser, though, the hardscrabble

existence in that remote locale was always balanced by the music. And McLean punctuates his stories about Fraser with songs that he loved, which McLean performs with three other Scottish musicians under the name the Lone Star Swing Band. The feel of the show is less like a play than a tribute concert, and with the audience of 150 seated on the Bass Concert Hall stage under strings of bare bulbs with checkered cloths covering long tables in front of the band, it could almost be taking place in a small VFW hall on the dusty flatlands of the Panhandle. That sensation is even stronger once the show proper is done and the tables are cleared away so patrons can two-step to their hearts' content as the band plays on. The musicians' feel for the music, their amiable demeanor, even their corny banter, ring Texas true. If it weren't for those dang Scottish accents, you'd figure 'em for some pickup band outta Poteet.

Unfortunately for the stateside premiere of this National Theatre of Scotland production, presented by Texas Performing Arts, cedar fever had sapped some of the energy from frontman McLean and left his vocals a touch ragged in places on Thursday night. Still, that didn't dim his enthusiasm for his subject or the power of Fraser's story. When, at the end of the show, McLean played a tape of Fraser singing "Over the Rainbow" and then subtly and softly the band joined him to accompany his disembodied voice, we crossed to a place without time, without separation between the quick and the dead, between Scotland and Texas; we ascended to some heaven where music lovers of all times and places abide together, lost in the mystery of a form that knows no nation, knows no age. In that moment, Fraser was no longer long gone or lonesome in anything but his voice. He was present and embraced by a crowd that truly heard him as he always wished to be heard.

– Robert Faïres

COURTESY OF NATHAN RUSSELL



Miró Quartet With Anton Nel

Bates Recital Hall

Jan. 20

Eloquence doesn't get much play in the age of the sound bite. We're so wired for speed and informality that in most communication, a bluntness of expression holds sway. But in Bates Recital Hall last Friday, the Miró Quartet and pianist Anton Nel proved there are still places where thoughts are composed and conveyed with craft, where time is allowed for a range of feelings to be explored and for fine distinctions to be drawn.

In the first movement of Edward Elgar's *Quintet for Piano and Strings in A Minor*, they alternated passages of dramatic conflict – a pursuit that escalated from the furtive shadowing of a stalker to a breathless chase, with the strings racing away from Nel's relentless, commanding piano – with others of wistful nostalgia: the piano and strings joined in a dance of yearning, twirling about a history shared and lost. A beautifully layered tension within and between these sections caught the pull between past and present, action and reflection, and it was sustained through the subsequent sections as Elgar wound through melancholic musings, sweeping emotional declarations, delicate reveries, and movements charged with

purpose and resolve. Throughout, all five musicians remained remarkably attuned to one another, each instrument shifting from background to foreground like quicksilver, keeping you constantly aware of all five and how they were interwoven into the fabric of the music.

This craftsmanship and care was no less evident when the Miró Quartet performed alone. Playing the Samuel Barber *String Quartet's* familiar "Adagio" – yes, that heartwrenching music from *Platoon* – the ensemble refused to milk the elegiac score for easy pathos; its restraint kept the work's deeply felt grief honest, its emotion earned. Shifting from darkness to light with Antonín Dvořák's "American" *String Quartet*, the four indulged their romantic sides, coloring the optimistic and animated score with fervent flourishes. They also demonstrated a deep sense of unity, ending the contemplative "Lento" on a long note that exquisitely faded into silence and moving the "Molto vivace" forward with the even, steady propulsion of a mechanical engine. With second violin William Fedkenheuer still in his first year, the Miró may be still refining its sound. But this first concert of 2012 showed the ensemble's voice to be considered, articulate, expressive, and nuanced – in short, eloquent.

– R.F.

'Laurie Frick: Quantify Me'

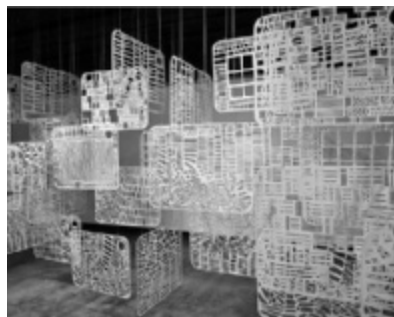
Women & Their Work, 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064

www.womenandtheirwork.org

Through March 10

You can track just about everything you do in your life these days, using the Internet via computer or cell phone apps to generate charts of what you did, with whom, how much, where, when, and everything but why.

"Why?" is the question most often left to artists and philosophers, and the best answer is frequently "Why not?" Laurie Frick, on the other hand – the hand holding the pen and ink and glue and paper and so on – makes art from those very charts and tallies and what tech types like to call metrics. Frick takes her recorded and measured life and transforms it into visual representations made of thousands of laminate counter-top samples, of intricate collage, of thick laser-cut paper hangings that fill the middle interior of Women & Their Work for this one-woman show called "Quantify Me." It's a one-woman *self-portrait* show, specifically, because that's the artist herself you're looking at, made evident



in visualizations of how much she slept each night, how much food she ate, how many calories burned, how many places visited, what her daily moods have been, and more.

Much of what we are, as R. Buckminster Fuller suggested of himself, is a verb; and here the relentless human verb has been transmogrified into the concrete noun. You're not just *looking* at parts of the quantifiable Frick, though, you're actually walking *through* the artist's data-centric incarnation as the cut-paper hangings form a many-layered maze in the midst of the gallery,

the lacunae of each chart providing peepholes through which you can view the other charts, the collages, the other visitors, that one main wall completely covered with staggering spectra of laminate samples.

It's frickin' full-color. It's Frick, in full color.

For the art lover interested in methods of mapping personal activities, for the chart lover interested in aesthetic pleasure, we recommend that a visit to Women & Their Work's current show be one of the excursions recorded, soon, among your own array of metrics.

– Wayne Alan Brenner

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4/13	ACOUSTIC ALCHEMY	5/20	LARRY CARLTON	12/7	JUST ADDED SPYRO GYRA
4/15	PURE PRAIRIE LEAGUE	5/25	MADELEINE PEYROUX	12/10	JUST ADDED JANIS IAN
4/18	KARLA BONOFF	6/3	STANLEY CLARKE BAND	12/28	TOWER OF POWER
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Demetri Martin is a person. He lives on either side of the country, near the water (but not that close to it). He does acting, stand-up comedy, and writing. Demetri has performed in most English-speaking countries (not in South Africa or New Zealand, though). He won trophies for comedy in America, Scotland and Australia. He has appeared on late-night television shows, both onstage and in the audience. Demetri has also done the following things: He was a staff writer for Late Night with Conan O'Brien. He was a writer-performer for The Daily Show with Jon Stewart. He made a comedy CD called These Are Jokes and a comedy DVD called Demetri Martin. Person. He was the lead actor in the film called Taking Woodstock for Focus Features. Demetri wrote, produced and acted in a television series for Comedy Central. It is called Important Things with Demetri Martin. He has written a book titled This Is A Book, which is available now. He is writing screenplays. Demetri has brown hair. He was an actor in a few movies. He is allergic to peanuts.

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REFLECTIONS

My dad, **Willard Cummings Moser**, was born Jan. 28, 1930, and died by his own hand Sept. 6, 1974, when I was 16. He's been on my mind all week. Though I think of him every day, the anniversaries of his birth and death weigh heavily on me. He was 44 when he took his life – too young, too soon. It astounds me that I am 54 now, 10 years older than my dad was when he died. And when I think of the things that I've experienced in the last 10 years (many of the biggest highlights of my life), it seems to compound the tragedy. My dad was gay but didn't come out until his late 30s. And he did burst out of the closet, using the same dramatic skills he learned as a Presbyterian minister and as an English professor. I feel he was one of the self-loathing gays who hated who he was. With his revelation, he single-handedly broke up our family, but he was still my dad, and I loved him dearly.

Since infancy I was obviously gay, too, although I didn't know to label it as such until much later. As a pre-adolescent in the late Sixties, I was deeply curious about my dad, but by the time he'd moved some trick into the bed he and my mother had shared, I was insanely curious. Once, perhaps disingenuously, I made breakfast for the two of them and, knowing they were still asleep, popped open the lock on their door with an ice pick and brought in a large tray of breakfast goodies. Instead of the cheery "good mornings," I



Willard Cummings Moser

expected to hear, my dad was livid (and rightly so). He read me the riot act in stentorian tones strangely edged with a bit of hysteria. Not comprehending what I'd done, I wept copious tears while running to the sanctuary of my bedroom. In retrospect, the moment reminds me of a scene from **Mommie Dearest** in which **Christina** enters her mother **Joan Crawford's** bedroom, ostensibly to bring her a drink, while Joan is making love to a boyfriend. But surprisingly, it was my dad's trick (I call him that with contempt) who came to comfort me.

As time went by, we moved from the family home to a grand Spanish villa on East Mulberry Street in San Antonio. It was true cul-

ture shock to be yanked out of white suburbia and thrust into a primarily Hispanic school for eighth grade. Most of the other boys seemed so much more mature than I did, but the education I was getting at home was mind-boggling. My dad and his trick began running in some very tony circles, and their public antics, including drunkenness and vicious fights, became public knowledge. My mother was disturbed by the circumstances we were living in and filed for custody, and in the blink of an eye, we lived in Seattle, far from my dad. Eventually my dad was fired from **Trinity University**, and that was the beginning of the end. Never again did he hold his head up with pride, and his mental condition went from bad to worse. They moved to Houston and my dad wound up taking a string of jobs such as selling vacuums and working as an apartment locator. Suicide attempts were common occurrences as his love affair fell apart. They were still living together, barely, when I left my mother's home and moved back with them. By then I had figured out why I felt so different all my life – I was gay, too. My brother **Scott**, who had moved down to Houston earlier, and I watched the disintegration, wondering what would happen.

My dad's trick disappeared, along with many of his remaining possessions, and my

dad, brother, and I moved to another apartment. Scott found a job and moved out, and my dad and I moved to a smaller apartment. My dad seemed to be buoyed by being hired at the **University of Houston** and establishing a new, supportive circle of friends. But I also knew of his manic evenings at **Mary's Lounge** (we often went there together, though I was underage), and the secret phone calls from his now ex-trick. Life seemed good until I got kicked out of school for showing up in full drag on Halloween. The intellectual side of my dad was furious with me, but the funny, loving side of my dad thought it was hysterical. In many ways, I then became my dad's keeper, and I encouraged his new friends and new activities in the arts world. He was one of the original founders of the **Houston Poetry Guild**, and all seemed good. Until one afternoon when the phone rang, and it was the authorities calling to see if I was "the one whose dad blew his brains out." Unfortunately, I was. But fortunately, over time, I would remember him as the brilliant, generous, witty spirit that loved me dearly.

I feel surrounded by death right now. With my own terminal condition on my mind and many friends grief-stricken by the death of **Esme Barrera** (I did not know her), compounded by the passing of my friend **Rick Johnson**, it is with great sorrow that I found out this morning (Friday, Jan. 20) that my old friend **Charles Gentry** is on life support at Brackenridge, unresponsive. I knew Charles had a dangerous, unpredictable medical condition, but that was easy to forget when I was with him. He's one of the kindest, smartest, sweetest, and handsomest men I've ever known, and his bright smile always makes me swoon just a bit. But he has that effect on everyone he meets. To use a very appropriate cliché, to know Charles is to love him.

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: style@austinchronicle.com or PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765.

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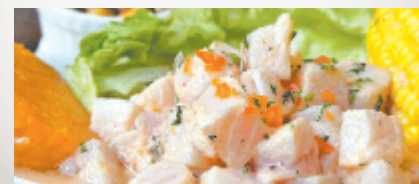
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Tara Miko of
Happy Hemp

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www.happy-hemp.com

John Lennon wrote, "There are no problems, only solutions," and such seems to be the case with one of Austin's newest superfood products, Happy Hemp. This delicious product, made from organically farmed Canadian hemp seed, is rich in antioxidants, vitamins, omega-3 and -6 essential fatty acids, and protein and is also raw, vegan, and gluten-free. But most importantly of all: It's delicious, tasting like a cross between sunflower seeds and pine nuts, with a light, fluffy texture that lends itself easily to all manner of dishes.

It couldn't be coming down the pike at a better time. Completely vegan, hemp seeds have more protein than meat, fish, or tofu. There is no known allergy to hemp seeds, so their nutty flavor can be enjoyed with no danger by anyone with any nut allergy whatsoever. Gluten-free, they can be sprinkled on any dish to add a breadcrumb-like mouthfeel. Best of all, they can supply the omega-3 fatty acids we all need. Due to the factory farming of livestock, our food supply contains the merest fraction of the omega-3 essential fatty acids it contained a century ago. Many Americans add EFA oils to their diet to make up the difference, but these oils can be hard to remember to use and difficult to work into recipes, as they can't be heated. Happy Hemp, by contrast, is easy to work into almost any dish.

"A lot of my customers have never eaten a 'health food' before," says company founder Tara Miko. "Usually my only job is to get them to try it, because it does taste so good. It's great for kids for the same reason: they don't hate it. It can be added to a lot of recipes, like chocolate-chip cookies or macaroni and cheese ... I try to post a lot of kid-friendly recipes on my blog, including recipes that are easy for kids to make themselves."

Happy Hemp can be bought at the SFC Downtown Farmers' Market (9am-1pm) or from the website (\$6-25).

- Kate Thornberry

PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON



bottles, and hearts to order for bridal and baby showers," she says, "in addition to the traditional shapes like roses, fruits and flowers."

Crain always carries a few cafe sugars with her for personal use in iced tea, in which

granulated sugar is notoriously slow to dissolve. "I originally thought of this product as being something people would want for personal use," says Crain, "but so far my sales have been driven by weddings, showers, and other get-togethers. Although just lately, my cafe sugars have started to be embraced by serious tea drinkers. After all, if you care about drinking wonderful tea, it stands to reason you might care about using wonderful sugar in it!"

Packages of six cafe sugars are \$3.79. Party packs are \$20. Available at Wheatsville Food Co-op, Breed & Co., and from the website.

- K.T.

Austin Sugarworks Cafe Sugars

424-9756, www.austinsugarworks.com

If you're looking for a fun, inexpensive way to make a baby shower or other party unique, consider picking up some of Austin Sugarworks' delicately molded cafe sugars. Cast in the shapes of flowers, fruits, animals, and architectural details, these exquisite, one-serving sugar sculptures are enchanting. Made of superfine cane sugar, they're formulated to dissolve instantly, even in icy beverages, and can also be used to decorate cupcakes and cakes.

"I had seen a similar product in France," says Elayne Crain, owner of Austin Sugarworks, "but I discovered on my return that it is nearly impossible to find anything like them here. So I thought, why not make them myself?" That began a long phase of trial and error, but by November 2010, Crain was ready to hit

the market with her version of the continental confections. "My sugars are a bit larger than their Parisian counterparts because American coffee mugs and tea glasses are larger than the French ones." Crain explains. "Also, my flavored cafe sugars are made with natural, vegetable-based colorants and pure extracts only; nothing artificial."

At present, Austin Sugarworks makes cafe sugars in vanilla, lemon, lime, orange, rosewater, ginger, lavender, peppermint, and cherry, as well as the ever popular plain sugar. If you order for a special occasion, Crain can make the sugars in the combination of flavors and shapes you desire. "I've made baby booties, baby

Meal Times Jan. 27-29

- ▶ Inspired by the HBO hit series *Boardwalk Empire*, Sullivan's Steakhouse (310 Colorado) is throwing a **Prohibition Party** complete with costume contests, Prohibition-era cocktails, door prizes (*Boardwalk Empire* DVDs, dinner packages, barware) and music by the Silver Phantom Trio. Friday, Jan. 27, 5pm-close.
- ▶ Nicole Patel of Delysia Chocolatier will sample her award-winning **chocolate truffles** at Con' Olio Oils & Vinegars (10000 Research #130). Saturday, Jan. 28, 11:30am-1pm.
- ▶ Boomerang's (3110 Guadalupe #150) hosts its annual **Australia Day** with cold Australian beer and hot Aussie pies, plus kids' activities, contests, a raffle, and a silent auction. Saturday, Jan. 28, noon-10pm.

▶ Tamilla Mir presents a seminar entitled **NextFeast - Food Entrepreneurs and Sustainability** at Center 61 (2921 E. 17th #4, Building D). The program will showcase local food entrepreneurs discussing the use of sustainable methods to grow a food business and will include food samples and a happy hour. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door; reserve at thenextfest.ticketbud.com/nextfestfood. Saturday, Jan. 28, 11am-4pm.

▶ Chef Sonya Cote's **Homegrown Revival** hosts monthly dinners at the Pine Street Station (Waller Street at East Fifth) showcasing the stories and products of farmers who participate in the **HOPE Farmers Market**. A portion of the proceeds is donated to the market. **The Story of the Goat** features a meal based on produce and goat meat from Windy Hill Farm. Enjoy a five-course meal with vinyl pairings for each course. \$65 per person at www.thehomegrownrevival.com. BYOB; free valet parking. Sunday, Jan. 29, 7pm.

- V.B.W.

food-o-file

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

Food truck chef **Luke Bibby** says he felt like he'd won some kind of culinary lottery when he got a call from the producers of the Food Network's **Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** recently. The producers had already done their homework about Bibby's busy trailer enterprise before host Guy Fieri and his custom convertible showed up at **Luke's Inside Out** (1109 S. Lamar) last week to sample the popular shrimp sandwich and the Korean-barbecued rabbit with kimchee. Fieri interviewed Bibby about his new business, as well as his long stint as rock & roll caterer at the Backyard, while the crew shot footage of the chef preparing the chosen menu items. Once the interview was done, Fieri spray-painted his signature logo on the inside of the trailer door and took off for Georgetown to check out the **Monument Cafe**. No word yet on when the newest *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives* segment focusing on Central Texas will air, but the new menu Fieri loved at Luke's Inside Out is available now.

Cupprimo Cupcakery & Coffee Spot (8650 Spicewood Springs #105) owner **Amy Brown** was surprised to discover the producers of the Food Network's *Cupcake Wars* were following her business on Twitter last year, and the social media exposure led to an invitation for her business to compete on the show. Brown and Cupprimo head baker **Monica Stelly** appear in an episode of the popular baking competition show airing this Sunday, Jan. 29, at 7pm, and they're hosting a viewing party for customers and friends at the Dig Pub in Cedar Park at 6:30pm that evening.

When **Hickory Street Bar & Grill** (800 Congress) closed in the fall, we were told it was being displaced by the development of a new Downtown high-rise. It turns out that development project is a good two years in the future, and local hospitality entrepreneur **Brendan Puthoff** (Third Base, Barcelona) and his business partners are reviving the Hickory Street brand with chef **Camden Stuerzenberger** on the range. Puthoff reports they're doing some much-needed cosmetic work on the restaurant's interior, investing in new landscaping on the patio, and updating the menu with plenty of locally-sourced menu items. "Our goal is to serve food that is affordable and accessible, as well as memorable," says Puthoff. The revitalized Hickory Street will serve breakfast, lunch, happy hour, and dinner daily with inside and patio dining, a full bar, counter service, and takeout options. It's scheduled to debut in early February, and if the menu is as tasty as it reads, they should be very busy.

In other Downtown news, **Jason Stevens** has taken over as bar manager at **Bar Congress** (200 Congress), and Canadian import **Grant Macdonald** is the new chef de cuisine at **Trio at the Four Seasons** (98 San Jacinto), replacing Todd Duplechan. **Trace** at the W Hotel (200 Lavaca) is now offering Lunch on the Fly weekdays from 11:30am-2pm, with soup, salad, and a sandwich for \$16.

Thai food lovers will be relieved to know that all three of Mam and Sap Apisaksiri's eateries remain open after their divorce settlement. Mam will continue to operate two **Madam Mam's** outlets (2514 Guadalupe, 2700 Anderson), while the restaurant at 4514 West Gate Blvd. is now **Sap's Fine Thai Cuisine**.



From Soup to Nuts (Hold the Nuts)

A hardly comprehensive look at Austin's soup scene

BY MELANIE HAUPT

It's finally winter in Austin, when we can relax and forget the brutal summer we just survived and can briefly sublimate the growing dread of the heat-blasted months ahead of us. It's a time for putting on fuzzy socks, snuggling down into the couch with a cozy blanket, and warming the belly with that most versatile of comfort foods: soup. Whether one is nursing a cold or a broken heart or just has cockles in need of warming, there is a soup in this town to meet those needs and more.

While time, space, and budgetary constraints disallow an all-inclusive study of the myriad soups on offer from Austin's restaurants and grocers, what follows is an eclectic collection of warm, creamy, spicy, chunky, soothing, healing, and surprising tonics broken down into six discrete categories: tortilla, pho, chicken, *tom kha gai*, vegetarian, and miscellaneous meat-based soups. The methodology for the first four categories was to assemble a number of specimens from various restaurants and conduct taste tests; the two latter categories involved an ongoing sampling as time and stomach space allowed. While your personal favorite soup is inevitably missing from this survey, please keep the pitchforks in storage and instead tell us what we missed at austinchronicle.com.

Tortilla

Originating in the center of Mexico, tortilla soup is pure comfort, with a base of chicken broth sometimes thickened with roasted tomatoes, seasoned with chile and onion, and garnished with tortilla strips,

cheese, and avocado. While there are as many opinions on tortilla soup in Austin as there are variants on the same, two interpretations in particular stood out above the rest in our taste test. Oddly, they couldn't be more different. The tortilla soup at **Manuel's** is thick, spicy, creamy, and tomato rich, with toothpick-thin strips of tortilla and shredded chicken and studded with chilled chunks of avocado. Bits of ancho chile lurk within, which are used in the roux that flavors the soup. On the other end of the spectrum from this big, bold bowl is the delicate tortilla soup at **Vivo**. Ever-so-thin slivers of jalapeños dance in the light, flavorful broth alongside smidgens of tomato and celery. While the garnish – tortilla strips, white cheese, and avocado – is standard, the tender and intensely flavorful chicken is the star of the show.

Pho

We anticipate that this will be the most controversial category of this survey, considering the myriad excellent pho restaurants in town, despite the relative newness of this particular dish. This Vietnamese soup is a 20th century innovation, emerging in the northern part of the country near the 1920s and migrating south in the 1960s or so. The southern version, which is sweeter and incorporates more fresh herbs and bean sprouts, is the kind most pho-loving Austinites are familiar with. The hallmarks of a good pho are a dark, fragrant oxtail and beef-bones broth flavored with cinnamon, ginger, onion, and other spices, as well as

various cuts of beef, from brisket to tendon to meatballs. Pho comes with a plate of greenery, including fresh basil, bean sprouts, fresh sliced jalapeños, lime, and cilantro; diners can add as much or as little to the bowl as they like.

While we tasted soups from well-regarded outlets like **Pho Danh**, **Pho Hoang**, **Pho Thaison**, and **Kim Phung**, strangely, there was no one pho from among our sample set that met the criteria for both broth and beef. There were two versions that rated the highest in the individual components. Where **Tân Mỹ** had tender, flavorful brisket, the broth was weak and slightly sweet. Conversely, newcomer **PhoNatic**, run by the owners of **Pho Saigon**, boasts a delicious, fragrant, citrusy broth with thinly sliced, slightly tough brisket and red onions.

Chicken

Ah, chicken soup. It's allegedly good for the soul and also functions as psychosomatic penicillin for those under-the-weather days. Chicken soup is beautifully versatile, which is perfect for a city collectively suffering from cedar fever. For a creative twist on traditional chicken noodle soup, **Tino's Greek Cafe's** lemon-chicken soup is a sure thing. The lemony broth is thick, vitamin C practically emanating from the steam, with a generous helping of soft orzo accentuated with tiny bits of chicken and carrot. If gluten is an issue, **NeWorIDeli** has a poblano-chicken soup that is unabashedly homemade, all chunky chicken and spicy chiles, just the antidote for congested sinuses, and far less dangerous (and infinitely more delicious) than a neti pot. A must-have for those rare, bitter-cold nights, though, is the chicken-tamale chowder from **Central Market**. This is rich, substantial stuff, with a masa-thickened chicken stock base with chiles, shredded chicken, and subtle spicing. Served piping hot with a soft piece of bread to sop up the dregs, this is pure comfort in a bowl.

Tom Kha Gai

Chances are, most diners have had a small cup of this coconut-milk-based Thai soup as a starter with their lunch special of pad thai or *pad see ew*. A staple of Thai cuisine, exceptional tom kha is a balanced flavor combination of coconut milk, lemongrass, chicken, and galangal, a citrusy cousin to ginger. Most of the versions of tom kha available in town are tom kha het, which includes button or straw mushrooms in addition to the chicken. While the tom kha at **Thai Kitchen** is a perennial favorite in this house, it's a bit out of balance: tart and not too coconutty, with galangal as the dominant flavor. It does get a bit of a bump for the occasional presence of straw mushrooms instead of button, however. The tom kha at **Pad Thai**, on the other hand, is swoonworthy, with a perfectly balanced and deeply soothing broth that's not too sweet or too tangy. The broth at **Madam Mam's** is fuller-bodied than the others we tried – perhaps it uses a coconut milk with a higher fat content? – and is also nicely balanced.

Vegetarian

Sometimes chicken or beef soups aren't an option, and that's OK because Austin is nothing if not vegetarian-friendly, especially when it comes to soup. That said, if Austin vegetarians eat nothing else this winter, they must have the *lubiya* from **FoodHeads**. Lubiya is a Middle Eastern black-eyed pea soup, and the version at FoodHeads is peppery, with hints of lemon and chunks of tomato. It's extremely delicious, especially piping hot and freshly ladled for consumption on premises. Another bean soup, this one vegan, can be found at **Cazamance Cafe**. The spicy West African black-bean-cumin soup is scented with clove and incorporates large chunks of carrot and potato for a very hearty and filling dish.

For those who aren't worried about maintaining a perfectly virtuous diet, the broccoli-beer-cheese soup at the new Eastside bar **Gourmands**, served in a heartbreakingly fresh bread bowl, is a splurge. The not-too-thick cheese buoys generous florets of broccoli; it's particularly pleasurable when pieces of bread break off from inside the bread bowl, thickening the soup nicely and adding some heft to each bite. Paired with a half Cleopatra vegetarian sandwich on a soft, soft hoagie, the combination makes for a satisfying if carbohydrate-heavy lunch. For an old-school throwback to simpler times, a bowl of the smoky roasted tomato bisque from **Central Market** is the perfect complement to a grilled-cheese sandwich and some carrot sticks.

If Austin vegetarians eat nothing else this winter, they must have the lubiya from FoodHeads.



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

Other meats

On the flip side, if lentil soup and its ilk are nothing but bitter reminders of the years spent living on a shoestring budget in some run-down hippie co-op, there are surprisingly creative and amazingly flavorful meat-centric soups around town that should be on any omnivore's must-try list. First and foremost is the pepperoni soup from **Second Bar + Kitchen**. This is a full-



Madam Mam's

PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

bodied, chunky tomato soup with notes of oregano, studded generously with small hunks of pepperoni. Topped with a liberal portion of broiled mozzarella, this soup is served in a personal-sized earthenware crock with crusty breadsticks on the side for those who want all the pleasure of a cheesy, meaty pizza without the heavy carbohydrate bomb that goes along with it. I highly recommend enjoying a serving on the patio over lunch with friends who love people-watching almost as much as they love food.

On a more traditional note, the husband-and-wife team at the newly opened **Soup Coup** mines their families' prized soup recipes and peddles from a tiny trailer on East Seventh Street. The Guinness-beef stew, while suffering from undercooked potatoes and carrots on the day of our visit, has the potential to seep warmth into the coldest reaches of a body's chilled innards; the broth is especially potent when absorbed by a piece of crusty bread slathered in salty butter. The

full monty of soup-borne meats, though, can be found at **Mandola's Italian Market** in the form of the *minestra maritata*, or Italian wedding soup. Chock-full of chicken, pork, prosciutto, pancetta, and wee meatballs and accentuated by mixed greens and Parmigiano, this bowl offers a bit of a spicy kick while also providing a serving from most of the major food groups (a side of oven-fresh focaccia will round things out in that regard). The green-tinted broth alone will make diners feel like they're doing their bodies a favor.

While a soup-heavy diet may conjure up images of convalescence and being generally housebound, there's a surprising amount of gustatory pleasure to be had in something as simple as a steaming bowl of broth, vegetables, and meat. And even though Austin's winters are short indeed, there is enough cold weather to justify a thorough exploration of the city's rich soup landscape; the undertaking may prove nourishing for more than just the body. ■

LIST OF RESTAURANTS

Manuel's: 310 Congress, 10201 Jollyville Rd.

Vivo: 2015 Manor Rd.

Tân Mỹ: 1601-E Ohlen Rd.

PhoNatic: 2525 W. Anderson #280

Tino's Greek Cafe: various locations

NeWorldDeli: 4101 Guadalupe

Central Market: 4001 N. Lamar, 4477 S. Lamar

Thai Kitchen: various locations

Pad Thai: various locations

Madam Mam's: 2514 Guadalupe, 2700 W. Anderson (Note: The name of the current Westgate location has been changed to Sap's.)

FoodHeads: 616 W. 34th

Cazamance Cafe: 1102 E. Cesar Chavez

Gourmands: 2316 Webberville Rd.

Second Bar + Kitchen: 200 Congress

The Soup Coup: 2604 E. Seventh

Mandola's Italian Market: 4700 W. Guadalupe #12



From the Chronicle
Restaurant Guide
austinchronicle.com/restaurant

RECENTLY REVIEWED

Verts Berlin-Inspired Kebap

When two business-school graduates met as students in Germany and made fast friends, they both fell in love with *döner kebab*. One of many fast-food options there, the spinning meat of the kebab calls for



a bit of yogurt, tomato, and onions. Now you can enjoy the German fast-food kebab right here at home on flat bread, as a wrap, or, for the carb-phobic, as a salad. Don't overlook the excellent breakfast and La Marzocco espresso. 2530 Guadalupe, 2021 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall), 802-8342.

CLASSIC REVIEW

Matt's El Rancho

This immensely popular Tex-Mex establishment evokes the great border-fare palaces. Pull into the lot and be transported back in time as this food-happy dispenser of giant margaritas, excellent enchiladas, and craving-curbing quesadillas is the pride and joy of former prizefighter Matt Martinez and family. 2613 S. Lamar, 462-9333.

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Chaotic Moon's Board of Awesomeness tearing up the streets of Austin

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Local Tech Creations That Scare Us

BY JAMES RENOVITCH

From the Wear a Helmet Dept.: Chaotic Moon (www.chaoticmoon.com) has created something that it calls the **Board of Awesomeness**, but we're going to continue referring to it as the Plank of Death. It consists of an all-terrain jumbo skateboard gussied up with an 800-watt electric motor, a Windows tablet computer, and a Kinect motion sensor. Put them all together, and you have feverish prayers delivered as fast as 32 mph that the makers of this contraption mean it when they say "We are smarter than you." Judging from the video on Chaotic Moon's website, the board's speed is controlled with hand gestures while the rider keeps a wide stance to remain upright. There's also talk of voice controls on future models, but for now, "Get out of the way!" will have to suffice in the hopes that bystanders can manage speech recognition better than a skateboard. Don't expect these things to be whizzing around the streets of Austin anytime soon, but if this goes unchecked, adventurous folks might just be opting to tour Austin on a Board of Awesomeness instead of a Segway.

From the Surveillance Nation Dept.: There's a new app for heavy drinkers with no issues of personal privacy: **SceneTap** (www.scenetap.com). If you notice those creepy black domes bulging from the ceiling of your favorite ale house, smile: Your face is being "anonymously" detected so that the bar's current stats can be streamed to a website and mobile app. Stats include how full the venue is, the male-to-female ratio, and the average age of the patrons. How they acquire this information anonymously is beyond us, but if you needed another reason to avoid the many Sixth Street bars that are participating, this is it. SceneTap began servicing the Austin area on Jan. 20 and hopes to expand beyond the initial 20 bars soon. Chicago has already been assimilated into the Borg with more than 50 wired venues. If there's a good side to this, it's that we can finally double-check to make sure that our favorite watering hole is mostly empty so we can do our drinking the way it was intended: alone.

From the Children Are Our Future Dept.: KLRU is taking part in the **National STEM Video Game Challenge**, which tasks middle and high school students with making educational programs with the help of local developers. You can thank President Obama for this one, since getting America's youth interested in technology and science was his idea. If you would like to participate as a competitor or a mentor, go to www.stemchallenge.org. The deadline to enter is March 12. Why is this contest scary and not a sign of America's future prosperity? If anyone is going to program the cyborgs of the future to rebel against their human masters, it's going to be one of these kids. Expect to hear about our Keep Kids Stupid campaign in future issues.

The Spillover

SXSW INTERACTIVE LOOSENS ITS BELT, EXPANDS TO 14 VENUES

by Richard Whittaker

The South by Southwest Interactive Festival may not be as loud as the music festival or as red-carpet-friendly as SXSW Film, but there is no doubt that it's the big dog – so big that this year it will stretch across 14 Downtown campuses, from the Palmer Events Center to the AT&T Conference Center. Festival Event Director Hugh Forrest explained, "It's certainly a big change from having everything at the Austin Convention Center, but for better or worse, we've outgrown that space."

Conference regulars, fear not: The convention center remains the hub, but there will be additional panels at many Downtown hotels. Each campus is themed, so digital reporters will probably spend most of their time at the Sheraton for the Journalism & Online Content strand, while experts in lifestyles and sports will want to hang out at the stately Driskill. Forrest said, "The idea is that if you are interested in one particular topic, you can go to that one particular campus and find that kind of content."

That thematic approach sounds like a nice idea, but Forrest admitted that it creates new problems, especially since there is "a lot of bleed over" in topics. Cue headaches for his schedulers. He pondered, "If you have a panel on how social media can help your business, does that go on the social track or the business track?" The biggest challenge will be retaining the sense of cross-pollination between specialties so that Web developers don't just hang with other Web developers but also rub elbows with filmmakers and social scientists. "This campus structure in some ways diminishes those kind of opportunities," said Forrest, "so we definitely encourage people to go to campuses that they're less familiar with."

For panel-hoppers, most campuses are within easy walking distance of each other, and there will be regular shuttle buses. For anyone worried about losing a seat, the conference will also simulcast the big keynote speeches, starting with *The Onion's* Digital Director Baratunde Thurston on Saturday, March 10. Other keynote speakers include cyborg anthropologist and TED regular Amber Case and Code for America founder Jennifer Pahlka. However, the big "get" has to be Ray Kurzweil. Aside from being one of futurism's philosopher kings, his creative fingerprints are on tech turning points like flatbed scanners and speech-recognition software. Time for another SXSW innovation: With Kurzweil's son Ethan hosting his own panel, Forrest said, "It's the first father-son duo we've had."

Austin and the Academy

'THE TREE OF LIFE,' 'BULLHEAD' SCORE NOMINATIONS

Terrence Malick is no stranger to the Oscars – he was previously nominated in 1999 for *The Thin Red Line* – and his latest, *The Tree of Life*, has been on awards-speculation short lists ever since the film's divisive premiere at Cannes. So it was no surprise when the Central Texas-shot film nabbed three nominations on Tuesday morning – for Best Picture, Malick for Best Director, and Emmanuel Lubezki for Best Cinematography. Slightly more improbable seeming? The Alamo Drafthouse – in a former life known simply as a purveyor of cult films and crazy times – is now in the Oscar race. Or rather, *Bullhead* is – the acclaimed Belgian film that Drafthouse Films, the Alamo's distribution arm, purchased after its Fantastic Fest 2011 screening. *The Chronicle* recently chatted with *Bullhead* director Michael R. Roskam and Drafthouse Films CEO Tim League; you can find the interview, as well as the full Oscar nominee list, on our blog at austinchronicle.com/pip.

– Kimberley Jones

The 84th Academy Awards air Sunday, Feb. 26, 8pm.



The Tree of Life

SOPA: A Bad Idea Falls Off – For Now

After an Internet blackout, lawmakers see the light

BY JON LEBKOWSKY

After a widespread online protest on Jan. 18, the Stop Online Piracy Act, or SOPA, and the Protect Intellectual Property Act, or PIPA, appear to be dead. Their sponsors have withdrawn both bills, presumably because they were beginning to understand why the bills were bad for the Internet, as opponents – including major Internet companies like Google and Facebook and websites like Wikipedia and Boing Boing – have tried to make clear. Lawmakers will almost certainly propose new bills to curb “online piracy” or “illegal file sharing.” The question is whether these bills will be any more insightful.

Internet-savvy Austin didn't participate as visibly in the protest as you might expect. Austin pages for Craigslist and Reddit were blacked out on Jan. 18, but those sites aren't actually based here. A few locals – HelpAttack!, EFF-Austin, and Do512 – were dark, and *The Austin Chronicle*, while not blacked out, posted an action link and an editorial voicing support of the protest.

Probably the most effective local action originated from Fight for the Future's Stop American Censorship website, grassroots organizing to coordinate meetings with legislators nationwide. Texas members of the site, coordinated by Alex Chiba, met with Sandy Edwards from U.S. Sen. John Cornyn's office. The messages conveyed during that meeting seemed to have sunk in. Following the meeting, Cornyn made this comment (using the moment to flog a Republican pet peeve, health care reform):

“Texans have soundly rejected the ‘pass now, learn later’ approach that we saw with Obamacare, and the potential impact of this legislation is too far-reaching to ram it through Congress in such an abrupt way.

“Stealing content is theft, plain and simple, but concerns about the Internet and free speech necessitate a more thoughtful, deliberative process.”

So what was the fuss about? What is the “far-reaching impact” of legislation supposedly intended to protect the intellectual property rights of content providers?

There are two worlds of content distribution. One is rooted in 20th century mass-media assumptions from a time when media channels and means of production were scarce and media distribution went one way: from a few producers to many consumers. Content creation and production was mostly professional; access to mass attention was highly regulated with many barriers and gateways, as well as much vetting of content.

The other is the 21st century world of highly interactive, democratized “many to



JASON STOUT

many” rhizomatic content production and sharing. With low, almost nonexistent barriers to the means of digital production and Internet distribution, anyone can play. The quality of user-generated content in this world varies, but that doesn't seem to matter. Increasingly, professional content is mixed with content produced by amateurs, consumers are becoming producers, and anyone can have an audience. Everybody's sharing media – their own and everybody else's.

What content companies call “piracy” is rarely theft in the sense we normally think of it, but a form of sharing. It can result from the same impulse as loaning a book or record, except in a digital world, you can make a permanent loan of a faithful digital replication, not just to friends but to faceless others. In a mass-media context, where revenues depend on the sale of commercial content, sharing it in this way is no better than theft. The old media impulse is not to shift gears and consider new business models adapted to the Internet, but to shut the thieves down and sustain old ways of doing business.

It's really a bit of a mess, this migration from old to new thinking about media; the coexistence of entertainment and Internet industries is rocky at best. Fred Wilson of Union Square Ventures characterized SOPA and PIPA as an attempt by the old media entertainment industry to regulate the digital media Internet industry. He suggests that legislators and both industries need to have a long conversation about what's best for all – hopefully not forgetting the “prosumer.”

In a viral video of a TED Talk addressing “why SOPA/PIPA is a bad idea,” Internet culture commentator Clay Shirky said that the bills would have a massive chilling effect by placing a burden of proof on all of us before we produce and share content and requiring those who provide Internet sharing capabilities (Google, Facebook, Twitter, et al.) to police all content, even what's posted in comments. Says Shirky, “Time Warner has called, and they want us all back on the couch, just consuming – not producing, not sharing. But we should say ‘no.’” ■

Jon Lebkowsky is cofounder and current President of EFF-Austin, an independent nonprofit civil liberties organization concerned with emerging frontiers where technology meets society.



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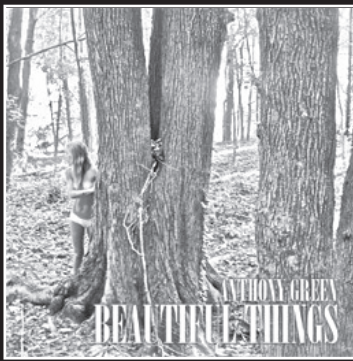
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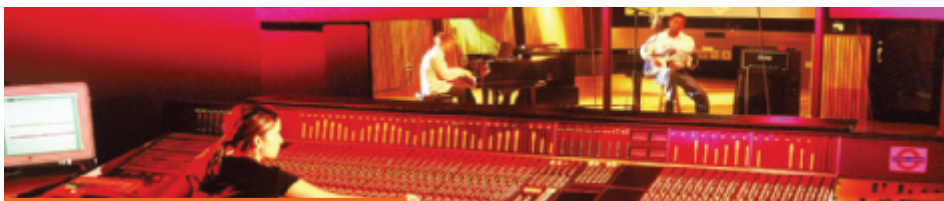
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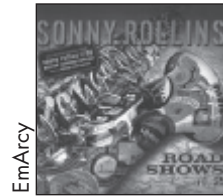
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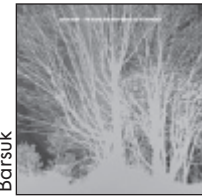


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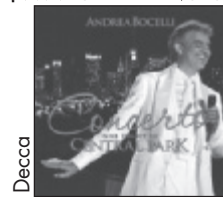


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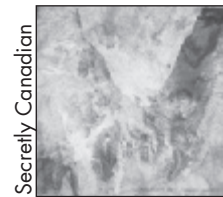


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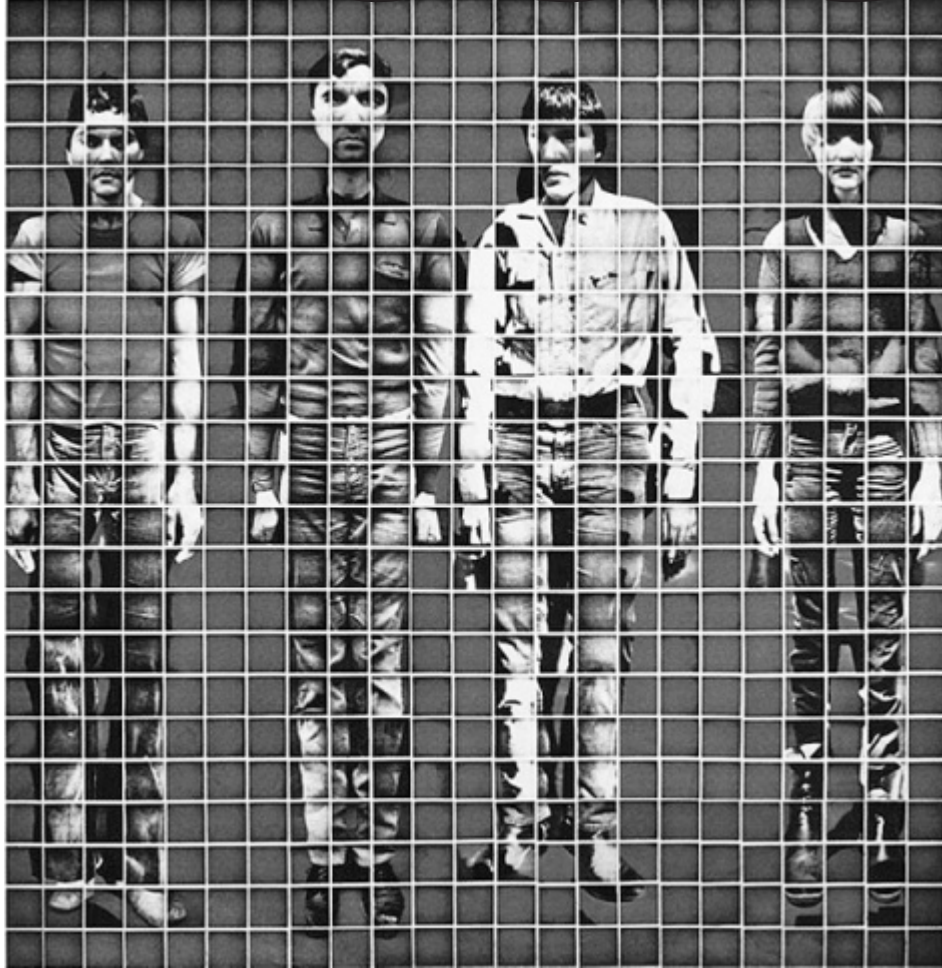
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MUSIC



Talking Heads' *More Songs About Buildings and Food*

Found a Job

More Songs About Buildings and Food arrived in my mail at the *Austin Sun* sometime in 1978 and languished in the stacks until one day in early 1979 when my friend **Dean Nichols** pulled it out. The only thing I knew about it was watching **Cindy Williams** read a title from it on *The Tonight Show With Johnny Carson*.

"The Girls Want To Be With the Girls," the *Laverne & Shirley* star giggled to the talk show host. But Williams wasn't making fun of it. She was noting it with wonder. "The Girls Want To Be With the Girls." It wasn't typical of rock song titles, but then **Talking Heads** weren't making typical rock music.

"This record is supposed to be great!" Dean oohed and ahed. "That's so clever, taking all these Polaroids to make a photo of them. Let's play it."

I looked more closely. It was indeed clever. But Talking Heads were a New York band, a scene I hadn't had much interest in since the **Velvet Underground**. Blues dominated my life throughout the Seventies, with rock and country close behind, but I had a not-so-secret love of disco. Once Dean touched needle to

vinyl, off the turntable came sounds that resembled rock & roll if **Picasso** had written the beat in bold, black strokes.

Songs peeled off one after another, layer after layer of this sheer, compelling sound. "Thank You for Sending Me an Angel," "With Our Love," "The Good Thing," "Warning Sign," "The Girls Want To Be With the Girls," and the last song on the first side, "Found a Job." That was the song.

Damn that television! What a bad picture! Don't get upset. It's not a major disaster. "There's nothing on tonight," he said. "I don't know what's the matter!"

"Nothing's ever on," she said. "So I don't know why you bother."

We've heard this little scene; we've heard it many times.

People fighting over little things and wasting precious time.

They might be better off, I think, the way it seems to me.

Making up their own shows which might be better than TV.

Well! More songs about angsty proto-yuppies? No, the lyrics crooked a finger and led on.

Judy's in the bedroom inventing situations.

Bob is on the street today, he's scouting up locations.

They've enlisted all their family.

They've enlisted all their friends.

It helped saved their relationship and made it work again.

OK, so **Bob** and **Judy** presaged reality TV, but that's not what **David Byrne** was writing about. He hadn't put the point on it until the last verse:

So think about this little scene. Apply it to you life.

If your work isn't what you love, then something isn't right.

I was jobless at the time. The kind of dissoluble joblessness with little impetus to find anything better because work meant nothing but toiling for a paycheck so I could afford to go out and see music at **Raul's** and **Soap Creek** and the **Armadillo** and **Antone's**. Oh yeah, and pay rent and bills, though that was secondary to chasing a good time. Fuck work. □

Dean Nichols died of AIDS around 1991; I feel badly that I don't remember the exact year. He had moved to San Francisco, where it seemed all the handsome young men went, and since that was what he wanted, he was home. I saw him one last time when he was quite ill. He wasn't very happy to see me since I'd shown up from Hawaii distinctly uninvited. He didn't want me to see him so wasted away, but I couldn't be dissuaded from putting my arms around my dear friend one more time.

In his prime, Dean was as strapping a symbol of golden gay youth as could be, good-looking enough to be appropriately cast in an Austin production of *Norman ... Is That You?* in the mid-Seventies. He was slutty and proud and smart to a fault, reeling off cruel

comments precise as razor cuts. He once strode into my living room, put on *More Songs About Buildings and Food*, and plopped on the couch to compose a nasty letter to **Edward Albee**. They were supposed to meet the day before while the playwright was here visiting Austin, and Albee had stood him up. Dean scrawled a lengthy, crank-fueled tirade that involved then-Vice President **Walter Mondale's** wife **Joan**, a sale on lipstick at Walgreens, and a performance by pianist **James Dick**. All the while, Talking Heads crooned and hiccuped about warning signs and staying hungry.

We drove to the Driskill, and I waited in the car while Dean marched through its marbled columns and delivered his letter to the front desk, ensuring that Albee would receive it immediately. Alas, Dean arrived home hours later that night to find a message from Edward Albee, apologizing for missing their date and asking Dean to contact him. The message's time stamp in those days before cell phones was about two hours before the letter had been dropped at the Driskill.

Some weeks later, Dean and I sat in my living room listening to Talking Heads, still underemployed, the album practically imprinted in my DNA. David Byrne, **Tina Weymouth**, **Chris Frantz**, and **Jerry Harrison** made a record that truly meant something to me, songs of disaffection, yes, but more so songs of yearning. Not just discontent, but a desire for meaning within. At 25, being jobless felt shiftless, underscored by the need to make sense of my obsession with the meaning of music by writing about it. Dean felt pretty stupid about the whole thing with Edward Albee.

If your work isn't what you love, then something isn't right.

Damn! David Byrne was talking to us! "Maybe I'll move to San Francisco," Dean said aloud, and not particularly to me. And so he did.

1, 2,
TRES,
CUATRO
BY MARGARET
MOSER



Frantz, Byrne, Harrison, and Weymouth in 1978.

Full Circle

The gospel according to Ruthie Foster

BY DOUG FREEMAN

"When my mind didn't know how to get there, I trusted my heart, and I swear, my soul came to welcome me home."

The opening lines of Ruthie Foster's new album *Let It Burn* peel back a prayer in repetition. A statement fraught with the struggle of faith and persistence. Raised up on the gospel harmonies of the Blind Boys of Alabama and the twisting floods of Dave Easley's steel guitar, each utterance becomes a cry of braced determination and belief.

Foster's low moans wind themselves between the guiding grooves of a New Orleans studio band assembled from legends: Ike Stubblefield's ascending B-3 organ, George Porter's intuitive bass, and Russell Batiste's guiding percussion. It's a team gathered by producer John Chelew to push Foster's powerful blend of rootsy soul forward with a brazen and unexpected selection of songs ranging from Adele's "Set Fire to the Rain" and the Black Keys' "Everlasting Light" to June Carter's "Ring of Fire" and David Crosby's "Long Time Gone."

"Keep trying to get there, been trying to get there, keep trying to find my way home."

One of only two Foster originals on the LP, "Welcome Home" commences something greater than just the album. It's the underlying principle of purpose that allows for the variables that follow; the tension from which evolution unfolds; the strength and surety of foundation amid the uneven footing of independence and the unknown.

As Foster rolls the song into the final hymnlike hums proclaiming "Welcome," a spiritual embrace opens: the confluence of yearning and strength, ambition and support. It's home.

The Truth According To

Home for Foster is a modest house tucked inconspicuously into a South Austin neighborhood, shared with Katie, her partner of five years, and their 8-month-old daughter, Maya. The child tumbles around the family room with the elastic sprawl of a nascent toddler. Though Katie carried and gave birth to the couple's daughter, there's an uncanny resemblance to her adopted mother as well. Maya's eyes dart in equal parts wonder and slight mischievousness like Foster's.

"Having a kid, creatively, changes everything about having time: I don't have any!" laughs Fosters later on her back porch. "People ask me when the kids' CD is coming out, but I don't have time for that!"

On this early January morning, fallen leaves sweeping across the backyard with each gust of arrested autumn, Foster exudes that gratified sense of domesticity. In a comfortable gray sweatshirt, a mug of tea clasped between her hands and her cornrowed hair pulled casually back into an exploding bouquet, the 47-year-old songwriter laughs and sighs in the same breath.

Her wry and wistful grin matches the flicker of excitement in her eyes as she discusses the upcoming tour; long-time live collaborators Samantha Banks and Tanya Richardson are due at any moment for the first rehearsals of the new material. Songs remain raw, unworked, and unarranged for how Foster will transform them live.

"It's been really different for me," admits Foster. "We've been playing the same songs for a long time, the same kind of set. I'm playing more guitar, actually playing some electric now. I have to focus quite a bit more. It's teaching me to be really present in every note, every song, all of it."

"I'm not necessarily reinventing myself, but I'm definitely open to what this has incorporated as far as my growth musically and in every way. It's fun. Challenging, but fun."



Crossover

Foster's live show revels in storytelling, in the narratives and personal histories that inhabit her songs. As much as her voice is a distinctively powerful and affective unburdening of soulful blues, those stories define Foster's music and relationship to her fans.

Recalling her childhood, they're tales of growing up on her grandfather's property along the Brazos River on the edge of Milam and Burleson counties. Outside the tiny speck of a town called Gause, there's a stretch of road colloquially called Six Mile.

"It was a long bus ride from Six Mile, and my cousins would sing," recalls Foster. "They would do four-part harmony, and I'm just a little bitty thing sitting back there grinning. They were beautiful. I didn't want to sing at all because it was so intimidating."

There are stories of the tiny New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, where Foster's uncle was superintendent and most of the choir consisted of her family; where her grandmother, Big Mama, presided among the patriarchs in the amen corner with her fan and pink hat. It was Big Mama who nodded approvingly when Ruthie stepped forward hesitantly to take her first solo before a few dozen members of the congregation.

There are other stories that don't make the stage. At 12, Foster's stepfather died and her mother fell ill, leaving her to care for her younger brother and sister.

"I grew up quick," acknowledges the singer. "I had to get us all up every morning, make sure we had breakfast, make

SET FIRE TO THE RAIN

"Ray Benson told me a few years ago, 'You're a great songwriter and a singer, and everyone in town knows that, but being a great song interpreter, too - that's something that people need to discover about you,'" offers Ruthie Foster by way of explanation for *Let It Burn*'s somewhat unexpected tracklist.

Foster turned to producer John Chelew (Blind Boys of Alabama, John Hiatt), and although they had never met, his song suggestions intrigued her enough to recognize the possibilities.

"It was one of the most thrilling projects I've worked on," reckons Chelew. "Ruthie just covers so much as far as her influences and tastes go."

Chelew wanted to press further and began listening to the radio with Foster's voice in mind. The variations on "Long Time Gone," "If I Had a Hammer," and "You Don't Miss Your Water" were inspired, but Chelew's contemporary selections of the Black Keys' "Everlasting Light" and Adele's "Set Fire to the Rain" make the boldest challenges.

Even in the military, Foster couldn't escape the pull of her talent. After an impromptu performance at a holiday party, her commanding officer recommended her for a position in the Navy band.

sure everybody got to school, hair combed, teeth brushed. And mom was sick, so I had to make sure she had her medication. So I just went into my shell, and in junior high, I was put into special ed classes because back then they didn't know what to do with you in a regular classroom if you weren't keeping up.

"I was tired!" she exclaims with a light laugh. "I was a tired little kid and resentful for having had that responsibility put on me. But I had music and I had art. That was my outlet and that's what pulled me out of all that."

By high school, she'd found her identity, if not quite her place, carrying her guitar to school and writing songs. Supportive teachers began to recognize her talents, so much so that her music teacher helped Foster sneak away to Waco to take the SAT, unbeknownst to her mother. "I desperately wanted to get out of town," remembers Fosters. "I loved the town and my family and friends,

but I knew there was just something else. I was one of those kids that my Big Mama always said, 'You're just different, baby. You're just gonna be different, and that is OK. But you gonna have a few hard times because you're so different, so you just gotta prepare yourself for that.'"

Runaway Soul

In 1982, Ruthie Foster began a three-year music program at McLennan Community College in Waco. It was only some 80 miles northwest of her hometown but far enough away to strike out on her own. There she formalized her musical upbringing in the church and her self-taught guitar technique while incorporating more diverse styles like jazz into her repertoire. Even so, after graduation Foster enlisted in the Navy.

"I knew I'd figure out the music thing later," she says. "I was inundated with music at that point, and really just wanted to do something different, to be able to talk to somebody and not have to talk about music. And I loved it. I loved being in the Navy."

Even in the military, Foster couldn't escape the pull of her talent. After an impromptu performance at a holiday party, her commanding officer recommended her for a position in the Navy band, which she accepted, opening up an entirely new musical experience and education.

Foster's reputation spread so quickly within the band's ranks that she was asked to audition for the President's

"Because it was Adele, I thought it might be too popular," says Chelew, "but we really wanted to say that we're starting from this moment. We wanted to start from now, with a song that's being played on the radio. It's a beautiful song, but to hear it played by New Orleans players and stripping it back, we kind of reorganized it, I guess, the way it would have been if it had been written in New Orleans by New Orleans musicians."

"The idea was capture the listener right away but to cover the waterfront with old songs and new songs. The common link is this unbelievable singer." — D.F.



Ruthie Foster *Let It Burn* (Blue Corn)

Given that the Blind Boys of Alabama grace the first notes of *Let It Burn* and the final ones of "The Titanic" in a set of mostly sanctified covers – the everlasting gospel group's contemporary stock-in-trade – consider this Ruthie Foster's Blind Boys of Alabama album. Coating four tracks sequenced as the LP's spine, the BBOA stamp Foster's tolling chain gang lament "Lord Remember Me" and the building intensity/density of Crosby, Stills & Nash's "Long Time Gone," two of *Burn*'s brightest lights. Recorded in New Orleans at a supremely unhurried pace, the disc crosses over on Adele's "Set Fire to the Rain" and canny material choices such as Los Lobos ("This Time"), the Black Keys ("Everlasting Light"), and the Band ("It Makes No Difference"). Yet it's an organ-ribbed massage of Stax man William Bell's "You Don't Miss Your Water," forever at the heart of the Byrds' gospel-kissed country rock classic *Sweetheart of the Rodeo*, that really connects. Likewise June Carter's "Ring of Fire" is a soul simmer clocking in at a too-short 3:06 that could have been a Top 40 slow jam anytime during the last 30 years. Foster's loving embrace of John Martyn's modern folk standard "Don't Want To Know" segues into a severely smoky, almost sax dirge of Pete Seeger's human rights rallying cry "If I Had a Hammer." *Burn* baby. *Burn*.

★★★

– Raoul Hernandez

"My mother would always tell me and the people that would come into our lives, 'Now, I know you love my baby, but if it ever gets to a point where it ain't that anymore, you send her home, because she always has a home.'"

exclusive Navy jazz ensemble, the Commodores. She was offered the prestigious position, which would have put her in line to be the first black officer in the Navy bands, but true to her restlessness, she declined. Instead, she left the Navy at the end of her term and settled with her new husband James Lamb in Charleston, S.C., taking a job booking a new folk venue converted from a former strip club.

"You know, I think I just love challenges," she laughs. "We still had the stripper curtains and the catwalk stage, and I was the only performer there for a while. We had some folks come in and they were a little confused."

The job introduced Foster to a new world of folk music, including Woody Guthrie and the Grateful Dead, both of which complimented her own soul and gospel roots. She eventually landed with Big Beat Records, an independent label run by a young executive named Craig Kallman, now chairman and CEO of Atlantic Records. When Atlantic acquired Kallman's label in 1991, Foster suddenly found herself working as a songwriter for a major label in New York.

"Atlantic Recording Artist" opened doors, and co-writing sessions with hit songwriters taught her an arduous craft, but by 1994, over a decade since she first lit out from Six Mile, Foster knew it was time to return home to Texas. Her mother, stricken with Lupus, had entered a nursing home, and her marriage was dissolving irrevocably, if amicably.

"It was time to just come back to base," Foster sighs. "But I knew I wasn't going back when I piled my guitars and amp and Navy seabag into my Nissan king cab. I remember seeing Jersey in my rear-view mirror, seeing that sign disappear, and I knew, as I headed down I-95, 'I'm not coming back.'"

The Phenomenal

"I came home to be my mother's daughter," Foster declares with an odd mix of pride and humility. "I came home to be that daughter that she wanted me to be."

At 30, Foster found herself back in Texas, working at a television station in College Station, playing piano in church on Sunday, and spending days with her mother at the nursing home. It seemed a sabbatical from the prodigal daughter's wandering music career, yet the two years spent with her mother before she passed away was a regrouping, a reaffirmation of faith in family, and a time of dedication to songwriting on her own terms, her own roots.

Foster's move to Austin seemed inevitable, and when she arrived in 1997, she had already insinuated herself into the music scene through open mics, gospel brunches, and a tight network of collaborators and fans. Free of major label obligations and expectations, she had finally self-recorded a debut album, *Full Circle*, which showcased her songwriting and earned her a deal with Blue Corn Music for her 1999 sophomore effort, *Crossover*.

Both albums established Foster as a new voice in Austin alongside her partner and collaborator, Cyd Cassone, but 2002's *Runaway Soul* managed to polish the full range of her musical influences with production from Lloyd Maines. Boldly titled LPs, *The Phenomenal Ruthie Foster* in 2007 and *The Truth According to Ruthie Foster* in 2009, propelled her into ever more vibrant and soulful territories, the former exploding with a funk urgency under the care of Papa Mali, and *Truth* unleashing an incomparable Memphis, Tenn., backing at Ardent Studios that included Jim Dickenson and Robben Ford. A 2010 Grammy nomination for Best Contemporary Blues Album followed.

"Papa Mali really brought out so much that was going on," Foster reflects. "I was in the middle of a huge breakup with Cyd; as partners we were separating and musically, too, so I used a lot of that in the studio, as therapy I guess. Papa Mali was very sensitive to what was going on but still able to guide me musically and push me."

"And with *Truth* we just wanted to do a true soul album. That's why we went to Memphis, because you gotta just go there to get it right."

Welcome Home

Samantha Banks and Tanya Richardson arrive at Foster's house for practice as Katie returns with Maya in her arms. Everything is suddenly a whip of movement and sound inside, the morning back-porch reverie broken.

"I plan on bringing everyone out with me when I can," says Foster about the upcoming tour for *Let It Burn*. "I want to expose Maya to as much music as possible, get her integrated into what this mommy does."

Foster lets loose a light chuckle that can't hide a hint of joyful trouble, that slight glint of rebellion she confesses used to knowingly frustrate her mother. There's also a sense of completeness, of having come full circle as Katie and Maya come to the back door.

"My mother would always tell me and the people that would come into our lives, 'Now, I know you love my baby, but if it ever gets to a point where it ain't that anymore, you send her home, because she always has a home.'"

"That's what I want to pass on to Maya, that she will always have a home. Even if it's just my little property down on the Brazos, you will always have a home. And that's important. Home and family. That's what I write about. All the music stemmed from that and even all the desire to go and be somewhere else all the time. It always comes back to that core."

"Home."

Ruthie Foster celebrates the release of Let It Burn with opener Hadden Sayers at Antone's Friday, Feb. 24.

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Danny Barnes

Rocket (ATO)

The Other Europeans

Splendor (Kikiyon)

Once the beloved Bad Livers, an Austin-based assault on traditional music, Danny Barnes and Mark Rubin now exist in entirely different musical circles. On *Rocket*, his second proper release for Dave Matthews' ATO imprint, Barnes' lyrics divvy up as two parts degenerate, one part altar boy, and wholly sublime. His "weapon of choice," the banjo, isn't always present – find it on the solo banjo version of the LP, *Angels*, plus the cassette-only *Poison* – taking a backseat to his slide guitar and the hammer-ons that imbue *Rocket* with a decidedly rock & roll stamp. Opener "Poison" rides first-person with a desperate trucker who fiends for booze, pills, and anyone else's demise, a stark contrast to "Fun," a sunny, fingerpicked pop song of romantic mischief, including fooling around in empty hospital rooms and attending strangers' funerals. *Rocket* also boasts an oh-so unnecessary T-Rex cover featuring label boss Matthews, plus a foray into punk rock ("S.O.T.") and the concluding love song, "Safe With Me," which is so delicate and beautiful it completely alters the emotional tone of the album. In short, once you think you have Barnes figured out, you've got him all wrong. Rubin's done decades in dive bars and local clubs, but in the summer of 2009, he was traveling Europe, representing the best Jewish instrumentalists for a project that's equally musical and political. The Other Europeans unites Jewish and Romany musicians playing klezmer as it was in Moldova before war separated the cultures. *Splendor* documents that time, a 2-CD set recorded live in Germany with Rubin on bass and tuba. Think *Fiddler on the Roof* meets gypsy jazz, with manic tempo changes and triumphant, vacillating melodies from teams of horns, strings, and keys. Aspects of klezmer music imitate laughing and crying, and such is the range of feeling in these performances, the primary one a namesake for the album. Once a mere punk, Rubin's dedication to musicianship has earned him a life in the highest classes of musical journeymen.

(Danny Barnes) ★★★★★

(The Other Europeans) ★★★★★

– Kevin Curtin



Beat Box

"Sincerely," the lead single from **Coo Hand Bob's** *Bobby*, is the best hip-hop track Austin's heard since last summer's League of Extraordinary Gz hit, "Yes He Is." Flowing with the West Savannah drawl of a young Andre 3000, the local MC sets things straight: "I hope you take into consideration that I'm not a rapper. I'm just a dude who thinks too much in sorta weird rhyming patterns." "Michael Russell" bangs; the rest of *Bobby* is as cool as the other side of the pillow. **Western Think** channels MellowHype on sophomore release *Hater Fader*, flipping between goth-hop ("Practice Lookin' Hard") and cyclobenzaprined ("I'm On My Way," "Man in the Mirror"). He says it best: "Can't full up off the heartfelt songs." Apply the same logic to producer **Hades'** work on *Rotten Flesh*, the new album from Ol' Dirty Bastard's godbrother Menace OBEZ, who's crafted his style after Dirt. The takeaway from Gravediggaz-style beats "Your Mouth" and "Mememe"? ATX might have a new ace on the decks. **East 35's** Young Gift and Bigg John rock sophomore LP *Soul, Sin and Swishers* with UGK precision and Pimped production to match. "Worldwide" and "What We Pushin'" lead the charge, with the latter doubling as the pair's chance to destroy Big KRIT's "Just Touched Down" with the pace of a Twista track. Much slower is blunted duo Jakk Swiss and Polar Bear, **Kind Budz**, who manage to swing Devin the Dude for a track ("Elavaporz") on *Project Green Gene* but offer little else besides lessons in "Blunt Rollin 101." "Traffic" and "From Then to Now" prove a smoothed-out forum for the two-pronged cypher, but snoozers like "Dope or Schwag" and "Ode to Mary (Parts 1 & 2)" suggest the Kind Budz have smoked themselves short of material.

– Chase Hoffberger



TEXAS PLATTERS

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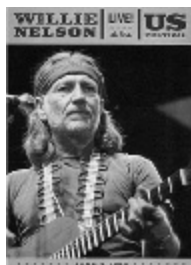
Willie Nelson

Live at the US Festival (Shout! Factory)

Waylon Jennings

Live at the US Festival (Shout! Factory)

The US Festivals were two early Eighties music and culture events produced in Southern California by Steve Wozniak of Apple Computer fame. The second was held Memorial Day weekend in 1983, with a lone day of country music taking place the following Saturday, June 4. Available separately, these two DVDs of video shot that day present Waylon, Willie, and their bands in their primes. Both sets are generous at more than 20 tunes each, filled with fan favorites and the occasional surprise. For Jennings completists, his disc contains the only known recording of "Women Do Know How To Carry On." He's also joined by wife Jessi Colter for an ardent reading of "Storms Never Last." Nelson, the headliner, welcomes Jennings for a couple tunes, including a jovial "Mamas Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up To Be Cowboys," but the blistering jam in "Bloody Mary Morning" and an uncredited polka with a fiery interlude between Mickey Raphael and sister Bobby Nelson are bone-rattling rare. Many live performances from Jennings and Nelson have been available over the years, but these discs are among the best in terms of performance and could easily serve as greatest hits collections. – Jim Caligiuri



Ghosts Along the Brazos

Ghosts Along the Brazos' cross-generational rural music is so vanilla it makes Asleep at the Wheel sound like the Hells Angels. The local five-piece plays a mix of blues, folk, swing, and jazz so gritless and sweet that it boils all the members' influences down into sterile pop. That isn't to say the locals aren't talented. Gregory Harkins and Connor Forsyth punctuate most songs with fast-fingered solos on guitar and keys respectively, while Jacob Jaeger's wink-and-smile vocals are palpable and magnetic. GATB has enough tricks up its sleeve to get through 10 songs without much repetition, mumble-mouthed ode to memory "I Forgot" imbued with the silly charm of Roger Miller and "Post-Apocalyptic Princess" demonstrating some lyrical imagination. Unfortunately, most of the songs aren't clever beyond their titles and the music suffers from conventionality, so much so that GATB portrays itself as an artless wedding band.

★★

– Kevin Curtin



Guns of Navarone

Prize and Battlefield

A decade before the term alt.country was coined in the Nineties, one roots-rock revival featured guitar bands like the Long Ryders, Rank & File, and Green on Red. The members of Guns of Navarone probably weren't even born at that musical juncture, but *Prize and Battlefield*, the local quartet's debut,



would fit neatly in a scene that took much influence from Gram Parsons' rock-and-country hybrid played with indie rock attitude. Guns of Navarone's chiming guitars, chugging rhythms, and sparkling harmonies suggest a more contemporary comparison to the Old 97's, yet it also isolates the occasional goth flourish, like the ending of "Gatsby Did It All for a Girl" and a Southwestern sweep created by the guest pedal steel of Kim Deschamps on "Born Bloody." Well-crafted hooks and muscular ensemble play make *Prize and Battlefield* an imposing initial effort.

★★★★

– Jim Caligiuri

Frank Smith

Before You Were Born (Big Snow)

Since transplanting from Boston in 2007, Frank Smith the band has grappled with balancing its Northeastern rock roots with lessons gleaned from Austin's alt.country scene. On two previous local releases, the group attempted, with varying degrees of success, to blend indie elements into its tears-in-my-beer country base. *Before You Were Born* successfully embraces a chunkiness previously concealed, with opening track "Monsters" almost unrecognizable in its embrace of brooding indie rock theatrics. Not that Frank Smith has dropped its acquired accent. "Homecomin' Hater" drops its G's on the back of lonely steel guitar, while closer "Lovesick Cynics" fuses genre-hopping into an ethereal love song that flawlessly closes the LP. This shift, although drastic, suits Frank Smith's musical sensibilities and leaves the band sounding completely at ease for the first time.

★★★★

– Abby Johnston



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepherd



A recent article in the *Journal of Sexual Medicine* reported the painful results obtained by three Hispanic men incarcerated in the Southwestern United States who had, for some reason, inserted specially designed chips, carved from dominoes, under the skin of their penises, apparently based on a folkloric belief that "sexual performance and virility" would be enhanced. Infections resulted, requiring major surgery that was unspecified in the article.

LEAD STORY

Anti-Theft ID Breakthrough: For people who become stressed when asked to prove their identities by biometric scans of fingerprints, handprints, or eyeballs, Japan's Advanced Institute of Industrial Technology has developed a chair frame that authenticates merely by sitting down: a butt-scanner. Professor Shigeomi Koshimizu's device produces a map of the user's unique derriere shape, featuring 256 degrees of pressure at 360 different points and could be used not only to protect vehicles from theft but also, when connected to a computer, to prevent log-ons by those with unauthorized posteriors.

COMPELLING EXPLANATIONS

Imminent Gay Takeovers: 1) Mayor Jose Benitez of Huarmey, Peru (population 16,000), speaking at the opening of a water works in November, warned residents about strontium in the water, which he said suppresses male hormones. He reminded residents that nearby Tabalosos, which is lately popular with gays and lesbians, shares the water supply and that Huarmey could turn gay, too. 2) A November 2011 report by Muslim scholars at Saudi Arabia's highest religious council (Majlis al-Ifta' al-A'ala), presented to the Saudi legislature, warned that ending the ban on females' driving would cause a surge in prostitution, pornography, divorce and, of course, homosexuality (and the scholars added that, within 10 years, the country would have "no more virgins").

California state legislator Mary Hayashi of Hayward pleaded guilty in January to misdemeanor shoplifting. Police said she had walked out of a Neiman Marcus store in October 2011 with over \$2,400 worth of unpaid-for merchandise, caused, said her lawyer, by a benign brain tumor that might have affected her decision-making. (Miraculously, and just in time for the legislative session, the tumor, said the lawyer, is "no longer affecting her concentration or her judgment.")

IRONIES

Because this past Christmas fell on a Sunday, nearly one Protestant church in 10 in the U.S. reported having canceled Sunday services that day out of fear of low attendance, as parishioners remained at home with family. (The poll, by Lifeway Research, noted also that other churches, while not canceling, had left services to their second-string clergy.)

Retired sheriff Patrick J. Sullivan Jr. was arrested in November 2011 in a suburb of Denver and charged with distributing methamphetamine to men in exchange for sex. Sullivan, who had a distinguished career as Arapahoe County sheriff, was booked into the Patrick J. Sullivan Jr. Detention Center, named for him after he retired in 2002.

Eldon Alexander, 36, and Ms. Korin Vanhouten, 47, had two different encounters with Ogden, Utah, police on Dec. 15. First, they were issued misdemeanor citations after being accused of shoplifting at a WinCo Foods store. They were released and walked out to their car in the parking lot, but summoned the police

when they discovered that while they were busy shoplifting, someone had broken into their car and stolen a stereo. (The shoplifted items were worth about \$25, the stereo about \$60.)

Sheriff's deputies arrested novelist Nancy Mancuso Gelber, 53, in December 2011 in Bryan, Texas, after she had allegedly arranged a hit on her husband. (The "hit man," of course, was an undercover officer.) Gelber said she had walked in on the husband romancing with one of her friends, and the couple were in the process of divorcing (complicated by his having removed her from his health insurance just as she was scheduled for expensive surgery). Gelber is the author of the 2010 crime thriller, *Temporary Amnesia*, and told the "hit man" that she was quite familiar with investigative procedures (though obviously poor at spotting undercover officers).

THE LITIGIOUS SOCIETY

Jesse Dimmick filed a lawsuit in Topeka, Kan., in October against Jared and Lindsay Rowley – whom he has been convicted of kidnapping in a notorious 2009 episode that resulted in his being shot by police. Dimmick broke into the home and held the couple hostage at knifepoint, but now says that, during the siege, the couple made him an "oral contract," "legally binding," that they would help him hide if he would sometime later pay them an unspecified amount of money. According to the lawsuit, since Dimmick was subsequently shot (accidentally, said the Topeka police), his injuries were the result of the Rowleys breaching the contract to hide him safely. (Police, who had surrounded the home, arrested Dimmick when he fell asleep.)

The two men who heroically pulled a woman out of a burning car wreck in 2009, and surely (according to a highway patrol officer on the scene) saved her life, have sued the woman for the emotional and physical disabilities that resulted from the episode (brought to light in an August 2011 Associated Press report). David Kelley and Mark Kincaid not only stopped voluntarily to help, but were the only ones on the scene capable of pulling the woman to safety. (The fire was so hot that it melted Kelley's cellphone.) Kelley said he has suffered serious breathing problems and cannot avoid horrific dreams reliving the episode. The woman, Theresa Tanner, subsequently admitted that she deliberately crashed the car that day in a suicide attempt.

RECURRING THEMES

No "Individual Mandate": To meet its municipal budget, the town of South Fulton, Tenn., assessed each residence \$75 a year for fire-fighting service, but in the name of "liberty" gave people the chance to opt out of coverage. Vicky Bell chose not to pay, and when her home caught fire in December, firefighters rushed to the scene – but only to be on hand in case the fire spread to her neighbors, who had paid their fees. Bell's home burned to the ground as firefighters watched. (Mayor David Crocker said "a majority" of residents had paid the fee.)

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at
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Free up your schedule for this week. Browse or search **2,834** events online at austinchronicle.com/calendar

FILM:
*Office Space/
Beverly Hills Cop*
Paramount, 7pm

SPORTS:
AMA Arenacross Series
Cedar Park Center, 7pm

COMMUNITY:
Geek Bowl
Austin Music Hall, 6pm

FILM:
Dragonslayer
Alamo Ritz, 7pm

CIVICS 101:
Plastic Bag Forum
City Hall, 6pm

FILM:
Shaun of the Dead
Paramount, 7:30pm

MUSIC:
Har Mar Superstar
Mohawk

MUSIC:
Indian Jewelry
ND at 501 Studios

THURSDAY
26

COMMUNITY: *The Blind Cafe* University Avenue Church of Christ, 7pm
COMEDY: *Zach Attack!* Alamo South Lamar, 7pm
FILM: *The Weather Underground* Salvage Vanguard Theater, 8pm

FRIDAY
27

MEAL TIMES: *Prohibition Party* Sullivan's Steakhouse, 5-9pm
VISUAL ARTS: *Print + Addiction* Industry, 6-9pm
FILM: *Richard Pryor Double Feature* Paramount Theatre, 7pm
FILM: *Hidden Battles* 5604 Manor, 7pm
MUSIC: *K-Nack @ 20* ND at 501 Studios
MUSIC: *Beauty Ballroom Grand Opening* Beauty Ballroom

SATURDAY
28

MEAL TIMES: *NextFeast* Center 61, 11am-4pm
MUSIC: *Walking Woody's Road* One World Theatre, 7 & 9:30pm
LITERA: *The Whiskey Rebellion* Nomad, 9pm
FILM: *Wild at Heart* Alamo Ritz, 11:45pm

SUNDAY
29

FILM: *Dance Movie Marathon* Alamo Ritz, 1pm
YOUNG ONES: *Adventure Room Improv* Hideout Theatre, 2pm
MUSIC: *Judy Collins* One World Theatre, 6 & 8:30pm
GAY PLACE: *Vintage Vivant* Swan Dive, 9pm

MONDAY
30

MUSIC: *Living Room Live* W Hotel, 8pm
FILM: *The Love We Make* Alamo Ritz, 9:40pm
MUSIC: *Bobby Bare Jr.* Continental Club, 10pm
FILM: *A Lonely Place To Die* Alamo Ritz, 10pm

TUESDAY
31

FILM: *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans* Alamo Lamar, 7pm
MUSIC: *Greezy Wheels* Jovita's

WEDNESDAY
1

SPORTS: *Golden Gloves Tournament* Travis County Expo Center, 6-10pm
FILM: *Man on a Mission* Alamo Village, 7pm
FILM: *Thelma & Louise* Alamo Lake Creek, 7pm
THEATRE: *Dionysium* Alamo Lamar, 7pm
LITERA: *Debra Monroe* St. Edward's University, 7:30pm

THURSDAY
2

FILM: *Being John Malkovich* Fricano's Deli, West Campus, 7pm
THEATRE: *Rude Mechs: CL100P* The Off Center, 8pm
MUSIC: *Bruce Robison and Kelly Willis* Continental Club, 8:30pm



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THEATRE

OPENING

THE DIONYSIUM: CHINA SHOW Austin's monthly alcohol-fueled celebration of intellectual glory explores that contentious country of communism, that burgeoning bastion of Buddhism, that exaggerated example of economic exuberance, that – in a word, China. With presentations by Paralympic bronze-winning archer Lindsey Carmichael, W. Joe Hoppe on “The Aesthetic of Chinese Poetry,” a debate about “Resolved: That the 21st Century will be the Chinese Century,” and more, in the sprightly Dionysian manner. *Wed., Feb. 1, 7pm. Alamo Drafthouse Lamar, 1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262. www.dionysium.com.*

BOEING BOEING Here's the Beverley Cross adaptation of Marc Camoletti's swinging 1960s bedroom farce, directed by Don Toner for Austin Playhouse and featuring Lara Toner, Hildreth England, and Laura Walberg as the three stewardesses juggled by David Stokey's Bernard. *Jan. 27-Feb. 26. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. 1800 1/2 Simond in the Mueller Development. \$26-35. www.austinplayhouse.com.*

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR Soprano Lyubov Petrova shines in the legendary title role of Donizetti's classic opera about a woman driven to murder and madness amid the throes of marital subterfuge and familial treachery. See “Method to Their Madness,” p.26, for an interview with Petrova. *Sat., Jan. 28, 7:30pm; Fri., Feb. 3, 7:30pm; Sun., Feb. 5, 3pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 457-5100. \$19 and up. www.austinyricopera.org.*

THE ADVENTURES OF THE STORY WRANGLERS Professional actors bring kids' creative writing to life in this musical show on the historic State Theatre stage. *Tue., Jan. 31, 7pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. \$5. www.austintheatre.org.*

AUSTIN SHAKESPEARE: ARCADIA Ann Ciccolella directs Tom Stoppard's acclaimed time-jumping comedy about an ancient mystery unraveled 200 years later by guests in the house where it occurred. *Feb. 2-19. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 470-4505. \$17.50-34.50. www.austinshakespeare.org.*

CLOSING

CONVERSATIONS WHILE DINING ALONE Here's a new play, written and directed by Ken Johnson, that features 22 monologues performed by 12 actors. *Jan. 20-29. Fri. & Sun., 7:30pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 447-4338. \$12.50 (student discounts available). www.austintexas.gov.*

VIPER VIXENS OF 2012 “The evil Viper Vixens are destined to take over the world unless the heroes of the Mexican Air Force can defeat them!” The **Electronic Planet Ensemble** returns to the Vortex with a new multimedia explosion of sci-fi spoofery, featuring a Chad Salvata narrative enhanced with cinematography from Sergio R. Samayoa and a mind-warping live band fronted by David Jewell. *Through Jan. 29. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$10-30 (Thu. & Sun., two-for-one with food donation). www.vortexrep.org.*

CHANTEUSE Louise Richardson's original musical about friendship, fame, and folk music follows the lives of two young women in Greenwich Village and features song styles ranging from traditional to Broadway to French cabaret. *Through Jan. 28. Sat., 2pm; Sun., 7:30pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 907-1821. \$15. www.chanteusemusical.com.*

THE CHILDREN'S HOUR Karen Jambon directs Lillian Hellman's dark classic from 1934 for Different Stages. *Through Jan. 28. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 926-6747. \$15-30. www.main.org/diffstages.*

ONGOING

WICKED Yes, it's the Grammy- and Tony-winning phenomenon based on Gregory Maguire's 1995 novel about the early lives of those two *Wizard of Oz* witches, now professionally touring back to the Bass Concert Hall to thrill you as it's been thrilling audiences around the world. Baums away! *Through Feb. 12. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 1 & 7pm. Bass Concert Hall, 23rd Street & Robert Dedman Drive, UT campus, 477-6060. \$38.50 and up. www.utpac.org.*

NEXT TO NORMAL Zach Scott Theatre presents the Texas premiere of this 2010 Pulitzer- and Tony-winning rock musical about a family coping with their matriarch's worsening bipolar disorder, with a fine cast (Meredithe McCall and Jamie Goodwin leading? Perfect.) directed by Dave Steakley. See “Method to Their Madness,” p.26, for an interview with McCall. *Through March 4. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zach Theatre's Kleberg Stage, 1421 W. Riverside, 476-0594. \$35-55.*



Thu.-Sat., Feb. 2-11, 8pm. Feb. 2 through Feb. 11. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. \$10. www.rudemechs.com.

THEATRE CALL BOARD

GYPSY CIRCUS DANCE PARTY Here's a lively fundraising shindig from and for Present Company – the folks who bring you Shakespeare on the Farm. Live music by the Lost Soul Revue, various vaudeville shenanigans, and much ado about eating will flavor this thespian night. *Fri., Jan. 27, 9pm. The Sahara Lounge, 1413 Webberville Rd., 927-0700. www.presentcompanytheatre.com.*

COMEDY

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Vic Henley He's slain them in Aspen; he's destroyed them in Montreal; he's graced screens branded with HBO, CBS, NBC, FOX, MTV, BRAVO, and CMT. This bright star has proven his comedy's potency a thousand times over. Go see him, already! And **Amber Preston** opens. *Feb. 1-4. Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$9-13.*

Dana Gould He was the co-creator of MTV's *Super Adventure Team* and wrote for *The Simpsons* for seven years? Pffff. We hear he's even better live

FRONTERAFEST 2012

Here's the 19th annual spectacle of performance, featuring a pack of new shows of 25 minutes each, Tuesday through Saturday nights, for five weeks, created by some of our cleverest friends and neighbors. And that's just the **Short Fringe** at Hyde Park Theatre. There's also the **FronteraFest Long Fringe**, with its *full-length* shows. Check the HPT website (www.hydeparktheatre.com) for a more comprehensive schedule, tickets, fest passes, and any last-minute switcheroos, but see below for the Long Fringe basics:

LONG FRINGE at *Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor:*

Akimbo Bubble Scuttle Ruckus Sketch comedy by Topping Haggerty and the Da Foundry crew. *Sun., Jan. 29, 6:45pm; Tue., Jan. 31, 7pm; Sat., Feb. 4, 1pm; Sun., Feb. 5, 3pm. The Alien Baby Play*, written by Nicholas Walker Herbert and directed by Gary Jaffe for Tutto Theatre. *Sat., Jan. 28, 1pm; Sun., Jan. 29, 8:45pm; Sun., Feb. 5, 7:15pm. The Billy Ocean/Teena Marie Confluence of 1985* is brought to you by Max Langert and Punchkin Repertory. *Sat., Jan. 28, 3:15pm; Fri., Feb. 3, 7pm; Sat., Feb. 4, 10pm. The Crapstall Street Boys* is a tale of hungering urban monstrosities from Connor Hopkins and Trouble Puppet Theater Company. Recommended! *Sat., Jan. 28, 11pm; Sun., Jan. 29, 3:15pm; Sat., Feb. 4, 6:45pm. Don't Go in the House* The Dirigo Group presents four short plays written by Lowell Bartholomee and Dan Dietz. Recommended! *Fri., Jan. 27, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 29, 4:45pm; Mon., Jan. 30, 7:30pm; Thu., Feb. 2, 8:30pm. Holier Than Thou* is Bastion Carboni and Poison Apple Initiative's comedy about people competing to possess the powers of Jesus for a week. *Thu., Jan. 26, 9pm; Sat., Jan. 28, 5:30pm; Tue., Jan. 31, 9pm; Sat., Feb. 4, 8:15pm. Jack & Coconuts* by



Rude Mechs: CL100P

So far it's an interactive puzzle for the stage, inspired by alternative reality games and the imaginary world built by the Brontës. By the time they're through – after considering *your* input, friend – who knows what mad brilliance will transform the traditions of performance and live presentation? You can Await Silent Tristero's Empire or you can join Austin's fiercest theatre group for this workshop version of what it's polishing for a full production in May.

and onstage. And **Nick Mullen** opens. *Jan. 26-28. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$9-13.*

Punch! Where do you find the funniest stand-up comics in Austin? You find them here, in this weekly showcase hosted by **Matt Bearden**. Yeah, on a *Tuesday* night. You're no idiot; you're calling for reservations now, right? *Tuesdays, 8pm. \$5.*

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803-B Airport, 814-TOWN. www.coldtownetheater.com.

This Week in Coldness: Thursday Night Social Club

The party's host Mac Blake takes you back to the halcyon days of the 1970s with improv troupes Scout and the Team. *Thu., 8:30pm. Yes, you'll enjoy TV-inflected badinage of The Morning Sausage with Kyle & Andy Thu., 10pm. The Cage Match Raw* is war, even when it's improvised. *Fri., 8:30pm. ColdTowne Stand-up Fri., 10pm. Cody (Dearing) and a Friend Sat., 8:30pm. Stone Cold Improv* brings **Midnight Society** and the **Frank Mills**. *Sat., 10pm. Turn of the Century Paris* brings you an open-mic **Speakeasy**. *Sat., 11pm.* And now there's **Pay-what-you-wish Improv Shows on Wednesdays!** 8:30 & 10pm.

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.esterstheatre.com.

Esther's Follies The most popular sketch troupe in town brings comedy that skewers the high-and-mighty, riotous song parodies, right there on Sixth Street. Esther's Election Year Medley tracks the candidates

Corey Kwoka 3-D Productions, where a wedding in paradise disintegrates into madness. *Fri., Jan. 27, 9pm; Sun., Jan. 29, 1pm; Wed., Feb. 1, 9pm; Sun., Feb. 5, 9pm. Somewhere in Utopia* by Jared J. Stein and Out of Context Productions. *Sat., Jan. 28, 7:15pm; Fri., Feb. 3, 9:15pm; Sat., Feb. 4, 3pm. Southern Fried Chickie* is Christy McBrayer's one-woman show about a struggling actress returning from Hollywood to her hometown. *Thu., Jan. 26, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 28, 9pm; Wed., Feb. 1, 7pm; Sat., Feb. 4, 4:45pm.*

LONG FRINGE at *Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale:*

Drawing A Paycheck Annie La Ganga draws portraits of the audience while telling of her entrepreneurial misadventures. Recommended! *Thu., Jan. 26, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 28, 5pm; Mon., Jan. 30, 7:30pm; Thu., Feb. 2, 8:45pm. Foursquare* by Manuel Zarate explores love via three strangers who meet in Austin. *Fri., Jan. 27, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 29, 4:15pm; Wed., Feb. 1, 7pm; Sat., Feb. 4, 9:15pm. Getting Betta* is Don Fried and the Paradox Players' sweet and futuristic comedy. *Tue., Jan. 31, 9:15pm; Thu., Feb. 2, 7pm; Sun., Feb. 5, 1:15pm. The Heart You Were Born With* is Drew Julian's new play of romantic entanglements. *Sat., Jan. 28, 7pm; Sat., Feb. 4, 2:30pm; Sun., Feb. 5, 8:30pm. Here's to You A*. John Boulanger and Imagine That Productions bring you a comedy of newlyweds and psychic hokum. *Sat., Jan. 28, 9:15pm; Wed., Feb. 1, 9:15pm; Sat., Feb. 4, 7:15pm; Sun., Feb. 5, 4:15pm. Internet Casanova: The Reboot* by Bill Bauer and Weird City Theatre. *Sat., Jan. 28, 3pm; Fri., Feb. 3, 9:15pm; Sun., Feb. 5, 6:30pm. Life and Other Terminal Maladies* by Trey Deason and Purple Crayon Theatre. *Thu., Jan. 26, 9:15pm; Sun., Jan. 29, 6:30pm; Tue., Jan. 31, 7pm; Sun., Feb. 5, 2pm. Precious Little Talent* by Ella Hickson and Capital T Theatre is the U.S. premiere of the latest stage hit from London. *Fri., Jan. 27, 9:15pm; Sun., Jan. 29, 2pm; Fri., Feb. 3, 7pm.*

in “GOP Superstar!” and lambasts the Prez and the tea party alike with the “Baraky Horror Picture Show” And there are **Ray Anderson's** nonpartisan spectacles of magic, too! Reservations recommended. *Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$22-27 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, military).*

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688. www.hideouttheatre.com.

It's Hideoutrageous! Here's your one-stop emporium of laughter Downtown. The **Threerfer** brings you three troupes in one night. *Thu., 8pm. \$5. The Free Fringe* features the lovely duo of **Firth & Arjet** and a slew of improv experiments. This week: llllllll's **Ladies Night!** *Thu., 10pm. Free. Maestro RAW* Can the students do as well as the masters? Snatch the pebble, Grasshopper! *Fri., 8pm. \$12. The Spectacle* features **Parallelogramphonograph's** traveling medicine show and something that's **Furiously Missing**. *Fri., 10pm. \$12. Sci-Fi Double Feature* features a *Twilight Zone*-inspired show and – yes! – the return of **Start Trekkin**. *Sat., 8pm. \$12. Maestro* It's improviser against improviser, a whole stageful of them, battling for victory. *Sat., 10pm. \$12. The Weekender Student Showcase* and **Elevator Action**. *Sun., 8pm. \$5.*

INSTITUTION THEATER 3708 Woodbury, 895-9580. www.theinstitutiontheater.com.

Wheelhouse of Spectacular Wow Times Cool – the level of talent matches the bombast of the title! This weekly variety show features Michael Ferstenfeld, James Patrick Robinson, David McQuary, and Magician vs. Clown as guests. Make your reservations early. *Fridays, 8pm. \$5.*

NEW MOVEMENT THEATRE 1819 Rosewood.

The New Movement Here's the comedy-focused powerhouse that ate East Austin, generating new troupes like, what, every other week? Shows, workshops, classes, all of it. See the website for details, yes, but look: **Joy Behar's Book Club** is a showcase of *female* comedians. *Thu., 8pm. Free. Block Party* Anything – that's anything – goes. *Thu., 9:30pm. Free. The Cubbies with Gross, Horn, and Carpenter* bringing the improv. *Fri., 9pm. Lucy with Disco Box*. *Fri., 10:30pm. The Neighborhood* This. Is. Sketch. *Sat., 9pm. The Neighborhood So. Is. This. Sat., 10:30pm. \$5.*

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. www.thevelveetaroom.com.

Caneron Buckholtz The local man and road warrior, originally from Oklahoma, does a podcast called CB Radio, wears glasses, is funny; loaf of bread, stick of butter. **Steven Farmer** and friends open. *Sat., Jan. 28, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

Friday Night Fracas: It's Always Funny with Brian Gaar Yeah, and tonight there's **Mario DiGiorgio** and **John Ramsey** as guests. So we're recommending this show especially. *Fri., Jan. 27, 9:30pm. \$5. Dirty Laundry* Austin comics doing their nastiest, most offensive jokes? Yes: Kelly Stone, Carey Denise, Kat Ramzinski, Michael Priest, and Kelly Lee. *Fri., Jan. 27, 11:30pm. \$5.*

BUT WAIT - THERE'S MORE!

AUSTIN VARIETY SHOW ANNIVERSARY BASH This local phenomenon of televised entertainment celebrates its second birthday with host **Troy Dillinger** taping two episodes' worth of performances by **Charlie Hodge**, **Ramin Nazer**, and the musical naughtiness of **Mistress Stephanie** and **Her Melodic Cat**. *Sat., Jan. 28, 8pm. Right there in the old Highland Mall, 6001 Airport Blvd. 712/773-5697. \$12 (\$10, advance). www.austinvarietyshow.com.*

ZACH ATTACK! This evening of entertainment features **Zach Anner** and Saturday Morning Breakfast Cereal's **Zach Weiner**, with special guests from Rooster Teeth Productions. *Thu., Jan. 26, 7:30pm. Alamo Drafthouse Lamar, 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320. \$15. www.drafthouse.com.*

GNAP! THEATER LATENIGHTS: The Derby features four teams of improvisers, each competing in games and scenes to win the others' personal possessions. *Fri., Jan. 27, 10pm. Free. Saturday Night Special* boasts the spunky hunks of **Junk** and those wily immigrants of the **Foreign Legion**. *Sat., Jan. 28, 10pm. \$10. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. www.gnaptheater.org.*

☛ **STEAM, ROSE-COLORED GOGGLES, AND THE FLIGHT OF THE VICTORIANA** Improvised narrative gets seductive Steampunk togs in this new series of shows directed by Audrey Sansom for Gnap! Theater Projects. Adventurous archetypes and their brass-enhanced feats of derring-do are the order of the day this night, good citizen. Especially recommended if you swoon over *Firefly*, yes. *Through Jan. 28. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$10. www.enaptheater.org.*

DANCE

GALAXY DANCE STUDIOS: OPEN HOUSE & PERFORMANCE SHOWCASE Learn about the classes available, see a few dances – get yourself involved, friend. *Sat., Jan. 28, 2-6pm. 1700 S. Lamar #338. 442-5299. www.galaxydances.org.*

CLASSICAL MUSIC

ENSEMBLE SETTECENTO: FRANCO-FÊTE! Austin's newest early music ensemble revels in the splendor of the French Baroque. *Sun., Jan. 29, 3:30pm. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 912-6827. \$15 (\$10 seniors; \$5 students). www.ensemblesettecento.org.*

BALCONES COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA Featuring Dr. Gerald Gaul performing Bach's *Viola Concerto in E Flat*. *Sun., Jan. 29, 4pm. St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa, 358-8676. Free. www.bcorchestra.net.*

VISUAL ARTS**EVENTS**

★ **PRINT+ ADDICTION: MICHAEL SEIBEN** Sieben art and prints! Unique you-design-it T-shirts printed on the spot by the good folks at Industry Screen Print! Music by DJ Gibb! Free beer! And – damn, people, ain't this thing started yet? Ah, no, it happens on: *Fri., Jan. 27, 6-9pm. 618 Tillery. 963-4161. Free. www.printaddiction.com.*

UT VISUAL ARTS CENTER: ASSEMBLE The University of Texas' vast and elegant space opens its new season with an evening of exhibitions, festivities, and libations. Mind you, the tickets are \$200 each and "cocktail attire" is required. *Sat., Jan. 28, 6-9pm. But, wait! That is specifically a fundraiser targeted at moneysed types. UT's not dissing the rest of us; in fact, hoi polloi like you and I can enjoy the new exhibits a day earlier at a free reception. Which we recommend, especially if you've never been before, because the shows look interesting, yes, but the VAC itself is impressive and memorable even when it's bare. See you there! Fri., Jan. 27, 6-9pm. 23rd and Trinity. www.utvac.org.*

COMMON HOUSE AND CRUMMY HOUSE: ZINE RELEASE ART SHOW Featuring work made in 2011 by 14 different artists from Austin and beyond. *Fri., Jan. 27, 7-9pm. 906 E. 49th. www.common-house.com.*

I HEART ART Exhibition from Arc of the Arts, by artists with intellectual and developmental disabilities. *Wed., Feb. 1, 6-8pm. 6717 Burnet Rd. 524-2371. www.arcofthearts.com.*

INSIGHTS ART SHOW Art produced by patients at the Austin State Hospital. *Thu., Jan. 26, 6-9pm. 600 River, 419-2330. \$35. www.asivolunteers.org.*

OPENING

AVAA'S 35TH ANNIVERSARY The Austin Visual Arts Association's been around for 35 years? Yes, and pretty glorious years, at that. See the show for yourself. Reception: *Thu., Feb. 2, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 22. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 974-4000. www.avaaonline.org.*

CHAMPION GALLERY: DANIEL HEIDKAMP Yes, this. Because this is a solo show by one of the artists who made the Champion's recent Fauvist "Wild Beasts" show a pleasure to experience. So many paintings of people and things, with paintings that look as much like paintings as they do like the subjects depicted, if you see what we mean, and bright with almost hallucinogenic colors. Reception: *Thu., Jan. 26, 7-9pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 25. 800 Brazos, 354-1035. www.championcontemporary.com.*

GALLERY AT MUSEO: JAZZED ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHY New works by Rae Dollard, John Gusky, Johnny Stevens, and Shawn Thomas. Reception: *Thu., Feb. 2, 5:30-7:30pm. Exhibition: Through April 22. 11266 Taylor Draper.*

REAL GALLERY: WIDE OPEN New and returning gallery artists. Reception: *Sat., Feb. 11, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Jan. 30-Feb. 16. 1101 Navasota #3. 775-0458. realgalleryaustin@gmail.com.*



★ **INK TANK: LAST NEW YEAR** The relentlessly creative consortium of humans at Ink Tank celebrate the end of all things: "A study of crisis management. A last ditch effort. A roll of the dice. One last shot ... A beacon of light. A goodbye. It will be an unwavering column of truth in a desert of confusion; a party." The party rolls to a close this weekend, with the burial of several time capsules at sundown. Not an event, we've heard, to be missed. *Sun., Jan. 29, 5pm. 1319 Rosewood. www.inktanklab.com.*

RUSSELL COLLECTION: ART BY SOUTHWEST Works by Cody Hooper, Michael Kessler, Mike Klung, JD Miller, Ray Phillips, Linda St. Clair, Bruce Tinch, Arthur Umlauf, and more. Reception (RSVP requested): *Sat., Jan. 27, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 29. 1137 W. Sixth, 478-4440. www.russell-collection.com.*

SOUTH AUSTIN GALLERY: WARREN SAWYER New works by this catalyst of the colorful and surreal will do smart, eerie things to your visual cortex. Reception: *Fri., Feb. 3, 7-9pm. Exhibition: Feb. 1-29. 507-A W. Mary. www.southaustingallery.com.*

UT VISUAL ARTS CENTER New shows and installations by Diana Al-Hadid and Justin Boyd. Twenty-five Chinese artists interpreting cultural identity in "Across the Divide." Artists Erica Baum, Ellie Ga, Birgit Rathsmann, Patrick Resing, and Michael Stevenson explore chance and inevitability with a show called "(im)possibilities." The works of 51 artists and printers deck the walls with wonder and diversity for the "New Prints 2011" retrospective. All this and more, as the VAC starts a new year of exhibitions and events. *Jan. 27-March 10. 23rd and Trinity. www.utvac.org.*

CLOSING

B. HOLLYMAN GALLERY: ANIMALIA Henry Horenstein's series of intimate and intriguing portraits of land and sea creatures. *Through Jan. 31. 1202-A W. Sixth, 825-6866. www.bhollymangallery.com.*

CO-LAB: THE DEVELOPMENT OF ACTUALITY You think something's gonna happen with that thing there? You think it's gonna, what, move and clank or cause that other thing to fall onto the smallest thing near the door? Think again: **Robert Jackson Harrington's** art-

Straight from Las Vegas...

A TRIBUTE TO THE RAT PACK

Enjoy the greatest hits of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, and Sammy Davis, Jr.!



Sun. Feb. 19, 3pm
Leander High School
Performing Arts Center

Tickets \$25 • \$30 • 1.800.585.3737
www.startickets.com



KRIYA YOGA PUBLIC LECTURE
WITH **YOGACHARYA BHDRAJU PANDYA**
AND **YOGACHARYA JOHN THOMAS LOPATEGUI**
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3 2012 • 7:30PM
THE ANCIENT SCIENTIFIC TEACHINGS OF
KRIYA YOGA
1 PILLOW RD., AUSTIN TX 78745
FOR MORE INFO: **WWW.KRIYA.ORG** OR **512.916.9855**



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AIN'T IT COOL NEWS, TOY JOY
and AUSTIN CHRONICLE present
SATURDAY MORNING KIDS CLUB
(THE ORIGINAL '76 VERSION)
**BAD NEWS
BEARS**

With super fun prizes from Toy Joy!
FREE ADMISSION

SAT, JAN 28, 10:45AM
ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR



AT
NORTHWEST
RECREATION CENTER
2913 NORTHLAND DR.
CALL DEBRA 496-4358

LISTINGS

work is on display to fuck with your sense of kinetic potential. *By appointment only, through Jan. 28.* 613 Allen, 300-8217. www.colabspace.org.

D BERMAN GALLERY: LANCE LETSCHER The collage artist's new "Work from the Middles Ages" presents the history of books brilliantly exploded via postmodern taxidermy. *Through Jan. 28.* 111 Old Kyle Road #100, Wimberley, 512/847-3200. www.dbermangallery.com.

GALLERY BLACK LAGOON: BLOWOUT VII Annual juried exhibition of prints from UT's diverse and talented art students. *Through Jan. 29.* 4301-A Guadalupe, 371-8838. www.galleryblacklagoon.com.

REAL GALLERY: LINES IN THE DARK "Cave Paintings, Cave Drawings and Alterations" by Austin artist Jan Knox. *Through Jan. 28.* 1101 Navasota #3. 775-0458. www.realgalleryaustin.com.

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: WILL KLEMM A retrospective of the artist's many landscapes in pastels and oils over the past two decades brings the beauty of all outdoors into this fine Westside gallery. *Through Jan. 28.* 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com.

ONGOING

ACCESS GALLERY: NATURAL EXPRESSIONS Works on silk by Valerie Shot and wood sculpture by James Nelson. *Through Feb. 10.* 3701 Guadalupe #103, 323-6626. www.vsatx.org.

AMOA + ARTHOUSE: EVIDENCE OF HOUDINI'S RETURN Each of the seven artists here – Sterling Allen, Facundo Argañaraz, Strauss Bourque LaFrance, Katja Mater, Christopher Samuels, Justin Swinburne, and J. Parker Valentine – test the boundaries of working abstractly, with found objects and images, reformed digital technologies, and traditional techniques. *Rosabelle, believe! Through March 4.* 700 Congress, 453-5312. www.arthousetexas.org.

AMOA + ARTHOUSE: TWO TAKES ON ONE SPACE We won't call them AMOAHouse, lest they sic some violent Art Brut mafiosi on us, but look: The newly merged cultural giants invited Maine-based Lauren Fensterstock and celebrated local Steve Wiman to creatively transform the venerable Driscoll villa out there in the woods. Now the interior and exterior landscapes have become the current exhibition. Much to see and do here: Check the website for more. *Through Feb. 19.* 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191. www.arthousetexas.org.

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY Artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru. 78 San Marcos St., 457-0171. www.pablotaoboadastudio.com.

AUSTIN ART CONNECTIONS: ART THAT TELLS A STORY New work by seven Texas artists: *Good* new work, to be sure, and recommended. See website for details. 786-8721. www.austinartconnections.com.

AUSTIN ART GARAGE Local, diverse, and eminently shoppable. 2200-J S. Lamar, 351-5934. www.austinartgarage.com.

DOMY BOOKS: CRIP/BLOOD In the front gallery of this graphic emporium, the artist **Joshua Saunders** fucks with mass perception via a battery of oppositional pairings, irreverent of any difference between the formal and the social. In the back gallery, **Michelle Devereux** displays her paintings of Dudes on Pizza. No, seriously: *Dudes. On pizza.* Recommended. *Through March 1.* 913 E. Cesar Chavez, 476-3669. www.domystore.com.

GALLERY AT THE J: MONO Y MONO The Women Printmakers of Austin present a show of monoprints and monotypes. *Through Feb. 28.* 7300 Hart, 735-8000. www.womenprintmakers.com.

GRAYDUCK GALLERY: TRUE STORY The purity of perception, the accuracy of memory, and the truth of desires – explored in paintings by Paul Beck and Allen Brewer, as well as watercolor and mixed media by Pat Snow. *Through Feb. 19.* 608-C W. Monroe, 826-5334. www.grayduckgallery.com.

LA PEÑA: MINDSCAPES New photographs and paintings by Rama Tiru of *Austin: East of I-35* fame. 227 Congress. 477-6007. www.ramatiru.com.

LAGUNA GLORIA: BUSTER GRAYBILL The artist's *Progeny of Tush Hog*, which includes sculptures, photographs, and video, ranges from the venue's stately interiors to its landscaped grounds. *Through Feb. 19.* 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191. www.amoa.org.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: MADS LYNNERUP Solo exhibition of new works by the New York-based artist. *Through Feb. 4.* 360 Nueces #50, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.

NEW EAST GALLERY features works by Ricardo Acevedo, Charles Randolph, Gary Flemmons, Gin Daniel, Lauren Bristol, Rachelle Diaz, and more. 1601 E. Fifth #106. www.diversearts.org.

PUMP PROJECT: PRESSURE This new large-scale installation by **Brooke Gassiot** fills the Pump Project complex with sculpture, light, sound, and video. *Through Feb. 15.* 702 Shady, 351-8571. www.brookegassiot.com.

STUDIO L GALLERY New works by Rita Marie Ross, Jacob Colburn, Daryl G. Colburn, Dorthy Crummer, and more. 2309 Thornton. 577-3479. www.darylgcolburn.com.

THE OLD BAKERY & EMPORIUM: TRIO Fresh art by Sherry Fields, Jeffy Leedy, and Tina Weitz. 1006 Congress, 477-5961.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: QUANTIFY ME See review, p.28. *Through March 10.* 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

AUSTIN ART CONNECTIONS: CALL FOR ENTRIES Want to exhibit in an AAC exhibition, "The Goldilocks Show," held in collaboration with Lytle Pressley Contemporary in March? It's currently accepting two-dimensional works in any medium, in three size categories. See website for details. www.austinartconnections.com.

LITERA

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

CARRIE FOUNTAIN is the featured poet on the Texas Nafas show for January, reading from *Burn Lake* and her upcoming collection. Ric Williams hosts. See your cable TV provider's website for exact times. www.channelaustin.org.

MARK STRAND The Pulitzer Prize-winning poet reads from his newest collection *Almost Invisible*. Recommended. *Thu., Jan. 26, 7pm.* Avaya Auditorium, ACES 2.302, UT campus.

THREE MESSAGES AND A WARNING Editors Chris N. Brown and Eduardo Jiménez Mayo and featured authors Bernardo Fernandez and Pepe Rojo present *Contemporary Mexican Short Stories of the Fantastic*. *Thu., Jan. 26, 7pm.* BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

the Kit-Kat Cabaret Dancers, and Miss Kitty. Blue angels and white mice especially encouraged. Meeeee-ow, *meine liebe.* *Sun., Jan. 29, 9pm.* Swan Dive, 615 Red River, 994-2819. \$7-10. angel@vintagevivant.com, www.vintagevivant.com.

TUESDAYS TOGETHER Check the Human Rights Campaign website for location. *Tuesday, 6-8pm.* 289-2198. info@hrcaustin.org, www.hrc.org/austin.

TUEZGAYZ Still the king (queen) of 'em all, y'all. *Tuesdays, 10pm.* Barbarella, 615 Red River, 476-7766. www.barbarellaustin.com, www.thegitoris.tumblr.com.

KARAOKE WITH KRAMER

Croon with the Krame. *Wednesdays, 9:30pm.* Iron Bear, 121 W. Eighth. Free.

TUNESWAP THURSDAYS WITH GINGER LEIGH

Ginger hosts Alyse Black and Matt Wilson. *Thu., Feb. 2, 8-10:30pm.* Flamingo Cantina, 515 E. Sixth, 494-9336. \$12. www.gleigh.com/cantina.html, www.flamingocantina.com.

HO-RIZON

CAFE AT THE END OF TIME Welcome director Marian Jones back to Austin. This new ensemble-cast play is set in the Florida Keys in a 1970s/1980s gay bar that sounds an awful lot like some gay bars we spend waaaaay too much time in now. You know, those places where we make family. Author Sue Carroll Moore will be around for the opening. *Feb. 3-19, Fridays-Sundays, 7:30pm.* Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 974-4000. \$20. www.odielouisefoundation.org, www.nowplayingaustin.com/page/austx.

GENDER PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP Gender exploration through play in a very, very safe space. BYO hair or borrow some of theirs! *Fri., Feb. 3, 5:30-7:30pm.* UT Gender and Sexuality Center, Student Activity Center, 2201 Speedway, SAC 2.112, UT campus, 232-1831. swhalley@austin.utexas.edu, blogs.utexas.edu/gsc.

poem of the issue

I am all burst to your
rind and stark.

You are maybe amused at such
shudder pulp, fizz, frisson,
how I get so my ends
flame, sugar and spar,
and even to breathe – to –
draw in a little together
enough that I may
hold my head still
so you can fix the apple
in your cross hairs.

– Paula Mendoza, from "Laws of Motion"

BOOKPEOPLE READINGS MysteryPeople presents **R. J. Ellory** with *A Quiet Vendetta*. *Fri., Jan. 27, 7pm.* **Daniel Handler** (of *Lemony Snicket* fame) and acclaimed illustrator **Maira Kalman** share the YA wonder of *Why We Broke Up*. *Sat., Jan. 28, 7:30pm.* Vietnam historian **Lewis Sorley** bios *Westmoreland: The General Who Lost Vietnam*. *Mon., Jan. 30, 7pm.* BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar. www.bookpeople.com.

LEONARD PIERCE says *If You Like The Sopranos: Here Are Over 150 Movies, TV Shows, and Other Oddities That You Will Love*. *Capisci? Sat., Jan. 28, 2pm.* Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research, 418-8985.

CIRCE STURM presents her *Becoming Indian: The Struggle Over Cherokee Identity in the Twenty-first Century*. *Tue., Jan. 31, 7pm.* Resistencia Bookstore, 1801-A S. First, 416-8885. salmonrojo.tumblr.com.

DEBRA MONROE reads from her new memoir, *On the Outskirts of Normal*, about being the white mother of a black daughter in rural Texas. Her first book, *The Source of Trouble*, won the Flannery O'Connor Award for Fiction. Highly recommended. *Wed., Feb. 1, 7:30pm.* Maloney Room, St. Edwards University, 3001 S. Congress. 464-8871. Free. www.stedwards.edu.

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER Make your reservations now! Choose three from a list of themed dinners and get seated at one of these home-based intimate gatherings. *Sat., Feb. 4, 7pm.* Project Transitions, 454-8646. \$100. eholton@projecttransitions.org, www.projecttransitions.org/events/guess-who.html.

STANLEY ROY'S 'IMAGINARY FRIEND' Luna Tart, Erica Nix, Quasi Trois, and a special appearance by Fantasy herald the hotly anticipated new EP from our beloved Stan. *Fri., Feb. 3, 9pm.* Skinny's Ballroom, 115 San Jacinto, 476-1962. \$5. www.cdbaby.com/cd/stanleyroy1.

QUEERBOMB LOVE BOMB Watch this space. It's coming. *Fri., Feb. 10.* Lipstick24, 606 E. Seventh, 474-2950. www.lipstick24austin.com, www.queerbomb.org.

KNT LOVE SHOW Explore the palpant nature of genderfuckery on the gloopiest holiday of the queer. La Glitoris hosts the postshow dance party. *Sat., Feb. 11, 9pm.* Elysium, 705 Red River, 478-2979. \$10. www.kingsnthings.org.

RED, HOT, AND ROLLER RINK Not that Zach Theatre's spring/summer lineup isn't already, um, totally gay, but this year's Red, Hot & Soul fundraiser rounds the bend with a preview of the upcoming ONJ homage *Xanadu: The Musical*. There you are! (A shooting star!) *Sat., April 21.* Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 476-0594 x260. escott@zachtheatre.org, www.zachtheatre.org.

TELLURIDE GAY SKI WEEK SWEEPSTAKES Wouldn't it be cool if a duo of Austinites won this adventure to Telluride Gay Ski Week (aka "T-12"), Feb. 26 - March 3? No purchase is necessary, and the trip includes first-class airfare, ground transpo, seven nights at the Peaks Resort & Spa in Colorado, and VIP everything, including ski rentals and lifts. *Deadline: Jan. 31.* Telluride Ski Resort, Telluride, Colo. www.telluridegayskiweek.com, www.aa.com/rainbow.

Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com.
See the full array of Gay Place listings at
austinchronicle.com/gay.



GAYFFICIENCY Hey pals! Help us help you (and our hard-working proofing and production squads). We are sliding back the deadlines and design dates for this column by a few days. Please be sure to get us information on your gay-interest/gay-friendly event or concern as soon as you have it. Please don't rely on social media. We kick its ass, numberswise, and it's a pain to get all the details from those user-unfriendly formats. Simply send us an email. Send your whos, whats, wheres, whens, hows, whys, and "why, I nevers!" to: gayplace@austinchronicle.com one week before the column comes out.

Weimar cabaret wildthang
Anita Berber inspires
Vintage Vivant fantasies



DJ SPINN Top 40, country, and old-school hip-hop at Austin's Southern gay bar. *Fridays, 10pm.* Town N Country, 1502 W. Ben White, 445-9122. Free. www.townncountry.co.

BANDS AT BERN'S Lizzy Caroloke makes way for live musicality: Stanley Roy, Spider John, Jimmy-Jean Fontenot, and Cooper McBean & the Vested Interests. *Fri., Jan. 27, 7pm.* Bernadette's, 2039 Airport. \$5.

1983 Cold. New. Electro. Synth. Your roots, minimal babies. *Last Fridays, 10pm.* Cheer Up Charlie's, 1104 E. Sixth, 431-2133. Free. brookesterrymail@gmail.com.

VINTAGE VIVANT: HOT GIRLS OF WEIMAR BERLIN Ooooh, a night inspired by the book about the rrrrawing Twenties and the legendarily naughty underworld and queer cafes of post-World War I Germany, featuring Mistress Stephanie and her Melodic Cat,

ON OUR GAYDAR

LILLIAN HELLMAN'S 'THE CHILDREN'S HOUR' Those naughty children said that naughty stuff. *Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm.* 926-6746. *Pick your price:* \$15, \$20, \$25, or \$30. www.main.org/diffstages.

WICKED LOTTERY Come to *Wicked* 2½ hours before the show begins to put your name in a lottery for limited \$25 seats. Two hours before showtime, names will be drawn. Cash only. Two tickets per person. Bring valid photo ID. Dang. Even Dorothy's trek through Oz wasn't this convoluted. *Through Feb. 12, Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 1 & 7pm.* Matinee: *Thu., Jan. 26, 2pm.* Bass Concert Hall, 23rd Street & Robert Dedman, UT campus, 477-6060. \$25; regular tickets start at \$38.50. www.broadwayacrossamerica.com/austin.

2011-2012 MUSIC POLL BALLOT

BEST OF THE YEAR

AUSTIN BAND OF THE YEAR

AUSTIN MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR

AUSTIN SONG OF THE YEAR

AUSTIN ALBUM OF THE YEAR

BEST NEW AUSTIN BAND

BEST PERFORMING BANDS

ROCK

PUNK

METAL

ELECTRONICA/CLUB DJ

HIP-HOP/RAP

INDIE

JAZZ

BLUES/SOUL/FUNK

INSTRUMENTAL

AVANT-GARDE/EXPERIMENTAL

COUNTRY/BLUEGRASS

ROOTS ROCK

FOLK

LATIN TRADITIONAL

LATIN ROCK

WORLD MUSIC

COVER BAND

U-18 (MAJORITY OF MEMBERS UNDER 18)

NONE OF THE ABOVE

BEST AUSTIN MUSICIANS

FEMALE VOCALS

MALE VOCALS

ELECTRIC GUITAR

ACOUSTIC GUITAR

BASS

DRUMS/PERCUSSION

KEYBOARDS

STRING PLAYER(S)

HORN PLAYER(S)

MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUMENT

SONGWRITER

MUSIC RELATED

NEW CLUB

LIVE MUSIC VENUE

ACOUSTIC VENUE

ALL-AGES VENUE

RECORD STORE

RADIO STATION

RADIO MUSIC PROGRAM
(SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION)

RADIO PERSONALITY
(SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION)

LOCAL LABEL

PRODUCER
(PRODUCER'S NAME, ALBUM TITLE)

AUSTIN TEXAS MUSIC HALL OF FAME

Is Roky Erickson in the *Chronicle* Hall of Fame? What about Biscuit and Willie? Yes, and previous winners are online at austinchronicle.com/musicpoll/fame.

Please circle one or fill in the blank*:

- Joe "King" Carrasco & the Crowns
- Cindy Cashdollar
- Christopher Cross
- Girls in the Nose
- Grupo Fantasma
- Patty Griffin
- Jean & the Rollettes
- Joe Rockhead
- Poi Dog Pondering
- Michael Ramos
- Rank & File
- Sixteen Deluxe
- Southern Feeling

OTHER NOMINEE*:

What's the Hall of Fame about, and why should you vote for these people?

Visit the poll ballot online at austinchronicle.com/musicpoll for more information.

See "One, Two, Tres, Cuatro," Music, Dec. 30, for HOF nominee bios.

SAVE A STAMP! VOTE ON THE WEB AT
austinchronicle.com/musicpoll

REQUIRED INFORMATION

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

AGE EMAIL PHONE

THE RULES

- Postmarks count! Entries must be postmarked by **TUESDAY, JAN. 31, 2012**.
- Vote either by this mail-in ballot or on the Web at austinchronicle.com/musicpoll.
- No hand deliveries accepted, no matter how nicely decorated.
- One ballot per envelope. That's one (1).
- Photocopied ballots? No. Nay. Never.
- Ballot-stuffing may be punishable.

ONLY BALLOTS WITH A FULL NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS WILL BE COUNTED!

Please mail to:
Music Poll
The Austin Chronicle
PO Box 49066
Austin, TX 78765



SHELLEY HIAM

★ **THE WHISKEY REBELLION** features the *Chronicle's* own **S.E. Smith**, who's got a fierce book of poetry — *I Live in a Hut* — coming out soon. She'll be reading (and high-fiving), as will current Michenerite **Claire Sylvester Smith**. All these wordsmiths and their friends whooping it up at the Nomad like a bevy of Dottie Parkers cut free of the Algonquin, thanks to the alcohol-fueled machinations of P. Tyson Midkiff. Join them for a rollicking good time. **Sat., Jan. 28, 9pm. Nomad, 1213 Corona, 628-4288. www.twitter.com/whiskeyreadings.**

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

WRITEBYNIGHT Write, read, collaborate, or just kick back and dream: It's the place you've been looking for. See website for details. 322-5242. www.writebynight.net.

BOOK CLUBS? Where bookish folk gather — in a coffee shop, say, or a bookstore or a library — to discuss what they've been reading? Yes, we have a few more of those listed online each week.

BOOKPEOPLE CLUBS The *Voyage Out: The Tiger's Wife* by **Tea Obrecht**. **Sun., Jan. 29, 5pm. New and Noteworthy: A Prayer for Owen Meany** by **John Irving**. **Mon., Jan. 30, 7pm. Rewritten History: Gates of the Alamo** by **Stephen Harrigan**. **Wed., Feb. 1, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.**

KATHERINE DURHAM OLDMIXON leads a *Wingbeats* workshop, "Lyrical Bees: Writing Poems Inspired by Biology." Show up with a pen and paper. **Sun., Jan. 29, 4-6pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.**

OPEN MICS

OPEN MICS Austin Poetry Slam **Tuesdays, 8pm.** 29th Street Ballroom, 2906 Fruth, 480-9562.
Multimedia Poetry **Wednesdays, 6:30pm. Thrive, 909 W. Mary, 447-9743. Fair Bean Fridays, 5-7:30pm. Fair Bean Coffee, 2210-I S. First, 444-BEAN. Full English Tea Room** Thom hosts. **Saturdays, 6-9pm.** 2000 Southern Oaks. 240-2748. **Spoken & Heard** **Sundays, 7-10pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425. More listed online!**

SPOKEN 4 ALL Hosted by Stacie Shea and Herman Mason. **Sat., Jan. 28, 3:30pm. Mitchie's Gallery, 7801 N. Lamar Ste. B-148, 323-6901. Free. www.mitchie.com.**

APS FOURTH THURSDAY features Linda Marie Cossa and Mark (My Words) Wendell and is hosted by Ralph Hausser. **Thu., Jan. 26, 7pm. NeWorldDeli, 4101 Guadalupe, 451-7170. www.newworldeli.com.**

MISCELLANEOUS

RIC UP YER EARS who would flatten the world with an unstinting light? who likes mysteries only when the mystery succumbs to their mastery? i don't want to know god. i don't want to find god's particle, but to feel the frisson of a strange passion, to be caught unawares, to stare at a thing unknown, to be terrified & released wanting still wanting in attending what attends. Namaste. Mystify.

THE CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER OF WORLD BOOK NIGHT is organizing a major volunteer effort to distribute thousands of books by hand to Central Texans. Attend this first meeting if you or your organization want to help. The actual event is April 23. **Mon., Jan. 30, noon. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.**

COMMUNITY

THE BLIND CAFE A gourmet meal accompanied by live music doesn't sound very unique in Austin, but what if it were completely dark? You won't see the band or your food, so your other senses will have to work overtime. Talk to your blind waiter about visual impairment issues, with the proceeds from the evening going to the BELL Program for local blind children. **Thu.-Sat., Jan. 26-28: Thu. & Fri., 6:45pm; Sat., 5:45pm. University Avenue Church of Christ, 1903 University Ave., 476-6088. \$45-95. www.theblindcafe.com/austin-blind-cafe.htm.**

GREEN BUILDING SYMPOSIUM UT's School of Architecture hosts this two-day gathering of national and international experts in the field of sustainable building. **Fri.-Sat., Jan. 27-28. Goldsmith Hall, Mebane Gallery, UT campus. www.soa.utexas.edu/beyondleed/index.html.**

OH SNAP! MUSIC FESTIVAL consists of 50 bands on two stages over the course of two days. Profits go to the Sergio Machado Memorial Scholarship. **Fri.-Sat., Jan. 27-28, 4pm-2am. The Parish, 214 E. Sixth, 423-3273. \$20 (\$35, two-day pass). www.ohsnapbenefit.com.**

MAGIC AT THE FRENCH LEGATION Prestidigitation pros Arsene Dupin and Michael Alan Kaufman come to Austin's oldest abode to show off their skills for the whole family. **Fri., Jan. 27, 6-8pm. French Legation Museum, 802 San Marcos St., 472-8180. \$5. www.frenchlegationmuseum.org.**

FUN WITH FLOWERS Learn to make those flowers into a work of art. **Sat., Jan. 28, 9:30am. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 970-3405. \$2. www.zilker.org.**

CLEAR YOUR CLUTTER DAY The National Association of Professional Organizers hosts this junk collection to promote its member businesses and get you organized. Bring a carload of expendable stuff to dispose of free of charge. One box of paper to be shredded will be accepted per car, and a prize goes to the person who drops off the weirdest item. Dead animals are not "weird." **Sat., Jan. 28, 10am-2pm. Bethany United Methodist Church, 10010 Anderson Mill. Free. www.napoaustrin.com.**

LE GARAGE SALE You can tell it's going to be one fancy garage sale because of the Frenchified "le." Don't expect hand-me-downs and suspiciously stained linens. More than 50 local boutiques will show their stuff. Changing rooms are absent, so bring a sheet and a friend. **Sat., Jan. 28, 11am-6pm; Sun., Jan. 29, noon-5pm. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 404-4000. \$10. www.legaragesale.net.**

NEXTFEAST Local food entrepreneurs show their stuff and discuss sustainable business methods while you try not to gorge yourself. **Sat., Jan. 28, 11am-4pm. Center 61, 2921 E. 17th, Bldg. D #4. \$15. www.thenextfest.ticketbud.com/nextfestfood.**

COMPOSTING CLASS The city of Austin wants you to compost and is willing to show you the right way to make free soil. Jump through a few green hoops, and you might save some cash on a backyard composter. Go online to RSVP **Sat., Jan. 28, 11:30am. Ruiz Branch Library, 1600 Grove, 974-6383. www.freecompostingclassjanuary28.eventbrite.com.**

AUSTRALIA DAY Back in January 1788, the first fleet arrived on the continent of Australia, so it's time to celebrate with food and drink specials, entertainment, a raffle, a silent auction, a pie-eating contest, and more, all at Austin's favorite Australian eatery. **Sat., Jan. 28, 12-10pm. Boomerang's Gourmet Veggie & Meat Pies, 3110 Guadalupe #150, 782-9551. Free. www.boomerangpies.com.**

CONFIDENT DOGS Have a shy, fearful, or anxious dog? Learn to build up your dog's confidence with the help of the experts. **Sat., Jan. 28, 3pm. Southpaws Playschool, 2324-B South Lamar, 796-5783. Free. www.kimthedogtrainer.com.**

HIGH SCHOOL STEP TEAM COMPETITION Local high schools put their best feet forward to benefit educational programs sponsored by the Zeta Phi Beta sorority. **Sat., Jan. 28, 6pm. Old Settlers Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock, 512/669-0443. \$10. www.orgsites.com/tx/piomegazeta.**

BUSKERS' NIGHT The fourth Saturday of the month is when the performers come out to keep you entertained while you eat at the Eastside's new food-trailer park and community garden. Acrobats, magicians, and others are scheduled. Tips encouraged. **Jan. 28 through June 30. 12th Street Soular Food Garden, 1112 E. 12th. www.lafeniceaustin.org.**

HARGRAVE ARCADE The monthly arcade/film/music extravaganza gets mustachioed this month with a Tom Selleck double bill of *Quigley Down Under* and *Runaway*. Expect all the regular "Best of Austin"-approved philanthro-punk shenanigans as well, including a house full of retro video games, drinks, food, live music from New Media Unlimited, and more. Every penny collected goes to the Adventure Project's Coal Campaign. **Sat., Jan. 28, 8pm-2am. 1185½ Hargrave. \$10. www.hargravearcade.org.**

SUPERHERO PARTY Come dressed as your favorite superhero and be a hero by bringing donations of pet food, toys, blankets, or just cold hard cash for Austin Pets Alive! Live music and a costume contest, raffle, and photo booth keep the spandex shakin'. **Sat., Jan. 28, 9pm. Lipstick24, 606 E. Seventh, 474-2950. Free.**

YEAR OF THE DRAGON CELEBRATION Lamar Boulevard's massive Chinese market goes all out for New Year's with dragon dance teams, martial arts performances, firecrackers, and lots of other family activities. While you're there, buy some non-Western foodstuffs to challenge your palate. **Sun., Jan. 29, 11am-5pm. Chinatown Center, 10901 N. Lamar, 343-3688. Free. www.chinatownaustin.com.**

DINNER WITH EL PRESIDENTE It might not be President Obama, but the president of Southwest Key will sit down for a light dinner to discuss how his charitable organization can help East Austin. **Tue., Jan. 31, 6:30pm. Southwest Key Community Center, 6002 Jain, 583-2504. free. www.swkey.org.**

DIABETES EDUCATION DROP-IN CLINIC Get your blood sugar checked and learn how you can change your diet to avoid the disease in the future. **Wed., Feb. 1, 1-6:30pm. St. David's Medical Center, 919 E. 32nd, 476-7111. Free. www.stdaids.com.**

KIDS

DANCE AUDITIONS FOR VIDEO SHOOT Girls ages 8 to 18 with experience in any dance form are invited to audition for a video shoot for the Fairy Godmother Academy. Bring a photo. **Thu., Jan. 26. Galaxy Dance Studios, 1700 S. Lamar #338, 442-5299. www.fairygodmotheracademy.com.**

CIRCUS CHICKENDOG Part circus performance, part dog trick workshop, part interactive improv theatre, part storytime, all fun. A different show every week. **Saturdays through March 3, 9am. Institution Theater, 3708 Woodbury, 771-8836. \$5. www.chickendog.net.**

WHAT'S THE STORY STEVE? Kids should put their improvising caps on because there will be an interactive and off-the-cuff story to tell and the cast will cer-

Day Trips

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

The **Baffin Bay Cafe** in the ghost town of Riviera Beach is not for everyone. It is a great place for happy hour after a day of fishing.

South of Kingsville, Riviera Beach is nine miles off U.S. 77 and isn't on most maps. The unpainted wood of the cafe, bleached by the South Texas sun, gives the building a haggard feel. From the bay side, it looks like the Gulf is about to reclaim the lot.

When I visited, the kitchen could prepare our food any way we wanted it, as long as we wanted it fried. A broken stove severely limited the menu. I enjoyed the bay side cafe, even though one of my dinner partners failed to appreciate the funky quaintness.

When my fried shrimp finally arrived, they were a perfect golden brown — not the best I've ever had but satisfying. The Baffin Bay Cafe is for the adventurous. Otherwise, if you've gone that far, head to the legendary King's Inn Restaurant a few miles north instead.

Started in 1907, the original Riviera Beach was a failed attempt to re-create the French Riviera on the Texas coast. A hurricane in 1916 washed away most of the resort, and in 1952, the empty hotel burned down.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

The Baffin Bay Cafe is at the end of FM 771. To check on the functionality of the stove, call 361/297-5354.

OUT OF TOWN

EAGLE FEST The Eagle Capital of Texas puts on one heck of a festival with barge tours on Lake Fork and Lake Tawakoni to see the wintering eagles, plus educational displays, exhibits, music, and Native American art and performances. **Sat., Jan. 28. Emory, 800/561-1182. www.eaglefest.ezweb123.com.**

VINTNER DINERS These Saturday evening five-course dinners explore food pairings with top Texas wines. Reservations are required. **Sat., Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, & 25. Blair House Inn, Wimberley, 512/847-1111. \$67. www.blairhouseinn.com.**

LUCKENBACH BLUES FESTIVAL Eight bands fill the lineup headlined by Ruthie Foster and emceed by Larry Monroe. **Sat., Jan. 28, 3pm-12mid. Luckenbach, 888/311-8990. www.luckenbachtexas.com.**

ASIAN FESTIVAL Celebrate the Year of the Dragon with a wide spectrum of Asian cultures presenting music, crafts, and food. **Sat., Jan. 28, 10am-5pm. Institute of Texan Cultures, San Antonio, 210/458-2300. \$8 adults/\$5 children. www.texancultures.com.**

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GEEK BOWL: THE NATIONAL COMPETITION That Geeks Who Drink pub quiz thing that's so popular with the pop-cult-trivia-minded? Here's the official national contest, more than 130 teams of know-it-all nerds from across the U.S. competing, in the ATX for the very first time. Questions! Answers! Trash talk! Beer! **Sat., Jan. 28, 6pm. Austin Music Hall, 208 Nueces, 263-4146. \$29.95. www.geekshodrink.com.**

Soccer Watch

BY NICK BARBARO

This Monday evening, Jan. 30, could mark a milestone for the fledgling **Austin Aztex**, as the Austin ISD board of trustees is set to approve a contract for the Aztex to play home games at **House Park**, like the previous incarnation of the Aztex, and several other soccer teams before them. It had been clear all along that the Downtown stadium would be the Aztex's first choice; the previous team had just finished negotiating a three-year lease extension to play there shortly before they folded up their tents and fled to Orlando, Fla., and the new agreement is made on similar terms. An *Austin American-Statesman* story on Jan. 23 focused on noise concerns from neighbors north of the stadium on **Judges Hill**. One resident said that of the various stadium users, "Aztex fans, with their horns, cowbells and rhythmic bleacher stomping, were particularly loud." Fuckin' A! Rock on, dude! ... Umm, I mean, we're sorry, Mrs. Cleaver, we'll try to be quieter next time.

The **U.S. women** swept through the group stage of Olympic qualifying, winning three games by a combined score of 31-0, and now face Costa Rica on Friday for a trip to London later this summer. It's Mexico-Canada in the other semifinal; and Sunday's final will be carried live on NBCSP, 7pm.

The **African Cup of Nations** is under way in Equatorial Guinea and Gabon, with the Ivory Coast and Ghana heavy favorites to meet in the final Feb. 12.

tainly need your help. So will Steve, the improvising poodle. **Saturdays, 10am. ColdTowne Theater, 4803-B Airport, 809-0017. Pay what you want. www.moveyourtale.com.**

YOUTH CAPOEIRA Does your kid like martial arts, dance, or music? What about all three at the same time? If so, this capoeira class is just the ticket. For kids between the ages of 5 and 12. **Saturdays, 11am. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River, 974-3785. \$5. www.maccaustin.org.**

BOW WOW READING DOGS The Austin Dog Alliance invites kids to get more acquainted with the written word as a reading therapy dog assists. We're not sure how the dog helps, but we hope they don't hover over the kids ready to attack if they get something wrong. Call to sign up. **Saturdays through Jan. 28, noon. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr., 989-3188. Free. www.wblibrary.org.**

ADVENTURE ROOM IMPROV A boy, magical toys, suggestions from the young audience, and improvisers to make it all come to life. Prepare to be wowed. **Sundays, 2pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 971-3311. \$7. www.flyingtheatremachine.com.**

STORYTIME AT THE FRENCH LEGATION MUSEUM Activities and stories perfect for the 3- to 5-year-old in the brood. **First and third Thursdays of the month, 9:30am. French Legation Museum, 802 San Marcos St., 472-8180. Free. www.frenchlegationmuseum.org.**

SPORTS

THE MAIN EVENT

⊛ **REGIONAL GOLDEN GLOVES TOURNAMENT** Male and female boxers between the ages of 16 and 34 will be competing to proceed to the state tournament in Fort Worth. Come out and see Austin's best amateur pugilists go toe-to-toe. Proceeds go to the Travis County Sheriff's Law Enforcement Association Youth Scholarship Fund and Meals on Wheels & More. **Wed.-Fri., Feb. 1-3, 6-10pm. Travis County Expo Center, 7311 Decker, 804-2766. \$10. www.fitpitaustin.com.**

⊛ **HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS WORLD TOUR** We're not sure who they are up against, but it doesn't really matter. The Globetrotters tend to have pretty lopsided (and endless) seasons. Watch them dribble, dunk,

pass, and make fools of unwitting opponents while delighting kids and adults alike. **Fri., Jan. 27, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 477-6060. \$15 and up. www.texasboxoffice.com.**

THE HOME TEAMS

⊛ **TXRD LONESTAR ROLLERGIRLS** Banked-track roller derby is back for the new year with a match-up featuring the All Scar Army vs. the Rhinestone Cowgirls. **Sun., Jan. 29, 7pm (doors at 6pm). Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd.. \$15 (\$13, advance). www.txrd.com.**

⊛ **AUSTIN TOROS** For more on the Toros, see *Chronicle Sports* blog the Score. Vs. Rio Grande Valley: **Tue., Jan. 31, 11am; Wed., Feb. 1, 7:30pm. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/600-5000. \$8-99 plus fees. www.austintoros.com.**

⊛ **UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Women's Basketball** Vs. Kansas State: **Wed., Feb. 1, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. \$8-16. Men's Basketball** Vs. Missouri: **Mon., Jan. 30, 8pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. \$8-40. Men's Tennis** Vs. Maryland: **Sat., Jan. 28, 10am. Vs. Michigan/Texas Tech: Sun., Jan. 29, TBA. Penick-Allison Tennis Center. www.texassports.com.**

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. UT-Permian Basin: **Sat., Jan. 28, noon. Women's Basketball** Vs. UT-Permian Basin: **Sat., Jan. 28, 2pm. www.stedwards.edu/athletics.**

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIV. Men's Basketball Vs. St. Thomas: **Sat., Jan. 28, 7:30pm. htu.edu/athletics.**

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Women's Basketball Vs. Millsaps College: **Fri., Jan. 27, 6pm. Vs. Rhodes College: Sat., Jan. 28, 6pm. Men's Basketball** Vs. Millsaps: **Fri., Jan. 27, 8pm. Vs. Rhodes College: Sat., Jan. 28, 8pm. www.southwesternpirates.com.**

AMA Arenacross Series

BY MARK FAGAN

Wondering why 150 truckloads of dirt have been moved to Cedar Park? It's to ensure that these dirt-bike racers can wow the crowd with 30-foot leaps as they speed around the track. The first two evenings are for the pros, and the final day is for the amateurs to enjoy the track. Bring a Monster Energy Drink to recycle and your Saturday ticket for admittance to a meet and greet and autograph session with the riders from 5-6pm Saturday afternoon. It's gonna be fast, loud, and probably pretty furious.



Fri.-Sat., Jan. 27-28, 7pm; amateur day: Sun., Jan. 29, 10am. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 800/745-3000. Spectator for pros: \$25 (\$10, kids). Amateurs: \$15 (\$10, kids). www.arenacross.com

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NEW REVIEWS

ALBERT NOBBS

D: Rodrigo García; with Glenn Close, Mia Wasikowska, Aaron Johnson, Brendan Gleeson, Janet McTeer, Jonathan Rhys Meyers, Maria Doyle Kennedy, Pauline Collins. (R, 113 min.)

There's a priceless moment in this odd film wherein a bearded, bearish Brendan Gleeson, playing an alcoholic physician, turns to his hotel's servant, the titular Nobbs, and utters the classic male complaint: "Women." The brief scene is a hoot because, unbeknownst to Dr. Holloran, the singular Mr. Nobbs is in reality Miss Nobbs, splendidly played with frantic reserve and permanently repressed panic by a remarkable Glenn Close. Would that the rest of the film were as droll as that single utterance. It isn't, and *Albert Nobbs* is the furthest thing from a comedy, although as a character study of cultural mores and stations and the lengths human beings will go to to circumvent them, it's fascinating stuff.

Co-scripted by Close, novelist John Banville, and Gabriella Prekop from a short story by George Moore, this highly closeted (in every way) film is set in Dublin, Ireland, in the late 19th century. Mr. Nobbs' situation is explained in terms that will be familiar to fans of Dustin Hoffman's underemployed, cross-dressing actor in *Tootsie*: Work is scarce, and work that pays a living wage even scarcer. Thus Nobbs the feminine becomes Nobbs the masculine: tight-lipped, wide-eyed, almost mannequinesque in the intensity of her/his charade. After having suffered through a miserable childhood and eventually having secured suitable employment in a Dublin hotel, Nobbs' daily routine is one of ongoing self-obliteration. Courting – if that's the word for it – Mia Wasikowska's servant girl Helen, Nobbs' story becomes downright tragic.

That overarching sense of sadness and extremely intimate – indeed, interior – loss is only underscored by the arrival of a painter, Hubert Page (McTeer), a jovial personage who is also, like Nobbs, a woman masquerading as a man. That Hubert should have what appears to be a far more enjoyable inner life is discomfiting to the fragile Nobbs' psyche, since Nobbs, whether upstairs or downstairs, is never truly comfortable in his/her own skin. Close's vanishing act is so deep as to be cellular, and the role is certainly a memorable one, even if Nobbs the character is



Newly Oscar-nominated Glenn Close in *Albert Nobbs*

less so. What the film may say to you about issues of gender, class, and identity depends entirely on what you bring to it. In the end, everything's a tragedy.

★★★ Arbor, Hill Country Galleria – Marc Savlov

THE GREY

D: Joe Carnahan; with Liam Neeson, Dallas Roberts, Frank Grillo, Dermot Mulroney, Nonso Anozie. (R, 117 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Bloodthirsty wolves and the brutalizing Alaskan elements conspire against a band of airplane crash survivors.

– Kimberley Jones Alamo Ritz, Alamo Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

MAN ON A LEDGE

D: Asger Leth; with Sam Worthington, Elizabeth Banks, Jamie Bell, Anthony Mackie, Genesis Rodriguez, Afton Williamson, Edward Burns. (PG-13, 102 min.)

Despite its rickety narrative scaffolding and a veritable traffic jam of improbabilities, coincidences, and sheer audience manipulation, *Man on a Ledge* is a decent enough diversion for those seeking non-Oscar-nominated releases. Just don't expect too much dizzying amazement. Director Asger Leth (*Ghosts of Cité Soleil*) pulls out all the stops – many of them a bit too far for credulity – in this jumpy tale of an NYPD cop who, having been framed by his bosses for a crime he didn't commit, takes matters into his own hands and onto the side of the Roosevelt Hotel. If I didn't know better, I'd say this was one of Larry Cohen's lesser works – along the lines of *Phone Booth* or *Cellular* – but it lacks New Yawkah Cohen's savvy, cynical writing chops (and mainstay Michael Moriarty).

The film opens with a bang as former Detective Nick Cassidy (Worthington) busts out of detention and goes on the lam, high-tailing to the Roosevelt for reasons that will be explained throughout the film. Backstory is filled in, and other characters, all somehow related to Cassidy's alleged theft of a mega-diamond belonging to a reptilian developer played by the always-terrific (even in a slow role like this one) Ed Harris. Stepping out onto the windy ledge outside his hotel window, Cassidy begins making demands to the assembled throng – who, in a nice touch of cinema verité – clamor for him to take a dive. Equally disgraced officer Lydia Mercer (Banks) is sent in as his negotiation point person.

In the meantime, screenwriter Pablo F. Fenjves sets up convoluted, heisty goings-on at a building catawampus from where Worthington gamely totters, while Harris mugs and rhapsodizes like some freaky, methoded-out parody of Donald Trump (which, I guess, he is). Jamie Bell, as Cassidy's loyal brother, and the comely Genesis Rodriguez scheme, climb, and pull some *Mission: Impossible* silliness, but in the end, it's all much ado about not so much, a semifunctional thriller that tingles but never terrifies. *Ledge* schmedge.

★★ – Marc Savlov

Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

ONE FOR THE MONEY

D: Julie Anne Robinson; with Katherine Heigl, Jason O'Mara, John Leguizamo, Daniel Sunjata, Debbie Reynolds. (PG-13, 106 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Heigl plays New Jersey bounty hunter Stephanie Plum in this adaptation of the first book in Janet Evanovich's bestselling crime series.

– Kimberley Jones Alamo Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

openings

Albert Nobbs (R)

The Grey (R)

Man on a Ledge (PG-13)

One for the Money (PG-13)

ratings

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

● La bomba

Check Film Listings online or on your mobile device for full-length reviews, up-to-date showtimes, archives, and more!
austinchronicle.com/film

RED TAILS

D: Anthony Hemingway; with Nate Parker, David Oyelowo, Terrence Howard, Cuba Gooding Jr., Elijah Kelley, Tristan Wilds, Method Man. (PG-13, 125 min.)

George Lucas' longtime pet project about the pioneering Tuskegee airmen of World War II's all African-American 332nd Fighter Group finally makes it to the big screen with zero financing from the major studios. It's mind-boggling that no one would take a gamble on a prize pic produced by the director of what is arguably the most influential motion picture in history, but that's what it's come to, apparently. That said, *Red Tails* isn't anywhere near as inspiring as *Star Wars* was for this critic back in the day. Possibly that has something to do with the lack of action figures for me to blow up with cherry bombs and lighter fluid, but I'm pretty sure it's mostly due to the film's squeaky clean air of Hollywood-isms circa 1942. The irony does not escape me there, but Lucas is on record as saying audiences should come to *Red Tails* with the imaginative understanding that it was actually shot in the 1940s and then shelved by studio brass for the past 70 years. "It's a great film," Lucas told Jon Stewart recently, "for 13-year-old boys." Viewed from that anachronistic angle, everything makes a little more sense.

Red Tails is both a stirring and simplistic tribute to the men that not only shattered the U.S. Army Air Corps' racial barrier but also saved the lives of many a white, B-17 crew member, all while downing countless numbers of Hitler's formidable, jet-propelled Luftwaffe. And, yes, the CGI dogfights are often thrillingly realistic, featuring the 332nd's zippy, steadfast P-51 Mustangs with their trademark red-painted tails. Although famously based on the airmen's real-life exploits, John Ridley and Aaron McGruder's script is pure wartime hokum, which may have been their aim, but makes for a weird sense of precognitive "c'mon already" boredom whenever what's on the screen isn't in the air. Squadron leader and secret boozer "Easy" (Parker) and his wingman/best pal "Lightning" (Oyelowo) are saddled with the kind of fervently dopey dialogue that was already old hat by the time Wild Bill Wyler's *The Best Years of Our Lives* showed the dramatic traumatics of the post-conflict return to pseudo-civility. Other cast members – among them Kelley as the company cutup, Wilds as eager beaver "Junior," a buttery Howard and



Man on a Ledge

Gooding Jr. as their commanding officers – are writ so large as to be archetypal without actually being all that interesting. Despite their undeniable role in fomenting a glorious revolution in the ranks, this portrayal of the Tuskegee airmen lacks the dire war-is-hell madness at the heart of, say, *Saving Private Ryan*. It's less shell-shocked than shellacked, but that's Lucas' intentional aesthetic, and less attributable to director Anthony Hemingway (*The Wire*).

But ... if you're a 13-year-old boy (or if your inner one is still kicking), then the magnificently choreographed aerial battles in *Red Tails* will have you walking on air, at least for a little while. Afterward you can hit the video store and rent yourself a *Flying Leathernecks/Memphis Belle* double feature and call it a day well spent watching a war (or two) well won.

★★★ — Marc Savlov
Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

UNDERWORLD: AWAKENING

D: Måns Mårland, Björn Stein; with Kate Beckinsale, Michael Ealy, India Eisley, Sandrine Holt. (R, 88 min.)

Perhaps the producers felt the *Underworld* franchise had gorged on its elaborate mythology – of Lycans and Death Dealers, vampire elders and hybrids – in the last film, 2009's origin story *Underworld: Rise of the Lycans*. If so, *Underworld: Awakening* wildly overcor-

rects itself, shearing almost all substance, suspense, even dialogue from what was, at first bite in series starter *Underworld*, a kicky, Goth romp between action and camp.

After sitting out the last installment, series lead Kate Beckinsale returns as vampire Selene. She still wears skintight black leather like nobody's business and works her leg muscles impressively (an entire workout regimen could be fashioned from her signature slide from squat to warrior stance; glowering optional). In the belabored opening, Selene's voiceover gets the audience up to speed: Humans have finally caught on that Lycans and vampires live among them, and both species are now being hunted to near extinction. Selene attempts to flee with her hybrid lover, Michael, who has previously been played by Scott Speedman (the character, if not the actor, appears briefly here, a comical hybrid himself of body double and digital composite). Nefarious forces give chase, and after a blackout, Selene wakes 12 years later, on ice, in a research facility, and hopping mad. Let the chase begin anew.

The bulk of *Underworld: Awakening* takes place over roughly a 36-hour period, and with that kind of compressed timeline (and a mere 88-minute running time), one would expect a rapid-fire plotting. Not so much. *Underworld: Awakening* is squishy with gore, yes, but rather starved of topics of interest. There is running, hiding, fighting, shooting, bleeding, biting, slicing, dicing, and damnably little entertainment value in any of it. Not even the production design – predictably blue-hued and lurching between a generically dressed laboratory, sewer, skyscraper, and parking garage – provides any diversion, although an underground burrow of a vampire coven, all stalactites and flickering candles, would have made a smashing video set for an Eighties hair band ballad.

★ — Kimberley Jones
Alamo Lake Creek, Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

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Sun. - Thu. 12:00 2:25 4:45 7:15 9:40

THE GREY (R) Fri. & Sat. 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:35 10:10 11:40
Sun. - Thu. 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:35 10:10

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UNDERWORLD: AWAKENING (R) Fri. - Thu. 12:15 12:45
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST 3D (G) Fri. - Thu. 2:15 4:30 6:50 9:15

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (G) Fri. - Thu. 12:00
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THE ADVENTURES OF TINTIN

D: Steven Spielberg; with Jamie Bell, Andy Serkis, Daniel Craig, Simon Pegg, Nick Frost, Cary Elwes, Toby Jones. (PG, 107 min.)
The Adventures of Tintin is a cracking good adventure film. Add to that the photorealistic animation and the wickedly immersive 3-D, and you've got a huge holiday smash on your hands. What you don't have, however, is a great movie. The film is adapted from Belgian artist Hergé's long-running, French-language comic book series about Tintin, an intrepid young Belgian journalist with a penchant for stumbling into mysteries. Director Spielberg mines several Hergé stories to create a typically complex series of risky, slapstick adventures for the young hero as he searches for an elusive treasure of pirate gold, among many other items of value. Tintin, despite his titular role, comes off as blandly heroic as a Eisenhower-era Boy Scout. But that's Tintin for you, and there's no changing him. *The Adventures of Tintin* is a spectacle and a half, sure, but, unlike the original comic, it fails to inspire. (12/23/2011)

★☆☆ - Marc Savlov
 CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: CHIPWRECKED

D: Mike Mitchell; with Jason Lee, David Cross, Jenny Slate; with the voices of Justin Long, Matthew Gray Gubler, Jesse McCartney, Amy Poehler, Anna Faris, Christina Applegate, Alan Tudyk. (G, 87 min.)
 Admittedly, I'm coming to this movie with prejudicial eyes and ears. It's just that Alvin and the Chipmunks were never meant to appeal to anyone whose age had outgrown single digits. *Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked* uses lifeless CGI animation to tell a haphazard tale about singing sensations Alvin, Simon, and Theodore, as well as their three backup singers known as the Chipettes, becoming stranded on a remote island. As the film begins, they are traveling to Europe on an ocean liner with their human surrogate dad, Dave (Lee), to collect a prize at the International Music Awards. After they fall overboard and wind up stranded, things take a turn for the tedious. The entire payoff to the Chipmunks' gambit comes in those inevitable moments when Dave bellows in exasperation, "Alvin." Maybe if we all bellow in unison it will be forceful enough to put an end to this painful franchise. (12/16/2011)

● - Marjorie Baumgarten
 Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

★ **THE ARTIST**

D: Michel Hazanavicius; with Jean Dujardin, Bérénice Bejo, John Goodman, James Cromwell, Penelope Ann Miller, Missi Pyle, Malcol McDowell. (PG-13, 100 min.)
 Director Michel Hazanavicius' *The Artist* is an irresistible comic gem. It opens in 1927 when silent film star George Valentin (Dujardin) is the toast of all Hollywoodland. Utterly convinced that those new-fangled talking pictures are just a fad, George's inability to rise to the challenge of speaking aloud (*The Artist* is silent except for a few inspired audio gags) provides much amusement and a certain bittersweet note in a film that glorifies the sheer imaginative heft of the silent era (the film is also shot in black-and-white). As George's producer (Goodman) badgers him to speak, the silent actor and his firecracker par amour, Peppy Miller (Bejo), are steadily forced apart by the advent of sound. What's so intensely pleasurable about *The Artist* is the endless parade of smartly creative and self-referential gags. *The Artist* is a slight confection, really, but it's so delicious and knowing that it may well end up on any number of cineastes' desert-island lists. (12/23/2011)

★★★★ - Marc Savlov
 Alamo Lamar, Arbor, Hill Country Galleria, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Violet Crown

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FILM LISTINGS

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

D: Gary Trousdale, Kirk Wise; with the voices of Paige O'Hara, Robby Benson, Angela Lansbury. (G, 84 min.)

Beauty and the Beast is a partial return to form for Disney, and regardless of what this jaded adult may think, it is a thing of beauty for our kids. Twenty years after its initial release, it returns to theatres with a 3-D update. (01/13/2012)

★★★★ – Kathleen Maher
Alamo Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

CARNAGE

D: Roman Polanski; with Jodie Foster, Kate Winslet, Christoph Waltz, John C. Reilly. (R, 79 min.)

Adapted by Yasmina Reza and director Roman Polanski from Reza's hit play *God of Carnage*, this chamber piece will have you climbing the walls after 79 minutes with its faux-polite but distinctly fanged Brooklynite parents. After one boy grabs a stick and takes a mighty whack at another, their mothers and fathers meet for coffee and conciliation – neither Reza nor Polanski is a native English speaker, but they share an ear for the bafflegab of helicoptering parents – but soon enough the parents are picking up the metaphorical weapons of their sons. *Carnage* is a slight work, and the filmmakers' obvious disdain for the characters grows wearisome. Still, the script is chockablock with al dente amusements – obvious targets still make for wickedly funny one-liners – and the German actor Christophe Waltz is terrific as the only parent unburdened by decorum. The scenery may be thin, but Waltz chews it with wolfish abandon. (01/13/2012)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Arbor, Violet Crown

CONTRABAND

D: Baltasar Kormákur; with Mark Wahlberg, Kate Beckinsale, Giovanni Ribisi, Ben Foster, Lukas Haas, Diego Luna, Caleb Landry Jones, J.K. Simmons. (R, 109 min.)

Although there's little that's new in this story about a man forced to pull one last smuggling job as everything that could go wrong does, *Contraband* stands out for its stylistic efficiency, stellar cast, and narrative restraint. As the character at the center of *Contraband*, Mark Wahlberg is a stolid, believably stand-up guy who has abandoned his life of crime in favor of his family. Directed by Baltasar Kormákur, the star of the original Icelandic version of the film, *Contraband* is transposed to New Orleans. Wahlberg plays Chris Farrady, who is pulled back into the life after the brother (Jones) of his wife (Beckinsale) screws up big time with local drug dealer Tim Briggs (Ribisi). When Farrady's wife and kids are threatened, the reformed criminal returns to the fray in order to protect them. *Contraband* is a tidy little thriller that makes up in execution what it lacks in originality. (01/13/2012)

★★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Lake Creek, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

A DANGEROUS METHOD

D: David Cronenberg; with Keira Knightley, Michael Fassbender, Viggo Mortensen, Vincent Cassel, Sarah Gadon. (R, 99 min.)

Canadian filmmaker David Cronenberg's period piece about the origins of psychoanalysis and the sexual confusions of its progenitors is eloquent and handsomely made, if never quite revelatory. The film opens with a Russian emigré named Sabina (Knightley) in howling, seizing distress, being taken against her will to a Zurich psychiatric hospital. She doesn't know it yet, but her life will in large part be defined by her shuttling between Zurich, the home of Carl Jung (Fassbender), her doctor and eventual lover, and Vienna, the home of Sigmund Freud (Mortensen), who once thought of Jung as his "son and heir." Sabina's influence loosens Jung from the rigors of Freud's strictly scientific method and nudges him toward a more speculative approach – the film positions her squarely at the center of Jung and Freud's famous break. It's a very particular film, one that takes some getting used to, but I was rather taken with it. (12/23/2011)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Arbor

Dragonslayer

D: *Tristan Patterson*. (2011, NR, 74 min.) **Only at the Alamo.** Awarded the Grand Jury Prize for Best Documentary Feature at SXSW 2011, this film documents the struggles of legendary skate punk, Josh "Skreech" Sandoval, in the suburbs of California shortly after America's economic downward spiral. @Alamo Ritz, Sunday, 7; Monday, 7:30pm.



THE DARKEST HOUR

D: Chris Gorak; with Emile Hirsch, Olivia Thirlby, Rachael Taylor, Max Minghella, Joel Kinnaman, Veronika Ozerova, Dato Bakhtadze. (PG-13, 89 min.)

The Darkest Hour is an alien-invasion film set in Moscow and produced by the same team that gave us the infinitely superior Russian horror fantasies *Night Watch* and *Day Watch*. Saddled with a truly weak script from Jon Spaihts, the story involves invisible aliens who feed on electricity and kill off humanity by turning them to ash via unimpressive, whiplike CGI weaponry. Populated by a pair of entrepreneurial Yanks (Hirsch and Minghella) on the loose in Moscow and their female counterparts/squeezes (Thirlby and Taylor), the film opens with a blackout – of power, information, and any idea what exactly is going on. That brief flicker of suspense in an otherwise suspense-free film quickly evaporates into a fairly standard alien-invasion plot that moves from Point A (What the hell are these things?) to Point B (How the hell do we stop them and save the world?) with nary an overused, expository cliché untapped. (12/30/2011)

★ – Marc Savlov
Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

THE DESCENDANTS

D: Alexander Payne; with George Clooney, Shailene Woodley, Nick Krause, Amara Miller, Judy Greer, Beau Bridges, Robert Forster, Matthew Lillard, Mary Birdsong, Rob Huebel. (R, 115 min.)

Did anyone ever look less Hawaiian than the dapper and poised George Clooney? It serves his *Descendants* character Matt King well. Those constitutionally ill-fitting, loud prints and pleated shorts and boat shoes embody how out of touch Matt has become as a husband and a father to 10-year-old Scottie (Miller) and 17-year-old Alex (Woodley). Voiceover opens the film and pops up occasionally, sometimes to describe the depths of the family's dysfunction. However, what we're told and what we're shown by director and co-writer Alexander Payne (*Sideways*, *About Schmidt*) don't always square: The girls seem more precociously rebellious than tyrannical, and Matt, who is publicly roasted for his failures as a family man, is never seen as anything less than a competent and loving caretaker. *The Descendants* is beautifully shot (by Phedon Papamichael) and compellingly performed, especially by its young stars, and it has moments of startling tenderness. If only it didn't feel phony to its bones. (11/25/2011)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Arbor, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Violet Crown

THE DEVIL INSIDE

D: William Brent Bell; with Suzan Crowley, Fernanda Andrade, Simon Quarterman, Evan Helmuth, Bonnie Morgan. (R, 87 min.)

The Devil Inside offers proof that demons run rampant in Hollywood, possessing otherwise intelligent and creative people to make absolutely shitty "got-cha!" mocku-monstrosities like this one. Another faux found-footage film in the weak tradition of *Paranormal Activity*, *The Devil Inside* trades suburban creepiness for exorcisms gone wrong, Roman Catholic pageantry, and some extremely memorable and spine-wracking writhing courtesy of UK contortionist Pixie Le Knot. Andrade is Isabella Rossi, a tormented wraith of a

woman whose mother (Crowley) went on a murderous, decidedly anti-Catholic rampage (possibly via demonic possession) when Isabella was a child. Twenty years later, with camera crew in tow, Isabella heads off to Italy to see her mother. Recruiting a pair of exorcists (Quarterman and Helmuth), Isabella does everything seasoned horror fans have come to expect, but with none of the panache. Chaos ensues, as does one of the most wrong-headed endings in horror film history. Now that's just evil. (01/13/2012)

★ – Marc Savlov
Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

DRIVE

D: Nicolas Winding Refn; with Ryan Gosling, Carey Mulligan, Bryan Cranston, Albert Brooks, Oscar Isaac, Christina Hendricks, Ron Perlman, Kaden Leos. (R, 100 min.)

Welcome to the 2011 model of the Renaissance man. He's a metrosexual *and* an auto mechanic. He'll chastely hold his best gal's hand and bash in the skull of any goon who looks at her wrong. A delectable mix of brooding arthouse and heist-gone-to-hell genre picture, *Drive* opens with an eye on Ryan Gosling's tight-lipped, no-name stunt driver, moonlighting as a getaway driver for anonymous crooks. The drive goes a little wrong, and it's an enjoyably tense tease of what's to come when things go a lot wrong. Fairly early on, *Drive* ratchets up to something like controlled chaos. From writer Hossein Ammini's keen characterization of this tender taciturn (pause for occasional primal rage) to director Nicolas Winding Refn's order to hold long and hard on his lead actor's luscious visage, there's just no resisting. I can't remember the last time I felt so seduced by a film. (09/16/2011)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Alamo Lamar

EXTREMELY LOUD & INCREDIBLY CLOSE

D: Stephen Daldry; with Thomas Horn, Tom Hanks, Sandra Bullock, Max von Sydow, Viola Davis, Jeffrey Wright, Zoe Caldwell. (PG-13, 129 min.)

Ten years on, and attempts to dramatize 9/11 are still a sticky wicket. This adaptation of Jonathan Safran Foer's bestselling 2005 novel does itself no favors by making pretty visual poetry of a falling man its very first image. Reeling from the death of his father Thomas (Hanks) in the World Trade Center attacks, the maybe-autistic 11-year-old motormouth Oskar Schell (Horn) is convinced his father has left him a mission, in the spirit of the "reconnaissance expeditions" the two used to caper around the city on. His only clue the surname of Black, Oskar must overcome his debilitating terrors and ties to ferret out some connection to his father, while his mother (Bullock) shambles at home, near-catatonic with grief. As a portrait of what happens to a family when its glue disappears, *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* wrung a bucket of tears out of me. The heart, pried open, slams shut again. (01/20/2012)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Alamo Lake Creek, Alamo Lamar, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO

D: David Fincher; with Daniel Craig, Rooney Mara, Christopher Plummer, Robin Wright, Stellan Skarsgård, Steven Berkoff, Tony Way, Joely Richardson, Geraldine James. (R, 158 min.)

Rooney Mara nails it, completely. That was the big question regarding David Fincher's (slightly) Americanized adaptation of Stieg Larsson's sensational Millennium trilogy, originally adapted for the Swedish screen in 2009. This second incarnation of Lisbeth Salander – punk-rock privateer, hacker-sleuth, damaged goods – is every bit as unnerving and hypnotic. Sometimes even more so. The screenplay includes a handful of deviations from the Swedish version, but the main thing that establishes this as the superior film is Fincher's exacting directorial aesthetic. Investigating the decades-old murder of the favorite niece of industrialist Henrik Vanger (Plummer), Daniel Craig's damaged journalist crusader Mikael Blomkvist prowls around the snowbound Vanger estate, as bad things – and bodies – begin to pile up. What transfixes here isn't the labyrinthine plotting but Mara's Lisbeth. It's a knockout sucker

Shaun of the Dead

D: *Edgar Wright*; with *Simon Pegg*, *Nick Frost*. (2004, R, 99 min.) **Pub Run and Screening.** Beginning at 6pm, jog 1.1 miles from the Paramount Theatre to the Texas State Cemetery, enjoy a couple pints at both places (courtesy Hops & Grain), and stay for the movie at 7:30pm. Proceeds from the event support Team Spiridon and the Paramount Theatre. Register at www.austintheatre.org and get all the details. (*) @Paramount, Tuesday, 7:30pm.



punch of a performance. Mara's doomy gaze cuts through the hype and bores straight into your soul. (12/23/2011)

★★★★ – Marc Savlov
Alamo Lake Creek, Alamo Lamar, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, iPic, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

HAYWIRE

D: Steven Soderbergh; with Gina Carano, Ewan McGregor, Michael Fassbender, Channing Tatum, Michael Douglas, Antonio Banderas, Michael Angarano. (R, 93 min.)

Is Steven Soderbergh still planning on quitting the movies to focus on his painting? If so, this may be your last chance to catch the director in full-blown action/thriller mode. *Haywire* is a technically exemplary but otherwise unremarkable piece of fisticuffs filmmaking keyed to Soderbergh's particularly brutal vision of onscreen physicality. Famed mixed martial artist and former American Gladiator Gina Carano is Mallory Kane, a globe-trotting government contractor (i.e. ultrabadass femme fatale assassin) who finds herself the victim of a double-cross. Unsure who to trust, Kane wields both her omnipresent guns and her body as fluidly as any ballerina. Surrounded by professional actors of the highest caliber, Carano acquits herself admirably, but the storyline eventually feels like a pretty weak excuse to hang a half-dozen action set-pieces from. For all its kiss kiss, bang bang, *Haywire* ends up feeling as hollow as the points on Mallory Kane's 9mm ammo. (01/20/2012)

★★★ – Marc Savlov
Alamo Lamar, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

HUGO

D: Martin Scorsese; with Asa Butterfield, Ben Kingsley, Sacha Baron Cohen, Chloë Grace Moretz, Helen McCrory, Emily Mortimer, Christopher Lee, Ray Winstone, Michael Stuhlbarg, Jude Law, Richard Griffiths. (PG, 126 min.)

Scorsese steps outside his usual comfort zone here and winds up creating one of the most splendid and personal films of his career. A visual and technological stunner, *Hugo* manages to wrap an emotionally involving story about an orphaned boy in 1930s Paris around a passionate appeal for the practice of film preservation. In the process, Scorsese also schools other filmmakers and viewers in the use of 3-D as a potential enhancement to the art of storytelling rather than its contemporary bastardization as a requisite gewgaw. *Hugo* is perhaps not a story for the youngest of children but should work just fine for older kids, adolescents, and grown-ups. Robert Richardson's cinematography is most impressive. In fact, Scorsese's entire crew functions at the top of its game here. Although a nip and a tuck might improve the film's overall pace, there is no denying that this love letter to the movies is something to cherish. (11/25/2011)

★★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Village, CM Round Rock, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

THE IRON LADY

D: Phyllida Lloyd; with Meryl Streep, Jim Broadbent, Olivia Colman, Alexandra Roach, Harry Lloyd, Nicholas Farrell, Anthony Head, Richard E. Grant. (PG-13, 105 min.)

The Iron Lady, an impressionistic biopic of Margaret Thatcher, turns the former prime minister's reported dementia into a springboard for abstract touchstones into her timeline. We see her early days as the daughter of a hard-working Lincolnshire grocer; as a young woman (Roach), fresh from Oxford and trying to break into politics; squired by a perpetually bemused Denis (Lloyd), whom she eventually marries; and, finally, ascension to a Conservative seat in Parliament, with her career culminating in her historic premiership. Toothsome material, to be sure, but *The Iron Lady*, as directed by *Mamma Mia!*'s Phyllida Lloyd, has all the heft of a fictionalized *This Is Your Life*, thick with rah-rah bromides and talk of (egads!) Thatcher's feelings. The film still entertains, but that has everything to do with Meryl Streep's dynamic incarnation of Thatcher from middle age on. If I may presume: Thatcher probably would have preferred more action, less talk. (01/13/2012)

★★★ — Kimberley Jones
Alamo Lamar, Arbor, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Violet Crown, Westgate

★ J. EDGAR

D: Clint Eastwood; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Naomi Watts, Armie Hammer, Judi Dench, Josh Lucas, Stephen Root. (R, 136 min.)

It seems right that the man who played Dirty Harry would now, in his ridiculously productive twilight, turn his attention to the legacy of J. Edgar Hoover, played with great virtuosity by Leonardo DiCaprio. For all the good Hoover accomplished in bringing the FBI into the modern age of forensics by using scrupulous scientific methods and establishing a national database of fingerprints, the man was also undone by his bigotry, secrecy, narrow-minded dogma, and unbridled power to ruin lives. Eastwood gives us both sides of this figure — a portrait of a full human being and not just as the butt of an unfounded joke about closeted transves-

Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans

D: F.W. Murnau; with George O'Brien, Janet Gaynor. (1927, NR, 95 min.)

Austin Film Society: The Great Escape — Three European Emigré Filmmakers. A marvel of imagistic storytelling, *Sunrise* tells the age-old story about a love affair between a country boy and a city girl. @Alamo Lamar, Tuesday, 7pm.



tites. The time frame jumps around, spanning decades in a single leap, but it doesn't strain the structure. Eastwood and DiCaprio have delivered a nuanced story about a man, a mythos, and an institution that relies on the facts rather than the legend. (11/11/2011)

★★★★ — Marjorie Baumgarten
Movies 8

JOYFUL NOISE

D: Todd Graff; with Queen Latifah, Dolly Parton, Keke Palmer, Jeremy Jordan, Dexter Darden, Courtney B. Vance, Jesse L. Martin, Angela Grovey, Paul Woolfolk, Kris Kristofferson. (PG-13, 117 min.)

Even though it sports a queen and a dolly, writer/director Todd Graff's come-from-behind, gospel-music competition film is utterly common. A perpetual runner-up in the national competition, the interracial Sacred Divinity Choir of Pacashau, Ga., seeks to take

home the trophy after the abrupt death of its longtime choirmaster Bernard Sparrow (Kristofferson). Pastor Dale (Vance) appoints Vi Rose Hill (Queen Latifah) the new choirmaster, ruffling Bernard's widow, and rival diva, G.G. (Dolly Parton). The grande dames, however, are largely upstaged by the movie's younger generation, setting up an ongoing tension between "traditional" choir music and a more contemporary repertoire. *Joyful Noise*, while set in the world of gospel music, soft-pedals religiosity in favor of down-home country aphorisms and expressions. The interracial aspect is a nonfactor, as is any display of real emotional strife of any sort. The film feels about as genuine and spontaneous as its evident lip-synching. (01/13/2012)

★★ — Marjorie Baumgarten
CM Cedar Park, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

★ MELANCHOLIA

D: Lars von Trier; with Kirsten Dunst, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Kiefer Sutherland, Alexander Skarsgård, Brady Corbet, Charlotte Rampling, John Hurt, Stellan Skarsgård, Udo Kier, Cameron Spurr. (R, 136 min.)

It's the end of the world, and Lars von Trier knows it. The famously depressed Danish filmmaker brings his vision of human annihilation to the screen in this visually stunning, thematically rich, perversely humorous, and sublimely virtuosic film. Earth faces destruction from collision with a planet named Melancholia, which has only recently been discovered because it's been hiding behind the sun. The first half of *Melancholia* is devoted to the wedding reception for Justine (Dunst) and Michael (Skarsgård), held at the lavish estate of Justine's sister Claire (Gainsbourg) and her husband, John (Sutherland). When news reports mount about the impending natural disaster, Claire's state of mind grows frenzied while Justine declares placidly: "The Earth is evil. We are alone." Dunst's performance is a thing of calm beauty and mired grit. If von Trier seemed as though he was at a creative dead end with his last film, *Antichrist*, he has reawakened with this beautiful, haunting disaster film. (11/18/2011)

★★★★ — Marjorie Baumgarten
Violet Crown

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Richard Pryor: Live on the Sunset Strip

D: Joe Layton. (1982, R, 82 min.) Concert film features the comedian in peak form and candidly addressing the freebasing/fire incident that nearly cost him his life. (Double feature: *Jo Jo Dancer, Your Life Is Calling.*) @



MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE – GHOST PROTOCOL

D: Brad Bird; with Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner, Simon Pegg, Paula Patton, Michel Nyqvist, Vladimir Mashkov, Josh Holloway, Anil Kapoor, Léa Seydoux. (PG-13, 133 min.)

Maybe I'm just suffering from sequelitis, but my reaction to this fourth impossible mission was one long existential yawn. An opening prison-break sets the tone (wacky and volatile) for what's to come. Impossible Mission Force Agent Ethan Hunt (Cruise) is freed from a grim Russian lockup just in time to be corralled into a new, even more impossible mission. Hunt and company are informed of the evil machinations of Kurt Hendricks (Nyqvist), a Bondian villain who's stolen the codes to a battery of Russian nuclear missiles and is intent on starting World War III. Tasked with penetrating the Kremlin, Hunt gets more than his share of disguises, gizmos, and falls from high places. Director Bird's vision brings much to the table, but the film's gee-whiz/oh-fuck gadgetry and stunning vistas left me with the feeling I've seen of this before. It's not that I'd like something better – I'd just like something new. (12/16/2011)

★★★★ – Marc Savlov
Alamo Lake Creek, Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, IMAX Theatre, iPic, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

THE MUPPETS

D: James Bobin; with Amy Adams, Jason Segel, Chris Cooper, Rashida Jones, Zach Galifianakis, Ken Jeong, Sarah Silverman, Feist, Whoopi Goldberg, Selena Gomez. (PG, 98 min.)

It is with immense pleasure that I can report that Disney's Muppet reboot movie is an absolute delight. It hews very closely to the original item, with all the original Muppet characters on board, along with one new one: the small, orange Walter (voiced by Peter Linz) who doesn't, in fact, realize that he's a Muppet. He believes he's the shorter, fuzzier, younger brother of Jason Segel's human Gary. Walter, Gary, and Gary's best gal Mary (Adams, redefining the word "perky") journey to the old Muppet Theater, now a cobwebbed, empty shadow of its former self that's about to be sold. What to do? Why, track down the original *Muppet Show* members, of course, and put on the Great Muppet Telethon. True Muppet maniacs are advised to bring a hankie. The Muppets have been gone, but it's an absolute joy to have them back. After all, to paraphrase Walt Kelly: We have met the Muppets, and they are us. (11/25/2011)

★★★★ – Marc Savlov
Alamo Lamar, Tinseltown South

MY WEEK WITH MARILYN

D: Simon Curtis; with Michelle Williams, Eddie Redmayne, Kenneth Branagh, Dominic Cooper, Julia Ormond, Emma Watson, Judi Dench, Zoë Wanamaker, Dougray Scott, Toby Jones, Derek Jacobi. (R, 101 min.)

Colin Clark was 23 years old when the most famous movie star in the world, Marilyn Monroe, came to England to co-star with acting legend Sir Laurence Olivier in *The Prince and the Showgirl*, which Olivier was also directing and for which Clark served as third assistant director. When the film shoot

turned difficult (and what production starring Monroe didn't?), Clark, if we are to believe his account, became Monroe's confidant and partner in flirtation. The truth of what actually occurred between Monroe and Clark is immaterial. There are only two real reasons to see this movie. The first is the spooky-good impersonation of Monroe by Michelle Williams. No slouch either is Kenneth Branagh in his depiction of Olivier. The second reason to see *My Week With Marilyn* is for its encapsulation of a running controversy about the diametrically opposed approaches of classically trained and method actors. No new ground is broken on the subject, however. (11/25/2011)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Arbor, Tinseltown South

SHAME

D: Steve McQueen; with Michael Fassbender, Carey Mulligan, James Badge Dale, Nichole Beharie, Lucy Walters, Elizabeth Masucci, Robert Montano. (NC-17, 99 min.)

All humans have habits, some of them bad. The bad habits of Brandon Sullivan (Fassbender, exhibiting exquisite control and spasming anguish) have curdled into full-bore addiction. The kempt escorts with whom he politely negotiates terms, the workaday masturbation breaks, the foot-fidgeting: This is Brandon's everyday landscape. But soon Brandon's routine is upended by the sudden arrival of his needy, chancy younger sister, Sissy (Carey Mulligan). Where Brandon is ordered and emotionally closed off, Sissy is erratic, fairly lunging at any warm body that might warm her back. Indeterminate damage has been done to them both, and whatever it was, it has steered the course of all future emotional and physical entanglements, including the siblings' own provocative push-pull. Director Steve McQueen has stripped all fat from this dark, obsessively stylized story about sex addiction. Equally harrowing and heartrending, *Shame* is a film that feels akin to going into battle, and I for one didn't emerge unscathed. (12/16/2011)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Arbor

SHERLOCK HOLMES: A GAME OF SHADOWS

D: Guy Ritchie; with Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law, Jared Harris, Noomi Rapace, Rachel McAdams, Kelly Reilly, Stephen Fry, Paul Anderson, Thierry Neuvic, Geraldine James. (PG-13, 128 min.)

Exactly like its titular detective, Guy Ritchie's follow-up to his steampunky 2009 take on Arthur Conan Doyle's peerlessly curious antihero is a gorgeous shambles. The whole film, which caroms from 1891 London to Paris, Vienna, and the inevitable Reichenbach Falls of Doyle's "The Final Problem," seems to have been subject to a strict diet of caffeine, nicotine, and coca leaves. Although the first half of *A Game of Shadows* is too chaotic for its own good and riddled with a multitude of subplots that appear irrelevant, the film picks up steam (literally) as Holmes (Downey Jr.) and Dr. Watson (Law) home in on their quarry: the inestimable "Napoleon of Crime," Professor Moriarty (Harris). The final 30 minutes of this revisionist Holmes explodathon are downright thrilling, and it should go without saying: Downey Jr. inhabits the role of Sherlock Holmes to a near-molecular level. The end result is a worthy rush of adrenaline. (12/16/2011)

★★★ – Marc Savlov
Alamo Lake Creek, Alamo Village, CM Cedar Park, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Flix Brewhouse, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

TINKER TAILOR SOLDIER SPY

D: Tomas Alfredson; with Gary Oldman, Benedict Cumberbatch, Colin Firth, Mark Strong, Tom Hardy, Toby Jones, John Hurt, Ciarán Hinds, Stephen Graham, Simon McBurney, David Dencik, Svetlana Khodchenkova, Kathy Burke. (R, 127 min.)

The modern movie spy has become defined by so much running and rappelling and cool seducing that it feels like a luxury to nestle in with the staid and resolutely unsuave George Smiley (Gary Oldman). The character created by John le Carré is a longtime operative in Her Majesty's Secret Intelligence Service. Smiley is forced into early retirement at the film's outset, but ministry officials soon drag him back into the fray to investigate rumors of a Soviet mole burrowed deep in the SIS; the title, taken from a British nursery rhyme, is the shorthand for the suspect list devised by Smiley's former mentor, the cryptically named Control (Hurt). What a delectably tense-making game of Whac-a-Mole it all turns out to be. Where

Kevin Smith: Live From Behind Featuring "Jay and Silent Bob Get Old"

(2012, R, 180 min.) NCM Fathom. Broadcast live from the Scotiabank Theatre in Toronto, Ontario, filmmaker Kevin Smith and Jason Mewes host their regular podcast, which will be followed by an interactive Q&A with the audience. See www.fathomevents.com for instructions about how to submit questions. @Metropolitan, Arbor, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Hill Country Galleria, CM Cedar Park, Thu., Feb. 2, 7:30pm.



Alfredson's *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* bobbles is on the plotting level. One wishes for a chewier whodunit – there aren't enough clues for the viewer to work with – and the reveal of the mole is perversely anticlimactic. (12/23/2011)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Alamo Lamar, Arbor, Tinseltown South, Violet Crown

TOWER HEIST

D: Brett Ratner; with Ben Stiller, Eddie Murphy, Casey Affleck, Alan Alda, Matthew Broderick, Téa Leoni, Michael Peña, Gabourey Sidibe, Judd Hirsch, Stephen Henderson. (PG-13, 105 min.)

Aleert to the righteous rage of the 99 Percenters and canny about how to mine that rage for laughs, *Tower Heist* is like *Ocean's Eleven* meets class consciousness. Ben Stiller plays Josh Kovacs, the manager of a luxury condo in Manhattan called the Tower, where he commands a small army of housekeepers, concierges, and security guards. When the Tower's penthouse-dwelling big-shot investor Arthur Shaw (Alda) is taken into federal custody for some funny business with the books, his entire staff's pension plans are gone, and the people-pleasing building manager wants revenge. Going rogue, Josh gathers a motley crew – including Eddie Murphy's ex-con Slide – to filch the \$20 million Shaw has hidden in his penthouse. A constitutionally glib director, Brett Ratner is nevertheless a professional: He's made a lean and likable action comedy that motors along at a satisfying clip. *Tower Heist* nails the humor, all right, but also, quite crucially, humanizes the high concept. (11/04/2011)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Movies 8

WAR HORSE

D: Steven Spielberg; with Jeremy Irvine, Peter Mullan, Emily Watson, Niels Arestrup, David Thewlis, Tom Hiddleston, Benedict Cumberbatch. (PG-13, 146 min.)

War Horse is spectacularly gorgeous to look at but skimps on dramatic pull. Based on a popular 1982 novel by Michael Morpurgo, Spielberg's *War Horse* affords young viewers the opportunity to see the First World War through the perspective of Joey the horse. Raised on an English farm, Joey is sold into war in 1914 and has many a harrowing experience on the Western front. A horse is a horse (of course, of course), and it might be said that the folly of *War Horse* is its expectation of emotional resonance to derive from a fairly expressionless equine visage. The film's visual style is a throwback to classic studio movies: epic in composition and drenched in widescreen vistas. The battle scenes, despite being bloodless, are powerfully wrenching and a keen reminder of what Spielberg is capable of. But the overlong *War Horse* mostly passes as though the director were in absentia. (12/23/2011)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

WE BOUGHT A ZOO

D: Cameron Crowe; with Matt Damon, Scarlett Johansson, Thomas Haden Church, Colin Ford, Maggie Elizabeth Jones, Angus Macfadyen, Elle Fanning, Patrick Fugit, John Michael Higgins, Peter Riegert. (PG, 124 min.)

Animals, grievors, a makeshift community of oddballs, the possibility of romance: Cameron Crowe's new film has it all. Its universal appeal and PG rating should make it a go-to film for family outings, but *We Bought a Zoo* is plagued by an overall lack of bite. Based on journalist Benjamin Mee's autobiography, the story begins six months after the death of his wife as Mee struggles with being a single parent of two young children and a newsroom desk jockey. So he quits his job and moves the kids to the countryside. The home Mee buys is on property that houses a closed, ramshackle zoo that's maintained by workaholic zookeeper Kelly Foster (Johansson). Inevitable flare-ups occur regarding the children's acclimation, unexpected expenses, and Mee's grieving. Though by trying too hard to stay on this side of hip and the other side of sentimental, Crowe winds up with a zoo that's neither fish nor fowl. (12/23/2011)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria

YOUNG ADULT

D: Jason Reitman; with Charlize Theron, Patton Oswalt, Patrick Wilson, Elizabeth Reaser, Collette Wolfe, Jill Eikenberry, Richard Bekins. (R, 94 min.)

Thirty-seven-year-old Mavis Gary (Theron) is a beautiful, unhappy, and unlikable narcissist. Mavis' uncommon abrasiveness and the film's avoidance of a tidy resolution make *Young Adult* one of the most original movies around right now, though caveat emptor: This may not be enough to make it likable. Mavis is a pseudonymous author of a young-adult book series that is about to fold. In her mind, she is a famous author in the big city whose life would be the envy of anyone from her hick hometown, where she was the reigning bitch goddess. Soon she is off on what is clearly a fool's mission to return there and reignite things with her hick school boyfriend, Buddy Slade (Wilson), who has just sent her an announcement about the arrival of his first baby. *Young Adult* can be harsh to watch at times, but the film maintains a comic edge, and its character portraits are indelible. (12/16/2011)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Tinseltown South

also playing

Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

ANONYMOUS

★★ Movies 8

HAPPY FEET TWO

★★ Movies 8

IMMORTALS

★ Movies 8

IN TIME

★ Movies 8

JACK AND JILL

★ Movies 8

NEW YEAR'S EVE

★ Tinseltown South

PUSS IN BOOTS

★★★ Movies 8, Tinseltown South

REAL STEEL

★★★ Movies 8

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN – PART 1

★ Metropolitan

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

THURSDAY 26

Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy Quote-Along (2004) D: Adam McKay; with Will Ferrell, Christina Applegate, Paul Rudd, Steve Carell. (PG-13, 91 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Lake Creek, 7pm.

★ **Beverly Hills Cop (1984)** D: Martin Brest; with Eddie Murphy, Judge Reinhold. (R, 105 min.) This action-comedy vehicle presents Murphy at his very best. (Double feature: *Office Space*.) @Paramount, 9pm.

★ **Bullhead (2011)** D: Michael R. Roskam; with Matthias Schoenaerts, Jeroen Perceval, Barbara Sarafian, Jeanne Dandoy, Tibo Vandendorre. (R, 124 min.) This Drafthouse Films release, newly nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film, is being selectively sneaked locally before its spring release. @Alamo Village, 7pm.

Love Bites: The Power Ballad Sing-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 10:10pm.

Moulin Rouge Sing-Along (2001) D: Baz Luhrmann; with Nicole Kidman, Ewan McGregor. (PG-13, 127 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

★ **Office Space (1999)** D: Mike Judge; Ron Livingston, Jennifer Aniston. (R, 89 min.) White-collar prisoners of the corporate office place will recognize themselves in this very funny, Austin-lensed movie. (Double feature: *Beverly Hills Cop*.) (*) @Paramount, 7pm.

★ **Rear Window (1954)** D: Alfred Hitchcock; with James Stewart, Grace Kelly, Thelma Ritter, Raymond Burr. (PG, 114 min.) **Big Screen Classics.** One of Hitchcock's most accessible films is also one of his most gleefully deviant, dealing as it does with such fun urban pastimes as voyeurism and spousal mayhem. (*) @Alamo Lake Creek, 7pm.

★ **Zach Attack! (2012)** (NR) Zach Anner, who just debuted his new travel show *Rollin' With Zach*, teams up with Web comic maker Zach Weiner (*Saturday Morning Breakfast Cereal*) for a night of videos, comedy, and more. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Austin classrooms via DonorsChoose.org. @Alamo Lamar, 7:30pm.

SPACES

Cosmonaut (2009) D: Susana Nicchiarelli; with Marianna Raschilla. (NR, 85 min.) **I Film del Circolo Italiano.** Free. @Mezes Hall, Rm. B0.306 (UT campus), 8pm.

Man on the Moon (1999) D: Milos Forman; with Jim Carrey. (R, 118 min.) A short film by Andy Kaufman will screen along with this feature. (*) @Fricano's Deli, West Campus, 7pm; free.

★ **The Weather Underground (2003)** D: Sam Green and Bill Siegel. (NR, 92 min.) **Cinema41.** Former members of the Weather Underground still know a thing or two about "which way the wind blows" in this always timely documentary. (*) @Salvage Vanguard Theater, 8pm.

FRIDAY 27

Back to the Future (1985) (PG, 111 min.) **Master Pancake.** One of the most beloved comedies of the Eighties gets the Pancake treatment – sans syrup. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10pm.

Bullhead (2011) @Alamo Lamar, 7pm. (See Thursday, 1/26.)

★ **Jo Jo Dancer, Your Life Is Calling (1986)** D: Richard Pryor; with Pryor, Debbie Allen. (R, 97 min.) Stand-up comedy revolutionary Richard Pryor co-wrote and directed this ambitious autobiographical film. (Double feature: *Richard Pryor: Live on the Sunset Strip*.) @Paramount, 8:55pm.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Feb. 17 issue is Monday, Feb. 6.** 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 email.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com;

Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

★ **Richard Pryor: Live on the Sunset Strip (1982)** See p.58.

★ **Wild at Heart (1990)** D: David Lynch; with Nicolas Cage, Laura Dern. (R, 127 min.) **Late Show.** In love and on the lam – David Lynch style. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 11:45pm.

SPACES

★ **Hidden Battles (2010)** D: Victoria Mills. (NR, 65 min.) Feature-length doc about the psychological impact of violence on war veterans. Donations support the work of Under the Hood Cafe & Outreach Center, operated by Fort Hood Support Network. @5604 Manor, 7pm.

Like Water for Chocolate (1992) D: Alfonso Arau; with Lumi Cavazos, Marco Leonardi. (R, 113 min.) **Friday Night Film Series.** Free to enrolled students; suggested donation for others. (*) @Freestyle Language Center, 7pm.

Pretty in Pink, Say Anything, and Sixteen Candles Triple feature. @Blue Starlite Drive-In II, 6pm.

SATURDAY 28

Ayn Rand and the Prophecy of 'Atlas Shrugged' (2012) D: Chris Mortensen. Everybody's favorite Objectivist gets the documentary treatment here. @Alamo Lake Creek, 12pm.

Back to the Future (1985) Master Pancake. @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10pm. (See Friday.)

The Bad News Bears (1976) D: Michael Ritchie; with Walter Matthau, Tatum O'Neal. (PG, 102 min.) **Kids' Club.** The original. @Alamo Lamar, 10:45am; free.

In Treatment Austin Society for Psychoanalytic Psychology. A "case" from the award-winning HBO series will be presented, followed by a panel discussion and audience Q&A. @Alamo Lamar, 10am.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) (R, 95 min.) Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for more than three decades. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Village, 12mid.

★ **Sense and Sensibility (1995)** D: Ang Lee; with Emma Thompson, Alan Rickman, Kate Winslet, Hugh Grant. (PG, 135 min.) **Afternoon Tea.** The Alamo pairs Jane Austen with three courses from Austin's Zhi Tea. (*) @Alamo Lamar, 4pm.

★ **Wild at Heart (1990) Late Show.** @Alamo Ritz, 11:45pm. (See Friday.)

SUNDAY 29

★ **Beverly Hills Cop (1984)** @Paramount, 2pm. (See Thursday, 1/26.)

Dance Movie Marathon Girlie Night. This triple feature includes *Center Stage*, *Strictly Ballroom*, and *Step Up 2: The Streets*. @Alamo Ritz, 1pm.

★ **Dragonslayer (2011)** See p.56.

★ **Jo Jo Dancer, Your Life Is Calling (1986)** @Paramount, 4:05pm. (See Friday.)

★ **Richard Pryor: Live on the Sunset Strip (1982)** See p.58.

★ **Wild at Heart (1990) Late Show.** @Alamo Ritz, 9:15pm. (See Friday.)

SPACES

★ **On the Edge: Improvisation in Music, Part 4 (1992)** D: Jeremy Marre; narrated by Derek Bailey. (NR, 55 min.) Written and narrated by Derek Bailey, this four-part television series for the BBC is based on Bailey's book about improvisation. Part 4 concentrates on improvisation from Zimbabwe musicians to blues guitarist Buddy Guy, computer research, and Jerry Garcia's "anti-authoritarian" approach. Live music follows at 6:15pm. @Broken Neck, 5pm.

Solitaire (2011) D: Nick Waggoner. (NR) This South America-set documentary is from Sweetgrass Productions, which specializes in backcountry skiing, snowboarding, and mountain culture. @Patagonia, 5:30pm.

MONDAY 30

The Big Lebowski Quote-Along (1998) (R, 117 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Lamar, 10:05pm.

★ **Dragonslayer (2011)** See p.56.

★ **A Lonely Place To Die (2011)** D: Julian Gilbey; with Melissa George, Ed Speleers, Eamonn Walker. (NR, 99 min.) Five mountain climbers in the Scottish highlands discover a kidnapped girl. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

★ **The Love We Make (2011)** D: Albert Maysles and Bradley Kaplan. (NR, 94 min.) **Music Monday.** In this documentary, Paul McCartney travels through the streets of New York in the wake of 9/11 and organizes the all-star Concert for New York. @Alamo Ritz, 9:40pm.

SPACES

Network (1976) D: Sidney Lumet; with William Holden, Faye Dunaway, Peter Finch, Robert Duvall, Ned Beatty, Beatrice Straight. (R, 121 min.) **The Fierce Film Project.** This multiple Oscar-winner is a prescient and sharply drawn satire about television from screenwriter Paddy Chayevsky. Price of admission is one purchase from the coffee shop. (*) @Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 7pm.



TUESDAY 31

The Car (1977) D: Elliot Silverstein; with James Brolin, Kathleen Lloyd, John Marley, R.G. Armstrong. (PG, 96 min.) **Terror Tuesday.** This car is possessed, and it's not named Christine. @Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm.

Computer Error: The Worst CGI in Movie History D: Various. Only at the Alamo. This is a special Alamo compilation. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Glee TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Village, 9:30pm.

The Goat Rodeo Sessions NCM Fathom. This concert will be broadcast live from the House of Blues Boston, and brings together four string virtuosos: Yo-Yo Ma, Stuart Duncan, Edgar Meyer, and Chris Thile. @Metropolitan, Arbor, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Hill Country Galleria, CM Cedar Park, 6:30pm.

Shaun of the Dead (2004) See p.56.

★ **Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans (1927)** See p.57.

SPACES

Algo Flota Sobre el Agua (1947) D: Alfredo B. Crevenna. (NR) **Cine de Oro.** No subtitles. @MACC, 7pm; free.

WEDNESDAY 1

The Black Angels (1970) D: Lawrence Merrick; with Des Roberts, John King III. (R, 87 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** When bikers go bad @Alamo Ritz, 10:30pm.

The Chemical Brothers: Don't Think (2012) D: Adam Smith. **NCM Fathom.** Originally recorded in 2011 at the Fuji Rock Festival in Japan, this captures the group for the first time on film. @Metropolitan, Arbor, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Hill Country Galleria, CM Cedar Park, 7:30pm.

★ **A Lonely Place To Die (2011)** @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Monday.)

★ **Man on a Mission: Richard Garriott's Road to the Stars (2012)** D: Mike Woolf. (NR, 82 min.) **Austin Film Society: Best of the Fests.** Legendary game designer Richard Garriott became the first second-generation American astronaut in space, though in order to do so, he had to spend \$30 million of his own money to go to the International Space Station on a Russian rocket. This film is a behind-the-scenes document of his quest and the actual journey in space. (*) @Alamo Village, 7pm.

★ **Thelma & Louise (1991)** D: Ridley Scott; with Susan Sarandon, Geena Davis, Harvey Keitel. (R, 128 min.) **Girlie Night.** A ride to remember, *Thelma & Louise* is political and feminist without ever becoming didactic or polemical. (*) @Alamo Lake Creek, 7pm.

THURSDAY 2

Ben-Hur (1959) D: William Wyler; with Charlton Heston, Jack Hawkins, Haya Harareet, Stephen Boyd, Hugh Griffith, Martha Scott, Sam Jaffe. (G, 212 min.) Newly restored, this is the epic story of Jewish Ben-Hur and his best friend Messala in ancient Rome. It's a chariot-race classic. @Tinseltown North, 2, 7pm.

Groundhog Day (1993) D: Harold Ramis; with Bill Murray, Andie MacDowell, Chris Elliott, Stephen Tobolowsky. (PG, 103 min.) **Dinner.** See www.drafthouse.com for menu. (*) @Alamo Lake Creek, 7pm.

★ **Kevin Smith: Live From Behind Featuring 'Jay and Silent Bob Get Old' (2012)** See p.58.

Love Bites: The Power Ballad Sing-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 10:15pm. (See Thursday, 1/26.)

Moulin Rouge Sing-Along (2001) Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Thursday, 1/26.)

SPACES

Being John Malkovich (1999) D: Spike Jonze; with John Cusack, Cameron Diaz, John Malkovich, Catherine Keener. (R, 112 min.) **Bio (Tragi) Coms.** Free. (*) @Fricano's Deli, West Campus, 7pm.

IMAX

Mission: Impossible – Ghost Protocol (2011) D: Brad Bird; with Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner, Simon Pegg, Paula Patton, Michel Nyqvist, Vladimir Mashkov, Josh Holloway, Anil Kapoor, Léa Seydoux. (PG-13, 133 min.) See review, p.58. (*) Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 7, 9:45pm; Sun.-Thu., 7pm.

Ocean Wonderland (2003) D: Jean-Jacques Mantello. (NR, 41 min.) Underwater 3-D digital cinematography captures diving expeditions in the Bahamas and the Great Barrier Reef. Thu. (1/26), 10:30am, 12:30, 3:30pm; Fri., 10:30am, 12:30, 3:30, 5:30pm; Sat., 11am, 1, 4, 6pm; Sun., 1, 4, 6pm; Mon.-Thu. (2/2), 10:30am, 12:30, 3:30, 5:30pm.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) D: Scott Swifford; 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 producing everything from grapefruit to microchips. Thu. (1/26)-Fri., 9:30am, 2:30pm; Sat., 10am, 3pm; Sun., 3pm; Mon.-Thu. (2/2), 9:30am, 2:30pm.

Tornado Alley (2011) D: Sean C. Casey. (NR, 43 min.) Storm Chasers star Casey joins the researchers of VORTEX 2 in this effort to capture the origins and evolution of tornadoes in 3-D. Thu. (1/26)-Fri., 11:30am, 1:30, 4:30pm; Sat., noon, 2, 5pm; Sun., 2, 5pm; Mon.-Thu. (2/2), 11:30am, 1:30, 4:30pm.

OFFSCREEN

Austin School of Film Prime yourself for cinematic advancement with professional ASoF classes in all forms of digital media in the new year: Sound Recording for Film and Video, Web Video and Viral Marketing, Advanced Final Cut Pro, Lighting 101, and many more. Also, use the holiday code ***NYE2012*** for 10% off Digital Filmmaking for Adults. See website for details! www.austinfilmsschool.org.

Cine Las Americas: Call for Entries The Cine Las Americas International Film Festival is accepting submissions for its 15th annual incarnation in the ATX this coming April. They're looking for films made by or about Latinos in the U.S. or the rest of the world and films by or about indigenous groups of the Americas. See website for details. **Deadline:** Jan. 30. www.cinelasamericas.org.

Hill Country Film Festival Accepting Submissions The three-day independent film event held in Fredericksburg is now accepting submissions for its third annual festival in April 2012. Indie filmmakers from around the world can submit features, shorts, documentaries, animations, music videos, and 3-D shorts. See website for details. **Deadline:** Feb. 2. www.hillcountryff.com.

iPic Members Film Festival: Call For Entries You, filmmaker. You want to make a six-minute movie based on the theme "Earth preservation" and maybe have it screened at the local iPic Theater, and even all national iPic Theaters? Then check the website for details and get started, yo! **Deadline:** Feb. 10. www.ipictheaters.com.

SAG Awards Party Benefiting Texas Motion Picture Alliance Sun., Jan. 29. 512/233-2300. \$35 general admission. www.tmpa.org.

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

Walking Woody's Road



Expect to hear a lot about Woody Guthrie as 2012 marks the folk music blueprint's 100th birthday. Walking Woody's Road, a long-running celebration of the legendary Okie's words and songs, kicks things off locally with the Austin collective of Jimmy LaFave, Eliza Gilkyson, Slaid Cleaves, and Terri Hendrix,

updating a multiartist show that began in reaction to former President George W. Bush's war in Iraq.

"We were so worried," Gilkyson recalls. "No artists were doing anything political at that time. People were afraid they were going to be branded as unpatriotic. But we started traveling around like a family in Slaid's blue van and we felt such a solidarity amongst ourselves. That was with Slaid, Jimmy, Michael Fracasso, and Sarah Lee Guthrie and her husband, Johnny Irion. We felt that we were using the music for the best possible purpose at the time.

"That was when I developed a real love for Woody."

Gilkyson's spotlight moment in the show is the song "Peace

Call." She arranged the music for the composition, which Guthrie put in a notebook but never recorded. "I was looking for a good anti-war song," she explains. "It was exactly what I was looking for, but I stretched it a little bit. He had lyrics that were sort of dated, so I rewrote a few things here and there. I asked Sarah Lee and Johnny about that and they said they do it all the time. I felt like I was getting permission from the royal family."

While regionally successful, the quartet is planning to take the gospel of Woody national this year. "Because of his birthday and the election year," Gilkyson asserts, "I think it's a great way to put politics on the road in a traditional format." — Jim Caligiuri

One World Theatre, Saturday 28, 7 & 9:30pm

K-NACK @ 20 ND at 501 Studios, Friday 27 & Saturday 28

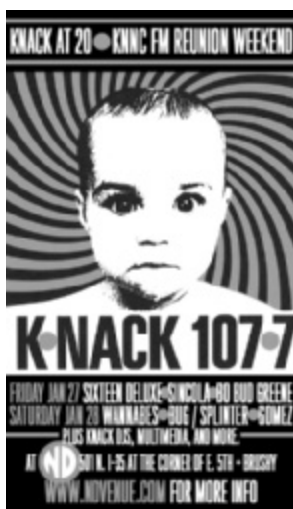
Deja Phooey: K-NACK Homegroan Volume Two from 1994 remains a hell-and-gone Austin indie summit, scene stalwarts of the grunge era reaching back a decade in celebration of the former local radio frequency, 107.7FM. Fastball performing Tommy Tutone's "Jenny (867-5309)," Dead Horse boiling "Rock Lobster" (B-52's), the Cherubs' syrupy "I Want Candy" versus Auschwitz 46's industrial "Whip It." Volume Three's prescient sampling included Spoon and Sixteen Deluxe. Two nights of star-studded local band reunions relive main deejay Ray Seggern and Electric Lounge magnet Mike Henry's salad years. On Friday: Sixteen Deluxe (12mid), Sincola (10:45pm), bo bud greene (9:30pm), Seed (9pm). Saturday: Wannabes (12mid), bug/Splinter (10:45pm), Gomez (TX) (9:30pm). Remind the Wannabes of their Homegroan Haircut 100 cover!

— Raoul Hernandez

BEAUTY BALLROOM GRAND OPENING Beauty Ballroom (2015 E. Riverside Dr., Bldg. 4), Friday 27 & Saturday 28

Traces of the Latin disco that used to inhabit the site of the Beauty Ballroom and Emo's new Eastside venue remain mostly in the Miami beach frescoes in an upstairs green room. The former owners locked up and left everything until the current lessees took over the 9,600 square feet. Roomy, with a pro stage and an enormous upstairs, the BBR opens on the same block as Emo's East with a two-night program. Friday, MC stylist Theophilus London & Treasure Fingers headlines, while Saturday, NYC's Ambitious Orchestra backs locals including Daniel Johnston, Yvonne Lambert (Octopus Project), Mike Wiebe (Riverboat Gamblers), Alex Maas (Black Angels), and more on the Elvis and Bowie catalogs. Horalé!

— Raoul Hernandez



DAY SHOW FOR ESME Beerland, Saturday 28

Waterloo Records lost a second family member last week with the death of full-time employee Craig "Slippy" MacNeil. The Facebook photo of him and Esme Barrera is beyond sad. Ted Leo, punk rock hero of this tribute and benefit for Barrera, declined comment here, but then the Fun Fun Fest Misfit's already said his piece via Beerland's sold-out slam-bang bill Saturday night. Spreading the love, Leo's also playing a matinee for Esme earlier in the day, 2-7pm, populated by Knife in the Water, December Boys, Simple Circuit, and Literature. Tickets are going fast.

— Raoul Hernandez

JUDY COLLINS One World Theatre, Sunday 29

Even in her 70s, after performing for nearly 50 years, Judy Collins remains prolific. New material includes 2010's Paradise, released on her own imprint Wildflower Records, and last year's impressive memoir, Sweet Judy Blue Eyes (see "Memoir Suite," Dec. 16, 2011). Collins still spends one-third of every year on tour, reliving the boomer era with a voice as crystalline as her blue eyes and an encyclopedic knowledge of folk music. Two shows, 6 & 8:30pm.

— Melanie Haupt



Judy Collins



Ted Leo

BOBBY BARE JR. Continental Club, Monday 30

Without a label and with his Young Criminal's Starvation League on hiatus, Bobby Bare Jr. is now a solo act with a purpose. He's got a fistful of new songs, so Nashville, Tenn.'s favorite son is ready to record. As has become increasingly popular, he's taken to the Internet and his fan base to raise money for his next two projects. Nothing else has changed though. The anticipated teeth-gnashing, angst, and snot-nosed attitude prevails.

— Jim Caligiuri

BRUCE ROBISON & KELLY WILLIS Continental Club Gallery, Thursday 2

Any leftover holiday stocking stuffers for your baby? Welcome Valentine's Day. Just such poster children exist in Austin's first couple of country, the mighty pen and James Taylor-ish delivery of long, tall Bruce Robison and the dove's cry of his honky-tonk queen/spouse Kelly Willis, both of whom load in upstairs at the Continental Club's hip annex for a month of Thursdays. A perfect spot, too: the Gallery already feels like someone's living-room nook, 8:30pm.

— Raoul Hernandez

soundcheck

BY RAOUL HERNANDEZ

JOE KROWN TRIO Ruta Maya, Friday 27

New Orleans Triple Treat with Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown's Hammond B-3 organ roaster Joe Krown, guitar great Walter "Wolfman" Washington, and drummer Russell Batiste Jr., from one of NOLA's first musical families. Lost Counts open.

CHURCHWOOD Hole in the Wall, Friday 27

Guitarists Bill Anderson (Poison 13) and Billy Steve Korpi (Crack Pipes) chop feraral roots on 2011's eponymous Saustex debut.

BUTCH HANCOCK Cactus Cafe, Saturday 28

A no-repeat week in one night? Folk yeah!

AMODA PERFORMANCE SERIES: MATRICES & ENTROPY

Mexican American Cultural Center (600 River), Saturday 28
Electro experimentalism on John Cage, etc. by local percussionists Line Upon Line and NYC composer Sam Pluta, 8-10pm.

'SLOW SOUTHERN STEEL' SCREENING

Dirty Dog Bar, Sunday 29
Metal doc at 8pm, followed by North Carolina heshers Hail!Hornet and Georgian sludge barons Zoroaster.

LIVING ROOM LIVE W Hotel, Monday 30

Downstairs from the Moody, in the hotel's Records Room, a live set from local star cult Cowboy and Indian, with Luis Banuelos spinning first, 8pm.

GREEZY WHEELS Jovita's, Tuesday 31

Revisit the Armadillo's fiddling country roots every Tuesday.

HAR MAR SUPERSTAR RESIDENCY

Mohawk, Wednesday 1
Sean Tillmann's alter R&B sex ego knows Michael Fassbender's Oscar-snubbed Shame — every Wednesday in February.

INDIAN JEWELRY TOUR KICK-OFF ND at 501 Studios, Thursday 2

Houston psych hippies hit the road, seen off by Holy Wave and Hundred Visions.

Friday: The Preservation, Waterloo Records, 5pm; Saturday: Corporate Elvis, the Standoffs, Trailer Space, 7pm; Sunday: Twin Sister, Waterloo Records, 5pm; Thursday: Anthony Green (Circa Survive), Waterloo Records, 5pm; Teenage News, Big Eyes, Trailer Space, 7pm



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THE BEAUMONTS
 JOSH LIGHTNING & THE LONESTAR DRIFTERS
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 & THE WHITE HORSE ORCHESTRA
 MONDAY, JAN. 30
JIM STRINGER & SEAN ORR
 TUESDAY, JAN. 31
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FRI JAN 27
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SAT JAN 28
BUTCH HANCOCK

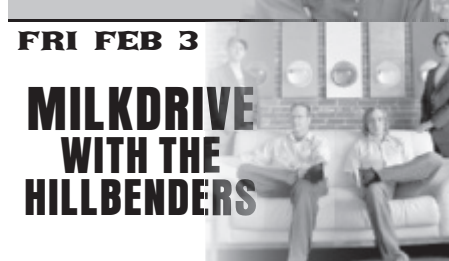
TUE JAN 31
 VIEWS & BREWS: TALKING POLITICS WITH
EVAN SMITH, ROSS RAMSEY, BEN PHILPOTT AND REEVE HAMILTON



WED FEB 1
ELIZABETH COOK
 WITH TIM CARROLL



THU FEB 2
MILES ZUNIGA



FRI FEB 3
MILKDRIVE WITH THE HILLBENDERS



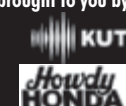
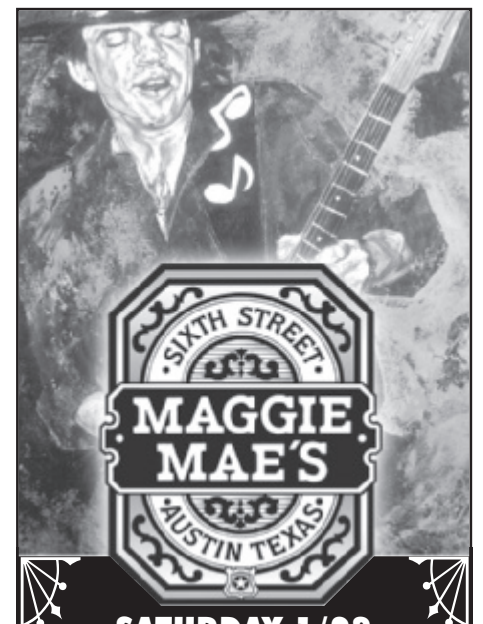
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FRI/JAN.27	BLACK RED BLACK (jazz)	SAT/JAN.28	BLACKBIRD 3 (jazz)
SAT/JAN.28	FLYING BALALAIKA BROTHERS (A Texas Russian two step)	WED/FEB.1	KRIS KIMURA (jazz)
THUR/FEB.2	WARREN & MARSHALL HOOD (Americana)	FRI/FEB.3	VANESSA LIVELY (Latin indie soul)
THUR/FEB.3	CIENFUEGOS (Afro-Cuban)	SAT/FEB.4	MARILYN RUCKER (spicy jazz)
SAT/FEB.4	MARSHALL FORD SWING BAND (swing)	WED/FEB.8	HOT CLUB SODA W/ DANIELLE REICH (smokey cool pop jazz)
THUR/FEB.9	MORENA SOUL (Brazilian)	FRI/FEB.10	JESS KLEIN (indie soul pop)
FRI/FEB.10	DUSTIN WELCH (Americana, newgrass)	SAT/FEB.11	AVA ARENELLA (jazz)
SAT/FEB.11	BETTY SOO (singer-songwriter)	WED/FEB.15	DRY CREEK RAMBLERS (jazzgrass, newgrass)

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FRIDAY FEB 03



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SUZANNA CHOFFEL

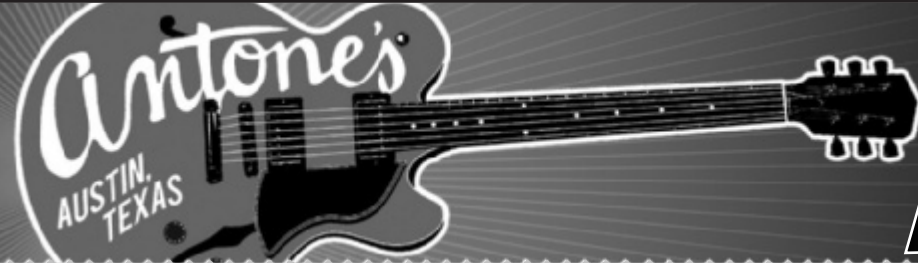
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THE WAKARUSA
MUSIC FESTIVAL

ASHES OF BABYLON
DIMITRI'S ASCENT
HOLDING SPACE
SOUL TRACK
MIND
STRAWBERRY JAM
DOORS: 8PM



FRI 27 JAN

THE GOURDS



THE PRESERVATION SHAKY GRAVES
DOORS: 8PM

SAT 28 JAN

BOB SCHNEIDER



DANNY MALONE NAKIA
DOORS 8:30PM

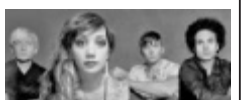
SAT 28 JAN

NOON-4PM FREE!
JamFest

Unsocialized
The Little Galaxy
The Old Theatre Guild
Lithium Sun
Retribution
Jester's Court
The Austenes
Electric Silk
The Others
Playing With Fire

SUN 29 JAN

SODA JERK PRESENTS
ME TALK PRETTY



MADINA LAKE HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS THE YOUNG ELECTRIC
DOORS: 6:30PM

WED 1 FEB

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featuring:
MATT PRYOR (THE GET UP KIDS)
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THU 2 FEB

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UGLY LION AXIS UNITY
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FRI 3 FEB



CORY MORROW
SUZANNA CHOFFEL
DOORS: 8PM

SAT 4 FEB

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JUNIOR BROWN
BILL KIRCHEN DEL-VIPERS
DOORS: 7PM

SUN 5 FEB

TEXAS NORML & EPISODE PHIVE PRESENTS



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TUE 7 FEB

LIVE NATION PRESENTS



MITCHELL DAVIS & KYLE SIBERT OF LIVERLALIVE
MEEKAKITTY NANALEW
DOORS: 6:00PM

TUR 9 FEB

CODY CANADA & THE DEPARTED



STEWART MANN & THE STATESBORO REVUE
DOORS: 8PM

FRI 10 FEB



CAROLYN WONDERLAND
DOORS 7:30PM

FRI 10 FEB

MINOR MISHAP MARCHING BAND:



BALKAN VS. BOLLYWOOD
DOORS: 10PM

SAT 11 FEB

ADAM HOOD



w/ **BRIAN KEANE**
DOORS: 9PM

SUN 12 FEB

Valentine's Eve CONCERT:

FOREVER CHANGES
QUIN GALAVIS
JESS WILLIAMSON
DOORS: 8PM

WED 15 FEB

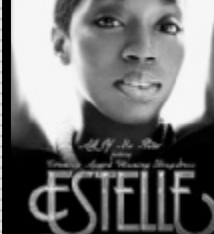
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ERIC JOHNSON JIMMIE VAUGHAN GRADY w/ OMAR DYKES, STEPHEN BARBER, JAKE ANDREWS & JANE BOND

THU 16 FEB

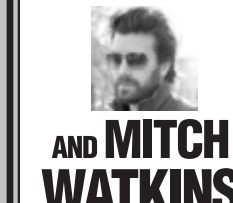
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SAT 18 FEB

BOB SCHNEIDER



AND MITCH WATKINS
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SAT 18 FEB

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02/03: EMO'S PRESENTS WILD CHILD / THE COUCH / THE BAKER FAMILY

02/04: SOLARA'S FLIRTATIOUS FASHION SHOW AND VDAY DANCE PARTY

02/09: THE GASLAMP KILLER (BRAINFEEDEE) / DRAKENSTEIN (BIRD PETERSON) AND APPLIED PRESSURE

02/10: BEN KWELLER AND MORE TBA

02/11: EMO'S PRESENTS YOB / EAGLE CLAW / SKYCRAWLER

02/16: CODES (SLOW ROAST RECORDS) / BRO SAFARI / VEGAS BANGER / LEDOOM

02/17: SCORE MORE + KNUCKLE RUMBLER PRESENT YELAWOLF

02/26: SODA JERK PRESENTS AUTHORITY ZERO / VOODOO GLOW SKULLS / SKYFOX

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EAST DOORS @ 7PM:

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FIRE FROM THE GODS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

EAST DOORS @ 6PM: SODA JERK PRESENTS:

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HIT THE LIGHTS

LIKE MOTHS TO A FLAME

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EAST: RETURN OF THE @\$\$HOLE\$ TOUR:

Z-RO • TRAE THA TRUTH

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

EAST DOORS @ 6PM: SODA JERK PRESENTS:

ATTACK! ATTACK!

THE GHOST INSIDE • SLEEPING WITH SIRENS
CHUNK! NO, CAPTAIN CHUNK! • DREAM ON, DREAMER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

EAST DOORS @ 7PM: SODA JERK PRESENTS:

CHILDREN OF BODOM

ELUVEITIE • REVOCATION

THREAT SIGNAL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

EAST DOORS @ 6:30PM: SYMPHONY X

ICED EARTH • WARBRINGER

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29

EAST DOORS @ 7PM:

SODA JERK AND 101X PRESENT:

DROPKICK MURPHYS

FRANK TURNER &

THE SLEEPING SOULS

TUESDAY, MARCH 20

EAST DOORS @ 6PM:

SODA JERK AND 101X PRESENT:

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA

EVERY TIME I DIE

LETLIVE • OH, SLEEPER

FRIDAY JANUARY 27TH

Theophilus London
WITH
Treasure Fingers
L.A.X.
VEGAS BANGER
RICKEY JEAN FRANCOIS

AT THE BEAUTY BALLROOM
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TIX THRU EMOSAUSTIN.COM

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AFRICA NIGHT

MON 1/30 **MOELLER**
BROTHERS

TUE 1/31 **BLACKBIRDS** 10PM
MOOSE TONGUE
TEXTURE 11:30PM

WED 2/1 **PECOS** 9PM
ST37 10PM

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ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO
2/9 **KEVIN & DUSTIN**
W/ **MICHAEL FRACASSO**
2/9 **BRUCE & KELLY**
ROBISON & WILLIS
IN THE GALLERY

THUR JAN 26
H. H. **PLANET CASPER**
12AM **TWO HOOTS & A HOLLER**
EVE AND THE EXILES 10PM

FRIDAY JAN 27
H. H. 6:30PM **THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS**
WHITE GHOST

SATURDAY JAN 28
9:30PM **SHIVERS**
12AM **FLYING BALALAIKA BROTHERS**
10:30PM **LOW VOLTS**

SUNDAY JAN 29
MATINEE 3PM **EARL POOLE BALL'S**
DOORS 3:30PM **ROCKABILLY BLUZE w/ CASPER RAWLS**
SHOW 3:30PM 12:30AM

MONDAY JAN 30
H. H. **ADAM JOHNSON & THE PAY ME'S** 11:30PM
BOBBY BARE JR.

TUESDAY JAN 31
10PM **LOW VOLTS**
H. H. 6:30PM **TONI PRICE**
12AM **THE COVETERS**
10:30PM **ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO**
AND **THE SENSITIVE BOYS**

WEDNESDAY FEB 1
H. H. **WARREN HOOD & THE GOOD** 12AM
JAMES McMURTRY 10PM
JON DEE GRAHAM

THURSDAY FEB 2
H. H. **PLANET CASPER**
11:15PM **OH NO OH MY**
12:30AM **FRANK MUSTARD PROJECT**
10PM **FRANK SMITH**

FRIDAY FEB 3
H. H. 6:30PM **THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS**
12AM **LIGHTNIN' MALCOLM**
9:30PM **MUDPHONIC**

SATURDAY FEB 4
MATINEE 3PM **EARL POOLE BALL'S**
DOORS 3:30PM **ROCKABILLY BLUZE w/ CASPER RAWLS**
SHOW 3:30PM 12AM **LOST BAYOU RAMBLERS**
10PM **LIGHTNIN' MALCOLM**

SUNDAY FEB 5
7:30PM **HEYBALE WITH REDD VOLKAERT, EARL POOLE BALL PLUS DALLAS WAYNE** 10PM

UPSTAIRS IN THE GALLERY
- THU 10:30 **TAMECA JONES**
8:30 **DENNY FREEMAN**
- FRI - SAT - SUN 10:30
FRI W/ **JOHNNY MOELLER & FROSTY**
FRI **ROBERT KRAFT TRIO**
8:30 **DEREK O'BRIEN & FROSTY**
SAT W/ **MARSHALL HOOD & THE BAD**
SAT 8:30PM **JAKE LANGLEY & KYLE THOMPSON**
SUN W/

ART BY **PEHR SMITH**

GALLERY OPENS AT 8:00PM
SUN 8:30 **JON DEE & FRIEND SHOW**
WITH **WHIT WILLIAMS**
- MON 10:30 **THE LOST COUNTS**
8:30 **BEN LIVINGSTON TRIO**
- TUE 10:30 **THE EPHRAIM OWENS EXPERIENCE**
8:30 **JAMES McMURTRY**
- WED 10:30 **TRUBE, FARRELL & SNIZZ**
8:30 **BUSTAMOVALATORS**

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SOUTH ON RIVERSIDE SOUTH ON RIVERSIDE

SUN JAN 29 **Gospel Silvertones** 11 am
no cover

SUN FEB 5 **The Seekers** 11 am
no cover

MAR 15-17 **Bob Schneider**
Check website for details!!

NORTH ON LAMAR

SUN JAN 29 **AirCargo** 11 am
no cover

WED FEB 1 **Brennen Leigh & Noel McKay** 7 pm
no cover

THE BACKROOM PRESENTS
School Night
SESSIONS
HOSTED BY: JESSIE SCOTT (ALL SHOWS INDOOR)

SUN JAN 29 **Paula Nelson** 9 pm
PNB 8 pm
\$10

MON JAN 30 **Thom Shepherd** 9 pm
Lonesome Heroes 8 pm
\$10

TUE JAN 31 **Lincoln Durham** 9 pm
Javi Garcia 8 pm
\$10

TWO LOCATIONS
3 VENUES

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301 W. RIVERSIDE
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NORTH - OLD No. 1
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512-451-5440

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CLUB LISTINGS

THURSDAY 26

ANTONE'S Strawberry Jam, Soul Track Mind, Holding Space, Dimitri's Ascent, Ashes of Babylon (9:00) **A**

BAT BAR Continuums

BEAUTY BAR DJ Scorpio

BEERLAND Smithers, Slut River, Lola Cola (9:00) **R**

BLIND PIG PUB John Prather (4:30)

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton ♪ (6:00)

CACTUS CAFE Michael Fracasso & Ray Bonneville (8:30) **A**

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Low Victor Echo ♪, Sungod **R**

CENTER FOR MUSIC THERAPY Don Harvey (10:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Australia Day Celebration w/ Karl Morgan (6:30) **A**

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Charlie Shafter, Whiskey Meyers (9:30) **R**

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Amber Lucille ♪ (4:30), Tish & Misbehavin' (8:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Denny Freeman, Tameca Jones (8:30); In the Club: Planet Casper (6:30), Eve & the Exiles, Two Hoots & a Holler (10:00)

DIZZY ROOSTER John Chavez (4:30), Sonny Wolf (8:30)

DOWN UNDER DELI Open Mic w/ Bob Sarnataro ♪

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Devin Preitauer, Lisa Marshall, Emily Gimble (5:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Albanie & Her Fellas (6:00), Brannen Temple Underground (9:30)

FOR YOUR BENEFIT

THU 26
Blues Society Benefit w/ Trimmied & Burning, Miss Julia & the Cruzers, Twilight Trio, **Lucky Lounge**

FRI 27
Present Company Benefit w/ Lost Soul Revue, Present Company Players, **Sahara Lounge**

SAT 28
Day Show for Esme, Barrera Family Benefit w/ Literature, Simple Circuit, December Boys, Ted Leo, Knife in the Water **Berland**
A Night for Esme, Barrera Family Benefit w/ Royal Butchers, the Golden Boys, Ted Leo, the Crack Pipes, **Berland**
UU Austin Benefit w/ Kiya Heartwood, **First Unitarian Universal Church**

SUN 29
Occupy Benefit Comedy w/ Bryan Gutmann, Seth Cockfield, Ramin Nazer, **Hole in the Wall**

ROAD SHOWS

January

THU 26
Ashes of Babylon, Dimitri's Ascent, Antone's Slut River, Beerland Sungod, Carousel Lounge Whiskey Meyers, Cheatham Street Warehouse Navasota String Band, Hole in the Wall Shivery Shakes, Mohawk Boy, the Parish Clicks & Whistles, Morris, Plush Rebecca Loebe, Greg Trooper, Skinny's Ballroom

FRI 27
Vegas Banger, Beauty Ballroom Theophilus London, Beauty Bar Cooper McBean & the Vested Interests, Bernadette's Low Volts, Continental Club Ghost Story, Crypt Creeps, Elysium Badfish, Scotty Don't, Emo's East The Locksmiths, Frontier Bar Bob Cheevers, Hill's Cafe Wild Moccasins, the Parish DJ Slink, Plush Russell Batista Jr., Walter "Wolfman" Washington, Joe Crown Trio, Ruta Maya Ingebrigt Haker Flaten, Skinny's Ballroom

Sundress, Mute Math, Canon Blue, Stubb's Rocket Arms, Shopping for Death, Trophy's

SAT 28
Keb' Mo, Anders Osborne, ACL Live at the Moody Theater Daniel Johnston, Ambitious Orchestra, Beauty Ballroom Ted Leo, Beerland Butch Hancock, Cactus Cafe Wild/Tribe, Angst, Club 1808 Reed Island Rounders, Yuan Li Chang, Dougherty Arts Center August Burns Red, Silverstein, Texas in July, Letlive, Emo's East Rocket Arms, Hole in the Wall +/-, Sam Pluta, Mexican American Cultural Center Bad Weather California, Melogrand, Mohawk The Ataris, Red 7 Buxton, Will Makar & the Red Line, Skinny's Ballroom The Features, Stubb's

SUN 29
Me Talk Pretty, Madina Lake, Hawthorne Heights, Get Scared, the Young Electric, Antone's Reverend Deadeye, Beerland Hail!Hornet, Zoroaster, Dirty Dog Bar Ava Luna, Mohawk Judy Collins, One World Theatre New Soul Invaders, Stubb's

MON 30
Bobby Bare Jr., Low Volts, Continental Club A Lull, Deleted Scenes, Tape Deck Mountain, Mohawk

TUE 31
Encore, Cedar Street Victor Villareal, Mohawk Resin, Plush The Dirty Guv'nahs, Stubb's

WED 1
Matt Pryor, Anthony Raneri, Ace Enders, Chris Conley, Evan Weiss, Antone's Bird Peterson, Beauty Ballroom Animal Train, Beerland Neverwas, Yorba Linda, Hole in the Wall Mighty Renegades, Lucky Lounge Har Mar Superstar, Mohawk

THU 2
Ugly Lion, Antone's Maggie Bennett, Broken Neck Stone Wheels, Cherrywood Coffeehouse Anthony Green, the Dear Hunter, Mohawk Indian Jewelry, ND at 501 Studios Lit Match Klik, Red Eyed Fly Anthony Green, Waterloo Records

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 NUMBER, ACTS, AND START TIMES TO: CLUB LISTINGS, PO BOX 49066, AUSTIN, TX 78765; FAX, 458-6910; PHONE, 454-5766 X159; EMAIL, 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. ANYWHERE YOUR BAND IS MENTIONED, YOUR MUSIC WILL BE FEATURED.



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THURS-SUN., APRIL 19-22, 2012

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TODD PHILLIPS) • JAMES MCMURTRY • STEEP CANYON
RANGERS • SARAH JAROSZ • GAELIC STORM
MARSHALL CRENSHAW • THE BOTTLE ROCKETS
JASON ISBELL & THE 400 UNIT • DALE ANN BRADLEY
WHEELER BROTHERS • PINE LEAF BOYS
AUDIE BLAYLOCK & REDLINE • EILEEN JEWELL
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VINYL AND DIGITAL RECORD RELEASES:



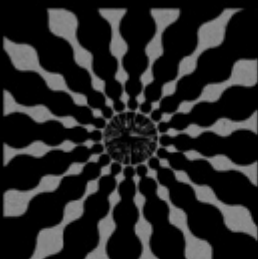
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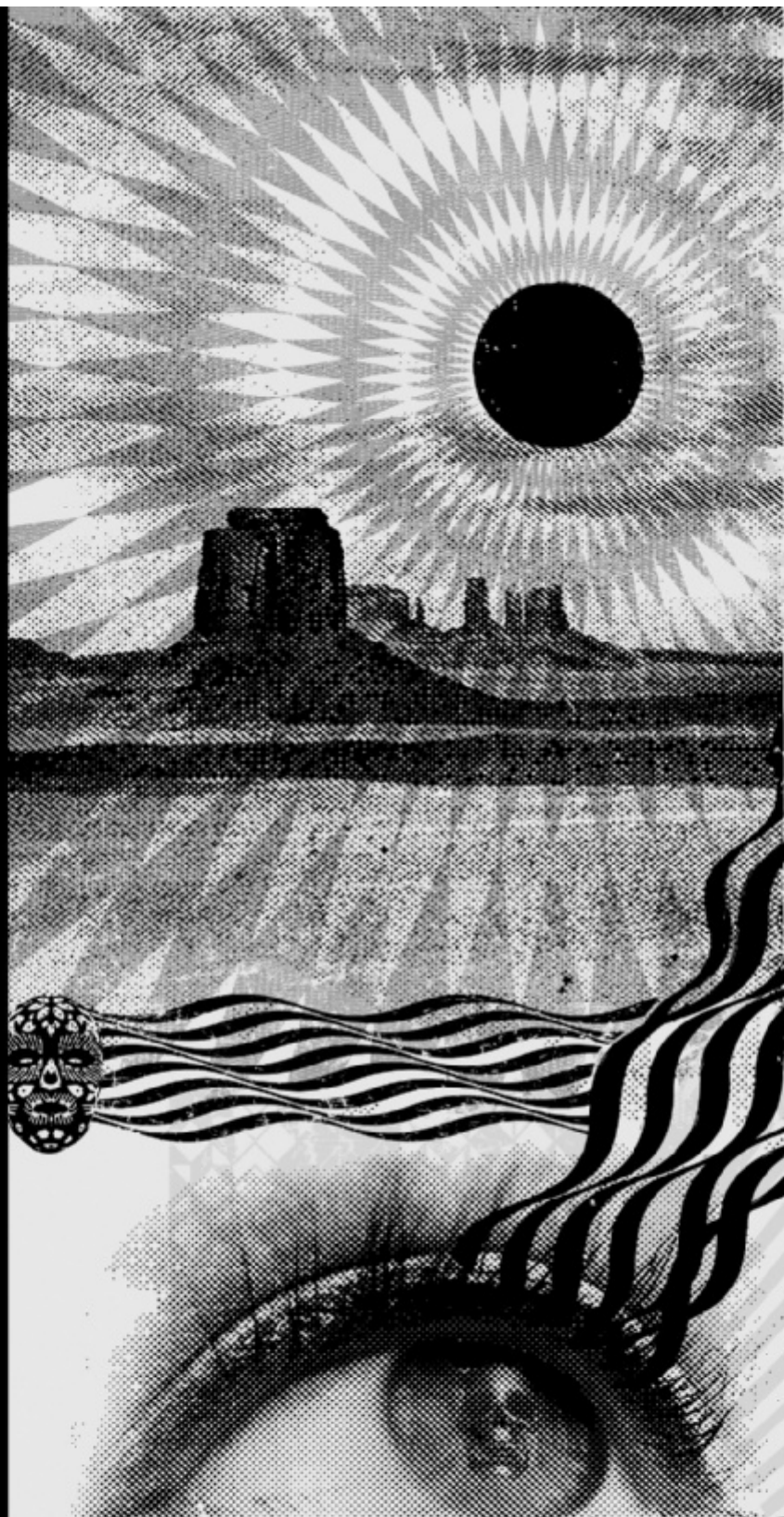
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DEAD MEADOW
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BOMBINO
WOODS DISAPPEARS
THE TELESCOPES
PINK MOUNTAIN TOPS
PEAKING LIGHTS
SUNARAW MOON DUO
PRINCE RAMA PUREX
SLEEP OVER PSYCHIC ILLS
INDIAN JEWELRY QUILT
THE INTELLIGENCE AMEN DUNES
NIGHT BEATS
HEADRESS RINGO DEATHSTARR
SPINDRIFT LOTUS PLAZA
THE UFO CLUB ACID BABY JESUS
CHRISTIAN BLAND & THE REVELATORS
HIGH WOLF ALLAH LAS
FEDERALE QUEST FOR FIRE
M MOSS COSMONAUTS
SMOKE & FEATHERS ORANGE REVIVAL
THE BAND IN HEAVEN THE CUSH

+20 MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON!

AUSTIN PSYCHFEST
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Thu, Jan 26

8:30 CASS BROSTAD
10:00 THE SHADY REST BAND

Fri, Jan 27

FRIDAY NIGHT SUPPER CLUB
7:30 MODERN TRIO WITH DANNY B HARVEY
10 THE SADDLE

Sat, Jan 28

SATURDAY NIGHT SHOWCASE
8:00 DC BLOOM
9:15 DAWN & HAWKES

Sun, Jan 29

7:30 MARSHALL HOOD BAND

Mon, Jan 30

7-9 LISA KETTLE PRESENTS OPEN MIC MONDAYS SIGN UP @ 6:45 PM
9-11 JIMMY PRESTON'S CAVALCADE OF COMEDY

Wed, Feb 1

GIRLS NIGHT OUT
HAPPY HOUR
EVERY WED 3-11

7 PM MODERN TRIO WITH DANNY B HARVEY

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Thursday January 26th

LONESTAR DRIFTERS 10PM
JIMMY & THE LUNAR ROLLERS 8PM
THE TIM CURRY TRIO HAPPY HOUR 4PM

Friday January 27th

9:30 \$5 THE DAMN QUAILS
10:30 \$7 ERIC TESSMER BAND
RUBY DEE & SNAKE HANDLERS 6:30
ASHLEY MONICAL 4PM Saturday January 28th

Sunday January 29th No Cover

TESSY LOU & THE SHOTGUN STARS 4PM
DREW LANDRY 8PM

Monday January 30th No Cover

TEXAS SONGWRITER SHOWCASE 6:30PM
STEAK NIGHT!!
GEORGE ENSLE AND WC JAMESON
BRACKEN HALE 10PM

Tuesday January 31st No Cover

JOHN INMON 8:30PM
BRIAN POUNDS 6:30PM
ERIC TESSMER HAPPY HOUR 4PM
February 1st No Cover
NO BAD DAYS OPEN MIC 7PM WITH BB MORSE

2/3 WILL SEXTON
2/17 DAVID GRISSOM

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 • 7PM
MATT SMITH

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27 • 10PM • \$7
MIKE BARFIELD W/ THE HORTON BROS

MONDAY, JANUARY 30 • 6:30PM
AUSTIN CAJUN ACES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31 • 7PM
BRENNAN LEIGH

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1 • 7PM
TWILIGHT TRIO

THE PEACEMAKERS \$5 10PM

Thanks Austin Chronicle readers for voting us BEST CAJUN/CREOLE

CLUB LISTINGS

FROM THURSDAY

FLAMINGO CANTINA Jeff Lofton's Electric Thang (10:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Derek Evans (6:00) A, D.B. Rouse J, Open Mic w/ Lisa Kettyle (6:00) A

FRIENDS Dive Bar All-Stars (10:30)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Alvin Crow (9:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR The Recuperators (6:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Uncle Lady, Navasota String Band, Whiskey Shivers (10:00) R

HOTEL VEGAS Cari Hutson & Good Company, Mia Borders (9:00)

INTERCONTINENTAL STEPHEN F. AUSTIN Stephen F. Bar: Weldon Henson & Devin Preitauer

JOVITA'S Diana Cantu, Myrna & the Bull Dogs, Conjunto Aztlan, Nick Gaitan & the Umbrella Man (5:00) A

KICK BUTT COFFEE Open Mic (8:00) A

KICK BUTT COFFEE AT THE TRIANGLE New Mystery Girl, Jackson Michael (7:00)

LA PALAPA Johnny Gonzales (7:00)

LOVEJOYS TAPROOM & BREWERY Zero Skills, Whiskey Dick, Black-Eyed Vermillion (9:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00); Blues Society Benefit w/ Trimmed & Burning, Miss Julia & the Cruzers, Twilight Trio (9:00)

MARIA MARIA DJ Blitz (7:00) A

MEAN-EYED CAT The Memphis Strange (8:00)

MOHAWK Shivery Shakes, Franny & Zoe, Electric Touch (9:00) R

ND AT 501 STUDIOS DJ Jah Flex (9:00)

NEWORLELI Austin Poetry Society Open Mic

THE PARISH Halaska J, the Tits, Gogo Beware, Three Leaf J, Final Exam, Boy, 11:11 (6:00) R

PLUSH Anna Love, Brad Hoods, LDFD, Morris, Clicks & Whistles R

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Tim Curry Trio (4:00) A, Jimmy & the Rollers, Lone Star Drifters (8:00) A

RED EYED FLY Black Focus, Brothers in Arms, Cyrios, Laute Leute, Brontosaurus

THE RED ROOSTER Rockin' Steve

RILEY'S TAVERN Mashed Potato Johnson

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Chablis w/ Redd Volkaert, Heybale! (9:00) A

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Earl Poole Ball (6:30)

SAXON PUB Eightysixxed (6:00), Matt the Electrician J, Fast Luke & the Lead Heavy, Damn Quails (8:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Rat Ranch

SKINNY'S BALLROOM Jesse Aycock, Greg Trooper, Rebecca Loebe R

SOLEIL Acoustacafe's John & Brian

SPEAKEASY Tish & Misbehavin' (10:00)

STUBB'S Hello Wheels, the Sour Bridges, Fatback Circus

SWAN DIVE Clyde & Clem's Whiskey Business J

THE THIRSTY NICKEL The Bomb Squad (8:30)

THRICE In the Round: Robert Steel J, Joe Sundell, the Hems

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Greg Enlow, Big Eyes, Teenage News (7:00) A

TRIPLE CROWN Erickson (6:00); Are You Crazy?, Bonsai Nation, Freq 528 (10:00)

29TH STREET BALLROOM DJ James Minor (10:00)

VOLSTEAD LOUNGE Alpha Rev (9:00), The Shake (11:00)

Z'TEJAS The Brew (6:00)

FRIDAY

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (5:00)

ANDERSON MILL TAVERN Stooch

ANTONE'S The Preservation, the Gourds (9:00) A

BEALE STREET TAVERN Oh Snap Festival w/ Snapping Chowsky, Calliope Musicals, the Sweet Nuthin', Owl Face, Space Crazies, Crash Gallery, Noise Revival Orchestra, Burgess Meredith, Megafauna, DJ Orion (4:00) A

BEAUTY BALLROOM Grand Opening w/ Rickey Jean Francois, Vegas Banger, L.A.X., Treasure Fingers, Theophilus London R

BEERLAND A Giant Dog, Tia Carrera (9:00)

BERNADETTE'S Cooper McBean & the Vested Interests, Jimmy-Jean Fontenot, Spider John, Stanley Roy (7:00) R

BLIND PIG PUB John Prather (4:30)

'BOUT TIME DJ Element

BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons, Gary P Nunn (8:00)

CACTUS CAFE Danny Schmidt J, Carrie Elkin (8:30) A

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Militant Babies, Rainbow Dragon, the Strange Attractors (8:00)

CEDAR STREET Trent Durham (6:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Black Red Black (6:30) A

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Lorrie Singer & Bradley Kopp w/ David Webb (6:30) A

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE James McMurtry (9:30)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Mike V. (4:30), Guilty Pleasures (8:30)

CONANS PIZZA Matt "Blue Cat" Ferrel (6:30) A

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Robert Kraft Trio, Mike Flanigin Trio (8:30); In the Club: The Blues Specialists (6:30), Low Volts, Flying Balalaika Brothers J, White Ghost Shivers (9:30) R

DIZZY ROOSTER Aaron Navarro (4:30), The Bomb Squad (8:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mariachi Tamazula (8:00) A

ELEPHANT ROOM The Jitterbug Vipers, Beto y los Fairlans

ELYSIUM Los Bones, Crypt Creeps, Danger Cakes, Ghost Story (8:30) R

EMO'S EAST Scotty Don't, Full Service, Sublime Tribute w/ Badfish (10:00) R A

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs (6:00) A

FRONTIER BAR Higher Than Why, the Locksmiths, the Triggermen J, Betaplayer J (10:00) R

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dane Sterling, Two Hoots & a Holler (6:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Los Flames (6:30)

HAVEN DJ Andrew Parsons (10:00)

HILL'S CAFE Bob Cheevers R A

HOLE IN THE WALL The Fledglings J, the Perilous Tide, Churchwood J (9:00)

HOTEL VEGAS Crooks J, Deadman (10:00)

INTERCONTINENTAL STEPHEN F. AUSTIN Danielle Reich (5:30)

KICK BUTT COFFEE DJ Bee (9:00) A

KICK BUTT COFFEE AT THE TRIANGLE Aiden Mackenzie, Billy Eli, Pinetree (7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE The Raindogs (6:00); Nathan Hubble, DJ Mike Swing (9:00)

LUCY'S RETIRED SURFERS BAR & RESTAURANT George Devore (6:00); Kendall Beard, 3 Cocks & a Box (10:00)

MAGGIE MAE'S Tish & Misbehavin' (10:00)

MARIA MARIA The Brew (9:30) A

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00) A

MEAN-EYED CAT Eagle Eye Williamson (9:00)

ND AT 501 STUDIOS K-NACK @ 20 w/ Seed, bo bud greene, Sincola, Sixteen Deluxe (9:00) A

NEWORLELI Radiola

ONE WORLD THEATRE Christopher Cross (7:00, 9:30) A

THE PARISH Oh Snap Festival w/ Hello Wheels, Les Rav, MaryAnn & the Revival Band J, the Naturals, Wild Moccasins, the Lemurs, Patrice Pike, Mother Falcon, the LaRues, Bus Stop Stallions, T Bird & the Breaks (4:00) R

PLUSH Fiction J, Outlaw, Legit, Cez, Dylan C., DJ Slink R

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Ashley Monical (4:30) A, Ruby Dee & the Snakehandlers J, Damn Quails (6:30) A

POODLE DOG LOUNGE Aaron Tinjum

RATTLE INN Mike Kelly (5:30); Lucas Hudgins (9:30)

RED EYED FLY Wolftrap, Knuckle Sammich, Alex Roxx, Wovie J, Roscoe & the Wildcards

THE RED ROOSTER E.M. Cravens Band

RILEY'S TAVERN Turbo 350

RUTA MAYA The Lost Counts; Joe Krown Trio w/ Walter "Wolfman" Washington, Russell Batiste Jr. (8:00) R A

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Present Company Benefit w/ Lost Soul Revue, Present Company Players (9:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Fossil & the Shrinking Members

SAXON PUB Earl Poole Ball & the Cosmic Americans (6:00), Seth Walker (9:00), Uncle Lucius (11:30)

SKINNY'S BALLROOM Brad Paxton, the Young Mothers, Ingebrigt Haker Flaten CD Release (7:30) R

SPEAKEASY Guilty Pleasures (10:00)

STARDUST CLUB Sam Bentley

STUBB'S Outside: Canon Blue, Mute Math (6:00); Inside Later: Slash Future, Sundress (11:00) R



AUSTIN CITY LIMITS LIVE AT THE MOODY THEATER

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THIS SATURDAY NIGHT ▶

KEB'MO'

w/ ANDERS OSBORNE



SAT, JAN 28

DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE

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special guest YOUTH LAGOON

AUSTIN CITY LIMITS LIVE / FRI, MAY 4
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Gabriel Iglesias
Presents *Stand Up Revolution The Tour*



SAT, FEB 4

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Bob Schneider & The Moonlight Orchestra
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FEB 14

MARTIN SEXTON
w/ Chris Trapper



SAT
FEB 11

TROMBONE SHORTY & ORLEANS AVENUE
w/ THE DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND



FEB 16

Loretta Lynn
w/ Jim Lauderdale



FRI
FEB 17

TOMMY EMMANUEL



FEB 20

SPENDING EVENING IN CONCERT WITH
GLADYS KNIGHT



FRI
MAR 2

GIGANTOUR
MEGADETH
MOTORHEAD
VOLBEAT
LACUNA COIL



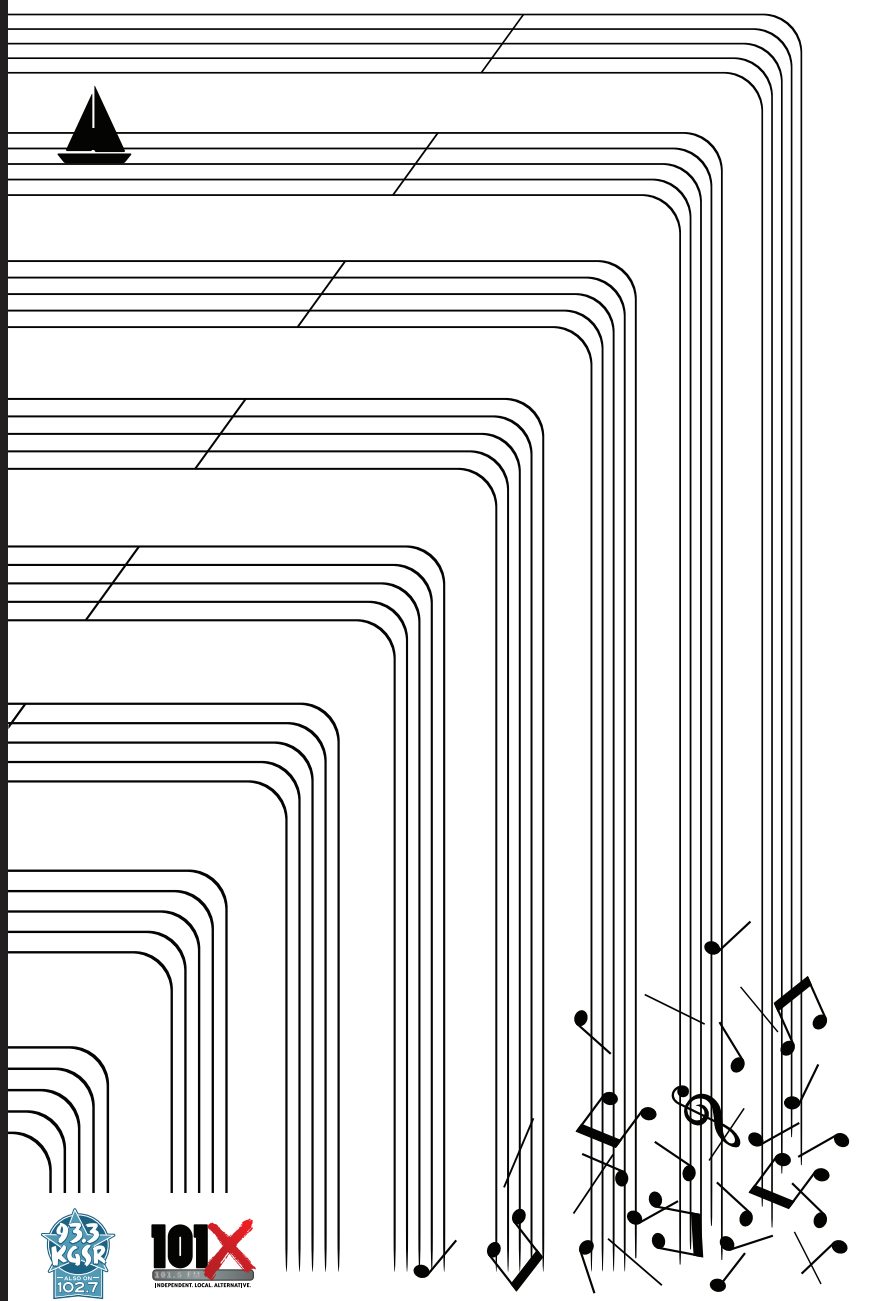
SAT
MAR 3

2012 TRIBUTE TOUR
EXPERIENCE HENDRIX

BILLY COX - THE JIMI HENDRIX EXPERIENCE - BAND OF GYPSYS
DAVID HIDALGO & CESAR ROSAS - LOS LOBOS
JONNY LANG
ERIC JOHNSON
ROBERT RANDOLPH
KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD

DWEEZIL ZAPPA
BRAD WHITFORD - AEROSMITH
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CLUB LISTINGS

FROM FRIDAY

- TEXAS MIST** DJ Joe Hernandez (9:00)
THE THIRTY NICKEL Aaron Navarro (8:30)
THRICE Open Mic w/ Robi Polgar (7:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Joel Hofmann Band (6:00); Stegosaurus Lips, Gravy Brothers, Broken Umbrella Academy (10:00)
TROPHY'S Faceless Preacher, Immerse, Shopping for Death, Rocket Arms (10:00) **R**
VOLSTEAD LOUNGE Manolo Black, DJ Digg, DJ Blend*E
WATERLOO RECORDS The Preservation Vinyl Release (5:00) **A**

SATURDAY

- ACL LIVE AT THE MOODY THEATER** Anders Osborne, Keb' Mo' (6:30) **R**
AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (5:00)
ANDERSON MILL TAVERN Melodic Drifters
ANTONE'S Nakia, Danny Malone, Bob Schneider (9:00) **A**
BEALE STREET TAVERN Oh Snap Festival w/ Gospel & the Wolf, Bridge Farmers, Milk Thistle, Bethany Bauman, Guns of Navarone, 10YR, Parking, Whiskey Shivers, Shakey Graves, Bang Bang Theodores, SuperLiteBike (4:00) **A**
BEAUTY BALLROOM Grand Opening, Elvis & David Bowie Tribute w/ John Wesley Coleman, Mike Weibe, Ambitious Orchestra, Alex Maas, Yvonne Lambert, Daniel Johnston **R**
BEERLAND Day Show for Esme, Barrera Family Benefit w/ Literature, Simple Circuit, December Boys Ted Leo, Knife in the Water(2:00), A Night for Esme, Barrera Family Benefit w/ Royal Butchers, the Golden Boys, Ted Leo, the Crack Pipes (8:00) **R**
'BOU TIME DJ Element (9:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons, the Derailers (8:00)
CACTUS CAFE Butch Hancock (8:30) **R, A**
CAFFE MEDICI Waterloo Trio (noon)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Bill Bailey & the Wild Bunch (7:00)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Flying Balalaika Brothers (6:30) **A**
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Blackbird 3 (6:30) **A**
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Doug Moreland (9:30)
CHUGGIN' MONKEY Widgeon (4:30), Tish & Misbehavin' (8:30)
CLUB 1808 Annex: Dethrone, Angst, Wild/Tribe (9:00) **R**
CLUB DE VILLE Shane Bartell, Nano Whitman, Elliott/Kay (8:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Marshall Hood & the Bads, Mike Flanigin Trio (8:30); In the Club: Earl Poole Ball (3:00), Horton Brothers, the Bellfuries, the Ugly Beats (10:00)
DIZZY ROOSTER Mike V. (4:30), Continuums (8:30)
DOUGHERTY ARTS CENTER Austin Friends of Traditional Midwinter Festival w/ Austin Mandolin Orchestra, Blue Buckskin Whinchers, Yuan Li Chang, Agbadza Sogo, Hem & Haw, Fiddlisa, Third Rail, Good Old Timers, Hays County Girls, Reed Island Rounders (noon) **R**
DOWN UNDER DELI Atomic Cowboy (8:00)
THE DRISKILL HOTEL Patricia G. (8:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Brannen Temple
EMO'S EAST Fire From the Gods, Letlive, Texas in July, Silverstein, August Burns Red (7:00) **R, A**
FADÓ IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT Blaggards (9:30)
FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH UU Austin Benefit w/ Kiya Heartwood (7:00)
FRONTIER BAR Thomas & the People (10:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON The Daliens (9:00)
GÜERO'S TACO BAR Clemencia Trio (6:30)
GYPSY LOUNGE James McMurtry
HIGHLAND MALL Austin Variety Show Anniversary w/ Troy Dillinger, Mistress Stephanie & Her Melodic Cat (8:00)
HILL'S CAFE Arielle Nicole **A**
HOLE IN THE WALL Eons, Rocket Arms, Vultures Kit, Muchos Backflips (9:00) **R**
HOTEL VEGAS Nameless Horses, the Trim, Mudphonic (10:00)
JOVITA'S Lynette Perkins, Rockville Blues Band, Cole Fried Fish, Mad Squirrel (5:00) **A**
KICK BUTT COFFEE Z-Helene Belly Dance, Drumming (8:00) **A**
KICK BUTT COFFEE AT THE TRIANGLE Ben Sands, Trey Hunter, We Paint The Town (7:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Groove Think, E.M. Cravens Band (9:00)
LUCY'S RETIRED SURFERS BAR & RESTAURANT Kurt McMahan (6:00); Baby Atlas, Wisebird (10:00)
MARIA MARIA Pederson Bros. (9:30) **A**
MEAN-EYED CAT Shawn Nelson & the Ramblers (9:00)
MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER AMODA: Matrices & Entropy w/ Line Upon Line, Sam Pluta, +/- (8:00) **R**
MOHAWK Melogrand, Burgess Meredith, Bad Weather California (9:00) **R**
ND AT 501 STUDIOS K-NACK @ 20 w/ Gomez, Bug/Splinter, Wannabes (9:00) **A**
NEWORDELI Mark Viator & Susan Maxey
ONE WORLD THEATRE Walking Woody's Road w/ Terri Hendrix, Slaid Cleaves, Eliza Gilkyson, Jimmy LaFave (7:00, 9:30) **A, R**
THE PARISH Oh Snap Festival w/ Megabig, Stamped Mesa, Neon Cobra, Ghostbunny, Stella Rose, the Shears, Sphynx, Fresh Millions, Little Lo, Ume, Smoke & Feathers (5:00)
PLUSH TMC (10:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Amanda Cevallos, Eric Tessmer (8:00) **A**
RATTLE INN The Smokestack Revue CD Release (9:30)
RED 7 The Stampede, Adam & the Bullshark, Thieves, the Ataris **R**
RED EYED FLY Inside: The Noble Prize, Outside: Common Ground, Shadowdog, Stampede Mesa, the Hang, Skatterbrains
THE RED ROOSTER Lou Dog (9:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN JWW & the Prospectors
THE SAHARA LOUNGE Zoumoundchi
SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Nick Connolly (7:00)
SAXON PUB Malford Milligan (8:00), Patrice Pike (11:00)
SFC FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN Bill Oliver & the Otter Space Band (10:00am)
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS CEDAR PARK Suede (9:00)
SKINNY'S BALLROOM Will Makar & the Red Line, Jack Wilson, Buxton CD Release **R**
SPEAKEASY Dysfunkshun Junkshun (10:00)
STARDUST CLUB Treetop Sailors

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Thu 1/26 **Meggan Carney (11) ★**
Rebecca Loeb (10) ★ Jesse Aycock (9) ★
Greg Trooper (8)

Fri 1/27 (7:30p) **Brad Paxton** (Open mic winner!)
(9p) **Ingebrigt Håker Flaten** (CD release) **★**
The Young Mothers (Jonathan Horne)

Sat 1/28 (8p) **Will Makar & the Red Line**
(10p) **Buxton** (CD release) **★ Jack Wilson**

Sun 1/29 (3-10p) **Weee Fest:**
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THU FEB 9 DOORS 9PM
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FRI 03 FEB **ROYAL FOREST**
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FRI 10 FEB **THE PRESERVATION**
Doors 9:00PM \$6.00 All Ages
SuperLiteBike, The Greatcoats

SAT 11 FEB **THE ALICE ROSE**
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The Pons, Featherface,
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FRI 17 FEB **SORNE**
Doors 9:30PM \$7.00 All Ages
Boyfrndz, Knifight

SAT 18 FEB **WHITEY ON THE MOON**
Doors 9:30PM \$6.00 All Ages
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The Sweetness, Miranda Dawn

FRI 09 MAR **SAMANTHA CRAIN**
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CLUB LISTINGS

FROM SATURDAY

STUBB'S Speak, the Features (10:00) **R**

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Sean Evans (4:30), Guilty Pleasures (9:00)

THRICE Jan Seides **J** (7:00)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS The Standoffs, Corporate Elvis (7:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN Deadtown, Crystal Creek Boys, Ghosts of Texas (10:00)

VOLSTEAD LOUNGE DJ Orion (10:00)

SUNDAY

ANTONE'S The Young Electric, Get Scared, Hawthorne Heights, Madina Lake, Me Talk Pretty (6:30) **R A**

BB ROVERS Open Mic (7:00) **A**

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tunes Session (9:00)

BEERLAND Ghosts of Texas, Reverend Deadeye (9:00) **R**

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Kevin & the Krawlers (8:00)

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (8:00)

CEDAR STREET Much Love (8:00)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Mike V. (4:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Jon Dee Graham & Whit Williams, Mike Flanigin Trio w/ Jake Langley (8:30); In the Club: Junior Brown & Tanya Rae (7:00), Heybale! (10:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00) **A**

DIRTY DOG BAR Slow Southern Steel Screening w/ Zoroaster, Hail!Hornet (8:00) **R**

DIZZY ROOSTER Mylon English (4:30), Jo Hell (9:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Time Out (9:30)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (4:00)

GREEN PASTURES RESTAURANT Jacques Vilmain (11:00am) **A**

GUERO'S TACO BAR Chicken Strut (3:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Occupy Benefit Comedy w/ Bryan Gutmann, Seth Cockfield, Ramin Nazer (9:00)

HOUSE WINE Justin Landers (6:00)

JOVITA'S Fond Kiser, Jerry Sires (6:30) **A**

KICK BUTT COFFEE AT THE TRIANGLE Ted Hall's Blues Church & Jam (8:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Gravelwhip **J** (7:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Quenby & West of Waylon (7:30)

MOHAWK Ava Luna, Twin Sister (6:30) **R**

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00am) **A**

ONE WORLD THEATRE Judy Collins (6:00, 8:30) **R A**

PALMER EVENTS CENTER TXRD All-Scar Army vs. Rhinestone Cowgirls w/ the Gay Sportscasters (7:00) **A**

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Tessy Lou Williams (3:00) **A**

RATTLE INN George Devore (7:00)

RED EYED FLY The Relief, No Holiday, Bear Suit Sucker Punch, Natural

RILEY'S TAVERN The Chickenhaws (4:00)

RUTA MAYA The Que Pastas (10:30am) **A**, Salsa Lessons, Timbas Del Norte (8:00) **A**

SAM'S BBQ Acoustic Open Mic w/ Lili and Walter **J** (2:00)

SAXON PUB Bobby Whitlock & CoCo Carmel, the Resentments, John Evans, Jodi Adair (5:30)

SPEAKEASY Adam Rodgers (10:00)

STUBB'S New Soul Invaders (11:00am) **R**

THRICE Ralph White (noon), Bianca DeLeon (6:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Grant Ewing, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

WATERLOO RECORDS Twin Sister (5:00) **A**

MONDAY

ANTONE'S Austin Blues Society (8:00) **A**

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30) **A**

BAR 141 Robbie's Open Mic (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open Mic (7:00)

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (9:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Grant Ewing

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30) **A**

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Ben Livingston Trio, the Lost Counts (7:00); In the Club: Adam Johnson & the Pay Me's (6:30), Low Volts, Bobby Bare Jr. (10:00) **R**

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No Cover Happy Hour 6PM
EARL POOLE BALL AND THE COSMIC AMERICANS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

Patrice Pike
11PM \$12 Adv/\$15 Day Of

Malford Milligan
8PM \$10 Adv/\$12 Day Of

RICHARD JESSE 6PM \$10 Adv/\$12 Day Of
ROGER LEN SMITH 3PM No Cover
DREW LANDRY 1:30PM No Cover

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

THE RESENTMENTS
with Bruce and Scrappy
Bobby Whitlock & Coco Carmel 5:30PM \$15
John Evans 10:30PM \$5
JODI ADAIR 12:30AM \$5
ERIC LARSON 3PM No Cover

MONDAY, JANUARY 30

LONELYLAND
8:30PM \$10
RAMSAY MIDWOOD 7PM \$10
[jack wilson] 11PM \$5
THE LEAVERS 12:30AM \$5

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31

Bruce Hughes and the All Nude Army 8:30PM \$5
Cari Hutson & Good Company 10:30PM \$5
LISA MARSHALL 12AM \$5
No Cover Happy Hour **David Grissom** 6PM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Walt Wilkins & the Mystiqueros 9PM \$10
Will Makar 11PM \$5
JODI ADAIR 12:30AM \$5
No Cover Happy Hour **The Nortons** 6PM

TELEVISION

Feb 2 - Guy Forsyth
Feb 3 - Omar and the Howlers
Feb 6 - Nelo
Feb 7 - Alpha Rev

Rattle Inn
Featuring **Ray's**
BACKSTAGE
AUSTIN, TX

WEEKLY LINEUP
JAN 27 - FEB 2, 2012
610 NUECES STREET

frt 27 HAPPY HOUR feat. MIKE KELLY {5:30-7:00p} LUCAS HUDGINS {9:30p}

sat 28 SMOKESTACK REVIEW CD RELEASE PARTY {9:30p}

sun 29 RAY'S BACKSTAGE JAM hosted by GEORGE DEVORE {7:00-10:00p}

tue 31 BORDERTOWN BOOTLEGGERS {9:00-11:00p} \$5 cover

thu 02 FREE COUNTRY DANCE LESSONS with PETER TURNER {7:45-8:45p}
HUDSON MOORE {10:30p-12:00a} \$5 cover

NOW OPEN!
M-F 4p-2a Sat-Sun 6p-2a

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26TH W/ BODYTRONIX
10PM FREE
DJs:
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SAMUEL KKLOVEHOOF

SAT
27TH
THUNDERKIEF
RUST 10PM
SWEATLODGE
THE WELL

SAT
28TH
LA MIGRA
PHARAOHS
THE BAD LOVERS
10PM

SUN
29TH
SCREENING
8 PM
FREE
PRESENTS
CINE
SUN
DAYS
THE ROOM

SUN
29TH
You Got Me 51 Drinks
Fs #ked Up till midnight
FREE
ROCK & ROLL DISCO 10PM
w/ DJ TUEEDY + FRIENDS

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WED
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THE POPS 10PM
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ON THE AVENUE
SINCE 1997

THURSDAY 1.26
Tish & the Mizzehaven
Ladies Night
Ladies No Cover | \$5 Martinis

FRIDAY 1.27
GUILTY PLEASURES
Terrace59 | DJ Jericho One

SATURDAY 1.28
DYSFUNKSHUN JUNKSHUN
Terrace59 | DJ KB

SUNDAY 1.29
ADAM RODGERS
on Terrace59
\$12 Domestic Buckets

MONDAY 1.30
CAITIE TAYLOR
on Terrace59
\$12 Domestic Buckets

TUESDAY 1.31
BURN THE FLOOR SALSA
free salsa lessons & dancing
\$4 Margaritas

WEDNESDAY 2.1
3 COCKS AND A BOX
\$5 Titos

THURSDAY 2.2
LUCKY STRIKES
Ladies Night
No Cover | \$5 Martinis

FRIDAY 2.3
THE BOOGIES
Terrace59 | DJ Jericho One

SATURDAY 2.4
SPACE ROCKERS
Terrace59 | DJ KB

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CLUB LISTINGS

FROM MONDAY

DIZZY ROOSTER Tish & Misbehavin' (9:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00, 7:00) **A**
ELEPHANT ROOM Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)
EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces (6:30) **A**
GIDDY UPS Mark Allen Atwood (7:00)
HALCYON World Music Jam w/ Roberto Riggio (10:00) **A**
THE HIGHBALL MatchMaker Band (9:30)
HOLE IN THE WALL John Evans, Mike & the Moonpies **J** (10:00)
KICK BUTT COFFEE Jeff Metil, Girl Parts (7:00) **A**
LA PALAPA Baby Dallas
LUCKY LOUNGE El Valiente, Opposite Day **J** (9:00)
MEAN-EYED CAT Reverend Mudslide (7:30)
MOHAWK Tape Deck Mountain, Deleted Scenes, A Lull (8:00) **R**
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson (8:00) **A**
MUGSHOTS Acoustic Open Mic (8:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Tris & Tes (4:00), Braken Hale, Songwriters Showcase (4:00) **A**
RED EYED FLY Lydia Kolder, Southern Strain, Aurora Belle, Marcus Hearne
ROMEO'S Open Mic w/ Lisa Kettyle (6:45) **A**
THE SAHARA LOUNGE Moeller Bros. (10:00)
SAXON PUB Ramsay Midwood, Lonelyland, Jack Wilson, the Leavers (7:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Brent Michael Wood
SKINNY'S BALLROOM Open Mic w/ Tricky Jones, Amelia Card (7:00)
SPEAKEASY Caitie Taylor (10:00)
THE THIRSTY NICKEL Austin Heat (8:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Samantha Lynn, Chief & the Doomsday Device (6:00)
VICTORY GRILL Open Pro Blues Jam w/ Matthew Robinson, Harold McMillan (9:00)
W HOTEL Records Room: Luis Banuelos, Cowboy & Indian (8:00)

TUESDAY 2.1

ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien (10:30) **A**
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30) **A**
BAT BAR The Bomb Squad
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne Smith (7:00)
BEAUTY BAR Hired Guns, Seven Circles, Borrissokane, El Commode
BLIND PIG PUB Guilty Pleasures
'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (9:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Debra Peters' Accordion Roundup, Weldon Henson (6:00)
CACTUS CAFE Views & Brews: Thelonijs Monk (8:30) **A**
CAROUSEL LOUNGE David Cashwell (7:00)

CELESTINE Much Love, Encore (8:00) **R**
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Tate Mayeux & Broussard, John Evans (9:30)
CHUGGIN' MONKEY John Chavez (4:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: James McMurtry, Ephraim Owens Experience (8:30); In the Club: Toni Price (6:30) **A**, Alejandro Escovedo, the Coveters (10:00)
DIZZY ROOSTER Jonny Gray (4:30), Gary Lee Cox (9:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00), Denny Freeman (9:30)
EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh (7:00) **A**
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (9:00) **A**
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON The Conclusion Jumpers (9:00)
GOGO BAR Guilty Pleasures
HILL'S CAFE Open Mic Night **A**
HOLE IN THE WALL The Happenings, Excited States, Moonlight Towers (10:00)
HOUSE WINE David Webb (8:00)
JOVITA'S Tex Thomas, Greezy Wheels (6:00) **A**
KICK BUTT COFFEE Nostone (7:00) **A**
LA PALAPA Baby Dallas
LUCKY LOUNGE Hunters & Gatherers **J** (9:00)
LUCY'S RETIRED SURFERS BAR & RESTAURANT Song Swap, the Twalls (6:00)
MEAN-EYED CAT Cornbread & Dango (7:30)
MOHAWK My Empty Phantom, Meryll, the Eastern Sea, Victor Villareal (9:00) **R**
PATSY'S CAFE Sand & Sunnie (6:30)
PLUSH JSane, Psydiphects, B1, Resin **R**, Sonar
POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Eric Tessmer (4:00) **A**, Brian Pounds, Jon Inmon (6:30) **A**
RATTLE INN Bordertown Bootleggers **J** (9:00)
RED EYED FLY Cosmic Jaguar
RILEY'S TAVERN Kris Smith
RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00) **A**
THE SAHARA LOUNGE The Blackbirds, Moose Tongue Texture (9:00)
SAXON PUB David Grissom (6:00), Bruce Hughes & the All-Nude Army, Cari Hutson, Lisa Marshall (8:30)
SKINNY'S BALLROOM Bob Hoffnar (7:00), Joe Gee, the Saddle, Jason Ludwig (8:30)
STUBB'S Brother of Pearl, the Dirty Guv'nahs (9:00) **R**
SWAN DIVE Atomic Duo, the Carper Family, Blue Ribbon Healers
THE THIRSTY NICKEL Aaron Navarro (8:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Daniel Driver (6:00); Those Nights, Big Ole Band (9:00)
TROPHY'S Acoustic Open Mic (9:00)
29TH STREET BALLROOM The Lonesome Heroes (10:00)
ZTEJAS Tameca Jones (6:00)

WEDNESDAY 2.1

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (5:00)
ANTONE'S Evan Weiss, Chris Conley, Ace Enders, Anthony Raneri, Matt Pryor (7:00) **R**
BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Baker Street Showcase **A**
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Brooke Avid (10:00)
BEAUTY BALLROOM VJDK, Gigadeath, Ntropy, Bird Peterson, Mustard Pimp **R**
BEERLAND The Millipede, Animal Train (9:00) **R**
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (11:00)
CHUGGIN' MONKEY Mike V. (4:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Bustamoovalators; Trube, Farrell, & Snizz (8:30); In the Club: Warren Hood & the Goods (6:30), Jon Dee Graham (10:00)
DIZZY ROOSTER Mylon English (4:30), The Bomb Squad (9:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Station Masters
THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Bruce Smith (8:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE James Speer (8:00) **A**
ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), Jazzbones w/ Paul Deemer (9:30)
ELYSIUM Mid-Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice, DJ Edminister (8:00)
GIDDY UPS Open Mic (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Robert Banta (9:00)
THE HIGHBALL Black Red Black (10:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL Yorba Linda, Chris McFarland **J**, Neverwas (10:00) **R**
HOTEL VEGAS Tom Waits Hoot w/ Ethan Kennedy, Shane Bartell, Daniel James, Rob Franco (9:00)
JOVITA'S Flounders Without Eyes, Lucky Tomblin (6:00) **A**
LAMBERTS The Jitterbug Vipers (7:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Mighty Renegades, Daniel Lee James (9:00) **R**
MOHAWK Marijuana Deathsquads, Har Mar Superstar (9:00) **R**
NEWORDELHI Claude Butch Morgan
OLD SCHOOL BAR & GRILL Jordan Tanner (10:30)
PLUSH Moral Support, Lotic
POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Thom Shepherd (4:00), Open Mic w/ B.B. Morse (7:00) **A**
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Noah Peterson (9:00)
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
RED EYED FLY The Goddamns, Hundred Watt Three, Evil Come Evil Go, Dead Now Evil
RUTA MAYA Dance Lessons, La Mona Loca (9:00) **A**
THE SAHARA LOUNGE Pecos, ST37 (9:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Blues Jam w/ Breck English (8:40)
SAXON PUB The Nortons (6:00), Walt Wilkins & the Mystiqueros, Will Makar, Jodi Adair (9:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Radioactive
SKINNY'S BALLROOM Tim Curry Trio, Matt Smith's World, LZ Love, John Evans (6:00)
SPEAKEASY Three Cocks & a Box (10:00)
THE THIRSTY NICKEL Stewart Mann (9:00)

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

A ALL AGES VENUE **R** ROADSHOW **★** RECOMMENDED **🎵** HEAR MUSIC ONLINE

CLUB LISTINGS

FROM WEDNESDAY

TRIPLE CROWN Scott Wood & the Kyle Project (6:00); Cody Jasper, Pet Heavies, Groove Think (9:00)
Z'TEJAS Jeff Plankenhorn, Stephen Doster, Bill Carter (6:00)

THURSDAY

ANTONE'S Axis Unity, Ugly Lion, Mike Pinto (9:00) **A**
BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Acoustic Austin **A**
BAT BAR Continuums
BEAUTY BALLROOM 4th Wall, Kid Slyce, BoomBaptist, DJ Hobo D
BEAUTY BAR River Ghost, Major Major Major, Look Mexico
BLIND PIG PUB John Prather (4:30)
BROKEN NECK No Idea Festival w/ Nick Hennies, Chris Cogburn & Maggie Bennett (7:30) **R**
BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton **J** (6:00)
CACTUS CAFE The Band of Heathens (8:30) **A**
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Wahoo Trout (7:00)
CEDAR STREET Jordan Tanner (6:00)
CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE Stone Wheels (7:00) **R** **A**
CHUGGIN' MONKEY Amber Lucille **J** (4:30), Tish & Misbehavin' (8:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Bruce Robison & Kelly Willis, Tameca Jones (8:30); In the Club: Planet Casper (6:30), Frank Smith, the Frank Mustard Project, Oh No Oh My (10:00)

DIZZY ROOSTER John Chavez (4:30), the Bomb Squad (8:30)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Robert Kelley (7:30) **A**
ELEPHANT ROOM Albanie & Her Fellas (6:00), Ephraim Owens Quartet (9:30)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE D.B. Rouse **J**, Open Mic w/ Lisa Kettle (6:00) **A**
FRIENDS Dive Bar All-Stars (10:30)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Alvin Crow (9:00)
GUERO'S TACO BAR Bobby Fuentes (6:30)
HOLE IN THE WALL J. Wesley Haynes Trio **J**, These Mad Dogs of Glory, James Bullard (10:00)
HOTEL VEGAS L. Stadt, Miami Bass, DJ Orion (10:00)
INTERCONTINENTAL STEPHEN F. AUSTIN Stephen F. Bar: Weldon Henson & Devin Preitauer
KICK BUTT COFFEE Open Mic (8:00) **A**
KICK BUTT COFFEE AT THE TRIANGLE Capture the Flag, Just Like Thieves (7:00)
LA PALAPA Johnny Gonzales (7:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00), Juice Box (9:00)
MOHAWK The Dear Hunter, Anthony Green (7:00); Politics, The Authors **J**, Milk Thistle (10:30) **R**
ND AT 501 STUDIOS Hundred Visions, Holy Wave, Indian Jewelry **R**

PLUSH WV, Dylan C., Outlaw, Fiction **J**, FBOM
POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Tim Curry Trio (4:00) **A**
RATTLE INN Dance Lessons, Hudson Moore (10:30)
RED EYED FLY Artificial Earth Machine, DWHB, the Hastronauts, Wes Brooks, Lit Match Clik **R**
REPUBLIC LIVE Dillon Francis
ROMEO'S The Jitterbug Vipers (7:30) **A**
SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Danielle Reich Trio
SAXON PUB Eightysixxed (6:00), Matt the Electrician **J**, South Austin Moonlighters, Fast Luke & the Lead Heavy (8:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Long Reef
SKINNY'S BALLROOM Annabella, Gina Chavez, Amanda Cevallos, Bruce Smith (8:00)
STUBB'S Hour Band **J**, Phranchyze (9:00)
THE THIRSTY NICKEL Sonny Wolf Thieves (8:30)
THRICE Four Pegs & a Pug (8:00)
TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Garrett T. Capps, Bi-Polar Bears, Khridge (7:00) **A**
TRIPLE CROWN Bruce Smith (6:00); Orquesta Ritmo (10:00)
VOLSTEAD LOUNGE The Shake (11:00)
WATERLOO RECORDS Anthony Green (5:00) **R** **A**
Z'TEJAS The Brew (6:00)

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 EARLY SHOW 7:00PM
KELLYE GRAY
SARAH SHARP
GINGER LEIGH

LATE SHOW DOORS 10PM
JEFF LOFTON
 & HIS ELECTRIC THANG

FRIDAY 01.27 *REGGAE/DUB* DOORS 9:00
DUB GIDEON FEAT. **LIKKLE SHANX**
 THE CONTRABANDITS
 2 PIECE

SATURDAY 01.28 *LATIN/CUMBIA/REGGAE* DOORS 9:00
HUERTA CULTURE
 THE BATIKUM
GINA CHAVEZ

WEDNESDAY 02.01 ***REGGAE*** DOORS 8:30
DREADNECK NIGHT: NO COVER
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NEXT WEEK:
 02.02: LOVE. AT THE CANTINA FEAT. ALYSE BLACK, MATT WILSON, GINGER LEIGH: EARLY DOORS -7:00 PM
 02.03: RAIKI'S ALBUM RELEASE PARTY WITH TINCAN PHONE, SHEER KHAN & SPACE CASE
 02.04. ANNUAL BOB MARLEY BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE DON CHANI, THE MAU MAU CHAPLAINS

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THURSDAY (1.26)
 • House of Songs Showcase 6pm
 • Open Mic 8pm

FRIDAY (1.27)
 • Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs 6pm
 • Devin Jake 8pm
 • Gumbo Ce Soir 9pm

SATURDAY (1.28)
 • Joe Sundell 8pm
 • Loose Leaves w/ Grant Cross 9:30pm

SUNDAY (1.29)
 • Bonfire Quartet 9pm

MONDAY (1.30)
 • Bottom Dollar String Band 6pm
 • The Bluegrass Outfit 8pm

TUESDAY (1.31)
 • Erik Hokkanen's Lab 9pm

WEDNESDAY (2.1)
 • Songwriter Series with Lisa Kettle 8pm

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THU, JAN 26 6-8PM **TONY HARRISON**
 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
 9:15PM **JESSE DAYTON**

FRI, JAN 27 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
 9:15PM **GARY P. NUNN**

SAT, JAN 28 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
 9:30PM **THE DERAILERS**

TUE, JAN 31 6-8PM **DEBRA PETERS**
 WITH THE ACCORDION ROUNDUP
 8-12PM **WELDON HENSON**

WED, FEB 1 6-8PM **TJ BONITA**
 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
 9:15PM **CHAPARRAL**
 w/ **JEFF HUGHES**

A ALL AGES VENUE **R** ROADSHOW **★** RECOMMENDED **J** HEAR MUSIC ONLINE

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THU 1/26 6PM
 THE RETURN OF HAPPY HOUR
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IAN MCLAGAN
 & THE BUMP BAND 6PM
 LATER: THE AUSTIN BLUES SOCIETY FUNDRAISER W/ TRIMMED & BURNING MISS JULIA & THE CRUZERS TWILIGHT TRIO 9PM

FRI 1/27 9PM
THE RAIN DOGS 6PM
NATHAN HUBBLE
 LATER DJ MIKE SWING SPINS 'TIL 2AM

SAT 1/28
GROOVE THINK 9PM

SUN 1/29
GRAVELWHIP BAND 9PM

MON 1/30
OPPOSITE DAY
EL VALIENTE 9PM

TUE 1/31
HUNTERS & GATHERERS 9PM

WED 2/1 9PM
DANIEL LEE JAMES BAND
THE MIGHTY RENEGADES

THU 2/2 10PM
 THE RETURN OF HAPPY HOUR
 FEATURING THE 2012 ROCK & ROCK HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE
IAN MCLAGAN
 & THE BUMP BAND 6PM
 LATER: **JUICEBOX** 9PM

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the PARISH
 Thu 1/26 • 8pm

Final Exam • BOY • Three Leaf
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Fri 1/27 • \$20 • 4pm
OH SNAP! FESTIVAL
T-Bird and The Breaks
Mother Falcon w/ The Lemurs
Wild Moccasins • The LaRues

Sat 1/28 • \$20 • 5pm
OH SNAP! FESTIVAL
Ume • Smoke & Feathers, Freshmillions • Little Lo
Shakey Graves
The Shears • Sphynx

Wed 2/1 • 9pm
Sublimate: Ntropy
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 w/ **Buck Nasty • Lab Rat**

UPCOMING
 *2/17 Los Campesinos! W/ Parenthetical Girls (c3concerts.com)
 *2/18 Los Campesinos! W/ Parenthetical Girls (c3concerts.com)
 *4/13 Kina Grannis (Tix on sale Sat 1/28 @10am thru c3concerts.com)

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Why is Tom's Wife Smiling?

And the simple trick he used to help him perform like a 20 year old! Without drugs, pumps, or embarrassing doctor visits.

By, Stefan Rothler; Freelance Health Writer;

If you're like Tom, you know how frustrating it is when you can't "Stand Up" for yourself. Especially in the bedroom! And even though your wife tells you "it's okay" — she secretly wishes you weren't such "a softy". For your sake and hers.



Tom's Story:

Tom M. had a big problem. His love-life was "coming up short". And like a lot of men his age, he had a tough time "performing" in the bedroom.

But Tom's wife was kind. She reassured him with words like "it's no big deal" --- but it really was. So she urged him to get some help. He took her advice...

Tom searched the web for answers, and came up with nothing but scams. Everything he tried failed. He thought about asking his doctor about that well-known "little blue pill". But it was way too expensive (as much as \$30.00 per tablet). Plus, it doesn't work for 32% of all men who try it. And according to its warning labels you could wind up deaf, blind, or even dead! It's just not worth the risk.

The Secret of the Adult Film Industry

And by age 60, you're left with a fraction of the HGH you used to have. The signs of aging become impossible to ignore... narrower shoulders and more weight around the middle... thinner skin that loses elasticity... creases and wrinkles... aching joints and brittle bones... all signs that your body is gradually breaking down.

Add to that, decreased desire and ability and a loss of muscle tone that leads to a dangerous loss of agility and balance. But none of this has to happen...

Secret of The Rich and Famous

As Tom continued his research, he came across something unusual. He read that male actors in the adult film industry use something called "Herbal Virility". Before filming, the actors would pop one of these tiny pills in their mouth --- so when the director yells "action" --- there's always plenty of it!

It's been the secret of adult film producers for years! That's because instead of taking a full-hour for it to work, Herbal Virility starts giving you "solid, long-lasting results" almost immediately after you take it --- no waiting!

Tom was excited to try it. After all, Herbal Virility helped thousands of men get back their confidence in the bedroom. And since its all-natural Herbal Virility is a lot safer than drugs. There are no pumps to hassle with, no embarrassing doctor visits needed and it's surprisingly affordable. Plus, it's based on Nobel prize-winning research...

Here's How It Works:

In 1998, three scientists shared a Nobel Prize for discovering that the chemical compound nitric oxide (or NO) plays a vital role in widening your blood vessels so blood flows more freely... especially in the "intimate areas" of your body.

When you're young, nitric oxide flows abundantly through your body. Unfortunately, as you grow older, your NO production starts to diminish. As a result, so does your love life. That's why Herbal Virility is so important.

Just pop a Herbal Virility into your mouth. Its proprietary formulation has no bitter taste and dissolves quickly into your bloodstream.

Herbal Virility contains all 25 of the most potent natural male enhancement boosters on earth. It helps kick-start your body's natural ability to produce nitric oxide on its own. So you're ready for action when you want it --- and as often as you want it. You'll get a "big boost" of confidence in the bedroom. And your wife will be so excited she may wake up the neighbors!

Rave Reviews Coming in Everyday

Most men, who experience Herbal Virility's firm results, can't get enough of it. Here's what people are saying...

W. Pritchett II of Newport News, VA, tells us; "After I turned 52, I couldn't get it to work. I thought my fun was over. But now, thanks to Herbal Virility I can heat things up in the bedroom anytime I want to." Please send me another 6 month supply!"

Melissa M. of Key Largo, FL reports; "Herbal Virility saved our marriage! What a difference it made in my husband. He's like a new man! All I can say is WOW!."

Not Available in Stores

The demand for Herbal Virility has been overwhelming. And until now, there just wasn't enough of it to go around. That's why the makers of Herbal Virility are limiting its supply to newspaper and magazine readers only.

Herbal Virility is amazing. Men who try it can't seem to get enough. But to really understand why, you have to try it for yourself. That's why the makers of Herbal Virility asked us to "spread the word" by offering our readers a full-month supply, at a super-discounted, "readers only" price.

Try Herbal Virility Risk-Free... with a Limited Time Money-Back Guarantee!

See for yourself. You have time to decide. Here's our guarantee; If Herbal Virility doesn't give you back your desire, your stamina --- and get you "interested" whenever you need it --- you won't have to pay a dime. Either you're absolutely thrilled with Herbal Virility... or you get back every red cent!

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FAST ACTION BONUS #2; Get two FREE red-hot DVDs to help "motivate your performance."

The "Readers Only" price will be available for a limited time only. Please be sure to mention the name of this publication when calling this toll-free number: 1-800-471-6178

Tom Rides Again!

P.S... As for Tom, his love-life has never been better. His confidence has never been higher. And thanks to Herbal Virility, his marriage is the best it's been in years! See what all the fuss is about. Call Now: 1-800-471-6178.

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for more info go to www.herbalvirility.com/free

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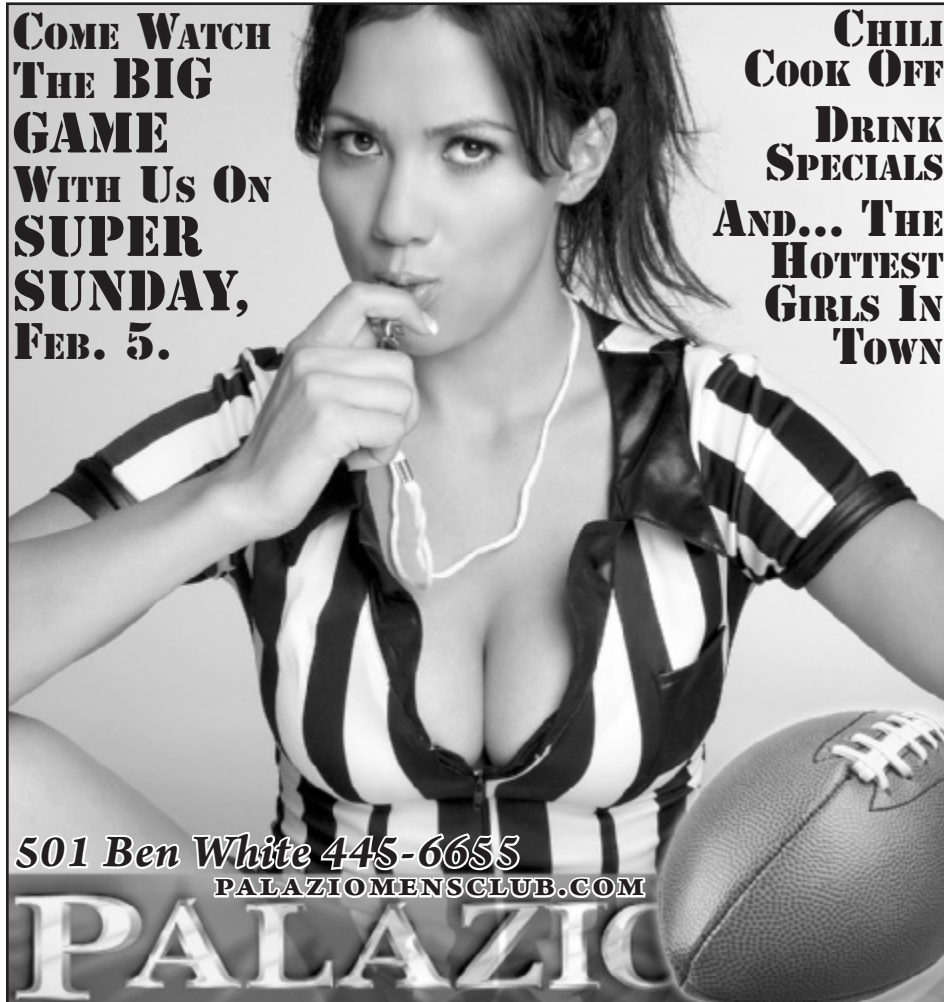
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GREAT LAWN CUPCAKES

Hey y'all, thanks for the extra cupcakes! My dog, son, friend, and I were very thankful. And yes, he DOES have gorgeous blue eyes. Happy birthday to your dog!
When: Sunday, January 22, 2012.
Where: Zilker Great Lawn. **You:** Woman. **Me:** Man. #905491

ANTONES SUNDAY-FLATLANDERS

You: red plaid shirt; prettiest girl there. A ring. But if it's a disguise... Me: Older guy in red behind you. Looking for forever. Your neck muscles are so tight...
When: Sunday, January 22, 2012.
Where: Antones. **You:** Woman. **Me:** Man. #905490

ERIN, BARG, SATURDAY

We talked Burt's mango butter and innocence of children- still think your poncho would look great with my vest. Should have followed when your fritands dragged you away; second chance?
When: Saturday, January 21, 2012.
Where: Bar 96. **You:** Woman. **Me:** Man. #905489

MIET AT PACHA

Wanted to talk more after meeting but you were busy working. We've seen each other at Barbarella and I think you have a great smile. :)
When: Sunday, January 15, 2012.
Where: Pacha. **You:** Woman. **Me:** Man. #905488

SMILE AT LIBRARY

Cute brown haired girl rode bike to the library. Me khaki shorts and blue fleece, shared a smile that made me giddy. Can I try to make you smile again?
When: Friday, January 20, 2012. **Where:** Faulk library. **You:** Woman. **Me:** Man. #905487

CLOWN' AROUND

You - Wearing blue clown suit running amok on 6th; Me - Asked to take a picture with you and accidentally touched a little too low, seltzer and vodka sometime?
When: Saturday, December 17, 2011. **Where:** 6th St.. **You:** Woman. **Me:** Man. #905486

ILUVVIDEO 1/11/2012

~7:00PM
 You said "Hi!" when I entered - ILV's greeter? Leaving, you babbled at my pink leathers and Kawi, I babbled back. Then your buddy dragged you away... Try again?
When: Wednesday, January 11, 2012. **Where:** I Luv Video on Airport. **You:** Man. **Me:** Woman. #905485

KOENIG 2 AM

You offered me a ride while I was walking home alone. Just wanted to say thanks for watching my back.
When: Tuesday, January 10, 2012. **Where:** Koenig. **You:** Woman. **Me:** Woman. #905484

KIM FROM LAKELINE

I'm taking a chance here, hope it's not a mistake. Advice was respect your last text, but I miss you since New Year's Day. Find me at Starbucks or online.
When: Sunday, January 1, 2012. **Where:** The mall. **You:** Woman. **Me:** Man. #905483

SHORTBROWNSWEET AT BOOKPEOPLE

Your effeminate grace juxtaposed with manly stubble made me feel like I was riding a majestic pony. Your name tag said Danny. How about a night together, you hot jalepeno?
When: Monday, January 9, 2012. **Where:** BookPeople. **You:** Man. **Me:** Man. #905481

TATTOOED MUSIC LOVER

You were perusing the music section at Half Price Books at Mopac/Parmer. I was perusing you. You said Hi. I should have said more. Want to meet there next Sunday?
When: Sunday, January 8, 2012. **Where:** Half Price Books. **You:** Man. **Me:** Woman. #905480

The LUV DOC



"Medicine"

Luvdoc,

What does the doctor do to you if you have a hard-on for more than four hours after taking Viagra? And why is a four-hour hard-on a bad thing?

Chuck

It's called priapism, named after Priapus, the Greek god of fertility who had an absurdly large and permanently erect penis. As exciting as it sounds, priapism doesn't make your dick absurdly large. Bummer, right? Seriously - how awesome would it be to

have someone look at your johnson and say, "Dude, that thing is absurdly large. You may need to consult a physician." That is the point at which you say "Right?" and then bump knuckles and blow it up (the knuckles, not your penis). You'll be feeling swell all right ... well, until you develop gangrene and your pecker falls off. OK, here's an important disclaimer: Even though I am a fake doctor, I have to admit I have never seen a gangrenous dick fall off. That was hyperbole. In fact, I have never even seen a gangrenous dick. Color me blessed. To answer your question, however, if I were a real doctor and I were treating someone for priapism, I might give them and ice pack and a pep talk, or perhaps I would inject the affected corpus cavernosum with alpha-agonists ... or, if necessary, surgically insert a shunt, which sounds really nasty (did the doctor just say the "sh" word?) but it's really just an artificial plastic hole to keep your fluids flowing. Yep, that still sounds pretty nasty. If things took a really desperate turn, I might aspirate the penis. Though it sounds pleasant, "aspirate" is actually a tricky doctor term for the process of sucking fluid out with a bigass syringe. If you've ever had a tennis elbow or a trick knee aspirated by a doctor, you know enough to first request a tea glass full of strong whiskey and a leather strap to bite down on. Sounds bad, eh? Well, Chuck, it is. Even if you're having trouble putting together a mental image, rest assured nothing positive comes from any association of the words "needle" and "dick," even and especially if it's what your partner is muttering during sex. Truth is, most people outside the porn industry hadn't even dreamed of a four-hour erection until they heard the disclaimer at the end of erectile dysfunction commercials. They probably hadn't heard the term "anal leakage" either - at least until the advent of fat-free potato chips. The modern world is a scary place, Chuck. Try to keep your dick in your pants.

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COMIX



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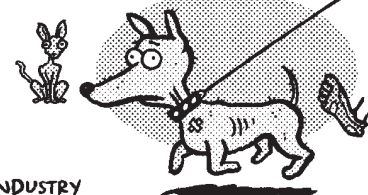
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MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS

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According to historians Walter Schiedel and Steven Friesen, at the height of Ancient Rome in around 150 B.C., the top 1% of Roman society controlled 16% of the wealth, less than half of what today's America's top 1% control.

Artist and muse Rebecca Strand, the wife of early 20th century modernist photographer Paul Strand, was also Georgia O'Keeffe's lover. Her father was Buffalo Bill Cody's business partner.

Wilt Chamberlain accompanied Richard Nixon to the funeral of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Buddy Sorrell, the wisecracking joke writer on *The Dick Van Dyke Show* played by Morey Amsterdam, was based on Mel Brooks.



At left is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or email mrpants@austinchronicle.com.

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EDUCATION cont.

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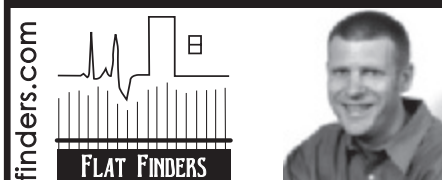
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Ready for move-in!

78704/South Lamar
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Eastside/Riverside
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2/1 \$775.

Zilker Park complete remodel
Price drop! 1 bedroom \$785. 2 bedroom \$1194.
Gas cooking!

Eastside/Manor Rd
Hardwood floors, small courtyard, 1/1 \$699. 2/1 \$809.

Oltorf, New Remodel.
Hardwood floors, stainless appliances, w/d connections 1/1 \$665, 2/1 \$950.

Modern Loft
Stainless appliances, granite counter tops, walk to Whole Foods, 1/1 \$1438, 2/2 \$2973.

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to F-1 Racetrack to open for Nov. 2012 race.
Please contact ccjohnson123@yahoo.com

LEGAL

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

AUSTIN CHRONICLE THE STATE OF TEXAS
 CAUSE NO. D-1-GN-11-003501
 To: MATTHEW GOODESELL D/B/A AUSTIN WELDING Defendant, in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say after before 10 o'clock A.M. of ? Monday the FEBRUARY 13, 2012, and answer the PLAINTIFF'S FIRST AMENDED PETITION AND REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE OF Plaintiff(s) filed in the 126TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Travis County, Texas, on DECEMBER 28, 2011, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number D-1-GN-11-003501, in which JIM THOMPSON D/B/A ALL AMERICAN ELECTRIC Plaintiff(s), and MATTHEW GOODESELL D/B/A AUSTIN WELDING AND GREATER AUSTIN MERCHANTS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION Defendant(s), the nature of which said suit is as follows: 10.155 ACT OF K SUBD PLUS .425AC OF VAC STREET ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S FIRST AMENDED ORIGINAL PETITION AND REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 28, 2011. AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
 Travis County District Clerk Travis County Courthouse 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. BOX 679003 (78767) Austin, Texas 78701
 PREPARED BY: JACKSON LA SHAY
 REQUESTED BY: WILLIAM B GAMMON 2525 WALLINGWOOD DR., STE. 600 AUSTIN, TX 78746
 BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 472-8909
 FAX: (888) 545-4279

CITATION BY PUBLICATION AUSTIN CHRONICLE THE STATE OF TEXAS
 To: RAFAEL CARBAJAL BENITEZ 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 citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, the same being MONDAY, March 5, 2012, a default judgment may be taken against you.
 CAUSE NUMBER: C-1-CV-11-008864, filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW #1
 P DICKERT VS R C BENITEZ Filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW #1 (Travis County Courthouse, corner of Tenth Street and Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas) on August 24, 2011. STYLED: P DICKERT VS R C BENITEZ
 NATURE OF SUIT: Personal Injury, Motor Vehicle
 Given under my hand and seal of Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk on January 18, 2012.
 County Clerk, Travis County, Texas
 P.O. BOX 149325, Austin, Texas 78714-9325
 By Deputy: /s/ KIMBERLIE SLADE
 Plaintiff Attorney: ASPEN JAMES DUNAWAY 1411 WEST AVENUE, SUITE 100 AUSTIN, TX 78701

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO. D-1-FM-12-000116
 To: JAIME ESTRADA and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.
 YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 345TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the PETITION FOR DIVORCE AND TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER filed in said court on JANUARY 6, 2012, and said suit being number D-1-FM-12-000116 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF CARMEN ESTRADA and JAIME ESTRADA, and in the Interest of JAIME JESUS ESTRADA AND LUCINA ESTRADA, CHILDREN".
 The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties, appoint managing and possessory conservators, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.
 The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILDREN's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILDREN's adoption.
 Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, January 09, 2012.
 AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
 Travis County District Clerk Travis County Courthouse 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767) Austin, Texas 78701
 By /s/ IRENE SILVA, Deputy REQUESTED BY: CARMEN ESTRADA 4320 CONGRESS AVE #9104 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78745

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO. D-1-FM-12-000357
 To: TINA LACHAE DAVIS and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.
 YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 201ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP OF LATASHA N. OCHILTREE Petitioner(s), filed in said court on JANUARY 19, 2012, against TINA LACHAE DAVIS Respondent(s), and said suit being number D-1-FM-12-000357 the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF HARMONEY UNIQUE JULY, A CHILD", the nature of which suit is a request PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP.
 The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest

which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.
 Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, January 19, 2012.
 AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
 Travis County District Clerk Travis County Courthouse 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767) Austin, Texas 78701
 By /s/ JAMES FERRELL, Deputy
 REQUESTED BY: LATASHA N. OCHILTREE 2504 NEW YORK DR APT 106 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78702 (512) 522-2751

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO. D-1-FM-11-006952
 To: ADRIAN HAMILTON AND UNKNOWN FATHER ME/AISHA RICHQUAL LANDRUM and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.
 YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 201ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the FIRST AMENDED PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP AND TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER OF LYNDIA K. WHITE AND JOHN W. WHITE, SR. Petitioner(s), filed in said court on JANUARY 17, 2012, against ADRIAN HAMILTON AND UNKNOWN FATHER OF ME/AISHA RICHQUAL LANDRUM Respondent(s), and said suit being entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF DE'VONTAE LANDRUM, ME/AISHA LANDRUM, CHILDREN" and nature of which suit is a request CONSERVATORSHIP.
 The Name, Birth date, and Place of Birth of said is as follows:
 DE'VONTAE LANDRUM 06/21/1995
 TRAVIS COUNTY
 ME/AISHA LANDRUM 09/29/2000
 TRAVIS COUNTY
 The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.
 Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, January 18, 2012.
 AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
 Travis County District Clerk Travis County Courthouse 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767) Austin, Texas 78701
 By /s/ NIKKI MITCHELL, Deputy REQUESTED BY: LYNDIA K. WHITE AND JOHN W. WHITE, SR. 1658 RUTLAND DRIVE #57 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78758

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF MARK LEO ROBINSON JR Deceased, No. C-1-PB-12-000103
 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.
 CHERYL V ROBINSON alleged heir(s) at la in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on January 19, 2012, an

Application to Determine Heirship AND APPLICATION FOR LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said MARK LEO ROBINSON JR, 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 January 19, 2012.
 Dana DeBeauvoir County Clerk, Travis County, Texas
 P.O. BOX 149325 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
 By Deputy: /s/ D. MENDEZ

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL HENDRICK WISE Deceased, No. C-1-PB-12-000052
 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.
 CAROL R GROSS The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on January 12, 2012, an Application to Determine Heirship & to issue Letters of Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said MICHAEL HENDRICK WISE, 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 January 12, 2012.
 Dana DeBeauvoir County Clerk, Travis County, Texas
 P.O. BOX 149325 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
 By Deputy: /s/ M. LIMON

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO FAYAD S ISBER and TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF LYDIA I DUKE Deceased, No. C-1-PB-11-001079
 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.
 LYNDIA LANDA VIOLA and LAURA LANDA HELTON and all The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on January 11, 2012, an Amended Application to Determine Heirship and Letters of Dependent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said LYDIA I DUKE, 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 dat 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 January 19, 2012.
 Dana DeBeauvoir County Clerk, Travis County, Texas
 P.O. BOX 149325 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
 By Deputy: /s/ O. RUIZ

CONSTABLE'S SALE Under and by virtue of a Writ of Execution issued on the 16 day of December, 2011 in Cause Number 339164 by the Bexar County Court at Law #7 in favor of DODEKA LLC, Plaintiffs, recovered a judgment against: JEANNETTE GRANDSTAFF, Defendant(s); **TWELVE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE AND 29/100 DOLLARS (\$12,725.29)**
 Together with the sum of SIX HUNDRED AND THREE IN COURT Cost(s) as taxed on said Writ Execution, and the further cost of executing the same, I have levied on the 17th day of January, 2012 and will offer for sale and sell on the 6th day of March, 2012 and will offer for sale and sell on the 6th day of March, 2012 same being the 6th day of March, 2012 at the steps of the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, of Travis County, in the City of Austin, Texas, between the hours of Ten O'clock A.M. > and Four O'clock P.M. and any and all right, title, and interest and claim which the said Defendant(s) JEANNETTE GRANDSTAFF had of, in or to the following described Real Property situated in Travis County, Texas viz:
 LOT 1125 LAGO VISTA ESTATES SEC 4 A/K/A 20613 AGARITA DR, LAGO VISTA, TEXAS 78645
REAL PROPERTY RECORDED AS DOCUMENT 179465
 The above sale to be made by me is to satisfy the above described judgment, together with the costs of said Writ of Execution, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.
 RICHARD McCAIN, Constable Precinct Three, Travis County, Texas
 By Deputy: /s/ Mike Schnautz, Deputy #314
 NOTE: On the property sold there are no warranties, expressed or implied, including but not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. You have bought the property "AS IS". Buyers are further advised that the purchase of the property at the Constable's Sale may not extinguish any liens or security interest on or in the property described. You have simply purchased whatever interest the Defendant(s) had in the property. If you have any questions, you should consult legal counsel.
 The purchase will be required to produce an unexpired written statement from the Travis County Tax-Assessor Collector that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed the county, school district or municipality, respectively.

D-1-GV-10-001369 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE OF a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126TH District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2011 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-10-001369, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and Richard Davis and Frost National Bank (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$3,022.83 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 11, 2011.
 I, on the 30th day of December, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2012 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:
Lot 8012, Bar-K Ranches Plat 8, Plat No. 58/71, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in document number 2005094062 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.
 THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$3,022.83 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.
 Witness my hand this 30th day

D-1-GV-00-003182 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE OF a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 33RD District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2011 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-00-003182, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health are plaintiffs, and Stanley C. Lobianco, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns & successors of the Estate of Stanley C. LoBianco are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for

the sum of \$11,045.54 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53RD District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 12, 2011.
 I, on the 30th day of December, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2012 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:
Lot 5030, Highland Lake Estates, Section 5, Plat No. 51/75, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 6250, Page 1928 and Volume 6637, Page 1917 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.
 THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$11,045.54 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.
 Witness my hand this 30th day of December, 2011.
 BRUCE ELFANT, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
 BY /s/ G.L. Blaylock DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.
 YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-302541 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE OF a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of December, 2011 in a certain cause numbered GV-302541, wherein Austin Community College, Leander Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Sally Finley Cox, Peggy Jean Marbut (In Rem Only), if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Peggy Jean Marbut and State of Texas/ Bond Forfeiture Section (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$15,872.40 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 22, 2011.
 I, on the 30th day of December, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2012 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:
Lot 14-4, Leander Hills, Plat No. 83/109A as described in document number 2004142583 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.
 THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$15,872.40 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.
 Witness my hand this 30th day of December, 2011.
 BRUCE ELFANT, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
 BY /s/ G.L. Blaylock DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.
 YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE

simply purchasing whatever interest the Defendant(s) had in the property. If you have any questions, you should consult legal counsel.
 The purchase will be required to produce an unexpired written statement from the Travis County Tax-Assessor Collector that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed the county, school district or municipality, respectively.

of December, 2011.
 BRUCE ELFANT, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
 BY /s/ G.L. Blaylock DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.
 YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-302541 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE OF a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of December, 2011 in a certain cause numbered GV-302541, wherein Austin Community College, Leander Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Sally Finley Cox, Peggy Jean Marbut (In Rem Only), if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Peggy Jean Marbut and State of Texas/ Bond Forfeiture Section (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$15,872.40 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 22, 2011.
 I, on the 30th day of December, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2012 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:
Lot 14-4, Leander Hills, Plat No. 83/109A as described in document number 2004142583 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.
 THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$15,872.40 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.
 Witness my hand this 30th day of December, 2011.
 BRUCE ELFANT, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
 BY /s/ G.L. Blaylock DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.
 YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE

simply purchasing whatever interest the Defendant(s) had in the property. If you have any questions, you should consult legal counsel.
 The purchase will be required to produce an unexpired written statement from the Travis County Tax-Assessor Collector that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed the county, school district or municipality, respectively.

Pet of the Week

ROXIE

Do you like Border Collies? Well, here I am, Roxie, a real beauty. I'm tan and white with big brown eyes that melt hearts! I am housetrained, crate trained, and ready for my forever home. Are you ready for me?



124 W. Anderson Ln. 512/646-7387 ext.105

LADY BUG

Lady Bug is an adorable Schnauzer/Pug mix. She is very playful, and is particularly fond of her squeaky toys. She gets along great with other dogs and kids. Come meet this little charmer and she just might steal your heart!



260-SPCA CALL FOR HOURS
909 S. BAGDAD RD., LEANDER, TX
CENTRALTEXASSPCA.COM



the COMMON LAW
by Luke Ellis will return on the
FIRST THURSDAY of EVERY MONTH

Until then, here's an *uncommon law* that you may need to be aware of:

In Vermont, you can be fined if your pig runs in a public park without the permission of a selectman.

AV0222 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

**FEBRUARY 22, 2012 @ 9:30 AM @
SOUTHSIDE WRECKER, 8200 S.
CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX 78745**

1250025571992 OLDS 4DR CWF930 TX 1G3AL54N9N6325572

1250025631995 CHEV VV 7HMD85 TX 1GCEG25K5SF224775

LEGAL cont.

SIMPLY PURCHASING WHAT-EVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF PERRY COUNTY, TENNESSEE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES, Petitioner, v. DENISE BAKER
334 Flatwoods School Road Linden, TN 37096
SAMANTHA SPENCER
Austin, TX
JOHN T. ROGERS
San Angelo, TX
Respondents.

IN THE MATTER OF: TABOR L. SPENCER, DOB 7-11-2000 UNDER EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE ORDER FOR PUBLICATION No. 2011-JV-86

It appearing to the Court from the sworn allegations of the Petition and the Affidavit of Diligent Search that the whereabouts of the Respondents Samantha Spencer and John T. Rogers are unknown and cannot be ascertained with reasonable diligence it is therefore **ORDERED** that Respondent Samantha Spencer be served by publication of the following notice for four (4) consecutive weeks in the Austin Chronicle, a newspaper of general circulation published in Austin, Texas, and that a summons and copy of the petition be mailed to her at her last known address of 1505 Sunnyvale St., Apt. 208, Austin, TX 76901.

It is further **ORDERED** that if Respondents do not enter an appearance or otherwise answer the petition, further personal service or service by further publication shall be dispensed with and service of any future notices, motions, orders or other legal documents in this matter may be made upon Respondents by filing the same with the Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Perry County, Tennessee.

NOTICE Samantha Spencer John T. Rogers:

The State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services, has filed a petition seeking temporary legal custody of your child due to neglect, dependency or abuse. You are hereby **ORDERED** to appear for trial on that petition on March 20, 2012, at 1:30 at the Perry County Juvenile Court, Perry County Court House, Linden, TN or to otherwise enter an appearance in this matter. If you fail to do so, an order may be entered against you for the relief requested in the petition. You may view and obtain a copy of the petition and any other subsequently filed legal documents in the Juvenile Court Clerk's Office at the address shown above. ENTER this the 10th day of January, 2012.

/s/ Kimberly M. Hinson
NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 30 DAYS.
GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTHSIDE WRECKER, 8200 S CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX. 78745.
2004 SUPERIOR BROOM SWEEPER 804137
2010 TRAILER NO VIN NO LP

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following

vehicles will be sold at a public sale if not claimed within 15 days.
Garagekeeper:
Big A Vehicle Transport
907 McPhaul St.
Austin, TX 78758
(512) 873-7899
1999 Trailmobile Trailer
1PT01JAH4X6012814, chgs, \$824.75; 1997 Dodge
4B3AU52N8VE054686, chgs. \$524.75; 2004 Chevy PU
1GCEC14V44E297761, chgs. \$524.75; 1969 VW 1102419525, chgs. \$214.95; Trailer 3628, chgs. \$214.95

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicles will be sold at a public sale if not claimed within 30 days. The failure of the owner or lienholder to claim the vehicle within 30 days is a waiver of all rights, title, and interest in the vehicle, and a consent to the sale of the vehicle at a public sale.
Garagekeeper:
Big A Vehicle Transport
907 McPhaul St.
Austin, TX 78758
TDLR VSF Lic. NO. 0584855
2000 Olds 1G3WH-52HXF200427, chgs. \$1412.40; 1957 Chevy VB57S220571, chgs. \$1412.40; 1995 Lincoln 1LNLM83W7S91415, chgs. \$1412.40; 2001 Ford 1FAFP565X1A149450, chgs. \$1412.40

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien. **Sale is 12:30pm, February 6, 2012.** Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash at the time of auction. Cleanup and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves right to withdraw property from sale or not accept any bidder. Property will be sold in entire contents of each individual storage unit. Property includes contents of spaces of following tenants: Andrew Adair, Josepha Gonzalez, Benjamin Lyon, Charles Sanders, James Green, Jeremy Crow. Property being sold includes the following: Welder, generator, tools, bedroom and living room furniture, insulation, vacuum cleaner, toys, dEcor, dishes, shoes, TV, freezer, lawn mower, fertilizer, rugs, fish tank.
Contact Lockaway Storage
9910 Slaughter Creek Dr., Austin, TX, 78748. 512-282-7807

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE PS Orangeco, Inc. hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's Lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, **NO CHECKS**, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 15th of February 2012 on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE.**
Wednesday, February 15, 2012.
9:00 a.m. Public Storage @9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, TX 78748
0006 - Avalon, Joseph Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Tools
0079 - noyolo, sergio Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 0196 - Sturdivant, Ryne Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers
0237 - Poston, Cheronda Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
0404 n DAVIS, ELAINE Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics /

Computers; Furniture 0586 - Conley, Diana Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools
7:30a.m. Public Storage @ 7200 S 1st Street, Austin, TX 78745
A002 - gamez, jimmy Bedding / Clothing; Books / Files / Cabinets; Furniture; Tools
A016 - Lopez, Michael Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Toys
D114 - Perez, Glynis Books / Files / Cabinets; Furniture
F171 - Sanders, Autumn Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Tools; Toys
H229 - Pruneda, Summer Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Toys
J277 - Stair, Aaron Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools
K314 - MORENO, TOMAS SELVERA Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
L327 - Seligman, Zach Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
N425 - Chinni, Stacie Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
O402 - Tarlton, Dana Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
Q494 - galloway, lisa Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes
S568 - Daniel, Joy Boxes / Bags / Totes
U645 - Blocker, Sally Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
V699 - aguilair, alexandro Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers
V766 - Harris, Meredith Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
W786 - Alfaro, Lisbeth Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
W87 - Glynn, Amy Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
10:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 7112 S Congress, Austin, TX 78745
B16 - Rodgers, John Sebastian Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
E43 - mcvey, darwyn Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
F38 - Martinez, Ernest Boxes / Bags / Totes
H11 - Hogans, Bryon Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
H24 - delacruz, angelica Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools; Toys
J34 - Morriss, Kasi Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
J55 - Gonzalez, Lucy Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
K16 - Adami, Rita Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Books / Files / Cabinets; Furniture
M76 - Loera, Gabriel Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Furniture
11:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 4202 Santiago, Austin, TX 78745
105 - Washington, Harris Electronics / Computers; Furniture
330 - Blanken, Joe Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools
530 - Del Balle, Yessica Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers
549 - Vale, Amber Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
610 - Blanken, Joe Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools
661 - Quiroz, Fabiola Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
682 - Breaux, Bryan Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture;

Toys
713 - Johnson, Nedra Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
12:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 2301 E Ben White, Austin, TX 78741
1046 - Harris, Christopher Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
1064 - Orta, Monica Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Books / Files / Cabinets; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Tools; Woodard, Michael Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools
2024 - Torrez, Epimenio Boxes / Bags / Totes
2066 - Soto, Fabian Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools
2072 - Archbold, Olivia Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Books / Files / Cabinets; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Toys
2186 - Brown, Courtney Dee Boxes / Bags / Totes
3074 - Martinez, Amy Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
3114 - Deleon, Samantha Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools
3121 - Goni Jr, Manuel Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
3177 - Cardenas, Terry Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
3055 n Shaw, Tiffany Boxes / Bags / Totes;
1:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 5016 E Ben White, Austin, TX 78741
B044 - Hollingsworth, Amelia Appliances; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
B045 - Perez, Oscar Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Toys
C027 - Antunez, Fanny Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Tools
C028 - Sustaita, Rebekah Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
C030 - Hill, Kandis Tools
C076 - Cisneros, Jessica Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
C114 - Salazar, Maria Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
C323 - Cantu, Richard Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
D004 - Rivera, Angelica Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
2:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 2121 S IH 35, Austin, TX 78741
1041 - Rivera, Delia Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools
2019 - CLIFFORD, Sharon Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
3008 - Ruiz, Javier Boxes / Bags / Totes
3138 - Limuel, Cody Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
3:00 p.m. Public Storage @ 1213 W. 6th Street, Austin, TX 78703
1035 - Padda, Donny Navneet Boxes / Bags / Totes
2113 - Ferguson, Mark Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Tools
3:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 3911 RR FM 620 S, Bee Cave Road Austin, TX 78739
1002 - Leverett, James Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture
1204 - Jonardi, Lara Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
1226 - Sanchez, Joseph Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture
1271 - Spears, James Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, BEN WHITE MINI STORAGE located at 405 E. BEN WHITE BLVD, AUSTIN, TX 78704, POND SPRINGS MINI STORAGE located at 13444 POND SPRINGS ROAD, AUSTIN, TX 78729 and MOPAC SELF STORAGE located at 12900 N. MOPAC, AUSTIN, TX 78727 will hold a public auction of property to satisfy a landlord's lien. Auction to begin at 10:00 A.M. Tuesday, FEBRUARY 28, 2012 at BEN WHITE and then to proceed in the following order: POND SPRINGS MINI STORAGE. Then to be followed by an auction at MOPAC SELF STORAGE. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Property in each space may be sold item by item, in batches, or by the space. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following: BEN WHITE MINI STORAGE - Ravina Martinez, Cynthia Valadez, Thomas Mauterer, Lawrence Slater, Pedro Aguilarsapon, Sherry Taylor, Ronald Houseman, Rudy Hernandez, Rick Richards, Jeremiah Wells, Cynthia Olazaran
POND SPRINGS MINI STORAGE - Jill Vanreenen, Thomas White, Kathleen Harman, Justin Kessler, Austin Randall, Penelope Stevens, Brenda Garzon, Dylan Jones, Jose Lopez, Jose Cuevas, Reese Herd, Tina Miller, John Preston, Brenda Martinez, Janet Varela, Debra Neely
MOPAC SELF STORAGE - Linda Villela, Cynthia Smith, Edward & Mary Smith, Scott Unzicker, John Woodard, Trim by Kirk, Michael L. Harvey, Adam Lavergne
SALE ITEMS INCLUDE: Toy box, tables, chairs, sports equipment, couches, furniture, bikes, china cabinet, dishwasher, washer dryer, TV's, computer, poker table, golf clubs, concrete tools, amplifiers, speakers, commercial heaters, work bench, ladders, all kinds of misc. items.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, Compass Van Lines of Austin will hold a public auction of personal property at 9201 Brown Lane, Suite 150, Austin, TX 78754 to satisfy a landlord's lien. **Sale will begin at 10am on Feb 15, 2012.** Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Property of five tenants will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Property includes household goods comprising of household furniture, massage table, electronics, and household appliances of the following previous tenants: Lu Flowers, Meredith Blevans, Shamara Flora, James Dudley, and Jamie Giddings. Cleanup w/Removal deposit is required.

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY State of Texas County of Travis Cause: D1GN06001892 By virtue of an Order of Sale issued by the clerk of the District Court 53 Court of TRAVIS COUNTY, Texas, December 29, 2011, in cause numbered D1GN06001892-2, styled WORLD SAVINGS BANK FSB versus VIOLETTA HENNESSEY AND THE VILLAS ON TRAVIS CONDOMINIUM OWNERS ASSOC. on a judgment rendered against VIOLETTA HENNESSEY AND THE VILLAS ON THE TRAVIS CONDOMINIUM OWNERS ASSOC. I did on January 12, 2012 at 2:00 p.m., levy upon as the property of VIOLETTA HENNESSEY AND THE VILLAS ON TRAVIS CONDOMINIUM OWNERS ASSOC. the following described real property:
UNIT 262, BUILDING U, VILLAS ON LAKE TRAVIS CONDOMINIUM, A CONDOMINIUM PROJECT IN TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE DECLARATION RECORDED IN VOLUME 8799, PAGE 226, AMENDED BY 8866, PAGE 301 AND VOLUME 12720, PAGE 469, AMENDED BY VOLUME 12999, PAGE 1871, VOLUME 13011, PAGE 1, VOLUME 13045, PAGE 1985, RE-RECORDED IN VOLUME 13051, PAGE 332, AND VOLUME 13048, PAGE 1402, VOLUME 13130, PAGE 4421, VOLUME 13173, PAGE 3843, VOLUME 13192, PAGE 2413, VOLUME 13256, PAGE 158, VOLUME 13397, PAGE 496, REAL PROPERTY RECORDS

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF TRAVIS Cause: D1GN09001649 By virtue of a Writ of Execution issued by the clerk of the District Court 98 Court of TRAVIS County, Texas, January 05, 2012, in cause numbered D1GN09001649, styled LOZANO, ADAME & GARZA, L.L.C. and HUGO ADAME versus SELECT INVESTMENTS, LLC on a judgment rendered against SELECT INVESTMENTS, LLC; I did on January 06, 2012, at 4:30 p.m., levy upon as the property of SELECT INVESTMENTS, LLC the following described real property:
Lots 1 & 2 of Crestview North Addition, a subdivision in Travis County, Texas, according to the plat recorded in Document No. 200600380 of the Official Public Records of Travis County, Texas of the map or plat records of Travis County, Texas. On February 07, 2012, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of SELECT INVESTMENTS, LLC in and to the real property described above. Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, January 06, 2012. Bruce Elfant, Constable Precinct 5 Travis County, Texas /s/ by Alan J. Redd, Senior Deputy
Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title,

OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS DOCUMENT NUMBER 199911376, AND AMENDED AND RESTATED BY DOCUMENT NUMBER 200130237, OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS; WHICH HAS A MAILING ADDRESS OF 2918 RANCH ROAD 620 N #262, AUSTIN, TX 78734.
On March 6, 2012, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of VIOLETTA HENNESSEY AND THE VILLAS ON TRAVIS CONDOMINIUM OWNERS ASSOC. in and to the real property described above. Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, January 13, 2012. Bruce Elfant, Constable Precinct 5 Travis County, Texas /s/ by SENIOR DEPUTY ALAN REDD, Deputy
Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately. Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015, Tax Code, showing that the Travis County Assessor-Collector has determined that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addition, an individual may not bid on or purchase property in the name of any other individual.

merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.
Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately. Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015 Tax Code, showing that the Travis County Assessor-Collector has determined that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addition, an individual may not bid on or purchase property in the name of any other individual.

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF TRAVIS
Cause: C1CV11005019 By virtue of an Writ of Execution issued by the clerk of the County Court 2 Court of TRAVIS County, Texas, December 13, 2011, in cause numbered C1CV11005019, styled KIESTER, LOCKWOOD & CICCONE, L.L.P. versus JUNE KING CUSTOM HOMES, INC. on a judgment rendered against JUNE KING CUSTOM HOMES, INC., I did on December 21, 2011, at 2:00 p.m., levy upon as the property of JUNE KING CUSTOM HOMES, INC. the following described real property: Lot 109, Block G, Cardinal Hills Unit 1... commonly known as 15004 Robin Ct. Austin, Texas 78734 of the map or plat records of Travis County, Texas. On February 07, 2012, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of JUNE KING CUSTOM HOMES, INC. in and to the real property described above. Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, December 29, 2011.
Bruce Elfant, Constable Precinct 5 Travis County, Texas /s/ by SENIOR DEPUTY ALAN REDD, Deputy Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.
Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately. Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015, Tax Code, showing that the Travis County Assessor-Collector has determined that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addition, an individual may not bid on or purchase property in the name of any other individual.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Independent Administration for the Estate of Gary Mark Bilberry, Deceased, were issued on January 19, 2012, in Docket No. 11-001816, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Karen Bilberry.
The address of the Independent Administrator is in Austin, Travis County, Texas, the mailing address is: c/o Scofield & Scofield, P.C., 1411 West Avenue, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78701-1537.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 19th day of January, 2012.
Scofield & Scofield, P.C. Attorneys for the Estate
By: /s/ Joe L. Fulwiler

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration of the Estate of Richard V. Vogt, Deceased, were issued on July 28, 2011 in CAUSE NO. C-1-PB-11-001075, pending in the Travis County Probate Court, Travis County, Texas to Royce Brewer-Vogt and Rafferty Brewer-Vogt, Independent Co-Administrators. All persons having claims against said Estate are required to present them to Mark Cohen, Attorney at Law, 805 West 10th Street, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78701, within the time prescribed by law.
NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLE
2009 JONWEY YY50QT-6 SCOOTER VIN # L8YT-CAPF59Y072378 AUTHORIZED BY TRAVIS COUNTY CO. CONSTABLES PCT #2. DATE OF IMP: 12/13/2011 LOCATED: 11617 MANCHACA RD AUSTIN, TX 78748 K&S TOWING 512-291-3672 TOTAL CHARGES \$891.15 / \$20.00+ TAX PER DAY.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Betty Smith Rainey, Deceased, were issued on January 12, 2012, in Cause No. C-1-PB-11-001991, pending in the Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Texas, to: Linda Rainey Larimore. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed

by law.
c/o: Tony Schaffer Attorney at Law Sessions & Schaffer, P.C. 919 Congress Avenue, Suite 900 Austin, Texas 78701 DATED the 19th day of January, 2012.
/s/ Tony Schaffer Attorney for Estate State Bar No. 17720880 Sessions & Schaffer, P.C. Austin, Texas 78701 Telephone: (512) 261-1235 Facsimile: (512) 261-1236

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of George C. Tomlin, Deceased, were issued on December 1, 2011 in Cause No. C-1-PB-11-002005 pending in Probate Court at Law Travis County, Texas to: ROBERT N. SIMPSON ROBERT N. SIMPSON's mailing address is: Robert Simpson 6202 Pokalong Path Lago Vista, TX 78645 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
ROBERT N. SIMPSON By: /s/ Jerry Frank Jones, Attorney State Bar No. 10913000 400 W. 15th St., Suite 975 Austin, Texas 78701 Phone: (512) 476-2929 Fax: (512) 472-3669

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JOY A. GAY, Deceased, were issued on January 19, 2012, in Cause No. C-1-PB-11-002054, pending in the Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Texas, to: JERRY D. GAY.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Jerry D. Gay Independent Executor c/o: Daniel Loveland 17300 Henderson Pass, Suite 240 San Antonio, Texas 78232 DATED the 19th day of January, 2012.
/s/ Daniel Loveland Attorney for Jerry D. Gay State Bar No: 12606500 17300 Henderson Pass, Suite 240 San Antonio, TX 78232 Telephone: (210) 495-0700 Facsimile: (210) 495-0706

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Maxine B. Frick, Deceased, were issued on September 26, 2011 in Cause No. 11-0493-CP4, now pending in the Probate Court No. 4 of Williamson County, Texas, to Diana Fitzgerald. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows: Patricia Kelly, Attorney for the Estate PMB 592 8650 Spicewood Springs Rd. #145 Austin, Texas 78759 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 18th day of January, 2012.
By: /s/ Patricia Kelly Attorney(s) for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Margaret Louise Gambill, Deceased, were issued on January 19, 2012, in Docket No. C-1-PB-11-002077, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Joyce Elaine Johtz. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within

the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims shall be addressed to: "Representative, Estate of Margaret Louise Gambill c/o John W. Brodnax John W. Brodnax, P.C. 1202 Lakeway Drive, Suite 1 Lakeway, Texas 78734" (512) 261-0101 DATED the 19th day of January, 2012.
/s/ John W. Brodnax ATTORNEY FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Paul Francis Glass, Jr., deceased, were issued on January 19, 2012, in Docket No. C-1-PB-11-001982, pending in the Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to EARL C. COVINGTON, JR., Independent Executor. The residence of the Independent Executor is in Travis County, Texas. The mailing address is: c/o: A. Lynn Tiemann Thompson & Tiemann LLP Attorney at Law 5203 Pony Chase Austin, Texas 78727 All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 19th day of January, 2012.
Respectfully submitted, THOMPSON & TIEMANN LLP P.O. Box 201988 Austin, Texas 78720-1988 (512) 335-6800 Telephone (512) 335-2088 Facsimile /s/ A. Lynn Tiemann Attorney and Counselor State Bar No. 20021500 ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Rachel Ellen Stalb, Deceased, were issued on September 26, 2011 in Cause No. 11-0537-CP4, now pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Williamson County, Texas, to Brenda Joyce Tranchon. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows: Patricia Kelly, Attorney for the Estate PMB 592 8650 Spicewood Springs Rd. #145 Austin, Texas 78759 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 18th day of January, 2012.
By: /s/ Patricia Kelly Attorney(s) for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of VIEN VAN NGUYEN, Deceased, were issued on January 19, 2012, in Cause No. C-1-PB-11-002060, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, must present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows: Chau Nguyen, Representative, Estate of Vien Van Nguyen, Deceased, c/o LAW OFFICE OF CHARLES SMAISTRALA, 7200 N Mo Pac Expy Ste 160, Austin, TX 78731-2560.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Herbert W. Bohls, Deceased were granted and issued to Verline Henkes Bohls, as Independent Executor of the Estate, on December 29, 2011, in Cause No. C-1-PB-11-001930, in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 18th day of January, 2012.
By: /s/ Patricia Kelly Attorney(s) for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Sidney S. Smith aka Sidney Stewart Smith , Deceased, were issued to Sarann Smith Huke and Sheldon S. Smith on January 20, 2012. All

persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Laura Lawrence c/o Law Office of Leslie J. Friedlander, PLLC 805 West 10th Street, Suite 302C Austin, Texas 78701 DATED the 23rd day of January, 2012.
/s/ Leslie J. Friedlander Attorney for Laura Lawrence State Bar No.: 24059164 805 West 10th Street Suite 302C Austin, Texas 78701 Telephone: (512) 796-6141 Facsimile: (512) 551-0157

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of William Joseph Sullivan, Deceased, were issued on January 12, 2012, in Cause No. 11-0766-CP4, now pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to David George Sullivan. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows: Patricia Kelly, Attorney for the Estate PMB 592 8650 Spicewood Springs Rd. #145 Austin, Texas 78759 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 18th day of January, 2012.
By: /s/ Patricia Kelly Attorney(s) for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of VIAN VAN NGUYEN, Deceased, were issued on January 19, 2012, in Cause No. C-1-PB-11-002060, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, must present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows: Chau Nguyen, Representative, Estate of Vien Van Nguyen, Deceased, c/o LAW OFFICE OF CHARLES SMAISTRALA, 7200 N Mo Pac Expy Ste 160, Austin, TX 78731-2560.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Herbert W. Bohls, Deceased were granted and issued to Verline Henkes Bohls, as Independent Executor of the Estate, on December 29, 2011, in Cause No. C-1-PB-11-001930, in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 18th day of January, 2012.
By: /s/ Patricia Kelly Attorney(s) for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Sidney S. Smith aka Sidney Stewart Smith , Deceased, were issued to Sarann Smith Huke and Sheldon S. Smith on January 20, 2012. All

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Marjorie H. Avant, Deceased, were granted and issued to Sharon Bohls Avant, as Independent Executor of the Estate, on December 29, 2011, in Cause No. C-1-PB-11-001996, in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law, addressed in care of the representative's attorney as follows: Estate of Marjorie H. Avant c/o Calley D. Callahan, Attorney KNOLLE, HOLCOMB, KOTH-MANN & CALLAHAN 7600 N. Capital of Texas Highway Building B, Suite 110 Austin, Texas 78731 Dated this the 19th day of January, 2012.
Respectfully submitted, KNOLLE, HOLCOMB, KOTH-MANN & CALLAHAN By: /s/ Calley D. Callahan State Bar No. 00796293

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:
1. Asphalt Based Pavement Crack Sealant, B120124-LD Opens: February 13, 2012 @ 2:00 p.m.
Bids should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, 700 Lavaca Street, Suite 800, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Bidders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

STOR SELF STORAGE
In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at Stor Self Storage locations listed below, And due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash only!
Seth Lamar Storage & Wine Cellar, 2201 Kinney Road, Austin, TX 78704 512-445-6000
February 06, 2012 10:30 AM
Matthias Schaefer - Monitor, love seat, radio, luggage, washer, six plastic tubs, kitchen ware, microwave
Stor Self Storage, 2508 W. Pecan St, Pflugerville, TX 78660 512-990-1000
February 06, 2012 12:30 PM
Theodis Knox n Queen mattress set, chest of drawers, end table, head and foot board, vacuum, couch and love seat, 2 wheeler, cd rack, boxes, clothes, cd player
Tiffany Clemons - Queen mattress set, washer and dryer, big screen tv, chest of drawers, microwave, kitchen ware.

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsny for Jan. 27-Feb. 2

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The coming week is likely to be abnormally free of worries and frustrations. I'm afraid that means you're not going to have as much right to complain as you usually do. Can you handle that? Or will you feel bereft when faced with the prospect of having so little to grumble about? Just in case, I've compiled a list of fake annoyances for you to draw on. 1) "My iPhone won't light my cigarette." 2) "The next tissue in my tissue box doesn't magically poke out when I take one." 3) "I want some ice cream, but I overstuffed myself at dinner." 4) "I ran out of bottled water and now I have to drink from the tap." 5) "My cat's Facebook profile gets more friend requests than me." 6) "When people tell me I should feel grateful for all I have instead of complaining all the time, I feel guilty."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The state of California was named after a storybook land described in a 16th century Spanish novel. The mythical paradise was ruled by Queen Calafia. Gold was so plentiful that the people who lived there made weapons out of it and even adorned their animals with it. Did the real California turn out to be anything like that fictional realm? Well, 300 years after it got its name, the California Gold Rush attracted 300,000 visitors who mined a fortune in the precious metal. Your assignment, Taurus: Think of the myths you believed in when you were young and the fantasies that have played at the edges of your imagination for years. Have any of them come true, even a little? I suspect that one may do just that in the coming weeks and months.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In Bill Moyers' DVD *The Language of Life*, poet Naomi Shihab Nye is shown giving advice to aspiring young poets. She urges them to keep an open mind about where their creative urges might take them. Sometimes when you start a poem, she says, you think you want to go to church, but where you end up is at the dog races. I'll make that same point to you, Gemini. As you tune in to the looming call to adventure, don't be too sure you know what destination it has in mind for you. You might be inclined to assume it'll lead you toward a local bar for drinks when in fact it's nudging you in the direction of a wild frontier for a divine brouhaha.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Renowned comic book writer Grant Morrison claims he performed a magic ritual in which he conjured the spirit of John Lennon, who appeared and bestowed on him the gift of a new song. I've heard Morrison sing the tune, and it does sound rather Lennon-esque. The coming week would be a good time for you to go in quest of a comparable boon, Cancerian: a useful and beautiful blessing bequeathed to you by the departed spirit of someone you love or admire.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "There are works which wait, and which one does not understand for a long time," said Oscar Wilde. "The reason is that they bring answers to questions which have not yet been raised; for the question often arrives a terribly long time after the answer." I predict that sometime soon, Leo, you will prove that wisdom true. You will finally learn the brilliant question whose crucial answer you got years ago. When it arrives, you will comprehend a mystery that has been churning in the semidarkness all this time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Shedding is healthy - not just for cats and dogs and other animals, but also for us humans. Did you know that you shed thousands of particles of dead skin every hour? And just as our bodies need to shed, so do our psyches. I bring this up, Virgo, because you are in an unusually favorable phase to do a whole lot of psychic shedding. What should you shed exactly? How about some of these: old ideas that don't serve you any more, habits that undermine your ability to pursue your dreams, compulsions that are at odds with your noble intentions, resentment against people who did you wrong a long, long time ago, and anything else you carry with you that keeps you from being fully alive and radiant. To paraphrase Thomas Jefferson, the price of freedom and aliveness is eternal shedding.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): According to research published in the journal *Psychological Science*, many people are virtually allergic to creative ideas. When asked to consider a novel proposal, they're quite likely to reject it in favor of an approach that's well-known to them. (More info here: tinyurl.com/3oor4nq.) This could be a problem for you in the coming weeks, Libra, since one of your strengths will be your ability to come up with innovations. So it won't be enough for you to offer your brilliant notions and original departures from the way things have always been done; you will also have to be persuasive and diplomatic. Think you can handle that dual assignment?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "A single sunbeam is enough to drive away shadows," said St. Francis of Assisi. I'm afraid that's an overly optimistic assessment. In many circumstances, just one ray of light may not be sufficient to dispel encroaching haze and murk. Luckily for you, though, there will be quite an assortment of sunbeams appearing in your sphere during the coming weeks. Here's the complication: They won't all be showing up at once, and they'll be arriving in disparate locations. So your task will be to gather them all up and unite them so they can add to each other's strength. If you do that successfully, you'll have more than enough illumination to chase away any darkness that might be creeping around.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Poet Elizabeth Alexander says that in order to create a novel, a writer needs a lot of uninterrupted time alone. Poems, on the other hand, can be snared in the midst of the jumbled rhythms of everyday chaos - between hurried appointments or while riding the subway or at the kitchen table waiting for the coffee to brew. Alexander says that inspiration can sprout like grass poking up out of the sidewalk cracks. Whether or not you're a writer, Sagittarius, I see your coming weeks as being more akin to snagging poems than cooking up a novel.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "A true poet does not bother to be poetical," said the poet Jean Cocteau. "Nor does a nursery gardener perfume his roses." I think that's wise counsel for you in the coming weeks, Capricorn. It's important that you do what you do best without any embellishment, pretentiousness, or self-consciousness. Don't you dare try too hard or think too much or twist yourself like a contortionist to meet impossible-to-satisfy expectations. Trust the thrust of your simple urges.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Collectors prefer wild orchids, says William Langley, writing in the UK's *Telegraph*. Orchids grown in nurseries, which comprise 99.5% of the total, are tarnished with "the stigma of perfection." Their colors are generic and their petal patterns are boringly regular. Far more appealing are the exotic varieties untouched by human intervention, with their "dowdy, smooth petals and moistened lips pouting in the direction of tautly curved shafts and heavily veined pouches." Whatever your sphere or specialty is, Aquarius, I suggest you model yourself after the wild orchid collectors in the coming days. Shun the stigma of perfection.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): While doing a film a few years ago, actress Sandra Bullock stumbled upon a stunning secret: Rubbing hemorrhoid cream on her face helped shrink her wrinkles and improve her complexion. I predict that at least one and possibly more comparable discoveries will soon grace your life. You will find unexpected uses for things that were supposedly not meant to be used in those ways. Here's a corollary, courtesy of scientist Albert Szent-Gyorgyi, that describes a related talent you'll have at your disposal: "Discovery consists of seeing what everybody has seen and thinking what nobody has thought."

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsny's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

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