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Expressed Himself to Broadway
in 'Billy Elliot the Musical'

BY ROBERT FAIRES

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SANDY CARSON

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... and you will know us by the Trail of Lights

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FOOD Virginia B. Wood

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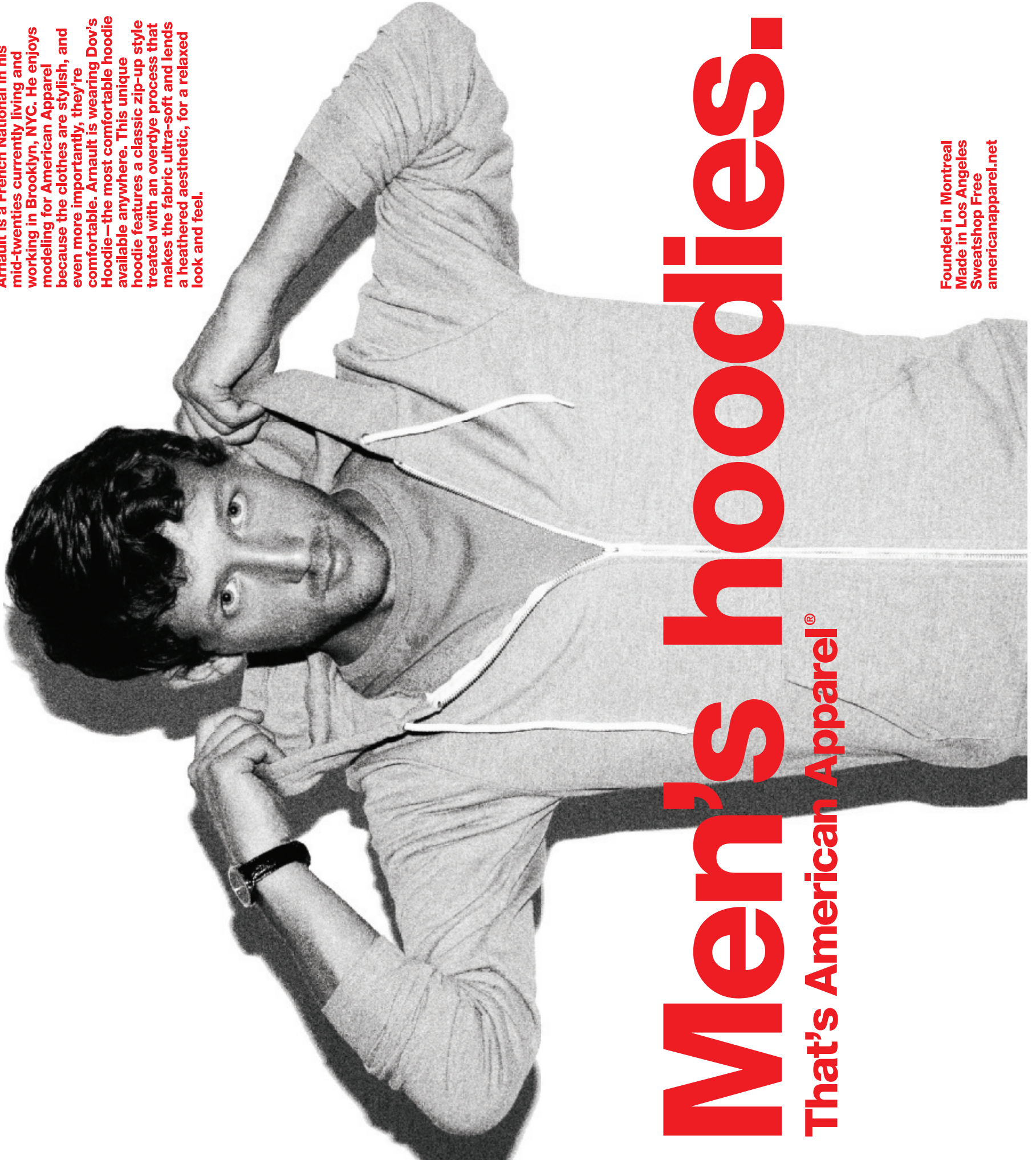
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Postmarks

WOUNDED ANIMAL'S NEEDLESS SUFFERING

Dear Editor,

Although I do not hunt or eat meat, I appreciated Jessi Cape's honest account of her hunting class near Medina ["In the Blind," Food, Nov. 30]. It is refreshing to see a person who cares about food sustainability and actually feels for her animal prey.

However, I am puzzled why Jessi wants to continue to hunt after her first hunting experience. Jessi and her instructor managed to gruesomely wound a boar (an invasive species, but an intelligent and feeling creature regardless) and then failed to track the pig down and end its suffering. Jessi subsequently subjected the pig to hours of unimaginable suffering by failing to efficiently kill it. Jessi wrote that she cried, that she didn't want the boar to suffer, and at one point "gasped in horror" when the pig ran away.

Surely Jessi will become a better shot in the future. But just as surely there will be prey that will not be instantly killed and will escape to

needlessly suffer. Jessi wrote that she "fully intends to hunt again." As romantic as her adventure was that day at Medina, Jessi will have to shed her caring ways for the animals. Her inner turmoil regarding the wounded animal that "got away" will provide no comfort for the animal experiencing its own little hell before dying.

Daniel Portnoy

SUPPORTERS SHOULD AIM HIGHER

Dear Editor,

Hooray for the Workers Defense Project ["Victories for Living Wages," News, Nov. 30]! I just wish they could have aimed higher. Try living on \$11 an hour, Mr. Mayor and council members. In the heat. While your boss takes liberties with your safety. And don't get sick, as you will not get paid. And if it rains, stay home without pay. As quoted in your story: "Development-minded folks ... say that even the 1% increase suggested by WDP would amount, using HID Global construction as a marker, to \$300,000." So? Out of how many millions on the same project? Mayor Lee Leffingwell, worried about contractors scraping by? F them! Your misplaced concern does not give anyone the right to exploit people on my dime. Anyhow, Mr. Mayor, don't you know a competent bid is made with a healthy profit margin factored in, plus cost overruns when the client is too dense to read the contract? To do otherwise is to quickly fail in the construction game. This baloney about "takers" feeding at the public trough while exploiting the poor and vulnerable with my money needs to stop! It is wrong! Mayor Leffingwell, you are heartless, and I pity you when you meet your maker.

Most sincerely and sadly,
Jorge "George" Paez

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or email address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words.

We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Letters may not be edited, added to, or changed by sender once we receive them.

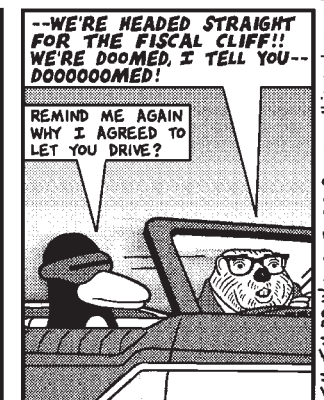
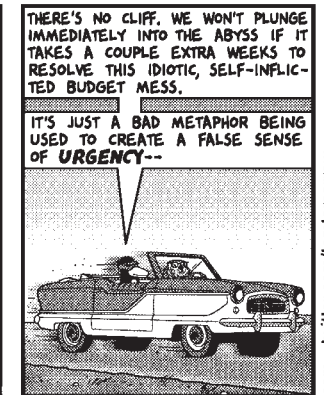
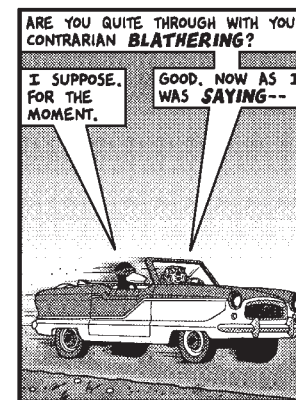
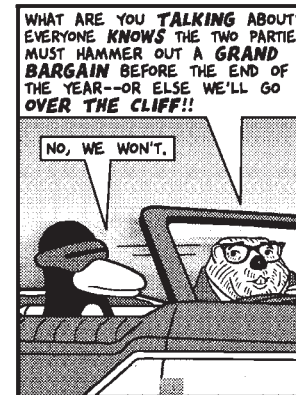
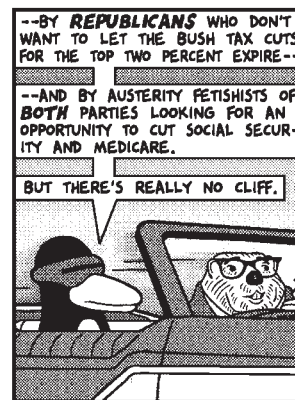
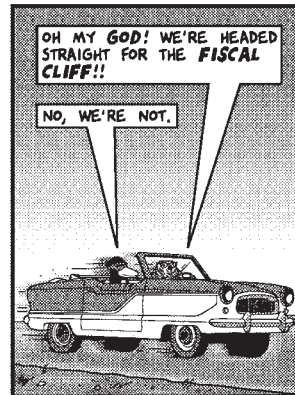
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by TOM TOMORROW



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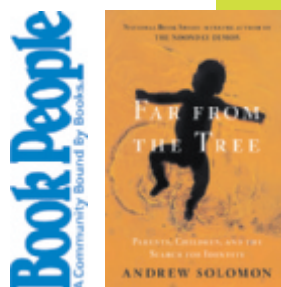


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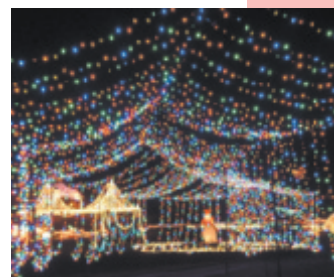


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KEEP PAPER CUTS A SECRET

Dear Editor,
 Regarding the Paper Cuts [*Chronicle* live music series] fun: Please try not to tell too many people about it because it is too much fun, OK? That aside, it is obvious that a good part of this is to showcase certain beverages, which, by God, it does damn well. What is rather lacking, I think, are reps from whatever is being featured. I would have loved to talk to someone from Deep Eddy about their surprising Sweet Tea Vodka, or a rep from Shiner to ask about what they are up to. God knows, feed me good alkeehol (of whatever form), and I will sing its praises to all and every one. I can do it better with more info than the bartenders can give (they are damn busy, ya know?). Then again (knowing Texas), maybe it is illegal. I'd love to find out. But sssshhhhh!

Byron Pratt

[Editor's note: The next Paper Cuts will be held Tue., Dec. 11, 7pm, at the Palm Door, featuring live music from the Preservation, and yes, complimentary beverages and food. RSVP at austinchronicle.com/paper-cuts.]

BICYCLISTS SHOULD HAVE BETTER MANNERS

Dear Editor,
 Saturday morning, driving my family home from breakfast at Güero's, I turned onto Riverside Drive from South First, heading west. Two guys were on bicycles in front of us, riding side by side, blocking the entire road. Trying to be a nice guy and a considerate driver, I stayed back and



didn't crowd them. I didn't honk my horn or flash my lights. I didn't yell out the window or shake my fist, even though the guys were blocking all traffic and not even biking with any real purpose; they were slowly pedaling and having a conversation. We kept our distance, followed them past the dog park, through the roundabout in front of the Events Center, and down the rest of Riverside to Lamar. As the guys moved out of the street to cross over the pedestrian bridge, one of the guys turned to face us ... flipped me off ... and yelled at us to f*@k off!

Dude, why would you act this way? What on Earth would compel you to be a complete jerk, even though you were absolutely in the wrong? Don't you realize this is exactly the kind of behavior that infuriates drivers and makes it *more*

dangerous for every bicyclist on the road? It was obvious from your demeanor that you were not biking for fun or fitness; you were simply using your bike as a vehicle to start fights. Please do everyone a favor: Get down off your 10-speed and go back to picking fights in bars. Bicyclists throughout Austin will be safer for it.

George Bronner

REDISTRICTING TIME AGAIN

Dear Editor,
 There is a current push by the Texas GOP to redraw the court-ordered state redistricting map after the party lost several House seats in the recent election.

Redistricting according to Texas law is supposed to take place once every 10 years. Conservatives in Texas continue to look like spoiled fools as they try again and again to gain more positions by their ongoing arrogant and malicious attempts to redistrict when it suits them.

"The times they are a-changin'," wrote Bob Dylan.

Texas is slowly changing from "red" to a "pinkish hue" before it turns more "blue," and there isn't much the GOP can do to change that reality. Redistricting is one of the last attempts of a frustrated party growing stale and losing its megagrip.

Peter Stern

continued on p.12

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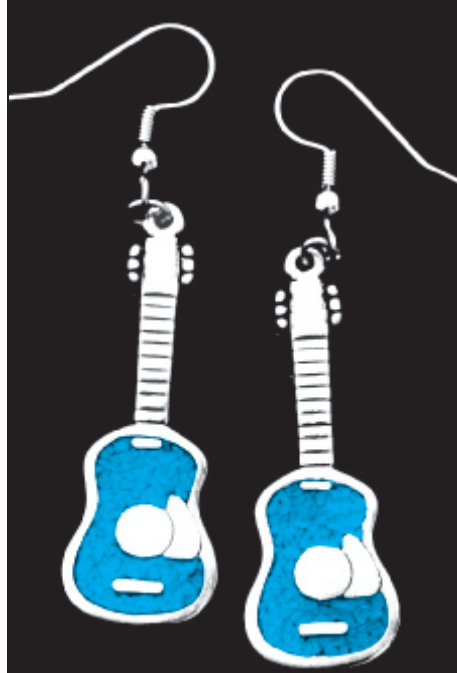
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POSTMARKS continued from p.10

MORE WATER FOR RICE FARMERS?

Dear Editor,

It is unbelievable that the Lower Colorado River Authority would vote to sell rice farmers another 121,500 acre-feet of water from lakes only 43% full! Everyone has warned LCRA against this action: Sen. Troy Fraser, Sen. Kirk Watson, numerous Travis, Burnet, Blanco, and Llano county officials. Lake Interests presented petitions with thousands of signatures. Greg Meszaros warned of a drought worse than the 1950s. Mayor Leffingwell cited the rates: \$161/ac-ft for firm customers and \$6.50/ac-ft for "interruptible."

Is it possible that this is about selling hydro-electricity while pushing water downstream? LCRA's 2011 hydroelectric sales peaked over \$400/ac-ft. But that was 2011, when electric prices were capped at \$1,500/MWh. Energy prices are on the rise: \$5,000/MWh for 2013, \$7,000/MWh for 2014, and \$9,000/MWh for 2015. In October 2011, staff reported that hydro-

electric revenues would no longer be reported as a line item, but would still benefit LCRA's electric customers, not the firm water customers who subsidize "interruptible."

How can LCRA sell more "interruptible" at a 95% discount with storage less than half full, price signals on the rise, and their own meteorologist predicting continued drought?

Mary McAllister

THANKS FOR 'BEST OF'

Dear Editor,

I knew something was up, but was surprised to see the kind comments in your "Best of Austin" issue [Best Ballot Box Brain, Nov. 9]. I'm not sure who is responsible, but I do want to say thanks! It occurs to me that the *Chronicle* itself and many staffers would merit a win in several categories. It's been a real pleasure to have the opportunity to work with you through the years.

Best regards,
Mary Fero

WHY IGNORE THE AUSTIN STRING BAND FESTIVAL?

Dear Editor,

Why does *The Austin Chronicle* continue to ignore the Austin String Band Festival? It is a small festival of traditional music in October that has been held for the past seven years.

It is an absolute jewel of a festival put together by an incredible music community that is essentially unknown to most of Austin. I have gone every year, and the talent the good folks at the

Austin Friends of Traditional Music bring continues to astound and inspire me.

Do you want underground music? There is nothing more underground than old-time fiddling!

I think both the *Chronicle* and Austin at large need to listen up to what is going on at Camp Ben McCulloch in mid-October. Then again, maybe it is better that it is ignored, that way, it stays underground.

Never mind,
Howard Rains
Austin fiddler and artist

A WARNING ABOUT MUSIC BUSINESSES

Dear Editor,

Though I have been out of the music biz since they closed Liberty Lunch, I still play and buy the occasional instrument or stompbox. I recently discovered that Guitar Center and Musician's Friend are owned by none other than Bain Capital, made famous by former CEO and perpetual milk dud Mitt Romney.

Needless to say, I'll never buy from either again. Sweetwater is still family-owned for mail order, or go buy from Steve at Austin Vintage Guitars at their new location. The great Republican machine may hate liberals, but it doesn't mind making money off the devil's music!

Thanks,
Mark Pratz

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NEWS



PHOTOS BY JANA BIRCHUM

Members of the Texas Hemp Campaign proudly displayed their support on Nov. 30 for the legalization of marijuana. For the past three years, the campaign has dropped its banners from the 11th Street bridge on the last Friday of every month.

Cliff Diving

The practice of government by self-extortion

In another three weeks, we may all be ready to jump off a cliff.

That's at least how long this "fiscal cliff" mania will continue, since the current political structure of Congress appears to require a manufactured deadline to accomplish anything. Having created this artificial deadline to avoid actual policy decisions, Congress (and the Beltway media that bullhorns it) is now whipping up a frenzy reminiscent of the new sheriff's threat in *Blazing Saddles*: "Don't anybody move, or I'll blow my own head off." (I know, it was more graphic than that, but this is a family paragraph.)

Minnesota Rep. Keith Ellison (chair of the House Progressive Caucus) has been trying in vain to kill the "cliff" metaphor, proposing gamely, "let's call it a series of deadlines." ("Deadline" still sparks terror in some circles; reporters are easily frightened.) But with a 24-hour cable news cycle fighting for eyeballs, apocalyptic metaphors are the daily fodder.

Last week, in an attempt to sort out the fire from the fog, I asked Austin/San Antonio Rep. Lloyd Doggett for his perspective on the ongoing frenzy and where he thinks it's headed. "I'm still inclined to believe that ultimately there will be a solution," he told me, "but I can't tell if it will be an acceptable one or not." He compared the official and media response to a sensational weather report – "there's always a storm building somewhere" – but sees little chance of undoing the hyperbole. "Maybe that's the only way to force action in Washington," he continued, "but there remains a danger that letting this frame be established will produce really bad policies or a weak agreement."

Doggett recalled the December 2010 agreement with congressional Republicans on extending the Bush high-income tax cuts (and weakening the estate tax) in return for some stimulus spending and an extension of long-term unemployment benefits – a deal

Doggett and other progressive Democrats opposed. In light of the recent election and Obama's campaign positions, Doggett said, "I hope that there will be continued insistence upon not extending Bush tax breaks for those at the top, and not seeing anything like an increase in the retirement age for getting access to Medicare, or anything that would undermine health care security."

Majority Rules

Thus far, Obama's held steady on letting the Bush tax cuts on the highest earners expire, although it's early, and the public posturing on both sides may not precisely reflect what's happening behind the scenes. Doggett said the current House voting schedule suggests little movement before Christmas, though he's encouraged by indications from some GOP reps that they're willing to buck their party to get a reasonable deal done.

continued on p.16

Headlines

- > **City Council** meets today (Thursday) with a heavy agenda of controversy, including **Austin Water** cost overruns for **Water Treatment Plant No. 4** and a proposed incentive package for **Visa** – and those are only the headlines. Expect a long meeting and a brace of postponements. See "Council: All the Arguments That Fit," p.16.
- > **Austin ISD's** new board of trustees took a new direction at their Dec. 3 meeting, canceling discussion of opening a boys' academy for the 2013 school year and instructing Superintendent **Meria Carstarphen** to rewrite the district's agreement with **IDEA Public Schools** to delay their expansion into Eastside Memorial (see "An IDEA Whose Time Has Gone?," p.22).
- > The **Court of Criminal Appeals** on Wednesday granted a new trial for death row inmate **Cathy Lynn Henderson**, convicted of the 1994 killing in Travis County of 3-month-old Brandon Baugh. New science has cast doubt on Baugh's death, suggesting it could have been a tragic accident. For more, see "Henderson Granted New Trial," Newsdesk, Dec. 5.
- > Austin's new federal **courthouse** opened Dec. 3. The \$123 million structure next to Republic Square Park, paid for with federal stimulus cash, replaces the old court house on Eighth Street, which was too small for current needs.
- > Texas Education Commissioner **Michael Williams** announced on Nov. 30 that he will grant school districts a one-year waiver on implementing new rules linking high school graduation to **end-of-course exams**. Over 90% of the state's 1,200 ISDs took advantage of a similar waiver offered last year.
- > As a result of last year's devastating cuts to the state's **family planning** program, the number of clients served statewide in FY 2012 declined by 63%, to just more than 75,000, while the cost of serving those clients actually increased by 15%. See "Texas Women's Health Care: Costs More, Does Less," Newsdesk, Nov. 30.
- > Austin's deadly year for traffic accidents continued unabated this week: On Dec. 2, 28-year-old **Belinda Cisneros** was killed after the Suburban she was riding in was pinned against a signal light pole by an 18-wheeler, after the driver of the Suburban turned left in front of the truck. That was Austin's 71st **traffic fatality** of 2012, which includes the deaths of 28 pedestrians, a record number.
- > **Austin/Travis County EMS** Captain **Randy Trinkle**, 46, was killed in a Saturday morning crash near Fredericksburg. The 15-year department veteran was driving to his home in the Hill Country when he got into a head-on collision around 9am. Services will be held Thursday, Dec. 6, 1pm, at the **First Baptist Church** in Fredericksburg.
- > **GOP vs. reality:** According to post-election numbers from Public Policy Polling, 49% of Republicans think **ACORN** hijacked the Nov. 6 election for **Obama**, even though the group no longer exists.



QUOTE of the WEEK



"Elections have consequences."

– The Rev. Jayme Mathias, to the revamped AISD board of trustees as they discussed the future of IDEA Allan

HOLIDAY SHOPPING, LIVE MUSIC AND FUN.



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Ruby Jane..... 12:00
Kalu James..... 3:30
Ruthie Foster 8:00

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

Clay McClinton..... 12:00
Lex Land..... 3:30
Ray Wylie Hubbard 8:00

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

The Drakes 12:00
Hank & Shaidri 3:30
Patricia Vonne 8:00
Del Castillo 9:15

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

Terri Hendrix..... 12:00
Eliza Gilkyson..... 3:30
Jimmy LaFave 8:00

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

Austin Lounge Lizards..... 12:00
The Derailers 3:30
Fastball 8:00

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

Biscuit Brothers..... 12:00
Peterson Brothers Band.... 3:30
The Eggmen 8:00

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Wendy Colonna 12:00
Sahara Smith 3:30
Shinyribs 8:00



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Hot Club of Cowtown 12:00
The Carper Family 3:30
Marcia Ball with
Kimmie Rhodes..... 8:00

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

Warren Hood and the Goods ... 12:00
Sons of Fathers..... 3:30
Slaid Cleaves..... 8:00

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21

Sarah Pierce..... 12:00
Brian Keane 3:30
Mary Hattersley's
Blazing Bows 6:30
The Band of Heathens 8:00

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22

Suzanna Choffel 12:00
The Resentments 3:30
Beto y Los Fairlanes 8:00

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

Shelley King..... 12:00
Carolyn Wonderland..... 3:30
Albert and Gage 8:00

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

Cienfuegos 12:00
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POINT AUSTIN *continued from p.14*

On the other hand, he noted, Speaker John Boehner has continued to insist that he won't carry an agreement that is not supported by a majority of Republican members – a strategy that recalls the common practice of Tom DeLay. “But as long as there is that insistence that that's the only agreement that can be approved,” Doggett said, “it's difficult to see how we can get an agreement that doesn't undermine [progressive] values.” He said he remains hopeful that if Boehner doesn't insist on a lock-step GOP vote, enough Republicans could be persuaded to support an agreement that balances new tax revenues with defensible budget cuts.

Shocking Doctrine

But it's unlikely to happen quickly, so you may want to mute the TV. “I think we're going right up to Christmas week, and maybe beyond,” Doggett said. “The two points that I was pressing on this week [are] don't block-grant Medicaid [to the states] and give Rick Perry any more authority over that than he has already; and on Medicare, don't agree to raise the eligibility age, because that would have a terrible effect on people who are just reaching 65 now.”

He added that he hopes the proposed extension of the Social Security payroll tax cut would instead be revised to “do it in a way that everybody shares it. ... It penalizes many folks who are not in the Social Security system now, like teachers and firefighters and the like around the country; there are several million people who got nothing from the payroll tax cut.”

Mentioning Perry in this context is a reminder that “fiscal cliffs” – or what writer Naomi Klein refers to as the “shock doctrine” – are often artificial crises created by public officials as a means of imposing policies (military, political, or economic) that would not otherwise be tolerated by the public. Perry's biennial budget policy – across-the-board departmental cuts mandated without reference to actual state needs – are prime examples of this approach, which the governor now wants to lock into the state constitution.

That's how the budget game is too often played, notes Doggett. “Instead of beginning from ‘what does this country need in order [to] have long-term economic competitiveness, and more equity in terms of the distribution of income and the like in the economy?’ ... we started from ‘what can be cut?’” Of course, that's the suicidal result of a “fiscal cliff,” or what economist Paul Krugman calls the “austerity bomb”: “doing to ourselves gratuitously what has been happening to some of the European economies. ... So, we set ourselves up with the land mine in the road in front of our economy, which is not based on anything real. It's just based on our political mess.”

In other words: Don't anybody move, or we'll blow our own heads off. ■

Follow @PointAustin on Twitter.

All the Arguments That Fit CITY COUNCIL AGENDA PACKED WITH VOLATILE MATERIALS

There should be plenty available for disputation today (Thursday) at **City Council**, beginning with what look to be the headline items – more money for **Water Treatment Plant No. 4** (Items 4 and 8), and more money for **Visa Inc.** (Item 114). The WTP cost-override question – to consider an additional \$15.5 million (about 4%) to the currently \$359 million completion cost – is initially on the consent agenda, but the best guess here is that WTP critics on and off the dais will want to take another pound (or at least a few ounces) of flesh from the hides of **Austin Water** staff before the vote to approve the money. Amy Smith made the case last week (“Then There's This: Water for Sale,” Nov. 30) that everybody should have known that the “Chamber of Commerce-driven boondoggle” was going to cost more than advertised, and more specifically that recent project cutbacks effectively reflect much higher overruns than the \$15.5 million. AW's backup materials argue that they don't think they'll need all the extra money, and that some added costs were both unforeseen and necessary. “Some valuable investments that were not included in the original project budget have contributed to the cost increase,” reads the AW background detail. “These key investments include measures to minimize community disruptions and ensure that the project is protective of the environment.” The **Water and Wastewater Commission** deadlocked on a recommendation, so Council will have to stick its neck out all on its own.

Similarly, the heat on the Visa deal – an incentives grant of \$1.56 million over 10 years, tied to a state **Texas Enterprise Fund** grant of \$7.9 million – has escalated in the wake of *The New York Times* series this week identifying the state of Texas as the biggest player in the national economic incentives game, seldom with the results trumpeted

by the Governor's Office (see “Point Austin: Questions for Visa,” Nov. 30). The *Times* series even goosed the *Austin American-Statesman* into a tsk-tsking editorial, arguing that local hires (projected at 70% of the 794 promised) should be guaranteed, and that “local” should be defined as within Austin city limits, not just the five-county area – a standard never broached before and one sure to make the high-dollar job-seekers contemplated in this deal raise their eyebrows. (“I can't buy a mansion in West Lake Hills?”)

Austin
WATER

BESIDE
THE POINT
BY MICHAEL
KING

Frankly, I'd consider annexing the whole lot of them – or maybe just digging a moat, with entry fees at drawbridges – but I doubt that concept of metropolitan relations will win many official converts (or would be rational public policy, for that matter). The city is better about enforcing its legislated standards (and cost/benefit matrix) on these deals than is the state – but those nuances will likely be lost on the most vocal opponents.

Beyond these two headliners (the Visa matter is one public hearing among a scheduled 10, including the return of **East Riverside** planning, so, as they say on the TxDOT signs: expect delays, or at least some postponements), there's plenty more grist for the public mill. Judging from Tuesday's work session, it's likely that we haven't heard the last of the **Texas Facilities Commission's** “Capitol Area Development Strategy” (TFC's latest grand plan to redevelop half a dozen land sites around the city; see “State and

City Redevelopment? Hold That Thought,” p.18). Mayor Pro Tem **Sheryl Cole** is pushing hard for an interlocal agreement to “get a seat at the table,” but affected neighborhoods (and the state's **Sunset Commission**) are recommending forbearance and Council Member **Laura Morrison** was highly skeptical on Tuesday – it's not at all apparent that the rest of the Council shares Cole's sense of urgency.

Another potentially vexed question is the Council revisit of the semi-notorious **Barton Springs Zone redevelopment** ordinance, an attempt adjust the Save Our Springs Ordinance to allow denser commercial development over the aquifer in return for environmental mitigation (Item 66). Controversial when it was enacted, it's largely gone unused, with staff split on whether the primary reason is the recession or the limited number of potential applications. This resolution would simply direct the city manager to put together a proposal to revise the ordinance (and expand its reach) and return early next year; it might strike early sparks with folks who opposed any SOS amendment in the first place.

If all that's not enough, the morning briefings (Item 78 and 79) will be an update on the **Office of Sustainability**, and an **Austin Energy** update on its electric vehicle program (BTP wants to know: Can everybody have one?). And speaking of AE, for once Citizens Communication will not be mostly defaulted to the aluminum-hat brigade; half a dozen folks, including **Lanetta Cooper**, **Jeff Jack**, and **Tom “Smitty” Smith**, will address a pending proposal for an independent board to run AE. That idea gained some traction after the prolonged rate debate (and looming rate case at the state Public Utility Commission), but there is growing opposition to an unelected board as too remote and unresponsive to citizens.

The featured live music at 5:30 is Lady Bird Lake running trail favorite **woode wood**, who apparently favors lower-case letters and nubile ladies: See much more at www.woodewood.com. ■

Amy Smith and “Then There's This” return next week.

CIVICS 101

THURSDAY 06

AISD FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS Learn about, and share feedback on, potential facility recommendations for the school district's fine arts program. 6:30pm. *Bowie High School, 4103 W. Slaughter*. www.austinisid.org.

FRIDAY 07

BLACK AUSTIN DEMOCRATS ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY Kevin and Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole host Austin Democrats for a dinner honoring Jim Wick, Ada Harden, and David Escamilla for their work this year. 6-8pm. *At the home of Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole, 4101 Wildwood*. Free. **James.nortey@gmail.com**, www.blackaustindemocrats.net.

SUNDAY 09

CHANGING THE DEATH PENALTY DISCOURSE Hear stories about how the death penalty and serious violence affects Texans and learn more about the storytelling project at the Texas After Violence Project. Lunch provided. RSVP by phone or email. 12:45-2pm. *Friends Meeting House, 3701 E. MLK*, 916-1600. sfredrickson@texasafterviolence.org.

MONDAY 10

CANDLELIGHT CAMPAIGN AGAINST CUTS Protest cuts to Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid by highlighting the faces and voices of citizens who rely on those programs daily. 4-6pm. *Sen. John Cornyn's office, Chase Tower, 221 W. Sixth*.

TUESDAY 11

ELECTRIC VEHICLE EVENT: MOVIE, PANEL & MORE Watch a free screening of *Revenge of the Electric Car*, then listen to a panel discussion on the next generation of electric vehicles by industry reps and faculty experts! Reception will follow panel. 4:30-8pm. *Blanton Museum of Art, 200 E. MLK*. Free. www.ev-tec.org.

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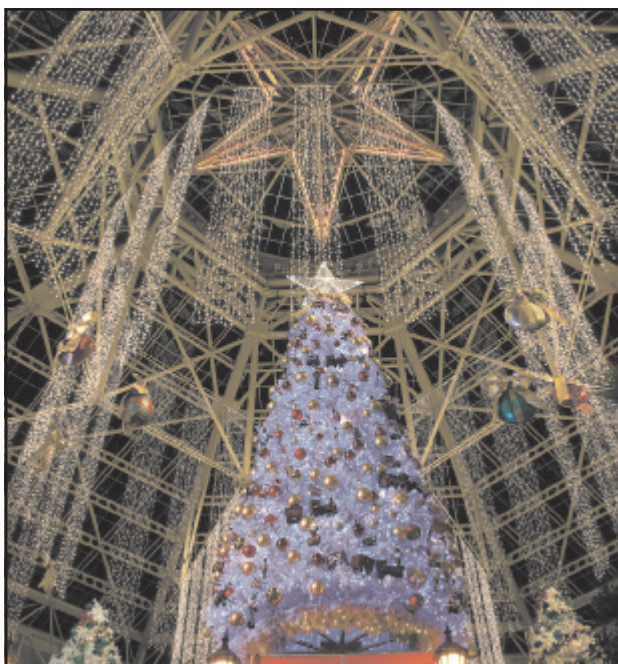
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State & City Redevelopment? Hold That Thought ...

Considering the lousy history of collaboration between the city of Austin and the state of Texas, a new development agreement between Austin and the **Texas Facilities Commission** might seem like a step forward. Yet **City Council** members are questioning a new TFC proposal, just as a state review of the commission's operations proposes that all such deals be suspended until legislators can review and rewrite the body's governing rules.

The innocuous-looking Item 63 on Council's Dec. 6 agenda instructs City Manager **Marc Ott** to enter into an interlocal agreement with the TFC to study potential developments on state-owned city land in Austin. The proposal covers six large and valuable tracts under the state's **Capitol Area Development Strategy**:

- 1) the Capitol complex;
- 2) the William P. Hobby building at Third and Guadalupe;
- 3) the complex at 45th and Lamar that includes the Department of Social and Health Services and Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services buildings;
- 4) the Austin State Hospital campus at 41st and Guadalupe;
- 5) the Bull Creek Camp Hubbard Annex at Bull Creek and 45th; and
- 6) portions of Camp Mabry.

However, Council delayed making a final decision about this on Nov. 8. Mayor Pro Tem **Sheryl Cole**, who sponsored the measure, argued that it simply formalizes a policy set in November 2010, when Council approved a resolution to get more deeply involved with Capitol-area planning. "Whenever the state of Texas has embarked on a redevelopment process," she said, "it has been fraught with citizen and city input challenges and discord."

The TFC is basically state government's custodian, responsible for the basic operations of state buildings and sites, from construction to energy to renting properties. It is currently led by controversial ex-Travis County sheriff and former state Rep. Terry Keel, who was a surprise choice for executive director as he has no real estate or facility management experience.

TFC Portfolio Manager and Public Liaison **Aundre Dukes**, a nephew of state Rep. Dawnna Dukes, told Council that the agreement merely set the groundwork for future development. And even though Council voted



Texas Facilities Commission Executive Director Terry Keel has a deal for us.

6-1 to bring the measure back this month, on Nov. 13 the TFC issued a request for qualifications – looking for architects, cost estimators, and designers to create a project team for the planned plots. Cole described the interlocal agreement as opening "a new chapter of how we do business with the state."

Yet residents of the Allandale and Bull Creek neighborhoods told Council they oppose the proposal, and that it is undercooked. Council Member **Mike Martinez** said he was concerned about what the deal would mean for the city's

zoning process; similarly, Council Member **Laura Morrison** saw the agreement as very one-sided in favor of the TFC and feared that the city would be cut out when development really starts.

Council split 6-1 to reconsider the measure this month, but with major strings attached. Ott was simply instructed to keep negotiating, rather than sign a deal, and so it returns this week for further review. Morrison, who was the sole nay vote, said she did not oppose developing the planned areas, but that the agreement is not "the appropriate vehicle to memorialize our relationship with that planning, and how we can be at the table." Without even a clear price tag for the study, she said, "I think we need to have a full picture before we move ahead."

Morrison feels even more secure in her decision since the state's **Sunset Commission** released its draft report on the TFC, which chronicles multiple basic failures: sub-par reporting requirements, a failure to adopt best practices for contracts, and the fact that the TFC "struggles to effectively plan for and manage its deferred maintenance needs." The authors were particularly concerned about how the TFC's role changed dramatically last session with the passage of **Senate Bill 1048**. This allowed the TFC to enter into public-private partnerships, or "P3s," of the kind proposed by Cole. Texas has used P3s for years – mostly famously for toll roads. However, P3s are a new endeavor for the TFC; traditionally, such projects have been handled by the **General Land Office**, like the initially contentious but ultimately well-received mixed-use development of the **Triangle**. By contrast, the Sunset report states that "TFC lacks a sufficiently robust approach to fully evaluate the benefit and risks of P3s" and that the process lacks any meaningful stakeholder input.

Significantly for Cole's proposal, the report's authors said they have "significant concerns about how quickly TFC is moving with P3 projects" and recommend that the TFC "delay formal action on P3 proposals until after September 1, 2013" – the date at which any new legislation passed next session would take effect. Both Martinez and Morrison told their fellow Council members that they had spoken with members of the Travis County legislative delegation who felt the interlocal agreement was premature. With the Sunset Commission urging a review of what SB 1048 did, Morrison said it is "critical" that the city hold off until legislators can review recommendations that "if adopted, would result in significant changes in sorting through roles and responsibilities and process for planning in general for state lands, and specifically for P3 projects." – *Richard Whittaker*

A 10-1 Sense of Humor? You'll Need It.

A month after the electoral triumph of **single-member districts** for City Council, City Auditor **Ken Mory** – charged with implementing the plan – began his public work, briefing Council at its Tuesday work session on his proposed timeline and then inviting public input Tuesday night. The schedule – including the selection of an auditors' pool (and subsequent panel), the selection of a citizens' redistricting pool (and subsequent commission), the drawing of maps, and Department of Justice preclearance in time for new single-member districts to be in place by April 1, 2014 – was within hours denounced as impractical.

In the Council discussion, Mory pointed to challenges with selecting auditors for the three-member applicant review panel. In a nutshell, Austin may not have many active CPAs with five years' audit experience who

would be available (and willing to serve) during tax season (as the charter amendment requires). The Auditor's Office counts about 3,000 to start with, many of whom will be disqualified for one reason or another.

Why CPAs and auditors? Though the plan that 10-1 was modeled on used municipal judges, attorney **Steve Bickerstaff** (who helped draft the amendment for **Austinites for Geographic Representation**) explained that the AGR feeling was that municipal judges in Austin are beholden to Council members, so those who drafted the charter amendment decided to use auditors, who are "certified" for their integrity. (It was Bickerstaff who most strongly objected to Mory's proposed schedule, arguing that it won't leave enough time for DOJ preclearance.)

Planning carried on into Tuesday night, with a standing-room-only public meeting convened by Mory at One Texas Center to brainstorm how to attract commission applicants and how the panel of auditors could best evaluate whether qualified applicants possessed the requisite analytical skills, impartiality, and appreciation for Austin's diverse demographics and geography, as is stipulated by the amendment.

Many of the breakout groups seemed stymied on how, exactly, to analyze analytical skills. They suggested everything from administering basic math tests to ensuring that applicants are able to read maps. Notions that potential commissioners should have a history of community involvement, interesting hobbies, and a sense of humor also remain on the table (as do most of the 120 people in attendance last night; nearly two-thirds expressed interest in serving on the commission themselves).

Mory and his staff promised to record each of the suggestions. His office is responsible for creating the commission application, though the selection of applicants will be left to the yet-to-be-formed auditors' panel, which is free to make that determination however it sees fit. "That's up to them," said Mory. "We can't tell them what to do. ... They don't have to accept any of this."

– *Elizabeth Pagano*



The auditor panel will use that criteria to whittle down the pool of applicants that meet all other qualifications to 60 "most qualified" applicants, 14 of whom will eventually form the **Citizens Redistricting Commission**.

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Rooster Need a Booster? Call Breco!

John Goodwin was flipping through the November issue of *The Gamecock* magazine when he came across an ad and did a double-take: **Breco Products LLC**, a family-owned business that makes “supplements” for fighting roosters and, allegedly, for “show” birds and animals, had made a move. In the past, the company had often bought several pages of glossy ads in the underground magazine for its products, advertising them for sale by phone or mail from Cook Springs, Ala. This month, there was just a single-page color ad, now advertising the products with a new address – an Austin address, located in the **Steiner Ranch** development near Lake Travis.

Goodwin, director of animal cruelty policy for the **Humane Society** of the United States, is about as close to an expert on cockfighting as a person who doesn't fight roosters can be. For more than a decade, he's kept a close eye on the underground world of cockfighting – a blood sport that pits two or more birds against each other in a ring in what is often a fight to the death of more than one bird. Cockfighting is illegal under federal law and in all 50 states. Alabama's law, which makes only the fighting itself a misdemeanor offense, ranks as the weakest law against cockfighting in the country, according to HSUS.

But with passage last year of a law that greatly strengthens Texas' century-old ban on cockfighting – a law that makes it a felony to cause a cockfight; to operate a location used for cockfighting or to allow another person to use a space for a cockfight; to make money from a cockfight; or to manufacture or sell “gaffs” and “slashers,” knives affixed to the birds to make their strikes more deadly – the Texas stance against the practice has become far more stringent. In that context, moving Breco to Texas – and, more strikingly, to Austin, a bastion for vociferous protectors of animals – struck Goodwin as strange. “I thought, ‘Wait, this

doesn't look right: Austin, Texas?’” he recalls thinking when he spotted the new address on the Breco ad. “You've got to be kidding me.”

But it's no joke: According to the ad – and to paperwork filed this summer with the state – Breco Products LLC has indeed moved from Alabama to Texas, with a business address that is the site of a Pak Mail store in Steiner Ranch, in the same strip mall as a coffee and ice cream shop, a martial arts studio, and a hair salon. An online search turned up a nearby residential address for **Lori Berryman**, the managing member of the family business, and her husband, Christopher. Breco does not maintain a website, but its products are readily advertised online, through sites that cater to the gamecock crowd, such as **Oakridge Gamefarm**. The products range from the relatively straightforward “Breco B15 Nite Owl Method,” described as a B15 complex meant to prevent fatigue in birds due to “lactic acid buildup in the muscles,” to the more cryptic “Breco Ceka injectible 30cc,” described as a “highly effective combination of two agents used in the prevention of excess bleeding and in controlling the ‘rattles.’” Goodwin said in his experi-

ence Breco's supplements are meant either to “juice” the roosters, to make them more aggressive, or, as with the Ceka injectible, to allow them to fight a bit longer even when mortally wounded and, in that specific case, suffering from “death rattles.”

But what exactly is in those products is unclear – and so is whether they're legal. Texas' law does not outlaw the sale of paraphernalia related to cockfighting other than gaffs and slashers. But the federal anti-animal fighting law does prohibit using the mail to further an “animal fighting venture,” which could be applied to Breco's products, says Texas animal law attorney **Don Feare** – particularly if the products are shipped interstate, which the ad in *The*

Gamecock readily suggests. The products may also run afoul of **Food and Drug Administration** rules, Feare suggests. “It's most definitely something the FDA should look into,” he said.

In a brief phone conversation Monday, **Christopher Berryman** said first that the company hadn't moved to Austin and doesn't advertise, a position that he changed after being reminded of *The Gamecock* ad. He said the products are simply supplements to enhance animal well-being, that they are meant not only for roosters but for all kinds of animals – including “tigers, racing pigeons, parakeets, and peacocks” – and that the products Breco sells are manufactured by others. Berryman declined to release a list of those manufacturers or a list of ingredients in Breco's products, but said they are all compounds that don't require FDA approval. Asked about the Breco Ceka injectible, he said it was simply meant to treat fowl with “respiratory infections.” When read the text from the online Oakridge Gamefarm ad, he hedged; when asked if that was specifically targeting wounded fighting gamecocks, he terminated the call: “I think we need to end this conversation,” he said, and he directed further questions to his attorney. Berryman hung up before providing an attorney's name, and a subsequent phone call went unanswered.

FDA rules suggest some of Breco's products may indeed be subject to regulation despite Berryman's assurance to the contrary. Without a list of ingredients, it is difficult to know whether the products contain only substances already approved and codified in federal law. Moreover, a spokesperson from the FDA referred the *Chronicle* to a 2002 “Update on Animal Dietary Supplements” article from the agency's Veterinarian Newsletter that suggests that at least some of the Breco products – including the Ceka, which is billed online as a coagulant – may contain drugs that firmly fall under FDA regulations. The FDA spokesperson would not comment directly on Breco or its products, but wrote in an email that the agency believes the 2002 newsletter speaks for itself. Indeed, it does suggest there may be something to regulate when it comes to Breco, but that going after possibly illegal animal-supplement companies isn't at the top of the agency's lengthy list of responsibilities. “Many of these types of products marketed for animals contain ingredients that may be unsafe food additives or unapproved new animal drugs, making the products unsafe for animals,” reads the article. “While these products are technically in violation of the law, they are of low enforcement priority except for when public or animal health concerns arise.”

– Jordan Smith



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NEWS

An IDEA Whose Time Has Passed?

The future of **IDEA Public Schools** in the **Austin Independent School District** may be short. On Monday, the AISD board of trustees asked for revisions to its contract with the charter company, delaying expansion into **Eastside Memorial High School** for another year – or potentially, tearing up the contract altogether.

The trustees voted 6-3 in 2010 to let IDEA run **Allan Elementary**, which currently hosts grades K-2 and 6. The IDEA plan for the 2013-14 school year is to expand to grades K-3, while moving its sixth and rising seventh grade students to Eastside Memorial, building to a full K-12 charter for 2018. That controversial 2010 decision was a pivotal factor in the Nov. 6 election, with four board members either stepping down or – in the case of **Sam Guzmán**, the project's strongest advocate – voted out. So on Dec. 3, the deal came back for discussion by the new board. The result was a grueling four-hour session, at which the fractures among board members became clearer than ever.

In a nod to the changing dynamics, new board President **Vince Torres** said, "Yes, there is a new day in town." Balancing past failures with future needs, he noted that a project like IDEA Allan can be set up for failure unless it is not just a good project, but a good project properly presented – referring to community anger over the poor process lead-

ing to the deal with IDEA. Furthermore, in a sign that this new board may not depend on the administration for all its information-gathering, new District 2 representative and board secretary **Jayme Mathias** (who ousted Guzmán) had prepared his own lengthy report on the project. Echoing Torres, Mathias said the message parents received from AISD in the process was clear: "We're asking your feedback for the sake of asking your feedback, and we've already made our decision."

While it has good attendance and retention figures thus far, IDEA Allan failed in its stated original purpose: to provide a new educational opportunity for kids in the Eastside Memorial vertical team. Mathias explained that only 14% of its students come from the Allan attendance zone, and only 16% from his District 2. At-large trustee **Tamala Barksdale** accused the school of recruiting good students districtwide, rather than building up the neighborhood. With the current enrollment, she said, "What's going to change in year two, year three, year four, year five, to not end up with what we didn't want from a charter partnership?"

In a sign of the bitter debate to come, District 4 Trustee **Lori Moya** thanked Mathias for his paper but said "there's more history that's missing." Arguing that IDEA is a good partner, she said such partnerships could end the adversarial 'us versus them'

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New AISD board President Vincent Torres is already showing a marked change in style and direction from his predecessor, Mark Williams.



JANA BIRCHUM

dynamic of public vs. charter schools. However, she said, "Some people are content to continue the 'us' and the 'them.'"

For that dynamic, Moya only needed to look around the room. The board broke down into two clear factions: Moya and District 1's **Cheryl Bradley** argued that AISD's persistent failures require radical solutions (i.e., IDEA), while Mathias, Barksdale, and District 7's **Robert Schneider** disagreed that IDEA was the only option. The meeting was heated, to say the least: Barksdale told IDEA representatives not to interrupt her; Bradley packed her bag before the meeting ended and called the whole discussion "crazy."

Schneider said the IDEA deal compared extremely poorly to the ongoing proposal to set up an in-district charter at **Travis Heights**: He noted that that project, unlike IDEA, was based on real community outreach. Addressing IDEA staff directly, he cited high first-year drop-out rates for their graduates attending college: 46% at four-year colleges, rising to 66% for two-year institutions. He concluded, "For folks that claim they're a college prep school, your numbers aren't very good."

Then the bomb dropped, as trustees discussed terminating the IDEA agreement in a

straight up-or-down vote at their Dec. 17 meeting. In an effort at compromise, Mathias proposed keeping IDEA at Allan through 2014, with no expansion to Eastside Memorial. That way, he said, "It will give us as trustees time to sort through the issues." However, if IDEA rejects that proposal, then the board may well end up voting to cancel the contract outright, effective at the end of this school year.

Torres instructed Superintendent Meria Carstarphen to prepare a recommendation based on Mathias' proposal, adding that the board has "some heavy lifting" to do on community engagement. **Vince Tovar**, spokesman for PRIDE of the Eastside, applauded this step, and said, "New and old board members are demonstrating that they're going to look at the data, they're going to be fully informed before they rush into decision-making, and they're respecting the community more."

The clock is ticking: The board must decide by Dec. 31 whether to amend or terminate the IDEA contract for 2013. Without a policy change, IDEA stays in place at Allan, and next year's Eastside expansion proceeds as planned.

- Richard Whittaker



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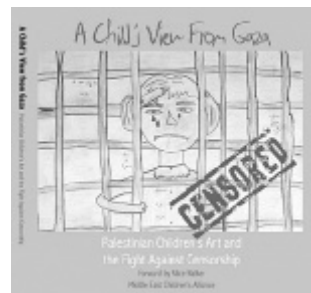
– Jordan Smith



The Squirrel \$15, www.onekolor.com

Although this isn't exactly a gift you can stick under the tree, for the pot smoker with everything, you may want to consider investing in the future this season. Stocks? Bonds? Health insurance? No, we're talking the Squirrel, a stash box that looks like a cell phone charger. The Squirrel is the first in a series of functional items to store your, uh, valuables in for travel. Created by local comedian and writer Mario DiGiorgio, the Squirrel is still in production – and since DiGiorgio and his Squirrel were kicked off of Kickstarter, he's taken to YouTube to drum up business for the product. Invest now (just \$15) and if all goes well, you'll get your Squirrel this spring; if it doesn't fly, he'll give your money back. Or, if you're one of those immediate-satisfaction types, consider DiGiorgio's other business, One Kolor Designs, a local T-shirt business – for people who like to wear shirts. The designs are simple, funny, and often ironic.

– J.S.



A Child's View From Gaza

Pictured is the cover of *A Child's View From Gaza*, a collection of Palestinian children's art, with a foreword by Alice Walker.

– Michael King

Middle East Children's Alliance

www.mecaforpeace.org

One tiny but telling way to act for peace in Gaza is through the Middle East Children's Alliance, which, among other important work, offers books, crafts, and other materials for holiday sale. You can give emergency aid directly, or "Shop Palestine: Beautiful Crafts from Across the Middle East."

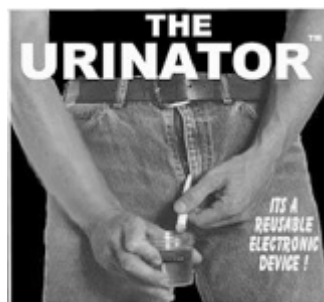
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– M.K.



THE HIGHTOWER REPORT BY JIM HIGHTOWER

Who Really Killed the Twinkie?

Remember the horrible murders in 1978 of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk? At the killer's trial, his lawyer argued for leniency, saying that a steady diet of junk food had addled his client's brain – a claim that entered the annals of jurisprudence as the "Twinkie defense."

Even less defensible is a recent claim by **Ripplewood**, a private equity firm that had bought out **Hostess Brands** three years ago, including Twinkies. Just before Thanksgiving, the firm asserted that it had been forced by greedy **labor unions** to kill off Hostess Brands. Far from greedy, however, the 18,500 unionized workers are quite reasonable and very loyal – in fact, they had previously given back \$100 million in annual wages and benefits to help the company survive.

The true greed in this drama is inside Ripplewood's towering castle of high finance in Manhattan. Rather than modernizing Hostess' factories and upgrading its products, as the unions had urged, the equity hucksters plundered the company to feather their own nests. For example, they siphoned millions of dollars out of Hostess directly into their corporate pockets by paying themselves "consulting and management fees," which did nothing to strengthen the company.

But it was this year that the rank managerial incompetence and raw ethical depravity of the vultures of Ripplewood fully surfaced. While demanding a new round of deep cuts in workers' pay, health care, and pensions – they quietly jacked up their own take. And by a lot! The CEO's paycheck, for example, rocketed from \$750,000 a year to \$2.5 million.

Like a character in a bad Agatha Christie whodunit, Ripplewood – the one so insistently pointing the finger of blame at others – turns out to be the one who killed the Twinkie. Along with the livelihoods of 18,500 workers.

For more information 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.

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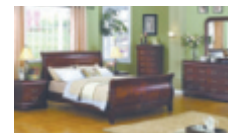
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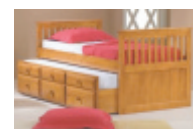
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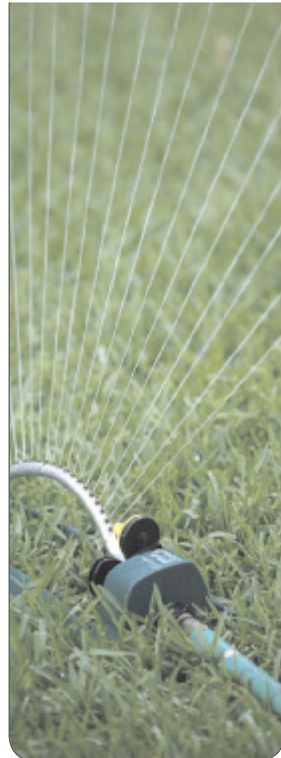
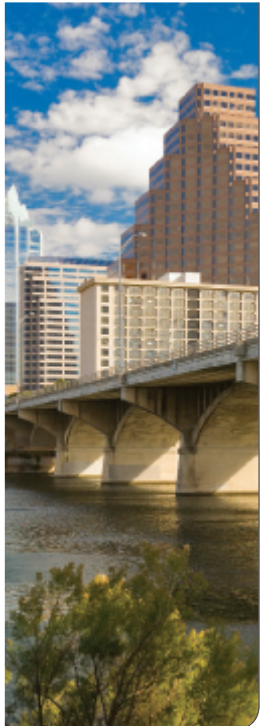


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Will Texas Do Better?

As the 83rd Legislature slouches toward Austin, hope dances a two-step with apprehension

BY MICHAEL KING

Here they come again.

Austinites view the arrival of the Legislature with a mixture of Texas welcome and political trepidation, and the 83rd session, which begins Tuesday, Jan. 8, will be no exception. This week and next, we offer a preview, taking a look at prefiled legislation – the bills beginning to accumulate for assignment to committee. We also asked a few local progressive insiders what they might be hoping for – and fearing – as the session approaches. Rick Levy, legal and education director for the Texas AFL-CIO, who spends much of his session time trying to defend workers' rights, summed it up half-seriously: "What we're apprehensive about is the session, and what we're looking forward to is sine die."

Levy's ambivalence found echoes in the comments of legislators. Austin Rep. Donna Howard began: "I am hopeful that the majority of my colleagues will actually do what I've been hearing Speaker [Joe] Straus talk about, making

efforts to address those issues that Texans actually want us to address: investing in education and infrastructure rather than the narrow, wedge issues that end up dividing us rather than improving the lives of Texans." Howard said she's pleased to see that "a wide cross-section of legislators" have already expressed concern about the heavy influence of "accountability

testing" in public schools. (The new Texas Education Commissioner, Michael Williams, announced last week that the rule requiring the tests count for 15% of final grades will be postponed for one year.) "That's positive," said Howard. "It crosses party lines and ideologies, so that's got some positive traction."

Last session's severe budget cuts are on everyone's mind. "I am definitely concerned," continued Howard, "that the politics and the posturing will get in the way, specifically, of restoring those devastating cuts that were made last session, especially the ones that were made to women's health care and to public and higher education."

Rep. Elliott Naishtat, long an advocate for health and human services, also talked budget. "The lieutenant governor appears to be leaning toward using a portion of the Rainy Day Fund, but only to address key water-related needs," he noted. "Don't get me wrong, that's important, but I wish the lieutenant governor had sent a signal he's also considering using the Rainy Day Fund to

address the Medicaid shortfall, and funding issues related to public education. ... In light of the projected small budget surplus, and the \$8 billion Rainy Day Fund, my hope is that the leadership will commit to meaningfully addressing the \$4.8 billion Medicaid shortfall, as well as the \$5 billion shortfall we will have for funding public education, [and] that the governor will back off his shortsighted decision on refusing to allow Texas to participate in the expansion of Medicaid, which would affect millions of low-income, uninsured people in Texas. ... If we don't expand Medicaid, we would forego, I think it's about \$96 billion in federal funding over the next 10 years." Naishtat said he's encouraged because along with grassroots organizations, important institutional players like the American Association of Retired Persons, the Texas Hospital Association, major insurers, and, to a certain extent, the Texas Medical Association have begun to speak in favor of Medicaid expansion. "I think

there's enough of a presence directly related to pursuing Medicaid expansion, so that at a minimum the governor's staff, and ideally the governor, would be forced to listen."

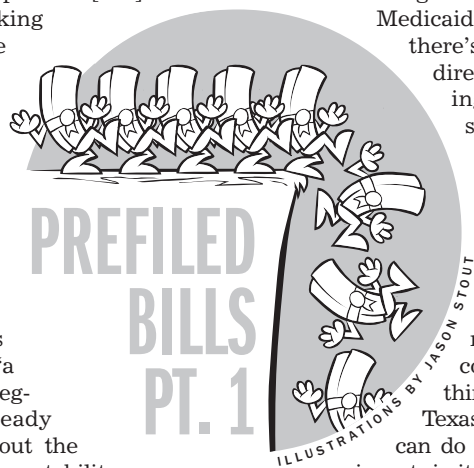
From the other side of the dome, Sen. Kirk Watson said, "The next legislative session could represent something of a crossroads for Texas. The fact is that Texas can do much better in how it invests in its people and its future."

In an optimistic vein, he continued, "There's no reason that Republicans shouldn't join Democrats in developing a permanent school funding solution, reforming state government with transparency and honest accounting, and developing a first-class economic vision for middle-class Texans."

Recent legislative practice, however, is not reassuring. "My fear ... is that those in control of the Capitol will go the other direction – that they'll continue failing to support our teachers and students, or that they'll refuse to address the water and transportation needs we know we face, or that they'll continue a years-long dependency on debt, diversions, deception, and denial when it's time to pass a budget."

"So there's no question that Texas can and must do better," Watson said. "The question is, will it? ... I have hope – I always have hope – that truth, logic and responsibility will win out."

Not a bad trio to call on, but history is a stern teacher. Watson concluded, "But we'll see."



Public education supporters Save Texas Schools rallied at the Capitol in March.

JANA BIRCHUM

Education: A Fine Mess

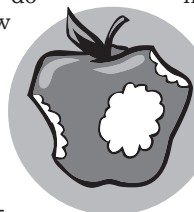
Last session, education issues split the House viciously. Republicans held their noses and adopted a public education budget that sliced \$5.4 billion from classrooms, and Democrats could do nothing but rail against it. Now lawmakers face the same problem – but no one knows when the fight will start or who will lead it.

Ongoing lawsuits filed by school districts against the current system are holding everything in limbo. While Judge John Dietz's ruling is expected in early 2013, House Public Education Committee Member Rep. Mark Strama, D-Austin, said, "The Republicans have made clear that the

Dietz ruling is of very little interest to them. They want to hear what the Supreme Court says." That delay makes a special session almost inevitable. Scratch that – more like multiple special sessions.

When Texas courts ruled against the school finance system in 1989, it took three years and 10 special sessions to craft a legally acceptable replacement. The concern now is whether Republicans will find ways to rewrite the budget rules.

Rep. James White, R-Lufkin, has filed HB 95, which would let school districts off the hook for many unfunded mandates. And some education advocates fear that Republicans want to



rewrite the **Texas Constitution** and dump the state's obligation to fully and equitably **fund public education**.

Meanwhile, the entire legislative **education leadership** from last session is gone: House Public Education committee Chairman Rob Eissler, R-The Woodlands, was defeated; his trusted vice chair, Scott Hochberg, D-Houston, stepped down; and his Senate counterpart, Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, has retired, replaced by former Tea Party darling Sen. **Dan Patrick**, R-Houston. Patrick is on a rampage for **school vouchers**, which he has dubbed "the civil rights issue of our time." In an ominous sign, he has called last session's bitter, rule-breaking voter ID fight good practice for how he plans to ram through vouchers.

But on the House side, presuming Joe Straus returns as speaker, he is likely to put a more moderate and seasoned lawmaker in charge of the education committee. Since the leading GOP candidates – including Jimmy Don Aycock from Killeen and Kingwood's Dan Huberty – are at least soft on vouchers, and Straus likes letting chairs set their own agendas, Patrick's big plans could falter. Moreover, there are several new Republican House freshmen with a deep background in education, such as former State Board of Education member Marsha Farney, who may bring experience to the debate. The creeping suspicion among education advocates is that, rather than risk seeing a statewide voucher initiative collapse, Patrick will slip through a pilot program as a Trojan horse, planning to extend it in future sessions.

Strama predicts a bruising fight, but said: "My gut tells me it falls of its own weight. Forget the political liabilities. The policy liabilities of vouchers will cause them to crumble." Allowing kids to go to any school seems fine – but who pays for transportation, especially in rural districts with few such choices? Moreover, while voucher advocates have relied on evangelical Christians, eager to get more funds into religious schools, Strama predicts that support may fade: "What about when a very sectarian Muslim school network opens up, funded completely by vouchers? I don't know how Dan Patrick's supporters are going to feel about that."

The accountability and testing system will also be under scrutiny. Texas Education Commissioner Michael Williams recently released a new framework for school accountability, but there is also pending legislation on the topic. Patrick's SB 135 would reduce

the importance of **end-of-course testing** for graduation, while SB 43 by Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, would require districts to include numbers for kids who are suspended, expelled, or placed in an alternative learning program. Rep. Dan Flynn, R-Canton, pushed for a voluntary moratorium on **STAAR testing** in 2011, and has refiled that measure as HB 44. Strama said he is most concerned that the current system – with its endless punitive testing cycle – drives many kids out of school. Accountability will also factor into the voucher debate. Strama said: "We have established this very elaborate and controversial accountability system to safeguard taxpayer investment in public education. How are we going to apply that to private schools?"

Democrats will not just play defense on school spending. One of the big victims of last session's cuts was **pre-K education**, and two bills – SB 76 by Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, and HB 96 by Rep. Mike Villareal, D-San Antonio – would expand those resources. Two years ago, they would have been doomed propositions, but the recent passage of Prop. 1 in San Antonio may have changed the game. Now the city, rather than school districts, will provide pre-K. More importantly, the election proved that voters will pay for pre-K. While the vote does not redraw the political map, Strama said, "It helps." – *Richard Whittaker*

continued on p.28

Some education advocates fear that Republicans want to rewrite the Texas Constitution and dump the state's obligation to fully and equitably fund public education.

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Women's Health Care: Can It Get Worse?

It's hard to imagine that the 2013 session could be any worse for women's health care than the disastrous 82nd. At the end of the April Fool's Day 2011 family planning budget slash-and-burn, the roughly \$100 million biennial budget traditionally allocated for women's health services had been cut by two-thirds, with lawmakers diverting every possible penny away from funding basic health care for uninsured and low-income Texas women. Barring a very unlikely reversal, that means the state will be left with roughly \$30 million to spend over the coming biennium to serve as many low-income women as possible – and judging from numbers released last week, that will be precious few (see "Texas Women's Health Care: Costs More, Does Less," Newsdesk blog, Nov. 30).

There are more than 1 million women in need of family planning health services in Texas, and already, the \$100 million budget was serving just a fraction. Whether the state will retain administration of the \$30 million in federally dedicated **Title X family-planning program money** is now uncertain. Last month, Fran Hagerty, CEO of the Women's Health and Family Planning Associations of Texas, announced that she's building a coalition of family planning providers to apply directly for the Title X funds. The feds have previously granted funds directly to providers in Texas, so such a process is not without precedent. Indeed, it seems likely that Planned Parenthood will also apply directly for Title X funds. If the clinics are successful, the state may face the end of its influence in deciding which providers women may see for their health care.

Meanwhile, the state says it is moving forward with a state-funded **Women's Health Program**, designed specifically to exclude **Planned Parenthood** from providing services to any of the more than 111,000 women currently enrolled (though not necessarily able to access services). Under the old WHP (a 90%-federally-funded Medicaid-waiver program that saved the state tens of millions each year by preventing unwanted pregnancies), Planned Parenthood has consistently served more than 40% of WHP clients. A lawsuit is currently pending over PP's exclusion, but for now, PP remains in the program, and the feds continue to fund the program through Dec. 31. The state plans to roll out its program on Jan. 1.

If Rep. Lon Burnam, D-Fort Worth, has his way, that lawsuit would eventually be moot. His HB 58 would strip lan-

guage effectively banning Planned Parenthood but would leave in place language that commands state health officials to draw down as many federal dollars as possible to be used in a medical assistance program, such as the WHP. The bill is admittedly a long shot, despite clinic closings and clients abandoned by last session's cuts.

Sen. Dan Patrick, R-Houston, has refiled his SB 97, which would require a doctor to **administer in person** medicines that induce abortion, even though that is not required by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and particularly burdens women in rural areas with limited medical access. Last session, Patrick successfully sponsored the transvaginal-ultrasound-before-abortion bill.

Finally, although at press time it had not yet been filed, Capitol watchers anticipate a pro-life bill – at least if Texas Right to Life has anything to say about it, and in Texas politics TRL most certainly does. TRL Director Elizabeth Graham emailed supporters that a bill is imminent that would "establish a state interest in preborn life that can feel pain according to peer-reviewed medical literature" and would therefore outlaw abortions for all "preborn children who feel pain," which according to Graham begins at 20 weeks – the next medically dubious frontier in the abortion rollback.

– Jordan Smith

continued on p.30



Planned Parenthood has been the biggest loser in the state's substantial budget cuts to women's health.

JANA BIRCHUM

Great Doomed Ideas

Here are three commonsense measures (the first two authored by Rep. Richard Raymond, D-Laredo, and the third by Sen. Dan Patrick, R-Houston) that would address the problem of politics infecting the judiciary. Don't expect any of them to become law.

Unitary Judiciary: HB 134, a perennial Hail Mary, would eliminate altogether the Court of Criminal Appeals and fold the work of the state's highest criminal venue into the Texas Supreme Court, which currently hears civil matters and criminal matters involving juveniles. There's no persuasive reason to have a bifurcated system – the U.S. has gotten along quite well with only one Supreme Court – and it would save money to collapse the two benches. Bet on this one to stall early.

Money Talks: HB 129 would require CCA and Supreme Court judges to recuse themselves from cases when they've received campaign contributions from a party to or attorney for the matter under consideration. Sounds utterly sensible – but elected judges cannot do without such contributions, especially from major law firms that regularly appear before them. If this one were to pass, there would likely be no appeals courts left. Consider this one dead on arrival.

Hold That Lever: SB 103 attacks the problem more modestly, by eliminating the option of straight-ticket voting in judicial races. Because court races are down-ballot contests, many voters ignore them or vote strictly by party, often returning to the bench, ad nauseam, judges of questionable credibility or skill. Because the bill is being proposed by a conservative GOP senator, it might garner broader bipartisan support and traction – but with the parties as polarized and institutionalized as they are, it remains a long shot. – J.S.



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Drugs: No Texas Sunrise

Nationally, public opinion is firmly in favor of legalizing marijuana for medicinal use, and public support is growing for full legalization of pot for use by adults – marked by the historic votes last month in Colorado and Washington state that will do just that. But it's safe to say that Texas officially wants no part in either helping sick patients or bringing in new tax revenue if it means dealing with the demon weed.

Nonetheless, two lawmakers – Democratic Reps. **Harold Dutton** of Houston and Austin's **Elliott Naishtat** – persistently try to push their colleagues in that direction. Naishtat hasn't yet filed a medi-pot bill for this session, though we suspect one might be on its way. And Dutton has already refiled his two perennial favorites, measures to lessen punishments associated with possession of illegal drugs. HB 184 would decriminalize possession of up to 1 ounce of marijuana or synthetic marijuana by adults, making the possession a fine-only offense. Thus far that hasn't persuaded his colleagues, so over the years Dutton has added lagniappes, including making the possession a class B misdemeanor (punishable by up to six months in jail) if the person is popped three times or more in a two-year period; repeat offenders would not be eligible for probation. Not exactly a free-wheeling legalization measure. Still, despite the fact that the bill could divert thousands of folks from county jails, saving counties much money, its chances of passage are virtually nil. Dutton has also filed a similar decriminalization measure that downgrades punishments associated with possession of small amounts of other drugs, including LSD, heroin, and cocaine: Possession of less than a gram, or fewer than 20 hits in the case of LSD, would be a class A misdemeanor (six months in jail) instead of a state jail felony (two years in a state jail). Again, a commonsense downgrade, therefore unlikely to catch fire.

Fortunately, also unlikely to win passage is HB 124, the perennial proposal from Rep. Charles “Doc” Anderson, R-Waco, to criminalize *Salvia divinorum* – a hallucinogenic member of the sage family of plants – and place it in the category mainly made up of barbituates, anti-anxiety drugs, hypnotics, and sedatives that includes diazepam and peyote. Anderson has been on a quest to make every part of the plant, also known as **Mexican sage**, illegal to possess. But he hasn't gotten much traction because the plant is also a promising substance for use in the treatment of schizophrenia, depression, and Alzheimer's disease, among others. The medical research community has so far been able to keep at bay Anderson's bid to criminalize yet another plant, and there's no reason to think that won't continue to be the case in 2013.

– J.S.



JOHN ANDERSON
Elliott Naishtat

Criminal Justice: Cheaper but Smarter?

Who will be tapped to head the **House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee**? The well-respected former chair of that committee, Alpine Democrat Pete Gallego, is off to Congress. With a host of new House freshmen, there is real concern that institutional knowledge and the ability to effectively navigate this very political universe will be lost, leaving the committee vulnerable to undue influence. One rumor has it that Rep. **Debbie Riddle**, R-Tomball, who served on the committee in four previous sessions, might be appointed chair. Despite her committee history, Riddle is also one of the Dome's most notorious loose cannons, and if knowledge of how the law actually works matters to Speaker **Joe Straus** (presuming he is re-elected by the members), Riddle's a nonstarter. Even with a new speaker, Riddle would be a long shot – but that some observers are wringing their hands over the possibility suggests the vacuum left by Gallego.

Beyond that initial administrative issue, there are several key policy matters that will certainly be on the table this year, including further efforts to “de-incarcerate” the state by moving low-risk individuals out of expensive – and, what with the critical shortage of prison guards, increasingly dangerous – prisons, and into supervised but cheaper programs like parole and probation. Consider this session another opportunity to get smarter on crime and punishment.

That said, there are plenty of bills out there vying to criminalize behaviors (including a renewed push to outlaw **texting while driving** – passed but vetoed by the governor



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



last session – embodied in HBs 27, 63, 69, and 108, for example), or to ratchet up penalties for behavior already considered criminal (consider Rep.

Trey Martinez Fischer's bid to require any **sex offenders** who retain online privileges to declare their status on social media sites).

And there are also the perennial favorites – including Houston Dem Rep. Harold Dutton's seemingly quixotic quest to **outlaw the death penalty** (HB 164). Someday Dutton (or one of his successors) will succeed in ending capital punishment in Texas – but the time is unlikely to be now.

Dutton does have a more likely proposal: HB 189 would **ban uncorroborated testimony** of a jailhouse snitch in capital cases. It would require snitch testimony to be corroborated by an electronic recording of the defendant's jailhouse confes-

At least four bills have been prefiled that would renew the push to ban texting while driving.

sion or admission. It would also prohibit testimony of a snitch or alleged accomplice if that testimony is offered in exchange for some grant of leniency by the state. Prosecutors will undoubtedly balk at a potential obstacle to convictions, but evidence of **corruption involving snitches** is rampant. Loyola Law School Professor Alexandra Natapoff's Snitching Blog (www.snitching.org) offers a plethora of horrifying examples of what happens when snitching is incentivized. For homegrown examples, consider the cases of **Anthony Graves**, finally exonerated in 2010 for a multiple murder he didn't commit, or **Cameron Todd Willingham**, also informed upon by a snitch and ultimately executed before the arson science used to convict him was shown to be fatally flawed.

Capitol watchers anticipate legislation addressing discipline for **prosecutors who engage in misconduct**, such as the deliberate withholding of exculpatory material. Lawmakers could harden the criminal statute regarding **official oppression** (which most directly targets criminally oppressive behavior by cops) to cover prosecutor misconduct, or could invest the State Commission on Judicial Conduct with the power to investigate and discipline alleged incidences of misconduct. With the exoneration of **Michael Morton** still fresh, and with **Ken Anderson**, the former Williamson County D.A.-turned-district judge facing a February court-of-inquiry to determine whether he withheld evidence in the Morton case that could have prevented the conviction, the issue will certainly be on lawmakers' minds.

– J.S.

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THE ARTS

'Vodka, Fucking, and Television'

FOR BREAKING STRING THEATER'S LATEST SHOW, THE WHOLE WORLD IS WATCHING

Far be it from me to discourage someone from actually going to the theatre in order to see something on a small screen, but here's an exception I think is worth making, because: 1) it's still fairly rare to see an Austin stage production captured on video; and 2) this one's going out to a global audience.

This Saturday, Dec. 8, Breaking String Theater breaks out of theatre's traditional confines with a livestreamed performance of its current production, *Vodka, Fucking, and Television*. A video feed from Hyde Park Theatre – edited on the fly by actor/playwright/director/designer/master video manipulator Lowell Bartholomee – will be available to anyone on the planet through the open-access, shared-resource channel #NewPlayTV, operated by the online theatre journal, HowlRound.

Conventional wisdom has long held that stage performances on film can never capture the liveness of the theatrical experience and invariably wind up flat. But recent success with live cinema broadcasts by the Metropolitan Opera, National Theatre of Great Britain, and



COURTESY OF WILL HOLLIS SNIDER

Who can write without a little shot? Noel Gaulin's *Hero* tempted by Joey Hood's *Vodka*

Globe Theatre may be retiring that notion for contemporary audiences, and the web generation's willingness to watch anything on a small screen is opening a window

for work by small, independent performing arts companies to reach around the world and find fans far from their homes.

A global audience seems especially fitting for this Breaking String production given its international nature. This contemporary comedy from Russia received a staged reading at Breaking String's New Russian Drama Festival last January, with its author, Maksym Kurochkin, in attendance, and the positive reception to the reading created momentum for a full production. It's exciting to think that Russians could tune in to see what a handful of Texans are doing with one of their sharpest dramatists today (that is, if they're willing to be up at 6am, Moscow time, to catch it live).

To see the live stream, log on at www.livestream.com/#newplaytv or www.breakingstring.com at 8pm, Central time. And by all means, feel free to see the play performed live as well. (For a review, see Exhibitionism, p.38.)

– Robert Faïres

Vodka, Fucking, and Television runs through Dec. 15, Thursday-Saturday, 8pm, at Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd. For more information, visit www.breakingstring.com.

'Drinking & Driving'

PHOTOGRAPHERS ASHLEY WATSON AND CHRIS EVANS SNAP PRIVATE MOMENTS IN PUBLIC SETTINGS

On Friday, Dec. 7, Pump Project Satellite's Flex Space debuts "Drinking & Driving," featuring photography from Ashley Watson and Chris Evans. The show plays upon intimate moments contrasted against public settings. For Watson, this manifests as images of partiers on Sixth Street taken from her *Festival of Cruelty* series. The subjects of Watson's work stand as monolithic figures amidst a brewing, drunken chaos. It is an undeniably captivating train wreck in which alcohol has created an accidental cast of performers.

Evans' series draws attention to the personal instances unnoticed in the bustle of roadway traffic. His images, part of his *Thank the Romans* series, depict the concealed moments experienced by individuals while commuting. It is a voyeuristic approach, offering sharp contrast to Watson's bawdy subjects,



From the *Festival of Cruelty* series, by Ashley Watson

who seem all too enthusiastic to pose for the camera. Evans' soft portraits catch people in an objective position. Their perceived anonymity offers a natural tone as they unwittingly become subjects.

Both artists exult in discarding the assumption of privacy. Watson hones in on her subjects' vulnerability but never exploits it. Evans creates more distance in his photography, allowing his subjects to maintain composure without the noticeable presence of a camera. Watson and Evans remind their audience that anything in the public eye is fair game, and the guise of obscurity that we believe to be steadfast is easily eroded.

– Caitlin Greenwood

"Drinking & Driving" runs Dec. 7-22, at Pump Project Satellite's Flex Space, 1109 Shady. An opening reception will be held Friday, Dec. 7, 7-11pm. For more information, visit www.pumpproject.org.

Austin Playhouse

ONCE MORE WITH FEELING: THE THEATRE CREATES YET ANOTHER TEMPORARY SPACE FOR ITS NEW SEASON

So Austin Playhouse is about to open a temporary theatre facility while its new permanent theatre is under construction.

Feeling a sudden flash of déjà vu? It wouldn't be surprising since the same announcement was made by Artistic Director Don Toner a year ago, when the Playhouse erected a \$24,000, 55-by-60-foot tent on land adjacent to the site of its planned new home in the Mueller development. But after producing five shows in it, the company disassembled that tent, confident that the permanent structure would be built and open in a matter of months.

Well, after more months of delays in obtaining construction permits – owing to a backlog at the city – Toner asked his subscribers which they'd prefer: to

wait several extra months until the new theatre was finished to see the next Playhouse production, or to see shows sooner in yet another temporary space. His fans voted for the latter, so Toner began scouting for options. He saw possibilities in a vacant storefront in Highland Mall and struck a deal with mall management and Austin Community College. Just after Thanksgiving, Playhouse company members began transforming the spot into a theatre – one with the tiered seating of the tent theatre, an even larger stage, and, not insignificantly, indoor plumbing (something greatly missed last season). (For images, see www.austinplayhouse.blogspot.com.)

Now, Austin Playhouse will begin its 13th season – lucky 13th! – on Dec. 13 in the east

end of Highland Mall's lower level, across from Express and by what was Macy's. The first show, a new comic mystery by Ken Ludwig of *Lend Me a Tenor* fame, imagines the American actor William Gillette, famed for his portrayal of Sherlock Holmes on the stage, playing detective for real when a guest at his castle is murdered. Following the five-week run of *The Game's Afoot* (or *Holmes for the Holidays*) will be the Austin premiere of recent Broadway hit and Pulitzer finalist *Other Desert Cities* by Jon Robin Baitz (*The Substance of Fire*), running Jan. 25-Feb. 24.

– R.F.

The Game's Afoot (or *Holmes for the Holidays*) runs Dec. 13-Jan. 13, Thursday-Saturday, 8pm; Sunday, 5pm, at Austin Playhouse at Highland Mall, 6001 Airport Blvd. For more information, call 476-0084 or visit www.austinplayhouse.com.



COURTESY OF TONY SPIELBERG

The Nutcracker turns 50 this year. Yes, it was 1962 when Ballet Austin offered its first full-length version of Tchaikovsky's Christmas chestnut – just six Decembers after BA's debut performing scenes from the ballet at City Coliseum – and now it's been a yuletide tradition longer than any other *Nutcracker* in Texas. Hundreds of dancers have jetéed and pirouetted through the Land of the Sweets, scampered out from under Mother Ginger's ample skirts, or oohed admiringly at Clara's handsome gift from Drosselmeyer, and Ballet Austin wants to bring them all together for this milestone. For the opening night of this golden anniversary run, it's rolling out the white carpet for former cast members with a reunion reception before the performance. Anyone who's ever appeared in the company's *Nutcracker* is encouraged to attend. The production runs through Dec. 23: Fridays, 7:30pm; Saturdays, 2 & 7:30pm; and Sundays, 2pm; with additional performances Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 19 & 20, 7:30pm; in Dell Hall at the Long Center, 701 W. Riverside. For more information, call 476-2163 or visit www.balletaustin.org.

– R.F.



SANDY CARSON

Expressing Himself

How David Bologna made the leap to Broadway and a Tony nomination in 'Billy Elliot the Musical'

BY ROBERT FAIRES

By the time he was 14, David Bologna had logged a lot of time in a skirt, and he doesn't care who knows it. Why should he? His cross-dressing turn as Michael, the irrepressible, secure-in-his-skin best bud to the titular hero of *Billy Elliot the Musical*, was a highlight of that show's first year on Broadway and even earned the young Austinite a Tony Award nomination for Best Featured Actor in a Musical in 2009.

Making one's mark on the Great White Way while still in middle school, skirt or no skirt, demands a mountain of moxie and a corresponding desire to show 'em what you got. But "Expressing Yourself," as Michael defines his personal philosophy in his big number, has never been an issue with Bologna. Inspired at age six by a live performance of *Lord of the Dance*, he taught himself the basics of Irish dancing by rewinding and replaying a VHS tape of the show. That eventually led to two first-place wins in the North American Irish Dancing Championships and a fifth-place finish in the World Irish Dance Championships. At the same time, Bologna was becoming the go-to kid on the theatre scene in his hometown of New Orleans, doing a dozen shows and earning a pair of Big Easy Entertainment Awards. When his family relocated to Austin following Katrina, the young performer was reticent to start over in a new city, but once he did, the roles kept coming, and in short order he'd won a B. Iden Payne Award for his work in Zach Theatre's *Golly Gee Whiz!*.

Indeed, had it not been for his Austin theatre involvement, Bologna might never have auditioned for *Billy Elliot* on Broadway. While doing *Grease* at kidsActing, a friend tipped Bologna to the regional auditions in Dallas, so David and his parents, Rick and Holly, decided to check them out, just for the experience. David's lack of ballet training made him less of a good fit for aspiring classicist Billy, but his Irish dancing skill was close enough to the tap Michael dances that the casting directors kept him in mind for the role. Months after the Dallas sessions came the call that David was on the short list for Michael. *Chronicle* Arts writer Adam Roberts helped him drill his tap technique for a grueling series of callbacks in which a group of 12 was whittled to six, then four, then two. Finally, Bologna was cast, along with Fred Dolce, with whom he shared the role. So in late June, Bologna and his mother moved to New York, where they lived for 15 months while he rehearsed and performed in the show. David returned to Austin to start high school at St. Dominic Savio, but was asked back to play Michael for a two-month run in the summer of 2010. Since then, he's continued performing at his school and with kidsActing.

With the national tour of *Billy Elliot the Musical* arriving in Austin, it seemed a fitting time to check in with Bologna about his experiences in the Broadway run. Here are excerpts from two interviews in which the young performer reflects on his time in the show and how it's affected his life. For the full version, visit austinchronicle.com.

Texas Performing Arts and the Austin Public Library host a free Brown Bag Lunch with cast members from *Billy Elliot the Musical* Thursday, Dec. 13, noon, at the Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe. For more information, call 974-7400 or visit library.austintexas.gov.

A Dance Master Class on Musical Theatre Jazz led by *Billy Elliot the Musical* Dance Captains Michael Biren and Alison Solomon, with special guest David Bologna, will be held Saturday, Dec. 15, 10-11:30am, in McCullough Theatre, 2390 Robert Dedman Dr. For intermediate-level dancers and up. Space is limited. To RSVP, call 471-6376 or email jrhedin@texasperformingarts.org.

Austin Chronicle: Billy had done very well in London, but a lot of shows do well there, then transfer to Broadway and it doesn't click. Could you sense early on if it was going to connect with American audiences?

David Bologna: That was honestly one of the biggest worries of everyone in the cast. You know, it takes place in Britain. We have British accents that no one can understand. We're cursing left and right – I mean, I was saying the F word constantly onstage. How is an American audience going to react to that? But the thing that was always there was the fact that everyone can relate to this story. It's a story of finding yourself, finding a dream, and immersing yourself in it to find something worth living for. For Billy, that's dance. For someone else, it may be service work. For someone else, math. I don't know. But whatever it is, they can relate to it.

AC: How was opening night?

DB: Opening night was one of the greatest experiences I've had ever. There was some sort of magic – I can't describe it any other way – some sort of energy that I don't think was matched in any other show. One of the best things about that night was the Gypsy Robe ceremony. It's such a neat Broadway tradition. A robe is passed from show to show, and whoever has done the most shows as an ensemble member gets to wear the robe, and whichever show you're in [adds] some sort of trinket or patch onto the robe, then we all make a circle, and the person [wearing the robe] runs around the circle three times, and everyone has to touch the robe for good luck.

That was one of the coolest things for me, because it was like an initiation, like I was part of Broadway now because I'd taken part in this weird ceremony. It also reinforced the fact that all theatre people are weird, no matter where you go.

AC: What about once you got into the run?

DB: It was always a different day, never the same. We'd have cast members get injured and have an understudy or a swing come in for them. We also had a lot of people leave toward the end of my run. A few months after we opened, the first people started leaving. That was so bizarre for everyone in the cast. It was like reality – these people are actually leaving, moving on, and eventually we're going to have to, too.

So that always shook things up. Also, like any job you have, even if it's something that you love, there are days when you go, "I really don't want to go in to work today." There were days when I'd have school in the morning, then I'd have a Pilates class, because we'd have physical therapists work with us, then I'd go to rehearsal, then I'd go that night to do the show or stay on standby in case my understudy or double got hurt, so I'd have to be at the theatre every night, and it was a little tiring now and then.

Also, certain days you feel on top of the world and go, "Great show," and then other days you come out of the show and think, "Wow, I did a pretty terrible job." But that's the beauty of theatre: No two nights are ever the same. It's a blessing and a curse.

AC: Did you have many celebrities come backstage after seeing the show?

DB: Yes. We had countless people. Robert De Niro came. Hillary Clinton came. Debbie Reynolds, Tommy Tune, Miranda Cosgrove of *iCarly* – it was incredible to meet

continued on p.36

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these people and have them appreciate your work. You look up to them, like, "You're a living legend," then they're saying, "You did a great job." That's so inspiring. Debbie Reynolds, I have to say, was very funny. She gave me a big hug and said, "My goodness, you remind me of me when I was younger. You are a little ham! You were wonderful." I was like, "Oh my goodness, Debbie Reynolds just told me that. I'm about to die."

AC: *So months go by, then the Tony nominations come out. Tell me about that day.*

DB: My mom and I had gone down to Times Square that day to watch the nominations on the big screen. It was raining cats and dogs, and there was no one in Times Square – which is really odd for Times Square – and, of course, there are technical difficulties, so the screens aren't working. My mom was on the phone to my dad, and he had pulled the live stream up on his computer at work back in Texas, and all of a sudden I hear my mom say, "He got nominated?" And she turns to me and grabs me and says, "David, you got nominated!" And I was like, "... What?" Still today, it hasn't hit me. It's still surreal. And totally, totally, unexpected.

AC: *Was the time leading up to the Tonys one of the craziest months of your life?*

DB: It was. It was interview after interview. I got to go to a luncheon with all the other nominees, and that was incredible. James Gandolfini was there, Liza Minnelli, Sutton Foster – so many huge names that I'm like, "Why am I here? What have I done to get here? This isn't, this isn't ... no!"

AC: *And the ceremony?*

DB: That was a great night. I was so taken aback by what everyone in the cast, the crew, the creative team, the producers, what we had accomplished. Regardless of whether we had won it or not, I was just so happy that we had all made it there together. And with my family, with all the families supporting their kids, it was a great culmination to our work.

AC: *Talk about the decision to leave Billy.*

DB: I think my family and I [always knew] that I would eventually leave and move back to Austin. It was just kind of understood. Then we finally sat down and talked about it, and I said that I really wanted to go back at the beginning of freshman year. So once we decided that, we let the crew know and we put in my notice. That was a weird time, because it was a countdown, basically. It was just waitin' for September 27th. That was my last day. But there were four of five of us leaving that day, so it was an emotional day – very, very emotional.

AC: *Did that performance feel different?*

DB: That performance was, by far, my favorite performance ever. Because at that point, I was past caring if I got the steps

right, I was past the perfectionist inside me. I was just focusing on having a great time and cherishing the last moments I had in the show. And I had never done that before, honestly. I had never been able to fully let myself go into that moment as much as I had that night. That was so wonderful.

AC: *Have you been able to incorporate that into your performances since then?*

DB: Definitely. I think since that performance, my way of performing has changed. I've become a lot less tense.

AC: *And did that make things different for you when you went back the next summer?*

DB: It did. I was like, "Okay, I'm back. This is weird, unexpected, but I'm gonna just do my thing and have fun." Those two months were two months of last shows, basically. Every night was like, I know I have a limited run, but I'm gonna enjoy it anyway.

AC: *I imagine that's made it a little easier to come back to Austin, where you're working on a different scale and level of material.*

DB: It puts things in perspective. Instead of

looking at the wrongs, the wrongs, the wrongs, it's about letting go every now and then and absorbing the positives and appreciating what you have in the moment.

AC: *Are there places where you feel like your life intersects with Billy's?*

DB: Oh, definitely. Billy finds himself just as Michael does, and I think playing Michael helped me find my own sense of individuality, both while I was there and once I left. I've been able to confidently be me, because I can relate to Michael going out and wearing a dress, doing the most extreme things, and not caring what anyone else

thinks, pursuing it because that's what makes him feel himself. That's how he expresses himself. Everyone can relate to that, because at some point, everyone finds something that they absolutely love, that makes them feel like themselves, totally unique and special.

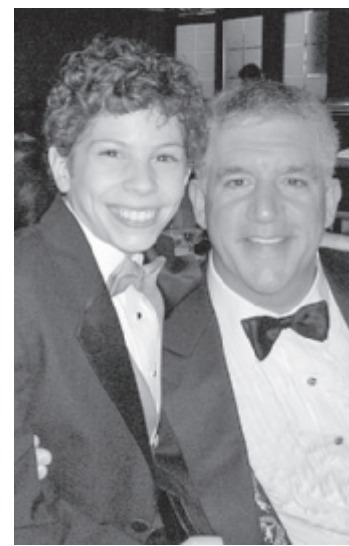
AC: *You'll graduate from high school soon. Where do you see this taking you in the long run? Do you want to go back to Broadway?*

DB: At some point, yeah. I love writing music, and I really want to pursue a career in that, so that's what I'm looking to go to college for. I would still love to do Broadway, of course, and theatre, and film. Music and dance will be my main focus, but I'm always going to be an artist who wants to challenge himself in every aspect of the arts.

AC: *I imagine if you tried to give up theatre, you'd have Debbie Reynolds tracking you down and dragging you back on the stage.*

DB: [Laughs] That would be funny. ■

Billy Elliot the Musical runs Dec. 11-16, Tue.-Sun., 8pm; Sat., 2pm, at Bass Concert Hall, 2350 Robert Dedman Dr. For more information, call 471-1444 or visit www.textasperformingarts.org.



Tony night! David with fellow cast member and Best Supporting Actor nominee Gregory Jbarra, who won the award.

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EXHIBITIONISM

Vodka, Fucking, and Television**Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-7529****www.breakingstring.com****Through Dec. 15****Running time: 1 hr.**

For some surely unknowable reason, the tortured inner lives of writers is a topic that writers – be they novelists, playwrights, screenwriters, etc. – seem to find endlessly fascinating. Weird coincidence, right? Self-loathing, vices, and their impact on men with a passion for creation are much-beloved topics in written works, and Breaking String Theater's new play is a full-on exploration of author Maksym Kurochkin's psyche.

Few actors on the Austin stage are more appropriate to take on a role like the Hero of *Vodka, Fucking, and Television* than Noel Gaulin, who has emerged as one of Austin's premier avatars of twitchy, righteous rage. He's convinced that he must give up one of the three titular vices, and personifica-

tions of all three quickly appear in his studio apartment, where each makes the case for its continued relevance to his life. The dapper, restrained Vodka (Joey Hood) and the smarmy, overdressed Television (Jude Hickey) defend themselves against the indomitable power of the barely-dressed Fucking (Adriene Mishler).

What follows is a power struggle of shifting alliances, a courtroom drama-style series of persuasive arguments, with the Hero listening to and rebutting each in turn. It's a funny, fast-paced hour of performance, aided strongly by the chemistry of the show's likeable cast and Liz Fisher's strong directorial choices, like the television in the apartment playing a string of thematically-appropriate clips that enhance the point being made at a given time. (Astute audience members will catch scenes from *The Shining*, *Jerry Maguire*, and the *Twilight Zone* episode "Time Enough at Last" at relevant moments.)

But those relevant moments are also at least as alienating as they are accessible.

'Post Linear' Gallery Shoal Creek, 2905 San Gabriel #101, 454-6671**www.galleryshoalcreek.com**
Through Jan. 12

The land and the wind, and the wind upon the land: "Post Linear" at Gallery Shoal Creek brings us three forces that the world calls artists, trapping and domesticating primal elements in ways that might confound a viewer accustomed to more rigid strictures and structures of capture.

Beili Liu unveils a sophisticated version of kindergarten's blowing-on-tempera-paint-with-straws, filling canvas with dark pigmental diaspora, the sort of organic fractals that can be reached by sumi ink under the pressure of breath. Main streams of black go raggedly arterial and shade to a transparency that reads as gray against the huge swaths of pale fabric. Look: It's a collection of tenebral rivers, legendless and mysterious, a mix of Styx and Lethe and that unnamed delta forming before the ocean of Jung's realm of shadows. Look: These large works are paired with smaller creations by Liu, negatives to the positives of the Wind Drawings. The light-on-darknesses boast a wealth of shreds, potential frameworks of lace for some wayward Calabi-Yau manifold, the result of hand-cut

**Wind Drawing, Current #1, by Beili Liu**

paper and graphite applied to birch panels.

Shawn Camp's oils on canvas are works we've enthused about the relatives of in previous issues. Whether working with a single piece large enough to fill a room's wall or rendering a series of segments that could be obscured, one on one, by a dinner plate, the artist is (our history of image-immersion insists) taking geographic cartography based on aerial photography and making it his painterly own. It often seems beyond a human touch, even, as if vast landscapes chosen for their genius skills with brush and

brightest mud had been encouraged to create abstract self-portraits. The vastnesses hinted at by these striking works can almost turn the gallery into a TARDIS if you squint at them the right way.

The paintings of Sandra Pratt seem, appropriately, as if the seen-from-above perspective of Camp's vision has shifted to a closer, more street-view map of representation. Here, among the artist's thickly applied planes of grays and blues, signs of humanity can be seen: a house or a group of houses wherein dwell, perhaps, viewers who will appreciate an artist's work – or people who are artists themselves – or scientists – or bricklayers – or those who collect single-peticoat glass insulators – or some other iteration of this busy monster whose recorded perceptions define the elements of wind and land and the whole classical caboodle.

– Wayne Alan Brenner



COURTESY OF WILL HOLLIS SNIDER

That's the danger of a play so specifically about its author's own neuroses: There's a fine line between "universal in its specific-

You know WTF: Think the Hero (Noel Gaulin) will be able to say no to Fucking (Adriene Mishler)?

ity" and "self-indulgent," and *Vodka, Fucking, and Television* is too often the latter. Trying to balance a creative life with alcohol, sex, and distractions like TV is a relatable theme; bemoaning the lack of vodka-selling kiosks in new capitalist Russia, expressing a love of specific Disney cartoons developed after a stint in the army, and working whatever marital issues Kurochkin has with the phrase "Fucking is my wife" are less so. (The "Fucking is my wife" sequence drags so long that even Hickey's Television has a line acknowledging how repetitive it is.)

However, at its best, the script creates a lot of opportunity for the talented cast to do good things. Gaulin turns himself into a cartoon wolf over Mishler, who plays up the ridiculousness of oozing sexuality onstage in this context. Hickey restrains his natural charms as a performer to interesting effect, and there's a physicality from all of the performers that's thrilling in a space as tiny as Hyde Park Theatre. It makes for a fun night, but one that only really seems to connect on the more shallow levels. – Dan Solomon

Between Heaven and Hades Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd.; Nov. 30

I have to bicker with the title of Ballet East's latest program. While the company has historically been an in-between place for dancers and choreographers, there's nothing purgatorial or stagnant about it. Rather, it's a place where artists try out new ideas, build confidence, and develop quickly. People don't get stuck there. Sometimes, they move on before you're ready to see them go.

Over three decades of performances at the Dougherty Arts Center, company director Rodolfo Mendez has presented dances by many choreographers – including Sharon Marroquín, Andrea Ariel, and Gina Patterson – who have gone on to successfully produce their own work and have been tapped for projects on national and international levels. For others, like Dixon Mena, who has recently returned to Austin after several years in New York to be the company's resident choreographer, the journey eventually led them back to Ballet East. And then there's associate director Melissa Villarreal, for whom the journey became the destination: Mendez has been her mentor since she began attending his free classes in East Austin at age 14.

Reverence for the journey was a theme shared among the seven dances. Villarreal's "Transcendental Conversion," to music by Dead Can Dance, opened the program with an explosion of diversity – not just ethnic diversity but also individuality in expression and inflection. In a section peppered with African-inspired movement, Sadé M. Jones was powerful, dynamic, and luscious. In "Persephone," a haunting solo choreographed by dancer Hailley Schwartz

and Eric Midgley, Schwartz showed not only gorgeous lines and expansive extensions but also nuance and maturity. A simple twisting gesture, reaching one arm behind her back, seemed to take the entire stage. Mena's "Circulo Vicioso" transcended the dance-with-chairs cliché by way of manhandling: After peering out at the audience, the dancers slammed, kicked, and nearly threw the metal folding chairs, delightfully furious.

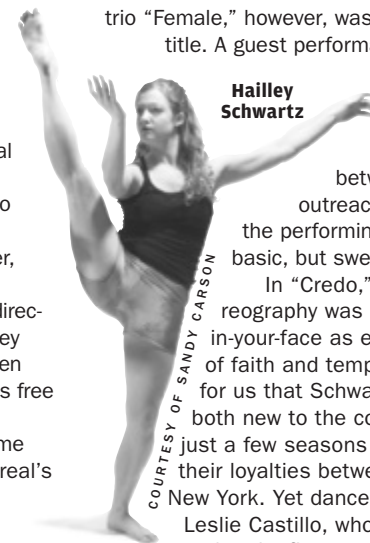
After intermission, five women in brightly colored tunics danced Schwartz's "Bury Me to the Sky," a reflective piece based on Native American themes. The concept behind Mena's trio "Female," however, was as vague as its title. A guest performance by five teen-

age members of the new Ballet East II – something of a bridge

between Mendez's outreach programs and the performing company – was basic, but sweet and exuberant.

In "Credo," J.P. Flores' choreography was as dramatic and in-your-face as ever in depictions of faith and temptation. It's too bad for us that Schwartz and Flores, both new to the company's roster just a few seasons ago, now parse their loyalties between Austin and New York. Yet dancers like Jones and Leslie Castillo, whose delicate arms and stoic, fiery energy rendered lovely complexities throughout the program – and the relative novelty of having three men onstage (including the BE II dancers) – assure that significant journeys are still to be witnessed through Ballet East's programs.

– Jonelle Seitz



COURTESY OF SANDY CARSON

Hailley Schwartz



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andy coolquitt: attainable excellence is organized by Blaffer Art Museum at the University of Houston. It is made possible in part by the Cecil Amelia Blaffer von Furstenberg Endowment for Exhibitions and Programs, Houston Endowment Inc. and Nayla Hadchiti. Support for the publication is provided in part by Lisa Cooley.

IMAGES: Andy Coolquitt, Installation view of *andy coolquitt: attainable excellence* at The Jones Center, AMOA-Arthouse, 2012, Courtesy of the artist and Lisa Cooley, Photo by Ben Aqua.

Michael Menchaca, (detail) *Dios De La Noche*, 2011, Serigraphy, 15 x 20 inches, Courtesy of the artist.

AMOA-Arthouse is funded in part by museum trustees, members, and patrons. Additional support is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

AMOA-Arthouse projects are also funded and supported in part by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts and by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division, believing an investment in the Arts is an investment in Austin's future. Visit Austin at NowPlayingAustin.com





Seabrook Jones (center) at his benefit, surrounded with love from (l-r) Micah King, Stephen Rice, Jacki Oh, Stephen Moser, and Maria Groten

ADLEDADDLED

Having heard **Jonathan Adler's** name a bit too often and linking it to kitschy Sixties and Seventies decor that wasn't cool when it was new the first time around, I did not expect much from his booksigning at his eponymous store on West Fifth but was practically dragged there by **Jacki Oh**. It turned out to be a hive of stylishness and stylish people. Mr. Adler puts a high-camp spin on the decor, definitely appealing to the urban gay sensibility. From needlepoint pillows featuring **Liza Minnelli's** face, to a large, suggestively peeled brass banana, to my favorites: the canisters marked "dolls" (as in **Valley of the Dolls**), and the matching ones in various sizes marked **Wellbutrin, Xanax, Ganja**, etc. Clever, fun, and bright (though not inexpensive) for some terrific gifting choices.

SEABROOK

The first benefit for my dear friend **Seabrook Jones** was a lovely, heartfelt tribute to a much-beloved character in the style and non-profit scenes. So many folks came together to see their old friend. I had an

especially emotional moment with **Louisa Spaventa (Ruby Lamb)**, because seeing her brought me right back to the time and place I met Seabrook. Another benefit is planned for Wednesday, Dec. 12, 8pm-2am, at Kingdom, featuring DJs and producers **Gabriel & Dresden**, with support from **Matt Lange** and local DJs **Jason Jenkins, Christian Barbuto**, and **Andrew Parsons**. Tickets are \$25 in advance (www.kingdomaustin.com) and \$30 at the door.

FASHION SHOW ALERT

The **Winter Bazaar** by the **Fashion and Retail Management Program** at the **Art Institute of Austin** will be held Wednesday, Dec. 12 (12/12/12 – when will that ever happen again?), 7pm, at Lucky Lounge. The 24 students in the **Fashion and Event Production** class are responsible for every part of the show. Unlike other fashion programs, the classes focus on the merchandising and management side of fashion. Though a majority of the looks have been sourced from various designers and boutiques, the Winter Bazaar will indeed have a small segment of student designs within the show. The final result should be very exciting. For details, email Kris Deaton at kdeaton07@yahoo.com.



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THE SHOPPING BLOCK

Vaunted retailer **H&M** has opened at the Domain. I do wish the store were more centrally located – like Fifth & Lamar or Second Street ... but H&M did not ask for my opinion on the matter. Even so, I was eager to check it out (no, I did not camp outside the night before they opened). Go scoop up some reasonably priced high-style for the holiday parties you've got coming out your ears... Also on the shopping front is the new **Zink** brick-and-mortar store at 1601 W. 38th. With a spare and modern layout, the colorful canvas and leather bags become the decor, and designer **Ben Freedland** takes such pride in his craftsmanship that the bags become investment pieces. Stop by and see Ben, or go to www.zinkstore.com.

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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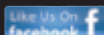
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Eclectic is the name of the game at the Wet Whistle, an East Austin neighborhood store on the corner of MLK and Chicon. Only months old, the love child of a convenience store and a local farmers' market is adored. The assortment of delicious surprises ranges from local tea to vegan cupcakes and lasagna, craft beers, and fresh organic produce. Some bulk items are available, and, in keeping with its Eastside digs, a bicycle-repair section offers tubes. Records spin as customers shop the artsy, very small, and very clean grocery store; employees are friendly and seemingly well-versed in the frequently changing products. The Wet Whistle's driving force is its dedication to local, sustainable grocery choices offered to a rapidly growing and changing section of Austin. Serving a variety of customers, this one-stop-foodie-shop is great for waiting out the dryer cycle at nearby Spin-N-Kleen, making a mad dash for a reasonable weekday breakfast, grabbing a healthy lunch on a bicycle adventure, or picking up organic milk and fresh flowers on the way home. The Wet Whistle provides a refreshing means for many of us Eastsiders to find preferred



TODD V. WOLFSON

items, without the usual gas station flashy ads and fluorescent lighting. On a recent visit, I enjoyed their small outdoor patio with a yummy Hot Mama's Cafe lemon zest shortbread cookie (\$2.75) and a Salty Dog Kosmic Kombucha (\$3.75). Some items may seem pricey for a convenience store setting, but they are no more costly than handcrafted items would be anywhere else in the city. It may not be the right place to dig the change from your pockets and buy a Coke (a personal guilty pleasure), but it seems perfectly suited to building community relationships while making life a little easier for people on the go. This store is exactly the type that reminds us that the best spot to spend our hard-earned dollars is in our beautiful Austin community. I don't always shop at lovely East Austin corner stores, but when I do, I'll choose the Wet Whistle.

— Jessi Cape

Guest-Pleasing Ideas, From Bubbles to Whisky

For your guests who appreciate adult beverages, a generous pour of a luxurious drink is always in order. Whether it's for a gathering of your best friends at a holiday meal or an intimate splurge with your lover, here are a few possibilities guaranteed to bring joy during this holiday season.

Bubbles: Luckily, sparkling wines come in every price range, but all of them require careful choices. The main reason you hear folks say Champagne gives them a headache is because they had too much of a lousy product at a wedding reception. Good wines in moderation don't produce headaches. Here are a few brands you can trust at all price points. Spain's Segura Viudas makes several versions, starting at \$10 for its fragrant Rosé, up to \$25 for its finest Cava, Reserva Heredad. Moët & Chandon is a worldwide brand with consistent winners. Domaine Chandon is the California version, and it starts at under \$20, while the classic Champagne, Dom Pérignon, often costs over \$200. In between are Chandon's sparkling wines and Champagnes at every price range. Another consistently recommendable brand is Sonoma's J Vineyards, priced between \$25 and \$50.



Whisky: A few stalwarts still prefer blended Scotch whiskies, and I have to admit a soft spot for Dewar's 18 Year Old (\$65). Once a whisky gets over the \$35 range, most connoisseurs prefer single malts. That sounds simple enough, but there are over 100 such distilleries in Scotland, all making multiple whiskies.

People just learning about the complex world of whisky should start with subtle styles from brands that are readily available. My favorites of this type are Glenmorangie Lasanta (\$43), the Balvenie DoubleWood (\$50), and Glenfiddich Malt Master's Edition (\$80).

Scotch whisky snobs generally take it as a matter of pride that their preferred brand is so packed with smoky peat aromas that we proletarians won't "get it." The truth is, anyone can enjoy these old-style whiskies in the proper environment. For me, that means after dinner on a cold night with a glass of Ardbeg 10 Year Old (\$45) or Laphroaig 10 Year Old (\$40).

— Wes Marshall

Meal Times Dec. 7-13

FOOD PALOOZA AT CHERRYWOOD ART FAIR

In addition to original artwork by more than 100 artists, live music all day, and kids' activities, this year they've got a food-truck court with Bake Austin, Elixer Coffee, mmmpanadas, Fresh Off the Truck, and more. Sat.-Sun., Dec. 8-9, 10am-5pm. Maplewood Elementary, 3808 Maplewood.

GLASS2PLATE SEASONAL FARM DINNER & TOUR

Dirk and Matt showcase local food in a multi-course meal with wine pairings on the grounds of historic Boggy Creek Farm, following a 5pm farm tour. Thirty seats available; reserve via email. Sat., Dec. 8, 5pm. Boggy Creek Farm, 3414 Lyons. \$135, all inclusive. dirk@glass2plate.com.

DECKING OF THE CELLARS LUNCHEON AT FALL CREEK

Celebrate the season with festive box

lunches, mulled wine, and a crackling fire in the decorated tasting room. Shop for wine and food items and unique gifts. Reserve online or by phone. Sat., Dec. 8 & 15, noon-2pm. Fall Creek Vineyards, 1820 CR 222, Tow. 325/379-5361. \$21.75. www.fcv.com.

TYLER FLORENCE Author and Food Network star signs copies of his newest cookbook, *Tyler Florence Fresh*, available in the store. Mon., Dec. 10, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar.

WINE ME DINE ME SPARKLING CELEBRATION Get into the spirit of the season with a multicourse dinner paired with festive sparkling wines. Reserve online or by phone. Tue., Dec. 11, 6pm. Cafe Josie, 1200-B W. Sixth, 322-9226. \$85. www.cafejosie.com.

'TIS THE SEASON TO ... LEARN TO BREW

HOPS & GRAIN EXPERIENCE Brewers, bakers, and butchers discuss the history of fermentation, complemented by samples from each of the panelists' crafts. Buy tickets at the brewery or via email. Sat., Dec. 8, 4-8pm. Hops & Grain Brewery, 507 Calles. \$20. info@hopsandgrain.com.

BREWING AND FLAVOR ANALYSIS 101 Beginning and intermediate brewers and enthusiasts learn the basic theory and practice of brewing, followed by a small tasting. Benefits the Texas Craft Brewers Guild. Sign up online. Sat., Dec. 8, 1-4pm. Black Star Co-op, 7020 Easy Wind. \$35. www.blackstar.coop.

BREWING AND FLAVOR ANALYSIS 201 for intermediate and advanced brewers and aficionados. House recipes will be used as a case study, plus a tasting and discussion of how to control flavors. Reserve online. Sun., Dec. 9, 1-4pm. Black Star Co-op. \$35.

food-o-file

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

The food writers and I have been covering a lot of events this week on our On the Range blog, starting with my visit to the **Travis High School Culinary Arts** program tamalada (where the students made delicious, authentic tamales) and Kenny Pailles' photo gallery of food shots from the **Food for Thought** gala at the COTA track. New writers checked out **Eric Asimov's** booksigning and the **Urban Farm Bicycle Tour**, I judged the **Central Market Gingerbread House** contest, and other writers caught **Raj Patel's** appearance, the media tasting at **Lucky Robot**, and **East Side King's** debut at the **Hole in the Wall** (check out Christian Remde's new video with Paul and Moto (www.vimeo.com/54209553)). Up next, there's the media opening at **Sway**, a live chef auction, and on and on.

Austin food was in the national news again last week, what with YouTube viewers getting a tour of Hyde Park dining spots during Tolly Moseley's **Hungry In - Austin** show, plus a big spread about Austin in the *New York Post* that revealed some serious leg work: breakfast tacos at **La Fruta Feliz**, decadently delicious hot chocolates with homemade marshmallows from the **Fete Accompli** farmers' market booth, tongue katsu from the **ESK** trailer outside the Grackle, a Dirty South burger on a huge doughnut at the new **Gourdough's Public House**, a loaf of Soup Can Bread from a **Foreign & Domestic** bake sale, and a bowl of jungle curry from Sway, before it was even open!

Speaking of **Foreign & Domestic**, be sure to ask Ned and Jodi Elliott about their **pop-up restaurant** experience in New York City over the weekend, where they were guest chefs at an annual event called **Immaculate Infatuation**. From what we gathered on Twitter, they were a big hit. We'll share the details of Jodi's **Foreign & Domestic Bake Sale** shops in the former La Boite cargo containers as soon as we get them.

Stopped by Raymond Tatum's **Three Little Pigs** trailer the other day and saw the attractive new patio seating area that came with some licensing changes at **East End Wines** (1209 Rosewood). Now that they've changed from a package store license to a winery license, they can continue to operate as a retail wine shop, but also offer wine for on-premise consumption. Wine buyer **Sam Hovland** says the change will make it possible for them to offer more wine classes, tastings, and special events, in addition to making it possible for customers to rent a glass and enjoy wine with chef Tatum's Asian-influenced, pig-centric cuisine at a comfortable patio table.

Friends who still mourn the loss of several fine eateries in the **Tarrytown Shopping Center** at Windsor and Exposition are cautiously optimistic about the new **Austin Java** that opened last week at 3110 Windsor, serving a vegetarian menu for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, with a full bar.

Oops: In last week's review of the **Mansion at Judges' Hill**, we mistakenly reported that C3 Presents had bought the property. The new owners are in fact a group of investors known as Rio Grande ATX Investments. We regret the error.

Mrs. Santa's Book Bag

An international smorgasbord with something for every palate

The best gift books for food, wine, and cocktail lovers this year have a distinctly international flare – from a Texas Gulf Coast restaurant to a Japanese farm, and from the diverse regions of the Indian subcontinent to Jewish holiday kitchens. There are wines from the Southern Hemisphere and cocktails with literary provenance, plus plenty of battle-tested recipes for busy home cooks and delectable desserts from a beloved Philadelphia bakery. Contributing Food writers MM Pack, Melanie Haupt, Kate Thornberry, Mick Vann, Wes Marshall, Amy Kritzer, Jessi Cape, and Gracie Salem have spot-on suggestions, both here and online, that will make your cookbook shopping easy this year. I hoarded most of the baking books that came this fall, and those reviews are included as a Web extra.

– Virginia B. Wood

Jewish Holiday Cooking

by Jayne Cohen
(Wiley, 592 pp., \$32.50)

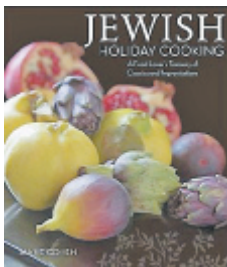
What makes certain foods Jewish? With the Jewish culture's geographical reach – from South Africa to Austria – can there be just one definition? For author Jayne Cohen, Bubbe's (Grandma's) sacred holiday recipes create the common bond. This, her second cookbook, includes both traditional dishes and elevated modern twists to simultaneously connect to past generations and evolve traditions for the future. Most Jews have an image of Bubbe braising a brisket for Hanukkah, or simmering matzo ball soup for Passover. The customary ingredients, techniques, and holiday-centric meals transcend physical location.

Cohen begins with a description of Jewish cuisine and then dives into recipes for the common holidays (Shabbat, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Hanukkah, Purim, Passover, and Shavuot) with suggested menus for all, including a Shabbat dinner for each season. Throughout the tome, there are notes on proper rituals and the why behind customs. There are even ideas on adapting meals for guests with dietary needs, such as vegans. Cohen pays respect to the traditional with classic challah and potato latkes, but notes that cuisine cannot remain static. As generations and cooking techniques evolve, so must recipes and new traditions. And with that, Cohen offers challah french toast stuffed with mango with a ginger-maple syrup and roasted pear blintzes. Certainly not your Bubbe's blintzes! She challenges the notion that Jewish food has to be unrefined and dull.

With nearly 300 recipes, Cohen provides inspiration for every holiday while creating a memoir of her family history. Each recipe is accompanied by an introduction or anecdote, such as her cousin Bernie's secret to perfect lox, eggs, and onions. It should be noted that although there are a few family photos interspersed throughout the book, there are zero food photos in the nearly 600 pages to make such mouthwatering recipes as braised brisket with rosemary, shallots, and red wine come alive.

Cohen honors the recipes of generations past while igniting a passion in future generations. Jews and non-Jews alike who crave modern comfort food will find new favorites to share at their next holiday gathering.

– Amy Kritzer



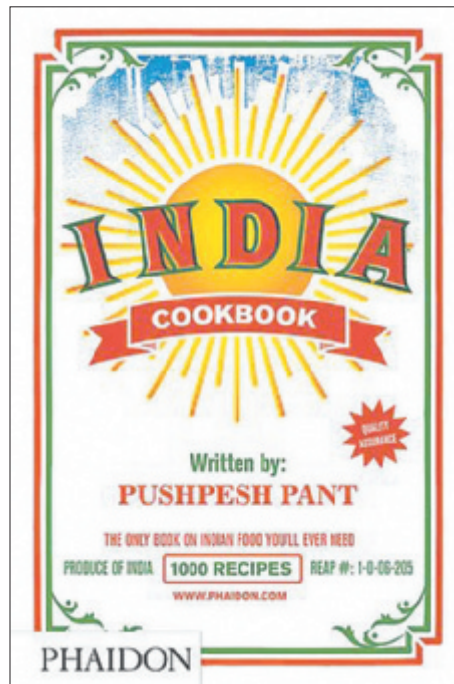
Japanese Farm Food

by Nancy Singleton Hachisu
(Andrews McMeel Publishing, 400 pp., \$35)

For anyone who relishes the beauty of cooking with the vibrant flavors in fresh farm food, or has a penchant for Japanese culinary culture, *Japanese Farm Food* would make a cherished holiday gift. Written as a culinary-infused love story about both her family and her adopted country, Hachisu's hefty memoir strikes a beautiful chord. What began as a long trip to Japan to explore the cuisine turned into two decades and counting of residency when she fell in love with her husband, Tadaaki, an organic egg farmer. As food-education leaders for Slow Food Japan, Nancy and Tadaaki live in a rural Japanese farming community and champion the farm-to-table movement. A passion for seasonal, local dishes brought them together, and this book is a testament to their wealth of knowledge. The stark differences between urban Japanese culture and the Hachisu's simple farm life are captured in Kenji Miura's gorgeous photography. Over 160 recipes explore the exquisite beauty of garden vegetables paired with homegrown rice, fresh-caught fish, and meat straight from a butcher shop. Hachisu uses Japanese traditional methods, explains the importance of ratios and noodles, and highlights the short distance between the earth and the plate.

The recipes – such as homemade tofu, mountain vegetable tempura (even tomato tempura!), and pork belly simmered in *okara* – explain the process of creating traditional Japanese farm food in a universal manner that can be appreciated in both hemispheres. I am excited to try the clams simmered in *sake* with scallions, as well as the egg custard pots with asparagus and peas. Some recipes require a trip to the Asian grocery for us Western dwellers, but Hachisu offers suggestions for variations, and keeps the ingredients lists and preparation instructions to a minimum. The helpful glossary and method indexes, combined with Hachisu's special memory-filled introductions, create a learning space that reduces the fear of cooking Japanese food at home. This window into the delightful lifestyle and cuisine of a Japanese farm family will be a welcome addition to any culinary book collection.

– Jessi Cape



India: The Cookbook

by Pushpesh Pant (Phaidon Press, 960 pp., \$49.95)

Culinary scholar and professor Pushpesh Pant is a recipe columnist and author of 14 cookbooks with experience in TV production, but more importantly, he has spent the last 25 years collecting, testing, and editing authentic family recipes from every region of the Indian subcontinent. His extensive research is the basis for this encyclopedic collection of over 1000 recipes – the most com-

prehensive guide to Indian cooking ever written – covering the diverse regional cuisines and detailing the country's rich culinary heritage. The bonus is that these recipes aren't from chefs (although there is a chapter in the back with recipes from the chefs of 11 top Indian restaurants around the world); instead, they originate from everyday, traditional family cooks. This is the real food of India.

A large section of the introduction focuses on the 10 major culinary food regions of India, revealing their histories and influences, styles of cooking, and food flavors. It is the most concise explanation of regional Indian cuisine that I've ever read. Nine chapters cover every aspect of Indian cuisine: street food and appetizers, soups and salads, curries, grills, *daals* and pulses, vegetable and rice dishes, condiments and spice blends, breads, and desserts. Vegetarians and vegans will find a wealth of options.

The recipes are not burdened with extensive headnotes, but background information is well-presented when necessary. The recipes are brilliantly written, edited, and adapted for Western kitchens. Descriptions of equipment and cooking methods (Pant simplifies some of the more daunting steps) are as accessible to the reader as the extensive glossary, and the 75 color illustrations and 160 color photographs bring the information and dishes into sharp focus.

The recipes included cover every standard dish that any basic Indian cook could recall, plus hundreds more that will be new to even the most jaded Indian culinarian. Most importantly, every dish that I have cooked from *India: The Cookbook* has not only been delicious, but authentically flavored in every way. The cover doesn't lie when it claims to be "the only Indian cookbook you will ever need."

– Mick Vann

The Lebanese Kitchen

by Salma Hage
(Phaidon Press, 512 pp., \$49.95)

Phaidon Press is known for its traditional culinary bibles of national cuisines, including Spanish, Italian, French, Indian, Greek, and now its newest addition, *The Lebanese Kitchen*. The author, Salma Hage, is a 70-year-old grandmother from the mountains of the Kadisha Valley in northern Lebanon with over 60 years of experience in family cooking. Hage learned to cook from her grandmother, mother, mother-in-law, and sisters-in-law, and would often cook for her huge family. She also spent many years working as a professional cook. This is essentially her collection of generations of recipes from family and friends, with over 500 recipes in all. It is the definitive guide to traditional regional cuisine from Lebanon, the most exciting and creative food in the entire Middle East. With dishes coming from the steamy coastal plains, cool mountains, and fertile valleys, from street-food vendors, restaurants, and home kitchens, Hage covers every aspect of Lebanon's innovative cuisine.

Although the uncluttered and easy-to-follow recipes lack headnotes, you don't miss them; cooking from the book is like having a smiling Lebanese

granny at your elbow leading you through all 11 chapters. The food within is amazing – the extensive section on meze and salads alone is worth the cost of the book. Toby Glanville's artistic photos dazzle and entice, enhancing the dishes and making it even harder to decide which recipe to choose. The food is seasonal and based on fresh ingredients, and everything you'll need comes from your local grocer. It's simply prepared, soulful, and unfussy – vibrant and earthy, with complex, layered flavors from the spices. Vegetarians and vegans will be giddy when they cruise the recipe index, but carnivores will delight as well. I never imagined all the ways lamb can be prepared, and eggplant lovers will salivate; every category gets the complete treatment. Hage has produced a valuable culinary tool that will be taken up by generations to come, all learning why Lebanese food is so damn good. *The Lebanese Kitchen* is brilliant.

– Mick Vann



The Brown Betty Cookbook

by Linda Hinton Brown and Norrinda Brown Hayat
(Wiley, 192 pp., \$22.99)

Although it might initially appear that this is a cookbook of recipes for the

dessert Apple Brown Betty, that is not the case. The Brown Betty Dessert Boutique in Philadelphia is one of the nation's leading bakeries, garnering attention from *O Magazine*, The Food Network, The Learning Channel, *National Geographic*, *Glamour*, and every regional rag in its vicinity. The bakery was opened by mother and daughter Linda Hinton Brown and Norrinda Brown Hayat, and named after family matriarch Elizabeth Ruth Hinton, known by friends and family as Betty, whose recipes were the overwhelming inspiration for the business.

The Brown Betty Dessert Boutique has been a huge success from nearly its first week because Betty, her daughter, and her granddaughter really do have the goods. The bakery is renowned for its cakes, and this book gives you the secrets to making them all: vanilla cake with Earl Grey buttercream, almond cake with caramel buttercream, red velvet cake, and, of course, chocolate cake with chocolate buttercream – plus dozens more. These are rich, rich cakes, fine of crumb, delectably moist, and enormous. (Most of the cakes will feed 20 people: The perfect size for church suppers and family reunions!) For purely scientific purposes, I made the sour cream pound cake with chocolate buttercream, and even my (supposedly) cake-hating husband went back for seconds ... twice.

In addition to the superlative cakes, the book also gives recipes for several pies, cobblers, and puddings (including sweet potato pie, coconut cream pie, and Apple Brown Betty), as well as cookies, brownies, and bars. Throughout the volume appear photographs and histories of these wonderful women and the challenges they faced – and overcame – as ladies of color in the first half of the 20th century. This book is just an utter delight and all but guarantees success should you be called upon to bring a showstopping dessert to any sort of gathering.

– Kate Thornberry

Dinner, a Love Story

by Jenny Rosenstrach
(HarperCollins, 336 pp., \$29.99)

Rosenstrach, a former editor at *Real Simple* and *Cookie* magazines, founded her blog, *Dinner, a Love Story*, with the intention of being the reader's "dinner doula," providing encouragement to harried parents (or anyone, really) who find themselves at a loss when facing the demands of feeding a busy family. This book is an extension of the blog, a hybrid memoir/cookbook detailing Rosenstrach's earliest dinner memories – the challah with white raisins her father would bring home at the end of a workday – and experiments with giving her children quinoa and kale (her kids won't eat it, either). It is



easy to identify with Rosenstrach, whose commitment to developing a career she loves has frequently come into painful tension with the urge to be more available to her growing daughters. As such, the recipes in *Dinner, a Love Story* are meant to help families walk that tightrope a little more comfortably without having to rely on a diet of Happy Meals. Though the recipes appeal to the adults in a relatively finicky household, they consistently fail the "yuck" test with the under-10 set. This is not necessarily the fault of the recipes – the Apple "Gazette" is hard to beat, and I'm certain that the chicken soup with orzo will become a cold-weather staple in our house – but home cooks with high expectations of converting their children to the joys of scratch-made alternatives to processed crapola might find themselves disappointed.

Rosenstrach dispenses her wisdom without judgment; those who employ shortcuts in the kitchen will find no authorial side-eye in these pages. In fact, Rosenstrach blithely calls for canned black beans and frozen pie crust in her recipes, because the point is not to kill yourself trying to realize the Platonic ideal of turkey chili, but rather to press pause on a frenetic day in order to gather at the table and eat good food, together. – Melanie Haupt

Glow: Tastes From a Tiny Boathouse

by Karey B. Johnson
(Glow Boat House Press, 90 pp., \$14.50)

If you've eaten at Glow Restaurant in Rockport, Texas, here's your opportunity to re-create some of chef Karey B. Johnson's signature dishes. If you haven't made the pilgrimage, this is a chance to see what you're missing. Either way, this pocket-size paperback helps you get your Gulf Coast flavors on in refreshing new ways, and it makes a great stocking stuffer for seafood lovers.

Johnson, a Houston native who was a caterer in London for many years, is captivated by the culinary offerings of her current coastal home, and the restaurant's changing daily menu focuses almost completely on what's available from the surrounding land and sea. Although the restaurant serves Texas game and wild pork dishes, the book's entrée recipes are all about the seafood Johnson gets from her fisherfolk neighbors, including several varieties you may not have tried, such as the mullet marinated like anchovies, or the rich fish rilletes prepared from Spanish mackerel. There are also new treatments of old favorites, like Gulf grouper roasted in butter and snapper served with grapefruit/chile sauce.

Johnson includes the simple bread recipe that she makes every day for restaurant guests, as well



as four cocktails using local ingredients (of course, one is named Afterglow). There's a useful section on fish-friendly condiments, like Sriracha rouille and *pequin* chile syrup. She explains how to make your own sea salt, fillet a fish, and fold a cloth napkin into a sailboat. The book is loaded with lovely color photos, not only of the dishes and the restaurant, but also of scenes of local beauty, guaranteed to make you want to jump in the car and head for the coast. Johnson pays homage to her suppliers (whom she calls "food heroes") with an extensive list of contacts.

Glow restaurant is tiny and the book is small, but in both, the talent and flavors are huge. Let's hope the book's next edition will expand to include even more ways to apply international style and technique to local Gulf Coast ingredients.

– MM Pack

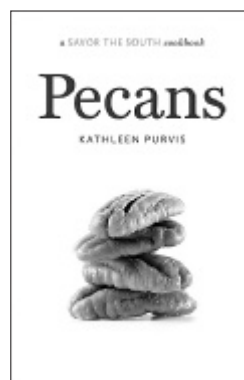
Pecans: A Savor the South Cookbook by Kathleen Purvis

(The University of North Carolina Press, 104 pp., \$18)

I really appreciate cookbooks that don't jump all over the kitchen or the map. There is definitely something to the adage, "Do one thing, and do it well." This compact little book focuses tightly on the the powerhouse nature of the popular nut and never strays. Part of a series highlighting Southern ingredients, the book is packed with over 50 recipes and a lovely, languid introduction, which is at times personal and funny, at other times, technical and historical. Purvis opens her book with a simple tip: "I keep my pecans in the freezer." Her story unfolds from there.

Pecans were discovered in this country, she tells us, by fur trappers in Illinois who sent them back East, and thus they were briefly called "Illinois nuts." It is noted that while Thomas

continued on p.46



Jefferson planted pecan trees, he probably didn't know the nut's name, which actually comes from an Algonquin word that means "any nut hard enough to crack with a stone." These first pages are a delightful read and are loaded with facts and observations.

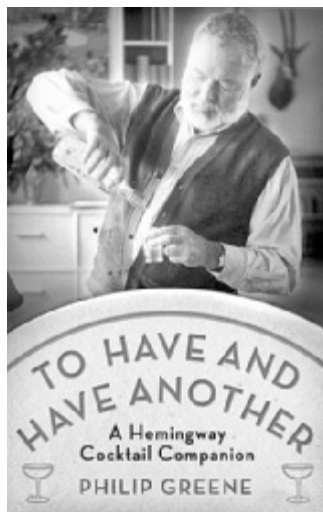
The author is the food editor for the *Charlotte Observer*, and her recipes are well-written, easy to follow, and broken into nice, neat chapters. The bleu cheese pecan spread is a favorite among the appetizers; the sharpness of the cheese bounces off the buttery nature of the pecan. Roasted broccoli or brussels sprouts are elevated with a brown butter studded with pecans. An easy vinaigrette adds the crunch of chopped pecans and is suggested over spicy arugula. Purvis presents a pecan pesto – that turned out beautifully – and suggests tossing it with farfalle pasta, peas, shrimp, and red bell peppers. Desserts command the bulk of the recipes, with ideas as simple as the World's Greatest Pecan Cookies and pecan pralines. More involved suggestions include pecan meringue bites and chocolate praline cheesecake. Pack this little book in a box with a couple pounds of Texas pecans, and ship it to your favorite cook. You'll be a holiday hero.

– Gracie Salem

To Have and Have Another: A Hemingway Cocktail Companion

by Philip Greene (Penguin Group, 293 pp., \$24)

Let's be honest. If you are of a certain age and you don't love, refer to, or acknowledge Ernest Hemingway as having an impact on your life, then maybe you don't read. And if you don't drink, then you don't consider the whiskey sour, the mojito, or the Boulevardier, at all. But if you do both, and there are plenty of us who do, then you must buy *To Have and Have Another* as quickly as you can. Author Philip Greene is an unbelievable source of literary knowledge, libations, and fun. His recently published book is as much literary history as it is a recipe collection. David Wondrich's forward explains that Greene is a "third type of writer," one who writes about what writers who drink write. As a subject, Hemingway tops the heap.



Greene researched not only every book Hemingway wrote, but also his personal correspondence (where, for instance, his idea of the frozen onion was discovered). Beginning the chapter on martinis, a letter dated from 1949 instructs that a proper martini, always made with gin, should be finished with "Spanish cocktail onions very crisp and also 15 degrees below zero when they go in the glass."

Painstakingly footnoted and intensely researched, this one-of-a-kind collection features wonderful drinks, such as the Death in the Afternoon, Gregorio's Rx, and Physician, Heal Thyself. Each recipe is followed by when, where, with whom, and how the drink decorated Hemingway's life and writing. Another lovely letter finds Hemingway instructing a friend on how to make a Bloody Mary: "If it lacks authority add more vodka," he writes. Despite all that has been written about Hemingway, there is little that takes this particular angle or provides this interesting of a lens. This is a must-own book.

– Gracie Salem

Wines of the Southern Hemisphere: The Complete Guide

by Mike DeSimone and Jeff Janssen (Sterling Epicure, 592 pp., \$24.95)



Wine writers usually split the universe into New World/Old World categories. The New World wines are generally fruitier, less long-lived, a good deal cheaper, and easier on the beginning drinker's palate. Old World wines are the more austere counterparts, aimed at

being a complement to the food on the dinner table. There are obvious exceptions to the rule, but this partition has been a useful tool for understanding the world of wine.

Along come DeSimone and Janssen with a completely new way to look at the world. They cover the bottom half of the world's wine producing areas, specifically: South America, Africa, Australia, and New Zealand. The kind winemakers in these regions have spoiled us for decades by shipping us decent quality wines at ridiculously low prices. And despite the low prices, they've generally been sending us their good stuff. However, as the world catches up with the amazing bargains down under, supplies are dropping and demand is pushing prices ever higher. That means it is now time for someone to do a scholarly book on the wineries of the Southern Hemisphere and provide some guidance as to which wines remain great bargains. This is this book's highest calling. Thankfully, the authors cherry-pick, rather than cover each and every winery in every country, sticking with places that provide great quality for the cost.

Each country is broken down into sections. The authors provide a helpful running commentary on what we can expect in each. They then narrow their focus down to a few consistently good wineries, also including a good deal of basic, useful information within each chapter, such as grape descriptions, recipes for matching foods, and interviews with locally renowned winemakers. The book is just large enough for a coffee table, but small enough to curl up with. It is a shame it's not available electronically, because it would be a wonderful guide to take along on a trip. When you consider the amount of accurate and unsnobby information in this book, not to mention its hefty size and intelligent design, *Wines of the Southern Hemisphere* is an incredible bargain.

– Wes Marshall

FROM MEDIA TO PRINT

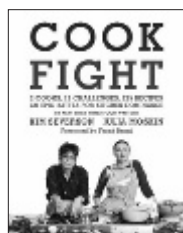
See full reviews of these books with this story online.

CookFight: 2 Cooks, 12 Challenges, 125 Recipes, an Epic Battle for Kitchen Dominance

by Kim Severson and Julia Moskin (Ecco Press, 320 pp., \$29.99)

This is a lovable book with a dumb title. It's a joint project of two *New York Times* food writers – colleagues, friends, and fellow cooks – each creating her own menu for 12 monthly meal concepts (24 menus total). In addition to the original Budget Challenge that ran in the *NYT* – a dinner party for six people on a budget of \$50 – there's the Children's Challenge, the Picnic Challenge, the Weekday Challenge, the Bake-Off Challenge, and so forth. The recipes are practical, interesting, and – based on the ones I made – successful and delicious. Vegetable and dessert dishes are particularly wonderful.

– M.M.P.

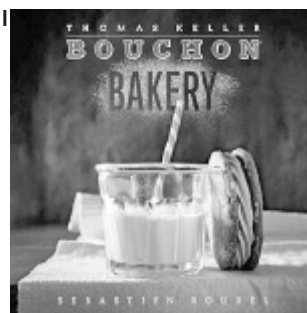


The Epicurious Cookbook by Tanya Steel & the editors of *Epicurious* (Clarkson Potter Publishers, 400 pp., \$27.99) Epicurious.com is the most award-winning food site on the Web; it's heavily curated by actual editors, and the recipes must meet certain standards to be posted there. Further enhancing their value, Epicurious recipes get tested (and rated) by thousands of home cooks before they even start the journey toward becoming printed words on page. Unsurprisingly, this winnowing process results in a masterful and reliable cookbook, with 250 "greatest hits" in a row, divided into four seasons to facilitate seasonal and organic sourcing. Taken altogether, the book creates a fascinating mirror of the foodways of the United States in 2012.

– K.T.

The Smitten Kitchen Cookbook by Deb Perelman (Knopf, 336 pp., \$35) Perelman is a home cook after my own heart, negotiating a tricky balance between an abiding love for magical configurations of butter-sugar-flour and the acknowledgment that some creatively prepared proteins and veggies have to work their way onto the menu every now and again. That is what's so appealing about this cookbook (and the blog, SmittenKitchen.com, that birthed it): Perelman, who works in a microscopic New York City kitchen, takes the known (cheese crackers, broccoli, lemon bars) and spins it into culinary gold through creative and unexpected presentations of otherwise mundane ingredients.

– M.H.



ALSO ONLINE:

Lagniappes From the Baking Shelf

Bouchon Bakery

by Thomas Keller and Sebastien Rouxel

The Dahlia Bakery Cookbook – Sweetness in Seattle

by Tom Douglas and Shelley Lance

The Seasonal Baker – Easy Recipes From My Home Kitchen to Make Year-Round

by John Barricelli

Baking Out Loud – Fun Desserts With Big Flavors

by Hedy Goldsmith

Flavor is our first language

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For me, Southern cooking evokes cozy cottages and picket fences. It conjures up cool iced teas sipped in tree-dappled sunlight. Southern cooking is cornbread and pies, yeast rolls and bacony greens, cole-slaw and barbecue. If you've eaten at Elaine's Pork & Pie, you'll know exactly what I mean, because this tiny snuggerly seems like it jumped out of a *Southern Living* postage stamp. The eponymous Elaine is Elaine Martin, owner of the neighboring Eastside Cafe, who, after nearly 30 years in the biz, knows her way around an oven. And while the limited menu here represents just a small slice of Southern cuisine, it captures its essence.

At Elaine's, there is pulled pork, and there are pies. Oh, and there's lentil soup too, but who really wants soup when pulled pork beckons? The pork comes two ways: in a taco or on a sandwich. In both, the meat itself is the same – slow-simmered, moist, but not fatty; flavorful, but not aggressively spiced. It is the centerpiece

for the low-country-style pulled pork sandwich, drizzled with molasses sauce, and studded with tangy napa slaw and red onion (\$5.95). The fresh brioche buns are delicious but barely stand up to the messy, saucy meat inside. Toasting them first would give them a boost.

The sandwich is good, but I like the tacos even better. The pork is stuffed into a crisp corn tortilla shell, topped with the usual suspects, but also with diced mango. Paired with the fire of a tomato salsa, the flavors work beautifully.

But don't stop with the meat because the real attraction at Elaine's are the individually sized pies, cookies, carrot cake, brownies, and other desserts. Elaine's pies (\$2.75) are so good, they should come with FDA warnings. I don't think I could dream up anything more perfect than the bourbon buttermilk pie – gooey and sticky sweet, with a hint of spice to warm it up, and a crust that is crisp and ample. The ancho-chocolate brownie pie is a sassy truffle in a tart shell, and the key lime pie is as zesty as Florida sunshine. The carrot cake (\$1.75) is moist and creamy, and the brownie (\$1.25) is fudgy and dense. Elaine, ya done good.

– Rachel Feit

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SCREENS



When the Sixties Was Happening on FM Radio

AFS DOC NIGHT: 'RADIO UNNAMEABLE'

by Anne S. Lewis

For 50 years now, the sleepless-in-New York set have warmed to the mellifluous, after-hours voice of Bob Fass, his "Good morning, cabal" sign-on signaling the start of *Radio Unnameable*, his midnight-to-dawn show on WBAI. Sitting in a cluttered, windowless space with just a couple of turntables and tape decks, a phone, and a mic, Fass – a pioneer

of free-form, noncommercial radio – would free-associate his then five-nights-a-week program, taking it, well, practically anywhere. There were random call-ins and provocative, meandering dialogues (not a few drug-related); there were also drop-in musical guests: Fass friends like the young Dylan in comedic mode, Patti Smith, and Joni Mitchell.

Jerry Jeff Walker and Arlo Guthrie went public for the first time with their respective versions of "Mr. Bojangles" and "Alice's Restaurant." Abbie Hoffman was a regular, Paul Krassner, too, and Timothy Leary – the list goes on. In its heyday, until the mid-Seventies, Fass' studio was a cross-cultural crucible for all the forces that brought us the Sixties.

In their film *Radio Unnameable*, directors/producers Paul Lovelace (co-director of *The Holy Modal Rounders*) and Jessica Wolfson (a producer on *Trust Us, This Is All Made Up*) create a visual and aural collage utilizing Fass' huge show archive, supplemented with original and historical footage conveying the 50-year trajectory of Fass' program.

Austin Chronicle: How would you describe Fass' significance?

Jessica Wolfson: In 1962 he created a radio show unlike any other. One unique feature about *Radio Unnameable*, particularly in the early days, is that people would drop by the studio unannounced. ... It was the afterparty of the downtown New York scene. It's mind-blowing the amount of freedom that Bob had and still has on the air. He was the first DJ to take multiple calls on the air and allowed the callers to dictate the direction of the show. Someone might call in to chat with Bob Dylan, and the next caller would report a demonstration or incident that was happening in his neighborhood. The following caller would offer support, and the guests in the studio would add their own ideas. It would progress from there. Parallels can be drawn to what Twitter and Facebook are doing today. *Radio Unnameable* was the social media hub of its time. It is the free-form radio at its very best, and no one else on the airwaves has provided that kind of freedom for his guests and listening audience.

AC: Today Fass is on only one night a week. What's changed?

JW: When Bob started, there was not a lot of competition on the airwaves, certainly nothing as free and creative as *Radio Unnameable*. The Internet has democratized media and allowed anyone and everyone the ability to have their own show or podcast or station. This is ... beneficial, but also prob-

lematic, as it can be harder to break through the clutter and build a substantial audience. In the case of WBAI, the audience ha[s] decreased since it was one of the most popular stations in New York City during the 1960s and '70s. But they have adapted as technology has evolved. You can stream *Radio Unnameable* anywhere in the world. And people do. Politically, Bob Fass ha[s] kept up with the times brilliantly. Most recently during Occupy Wall Street, demonstrators would take a break from Zuccotti Park and stop by the studio to talk with Bob. He's approaching 80, but is as determined as ever to utilize the airwaves in his own distinct way.

AC: What was your biggest challenge in making this film?

Paul Lovelace: Bob is sitting on a colossal archive. The sheer volume of material we had to condense into a digestible 90-minute film took a long time to assemble. And since radio is an aural medium, we had to figure out how to make it visual in the context of the film. Our goal was not to take a literal approach, but more of a collage of sights and sounds, keeping in the spirit of the program and the experience one has when listening to the radio in the middle of the night. Bob Fass was on the scene at every happening and antiwar demonstration with camera in hand, in addition to a portable tape recorder. He has a beautiful portfolio of photographs from the times. Additionally, we did a lot of outreach and were able to locate some amazing material from a wide variety of filmmakers and photographers, many [of whom] were listeners and participants of *Radio Unnameable's* monumental events. ■

AFS Doc Nights presents *Radio Unnameable* on Wednesday, Dec. 12, 7pm, at the Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar. Filmmakers Paul Lovelace and Jessica Wolfson will be in attendance for a Q&A, as will special guest Jerry Jeff Walker.

Sundance Taps Texas Filmmakers for 2013 Fest

Held in January, the Sundance Film Festival is traditionally, if unofficially, seen as the new calendar year's coming-out party for what's next in independent film. Last week, programming announcements came dribbling in daily; by now we have a pretty full picture of what the 2013 fest will look like – and it looks to be mighty Texan. Hosts of Austin (and friends of Austin) filmmakers will be screening new work, including Richard Linklater, who'll debut the third film in the ongoing *Before Sunrise* saga-masterwork, *Before Midnight*; David Gordon Green, with Bastrop-shot comedy *Prince Avalanche*, starring Paul Rudd and Emile Hirsch; and Jeff Nichols, with the first stateside screening of *Mud*, starring Matthew McConaughey (who's currently racking in year-end accolades for his very fine work in *Bernie*, *Magic*

Mike, and *Killer Joe*). Three local films will show in the NEXT sidebar, a showcase devoted to edgy, forward-thinking, modestly budgeted films: Andrew Bujalski's *Computer Chess*, Yen Tan's *Pit Stop*, and Hannah Fidell's *A Teacher*. Bastian Günther, who divides his time between Austin and Berlin, will premiere his film *Houston* in the world dramatic competition, while Dallasite David Lowery, a frequent collaborator on Austin projects (case in point: he co-wrote *Pit Stop*), will show in the U.S. competition *Ain't Them Bodies Saints*, which stars Casey Affleck and Rooney Mara. Finally, Kat Candler will rep "Black Metal," her second short at Sundance in two years.

– Kimberley Jones

The 2013 Sundance Film Festival runs Jan. 17-27, 2013, in Park City, Utah. For more on the selected films, see austinchronicle.com/blogs/screens.



Man meets machine, castles the rook in Andrew Bujalski's new existential comedy, *Computer Chess*.

PHOTO BY ALEX LIPSCHULTZ



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SCREENS

Two Gorehounds Go West

Horror directors Duane Graves and Justin Meeks take on a period Western

BY JOE O'CONNELL

The sun glints through the spindly trees as two figures come into view. The cowboy's hair is long, his beard scraggly. His legs drift down from his horse, and he points to the campsite. The doctor, clutching a heavy bag of potions, follows on foot toward a man writhing in the dirt by a campfire. In close-up, we see the bullet has passed cleanly through the man's foot, leaving a jagged gash. The doctor examines the wound, cleans it by working a cloth through the hole, and says, "This man's gone septic. In this heat, gangrene will set in quick." Time to cut off his leg.

Cut.

Ben Ploughman, special effects makeup wizard, removes his hand from the syringe through which he's been trying semisuccessfully to ooze bloody puss. Instead, he paints it directly onto the prosthetic leg he modeled after his own, complete with hair. "It looks gross," says the doctor – or rather, says actor Michael Berryman, best known for his unique look in films like *The Hills Have Eyes* and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. He smiles in approval.

Welcome to the set of *Red on Yella, Kill a Fella*, a dark Western with hints of horror that marks a sort of coming-of-age for co-directors Duane Graves and Justin Meeks. The pair met up in a screenwriting class taught by Kim Henkel, co-writer of the original *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre*, at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. The pair went on to film their own Texas bigfoot tale, *The Wild Man of the Navidad*, on weekends with a handful of friends on the Meeks family ranch in Whitsett. Henkel co-produced.

Then came *Boneboys*, a Henkel-penned story about cannibalism that, save the different character names (Amphead instead of Leatherface), could be mistaken for another *Chain Saw* sequel. (Henkel dubs it a modern take on Jonathan Swift's "A Modest Proposal.") *Boneboys* premiered at Montreal's Fantasia Fest in August and is close to being sold. "[There are] offers," Meeks says. "It's just a matter of choosing one and going with it." Co-directors Meeks and Graves looked harried when I last saw them during the film's late 2010 shoot in downtown Taylor. The leap from weekend film warriors to managers of a large crew wasn't as easy as they'd expected. "There were 25 people in the art department," Graves says of the *Boneboys* production. "I didn't know some of these people. I guess on a Hollywood movie it would be that way, but I want to be more intimate."

That's exactly what he and Meeks have got with *Red on Yella*, though the six-week shoot has been hectic. Inspired by the Sam Bass gang, the film follows an outlaw gang in 1900 who set out on a quest from western Texas to the Gulf of Mexico in search of lost loot. It's a last hurrah in changing times, but



Red on Yella fellas (l-r):
Justin Meeks, Michael Berryman,
and Duane Graves

something mysterious starts taking the men out one by one. Meeks, whose subtle acting carried *Wild Man*, stars as gang leader Claude Barbee. Shooting with a mostly Austin crew, the filmmakers have been on their own quest, hopping through locations including Corpus Christi, Mathis, Gonzales, Bartlett, and Granger (which features the same wide street used in the Coen brothers' *True Grit*). The directors spent eight months perfecting their script and scouting locations. "We make Texas a character," Meeks says. "They take a beating, not just from the outlaws, but from the land."

The duo talk with film-geek pride of using an anamorphic lens to achieve the look of the spaghetti Westerns they admire, like *The Outlaw Josey Wales*, then just as quickly throw out Jim Jarmusch's *Dead Man* as an influence. The cast includes cult stars like Luce Rains (*Appaloosa*) and Pepe Serna (*Scarface*). "We also sprinkle [the film] with a little horror to satisfy our fans," Graves says. "But make no mistake, it's a straight-up Western with robbing, killing, shooting, and pillaging."

The last two weeks are being filmed in Austin, on this day at Pioneer Farms, a living history site in Northeast Austin that abuts a subdivision of single-family homes. Meeks and Graves look relaxed despite the constant string of challenges that pop up on the set. Today's scene has to be stopped to wait out a woman walking with a baby carriage in the far background of the scene. Then an airplane passes loudly overhead, then another. A crew member's cell phone goes off. A horse whinnies. A truck's engine roars in the nearby parking lot. Today marks the 15th

flat tire since the production began. On the edge of the woods, producer Karrie Cox points out a growth of poison ivy that recently resulted in welts across the face of her husband and producing partner Marcus Cox. Another scene take commences, and Graves jokes, "Cue the airplane." Later at lunch, a bee attracted to his soda can will slip into Graves' mouth and sting his tongue.

Yet, this is by all appearances a calm and happy set. The trimmed-down crew is at the ready to solve problems. First assistant director Michelle Millette tries to keep everyone to a schedule and mostly succeeds, calling "grace" as the lunch break runs a few minutes late. Horse wrangler Brennan Wells, who rents horses for beach rides on Padre Island, keeps the animals happy with ample

hay and a soothing hand as the camera rolls. Art director Matt Dayton and production designer Kate Morter thrive on finding creative solutions on an

indie film budget: making chains for a chain gang out of PVC pipe, mimicking an old-time photo flash with gunpowder and the trigger from a craft rocket, re-creating a candy store by haunting post-Halloween sales at Randalls and Walgreens, constructing what passes for a period bicycle with a Frankenstein's-monster-like hodgepodge of parts from the Yellow Bike Project. "It's what I enjoy most – getting to be MacGyver," Dayton says. "I get to piece things together."

That is the endless challenge of making independent films, and Meeks and Graves relish it. "You just have to jump in running and bite off a little more than you can chew," Meeks says. "You might just surprise yourself." ■

For more images of Joe O'Connell's set visit, go to austinchronicle.com/photos.

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PHOTOS BY SHELLEY HIAM

Wild Bill's Honky-Tonk Holiday

"There's divorce, drugs, and drinking in the first scene, and it doesn't get much better from there," says alt-alt-country singer **Wild Bill** of his new Christmas play, *Honky-Tonk Holiday*.

The **Flipnotics** mainstay, known for his liberal use of theatrics and bargain bin humor, plays a "magic dust"-addicted **Santa** who gets the boot from **Mrs. Claus**, so he moves to Texas with his trusty elf **Swervin Irven**. Disenfranchised by the Lone Star State's **Jesus**-loving youth and their lack of belief in him, Santa enters into business with the mysterious **Krampus** and gets framed for murder. His only hope exists in one atheist kid who believes he's innocent.

"It definitely explores the concepts of freedom, America, and believing in things that aren't real," reflects the neo-cosmic cowboy.

Acting and singing alongside Wild Bill is a cast of 15 Austin musicians (and one homemade robot) that include his backing band the **Lost Knobs**, **Whiskey Shivers**, and **Ghosts**

Along the Brazos' Jacob Jaeger,

all helping to perform an original score with titles like "Jesus Is the Reason for the Season (But I'm the Reason She's Leavin'") and "Too Broke to Get Drunk for Christmas."

While all that might sound deranged to holiday traditionalists (Sunday's **A Charlie Brown Christmas** at **Antone's** this ain't), Wild Bill's brand of weirdness is more good-natured silliness than shock-value profanity. *Honky-Tonk Holidays* debuts Saturday at the **White Horse**, then plays Dec. 15 at the **Hole in the Wall** and Dec. 18 at **Antone's**. All proceeds benefit **Austin Pets Alive!**

"You're going to laugh at the songs, you're going to laugh at the play, and you're going to laugh at the acting," explains Bill, who's been working on the production since midsummer. "It's an event where people can celebrate Christmas, get wasted, and enjoy themselves before they have to go spend the *real* holiday with their family."

Space Jams

I'd heard talk amongst my fellow musicians about **Space**, a new rehearsal and recording facility on the south side of town. Needing to see it for myself, I made my way down Manchaca, a mile or so past Ben White, and found a modern compound on the grounds of an old private school. The lobby has a library of music books, and there are paintings on the walls instead of promotional swag. Practice rooms aren't gray, windowless cells. They look like classrooms. Will these accommodations make me a better musician? Probably not, but it's nice to feel someone gives a shit about making a decent practice space for my kind.

"I told the architects it needs to look like an art gallery, not a La Quinta," explains owner **Will Harrison**, who, with manager **Sonny Bishop**, devised the idealist facility. Harrison describes the building's complete renovation as "the coolest science project you've ever seen." They enlisted **Steve Durr**, the acoustic engineer behind the **Moody Theater**, to collaborate with the architects on sonically focused construction. The building's second floor "floats" on rubber pads for maximum sound separation, and the on-site recording studio features a tracking room with a 40-foot ceiling for a bigger acoustic response.

Check out the Space at its open house today (Thursday), Dec. 6, with free food, drinks, and a performance by the **Black Angels**. RSVP at www.facebook.com/spaceatx.

Half Notes

> **The Burning of Rome's** "Cowboys and Cut Cigars," mixed by the **Butthole Surfers' Paul Leary**, has apparently become the **Dallas Cowboys'** touchdown song. The guitarist reported hearing it five times last weekend when the Cowboys beat the **Philadelphia Eagles**. "It has long been a dream of mine to achieve 'jock rock,'" declares Leary. "Having my mix blasted at **Cowboys Stadium** after Cowboys touchdowns is sweeter than anything I could have ever imagined. For me it's right up there with playing **David Letterman's** show and working with **John Paul Jones**." He's bringing the L.A. band to Austin this spring to begin production on its next album.

> The **Old Settler's Music Festival**, the Americana-focused music festival that happens every April in Dripping Springs, has announced a partial lineup for next year. Performers include **Leftover Salmon**, **Son Volt**, **Carolina Chocolate Drops**, the **Del McCoury Band**, and **Justin Townes Earle**. Early bird tickets and precious camping passes are on sale now: www.oldsettlersmusicfest.org.

> **South by Southwest** has released a second wave of performers for the 2013 music conference. The new lineup includes **Aloe Blacc**, **Bonobo**, **Cold War Kids**, the **Crystal Method**, **Robin Hitchcock**, **James Hunter**, **Kid Koala**, **Man or Astro-Man?**, **Midlake**, **Royal Thunder**, **Richard Thompson**, and the **Bernie Worrell Orchestra**. Find out more at www.sxsw.com.

> The **Family Stone**, minus **Sly**, spends its New Year's Eve in Austin. The soul, funk, and hit machine, with a current lineup starring veteran members **Jerry Martini**, **Cynthia Robinson**, and **Greg Errico**, plays two sets at the **Zach's** new **Topfer Theatre** on Dec. 31.

> **Maurice Eagle** remains my favorite photo-journalist. His sharpened, light-enhanced, full-band bar photography continues as an unmissable documentation of Austin's live music scene. Eagle, who publishes his work for free online, looks to upgrade his gear with a **Kickstarter** campaign. For a \$50 pledge, he'll photograph your band and, trust me, you want to see yourself through his camera eye.

> Last week saw the launch of the **Austin Music Map**, an online documentary project that diagrams all the great, unexpected places where music happens in town. Click on **Barton Springs** and find **Minor Mishap Marching Band** performing in canoes, or select **East MLK** and hear the sounds of the **Juneteenth** parade. Add both to your customized playlist and listen to the streets come alive. "It's a way for us to document the aspects of the music community that fall outside Austin's mainstream music culture," describes creator **Delaney Hall**. The project creates a platform for locals to share photos, audio, and video by tagging #AustinMusicMap on sites like Instagram, YouTube, and Soundcloud. Check it out at www.austinmusicmap.com.

> One month ago, the **Scoot Inn** returned to the scene with a packed show on its outdoor patio. Since then, the calendar has been relatively low-key. I asked head booker **Travis Newman** what the future had in store for the venerable Eastside haunt. "There's two Scoot Inns," he explained. "The indoor room, which we've been able to book on short notice and get the place rolling, and the potential Scoot Inn, which will be a major touring destination. That's what I'm excited about." Newman says the Scoot's patio will soon be expanded to fit 1,000 people, and bus parking with power outlets will be added to meet the technical riders of prominent bands. The outdoor stage won't get used much during winter months, but come March, he plans to put on large outside shows that will still look and feel like the classic Scoot Inn, except "the production value of lights and sound will be through the roof."

East Side King Rolls Uptown



Qui (I) and Tanner chow down

In a harmonious meeting of local food and music cultures, **East Side King** has taken up residence in the back room of the **Hole in the Wall**. The kitchen will be food cart magnet and **Top Chef: Texas** winner **Paul Qui's** first **ESK** without wheels. The menu features greatest hits from his trailers, plus several ramen dishes. Qui admits reluctance about opening near campus, but says the venue felt right because it's a "classic Austin spot that's been there forever." Hole owner **Will Tanner's** just glad it's not the same old wings and burgers. "We've tried

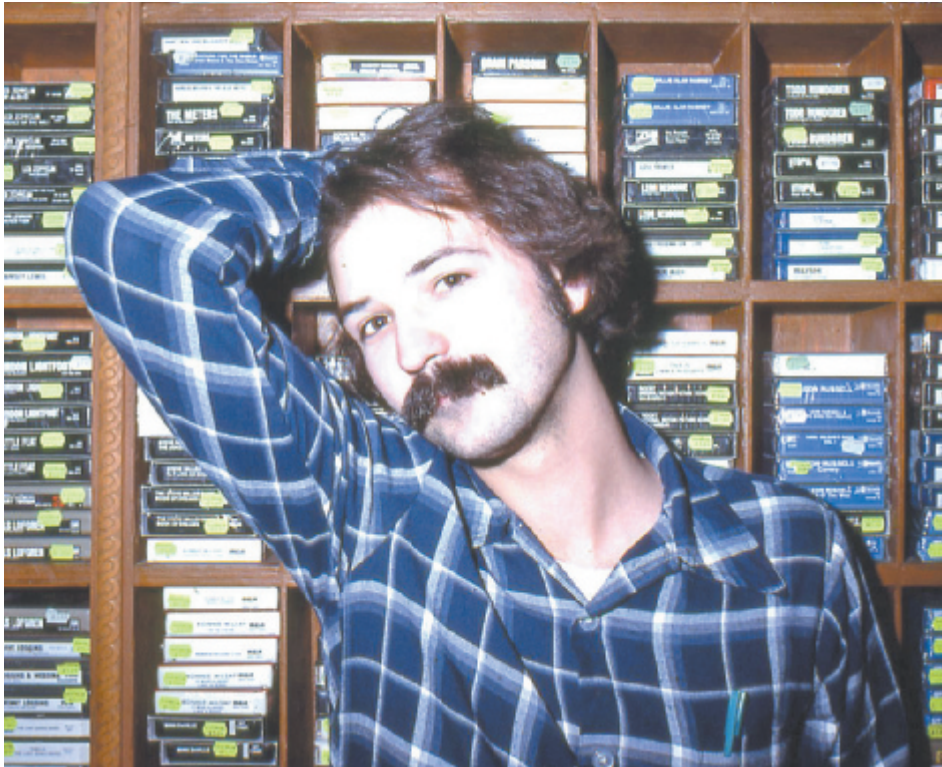
that, and I'm not saying I'm above it, but this is a better fit because they have unique food." East Side King's go-to artist **Kengo Hioki**, known better as Japanese punk rock spaceman **Peelander-Yellow**, decorated the new digs with a massive indoor/outdoor mural.



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COURTESY OF JOE BRYSON

Richard Dorsett in front of a wall of 8-track tapes at Inner Sanctum, circa 1978

Old Friends/ Bookends

Cyberpunk, sad songs, and Richard Dorsett

BY MARGARET MOSER

Late October 2012, Friday, 5pm: The line at Scottish Rite Theatre to see John Taylor winds down the front walk and spills onto the sidewalk on 18th Street to the corner. You know, John Taylor – Duran Duran, Power Station. The little-publicized event sold out quickly, and management has had to add folding chairs in the back of the handsome hall to accommodate ticketholders buzzing with excitement.

As doors open, people pour into the lobby, stopping first to pick up the book they've ordered. That's right, this is no concert. Scottish Rite sold out on the basis of a book. A book by a rock star, to be sure, but nonetheless, a book. And a readable one at that. Some carry multiple copies to be autographed after the onstage interview.

To parse the obvious, no one expects Keith Richards' revelations or anything too scandalous outside the traditional sex-and-drugs-and-supermodels lifestyle that the Rolling Stones more or less invented, and Duran Duran updated for the Eighties. Rather, *In the Pleasure Groove* is delivered in compact chapters that move through Taylor's fairly meteoric rise from Roxy Music fanboy to international superstar in fast-paced, candid prose. Add the bassist's willingness to do a promotional tour and be grilled publicly, and locals are connecting with John Taylor. Through a book.

Though the centuries-old craft of book publishing staggers into this millennium as beleaguered a medium as its newspaper cousin, enough Duranies take significance and meaning in the physical book to buy it, even if it's merely a ticket to a few seconds with an idol from their youth.

A popular line of thinking reminds us that the ability to record and preserve music remains relatively new, so its constant transformation should be no surprise. Books, too, although if selling used books were treated like the illegal downloading of music, publishing would be a whole different world. This Friday night, however, books are hot.

This Friday night is also the night Richard Dorsett died at his house of a heart attack.

Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?

In 1976, I'd seen Richard Dorsett just off the Drag at Inner Sanctum Records, behind the counter mingling with Joe Bryson and the other platter-pushing staffers. They were 99% male, often cute, but so snotty about music. Think *High Fidelity* with Texas accents and directed by Rick Linklater. They intimidated me, though I carried enough musical knowledge to spar with them about outlaw country and Sixties rock.

One night, Dorsett was at Antone's at Sixth and Brazos, slouched on one elbow and wearing a black sweatshirt with Asleep at the Wheel emblazoned in gold letters across it.

"Wanna dance?" I gathered up the courage to ask.

Dorsett looked at me as if I were at Inner Sanctum asking for Olivia Newton-John records.

"No! I'm listening to music!"

Lesson over, but the next time I came into Inner Sanctum, he was pleasant enough to me. We didn't really become friendly until the punk club Raul's opened just up the street, and every record store clerk and young writer became a band manager. I managed the Chickadiesels and, later and briefly, the Huns. Dorsett worked the F-Systems. We were peers, friends, and participants in the scene. He even went down for the cause, arrested in the Huns bust at Raul's.

Equally important, we became book friends, working together in a bookstore Downtown around 1978, both with an insatiable appetite for reading. We took delight in the perks – three free paperbacks a week stripped of the covers – and memorized daunting titles so we could airily say, "Oh, you mean *The Origin of Consciousness in the Breakdown of the Bicameral Mind* by Julian Jaynes? That aisle."

The science-fiction genre was undergoing a renaissance with cyberpunk, and Dorsett was also involved in the printing of numerous local zines, including *Ground Zero* and *Modern Stories*. At the bookstore, we tended the wall of science-fiction books faithfully. It was a popular section. Roky Erickson was a regular, sitting on the floor with a stack of books around him.

"Do you have *Blade Runner* in paperback?" a customer quietly inquired one day.

"Yes, but look for it as *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep*," I directed him. "It's by Philip K. Dick and back on the sci-fi wall."

Dorsett fixed me with a tight-lipped stare as the customer headed to the back.

"Never say 'sci-fi.' Only say 'sf.'"

Dorsett eventually opened his own used bookstore in the mid-Nineties, Olympia Books on the Drag. It had places and spaces for people to sit and read, and to walk in there often was to see its owner doing just that. And looking supremely happy.

Love Will Tear Us Apart

Our early tenure at the bookstore was crucial musically, because punk and New Wave were in full swing and completely ignored by FM radio, except on KUT, where the Rev. Neil X played it on a weekly late-night show. KLBJ was the rock station of the day, its studios then located Downtown. One of its on-air personalities, Tom Quarles, stopped in regularly, so Dorsett and I began a personal campaign to get punk and New Wave on the station.

"Elvis Costello? Patti Smith? What about Blondie? They're easy," persisted Dorsett, leaning across the counter. Quarles smiled and paid for his newspaper.

"Brian Eno? Gang of Four?"

Quarles nodded good-naturedly, folded the newspaper, and headed for the exit.

"Psychedelic Furs? The Specials?"

Try to imagine what radio was like if this music was considered too radical. Time has been very kind to this era, but a real schism existed between mainstream radio and fans of the new music, who considered the Eagles, for example, pompous, overproduced SoCal pop.

"The Ramones? XTC?" Dorsett called out after Quarles, who gave me a world-weary eye roll and waved goodbye as the door closed.

"Joy Division?"

One Saturday, business was slow and the store radio was tuned to KLBJ, as usual. At 1pm, the room seemed to go silent until a faint, spaceshiplike beeping grew louder and the twangy guitar and bongos of the B-52s' "Planet Claire" filled the room.

A wicked grin spread slowly across Richard Dorsett's face.

As Tears Go By

Dorsett would have pooh-poohed John Taylor's pleasantly dishy autobiography as lightweight, but I bet he would have enjoyed *This Will End in Tears* by Adam Brent Houghtaling. At least he would have found

many topics to argue. He loved to argue in a most nonthreatening way, and this book is rife with conversation. It's also one of the most engrossing reads of 2012.

The Miserabilist Guide to Music, reads the subtitle, which makes it sound like a treatise on songs to slit your wrists by. It's not. It's wonderfully written

and engaging on the broad subject of sad songs. The topics are fascinating: Swiss studies on the color blue, essays on couples like George Jones and Tammy Wynette, commentary that links Biggie Smalls and Gustav Mahler, and the notion that we're born listening to our mother's heartbeat.

Houghtaling wrote this book for people who read, its 400-plus pages dense with subreferences and scholarly almost to the point of academia. Yet the author's love of his subject and his division of the book into short chapters on individual songs, performers, and genres, with equally brief lists, makes *This Will End in Tears* easily digestible. That's a good thing in a world where print is suffocating before our eyes.

This Will End in Tears also landed in my life amidst the deaths of three friends, so the timing counts as bittersweet. Still, it was a reassuring read, proof that if nothing else, there's a song for every occasion, especially sad ones. A book, too.

I think Richard Dorsett would agree. And if he didn't, he'd have a good point to argue about. ■

This Friday night, however, books are hot. This Friday night is also the night Richard Dorsett died at his house of a heart attack.



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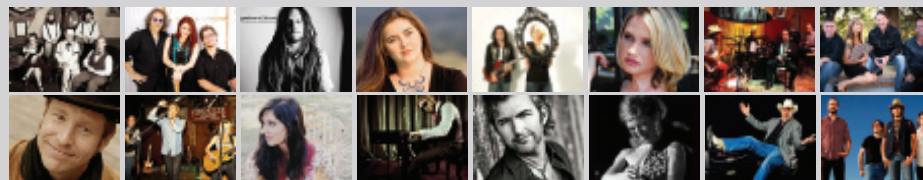


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The Ties That Bind

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One hundred and four pages into Pete Townshend's autobiography, Keith Moon's already a liability but John Entwistle's fondly remembered, the dead half of the Who still cruelly extinct. Fortunately, reading page after page of Townshend's prose plays out like 20 discs in a row from Maximum R&B's creator. Sex, drugs, rock & roll. And books. Immutable.

— Raoul Hernandez



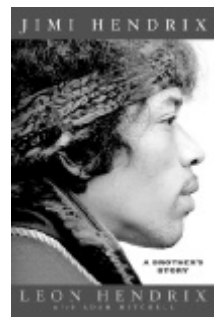
Still the Greatest: The Essential Songs of the Beatles' Solo Careers
by Andrew Grant Jackson
Scarecrow Press, 354 pp., \$35

The Beatles in Comic Strips
by Enzo Gentile and Fabio Schiavo
Skira, 240pp., \$39.95

Andrew Grant Jackson, wrangling fantasy playlists, goes so deep into the Beatles' post-breakup years that you might need scuba gear to enjoy the complex octopus' garden of facts, opinions, suppositions, and personal gossip here. What inspired who? Which stars showed up to what private jam? Who slept with the wife of the other guy the *second* time? Where the hell did Harry Nilsson put that dope? If God is truly in the details, this exhaustive second-act gospel radiates holy ghostliness. Enzo Gentile and Fabio Schiavo's coffeetable *Comic Strips* perfectly complements *Still the Greatest*, reprinting a swath of the Fab Four's appearances as illustrations in books, magazines, and newspapers. The *breadth* here will amaze you as much as the visuals themselves: the UK's *Valentine* romance magazine from 1964; *Batman* from 1970; Italy's *Il Male* from 1980; *Playboy's* *Little Annie Fanny* from 2001; Alex Robinson's 2005 *Box Office Poison*; and so many more between and beyond. — Wayne Alan Brenner

Jimi Hendrix: A Brother's Story
by Leon Hendrix, with Adam Mitchell
Thomas Dunne Books/St. Martin's Press, 288 pp., \$25.99

On the day his brother died, Leon Hendrix was locked up on theft charges. For a street hustler who grew up in and out of foster care, excelled at mid-level cat burglary, and enjoyed tangential fame as a sibling of the era's most significant guitarist, it was a low point in a lifetime filled with pain and frustration. *A Brother's Story* holds just that, an incomparably personal account of Jimi (then Buster) Hendrix's youth. Brimming with childhood alien encounters, rose-colored memories of brotherly heroism, and familial bonds forged by desperate situations, Leon also provides insight into Jimi's musical genesis: the sonic experimentation of wire stretched across a bed frame, the Robert Johnson and Muddy Waters records forging early tastes, and the salvaged one-string ukulele that changed everything. As Leon becomes a hanger-on in Jimi's superstar circus and, later, when the book's focus devolves into the legal battles and family rifts that followed the latter's death, *A Brother's Story*



wanes. Throughout all of it, though, you can hear Jimi's music. Leon's regard for the life force behind his brother's cosmic playing and his understanding of what the lyrics meant comes across as enlightened, while having also saved his own life.

— Kevin Curtin

NEIL YOUNG
WAGING HEAVY PEACE



Waging Heavy Peace: A Hippie Dream
by Neil Young
Blue Rider Press, 512 pp., \$30

Neil Young wrote *Waging Heavy Peace* after being immobilized by a broken toe. At the same time, he stopped drinking alcohol and smoking marijuana. This messed with his songwriting muse, so he found another creative outlet. A revered composer does

not make a compelling author however. This isn't so much an autobiography as an opportunity to wander around inside Young's head for 500 pages. And wander he does. The 67-year-old Canadian revisits his early days as a musician in Toronto and Winnipeg, discusses Buffalo Springfield and Crosby, Stills & Nash, and maps his solo career — who he played and recorded with, how some songs came together, and what regard he holds them in now. That it's all offered in such a scattershot manner undercuts the whole endeavor. Trivialities, including going to Costco and buying a Sonicare toothbrush, entwine with his crusades to build a zero emissions roadster and develop a high definition music alternative to MP3 he's dubbed Pono. When someone asked Young if he was at war with iTunes, his response was, "No, I'm waging heavy peace." The disjointed nature of the narrative makes it slow going in spots, but fans will enjoy his recollections of working with Crazy Horse. "Don't spook the Horse," he advises in one particularly entertaining passage. Elsewhere, Young discusses his love for Lionel toy trains, his family and friends, and how he once escaped death on a trip to New York. Like the whole of his musical career, *Waging Heavy Peace* varies from enlightening to wildly frustrating. Almost authorized biography *Shakey* by Jimmy McDonough suffered the same traits, so one can only conclude that's simply Neil Young's humanity showing through.

— Jim Caligiuri

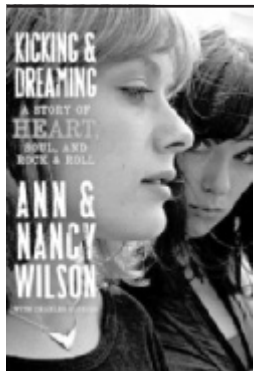
Bruce Springsteen and the Promise of Rock & Roll
by Marc Dolan
Norton, 529 pp., \$29.95

Few musicians can be set against the past half-century of American culture, but Bruce Springsteen remains undeniably among them. Because of that, Marc Dolan's laying out the Jersey icon's trajectory to stardom within an overarching "promise of rock & roll" and sociopolitical purpose threatens to collapse under academic ambitions. Fortunately, while he begins in grand strokes, the biographer quickly dives into Springsteen's life with such vitality and deeply researched methodology that, like the songwriter, the book rises meaningfully from the narrow minutia of Northern Jersey to a broader national significance and consciousness. The author's close song readings and autobiographical backgrounds to Springsteen's lyrics are endlessly rewarding, but more valuable are the insights to the subject onstage, where the singer not only finds his confidence as a performer, but also offers explications of songs at various



intervals in his career. Especially notable is the ambivalence of joy and struggle that drives 1980's *The River*, upon which Dolan marks the heart of his thesis: Springsteen's prominence allowed him to become a voice of force and effect and not simply emotion. Dolan never loses sight of the man or his music within this larger context, through even *The Ghost of Tom Joad* and the post-9/11 consciousness of *The Rising*. Perhaps the biography's greatest credit is that while marvelously detailed, Dolan's writing moves with a pace that engages like a Springsteen show: long, poignant, and enthusiastic throughout.

— Doug Freeman



Kicking & Dreaming: A Story of Heart, Soul, and Rock & Roll
by Ann and Nancy Wilson, with Charles R. Cross; It Books, 288 pp., \$27.99

Growing up on the move in a military family, Heart's Ann and Nancy Wilson weren't like other girls. When the Beatles arrived, they didn't want to be their girlfriends. They wanted to *be the band*. "It's not that Ann and I didn't imagine romance as part of our future — because we did — but music was more important," writes Nancy. The trailblazing band-leaders didn't go looking for gender battles with their powerful mix of "blood harmony" and coliseum rock swagger, but their inner barracudas emerged nonetheless. Ann heartbreakingly recounts getting called fat by a junior high school boy she had a crush on, but instead of getting the last laugh, she continues getting dogged about weight by record company execs. Nancy, meanwhile, joined Heart at age 19, just as the band became successful in Vancouver. Her first two serious relationships were with bandmates. As those went south, Heart got upended. An unlikely second act as MTV mainstays followed, the windfall coming at the expense of Heart's original vision, but that carried the Wilsons into yet another role — as elder stateswomen of Seattle music. Although there's plenty of evidence here for a strident polemic about sexism in rock, the sisters make a case simply by telling their story in a relatable way.

— Greg Beets

Mick Jagger
by Philip Norman

HarperCollins, 640 pp., \$34.99

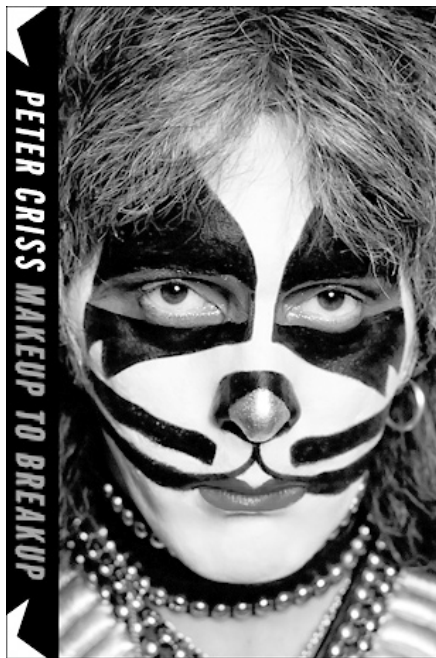
Mick is sex. Those three words were written on walls, worn as buttons, and spoken as gospel in the mid-Sixties. The sentiment sounded incomprehensibly raw, but his huge, labial, rubbery lips branded his band, the Rolling Stones, and broke the mold of rock star he forged. That's the essence of Philip Norman's well-researched tome: that Jagger's been uniquely comfortable in his own skin. Author of acclaimed 2009 bio *John Lennon: The Life*, Norman's career includes early Stones interviews, so this portrait of the notoriously, but selectively amnesiac Jagger fills in both his and the band's early life in rich detail, such as the fascinating inclusion of diary entries from a band fan before Jagger's life in the fast lane. Norman's at his best setting the context for events like the infamous Jagger/Richards Redlands bust in 1967, and how the band operated with Brian Jones as bandleader. And good thing most of the book takes place during the Sixties given that the latter half devolves predictably into jet-setters, models, drugs, rock & roll, and sex, sex, sex. Look at Mick! He's not shattered.



— Margaret Moser

Makeup to Breakup: My Life in and Out of Kiss

by Peter Criss, with Larry "Ratso" Sloman
Scribner, 384 pp., \$26



Degenerate rock star chronicles, beginning with Tony Sanchez's artless *Up and Down With the Rolling Stones* in 1979 and Stephen Davis' equally poetic Led Zeppelin "saga" *Hammer of the Gods* six years later, bottomed out a decade ago with Mötley Crüe's *The Dirt*. Kiss drummer Peter "Catman" Criss' autobiography *Makeup to Breakup* joins them in demanding at least a shower upon completion if not a full-on skin peel. Making bandmate Ace Frehely's memoir last year read like it came off a cereal box, Criss' peak-to-bottomless-pit tale arcs similarly — Brooklyn-born high school dropout née Criscuola and his three bandmates rake in \$24 million between 1976 and 1978 alone — but does so with all the Catholic guilt, self-loathing, and self-awareness of a repentant priest. No boulders go unturned ("Paul [Stanley's] sexuality became a topic of speculation even for us guys in the band"), and Gene Krupa, Alice Cooper, and Tupac Shakur all make cameos. Cocaine psychosis, rehab, carjackings — Criss survived it all. Fortunately for him, so does his cat scratch fever vocal on Kiss indelible "Black Diamond."

— Raoul Hernandez

continued on p.58

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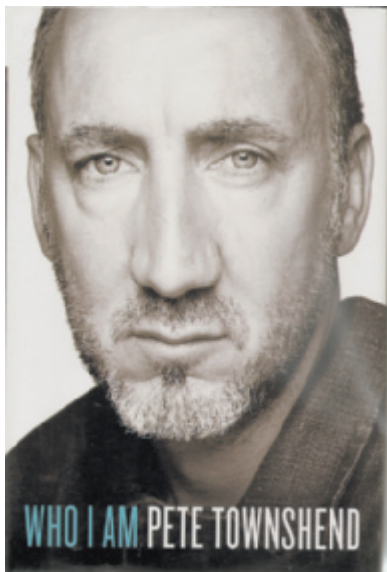
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Who I Am: A Memoir by Pete Townshend
 HarperCollins, 544 pp., \$32.50

For a man who admits, "I loved the sound of my own prattling," Pete Townshend keeps his prose concise. His long-gestating autobiography *Who I Am* covers 67 years in barely over 500 pages.

The Who's primary composer hits nearly every topic you'd want, from peak creative achievement *Quadrophenia* and his solo albums to addiction issues and his ambivalence with the continuation of the band. Rock's first opera, 1969's *Tommy*, gets lots of play, as do ongoing attempts to bring his vision to the theatre, which seems to be the medium in which he's most happy creatively. The decades-long development of his doomed multimedia concept *Lifehouse* becomes a recurring theme, as does his devotion to, and struggles with his faith in, Indian mystic Meher Baba. The longest thread chronicles the effects of abuse Townshend suffered as a child, effects which he claims led him to develop a White Knight syndrome (his own helpfully-footnoted words) and got him arrested for accessing child pornography, an incident on which he spends a fair amount of time. Other topics include his habit of establishing recording studios in seemingly every corner of London, his work as an editor at Faber and Faber, and his love of the water. He digs into some of his most famous songs, but overall avoids territory he's covered in the thousands of interviews he's given over the years or on the Who's website, which he often footnotes. If there's a theme, it's self absorption. He's not proud of this trait, mind you; Townshend's well aware of the ways his self-conscious artistic bubble has affected his work, family, and collaborators. Nonetheless, balanced by both his brutal honesty and his straightforward prose, *Who I Am* becomes part and parcel of the Who canon.

— Michael Toland



The Art of Punk
 by Russ Bestley and Alex Ogg
 Voyageur Press, 224 pp., \$40

If writing about music is like dancing about architecture, how lucky that a volume predicated on the visual art of punk can avoid the Moscow Ballet describing the Texas School Book Depository. Subtitled *The Illustrated History of Punk Rock Design*, this boutique repository presents page after color-filled, eye-grabbing page of album covers, concert posters, band flyers, zines, and Xeroxed stickers from the Ramones, the Sex Pistols, Patti Smith, and others as known and revered. From the Lurkers, the Adverts, and others more obscure, to a wide and scattered spectrum of performers and provocateurs from around the globe, *The Art of Punk* preserves more than three decades of DIY aesthetics that have only recently become reduced to a Halloween costume your more hyperactive kiddos might opt to wear. Bestley and Ogg, whose visceral appreciation of the genre is more than matched by their academic researches into it, provide not only their own informed remarks to contextualize the array of images, but also frequent interviews with and commentary by many of the musicians, designers, and artists responsible for this captured gallery of visuals that riled the fuck out of everybody back in the late 1970s and continue to raise a righteous ruckus here in the 21st century.

— Wayne Alan Brenner



A Light That Never Goes Out: The Enduring Saga of the Smiths
 by Tony Fletcher
 Crown Archetype, 704 pp., \$30

An old *Trouser Press Record Guide* once noted, "You'd be perfectly within your rights to hate the Smiths." Morrissey's mercurial self-absorption has long tried the patience of music fans (myself included), who are otherwise drawn to Johnny Marr's distinctive arrangements and impeccable guitar work. After reading *A Light That Never Goes Out*, I'm on the path to understanding Morrissey — ironic, given that the singer declined to participate in this project. Of course, the story of the UK quartet (1982-1987) turns on more than what goes on inside the frontman's head, so veteran music journalist Fletcher writes at length about bassist Andy Rourke's drug addiction, the band's love/hate relationship with its label, Rough Trade, its punishing (and self-imposed) singles/album/tour schedule, catalog analysis, and Marr's partying, workaholicism, and singular genius. Fletcher also explores the Smiths' hometown of Manchester, particularly with regard to the Irish immigrant working class from which Morrissey and Marr sprang. In the end, I came away with a richer appreciation of the ethics, psychology, and artistry of the band. Plus a burning desire to listen to the music.

— Michael Toland



The Alternative Hero
 by Tim Thornton
 Vintage, 416 pp., \$15.95 (paper)

If you're unfamiliar with the indie rock scene of the Eighties and Nineties in England, then read no further. *The Alternative Hero* novelizes a fictional UK band, which has long since broken up, although washed-up music journalist and megafan Clive Beresford remains on a mission to explain the band's demise. Thus this tome painstakingly details that reason, plus the shortcomings of the band's frontman, Lance Webster, which is precisely what makes the story so frustrating; although the musical details are ready-made for geeks, there are no sympathetic characters.

It's therefore a chore to read about their exploits — and don't expect women to be anything but groupies or a nuisance. The story gets interesting as Webster and Beresford begin interacting, but then dawdles into precious territory, getting sewn up all too neatly.

— Zoe Cordes Selbin



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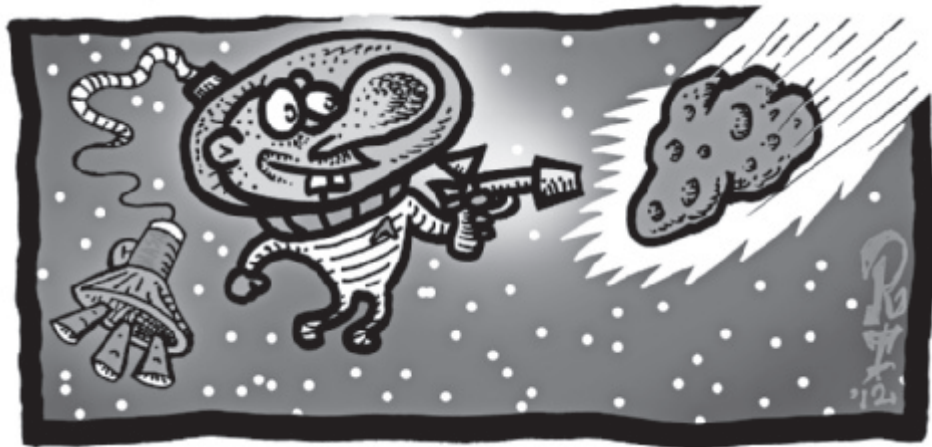
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepherd



If an asteroid is ever on a collision course with Earth, it is feasible that the planet could be saved by firing paintballs at it, according to an MIT graduate student whose detailed plan won this year's prize in a United Nations space council competition, announced in October. White paint powder, landing strategically on the asteroid, would initially bump it a bit, but in addition would facilitate the sun's photons bouncing off the solid white surface. Over a period of years, the bounce energy would divert the body even farther off course. The already identified asteroid Apophis, which measures 1,500 feet in diameter and is projected to approach Earth in 2029, would require five tons of paintball ammo.

THE LITIGIOUS SOCIETY

Samuel Cutrufelli, 31, filed a lawsuit in October in Sacramento County, Calif., claiming that Jay Leone, 90, "negligently" shot him. Cutrufelli had burglarized Leone's home in Greenbrae, unaware that Leone was home. When Leone reached for one of his stashed handguns, Cutrufelli shot him in the jaw and then pulled the trigger point-blank at Leone's head, but was out of bullets. Leone then shot Cutrufelli several times, which Cutrufelli apparently felt was entirely unnecessary.

In October, the former captain of the Italian cruise ship *Costa Concordia* (on which 32 people died after it ran aground in January 2012) filed a lawsuit against Costa Cruises for "wrongfully" firing him. Francesco Schettino is awaiting trial for manslaughter, accused of sending the ship dangerously close to shore on a personal lark, and he was also charged with abandoning ship, since he was spotted in a lifeboat in the midst of passengers' escape. (Schettino said he wound up in the lifeboat only because he "slipped" and fell in.)

China's legal system apparently is growing to resemble America's. A well-covered (but incompletely sourced) story from Chinese media in October reported that Mr. Jian Feng won the equivalent of \$120,000 in a lawsuit against his well-to-do wife for deceiving him and subsequently giving birth to what Feng thought was an ugly baby. Feng discovered that his wife had had cosmetic surgery – and thus was not, genetically, the beauty that he married but, in reality, plain-looking.

IRONIES

Amateur!: In October, a federal appeals court overturned the bribery conviction of a City of Chicago zoning inspector – on the grounds that the bribes he was convicted of taking were too small to be covered by federal law. Dominick Owens, 46, was convicted of taking two bribes of \$600 each to issue certificates of occupancy, but the law applies only to bribes of \$5,000 or more. (Also in October, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel disbanded the city's ethics board after a 25-year run in which it never found an alderman in violation – even though, during that time, 20 aldermen were convicted of felonies.)

The government's Health Canada agency announced in October that Avmor Ltd. had agreed to recall one lot of its Antimicrobial Foaming Hand Soap – because it was contaminated with microbes. (The recall did not disclose whether the danger was due to too many microbes overwhelming the soap or due to the inability of the antimicrobial soap to kill any microbes at all.)

Karma: 1) Tyler Myers, 19, was killed in a collision near Norwalk, Ohio, in September when he ran a stop sign and was rammed by a tractor-trailer. Afterward, police found three stolen stop signs in Myers' truck. 2) A 21-year-old man was killed crossing a highway at 5am in Athens, Ga., in September. Police said he had just dined-and-dashed out of a Waffle House restaurant and into the path of a pickup truck.

The Will of God: Devoted Catholic David Jimenez, 45, had been praying regularly to a large crucifix outside the Church of St. Patrick in Newburgh, N.Y., having become convinced that it was responsible for eradicating his wife's ovarian cancer. He even got permission from the church to spruce up the structure, as befitted its power. Then, during a cleaning in May 2010, the 600-pound crucifix came loose and fell on Jimenez's leg, which had to be amputated. From a holy object of worship to precipitator of a lawsuit: Jimenez's \$3 million litigation against the archdiocese goes to trial in January.

COMPELLING EXPLANATIONS

Not Mine! 1) James White, 30, was arrested in Grove City, Fla., after being stopped by police patrolling a high-burglary neighborhood, and in a consensual search of his pants, officers found a packet of Oxycodone pills for which White did not have a prescription. However, according to the police report, White suddenly exclaimed, "Oh, wait! These aren't my pants!" 2) Ms. Vida Golac, 18, was arrested in Naples, Fla., in October, and charged with possessing marijuana, which police discovered in her genitals as she was being strip-searched. According to the police report, Golac denied that the drugs were hers and explained that she was just hiding them there for friends.

READERS' CHOICE

Election Follies: 1) Robert McDonald tied Olivia Ballou for the final seat on the city council of Walton, Ky., with 669 votes, but only later found out that his wife (exhausted from a hospital's night shift) had not made it to the polls. (The following week, as per voting rules, McDonald and Ballou held a coin flip. Ballou won but relinquished the seat to McDonald for an unrelated reason.) 2) Holly Solomon, 28, was arrested in Gilbert, Ariz., a few days after the election when, police said, she chased her husband with her Jeep and rammed him during a drunken rant blaming him for President Obama's victory (though Arizona's electoral votes went solidly for Mitt Romney). Daniel Solomon was hospitalized in critical condition.

PEOPLE DIFFERENT FROM US

An articulate, functional "cave man" of El Paso, Texas, continues to roam his neighborhood, often naked, and to resist efforts to bring him back onto the grid, according to October coverage by El Paso's KVIA-TV. His mountainside subterranean structure, described as "intricate," might be on land owned by the local water utility, which, pending an investigation, could evict him. Some neighbors say they fear the man, who has allegedly swum in their pools and even swiped items from their laundry rooms, but nonetheless, he swears that he is harmless. "I'm a plasma donor ... drug free" and "sin-free ... baptized and saved." Other neighbors have supported him, he said, and the complainants need to "help the community more."

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at www.newsoftheweird.blogspot.com (or www.newsoftheweird.com).

Send your weird news to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com. ©2012 Universal Press Syndicate

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Music

Free up your schedule for this week. Browse or search **2,894** events online at austinchronicle.com/calendar



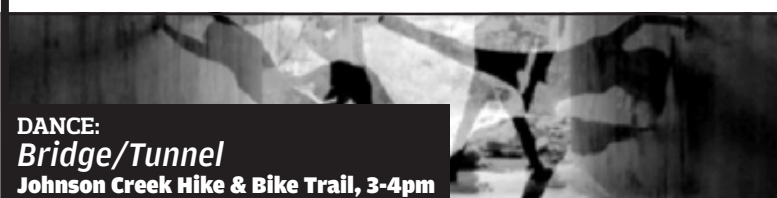
MUSIC:
Mike Cooley
Hole in the Wall



SPORTS:
UT Volleyball
Gregory Gym, 7pm



COMMUNITY:
Humanities Texas
Holiday Book Fair
Byrne-Reed House, 10am-1pm



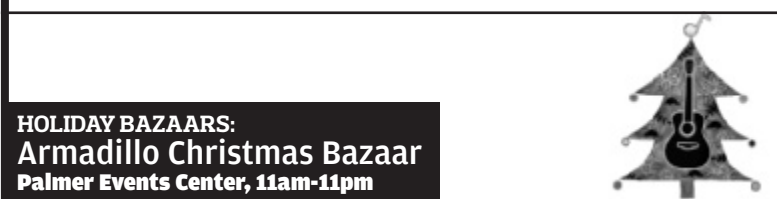
DANCE:
Bridge/Tunnel
Johnson Creek Hike & Bike Trail, 3-4pm



FILM:
Mauvais Sang
Alamo South Lamar, 7pm



MUSIC:
The Preservation
Palm Door



HOLIDAY BAZAARS:
Armadillo Christmas Bazaar
Palmer Events Center, 11am-11pm



FILM:
Things to Come
Harry Ransom Center, 7pm

THURSDAY

6

FILM: *Doug's Favorite Christmas Movie* Alamo Ritz, 7pm
FILM: *Pola X* Alamo South Lamar, 7pm
LITERA: *Jim Crace & Anthony Giardina* Avaya Auditorium (UT campus), 7:30pm
THEATRE: *La Pastorela* Mexican American Cultural Center, 8pm

FRIDAY

7

VISUAL ARTS: *Mix & Mash* Mexic-Arte, 6-10pm
KIDS: *Austin Children's Nutcracker* Dougherty Arts Center
FILM: *Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Adaptation* Alamo South Lamar, 7pm
FILM: *Friday Night Lights* Austin Studios, 7pm
GAY PLACE: *Fabulous Habits: Fashion & Variety* Lipstick24, 8pm-2am
MUSIC: *Odd Future* Emo's East
MUSIC: *Trash Talk* Red 7

SATURDAY

8

GAY PLACE: *Bobby Cook's Big Gay Holiday Brunch* 219 West, 11am-3pm
MEAL TIMES: *Brewing & Flavor Analysis 101* Black Star Co-op, 1-4pm
FILM: *Lifeorce* Alamo Ritz, 3:30pm
FILM: *Little Women* Alamo Lake Creek, 4pm
MUSIC: *Eastern Sea's First Christmas* Parish
MUSIC: *Hell's Belles* Longbranch Inn
COMEDY: *Mark Britten* Velveeta Room, 9:30 & 11:30pm

SUNDAY

9

HOLIDAY BAZAARS: *Cherrywood Art Fair* Cherrywood Coffeehouse, 10am-5pm
LITERA: *Writer Grrls Book Festival* BookWoman, 3:30pm
MUSIC: *A Charlie Brown Christmas* Antone's, 4 & 6pm
FILM: *Boy Meets Girl* Alamo South Lamar, 7pm
FILM: *Trailer War* Alamo South Lamar, 10pm

MONDAY

10

CIVICS 101: *Candlelight Campaign Against Cuts* Chase Tower, 4-6pm
GAY PLACE: *Red Ribbon Dinner for AIDS Services of Austin* Olive & June, 6:30-9:30pm
CLASSICAL MUSIC: *A Conspirare Christmas* Long Center, 8pm
MUSIC: *Janis Ian* One World Theatre
FILM: *Head* Alamo Ritz, 10:30pm

TUESDAY

11

FILM: *A Christmas Tale* Milwood Branch Library, 6:30pm
MUSIC: *Susan Torres y Conjunto Clemencia* Scoot Inn, 7-9pm
FILM: *Cymru Fach* Alamo South Lamar, 7pm
THEATRE: *Billy Elliot the Musical* Bass Concert Hall, 8pm

WEDNESDAY

12

FILM: *Radio Unnameable* Alamo South Lamar, 7pm
FILM: *Sushi: The Global Catch* Alamo South Lamar, 7:30pm
MUSIC: *Bloc Party* Emo's East

THURSDAY

13

COMMUNITY: *Holiday Posada* Southwest Key Programs, 6-8pm
MUSIC: *Powell St. John* Sahara Lounge
MUSIC: *Ted Russell Kamp* Continental Club

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RIGHT: Paul Pfeiffer, *Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse (07)*, 2002, digital duraflex print, 48 x 60 in., Collection Glenn and Amanda Fuhrman, New York, Courtesy The FLAG Art Foundation, ©Paul Pfeiffer. Courtesy Paula Cooper Gallery, New York

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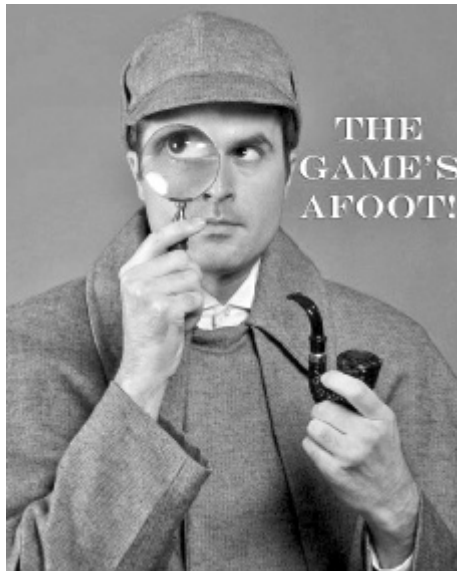
THEATRE

OPENING

CUENTO NAVIDEÑO: BAH HUMBURG IN THE BARRIO Teatro Vivo celebrates the holiday season with their annual Dickens twist set in a modern, urban Latino community, bringing back beloved characters from last year's production – with a few new surprises. Inspired by *A Christmas Carol*, and written and directed, as ever, by Rupert Reyes. Dec. 6-16. *Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 474-6379. \$20 (\$15, students, seniors). www.teatrovivo.org.*

SKY CANDY: LAND WITHOUT EVIL The award-winning aerial arts collective presents a show adapted by Agent Red and Chelsea Laumen from Matthew J. Pallamary's historical novel, about "a boy's conflict between the spiritual beliefs of life in the Mission and the visions of his father, the shaman of a threatened tribe in the rainforest." Dec. 8-16. *Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2 & 8pm. Extra show: Sat., Dec. 15, 2pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 474-1221. \$20. www.skycandyaustin.com.*

BILLY ELLIOT THE MUSICAL Here's the story (you know the story) of a young man who stumbles out of the boxing ring and into a ballet class, discovering a talent that inspires his whole community and changes his life forever. Dec. 11-16. *Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 1pm. Bass Concert Hall, UT campus, 471-1444. \$30 and up. www.utpac.org.*



THE GAME'S AFOOT! Ken Ludwig's comical murder-mystery is subtitled *Holmes for the Holidays*, and of course you're familiar with that consulting detective. Here's an actor (Jason Newman) playing an actor (William Gillette) who's playing Holmes and who's shot onstage in mid-role. Things get even more complicated (and dangerous) at a weekend revel after the attempted murder, and – well, thereby hangs a tale. A fine cast is directed by Don Toner for Austin Playhouse (now in their temporary digs at the Highland Mall). Dec. 13-Jan. 13. *Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Highland Mall, 6001 Airport. 476-0084. \$15-37 (student discounts available). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

CLOSING

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU The classic Kaufman & Hart Pulitzer-winning comedy about "living life to the fullest, following your own dreams, and daring to be unconventional," directed by Mick D'Arcy for Different Stages. *Thu.-Sat., Dec. 6-8, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$15-30. www.main.org/diffstages.*

THE SCARLET LETTER Sarah Saltwick's adaptation of the Hawthorne classic is directed by Steven Willson for UT's Department of Theatre and Dance. *Thu.-Fri., Dec. 6-7, 8pm. B. Iden Payne Theatre, 477-6060, 477-6060. \$15-25. www.texasperformingarts.org.*

ONGOING

OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS See what happens to Nick from New Jersey when "food, fidelity, and family reign supreme," in this holiday comedy by Joe DiPietro, directed by Andy Berkovsky for City Theatre. *Through Dec. 23. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5:30pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 524-2870. \$15-25 (\$10, Thursdays; other discounts available). www.citytheatreaustin.org.*

VODKA, FUCKING, AND TELEVISION See review, p.38. *Through Dec. 15. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. \$15-25. www.breakingstring.com.*

LA PASTORELA This comedy for the whole family is a cherished holiday tradition, now with a new twist written by Miguel Angel Santana. Directed by Alejandro Pedemonte for the Austin Latino Theatre Alliance, performed in Spanish with English subtitles. *Through Dec. 15. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Extra show: Sat., Dec. 8, 4pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River. \$18 (\$13, students, seniors). www.altateatro.com.*

THE SANTALAND DIARIES *Through Dec. 23. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Extra shows: Sat., Dec. 15 & 22, 4pm; Sun., Dec. 23, 7pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. \$40-45. www.zachtheatre.org.*

WHITE CHRISTMAS Irving Berlin's song-filled holiday classic comes to warm your heart and delight your ears, as choreographed and directed by Nick Demos, with musical direction by Allen Robertson, and starring Meredith McCall, Elizabeth Koepf, Matthew Redden, and Matt Gibson. *Through Dec. 30. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3:30 & 8pm; Sun., 2:30 & 7pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. \$25-80. www.zachtheatre.org.*

AUDITIONS

TEATRO VIVO: THE MEXCENTRICS Seeking men and women who want to perform sketch comedy. Prepare a 2-5 minute comedic monologue, bring a headshot, see website for details. *Tue.-Wed., Dec. 11-12, 6-9pm. Community Engagement Center, 1009 E. 11th. 653-1494. www.teatrovivo.org.*

ALL THAT JAZZ: A FOSSE REVUE "Students will be performing numbers in the distinct style of Bob Fosse." Call for details. *Sun., Dec. 9, 10am-2pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0594 X407. www.zachtheatre.org.*

COMEDY

IN THE CLUBS

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

Leanne Morgan All the way from rural Appalachia (by way of San Antonio) comes this comic, this stand-up comic, this female stand-up comic, this seldom-touring-but-always-welcome female stand-up comic who might make you laugh even more than opener **Brian Gaar** certainly will. Dec. 6-8. *Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$9-13.*

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

This Week in Coldness: They're right there on Airport Boulevard, where the goodness is funky and the funk is getting good. **Thursday Night Social Club** Sit back, quaff a few, and dig the improv. *Thu., 8:30pm. Red Envelope* More improv? Yes! *Thu., 10pm. Bad Boys*, featuring comedy by boys who are, well, other than polite, let's say. *Fri., 8:30pm. Live at ColdTowne* is stand-up comedy. *Fri., 10pm. Oscar Bait* The most likely award-winning movies are performed here before they're even released. *Sat., 8:30pm. The Frank Mills* and their smart, character-driven improv, with the sketchers of **Midnight Society**. *Sat., 10pm. Nice Astronaut* presents a show for your enjoyment. *Sat., 11pm.* And don't forget the rest of the week: stand-up with **The Jam** on Sundays, **Maggie Maye's** stand-up mic on Mondays, **Stool Pigeon** on Tuesdays, and – yes, check the website!

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

Esther's Follies The Post-Election, Pre-Apocalypse Show! The most popular sketch troupe in town brings comedy that skewers the high-and-mighty with sketches and riotous song parodies, right there on Sixth Street, featuring such gems as "Gridlock: The Musical" lambasting four more years of an Obama-vs.-Congress tug-of-war, "The Gospel of Shopping" with only x number more overdo-it days until Christmas, and many more. And there are **Ray Anderson's** amazing spectacles of magic, too – including his newest, **Eclipse!** Reservations recommended. *Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$22-27.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 476-0473. www.hideouttheatre.com.

It's Hideoutrageous! Here's your one-stop emporium of laughter and sweet coffee drinks Downtown, run like a brilliant clockwork made from Del Close's skull. The **Threefeer** brings you three troupes in one night. *Thu., 8pm. \$5. The Free Fringe* Improv goes experimental, and who knows WTF these free-range humans will come up with? *Thu., 10pm. Free. Fancy-Pants Mash-up* is a show of sartorial splendor. *Fri., 8pm. \$5. The Spectacle* presents "Best of Austin" winners **Parallelogramophonograph**, with **Local Genius Society**. *Fri., 10pm. \$12. Austin*

Secrets Improv inspired by secrets submitted by Austinites. *Sat., 8pm. \$12. Maestro* It's improviser against improviser, a whole stage full of them, battling for victory. *Sat., 10pm. \$12.*

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

It's Institutional! The Crapshoot Roxy Castillo and Jon Mendoza host a show that combines the best and worst parts of stand-up and improv. *Fridays, 10pm. \$5. Girls Girls Girls: Holiday Musical* The dulcet-toned damsels of improv conjure a tune-filled reason for the season. *Sat., Dec. 8, 8pm. \$7. Triple Scoop Night* Three troupes bring the funny, and this week's hosted by **Ralphie Hardesty**. *Saturdays, 10pm. \$5. The New Guard* Two separate, laugh-filled shows from the rising stars of this hardworking' Institution. *Sun., Dec. 9, 6 & 8pm. \$5.*

NEW MOVEMENT THEATER 616 Lavaca, 788-2669. www.newmovementtheater.com.

The New Movement It's the laugh-packed *underground*, literally, rocking all subterranean there at the corner of Seventh and Lavaca. **The Neighborhood** Big sketch comedy night. *Thu., 8pm. \$5. Block Party* Comedy open mic. *Thu., 9:30pm. The Neighborhood* *Fri., 9pm. \$5. Neverending Comedy Competition* Dan French refs this ongoing battle royale. *Fri., 10:30pm. \$5. The Neighborhood* *Sat., 9pm. \$5. Duncan Carson's Birthday Show* Oh! You know, right? That this Carson is extremely funny? That even 100 classes can't make you as funny as he is? That you'd better just sit back and laugh your ass off this night? And buy the man a beer! *Sat., 10:30pm. \$5. And look a week ahead to the Megaphone Show: Wednesdays, 9:30pm. \$5. And there's Clubhouse*, where **Kath Barbadoro** hosts the open mic. *Mondays, 9pm. Pay what you wish.*

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

Friday Night Fracas Chillin' with Kat Ramzinski The Kat is back, with new guest comics. *9:30pm. \$5. The Late Slot* Katie Pengra presents the sweetest locals doing their nastiest, most offensive jokes. *11:30pm. \$5.*

Mark Britten? Yes, aka **The Chinaman** – aka **KidWok** – steps away from his solo show at Las Vegas' Hard Rock Casino and takes the Cheese Palace stage for a wild, politically incorrect, character-voiced, rock-star-skewering ride. Such a popular guy in such an intimate space, whoa. *Sat., Dec. 8, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

BUT WAIT - THERE'S MORE!

GNAP! THEATER LATE-NIGHTS: No Shame Theatre is where you can strut your stuff before or after watching others strut their stuff. Their weird, maybe experimental, but here totally shame-free stuff. *Fri., Dec. 7, 10pm. Free. Saturday Night Special* brings you a sweet double-header, featuring the Merlin-McCormick magic and mayhem of **Get Up** and a special guest troupe. *Sat., Dec. 8, 10pm. \$10. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. www.gnaptheater.org.*

DANCE

THE DAY OF TANGO FESTIVAL Performances by international tango champions, local tango instructors, professional dancers, and musicians. Demonstrations? Workshops? Yes: everything tango. See website for details! *Sat.-Tue., Dec. 8-11. Ben Hur Shrine Auditorium, 7811 Rockwood. 695-1024. \$25-30. www.dayoftango.org.*

BRIDGE/TUNNEL Oh! This is the kind of thing we like to see! Look: an afternoon of experimental dance and live music set in the natural and engineered spaces along the Johnson Creek Hike and Bike Trail. Featuring dancers Rosalyn Nasky, Nicole Roerick, Katherine Hodges, Kelly Hasandras, Errin Delperdang, Alyson Dolan, Amy Myers, Scott Roskilly, Stephanie Chavez, and Jude Hickey; with music from Tom Benton, Henna Chou, Drew Silverman, and Max Stoffregen. Get you some fresh air and fresh art on a Saturday afternoon. (Dances take place along a half-mile section of the trail closest to MoPac.) *Sat.-Sun., Dec. 8-9, 3-4pm. Free. www.readyssetgodance.com.*

BALLET AUSTIN: THE NUTCRACKER Here's the longest-running production of Tchaikovsky's holiday classic in the state of Texas, with choreography by Stephen Mills, and local celebs appearing as Mother Ginger, and the invigorating score performed live by the Austin Symphony Orchestra. If you're going to see a *Nutcracker* this season, this is the spectacular one you want to see. *Dec. 8, 14, 19, 20: 7:30pm; Dec. 9, 16, 23: 2pm; Dec. 15, 21, 22: 2 & 7:30pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 476-2163. \$15-75. www.balletaustin.org.*

PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORE DANCE: SEMBRANDO HERENCIA This tenth-annual tradition combines live

music, dance, and theater to raise awareness of often-forgotten elements from Puerto Rico's rich heritage, now presenting *Mami Boricua. Sun., Dec. 9, 3pm. Texas School for the Deaf, 1102 S. Congress, 251-8122. \$15 (\$12 advance; kids \$5). www.prfdance.org.*

CLASSICAL MUSIC

A CONSPIRARE CHRISTMAS Join Craig Hella Johnson, Charles Wesley Evans (baritone), and Kathlene Ritch (soprano) among the most glorious voices in town, as the acclaimed Conspirare company brings dulcet tidings of comfort and joy. Bonus: Tom Burritt on percussion. *Mon., Dec. 10, 8pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 474-5664. \$24-75 (\$10, students). www.conspirare.org.*

SING-IT-YOURSELF MESSIAH The beloved (and thus 23rd annual) tradition continues as Austin Civic Chorus and your friends and neighbors and you make a joyous-noise-into-the-Lord sort of thing with Mr. Handel's indelible masterwork. *Sat., Dec. 8, 3pm. St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa, 719-3300. \$15. www.chorusaustin.org.*

ANNUAL HOLIDAY REVEL Violinist Cármele de los Santos, cellist Joel Becktell, and pianist Carla McElhany celebrate with music by Lawes, Mellis, Piazzolla, Vivaldi, Rachmaninoff and more, as poet Nathan Brown and harpist Elaine Barber join Revel Classical Band for this popular annual event. *Sat.-Sun., Dec. 8-9, 7:30pm. Cobra Studios, 902 Gardner #21. \$25. www.revelmusic.org.*

A TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS IN SONG Ring in the Christmas season with A Cappella Texas and Austin Harmony. *Sat., Dec. 8, 4pm. St. John's United Methodist Church, 2140 Allandale, 452-5737. \$5-10. www.acappellatexas.org.*

ACMC: A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS And here the Austin Chamber Music Center gives a tug o' the jaunty Santa cap to Sparky Schulz, whose characters inspired the music this show celebrates: the relentlessly delightful "Peanuts" themes of **Vince Guarnaldi**, as rendered here with the vigor and joy and fierce expertise of **Michelle Schumann** on piano, **Utah Hamrick** on bass, and **David Sierra** on drums. *Sun., Dec. 9, 4 & 6pm. Antone's, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424. \$20 (\$15, kids). www.austinchambermusic.org.*

VISUAL ARTS

EVENTS

MEXIC-ARTE: MIX & MASH The fancy party in this Downtown venue is replete with noms from El Chato restaurant, drinks, and live DJs doing that cool shit they do with the turntables and the beats while you mingle and peruse new works in a variety of genres – created by local, national, and international artists. *Recommended. Fri., Dec. 7, 6-10pm. 419 Congress, 480-9373. \$25-50. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.*

WEST END GALLERY NIGHT: FIRST THURSDAY A fine array of galleries within walking distance feature new works on this day each month: Art on 5th, F8 Gallery, Lotus Gallery, Russell Collection, Stephen L. Clark Gallery, Sterling Images, Wally Workman Gallery, B. Hollyman Gallery. See website for map. *Thu., Dec. 6, 6-8pm. 478-4440. www.artaustin.org.*

NATE JENSEN! The morose and distorted alongside the cute and the cuddly: Jensen's fine art and children's book illustrations. *Sat., Dec. 8, 1-4pm. 1738 Anderson, 296-0862. www.natespace.com.*

COLBURN ART AND BIRTHDAY SHOW Celebrating the life and metal sculptures of Daryl and Jacob Colburn, and including works by photographer Erin Waters, jewelry maker Debra Gikas, sculptors Rita Marie Ross and Sandy Muckleroy. *Dec. 7-8; Fri., 5-10pm; Sat., noon-8pm. 2309 Thornton, Unit L. 577-3479.*

BUSY-BEING: PEOPLE IN THE CROSSWALK Solo show of San Francisco painter Yarrow Slaps' glorious portraits of disenfranchised folks who most people look down on. *Sat., Dec. 8, 6-9pm. 913 E. Cesar Chavez, 323/428-7576. www.domystore.com.*

OPENING

DOMY BOOKS: YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE Michelle Marchesseault's new works in diverse media explore the nature of self-identification through the window of interior decoration. *Reception: Sat., Dec. 8, 7-9pm. Exhibition: Through Dec. 31. 913 E. Cesar Chavez, 476-3669. www.domystore.com.*

AUSTIN ART SPACE: 12BUY12 It's ... a holiday sale! Reception (with music from the Walnut Creek Elementary School "Soaring Eagles" choir: *Sat., Dec. 8, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through Jan. 12. Fri.-Sat., 11am-6pm. 7739 Northcross Ste. Q, 970-1700. www.austinartspace.org.*

CAROL STENSRUD STUDIO SALE Artwork? Yes



TINY PARK: DIVERGENT SPACE Oh! The entire gallery's filled with the works of **Leah Haney**, and all we can do is stare in wonder, transfixed by the artist's exploded confluences of multidimensional perspective and architectural renderings on wooden panels and more. Smart, elegant, and with colors like Frank Lloyd Wright went on an Adderall bender and redesigned Bifrost. Reception: *Fri., Dec. 7, 7-11pm.* Exhibition: *Through Jan. 5. Saturdays, noon-5pm, and by appointment. 298-9920. www.tinyparkgallery.com.*

– Stensrud's paintings and sculptures – but also a garage sale. *Through Dec. 22. Saturdays, noon-5pm. 1601 Eva. 694-9207.*

DAVIS GALLERY: HOLIDAY GROUP SHOW New works by the gallery's regular artists in painting, sculpture, photography, mixed media collage, and print. Randall Reid, Caprice Pierucci, David Leonard, and more. Recommended. Reception: *Sat., Dec. 8, 7-9pm.* Exhibition: *Through Jan. 19. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929. www.davisgalleryaustin.com.*

PUMP PROJECT FLEX SPACE: DRINKING & DRIVING New work by Chris Evans and Ashley Watson, exploring "unguarded moments that occur within the public arena." They totally saw what you did there – and they have the photos to prove it. Reception: *Fri., Dec. 7, 7-11pm.* Exhibition: *Through Dec. 22. Saturdays, 1-5pm or by appointment. 1109 Shady.*

WARDENCLYFFE: STORIES, STONES, AND STICKS The artist Dana Ellinger shares her collections from nature, prison art from a deceased friend, and stories of her innermost journeys – with "handcarved spoons and watercolor moons." Reception: *Fri., Dec. 7, 6-11pm.* Deconstruction: *Sat., Dec. 8, noon-7pm. 1101 Springdale, 524-0196. www.wardencliffegallery.com.*

CLOSING

VISUAL ARTS CENTER: YET, BY NO MEANS You thought you already knew how compelling and aesthetically powerful modern photography can be? You'll adjust your judgment's calibration a magnitude or two after witnessing the visual might of this two-person show featuring images captured by **Sandy Carson** and **Emma Whelan**. *Through Dec. 8. 23rd and Trinity, 471-1108. www.utvac.org.*

ONGOING

AMOA-ARTHOUSE Nick Cave: Hiding in Plain Sight Oh, those strange and glorious Soundsuits! *Through Dec. 30. Andy Coolquitt: Attainable Excellence* The relentlessly inventive Austinite attains some excellence, alright. *Through Dec. 30. 700 Congress, 453-5312. www.amoa-arthouse.org.*

GRAYDUCK GALLERY: FUTURE-PERFECT-IN-PAST TENSE This group show in the terrific gallery just off South First features works by Regina Allen, Adrian Landon Brooks, Cheryl Finrock, D.C. Ice, Megan Kimber, Amy Kligman, Amy Rice, Jeffrey Swanson, and Matthew Winters. *Through Dec. 22. 608-C W. Monroe, 826-5334. www.grayduckgallery.com.*

GUZU GALLERY: STRANGE BEASTS The earth may not actually shake during this tribute to the **Japanese Kaiju** phenomenon, featuring screenprints and original art – but you know that Guzu (the pop gallery next

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LISTINGS

door to Austin Books & Comics) is gonna be Gojira'd and Gamera'd and King Ghidorah'd beyond polychrome and radioactive capacity. *Through Dec. 31.* 5000 N. Lamar, 454-4898. www.guzugallery.com.

HARRY RANSOM CENTER: I HAVE SEEN THE FUTURE This exhibition explores Norman Bel Geddes' design career through fifty projects from the Ransom Center's collection, bringing together never-before-exhibited drawings, models, photographs, and films. 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.

LE GRAND SALON DU FLATBED This EAST-celebrating exhibition comprises more than 100 framed works on paper, providing a retrospective of the printmakers' acclaimed studio with works by Terry Allen, Bob Schneider, Julie Speed, Michael Ray Charles, Lilianna Porter, Randy Twaddle, James Surls, Kelly Fearing, Trenton Doyle Hancock, and more. 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328. www.flatbedpress.com.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: THE SHAPES This is Francesca Gabbiani's fourth solo exhibition at LRG, featuring drawings on mylar and rice paper, a rug, and several of the artist's signature cut-paper collages incorporating hundreds of layers. Intricate. Beautiful. Recommended. *Through Jan. 12.* 360 Nueces #50, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.

PUMP PROJECT: WOMEN PRINTMAKERS OF AUSTIN Here's the latest of WPA's annual "Multiple Originals" shows, perfectly timed (we daresay) for gift-shopping: Affordable yet superlative works of art, from right here in the ATX. *Through Dec. 29.* Wed. & Sat., noon-5pm. 702 Shady. www.womenprintmakers.com.

SLUGFEST: KNUCKLEHEADS Gang of demons, bunch of freaks, passel of creatures and varmints – rendered as vivid limited-edition prints and works on paper by Fred Stonehouse – have their way with the walls of Slugfest's tidy gallery right down the street from Flatbed Press. Highly recommended, especially if you enjoy the more colorful intersections of beautiful and strange. *Through Dec. 30.* 1906 Miriam, 477-7204. www.slugfestprints.com.

SOUTHPOP: LIVE MUSIC & DEAD CLUBS The South Austin Popular Culture Center presents this "visual history through T-shirts," chronicling the rise and fall of bands and venues, charting that storied sequence across the public strata of the cotton upper-body garments once relegated to underwear but now (for

decades, now) more akin to personal billboards of opinion and taste. *Through Dec. 23.* 1516-B S. Lamar, 440-8318. www.samopc.org.

GALLERY SHOAL CREEK: POST LINEAR See review, p.38. *Through Jan. 12.* 2905 San Gabriel, 454-6671. www.galleryshoalcreek.com.

TEXAS FOLKLIFE: JOHN CHRISTIAN The Austin photographer captures Texas diversity, from Big Bend's stunning terrain to Austin's Split Rail Inn to the porches of Navasota, in images spanning more than five decades. *Through Jan. 31.* 1317 S. Congress, 441-9255. www.texasfolklife.org.

VISUAL ARTS CENTER Emily Roysdon The artist explores the lineaments of love, politics, sexuality, and gender – sometimes all four together – through diverse media. **Hecho Farm** is a stage for the continued growth of artist **Cruz Ortiz's** lovesick alter ego, Spaztek. **Under Gods** showcases the photography of **Liz Hingley**, who studies the myriad of faiths that make up the fabric of contemporary British society. **Future Regions** pairs the paintings of Houston artist **Shane Tolbert** with the paintings of **Raymond Uhlir** of Austin. **Now What It Never Was** In which **Nick Griffin**, **Philip Harrell**, and **Anne Riley** investigate the language of abstraction through the employment of additive and subtractive painting techniques. 23rd and Trinity. www.utvac.org.

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: ANGIE RENFRO The artist's treatment of stark subject matter – factories, weeds, lightning bugs, and ships at sea – can capture, in oils on panel, "the strange gracefulness of being alone." Indeed. *Through Dec. 22.* 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: TRUE FALSETTO This is the Texas debut of a body of collage and animated works from **Lauren Kelley's** series of short stop-motion videos in which hungry subjects and viewers are teased in an attempt to scrutinize concepts of desire – physical, emotional and social. *Through Jan 17.* 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.

YARD DOG: OCEAN WAVES & SAILOR SONGS Austin's celebrated bastion of contemporary folk art presents a series of new paintings in the maritime milieu by gallery fave **Jon Langford** and his Belgian friend **Jo Clauwaert**. 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613. www.yarddog.com.

ZACH'S WILDE PARTY: WHITE CHRISTMAS You know it's our night, and this one will be merry and bright, all to celebrate this seasonal classic, Wilde-style, with chosen family. *Thu., Dec. 6, 6:45pm.* Zach's Topfer Theatre, 202 S. Lamar, 476-0541. Free. www.zachtheatre.org/buy-tickets.

KINGS N THINGS ALLIDAY SHOW There are way more than three kings. And way more than three holidays at year's end. Kings N Things pokes 'em all... alliday long. *Fri., Dec. 7, 9pm.* Elysium, 705 Red River. \$10. www.facebook.com/kingsnthings.

LADY PARTY! SAGITTARIUS SALVATION Sadge it up with the Girlfriend gang, you end-of-the-yearers. *Thu., Dec. 6, 10pm-2am.* Cheer Up Charlie's, 1104 E. Sixth. www.girlfriendatx.com.

AFTER HOURS DANCE 2am until...? First Fridays of the month. Basement, 422 Congress. www.facebook.com/BasementAustin.

LIFE COACH CARLA FER-RER It's a happy hour "Mix & Mingle With a Little Jingle" with this Oprah-approved life coach. *Fri., Dec. 7, 5pm.* Rusty's, 405 E. Seventh. www.rustysaustin.com.

STARTOUT: DREAM TEAM I Join entrepreneurial smartypantsed panelists Tina Cannon, Lorenzo Thione, and Paula A. Soileau for "Choosing the Right People, Right From the Start." *Fri., Dec. 7, 6:30-8:30pm.* Handlebar, 121 E. Fifth. \$15; free to AGLCC members. www.dream-team1.eventbrite.com.

FABULOUS HABITS: FASHION & VARIETY Anything goes at this fashion show curated by top designers, with frocks and such from Top Drawer Thrift. Join hostess Ursula, Tough Titty, and the Weird City Sisters, all to benefit Project Transitions. *Fri., Dec. 7, 8pm-2am.* Lipstick24, 606 E. Seventh, 474-2950. \$10 suggested donation. www.facebook.com/WeirdCitySisters.

LITERA

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

NOVELISTS JIM CRACE AND ANTHONY GIARDINA This fall's visiting professors at the UT Michener Center read selections from their amazing work. Highly recommended. *Thu., Dec. 6, 7:30pm.* Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302, UT campus).

RED SALMON ARTS: FLOR DE NOPAL WORKSHOP AND READING SERIES Email to reserve your spot! *Fri., Dec. 7, 7pm.* Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River. Free. www.flordenopalliteraryfestival.wordpress.com.

GUERRILLA HAIKU MOVEMENT If you've got the haiku, they've got the chalk. "Once equipped, you can scribble sidewalk verses or set off on neighborhood scavenger hunts to help find new canvases and bring passers-by in on the fun." Take the ATX for a 5-7-5 ride on lines of calcium carbonate! *Sat., Dec. 8, noon.* SFC Downtown Farmers' Market, 400 W. Guadalupe. Free. www.ghm575.org.

YES, THIS: THE SOUND OF AUSTIN Photographer Mathew Sturtevant presents his new book featuring 97 portraits of local musicians with narratives of their favorite things about Austin. *Sat., Dec. 8, 1pm.* Zinger Hardware, 4001 N. Lamar. www.zingerhardware.com.

AUSTIN WRITER GRRLS BOOK FESTIVAL Featuring Marjorie E. Brody; Kimberly Cockrill, "possibly the funniest female writer Texas has known to date;" Maureen Haskell; poets Allyson Whipple, Cindy Huyser, and Debra Winegarten; and more. Highly recommended. *Sun., Dec. 9, 3:30pm.* BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar, 472-2785. www.ebookwoman.com.

MISCELLANEOUS

RIC UP YER EARS she says: *Speak your truth & I mine, god an architect wanting bridges built of communion of brave beauty she says: remind me to let go of shame. sorrow was not the first thing he remembered - innocence exists only in its absence - how we begin by running towards something pushed like a light from the mouth of her joy - blessed - kissed full on the lips - dripping - wet. Namaste. Kiss.*

COLORMERAD RUN Team ProHomo benefits Special Olympics, and you turn all colors of the rainbow. Literally. *Sat., Dec. 8, 10am.* Travis County Expo Center, 7311 Decker, 854-4900. \$45. www.colormerad.com/races/austin.html.

BOBBY COOK'S BIG GAY HOLIDAY BRUNCH Mr. Cook's gotta hunch, and it's called brunch, featuring DJ Def-Tone. Say what? *Sat., Dec. 8, 11am-3pm.* 219 West, 612 W. Sixth, 474-2194.

AUSTIN ROUNDUP HOLIDAY PARTY Keep your holiday spirits gay, but sans spirits with the Austin Roundup to raise dough for their 2013 Recovery Conference hosted by members of the LGBT recovery community. *Sat., Dec. 8, 9:30pm.* Odd Fellows Hall, 6809 Guadalupe. \$10 suggested donation. rpwulbert@gmail.com, www.austin-roundup.com.

LGBT ESTATE PLANNING CLE A vegetarian lunch worth one hour CLE credit. Open to all, even nonmembers. *Mon., Dec. 10, noon-1pm.* Austin Bar Association, 816 Congress #700. www.austinglbtbar.com.

TUEZGAYZ Tuesdays, 10pm. Barbarella, 615 Red River. www.barbarellaustin.com, www.theglitforis.tumblr.com.

LISTEN TO OUTCAST! Tweak your knobs to Stephen Rice and 91.7FM. Tuesdays, 6-7pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org, www.outcastaustin.com.

LEZRIDE! Lez get together! Lez pedal to the metal. Tuesdays, 7pm. Q Austin, 3408 West Ave. Free. www.lezrideatx.tumblr.com.

GET REAL, STAY QUEER Every other Tuesday. Bernadette's, 2039 Airport. Donations for whatever cause is announced weekly, cash only, 21+.

'BILLY ELLIOTT: THE MUSICAL' CAST PARTY From the national Broadway tour. *Tue., Dec. 11, 11pm.* Rusty's,

POEM OF THE ISSUE

I wait for tears to come gently
like soft spring rain
tears that will fall like diamonds
from the sky
wise little pearls
harvested at great expense
she doesn't want me anymore.
– Rick Belden, "pearls"

COMMUNITY

HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOW This local coffee shop has been stepping up its holiday light game for years. Every hour the lights and music explode with the spirit of the holidays. *Through Jan. 1, 6pm-12mid.* Mozart's Coffee Roasters, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 477-2900. Free.

SANTA'S RANCH Santa's tired of waiting for global warming to catch up at the North Pole. He's spending most of his pre-Christmastime among the 1.5 million lights of Santa's Ranch. Why not join him? *Through Dec. 30, 6-10pm.* 9561 N. I-35, New Braunfels (two miles south of Tanger Outlet Mall), 830/743-1293. \$24 per car. www.santasranch.net.

WHOLE FOODS MARKET ICE RINK It isn't easy getting into a Winter Wonderland mood in Texas. This little frozen oasis can help you forget about climate change for a little while. *Through Dec. 23.* Whole Foods Market, 525 N. Lamar, 542-2225. \$10. www.wholefoods.com.

CHRISTMAS FAMILY NIGHT Start the seasonal tradition of forced familial bonding with live music, dancers, candle making, carriage rides, game booths, and a cavalcade of seasonal characters. *Fri., Dec. 7, 6:30pm.* Downtown Round Rock, 341-3361. Free. www.roundrocktexas.gov/home/index.asp?page=634.

EBENEZER'S JOURNEY It might be the standard story, but Pioneer Farms makes it an interactive experience with Bob Cratchit, Tiny Tim, and the rest of the crew. *Fri-Sat., Dec. 7-8 & 14-15, 7pm.* Pioneer Farms, 10621 Pioneer Farms Dr., 837-1215. \$12. www.ebenizersjourney.com.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS HELICOPTER TOURS Tired of seeing our city all lit up for the holidays from the ground? Well,

405 E. Seventh, 482-9002. Free. www.rustysaustin.com.

TASTY TUESDAYS LGBT night at Lincoln Village's tastiest spot. *Tuesdays, 9pm.* MoJoe Room Bar & Grill, 6406 N. I-35 #1600, 206-4100. Free. www.yellastud.com, www.mojoeroom.com.

LIZZY CAROLOKE Wednesdays, 8pm-12mid. Bernadette's, 2039 Airport. Free.

OCCUPY AUSTIN OCCUQUEERS MEETING Every other Wednesday, 5-6:30pm. The Q, 3408 West. Free.

QUEER RIDE Wednesdays, 7pm. Texas State Capitol, 1100 Congress. Free. www.facebook.com/AustinTPH.

STEEL VAGINAS Semiweekly romp through the nuanced ebbs and flows of the F Word. *Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, 7:30pm.* The Q, 3408 West, 281/733-0576. ashton@theqaustin.org.

KARAOKE WITH KENNY Goes 'til close. *Wednesdays, 9:30pm.* The Iron Bear, 121 W. Eighth. Free.

PFLAG SOUTH MONTHLY MEETING Family is nice; allied family is love. PFLAG represents the best of our community. *Second Thursdays, 6:30-9pm.* Faith Presbyterian Church, 1314 E. Oltorf, 444-1314. Free.

FABULOUS AND FAMOUS KARAOKE With Madame Murrh! *Thu., Dec. 13, 9pm-1:30am.* Rusty's, 405 E. Seventh, 482-9002. www.rustysaustin.com.

HO-RIZON

AGLCC AWARDS & HOLIDAY PARTY It's the gay chamber's first-ever awards ceremony and holiday jam. *Thu., Dec. 20, 5:45-9pm.* Sheraton Hotel at the Capitol, 701 E. 11th. \$35 for members, \$50 for future members. www.facebook.com/aglcc/events.

'THE AGENDA' IS COMING Watch this space and publication racks all over town. agenda@aglcc.org, www.facebook.com/austinagenda.

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



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SEASONAL GAYFECTIVE DISORDER May we recommend some Vitamin Q? Read on!

ON OUR GAYDAR

HOOK'D Urban LGBT night in the Highland/Lincoln area. *Thursdays, 10pm.* Club Ambitious, 6700 Middle Fiskville, 832/878-4527. Free before 11pm. www.soe-ent.com.

GAY IN AUSTIN Local real estate agent's gay info website hosts a happy hour. *First Thursdays.* Floating locations; details online. Free. www.gayinaustintexas.com.

LISTINGS

these short tours grant you a bird's eye view. *Fridays & Saturdays through December. Bud Dryden Airport, 10301 FM 969, 866/205-7084. \$125, 15-minute tour; \$255, 30-minute tour. www.austinhelicoptertours.com.*

CLEAN LADY BIRD LAKE Register online, and get in a green mood. Bring your kayak to help clean up where the land-bound volunteers can't reach. Location info provided with registration. A prize goes to the person finding the most unusual object. Are toes considered "unusual?" *Sat., Dec. 8, 9-11am. Lady Bird Lake, 391-0617 x905. www.keepeaustinbeautiful.org/lakebirdlake.*

HUMANITIES TEXAS HOLIDAY BOOK FAIR Jan Reid, Bill Brands, Sarah Bird, and John Spong are just a few of the 20 authors who will be autographing books for purchase at a discounted rate. Coffee and treats will be available if your blood sugar gets low from all the literary star power. Proceeds go to Texas libraries. *Sat., Dec. 8, 10am-1pm. Byrne-Reed House, 1410 Rio Grande, 440-1991. www.humanitiestexas.org.*

MAKE WATCH LOVE AUSTIN PARTY Get a sneak peak at Austin Studios' future expansion and mingle with film, gaming, and music luminaries. Check out some of the new film gear, play some unique games, and see what Austin can offer you as a film professional. *Sat., Dec. 8, 5-9pm. Austin Studios, 1901 E. 51st, 322-0145. \$10. www.austinfilm.org.*

LUMINATIONS The gardens will be covered in lights while inside the kids can enjoy music, crafts, and a

puppet show. *Sat.-Sun., Dec. 8-9, 6-9pm. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse, 232-0100. Free with donation of two cans of goods for the Capital Area Food Bank. www.wildflower.org/luminations.*

CEDAR PARK TREE LIGHTING with enough wattage to get your holiday spirit jump-started. Take a free carriage ride or just say hi to Santa before the tree lights up. *Sat., Dec. 8, 6:30pm. Heritage Oak Park, 875 Quest Pkwy., Cedar Park, 512/401-5500. Free.*

CHANUKAH IN THE HOOD features performances from area children's choirs, plus a Chanukah sing-along. Latkes and other treats will be available. *Sun., Dec. 9, noon-3:30pm. Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar, 206-1000. Free. www.shalomaustin.org/chanukah.*

ELECTRIC CAR SCREENING & PANEL DISCUSSION Take a gander at the documentary, *Revenge of the Electric Car*, followed by a discussion of the state of the alternative powered conveyance with experts on the subject from big corporations and other organizations. *Tue., Dec. 11, 4-8pm. Blanton Museum of Art, 200 E. MLK, 471-7324. Free. www.ev-tec.org.*

BUDA TRAIL OF LIGHTS Local businesses, churches, and organizations will be lousy with holiday lights and decorations so come out and get a good look. Shuttles are available at the nearby Cabela's if you want to avoid the parking hassle. *Dec. 12-20, 6-10pm. Historic Stagecoach Park, 880 Main St., Buda, 512/295-7170. Free. www.ci.buda.tx.us.*



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EBENEZER'S JOURNEY



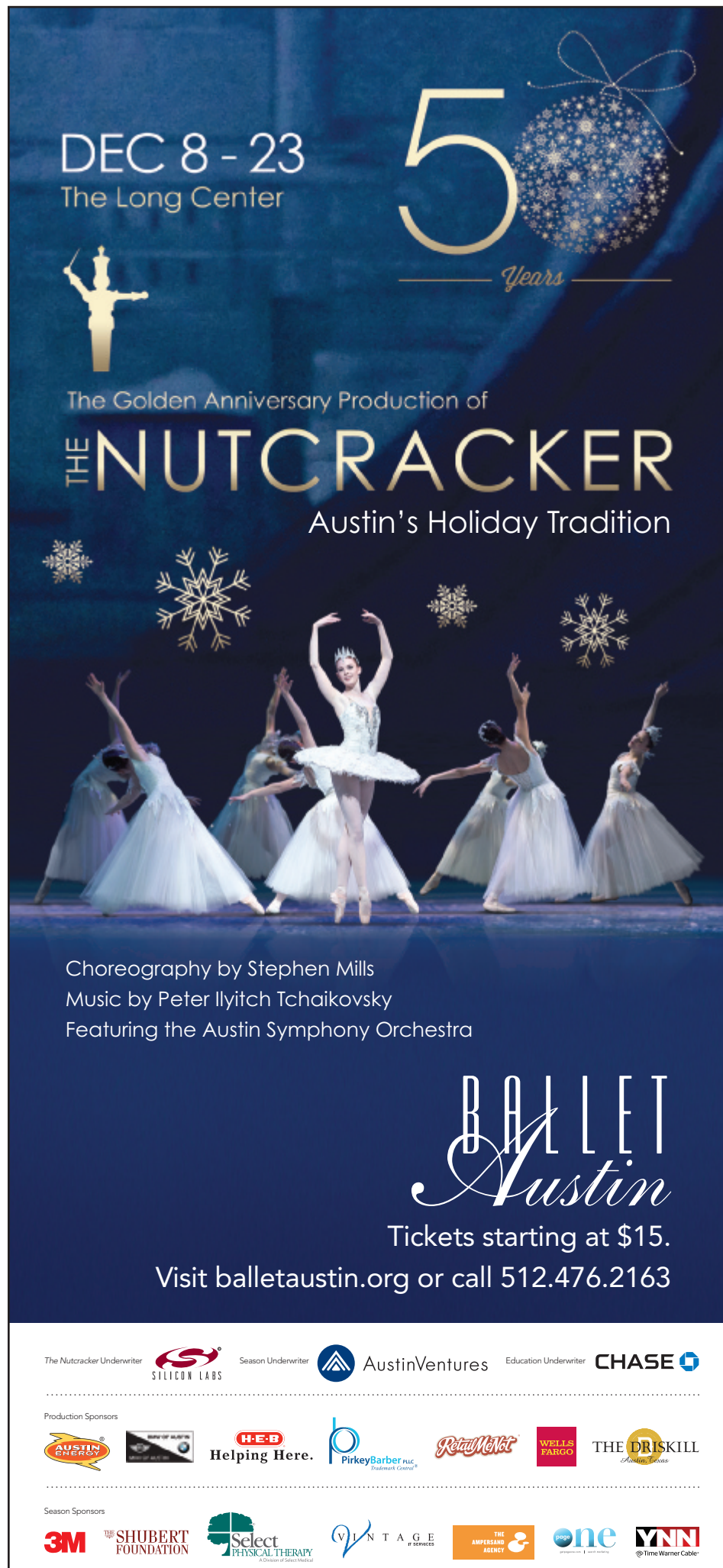
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LISTINGS

PROPER NANG FOR HAAM The Health Alliance for Austin Musicians gets a little help from a handful of local live music acts. *Sat., Dec. 8, 6-9pm. Maria's Taco Xpress, 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261.*

BLUE SANTA CARRIAGE RIDES Donation of an unwrapped toy grants admission for one ride a carriage around Downtown. *Wed., Dec. 12, 6:30-10pm. Fire Station, Fifth & Trinity, 243-0044. www.austincarriage.com.*

HOLIDAY CANDLELIGHT TOUR Take a walk to four historic Austin homes decked out for the holidays with the Heritage Society. Trust us, they know all about old buildings. *Thu., Dec. 13, 10:5 W. 33rd. \$20. www.heritagesocietyaustin.org.*

HOLIDAY POSADA Southwest Key's Latino Arts Preservation Program students sing and dance their way through the story of Joseph and Mary looking for a place to stay. Santa brings games, crafts, and more fun even if we already know how the story ends. *Thu., Dec. 13, 6-8pm. Southwest Key Programs, 6002 Jain, 462-2181. Free. www.swkey.org/news/events.html/event/2012/12/13/holiday-posada-family-fiesta.*

HO HO BLO AUSTIN Supremely coifed hair and dapper duds populate the catwalk at this benefit for Angelheart Kids Shelter. *Thu., Dec. 13, 7:30-10:30pm. Beauty Ballroom, 2015 E. Riverside, 800-4628. \$15 plus a toy donation. www.hohobloaustin.eventbrite.com.*

SCIENCE UNDER THE STARS Learn about how stars are created and how we keep discovering more and more of them. Come early for refreshments and activities for the kids. *Thu., Dec. 13, 7:30pm. Brackenridge Field Lab, 2907 Lake Austin Blvd., 203/444-8925. Free. www.scienceunderthestars.org.*

WALDENFEST Ten bands, lots of beer, a photo booth, and pups looking for a home. Proceeds go to Austin Pets Alive!. *Thu., Dec. 13. The Owl, 1522 E. 12th. \$5.*

OUT OF TOWN

TRAIL OF LIGHTS Enjoy a quarter-mile walking trail lit with thousands of lights and an 1850s German home decked in Christmas splendor overlooking LaGrange. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 7-8 and 14-15, 6-8pm. Monument Hill and Kreische Brewery State Historic Site, 414 Loop 92, LaGrange, 979/968-5658. www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/monument-hill-kreische-brewery.*

MAIN STREET BETHLEHEM Explore the narrow streets of a living Nativity Scene with the residents of ancient Bethlehem until you find Joseph and Mary in the stables. *Dec. 7-9 and 14-16, 6-9pm. First Baptist Church, 108 S. Vanderveer, Burnet, 512/756-4481. Free. www.fbcburnet.org/mainstreetbethlehem.htm.*

FOLKLIFE CHRISTMAS Take a trip back in time on a stagecoach to historic homes decorated for the season with demonstrations showing crafts, children playing old-fashioned games, music filling the air, and vendors selling food and drink. *Sat, Dec. 8, noon-4pm. Winedale Historical Complex, Round Top, 979/278-3530. Free. www.cah.utexas.edu.*

WINTER'S EVE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL The town square will be decorated in thousands of lights as minstrels entertain; shops will be open late, and food and drink vendors will offer their wares. *Sat., Dec. 9, 5-10pm. Wimberley. Free. www.wimberleymerchants.com.*

KIDS

GINGERBREAD WORKSHOP Kids and parents are invited to create their own sugary abodes made from locally baked gingerbread. *Through Dec. 23: Wednesdays, 10am; Thursdays, 10am, 3:30pm; Fridays & Saturdays, 10am, 12:30, & 3:30pm; Sundays, 12:30 & 3:30pm. Austin Children's Museum, 201 Colorado, 472-2499 x201. \$35 (\$30, members). www.austinkids.org/Programs/Seasonal/Gingerbread-House-Workshops.aspx.*

THE ELVES AND THE SHOEMAKER Kids over the age of 3 can get in the spirit of the season with this puppet show courtesy of your local library. *Thu., Dec. 6, 10:15am, Little Walnut Creek Branch, 835 W. Rundberg; Fri., Dec. 7, 10:15am, Southeast Branch, 5803 Nuckols Crossing Rd.; Sat., Dec. 8, 1pm, Yarborough Branch, 2200 Hancock; Sun., Dec. 9, 1pm, Faulk Central Branch, 800 Guadalupe, 974-7400. Free. www.library.austintexas.gov.*

JINGLE BELLS, BATMAN SMELLS Junie B. Jones and her classmates have an adventure that warms the heart with holiday cheer. *Fri., Dec. 7 & 21, 7pm; Sat., Dec. 8, 15, & 22, 11am & 1pm; Sun., Dec. 9, 2pm; Sun., Dec. 16, 12:30pm. Scottish Rite Theater, 207 W. 18th. \$10 (\$8, kids). www.scotthritetheater.org.*

CHILDREN'S NUTCRACKER The Austin City Ballet presents the 12th annual *Nutcracker* for the kids. It's a holiday tradition for all age groups, as long as you don't consider watching people leap in tights "adult." *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 7-9 & 14-16. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 496-5937. \$25 (\$15, children). www.austincityballet.org.*

CAMPFIRE NATURE TIKES Toddlers and preschool age children can get started learning about nature at these monthly events. *Sat., Dec. 8, 10am. Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park, 7000 Ardath, 974-6700. \$2. www.camp-fire.org.*

ANNIE JR. Local kids perform this classic musical for kids. *Saturdays through Dec. 22, 11am & 1:30pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0594. \$10 (\$8, kids). www.zachtheatre.org.*

ORNAMENTS DE NAVIDAD Kids of all ages make traditional Navidad decorations to take home. *Sat., Dec. 8, 1-3pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River, 974-3785. \$12. www.macaustin.org.*

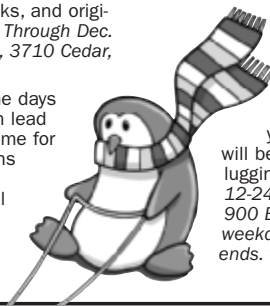
CHILDREN IN HISTORY Learn about how children in the Frontier era lived. Read about and explore the lives of Kirsten, a young Swedish girl, and Kaya, a Native American. Crafts, stories, and hikes bring the past to life. *Sat., Dec. 8, 1-4pm. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 974-3888. Free (with entry to the garden). www.zilkerpark.org.*

CHERRYWOOD ART FAIR Creative weekend fun for everyone? We reckon so, what with more than 100 different artists, live music, food vendors, and an area dedicated to interactive family activities. *Sat.-Sun., Dec. 8-9, 10am-5pm. Cherrywood Coffeehouse, 1400 E. 38½, 538-1991. www.cherrywoodartfair.org.*

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE & GIFT SALE Find a gift for the diehard Austinite including historic photos and artifacts, rare books, and more. Talks and carols keep you in the Texas holiday mood. *Sat., Dec. 8, noon-5pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe. www.library.austintexas.gov.*

ARABIC BAZAAR Arabic music, belly dancing and belly-dance classes (free with purchase of dance cards), complimentary Arabic sweets, candy, and coffee – all of these accompany a bazaar full of goodies from Syria, Egypt, and Morocco for exotic holiday gifts. *Sundays through Dec. 23, 10am-7pm. 5013 Duval St., 533-9227. www.thearabicbazaar.com.*

ARMADILLO CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Nothing says holidays in Austin like scouring aisles and aisles of local art, crafts, and – thank God – beer. All while surrounded by tunes from one of many musical acts performing this year. Don't worry; Post Office reps will be on the premises to spare you from lugging all that holiday cheer home. *Dec. 12-24, 11am-11pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 447-1605. \$5, weekdays till 7pm; \$8, evenings and weekends. www.armadillobazaar.com.*



HOLIDAY BAZAARS

BLUE GENIE ART BAZAAR Need something Austiny (art, jewelry, prints, clothing, etc., whatnot, and then some) for a loved one this year? More than 125 artists and artisans will help you with your gifting conundrums. Special events occur throughout the month of December, so shop early and often. *Through Dec. 24, 10am-10pm, everyday. The Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 6406 N. I-35 #3100, 454-2000. Free. www.bluegenieartbazaar.com.*

GLOBAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR Ethically produced jewelry and gifts from around the globe vie for your holiday monies. *Thu.-Fri., Dec. 6-7, 10am-4pm. Blanton Museum of Art, 200 E. Martin Luther King Jr., 471-7324.*

VSA TEXAS HOLIDAY ART & GIFT SHOW Support local artists with disabilities and get some holiday shopping done at the same time. Braille cards, prints, ornaments, books, and original art all await your holiday dollars. *Through Dec. 24, Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. AGE Building, 3710 Cedar, 454-9912. Free. www.vsatx.org.*

CHEMICAL TOY FARE Remember the days when you played with toys covered in lead and asbestos and you liked it? It's time for a walk down memory lane with booths upon booths of vintage and modern toys, from *Star Wars* figures to model trains to trading cards. *Sat., Dec. 8, 9am-5pm. Norris Conference Centers, 2525 W. Anderson. \$4. www.facebook.com/chemicaltoyfare.*

NCAA Volleyball Tourney

BY NICK BARBARO

The third-ranked **Texas Longhorns** (25-4 on the season) host the **NCAA Regional finals** this weekend, playing No. 14 **Florida** (27-4) on Friday; then perhaps sixth-ranked **Southern Cal** (29-5) for a spot in next weekend's final four in Louisville.

The Horns are led by sophomore outside hitter **Haley Eckerman** (pictured), the 2012 Big 12 Player of the Year. Also first-team Big 12 and AVCA All-Region are **Khat Bell**, **Sha'Dare McNeal**, and **Bailey Webster**, all six-foot-plus hitters and blockers. The Gators are big up front as well, with four All-Region players of their own, led by Slovenian freshman **Ziva Recek** – but if the favorites win out and it's a UT-USC final, it could come down to offense vs. defense, because the Women of Troy's best player is All-American libero **Natalie Hagglund**, who led the Pac 12 in digs. Also watch out for USC outside hitter **Sara Shaw**, a high school All-American at **Westlake High**.

It'll also be a homecoming for USC coach **Mick Haley**, who spent 17 glorious seasons at UT (1980-96), winning two national championships, an NCAA bid every year, and every Southwest Conference title in that league's history. (And on the other hand, Longhorn coach **Jerritt Elliott** was USC's interim head coach for two years while Haley was serving as the coach of Team USA.) Tickets are \$8 (\$5 student/youth), or \$14/10 for all three games; buy online at www.texasports.com, or at Gregory Gym, starting an hour before tipoff.



Semifinals are Friday, Dec. 7: Wichita State-USC at 5pm, Texas-Florida at 7pm. Regional championship: Saturday, Dec. 8, 8pm. Gregory Gym, 2101 Speedway.

HOLIDAYS AT THE TRIANGLE Roll call for a great holiday party: Santa? Check. Cookie decorating? Yup. Carolers? You bet. Hair and face painting? Train rides? Inflatable obstacle course? Tree lighting? Affirmative. All they need are kids and adults to enjoy it. *Sat., Dec. 8, 4-6pm. Triangle Park, 4700 N. Lamar, 482-8383. Free.*

CHRISTMAS IN TEXAS: CHILDREN FASHION SHOW Local children's fashion boutiques put their looks on the runway while Santa sports his usual garb for pics with the kids. *Sun., Dec. 9, noon-4pm. Holiday Inn Town Lake, 20 N. I-35. \$5 (\$2.50, kids), free with donation to Toys for Tots. www.ascholidayfashionshow.eventbrite.com.*

MONSTER FAMILIES: FLYING THEATER MACHINE IMPROV Only the baby of the monster family can see the audience and that's where these improvisors will be getting their inspiration, so be prepared to offer suggestions. *Sundays through Dec. 30, 2pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 971-3311. \$7. www.hideouttheatre.com.*

AUSTIN TABLE TENNIS CLUB AMATEUR TOURNEY Austin's premier table tennis facility features 16 tables, wi-fi, a weight room, a lounge, and much more. Sign up now for their amateur tourney to be held *Sat., Dec. 15. 8956 Research at AAA Storage. 491-7664. www.austintabletennis.com.*

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

RUN LIKE THE WIND A rare dog-friendly 5K run/walk and endurance run. *Sat., Dec. 8, 8am. The Canine Center for Training & Behavior, 6901 Old Bee Caves Rd. \$40-100. www.schrodifund.org/RunLikeTheWind.htm.*

LIGHTS OF LOVE 5K AND FAMILY FUN RUN Last year's festivities boasted 3,100 participants and raised \$211,000 for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas. *Fri., Dec. 7, 5:30pm. Mueller Hangar, 4550 Mueller Blvd. \$15-30. www.lightsoflove5k.org.*

SPORTS

THE MAIN EVENT

TEXAS STARS On Friday you can buy beers for next to nothing (\$3) and get a free Jack Campbell mini bobblehead, on Saturday it's Family Four Pack Night (four tickets, four hot dogs, and four sodas for as little as \$48) and fleece blanket giveaway. Plus, some damn fine hockey. *Vs. Houston: Fri., Dec. 7, 7:30pm. Vs. Peoria: Sat., Dec. 8, 7pm. \$11-64 plus fees. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Ave. of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/600-5000. www.texasstarshockey.com.*

THE HOME TEAMS

AUSTIN HUNS HOST CHRISTMAS CUP The Huns take on the Dallas Harlequins for the honor of hoisting the Christmas Cup. There will also be a toy drive for Toys for Tots. *Vs. Dallas: Sat., Dec. 8, 1-5pm. Austin Huns Rugby Pitch, 4107 Nixon Ln.*

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Women's Basketball Vs. Louisiana-Monroe: *Tue., Dec. 11, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center. \$8-12. www.texasports.com.*

TEXAS STATE Women's Basketball Vs. Huston-Tillotson: *Thu., Dec. 6, 6:30pm. \$4-6. Men's Basketball* Vs. UT-Pan American: *Sat., Dec. 8, 2pm. \$6-10. www.txstatebobcats.com.*

RECREATION & FITNESS

BOOKSIGNING WITH JOE NICK PATOSKI Patoski will read and sign his latest, *The Dallas Cowboys: The Outrageous History of the Biggest, Loudest, Most Hated, Best Loved Football Team in America*. *Wed., Dec. 12, 7-9pm. The Owl, 106 N. Main, Elgin. Free.*

Soccer Watch

BY NICK BARBARO

The **Austin Aztex** are among several local soccer organizations presenting the **Austin Soccer Kick Cancer Camp** Dec. 14-16 to benefit the Curing Children's Cancer Fund. The camp targets players aged 5-18, with technical training and plenty of small-and full-sided play. The fee of \$55 includes a camp T-shirt; register by Monday, Dec. 10, at www.cccfund.org.

The **European Champions League** group stage ended this week, with **Manchester City** and defending champ **Chelsea** both knocked out early, but **Glasgow Celtic** saved some British pride by becoming the first Scottish team to reach the knockout stages since 2007. **Arsenal** and **Man U** also advanced, along with all four Spanish teams, all three Germans, both Italians, and one each from France, Turkey, Ukraine, and Portugal. The draw for the Round of 16 will be held on Dec. 20; play begins in February.

Hornucopia

BY MICHAEL CORCORAN



COURTESY OF UT
Case McCoy

A 2012 **Texas Longhorns** team that had its sights on a BCS bowl at the start of the season, and hopes for a berth in the Holiday Bowl at the midpoint, is going to the lowly Alamo Bowl Dec. 29 to play Oregon State. This reminds me of the old **Norm Macdonald** joke about a dog owned by a homeless man. At this point, the Horns players have gotta be thinking, "Alamo Bowl? We could've done that on our own."

After losing the last two games – to TCU on Thanksgiving and to Kansas State on Saturday, Texas finished at 8-4, which is a pretty good record if you're a starting pitcher for the Houston Astros. When did Texas become Tennessee? And could **Phil Fulmer** scooch over and make room in the booth for another former national champion coach?

Millions and millions for mediocrity: That's the story of the Longhorns the past three seasons, with a combined 21-16 record and a failure to recruit last year's Heisman winner **Robert Griffin III** of Copperas Cove and this year's freshman sensation **Johnny Manziel** of Kerrville. Instead, \$5-million-a-year coach **Mack Brown** put all his QB eggs in the **Garrett Gilbert** basket in 2008 and has been serving turd omelettes ever since. Do you think **Nick Satan** would still be at Alabama if he averaged seven wins a year? That's more than \$700,000 per victory.

Two seasons after 2010's 5-7 disgrace, Texas still hasn't found its answer at quarterback, except that he's playing for A&M. But Manziel probably wouldn't have had the same success at UT, whose overpaid coaches would've overthought, overschemed, and watered down his role, as they initially did with **Vince Young**. "Johnny Football" wanted to play for Texas his whole life, but Brown pegged him as a DB prospect and "Johnny Coverage" just didn't do it for him.

With the exception of the Oklahoma game, where the Sooners led 36-2 at halftime and racked up 400 yards of offense to the Horns' lone first down (**Mrs. John Wayne Gacy** had a better half), Texas played hard all season. Against No. 7 Kansas State, the Horns were in position to win on the road, leading 17-14 midway through the third quarter, thanks to the play of QB **Case McCoy** and speed around the edges. But a missed field goal early in the fourth quarter, followed by a fumbled punt by **Quandre Diggs** after the UT defense forced a three-and-out, caused a Texas cave-in and a 42-24 loss.

The late collapse may have also handed the Heisman Trophy to KSU QB **Collin Klein**, who padded his numbers in the fourth quar-

ter against a worn-out defense. Manziel had a better year, leading A&M to a win over projected national champion Alabama, but no freshman has ever hoisted the Heis. I think it's between Klein, a **Tim Tebow** without all that scary charisma, and Notre Dame middle linebacker **Manti Te'o**, who gets story points after losing his longtime girlfriend to leukemia during the season.

McCoy started shakily against KSU, tossing a Pick 5.99 to **Nigel Malone** on his second pass of the game, which had a hang time of 2.7 seconds. Malone, who probably wears a costume on Oct. 30, dropped the leather oval before crossing the goal line, but since the ball didn't go out of the end zone, KSU got it on the one-foot line and Klein fell down for the TD on the next play. But it was K State's only score of the half, as UT's much-maligned linebackers, especially freshman **Peter Jinkens**, put the klamp on Klein. Baby Colt settled down with 26-34 for 315 yards and two TDs to match two INTs. Other high points for Texas were long runs by speedsters **Daje Johnson** and **D.J. Monroe**, which made the K State defense look like **Eric Stonestreet** (the chubby KSU alum who plays gay for pay on *Modern Family*) had outside contain.

The Horns played their hearts out against a K State team with so much to prove after their downfall at Waco-loo. But our group of blue-chippers proved once again that it doesn't matter how highly your recruiting class is rated; it's where you are in December, not February. Victories against some-time-ranked conference foes Oklahoma State and Texas Tech, plus a 56-50 win against a surging Baylor and an Ole Miss burning on the road couldn't save another disappointing season. Poor tackling and inconsistent QB play are what stand out for a 2012 team that put the "duh" in fundamentals.

It really comes down to this: If you're looking to join the military and you're a total badass, you join the Marines, not the Air Force. And if you're a football player who's more rabid animal than show breed, you commit to 'Bama or A&M. Not Pamper State in Austin, where raw meat is called tartare.

It's time to change the football culture at Texas. Coach Brown is such a great recruiter that he goes fishing without a pole: The fish just jump in the boat. Then what? Who's going to carve those flopping flounders into fillets? Someone needs to go *Full Metal Jacket* at the House That Joe Jamail Refurbished. Or Texas will continue to be a prep club for future NFLers.

Day Trips

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

The **John F. Kennedy** statue in Fort Worth stands near the spot where the president gave his last public address before heading to Dealey Plaza in Dallas. The larger-than-life bronze sculpture captures the charisma and intensity of the fallen leader.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

Still shiny from the unveiling on Nov. 8, 2012, the 8-foot statue, surrounded by pink granite panels, was done by Houston native Lawrence Ludtke. Originally, Ludtke was going to be a professional baseball player, but instead became a sculptor renowned for his realistic depictions of military heroes, politicians, and ordinary people, works that include the Tribute to Texas Children on the state Capitol grounds. Some of his most famous pieces are on the campus of Texas A&M, where he studied until the Korean War. The JFK statue was Ludtke's last commission before passing away in 2007.

Seeing Kennedy once again standing outside the Texas Hotel in Fort Worth, framed by the windows made famous in the newsreels, brought back a flood of memories for me. Nov. 22 was forever seared into my mind in 1963. My father watched the events unfold on our black-and-white TV over the weekend before Thanksgiving. The reports repeatedly showed the film of the president giving his last public speech in front of those now familiar windows.

The JFK Tribute is in General Worth Square at the southeast corner of Main and Eighth streets in downtown Fort Worth.

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WHERE CAN METRORAIL TAKE ME THIS WEEKEND?

ARMADILLO CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Nothing says holidays in Austin like scouring aisles and aisles of local art, crafts, and – thank God – beer. All while surrounded by tunes from one of many musical acts performing this year. Don't worry; Post Office reps will be on the premises to spare you from lugging all that holiday cheer home. Dec. 12-24, 11am-11pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 447-1605. \$5, weekdays till 7pm; \$8, evenings and weekends. www.armadillobazaar.com.

BALLET AUSTIN: THE NUTCRACKER

Here's the longest-running production of Tchaikovsky's holiday classic in the state of Texas, with choreography by Stephen Mills and local celebs appearing as Mother Ginger and the invigorating score performed live by the Austin Symphony Orchestra. If you're going to see a Nutcracker this season, this is the spectacular one you want to see. Sat., Dec. 8, 7:30pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 476-2163. \$15-75. www.balletaustin.org

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: THE SHAPES

This is Francesca Gabbiani's fourth solo exhibition at LRG, featuring drawings on mylar and rice paper, a rug, and several of the artist's signature cut-paper collages incorporating hundreds of layers. Intricate. Beautiful. Recommended. 360 Nueces #50, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com



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Holy Motors

D: Leos Carax; with Denis Lavant, Edith Scob, Eva Mendes, Kylie Minogue, Elise Lhomeau, Michel Piccoli, Jeanne Disson. (NR, 115 min., subtitled)

Those who love this anarchic new movie from France's enfant terrible of the cinema and those who hate it can be heard exclaiming much the

same thing at its conclusion: "Holy Motors, holy moly! What the hell just happened and, moreover, what does it all mean?" Although I most definitely side with the lovers of *Holy Motors*, I remain a bit puzzled about its ultimate meaning two months after seeing it at this fall's Fantastic Fest. Of one thing I'm confident, however: This is the most intrepid and madcap movie to hit our shores in some time. Yet for all its disruptive energy, *Holy Motors* is also a thing of sublime beauty.

Carax's film will no doubt strike a deep resonance among cinephiles due to its wry observations about life, virtual reality, shifting identities, and our collective storehouse of cinematic imagery. The film opens, in fact, with a dreamer (played by Leos Carax) who rises from his bed to search the walls of his room, which are lined with two-dimensional images of trees. Finding just the right hole in the wallpaper, the dreamer unlocks the imagery by inserting his finger, which is shaped like a key, into the hole. He is then on the other side, in the aisle of a cinema, where a packed audience is watching King Vidor's *The Crowd*. *Holy Motors*' central figure, however, is Monsieur Oscar (Denis Lavant), if due only to his accretion of characters. An amazing actor known for his transformative appearance from film to film, it is appropriate that Lavant plays Oscar, who adopts at least 10 different personas throughout

Holy Motors. We first see him as a banker leaving his ultramodern home and entering the back of a limo to head to work. His chauffeur Céline (Edith Scob, the star of the classic film, *Eyes Without a Face*, which is referenced in the film's closing moments) drives Oscar to his various "appointments." Each stop requires Oscar to make dramatic use of wigs, stage makeup, and disguises. At one "appointment" he appears as a hunched beggar woman; at another he is a stop-motion actor in a spandex suit who pantomimes lovemaking; then he transforms into a mad goat of a man who knocks people over, munches on flowers, tromps through Père Lachaise cemetery (where all the tombstones read "Visit My Website"), and dresses a high-fashion model

in a burka. On it goes until late into the night: a gangsterlike interlude in an underground parking garage, a tearful father/daughter exchange, a romantic sequence on the roof of Paris' biggest department store, and more. Scenes contrast and accumulate while building a sense of total surrealism. All the while, the city of Paris crisply gleams.

Holy Motors is as individualistic a movie as you're likely to encounter – both in terms of the filmmaker's intent and the viewer's takeaway. Warmth and humor abide within its every frame but, like Carax's dreamer at the film's outset, you must find the key within yourself that unlocks the mysteries.

RECOMMENDED



Alamo South Lamar

NEW REVIEWS

BAD KIDS GO TO HELL

D: Matthew Spradlin; with Judd Nelson, Ali Faulkner, Chanel Ryan, Ben Browder, Augie Duke, Amanda Alch, Cameron Deane Stewart, Marc Donato, Roger Edwards, Jeffrey Schmidt. (R, 91 min.)

Bad Kids Go to Hell is the kind of movie its own pampered, careless, coked-up characters would make as a class project at the ass-end of senior year: boys running around with weapons, girls mugging sexy-sassy, narrative continuity be damned. A jumble of story elements from *The Breakfast Club*, *Ten Little Indians*, and *Scooby Doo: Where Are You!*, *BKGTH* lacks the maniacal pep of last year's similarly themed *Detention*, and the effort to beef up runtime with long stretches of slo-mo shots only exacerbates the pacing problem.

Six private-school brats are locked in the library on a rainy Saturday. The principal (Schmidt) – who has confiscated their cell phones, but not their drugs, vibrators, or handguns – runs off with diarrhea. Unsupervised, the teens start dying off. Who are our suspects? There's the stripper valedictorian (Alch), the pauper who throws basketballs at cheerleaders (Stewart), the jock with a broken leg (Edwards), the witchcraft-practicing Ally Sheedy type (Duke), the prom queen (Faulkner, *Twilight: Breaking Dawn*), and some fuzzy "ethnic" guy in the background (Donato, *Degrassi: The Next Generation*). Oh, and the ghost of a murdered Apache ("Before this library was built, this land was his home").

The real mystery of *BKGTH* isn't who's doing the killing, but where the passion went in this independently produced screenplay-turned-comic-book-turned-movie by Dallas filmmakers and co-writers, Matthew Spradlin and Barry Wernick. Did they outgrow the project in the six years it took to complete? Certainly they were stymied by limited funds. Comic-book adaptations call for dozens of set-pieces, and this movie only has the budget for three or four – hence the copious slo-mo shots, a seeming effort to re-create the book's still images.

If a high school English teacher were grading *BKGTH*, he or she would have to give writers points for using the thesaurus. The phrase "dead Indian" is eventually replaced with "Native-American wraith," for instance, and the headmaster (*The Breakfast Club*'s Judd Nelson hiding behind a huge beard and glasses) is totally quotable: "Never before have I seen a greater blight on organized education. Like a massive gravity sinkhole, he deforms every positive thought he encounters before sucking it into a vortex from hell." The operative word is sinkhole.

★ – Leah Churner
Highland

THE COLLECTION

D: Marcus Dunstan; with Josh Stewart, Emma Fitzpatrick, Randall Archer, Christopher McDonald, Lee Tergesen, Shannon Kane, Erin Way. (R, 94 min.)

The Collection is the follow-up to 2009's torture-grunge picture *The Collector*, and time will tell if this new horror franchise will have the legs to compete with its prodigious *Saw* predecessor. Director Marcus Dunstan and his co-screenwriter Patrick Melton are touted in *The Collection*'s advertising as the screenwriters of *Saws IV* through *VII*. Make of that what you will. These guys know horror franchises, though: They were also the writers of the *Feast* horror films, which were the outgrowth of winning Ben

Affleck and Matt Damon's *Project Greenlight* reality filmmaking series back in 2005.

An exercise in pure sadism, *The Collection* moves at a clip that leaps over plot holes in its race to elicit fright. No weighty psychology or physical logic freights this enterprise. The Collector (Archer) remains a mysterious hulk in a black mask with crudely cut holes for the eyes and mouth. His objectives and satisfactions are unknown. He lives to pluck strangers from calamities and then torture them through various methods with the aid of surgical devices, drugs, and a vast array of Rube Goldberg-styled mechanical contraptions. How this character could feasibly have the time to erect so many elaborate killing devices throughout every room of an abandoned hotel (nicely named for Dario Argento) is beyond the realm of physical possibility. And how does he subsidize his handiwork and all those hypodermics filled with crazy-making drugs? And why does he cart a victim (Josh Stewart's Arkin) from his last film to the site of his opening salvo in the current film?

Points have to be given for allowing this film's central victim Elena (Emma Fitzpatrick) to be a woman who rises to heroic proportions. Using the underwire from her bra to pick a lock early in the film shows her to be the kind of MacGyver gal who might have a chance against her master trapper. The cinematography by Sam McCurdy is emotively rich, although some of the deaths happen too quickly to fully register. And sidestepped sadism is a cardinal sin in this sort of exercise.

★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Barton Creek Square, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

HITCHCOCK

D: Sacha Gervasi; with Anthony Hopkins, Helen Mirren, Scarlett Johansson, Danny Huston, Toni Collette, Michael Stuhlbarg, Michael Wincott, Jessica Biel, James D'Arcy. (PG-13, 98 min.)

Alfred Hitchcock, the undisputed master of movie suspense, is given fairly fanciful treatment in this movie, which is theoretically based on Stephen Rebello's book, *Alfred Hitchcock and the Making of 'Psycho'*. Yet, as written by John J. McLaughlin (*Man of the House*) and directed by Sacha Gervasi (*Anvil: The Story of Anvil*), this film is more a love story about the marriage between Hitchcock (Anthony Hopkins) and his wife, Alma Reville (Helen Mirren), rather than a historically accurate backstage look at the making of this important movie in the Hitchcock filmography and the American psyche.

Portraying Hitchcock, Hopkins dons the prosthetic cushioning that allows him to assume the corpulent shape of the famous director, and the actor's speech pattern approximates Hitchcock's distinct vocal style without ever quite nailing his insinuating tone. It's a good effort, but rarely convinces completely. Easier to concoct is Alma, a figure whose physical bearing is unknown to most viewers. Therefore, it's barely disconcerting that Mirren looks nothing like the photos of Alma Reville, a talented film editor who worked in the British film industry before marrying Hitchcock and becoming his primary counsel and sounding board. In a less central role, Scarlett Johansson looks nothing like *Psycho* star Janet Leigh. Still, these discrepancies would be barely noticeable if *Hitchcock* provided a more absorbing glimpse of the making of *Psycho*.

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

FILM LISTINGS

Are we really to believe, as the movie portrays, that Alma filled in at the studio for Hitchcock, who was sick at home in bed, and figured out a crucial element that had hindered the filming of *Psycho*'s famous shower sequence? Was this sequence not storyboarded within an inch of its life? While it's lovely to see the woman behind the famous man gaining her proper due in history, having it occur at the expense of accurate film history creates another kind of damage. More dismaying, however, is the romance the movie creates between Alma and the screenwriter Whitfield Cook (Danny Huston), which appears to be solely concocted in order to send Hitchcock into jealous tantrums and devious machinations. Simplifying Hitchcock's propensities for voyeurism, perversity, and sexual sublimation into a straightforward case of unwarranted marital suspicion does a disservice to the artistic process.

Long after his death, Hitchcock's contradictions continue to hold us in his sway. Both a consummate showman and a savvy artist, Hitchcock can be all things to all people. *Hitchcock* is at its best when revealing such inside-Hollywood moments as the filmmaker whipping out his own checkbook to finance *Psycho* when the studio would not. But the lovelorn Hitchcock of this film's fantasies would be better off left on the cutting-room floor.

★★★ — Marjorie Baumgarten
Arbor, Violet Crown

LAY THE FAVORITE

D: Stephen Frears; with Bruce Willis, Vince Vaughn, Rebecca Hall, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Laura Prepon, Joshua Jackson. (R, 94 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Let's just say it's not a good sign when the latest Stephen Frears movie opens for an exclusive run at the local dollar house. In this film, the director of *High Fidelity*, *The Queen*, and *Dangerous Liaisons* orchestrates a Las Vegas roundelay.

PLAYING FOR KEEPS

D: Gabriele Muccino; with Gerard Butler, Jessica Biel, Dennis Quaid, Judy Greer, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Uma Thurman, Noah Lomax. (PG-13, 105 min.)

Watching this all-too-predictable romantic comedy/drama, my overwhelming thought was this: Given all the great filmmakers and film projects that can't find funding, how did this effort secure its reported \$35 million for production? Some of those funds helped pay for impressive and expensive cast members, who are almost entirely wasted. *Playing for Keeps* is a truly lightweight tale about

George (Gerard Butler), a former soccer star who moves to Virginia to be near his ex-wife Stacie (Jessica Biel) and son Lewis (Noah Lomax), whom he has long neglected. Stacie is engaged to be married to the man with whom she is living, which doesn't seem to bother George all that much at first.

For reasons that aren't entirely clear, George is completely broke, but is hoping to restore and reinvent himself as a sportscaster. Coincidentally, yet crucially, he becomes the coach of his son's soccer team. Lacking even a montage of skill improvements, the team quickly becomes a winning force simply because it has now come under his guidance. Instead, what we see in much more detail than practices or games are soccer moms developing a strong interest in George. Actually, it is not limited to moms, since Dennis Quaid plays soccer dad Carl, who pursues George with such aggressive exaggeration that one expects their relationship to be far further developed than it is. Uma Thurman as Carl's wife Patti is a flat and stereotypical character neglected by her philandering husband. The moms regard George as a catch and, it turns out, not an unwilling one, even if at first somewhat reluctant. He is evidently irresistible, and even Patti eventually makes a play for him. This provides for some amusing situations, though in a TV sitcom sort of way.

As things progress, George comes to realize how important family is to him, and the enormity of what he's lost really sinks in, thus leading him to become more interested in renewing things with his ex, even though he continues to fool around with the moms. One mom helps further his ambitions in sports broadcasting, yet this endeavor causes him to neglect, and then alienate, his son. But soon George is back in the good graces of his family. Even when he shows only a modicum of restraint as a philanderer, the film treats him as redeemed.

As mentioned above, the story is surprisingly — almost painfully — hackneyed, with the fine cast giving consistently one-dimensional turns. It is perplexing as to how such an unambitious, paint-by-numbers work got made. Actually, it is not even a current paint-by-numbers effort, because most contemporary romances involving once-connected-now-separated couples are a bit more sophisticated and worldly.

★★ — Louis Black
Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Galaxy Moviehouse, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

Film Reviews continued on p.72

openings

Bad Kids Go to Hell (R)

Hitchcock (PG-13)

Holy Motors (NR)

Lay the Favorite (R)

Playing for Keeps (PG-13)

A Royal Affair (R)

Talaash (NR)

ratings

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

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

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

● La bomba

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LORD OF THE RINGS MARATHON Presented in DLP Cinema® (NR) Sat. 10:00
IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (NR) Sun. 7:20
NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CHRISTMAS VACATION (PG-13) Mon. 7:20
SKYFALL Presented in DLP Cinema® (PG-13) Fri. & Sun. 1:00 4:20 9:15 9:40 10:50
 Sat. 1:00 4:20 7:40 9:15 10:50
 Mon. - Thu. 4:20 9:15 9:40 10:50
ELF (PG) Sat. 10:30
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 2 Presented in DLP Cinema® (PG-13) Fri. - Sun. 10:20 1:15 4:10 7:15 10:15
 Mon. - Wed. 4:10 7:15 10:15
 Thu. 4:10 7:15
KILLING THEM SOFTLY Presented in DLP Cinema® (R) Fri. 12:25 3:25 7:30 10:00
 Sat. 3:25 7:30 10:00
 Sun. 12:25 3:25 10:00
 Mon. - Thu. 3:25 10:00
RISE OF THE GUARDIANS 3D Presented in DLP Cinema® (PG) Fri. - Sun. 10:15 12:45 6:15
RISE OF THE GUARDIANS Presented in DLP Cinema® (PG) Fri. & Sun. - Thu. 3:40 6:15
LIFE OF PI 3D Presented in DLP Cinema® (PG) Fri. - Sun. 12:00 3:00
 Mon. - Thu. 3:00
LIFE OF PI Presented in DLP Cinema® (PG) Fri. & Sun. - Thu. 6:00 9:00
 Sat. 6:00

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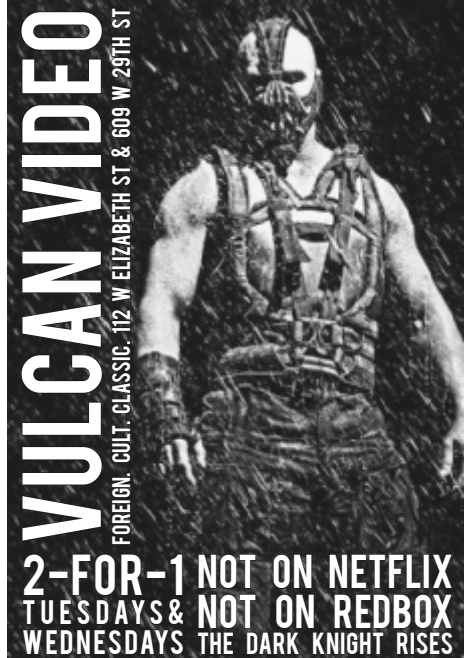
Playing for Keeps (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. 12:00 2:45 5:15 8:00 10:30
Lord of the Rings Marathon (NR) Sat. 12:00
Lincoln (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. 11:45 3:30 7:15 10:45
Skyfall (PG-13) Fri. Sat. & Mon. - Thu. 12:30 3:45 6:45 10:00
 Sun. 12:15 3:30 6:30 9:45
Life of Pi (PG) Fri. Sat. & Mon. - Thu. 11:15 2:00 4:45 7:45 10:45
 Sun. 11:00 1:45 4:30 7:30 10:30
Rise of the Guardians (PG) Fri. 12:30 3:45 6:45 10:00
 Sat. 10:00
 Sun. - Thu. 1:00 3:30 6:00 8:45
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG-13) Thu. 12:00

General Admission

Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri. - Wed. 1:30 4:15 7:30 10:15
 Thu. 1:30 4:15 7:30
Red Dawn (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. 11:15 1:45 4:00 6:30 9:15
Rise of the Guardians 3D (PG) Fri. - Thu. 11:30 1:45 4:15 7:00 9:30
Killing Them Softly (R) Fri. - Thu. 12:00 2:45 5:15 8:00 10:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG-13) DBox Motion Seating Fri. - Thu. 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
Wreck-It Ralph (PG) Fri. - Thu. 11:00 1:30 4:00 6:30 9:00
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG-13) Thu. 12:00

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Lord of the Rings Marathon (NR) Sat. 10:00
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (NR) Thu. 12:01
Playing for Keeps (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 12:00 2:15 4:35 7:00 9:30 11:59
 Sun. - Thu. 12:00 2:15 4:35 7:00 9:30
Killing Them Softly (R) Fri. & Sat. 12:40 2:55 5:10 7:35 9:55 11:59
 Sun. - Thu. 12:40 2:55 5:10 7:35 9:55
The Collection (R) Fri. & Sat. 1:00 3:05 5:10 7:20 9:30 11:35
 Sun. - Thu. 1:00 3:05 5:10 7:20 9:30
Rise of the Guardians 3D (PG) Fri. & Sat. 2:05 6:55 11:30
 Sun. - Thu. 2:05 6:55
Rise of the Guardians (PG) Fri. - Thu. 12:00 4:30 9:15
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri. - Thu. 1:50 4:40 7:25
Life of Pi (PG) Fri. - Thu. 10:10
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG-13) Fri. 1:00 1:45 4:00 4:30 7:00 7:15 9:35 10:00 11:59
 Sat. 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00
 Sun. - Thu. 1:00 1:45 4:00 4:30 7:00 7:15 9:35 10:00
Skyfall (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. 1:00 4:00 7:05 10:15
Wreck-It Ralph (PG) Fri. & Sat. 12:00 2:25 4:50 7:15 9:40 11:59
 Sun. - Thu. 12:00 2:25 4:50 7:15 9:40

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70mm at the Ritz: Apocalypse Now: Sun, 10:30pm; Mon, 7:00pm
Master Pancake: Choose Your Own Master Pancake: Fri, 10:30pm
Action Pack: Christmas Pops Sing-Along: Thu (12/13), 10:00pm
Terror Tuesday: Deathdream: Tue, 10:15pm
Weird Wednesday: The Dirty Outlaws: Wed, 10:45pm
Action Pack: Elf Quote-Along: Thu (12/13), 6:30pm
Music Monday: Head: Mon, 10:30pm
"Killing Them Softly": Fri, 1:00, 1:25, 3:50, 6:45, 9:45; Sat, 12:30, 1:45, 4:35, 7:30, 10:30; Sun, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45; Mon, 4:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:45; Tue, 4:40, 7:30, 10:30; Wed, 4:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15; Thu (12/13), 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
70mm at the Ritz: Lifeorce: Sat, 10:30pm; Wed, 7:00pm
Food and Film: Lord of the Rings Trilogy Hobbit Feast: Sun, 10:00am
Girlie Night: Love Actually: Tue, 7:00pm
Master Pancake: Mystery Christmas Mock: Fri, 7:30pm
Master Pancake: Road House: Sat, 7:00, 10:00

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK 13729 Research, 219-5408.

Showtimes at this venue are subject to frequent change. Please confirm daily by phone or website.

Action Pack: Elf Quote-Along: Sat-Sun, 4:00pm; Wed, 7:00pm
"Flight": Fri, 10:25am, 12:10, 4:25, 6:00, 9:10pm; Sat, 9:45am, 12:30, 6:00, 9:40pm; Sun, 10:05am, 12:30, 4:15, 7:30, 9:20pm; Mon, noon, 4:15, 6:00, 9:15; Tue, 12:15, 3:05, 6:00, 9:40; Wed, 1:25, 3:30, 7:15, 9:30; Thu (12/13), 12:45, 2:45, 6:00, 9:40
Food & Film: Home Alone: Sun, 7:00pm
"Life of Pi": Fri, 9:45am; Sat, 10:10am; Sun, 9:50am, 3:25pm; Mon, 12:10, 3:40; Tue, 12:20, 3:20; Wed, 12:20, 3:10; Thu (12/13), 12:50, 10:15
"Life of Pi (3-D)": Fri, 12:30, 3:35, 6:40, 9:50; Sat, 1:10, 4:15, 7:10, 10:15; Sun, 1:05, 7:40, 9:40; Mon, 6:30, 9:10; Tue, 7:10, 9:50; Wed, 6:40, 9:40; Thu (12/13), 3:10, 6:45
Afternoon Tea: Little Women: Sat, 4:00pm
"Red Dawn": Fri, 9:55am; Sat, 6:30, 11:00; Sun, 9:45am, 12:55, 10:50pm; Mon, 1:45, 3:25; Tue, 12:35, 3:30, 10:00; Wed, 3:30pm; Thu (12/13), 12:10, 5:15, 4:00, 9:50
"Rise of the Guardians": Fri, 12:50, 3:45, 7:40, 10:10; Sat, 1:20, 5:05, 6:15, 9:10; Sun, 12:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:45; Mon, 1:05, 6:00, 9:30; Tue, 12:40, 6:15, 9:45; Wed, 12:40, 6:15, 9:00; Thu (12/13), 1:20, 4:40, 9:35
"Rise of the Guardians (3-D)": Fri, 9:55am; Sat, 10:30am; Sun, 10:15am; Mon, 3:50pm; Tue, 4:10pm; Wed, 3:55pm; Thu (12/13), 4:05pm
"Skyfall": Fri, 10:40am, 12:25, 3:25, 6:20, 9:40pm; Sat, 10:25am, 1:45, 2:55, 7:40, 9:00pm; Sun, 9:45am, 1:05, 2:50, 6:40, 9:05pm; Mon, 12:20, 3:50, 6:50, 8:35; Tue, 12:35, 3:35, 6:25, 9:00; Wed, 12:30, 3:25, 7:30, 10:50; Thu (12/13), 12:45, 2:55, 6:15, 9:10
Action Pack: Trapped in the Closet: The R. Kelly Sing-Along: Tue, 7:00pm
"The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2": Fri, 10:35am, 1:30, 4:40, 6:10, 9:20pm; Sat, 9:30am, 12:20, 3:45, 6:45, 9:20pm; Sun, 10:55am, 1:20, 4:40, 6:10, 10:00pm; Mon, 12:30, 3:25, 6:20, 9:55; Tue, 1:15, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15; Wed, 12:50, 3:45, 6:00, 9:10; Thu (12/13), 12:05, 2:45, 6:20, 9:20
"Wreck-It Ralph": Fri, 9:25am, 1:40, 3:25, 7:25, 10:20pm; Sat, 9:35am, 1:00, 3:15, 6:55, 10:15pm; Sun, 9:45am, 1:55, 4:25, 6:35, 9:50pm; Mon, 1:00, 3:20, 7:10, 10:10; Tue, 12:50, 3:25, 6:15, 9:15; Wed, 12:45, 4:45, 6:30, 10:50; Thu (12/13), noon, 3:55, 6:15, 10:15

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SLAUGHTER LANE 5701 W. Slaughter Lane, 476-1320.

Showtimes at this venue are subject to frequent change. Please confirm daily times by phone or website.

Action Pack: Christmas Pops Sing-Along: Fri, 10:00pm
Big Screen Classics: Gremlins: Fri, 4:00pm; Thu (12/13), 7:00pm
"Killing Them Softly": Fri, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20, 11:35pm; Sat, 11:35am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20pm; Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20, 11:15pm; Mon, 11:10am, 1:40, 4:20, 6:45, 9:25, 11:25pm; Tue, 12:20, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10, 11:15; Wed, 1:50, 4:25, 7:15, 9:50, 11:15; Thu (12/13), 1:35, 4:15, 7:15
"Life of Pi": Fri, 6:50pm; Sun, 12:50, 10:15; Mon, 11:20am, 10:00pm; Tue, 2:45, 7:15, 10:25; Wed, 2:45, 10:20; Thu (12/13), 2:45pm
"Life of Pi (3-D)": Fri, 11:30am, 2:40, 6:00, 9:10pm; Sat, 11:50am, 11:50am, 3:00, 6:20, 9:30pm; Sun, 11:40am, 2:50, 6:00, 9:10pm; Tue, 12:30, 3:40, 9:35; Wed, 12:10, 3:20, 6:30, 9:40; Thu (12/13), 12:45, 8:00
"Lincoln": Fri, 1:05, 4:35, 8:05, 10:40; Sat, 1:00, 3:45, 8:05, 10:40; Sun, 12:15, 3:45, 6:45, 8:05, 10:40; Mon, 11:30am, 2:30, 3:00, 7:00, 9:40pm; Tue, 11:55am, 1:15, 3:00, 6:45, 9:25pm; Wed, 11:50am, 12:55, 3:30, 6:45, 10:00pm; Thu (12/13), 11:55am, 7:30pm
The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon: Sat, 10:00am
Girlie Night: Love Actually: Wed, 7:00pm
Action Pack: Retro TV Party: TGIF Holiday Show: Tue, 7:00pm
"Rise of the Guardians": Sat, 2:40, 5:35, 8:15; Tue, 1:40, 4:20; Wed, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50pm; Thu (12/13), 1:10, 3:55
"Rise of the Guardians (3-D)": Fri, 12:30, 1:00, 3:40, 6:20, 9:00; Sun, 12:40, 3:20, 6:00, 8:40; Mon, 12:50, 3:30, 6:15, 8:50; Tue-Wed, 6:00, 8:35; Thu (12/13), 6:00, 8:40
"Skyfall": Fri, 12:35, 1:55, 7:15, 11:15; Sat, 11:00am, 4:35, 7:15, 11:15pm; Sun, 1:15, 4:40, 7:15, 11:15; Mon, 11:55am, 3:20, 7:15, 10:30pm; Tue, 11:55am, 3:20, 6:25, 10:15pm; Wed, 11:50am, 3:15, 6:20, 10:15pm; Thu (12/13), 11:35am, 7:45pm
"The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2": Fri, 11:20am, 4:00, 5:20, 8:15, 11:35pm; Sat, 11:00am, 2:25, 5:20, 8:15, 11:35pm; Sun, 11:40am, 2:25, 5:20, 8:15, 11:35pm; Mon, 1:15, 4:15, 6:35, 10:45; Tue, 11:50am, 3:25, 6:30, 9:55pm; Wed, 11:50am, 3:20, 7:30, 9:45pm; Thu (12/13), 11:50am, 3:25, 6:50pm
"Wreck-It Ralph": Fri, 11:00am, 2:15, 5:05, 7:55, 10:45pm; Sat, 10:15am, noon, 3:10, 6:20, 10:50pm; Sun, 11:25am, 2:15, 5:05, 7:55, 10:45pm; Mon, 11:25am, 2:15, 5:05, 8:05, 10:55pm; Tue, 12:40, 3:40, 6:20, 9:20; Wed, 12:45, 3:35, 7:30, 10:15; Thu (12/13), 12:40, 4:15, 7:05

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH LAMAR 1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262.

Showtimes at this venue are subject to frequent change. Please confirm daily by phone or website. Call theatre for Dec. 10-13 showtimes.

Anna Karenina: Fri, 11:30am, 2:50, 4:25, 6:00, 9:15pm; Sat, 12:10, 4:25, 6:00, 10:50; Sun, 11:05am, 2:40, 6:55, 10:10pm
Action Pack: The Big Lebowski Quote-Along: Mon, 10:00pm
AFS: Boy Meets Girl: Sun, 7:00pm
TeamFX: Champions of Fire: Wed, 6:30pm
AFS: Cyuru Fuch: Tue, 7:00pm
Hot Motors: Fri-Sat, 7:40, 10:40
"Lincoln": Sat, 11:20am, 2:15, 6:15, 9:45pm; Sun, 11:35am, 2:15, 3:05, 6:35, 9:45pm
Afternoon Tea: Little Women: Sun, 4:00pm
AFS: Mavis Suing: Mon, 7:00pm
AFS: Radio Unnameable: Wed, 7:00pm
Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Adaptation: Fri, 7:00pm
"Silver Linings Playbook": Fri, 10:00am, 1:05, 4:10, 6:40, 10:00pm; Sat, 1:45, 4:50, 7:50, 9:10; Sun, 10:00am, 12:45, 3:25, 8:15, 10:30pm
"Skyfall": Fri, 11:40am, 12:55, 3:15, 7:25, 10:20pm; Sun, 11:10am, 3:40, 6:20, 8:55pm
Austin Sierra Club: Sushi: The Global Catch: Wed, 7:30pm
AGFA: Triller War: Sun, 10:00pm
"The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2": Fri, 10:00am, 3:40, 7:10, 10:50pm; Sat, 10:00am, 1:25, 6:00, 9:15pm; Sun, 10:00am, 12:40, 6:00, 10:35pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 459-7090. Tuesday

matinee Baby Day shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and their children younger than 6. Showtimes at this venue are subject to frequent change. Please confirm daily times by phone or website.

Action Pack: Christmas Pops Sing-Along: Fri, 12m; Wed, 6:50pm
"Life of Pi": Fri, 10:30am, 10:15pm; Mon, 10:15pm, 9:45; Wed, 9:10pm; Thu (12/13), 5:50pm
"Life of Pi (3-D)": Fri, 4:20, 7:30; Sat, 3:40, 7:40; Sun, 4:20, 7:30; Mon, 3:50, 6:30; Tue, 3:10, 6:30; Wed, 4:20, 7:30; Thu (12/13), 8:00pm
Master Pancake: Mystery Preview: Mon, 7:00pm
"Rise of the Guardians": Fri, 10:20am, 1:40, 10:25pm; Sat, 12:15, 3:50, 9:45; Sun, 10:40am, 1:20, 10:00pm; Mon, 3:20, 6:00, 10:25; Tue, 12:45, 3:25, 6:00, 10:25; Wed, 3:50, 6:30, 10:00; Thu (12/13), 3:10, 9:00
"Rise of the Guardians (3-D)": Fri, 5:00, 7:45; Sat, 7:00pm; Sun, 4:55, 7:45
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
Food & Film: Scrooged: Sun, 7:00pm

"Skyfall": Fri, 11:55am, 2:35, 6:30, 9:55pm; Sat, 1:10, 2:35, 6:35, 10:00; Sun, 11:10am, 2:35, 6:00, 9:30pm; Mon, 3:35, 7:00, 8:40; Tue, 12:10, 3:35, 7:00, 8:40; Wed, 3:35, 10:40; Thu (12/13), 4:50, 8:15
"The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2": Fri, 11:35am, 1:00, 6:00, 9:00pm; Sat, 11:35am, 12:50, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00pm; Sun, 10:00am, 1:00, 7:00, 10:25pm; Mon, 3:30, 9:45; Tue, 12:30, 3:45, 7:30; Wed, 3:00, 6:00, 9:45; Thu (12/13), 2:45, 3:45, 7:00

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742.

Discounts daily before 6pm.
Anna Karenina: Fri, 12:20, 1:00, 3:30, 6:40, 7:20, 9:45; Sat, 12:20, 3:30, 6:40, 7:20, 9:45; Sun-Mon, 12:20, 1:00, 3:30, 6:40, 7:20, 9:45; Wed-Thu (12/13), 12:20, 1:00, 3:30, 6:40, 7:20, 9:45
Hitchcock: Fri-Mon, 11:50am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10pm; Wed-Thu (12/13), 11:50am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10pm
Lincoln: Fri-Mon, noon, 12:50, 3:20, 4:20, 6:50, 8:00, 10:05; Wed-Thu (12/13), noon, 12:50, 3:20, 4:20, 6:50, 8:00, 10:05
The Perks of Being a Wallflower: Fri, 4:10, 10:20; Sat, 10:20pm; Sun-Mon, 4:10, 10:20; Wed-Thu (12/13), 4:10, 10:20
A Royal Affair: Fri-Mon, 12:30, 3:40, 7:00, 10:15; Wed-Thu (12/13), 12:30, 3:40, 7:00, 10:15
Silver Linings Playbook: Fri-Mon, 12:10, 12:40, 3:00, 3:50, 7:10, 7:40, 9:55, 10:25; Wed-Thu (12/13), 12:10, 2:40, 3:00, 3:50, 7:10, 7:40, 9:55, 10:25
Opera: Un Ballo in Maschera: Sat, 11:55am

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall, MoPac & Highway 360, 888/AMC-4FUN.

Matinee discounts available before 4pm daily. Bring Your Baby matnees the first Tuesday of every month.
"The Collection (digital)": Fri, 10:25am, 11:30, 1:40, 4:00, 6:15, 8:30, 10:45pm; Sat, 10:25am, 8:10pm; Sun, 1:40, 4:00, 6:15, 8:30, 10:35; Mon-Wed, 1:25, 4:00, 6:05, 8:15, 10:20; Thu (12/13), 1:25, 4:00, 6:05, 8:15
End of Watch (digital): Fri, Sat, 9:50am, 12:20, 2:55, 5:35, 8:15, 10:55pm; Sun, 9:50am, 12:20, 2:55, 5:35, 8:10, 10:45pm; Mon-Wed, noon, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20; Thu (12/13), noon, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45
"Flight (digital)": Fri, 10:10pm; Sun, 10:10pm
"Killing Them Softly (digital)": Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30pm; Mon-Wed, 12:20, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:10; Thu (12/13), 12:20, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45
"Life of Pi (3-D)": Fri, 10:15am, 11:20, 2:20, 4:15, 5:15, 8:10, 11:00pm; Sat, 10:15am, 11:15, 2:20, 4:15, 5:15, 11:00pm; Sun, 9:45am, 2:20, 4:15, 5:15, 10:35pm; Mon-Wed, 1:45, 4:00, 4:35, 7:25, 10:10; Thu (12/13), 1:45, 4:00, 4:40, 7:30
"Life of Pi (digital)": Fri, Sat, 1:15, 7:10, 10:10; Sun, 1:15, 7:10; Mon-Wed, 1:00, 6:55, 9:55; Thu (12/13), 1:00, 6:55
Lincoln (digital): Fri-Sat, 9:45am, 12:40, 4:00, 7:20, 10:40pm; Sun, 9:45am, 12:40, 4:00, 7:20, 10:35pm; Mon-Wed, 12:25, 3:45, 7:05, 9:45, 10:20; Thu (12/13), 12:25, 3:45, 7:05
The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon: Sat, 10:00am
Playing for Keeps (digital): Fri, 9:50am, 10:40, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40pm; Sat, noon, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40; Sun, 9:50am, noon, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30pm; Mon-Wed, noon, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:10; Thu (12/13), noon, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40
Red Dawn (digital): Fri-Sat, 1:10, 3:10, 5:55, 8:25, 10:45; Sun, 1:10, 3:30, 5:55, 8:25, 10:40; Mon-Wed, 1:25, 3:05, 6:30, 8:00, 10:15; Thu (12/13), 12:45, 3:05, 5:30, 8:00
Rise of the Guardians (CG, digital): Sat, 10:00am
"Rise of the Guardians (3-D)": Fri-Sat, 2:30, 7:30; Sun, 9:45am, 2:30, 7:30pm; Mon-Thu (12/13), 2:10, 7:15
"Rise of the Guardians (digital)": Fri, 9:45am, noon, 5:00, 9:55pm; Sat-Sun, 12:05, 5:00, 9:55; Mon-Thu (12/13), noon, 4:45
Rise of the Guardians (sensory friendly): Sat, 10:00am
Silver Linings Playbook (digital): Fri-Sat, 10:55am, 1:50, 4:45, 7:35, 10:30pm; Sun, 10:55am, 1:50, 4:45, 7:35, 10:25pm; Mon-Wed, 1:35, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10pm; Thu (12/13), 1:35, 4:30, 7:20

Skyfall (digital, IMAX): Fri-Sat, 10:10am, 1:20, 4:35, 7:50, 11:00pm; Sun, 10:10am, 1:20, 4:35, 7:40, 10:45pm; Mon-Wed, 12:15, 3:30, 6:45, 9:55; Thu (12/13), 1:00, 4:40, 7:30
"Skyfall (digital)": Fri, 12:25, 3:45, 7:00, 10:10; Sun, 12:25, 3:45, 7:00, 10:10; Mon-Wed, 1:00, 4:20, 7:30; Thu (12/13), 12:15, 3:30, 6:45
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2 (CG, digital): Sat, 11:10am, 2:10, 5:00, 8:05, 10:50pm

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2 (digital): Fri, 11:10am, 2:10, 5:00, 8:05, 10:50pm; Sun (12/13), 1:55, 4:45, 7:25
"Wreck-It Ralph (3-D)": Fri-Sun, 9:45am, 2:50, 8:05pm; Mon-Thu (12/13), 2:25, 7:45
"Wreck-It Ralph (digital)": Fri, 12:15, 5:25, 10:40; Sat, 12:15, 5:25, 10:25; Sun, 12:15, 5:25, 10:40; Mon-Wed, noon, 5:10, 10:10; Thu (12/13), 10:10, 5:10

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 E. Whitestone, 800/FANDANGO.

End of Watch (digital): Fri, 4:30, 10:00; Sat, 4:40, 10:00; Sun, 11:10am, 4:30, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (12/13), 4:30, 10:00
Flight (digital): 10:20pm
Killing Them Softly (digital): Fri, 2:00, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (12/13), 2:00, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40
Life of Pi (3-D): Fri, 3:40, 6:50, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:40, 6:50, 9:40; Mon-Thu (12/13), 3:40, 6:50, 9:40
Life of Pi (digital): Fri, 2:10, 6:00; Mon-Thu (12/13), 2:10, 5:00
Lincoln (digital): Fri, 2:50, 6:30, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:50, 6:30, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (12/13), 2:50, 6:30, 9:50
The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon: Sat-Sun, 11:00am
Playing for Keeps (digital): Fri, 1:50, 4:40, 7:40, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:40, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (12/13), 1:50, 4:40, 7:40, 10:10
Red Dawn (digital): Fri, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 12:10, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10; Mon-Thu (12/13), 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10
Rise of the Guardians (3-D): Fri, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00; Sat-Sun, 12:40, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00; Mon-Thu (12/13), 3:00, 5:30, 8:00

"Rise of the Guardians (digital)": Fri, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00pm; Mon, 10:00am, 12:10, 3:00, 7:00, 10:30pm; Tue, 10:00am, 11:10, 4:00, 7:30, 10:30pm; Wed, 10:00am, 11:10, 4:00, 7:30, 10:30pm; Thu (12/13), 3:00, 7:00, 10:30pm
"Rise of the Guardians (digital)": Fri, 11:00am, 2:30, 6:15, 9:45pm; Mon-Wed, 2:30, 6:15, 9:45
The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon: Sat-Sun, 11:00am
Playing for Keeps (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:55am, 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:30pm; Mon-Wed, 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:30
Red Dawn (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55pm; Mon-Wed, 2:15, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55
Rise of the Guardians (3-D): Fri-Sun, 10:55am, 1:30, 4:10, 6:55, 9:35pm; Mon-Wed, 1:30, 4:10, 6:55, 9:35
Rise of the Guardians (digital): Fri-Sun, noon, 2:50, 5:25, 8:00, 10:25; Mon-Wed, 2:50, 5:25, 8:00, 10:25
Skyfall (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:55am, 3:20, 6:45, 10:05pm; Mon-Wed, 12:15, 3:25, 6:45, 10:05
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2 (digital): Fri-Wed, 12:55, 4:00, 7:05, 10:00pm
Opera: Un Ballo in Maschera: Sat, 11:55am
Wreck-It Ralph (3-D): Fri-Wed, 3:30, 9:10; Thu (12/13), 3:30pm
Wreck-It Ralph (digital): Fri, 6:40pm; Sat-Sun, 12:50, 6:40; Mon-Thu (12/13), 6:40pm

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 14 12812 Hill Country Blvd., 800/FANDANGO.

Argo (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 1:40, 4:35, 7:30, 10:25pm; Mon-Wed, 1:40, 4:35, 7:30, 10:25
End of Watch (digital): Fri, 11:05am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20pm; Sat, 7:40, 10:20; Sun, 11:05am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Tue, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20; Wed, 10:20pm
Flight (digital): Fri, 12:10, 3:30, 7:00, 10:10; Mon-Wed, 12:20, 3:30, 7:00, 10:10
Classics: Home Alone: Wed, 2:00, 7:00
Killing Them Softly (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50pm; Mon-Wed, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
Life of Pi (3-D): Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 12:15, 1:55, 5:05, 6:30, 8:10pm; Mon-Wed, 12:15, 1:55, 5:05, 6:30, 8:10
Life of Pi (digital): Fri-Wed, 3:25, 9:40
Lincoln (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 2:30, 6:15, 9:45pm; Mon-Wed, 2:30, 6:15, 9:45
The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon: Sat-Sun, 11:00am
Playing for Keeps (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:55am, 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:30pm; Mon-Wed, 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:30
Red Dawn (digital): Fri-Sun, 11:45am,

FILM LISTINGS

METROPOLITAN S. I-35 & Stassney, 447-0101. Discounts daily before 6pm. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a \$3.50 premium.
Cloud Atlas: 1:25, 5:15, 9:20
The Collection: 12:50, 3:10, 5:35, 8:05, 10:25
***Flight:** Fri-Sun, 12:50, 1:50, 4:00, 5:05, 7:10, 8:30, 10:20; Mon, 12:50, 1:05, 4:00, 5:05, 7:10, 8:30, 10:20; Tue-Thu (12/13), 12:50, 1:50, 4:00, 5:05, 7:10, 8:30, 10:20
***Life of Pi:** 12:55, 7:00
***Life of Pi (3-D):** 2:00, 3:55, 5:00, 8:00, 10:05
Lincoln: 1:00, 2:05, 4:20, 5:30, 8:15, 9:30
Looper: Fri, 1:30, 4:25, 7:25, 10:20; Sat, 4:35, 7:25, 10:20; Sun-Thu (12/13), 1:30, 4:25, 7:25, 10:20
The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon: Sat, 11:15am
The Perks of Being a Wallflower: 1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10
Playing for Keeps: 2:10, 5:05, 7:40, 10:10
Sinister: Fri, 1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15; Sun-Thu (12/13), 1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15
***Skyfall:** 1:10, 2:20, 4:30, 6:30, 7:50, 9:50
Opera: Un Ballo in Maschera: Sat, 11:55am

PARAMOUNT THEATRE 713 Congress, 472-5470.
Bad Santa: Sun, 9:05pm; Mon, 7:00pm
Holiday Inn: Wed, 7:00pm; Thu (12/13), 9:30pm
National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation: Sun, 7:00pm; Mon, 9:00pm
Holiday Films: White Christmas: Wed, 9:10pm; Thu (12/13), 7:00pm

TINSELTOWN NORTH N. I-35 & FM 1825, 512/989-8535. Cost for 3-D and XD shows is regular ticket price plus a premium.
The Collection (digital): Fri, 12:35, 3:10, 5:30, 7:55, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 10:15am, 12:35, 3:10, 5:30, 7:55, 10:20pm; Mon-Wed, 12:35, 3:10, 5:30, 7:55, 10:20
End of Watch (digital): Fri-Wed, 11:45am, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45pm
Flight (digital): Fri-Wed, 12:05, 3:50, 7:15, 10:35
Here Comes the Boom (digital): Fri-Wed, 2:20, 7:50
Classics: Home Alone: Wed, 2:00, 7:00
Killing Them Softly (digital): Fri-Wed, 11:45am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00pm
Life of Pi (3-D): Fri, 2:20, 5:25, 8:30; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 2:20, 5:25, 8:30pm; Mon-Wed, 2:20, 5:25, 8:30
Life of Pi (3-D, XD): Fri, 12:50, 3:55, 7:00, 10:10; Mon-Tue, 12:50, 3:55, 7:00, 10:10
Life of Pi (digital): Fri, 1:35, 4:40, 7:45, 10:45; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 1:35, 4:40, 7:45, 10:45pm; Mon-Wed, 1:35, 4:40, 7:45, 10:45
Lincoln (digital): Fri-Wed, 11:45am, 3:15, 6:45, 10:15pm
The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon: Sat-Sun, 11:00am
The Man With the Iron Fists (digital): Fri-Wed, 11:50am, 5:05, 10:35pm
Playing for Keeps (digital): Fri, 1:35, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 10:45am, 1:35, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50pm; Mon-Wed, 1:35, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50
Red Dawn (digital): Fri, 12:35, 3:05, 5:35, 8:05, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 12:35, 3:05, 5:35, 8:05, 10:35pm; Mon-Wed, 12:35, 3:05, 5:35, 8:05, 10:35
Rise of the Guardians (3-D): Fri, 12:25, 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:45; Sat-Sun, 9:50am, 12:25, 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:45pm; Mon-Wed, 12:25, 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:45
Rise of the Guardians (digital): Fri, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30pm; Mon-Wed, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30
Skyfall (digital): Fri, 12:45, 2:40, 4:00, 6:00, 7:20, 9:20, 10:40; Sat, 11:20am, 2:40, 6:00, 7:20, 9:20, 10:40pm; Sun, 11:20am, 12:45, 2:40, 4:00, 6:00, 7:20, 9:20, 10:40pm; Mon, 12:45, 2:40, 4:00, 6:00, 7:20, 9:20, 10:40; Tue, 12:45, 2:40, 4:00, 6:00, 9:20, 10:40; Wed, 12:45, 4:00, 7:20, 9:20, 10:40
Taken 2 (digital): Fri, 12:40, 3:20, 6:30, 9:00; Sat-Sun, 10:05am, 12:40, 3:20, 6:30, 9:00pm; Mon-Wed, 12:40, 3:20, 6:30, 9:00
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (digital): Fri, 12:10, 1:40, 3:10, 4:40, 6:10, 7:40, 9:10, 10:40; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 12:10, 1:40, 3:10, 4:40, 6:10, 7:40, 9:10, 10:40pm; Mon-Wed, 12:10, 1:40, 3:10, 4:40, 6:10, 7:40, 9:10, 10:40
Opera: Un Ballo in Maschera: Sat, 11:55am
Wreck-It Ralph (3-D): Fri, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50pm; Mon-Wed, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
Wreck-It Ralph (digital): Fri, 12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:40; Sat-Sun, 9:45am, 12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:40pm; Mon-Wed, 12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:40

TINSELTOWN SOUTH S. I-35 & Stassney, 326-3800. \$10 "special event" ticket prices apply to Indian films.
End of Watch (digital): Fri, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (12/13), 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
Classics: Home Alone: Wed, 2:00, 7:00
Hotel Transylvania (3-D): Fri, 5:05pm; Sat-Sun, 12:05, 2:35, 5:05; Mon-Thu (12/13), 5:05pm
Hotel Transylvania (digital): 7:35, 10:00
Jab Tak Hai Jaan (digital): Fri, 6:00, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 2:05, 6:00, 9:55; Mon-Thu (12/13), 6:00, 9:55
Killing Them Softly (digital): Fri, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25; Mon-Thu (12/13), 5:20, 7:50, 10:25
The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon: Sat-Sun, 11:00am
Paranormal Activity 4 (digital): Fri, 2:55, 5:15; Sat-Sun, 12:35, 2:55, 5:15, 7:35, 9:50; Mon-Thu (12/13), 2:55, 5:15, 7:35, 9:50
Pitch Perfect (digital): Fri, 4:05, 6:55, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:05, 6:55, 10:10; Mon-Tue, 4:05, 6:55, 10:10; Thu (12/13), 4:05, 6:55, 10:10
Red Dawn (digital): Fri, 3:40, 4:55, 6:10, 7:25, 8:40, 10:05, 11:10; Sat-Sun, 11:55am, 1:10, 2:25, 3:40, 4:55, 6:10, 7:25, 8:40, 10:05, 11:10pm; Mon-Thu (12/13), 3:40, 4:55, 6:10, 7:25, 8:40, 10:05, 11:10
Rise of the Guardians (3-D): Fri, 4:40, 7:05, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 11:35am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:05, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (12/13), 4:40, 7:05, 9:40
Rise of the Guardians (digital): Fri, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20; Sat-Sun, 12:50, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20; Mon-Thu (12/13), 3:20, 5:50, 8:20
Taken 2 (digital): Fri, 4:35, 7:00, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/13), 4:35, 7:00, 9:20
Talaash (digital): Fri, 3:25, 6:30, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 12:10, 3:25, 6:30, 9:45; Mon-Thu (12/13), 3:25, 6:30, 9:45
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (digital): Fri, 3:15, 4:45, 6:05, 7:30, 8:55, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 12:25, 1:50, 3:15, 4:45, 6:05, 7:30, 8:55, 10:20; Mon-Thu (12/13), 3:15, 4:45, 6:05, 7:30, 8:55, 10:20
Wreck-It Ralph (3-D): Fri, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (12/13), 4:50, 7:35, 10:15
Wreck-It Ralph (digital): Fri, 3:35, 6:15, 9:00; Sat-Sun, 12:55, 3:35, 6:15, 9:00; Mon-Thu (12/13), 3:35, 6:15, 9:00

VIOLET CROWN CINEMA 434 W. Second, 495-9600. Four-hour parking validation in attached garage with ticket purchase. Reserved seating; bar and cafe on-site.
Anna Karenina: Fri-Sat, 11:05am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40pm; Sun-Thu (12/13), 11:05am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00pm
***Argo:** Fri-Sat, 5:00, 10:40; Sun-Thu (12/13), 5:00pm
Hitchcock: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:10, 3:20, 5:50, 8:30, 11:00pm; Sun-Thu (12/13), 11:00am, 1:10, 3:20, 5:50, 8:30, 11:00pm
***Lincoln:** 11:45am, 2:50, 5:30, 8:00pm
Psycho: Mon-Thu (12/13), noon
***Silver Linings Playbook:** Fri-Sat, noon, 2:30, 7:30, 10:00; Sun, noon, 2:30, 7:30, 9:40; Mon-Thu (12/13), 2:30, 7:30, 9:40

WESTGATE 11 S. Lamar & Ben White, 899-2717. Discounts daily before 6pm. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a \$3.50 premium.
Argo: Fri-Wed, 11:35am, 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:15pm; Thu (12/13), 11:35am, 2:15, 4:55, 7:35pm
End of Watch: Fri-Wed, 12:05, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20; Thu (12/13), 12:05, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20, 12:05am
***Flight:** Fri-Wed, 3:00, 9:30; Thu (12/13), 3:00, 9:00
Killing Them Softly: Fri-Wed, 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:15; Thu (12/13), noon, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40, 12:05am
***Life of Pi (3-D):** Fri-Wed, 12:30, 4:00, 7:05, 10:00; Thu (12/13), noon, 2:50, 6:15, 9:05, 11:55
Lincoln: 11:50am, 3:10, 6:30, 9:45pm
Playing for Keeps: Fri-Wed, 12:15, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05; Thu (12/13), 11:40am, 1:55, 4:10, 6:30, 8:45, 12mid
Red Dawn: Fri-Wed, 12:40, 7:15; Thu (12/13), 12:40, 6:45
***Rise of the Guardians:** 11:45am, 4:30, 9:20pm
***Rise of the Guardians (3-D):** 2:10, 7:00
***Skyfall:** Fri-Wed, 12:20, 3:30, 6:50, 10:00; Thu (12/13), 12:20, 3:30, 6:50, 10:15, 11:40
***The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2:** 11:40am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20pm
***Wreck-It Ralph:** Fri-Wed, 11:55am, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55pm; Thu (12/13), 11:35am, 2:05, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35pm

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A ROYAL AFFAIR

D: Nikolaj Arcel; with Alicia Vikander, Mads Mikkelsen, Mikkel Boe Følsgaard, Trine Dyrholm, David Dencik, Thomas W. Gabrielsson, Cyron Melville. (R, 137 min., subtitled)

Palace intrigue, bodice-ripping, and revolutionary thinkers: *A Royal Affair* certainly sounds like a pulse-racer. In fact, this Danish-language film is a more measured thing – professionally assembled and determinedly conventional.

Set during the Age of Enlightenment – a movement slow to spark in conservative Denmark – *A Royal Affair* dramatizes the love triangle that emerges between a neglected queen, her mentally ill king, and the king's politically progressive personal physician. It won't end well – we know this from the film's bookends – but the royal match begins with rosy enthusiasm as the British-born Princess Caroline Mathilde (Vikander) travels to Denmark to meet for the first time her new husband, King Christian VII (Følsgaard). But Christian, a bored ruler and cruel consort, prefers drinking and whoring to the wife he belittles by nicknaming her "Mother." "I want a fun wife!" he sulks, while an embittered Caroline just wishes he'd stick to his half of the palace. (And what a palace: *A Royal Affair* is one long, sumptuous swoon for castle and period costume junkies.) Curiously, a kind of salvation for both arrives in the same person: Dr. Johann Struensee (Mikkelsen), a radical thinker who is bemused by the silly pomp of court and enraged by the Council's ineffectual governing. Struensee has a calming effect on the unquiet king, who shows puppyish, little brother devotion to the doctor, and an agitating one on the sexually neglected queen; Struensee even manages to broker a companionable peace between the estranged husband and wife.

Sensitive to the subtle, shifting alliances in the triangle, the three leads give rounded performances. Mikkelsen (*Quantum of Solace*, *Pusher*) is already an international star, and one suspects the luminous Vikander will be one soon (she's currently co-starring in *Anna Karenina* as Kitty). And Følsgaard, shouldering what might have been a thankless role, finds sympathetic ins to the mad king. The actors are alert and adaptable; the film, heavy with solemnity and gasping for the energy of improvisation, is not. (The framing device is a mistake.) Audiences seem to have an endless appetite for stories of monarchs behaving badly, and in that regard, *A Royal Affair* marks a square enough meal. It is certainly competent, lovely to look at, but leaves little lasting impression.

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Arbor

TALAASH

D: Reema Kagti; with Amir Khan, Rani Mukerji, Kareena Kapoor, Nawazuddin Siddiqui. (NR, 139 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. A cop who is investigating the death of a film star in this Bollywood thriller becomes tangled in some complications of his own.

– Marjorie Baumgarten

Tinseltown South

FIRST RUNS

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

ALEX CROSS

D: Rob Cohen; with Tyler Perry, Edward Burns, Matthew Fox, Jean Reno, Rachel Nichols, Giancarlo Esposito, Cicely Tyson, Carmen Ejogo, John C. McGinley. (PG-13, 101 min.)

Based on the eponymous creation of James Patterson, *Alex Cross* is the third theatrical incarnation of the whip-smart FBI profiler played previously by Morgan Freeman. This time, however, the role is taken on by the hulking Tyler Perry, stepping far outside his *Madea* comfort zone. It's a courageous but misguided move; watching Perry display the gamut of emotions called for here is like watching the Hulk attempt *Swan Lake*. The film is a prequel of sorts: Cross is still a detective with the Detroit Police Department, trading strenuously overwritten buddy/pal banter with his partner Tommy Kane (Burns). Enter the sadistic, sinuously evil serial killer Picasso (Fox), who attracts Cross' attention, and vice versa. It's a mess, really, but a crowd-pleasing one. Perry's regular audience will follow him out on this creaking limb, no problem. Whether anyone will want to see him portray Patterson's profiler again, though, is another question. (10/19/2012)

★★ – Marc Savlov
Movies 8

ANNA KARENINA

D: Joe Wright; with Keira Knightley, Jude Law, Aaron Taylor-Johnson, Domhnall Gleeson, Matthew Macfadyen, Kelly Macdonald, Alicia Vikander, Ruth Wilson, Olivia Williams. (R, 129 min.)

In this bold but empty imagining of *Anna Karenina*, director Joe Wright sets the action mostly within the walls of a theatre: This world is, quite literally, all a stage. There is the sedate wife and mother Anna (Knightley), limply married to the fly-right bureaucrat Karenin (Law) and embarking for Moscow to save her brother's marriage to poor, put-upon Dolly (Macdonald). And there is the first acquaintance of doomed Anna and Count Vronsky (Taylor-Johnson), who tumble into an erotic liaison that will both ignite and ruin her. There is so much to compact here, and – forgive the schoolmarm aside – if you haven't yet enjoyed the source novel, then you should stop reading this right now and start reading that, because it truly is a transformative thing. Sadly, the complexity of Tolstoy's vision is only just skimmed here; this *Anna Karenina* provides no lasting illumination, only the fast-burn spitzing of bang snaps. (11/30/2012)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones

Alamo South Lamar, Arbor, Violet Crown

ARGO

D: Ben Affleck; with Ben Affleck, Bryan Cranston, Alan Arkin, John Goodman, Victor Garber, Tate Donovan, Clea DuVall, Scoot McNairy, Rory Cochrane, Christopher Denham, Kerry Bishé, Kyle Chandler, Chris Messina, Zeljko Ivanek, Richard Kind. (R, 120 min.)

Ben Affleck has reinvented himself as one of Hollywood's top-notch directors, and this third feature fully proves that the filmmaker knows what he is doing. *Argo* is a terrifically entertaining thriller that's based on a true-life incident. Latino CIA operative Tony Mendez (Affleck) has been called in to help six American embassy employees who managed to escape when their compound in Iran was taken over by Islamic fundamentalists on Nov. 4, 1979. As the CIA contemplates extraction, Mendez hatches a crazy plan: creating the cover of a location-scouting expedition for a science fiction movie called *Argo*. As we follow every step of the mission, Affleck's deft craftsmanship and casting instincts are on full display. Not allowing well enough to be, however, is the multiple-pronged coda, which slackens *Argo*'s taut pace to a crawl. But I can hear the filmmakers saying, in the cadence of the film's running joke, "Arrh, go fuck yourself." (10/12/2012)

★★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Gateway, Violet Crown, Westgate

Radio Unnameable

AFS Doc Nights. (2012) Legendary disc jockey Bob Fass of New York's WBAI, who pioneered free-form radio on his FM show *Radio Unnameable*, is profiled in this documentary. Directors Paul Lovelace and Jessica Wolfson will be in attendance. See p.48 of this week's Screens section for an interview. @Alamo South Lamar, Wednesday, 7pm.



☼ CLOUD ATLAS

D: Tom Tykwer, Andy Wachowski, Lana Wachowski; with Tom Hanks, Halle Barry, Jim Broadbent, Hugo Weaving, Jim Sturgess, Doona Bae, Ben Whishaw, Keith David, James D'Arcy, Xun Zhou, David Gyasi, Susan Sarandon, Hugh Grant. (R, 172 min.)

This remarkable adaptation of David Mitchell's supposedly "unfilmable" novel achieves near-perfection on virtually all levels. What at first seems an ultra-convoluted series of interconnected story lines – six of them, with actors playing multiples roles over multiple centuries – quickly transforms into a film of astonishing depth and insight. But, "What's it about?" The answer, in brief, is "the interconnected nature of life." *Cloud Atlas* is ambitious and complex beyond measure, but Tykwer and the Wachowskis pull it off with compassion, cliff-hanging storytelling, and a deeply empathetic moral center. Evil is all over the place in this film, but it ends on a thrilling, majestic note of hope, with directors, cast, and crew all coming together to create a singular whole that makes perfect sense in the end. *Cloud Atlas* is an utterly spellbinding film about the triumph of the human spirit across centuries and over the darkest of odds. (10/26/2012)

★★★★ – Marc Savlov
Metropolitan

END OF WATCH

D: David Ayer; with Jake Gyllenhaal, Michael Peña, Anna Kendrick, Cody Horn, America Ferrera, Frank Grillo, David Harbour. (R, 109 min.)

Screenwriter/Director David Ayer (*Training Day*, *Dark Blue*, *Street Kings*) has mastered the minutiae of the Los Angeles cop-movie subgenre better than anyone else I can think of. *End of Watch* might have been yet another buddy-cop flick but for the obvious camaraderie between LAPD partners Zavala (Peña), who is married with kids, and Taylor (Gyllenhaal), a high-strung Marine fresh from Afghanistan. Ayer introduces us into their daily grind just after they've been tossed into the slipstream of violence and thugery that is Southeast L.A. following the shooting of a suspect. On the streets, Taylor videotapes cop life in a haltingly cinema verité style. (He's taking a filmmaking class and this is his project.) Interestingly, a group of hyperviolent gangbangers is wantonly running amok with their own cameras rolling. Eventually, the two sides, law and lawlessness, collide, and this being an Ayer film, the result isn't pretty, but it is wholly believable. (09/21/2012)

★★★ – Marc Savlov
Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

FLIGHT

D: Robert Zemeckis; with Denzel Washington, Don Cheadle, Kelly Reilly, John Goodman, Bruce Greenwood, Brian Geraghty, Tamara Tunie, James Badge Dale, Peter Gerety, Melissa Leo. (R, 138 min.)

For the first half-hour, *Flight* keeps us rapt with thrilling action and a troubling moral quandary. But once things become more earthbound, the film reshapes itself into a standard substance-abuse story. A copious line of coke gets airline pilot Whip Whitaker (Washington) out the door and on the way to

the airport. Suddenly, all your worst fears about pilots unfit to fly are staring you in the face. Yet, when his plane experiences massive mechanical failure, Whip manages to land via crazy, instinctive measures. He is indeed a hero, but he also had a .24 blood-alcohol level during the crash. Reconciling those facts is an interesting dilemma, and one that fuels the ensuing investigation. Director Zemeckis shows he still has a vivid visual sensibility and a finger on the zeitgeist. But *Flight*'s pat closing sequence leaves nothing up in the air and returns all tray tables to their full, upright positions. (11/02/2012)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, iPic, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

FUN SIZE

D: Josh Schwartz; with Victoria Justice, Jackson Nicoll, Chelsea Handler, Thomas Mann, Jane Levy, Osric Chau, Thomas Middleditch, Josh Pence. (PG-13, 90 min.)

Josh Schwartz made his name in TV with likable dissertations on the nerd in ascension (*The O.C.*, *Gossip Girl*). *Fun Size* – Schwartz's feature directorial debut – could be filed under "related materials." High school senior Wren (Justice) wants to forget her troubles at home, where her mom (Handler) has gone off her rocker after the recent death of Wren's dad, and her 8-year-old brother Albert (Nicoll) has turned into a mute hellraiser. When Wren's plans for unwinding at a Halloween party are derailed by a babysitting detail, hijinks ensue. They are of a rather gentle order though, as befits a Nickelodeon film that regrettably lunges to accommodate the concerns of a single mom, a teenager, and a little boy. Imagine *Little Miss Sunshine*'s dark materials diluted with *Hannah Montana*-like silliness – which is to say: sometimes funny, often broad-stroked, ever sweet, and landing shy of its potential. (10/26/2012)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Movies 8

HERE COMES THE BOOM

D: Frank Coraci; with Kevin James, Salma Hayek, Henry Winkler, Greg Germann, Joe Rogan, Gary Valentine, Charice, Bas Rutten, Reggie Lee. (PG, 105 min.)

When high school biology teacher and all-around sad sack Scott Voss (James) learns that his cash-strapped employers are contemplating cutting the school's music program – taught by Scott's elderly wise-guy pal Marty (Winkler) – he dives into the world of mixed martial arts to help save the music. If that synopsis sounds asinine as opposed to inspiring, you've hit this mug right on the kisser. *Here Comes the Bomb* would've been a more fitting title. Between Scott's puppy-dog pining for school nurse Bella (Hayek), the evil machinations of the school principal (Germann), and the actual fight scenes of Scott, *Here Comes the Boom* hits every dopey note in the "save the school" subgenre playbook. I just can't help but wonder how many real-world high school music and arts programs could have been saved from extinction by simply not making this movie and donating the film's budget to actual schools in need. (10/19/2012)

★ – Marc Savlov
Tinseltown North

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA

D: Genndy Tartakovsky; with the voices of Adam Sandler, Kevin James, Andy Samberg, Selena Gomez, Fran Drescher, Steve Buscemi, Molly Shannon, David Spade, CeLo Green, Jon Lovitz. (PG, 91 min.)

Throwing a bunch of Universal classic monster archetypes into an animated film and then using a generic coming-of-age, father-daughter relationship as the linchpin might've seemed like a good idea on paper, but onscreen Tartakovsky's *Hotel Transylvania* is as generically vacant as Mrs. Bates' eye sockets. The 118th birthday of Dracula's daughter, Mavis (voiced by Gomez), has finally arrived and the overprotective Drac (Sandler), now the manager of the "for monsters only" Hotel Transylvania, wants to keep her under his wing forever. But, when Jonathan (Samberg), a lost human backpacker, stumbles stonily into the hotel, love passes between the vampire's daughter and the displaced skater dude, much to Drac's chagrin. Not a whole lot ensues that you haven't already figured out on your own. Universal should sue for damages to the reputation of its classic movie monsters. As for *Hotel Transylvania*, no need to put a stake in it – it's deady dull already. (09/28/2012)

★ – Marc Savlov
Tinseltown South

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Mauvais Sang

D: Leos Carax; with Juliette Binoche, Michel Piccoli, Denis Levant, Hans Meyer, Julie Delpy. (1986, NR, 116 min.) **Austin Film Society: The Films of Leos Carax.** In the near future, there exists a disease that kills people who are in love. A complex skein of relationships and double-crosses unfurl around the theft of a serum that counteracts the disease. @Alamo South Lamar, Monday, 7pm.



JAB TAK HAI JAAN

D: Yash Chopra; with Shah Rukh Khan, Katrina Kaif, Anushka Sharma. (NR, 176 min., subtitled)
The final film by this beloved Bollywood filmmaker is another of his signature romances. In this case, a romantic triangle is played out over decades and locations. (11/16/2012) – Marjorie Baumgarten Tinseltown South

KILLING THEM SOFTLY

D: Andrew Dominik; with Brad Pitt, Scoot McNairy, Ben Mendelsohn, Richard Jenkins, James Gandolfini, Ray Liotta, Vincent Curatola, Sam Shepard. (R, 97 min.)

If words could kill, few characters would be left standing at the end of *Killing Them Softly*. Andrew Dominik's movie is a crime film in which spurts of action occasionally puncture calm and sustained scenes of dialogue and character display. Based on the novel *Cogan's Trade* by George V. Higgins, *Killing Them Softly* moves the novel's Boston locale to New Orleans in 2008, but the portrait of the crime-world underbelly as a self-sustaining, self-policing society remains the same. The mob is structured like a corporation, with a nameless functionary (Richard Jenkins) serving as the middleman who hires the hit man, Jackie (Brad Pitt). The boarded-up, empty streets of post-Katrina New Orleans provide an Anywasteland, USA, vibe that enhances the idea of *Killing Them Softly* as a metaphor for the U.S. economic system in distress. Unfortunately, Dominik's ideas get the better of his creative handiwork, and the film suffers for it. (11/30/2012)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Ritz, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Galaxy Moviehouse, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

★ LIFE OF PI

D: Ang Lee; with Suraj Sharma, Irrfan Khan, Rafe Spall, Tabu, Adil Hussain, Gérard Depardieu. (PG, 125 min.)

Demonstrating a delicate mastery of 3-D, Ang Lee has made a movie that had me in its visual thrall even before the opening credits were through. Soon, however, the magical spell lifts and the film clunks toward Earth as a man nicknamed Pi (Irrfan Khan) promises to tell a character called the Writer (Rafe Spall) a story that will make him "believe in God."

Apocalypse Now

D: Francis Ford Coppola; with Martin Sheen, Marlon Brando. (1979, R, 153 min.) **70mm at the Ritz.** Coppola's monumental film is one of the best war movies ever made. @Alamo Ritz, Sunday, 10:30pm; Monday, 7pm.



Setting aside the story's fuzzy theological concerns, *Life of Pi*, which is adapted from Yann Martel's best-selling novel, is extraordinarily accomplished. The story is gripping, and when adrift with teenage Pi (Suraj Sharma) and the Bengal tiger on the open sea, the film is at its most wondrous: a ravishing spectacle that treads judiciously on the infinite line between what's possible and impossible. *Life of Pi*, ironically, soars when it confines itself to land and sea; when it grasps for the celestial, the film goes beyond its reach. (11/23/2012)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Lake Creek, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Galaxy Moviehouse, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

LINCOLN

D: Steven Spielberg; with Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field, David Straithairn, Tommy Lee Jones, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Hal Holbrook, James Spader, John Hawkes, Gloria Reuben, Lee Pace, Tim Blake Nelson, Jared Harris. (PG-13, 149 min.)

Adapted from historian Doris Kearns Goodwin's *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*, Spielberg's film stitches together history lesson and TV procedural in its detailing of Lincoln's struggle to abolish slavery. First and certainly foremost: Master shapeshifter Daniel Day-Lewis delivers a monumental performance. He inhabits the character bodily and temperamentally, too, as he shifts to present different angles on the storied president, from formidable politician to keen wit, devoted father, and unhappy husband. On the subject of the latter: *Lincoln*, for all its grand-canvas ambitions, is at its chewiest when dramatizing Lincoln's relationship with his nervous wife Mary (Field). But the bygone manner of speaking – formal and florid – doesn't come easily to all the actors, and the result is like an inferior Shakespeare production: The mouths are moving, but the eyes don't always connect with the meaning. No worries, Spielberg's gonna spell it out for you anyway. (11/16/2012)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Alamo Slaughter Lane, Alamo South Lamar, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Galaxy Moviehouse, iPic, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Violet Crown, Westgate

★ LOOPER

D: Rian Johnson; with Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Bruce Willis, Emily Blunt, Jeff Daniels, Paul Dano, Noah Segan, Piper Perabo, Pierce Gagnon. (R, 119 min.)

"You stupid little shit." Who hasn't thought much the same when contemplating one's younger self? The clever conceit of this time-travel thriller, however, is that when former assassin Joe (Willis) assesses his wayward youth, he is staring young Joe (Gordon-Levitt) in the face – and young Joe wants him dead. Orphaned early and taken in by the mob, young Joe



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FILM LISTINGS

turns a tidy profit dispatching victims zapped back in time by unseen bosses 30 years in the future. Then, some bald jerk with a familiar jawline arrives, and Joe realizes he's meant to assassinate his future self. The chase is on. With *Looper*, writer/director Rian Johnson incorporates the kicky mental gymnastics of time-travel, the relentless heart rate of a crackerjack thriller, and the extreme violence of a modern actioner. If you're looking for guts-splaying, *Looper* certainly satisfies – but it's the emotional guts of the thing that'll hound you long after. (09/28/2012)

★★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Movies 8, Metropolitan

THE MAN WITH THE IRON FISTS

D: RZA; with RZA, Russell Crowe, Cung Le, Lucy Liu, Rick Yune, David Bautista, Jamie Chung, Byron Mann, Gordon Liu, Pam Grier. (R, 96 min.)

The directing debut of Wu-Tang Clan firebrand RZA is a loving, accurate homage to the legendary Shaw Brothers films that first inspired the chopsocky-mad lad to bring the pain and get his feisty, fisty flow on. It's a beautiful, blood-drenched, chaotic, nonsensical train wreck, but it's well worth the ride. RZA is the Blacksmith, a badass tradesman beholden to the forever-warring clans of 19th century bad-guy backwater, Jungle City. Planning to retire with his prostitute paramour (Chung), the Blacksmith finds his plans disrupted when a gold fortune passing through Jungle City attracts – natch – every kung fu freak in the area. Copious CGI gore soon splatters everything in sight. Let the brilliant, epic silliness of *The Man With the Iron Fists* engulf you in a tsunami of crimson cheese and you, like I, will have a super-happy-fun-big-smile-crazy-face-monkey-time. As every Shaolin warrior worth his chi knows, that's really all you'll ever need. (11/09/2012)

★★★ – Marc Savlov
Movies 8, Tinseltown North

★ PARANORMAN

D: Chris Butler, Sam Fell; with the voices of Kodi Smit-McPhee, Tucker Albrizzi, Anna Kendrick, Casey Affleck, Christopher Mintz-Plasse, Leslie Mann, John Goodman, Jeff Garlin, Elaine Stritch, Bernard Hill. (PG, 96 min.)

Laika, the animation outfit behind 2009's *Coraline*, scores another one for the dark side with this endearingly sweet and spooky-ookie ode to the supernatural. Tweenage Norman (Smit-McPhee) can see dead people, but this doesn't bother him nearly as much as being bullied. In between hanging out with his (late) grandmother and watching horror movies, Norman spends time with his equally beleaguered pal, Neil (Albrizzi), dodging the slings and arrows of daily life and grooving on all thing ghoulie. Until, that is, his mad Uncle Prenderghast (Goodman) informs Norman that only he can save his Salem-esque township from a long-dead witch's curse. Zombies, comedy, and a surprisingly touching dork/jock alliance ensue. Boasting candy-floss colors and a clever, terrific script, *ParaNorman's* stoic, monster-movie geekery is spot-on, and the storyline never wavers from its boneyard-deep message: Being different from others is a great thing, no matter how many angry villagers are after you. (08/17/2012)

★★★★ – Marc Savlov
Movies 8

THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER

D: Stephen Chbosky; with Logan Lerman, Emma Watson, Ezra Miller, Nina Dobrev, Mae Whitman, Johnny Simmons, Melanie Lynskey, Paul Rudd. (PG-13, 103 min.)

Suicide. Psychotic breaks. Molestation. Gay-bashing. These are the plot points that first-time writer/director Stephen Chbosky is working with, adapting his bestselling, much-loved Young Adult novel, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. Ripe dramatic material, but Chbosky surrounds his hurting characters with the cinematic equivalent of a hug circle. In this sensitive but still-water bildungsroman set in the early Nineties, high school freshman Charlie (Lerman) falls in with an older crowd that nurtures his evolution from loner to fledgling writer, among whom are damaged beauty Sam (Watson) and her stepbrother Patrick (Miller), who is mercilessly bullied for being gay. The film accurately captures the electrifying sensation an outcast feels when he finds his people. Truly, every shy, thoughtful kid deserves the kind of support system that rallies around Charlie when his depression overwhelms him. But even as Charlie's grip on sanity starts to go, Chbosky's tone of gentle optimism never wavers. (09/28/2012)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Arbor, Metropolitan

Things to Come

D: William Cameron Menzies; with Raymond Massey, Ralph Richardson, Cedric Hardwicke. (1936, NR, 100min.) Art director Menzies helmed this cautionary futuristic tale written by H.G. Wells and based on his novel *The Shape of Things to Come*. This Norman Bel Geddes-influenced film is being shown in conjunction with the current exhibition, *I Have Seen the Future: Norman Bel Geddes Designs America*. @Harry Ransom Center, Thursday (12/13), 7pm.



PITCH PERFECT

D: Jason Moore; with Anna Kendrick, Brittany Snow, Rebel Wilson, Skylar Astin, Ben Platt, Anna Camp, Adam DeVine, Elizabeth Banks, John Michael Higgins. (PG-13, 112 min.)

If you're at all predisposed to the choreographed karaoke of *Glee*, the underdog schematics of teen competitions à la *Bring It On* or the *Step Up* cycle, and the hero-misfits of a John Hughes comedy, then this slight but sunny entertainment is something of an idiot-grin-maker. Anna Kendrick (age 27) and the reliably outré comic Rebel Wilson (age 26) stretch the limits of the imagination as members of an incoming college freshmen class. The perennially perky Kendrick plays Beca, a Kohl-rimmed angerpuss who'd rather be mashing tracks than attending Intro to Psych. Still, she finds a community of sorts with Wilson's "Fat Amy" and a cookie-cutter, dysfunctional, all-girls a cappella group. One wishes the filmmakers had found room for more rough-edged oddities and spent less time borrowing goodwill from *The Breakfast Club*. All told, *Pitch Perfect* isn't all that good – but it's an awfully good sport. (09/28/2012) ★★★ – Kimberley Jones
CM Round Rock, Tinseltown South

RED DAWN

D: Dan Bradley; with Chris Hemsworth, Josh Peck, Adrienne Palicki, Josh Hutcherson, Isabel Lucas, Connor Cruise, Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Brett Cullen, Will Yun Lee, Kenneth Choi. (PG-13, 93 min.)

Movie remakes are rarely a good idea (at least from an artistic point of view). The original *Red Dawn*, John Milius' 1984 cult classic about Midwestern teenagers who defiantly defend their homeland against Russian invasion, has become deeply entrenched in the American soul. The 2012 remake, however, derives most of its inspiration from *Call of Duty* and other first-person-shooter video games, rather than the original film. Although the invading forces are North Korean this time around, the remake hews pretty close to the original in terms of the plot. But Bradley's version places all the emphasis on the action sequences and its near-laughable during its dramatic lulls. Aside from some thin threads about missing girlfriends and such, the dynamic between Chris Hemsworth's Marine-on-leave and his younger brother (Josh Peck) is the remake's only dramatic arc. Although the original *Red Dawn* was far-fetched, the remake offers little but vicarious thrills. (11/23/2012) ★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Galaxy Moviehouse, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

RISE OF THE GUARDIANS

D: Peter Ramsey; with the voices of Hugh Jackman, Alec Baldwin, Jude Law, Isla Fisher, Chris Pine, Dakota Goyo. (PG, 97 min.)

Kids who can stomach mixed holiday fare should be able to ride out this stereoscopic superstorm of

snow globes, Easter eggs, magic portals, enchanted crystals, moon worship, fruitcakes, *matryoshka* dolls, and lost teeth. Others may be confused. Despite the Thanksgiving-week release, *Rise of the Guardians* is not quite a Christmas movie. It's like a public-domain version of *Cartoon All-Stars to the Rescue*: Santa (voiced by Baldwin), the Easter Bunny (Jackman), the Tooth Fairy (Fisher), and the Sandman (a mute) team up with Jack Frost (Pine) to defeat the Boogeyman, aka Pitch (Law), who is threatening to enshroud the world in fear and darkness. Adapted from author and illustrator William Joyce's *The Guardians of Childhood* book series, *Rise of the Guardians* displays little evidence of Joyce's acclaimed artistic hand; the visual style of this DreamWorks film, directed by Peter Ramsey with visual consulting by Roger Deakins, is retro in the worst way. (11/23/2012) ★★ – Leah Churner

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

SEVEN PSYCHOPATHS

D: Martin McDonagh; with Colin Farrell, Woody Harrelson, Sam Rockwell, Christopher Walken, Tom Waits, Abbie Cornish, Olga Kurylenko, Michael Pitt, Harry Dean Stanton, Kevin Corrigan, Long Nguyen. (R, 109 min.)

Do I have to write anything other than the cast list above? Because that about sums up the crazed glory of *Seven Psychopaths*. Director McDonagh (*In Bruges*) pulls a Southern Californian, sun-blasted odyssey that skitters from one outcropping of narrative improbability to the next, until a summit is reached and you look down into a valley littered with conjoined storylines, bodies, and gallows humor. This is a very smart comedy about very dumb people doing really awful things. To keep the convoluted plot as revelatory as it is, I'll simply say that Farrell, as alcoholic Hollywood screenwriter Martin, is given one of his juiciest roles in years. *Seven Psychopaths* isn't a great movie – there are stretches where it has too much going on – but it is an inspired, strange, and occasionally choke-on-your-pops corny funny ensemble piece that, frankly, blows just about every other current comedy out of the water. (10/12/2012) ★★★★★ – Marc Savlov

Movies 8

SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK

D: David O. Russell; with Bradley Cooper, Jennifer Lawrence, Robert De Niro, Jacki Weaver, Chris Tucker, Anupam Kher, John Ortiz, Shea Whigham, Julia Stiles. (R, 122 min.)

"Negativity is a poison like nothing else," says bipolar Pat (Cooper), who is newly released from a state institution following a violent episode. Pat is convinced that exercise and a positive outlook – his "silver linings" philosophy – are all it takes to get his estranged wife back; his family, however, thinks some serious meds are in order. The smartest solution may lie in some balance between the two, and *Silver Linings Playbook* similarly rides the center line in its empathetic but facile look at mental illness. When Pat meets Tiffany (Lawrence), a young widow raw with grief, a tentative friendship forms, and Pat's days gain new purpose and direction. Writer/director David O. Russell, adapting Matthew Quirk's novel, is in his element here: *Silver Linings Playbook* is consistently funny and very sweet fun. But one wishes Russell's ambition had tilted a few clicks away from comic absurdity, toward something more probing. (11/16/2012) ★★★★★ – Kimberley Jones

Alamo South Lamar, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Violet Crown

SINISTER

D: Scott Derrickson; with Ethan Hawke, Juliet Rylance, James Ransone, Michael Hall D'Addario, Clare Foley, Fred Dalton Thompson, Vincent D'Onofrio. (R, 110 min.)

Only in the world of horror movies do people knowingly move into houses where the previous tenants were horrendously murdered. So at the beginning of *Sinister* when true-crime writer Ellison Oswalt (Hawke) moves with his wife and two young kids into the house in which an atrocity he is investigating occurred, we can safely assume the worst is going to happen. In the attic, Ellison finds a mysterious box of Super-8 film reels which record the handiwork of "Mr. Boogie": garish family mutilations. But even

Psycho

D: Alfred Hitchcock; with Anthony Perkins. (1960, NR, 109 min.) In conjunction with the opening of *Hitchcock*, a new digital transfer of the master's classic will screen, along with a menu inspired by the movie. @Violet Crown, Thursday (12/6), 7pm; Monday-Thursday (12/13), noon.



when Ellison's son (D'Addario) and daughter (Foley) start drawing graphic pictures of these crimes, Ellison stands his ground on this house's creaky floorboards. That's not all that that's creaky, either. This spooky-house movie gets an infusion from the recently trendy found-footage wave of horror movies, and, eventually, supernatural occurrences take over the screen – a far cry from the true-crime tale the movie starts out as. (10/12/2012) ★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten

Metropolitan

SKYFALL

D: Sam Mendes; with Daniel Craig, Judi Dench, Javier Bardem, Ralph Fiennes, Naomie Harris, Bérénice Marlohe, Albert Finney, Ben Whishaw, Rory Kinnear, Ola Rapace. (PG-13, 143 min.)

What's in a name? Lately, less and less. With Daniel Craig's third go at 007, I'm not sure there's much to distinguish Bond from Bourne from Batman. They're all slurping from the same soup – think: death-haunted, self-righteous, tight-lipped parkour enthusiast. That isn't to say there isn't entertainment to be had in *Skyfall* – there's giddy gobs of it – but whither the insouciance, huh? Director and noted killjoy Sam Mendes (*Revolutionary Road*) turns out to be aces with action set-pieces, Javier Bardem is a sheer pleasure as the franchise's international baddie du jour, and Roger Deakins' cinematography makes startling artistry of even the transitionals – as when Bond takes a (very) long gondola ride. He stands ramrod, all-business, for the duration, and the effect is at once silly and emblematic of the film's humorlessness about its hero. Would it kill him to just sit back and enjoy the ride? (11/09/2012) ★★★ – Kimberley Jones

Alamo Lake Creek, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Alamo South Lamar, Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Galaxy Moviehouse, Gateway, IMAX Theatre, iPic, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

TAKEN 2

D: Olivier Megaton; with Liam Neeson, Famke Janssen, Maggie Grace, Rade Serbedzija. (PG-13, 91 min.)

Liam Neeson gets to dig deep into his *Darkman* roots with this superanimated sequel to 2008's *Taken*. Like its uninspired but succinct title, this competent actioner gets straight to the point. Neeson returns as Bryan Mills, a former U.S. overseas operative/assassin/badass who, as *Taken 2* begins, is reconnecting with ex-wife Lenore (Janssen) and daughter Kim (Grace). Not for long, though, as the Albanian brothers and fathers of the white slavers he offed in the first film soon come calling with vengeance in their eyes and Glocks in their meaty paws. When the thugs kidnap Kim and Lenore, Bryan goes into invincible MacGyver mode and much running and leaping across the rooftops of Istanbul follows. The

action is frenetic and frequent, and the whole film has a vaguely Eurotrash vibe. It's fun enough on its own relatively low-budget merits, but it's really nothing to die – or kill – for. (10/05/2012) ★★★

Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN – PART 2

D: Bill Condon; with Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Taylor Lautner, Peter Facinelli, Mackenzie Foy, Elizabeth Reaser, Ashley Greene, Michael Sheen, Jackson Rathbone, Nikki Reed, Kellan Lutz, Billy Burke, Dakota Fanning, Maggie Grace, Rami Malek, Lee Pace, Casey LaBow, Joe Anderson. (PG-13, 115 min.)

So here it is: the last installment of the *Twilight* saga, or "our long national nightmare." *Part 2* picks up with the formerly human Bella Swan (Stewart) getting her first taste of vampire life, after her blood-sucker husband Edward Cullen (Pattinson) turned her to save her life after the difficult childbirth that concluded *Part 1*. The plot kicks in when Bella and Edward's new progeny Renesmee – half-vamp, half-human – is spied by another vampire, who runs to tattle to the Volturi (the undead tribunal) that the Cullens bit a kid – a capital offense. Sanitized bloodlust, decapitated heads, and mixed messages swathed in a soft-focus shimmer ensue. If a late-in-the-film montage of Bella and Edward's swooniest looks seems familiar, that's because you've seen the same supercut on YouTube already, spliced together by a small army of sighing girls. Kiddos: I'm sighing too, but only from relief it's all behind us now. (11/23/2012) ★★ – Kimberley Jones

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

WRECK-IT RALPH

D: Rich Moore; with the voices of John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman, Jack McBrayer, Jane Lynch, Alan Tudyk, Ed O'Neill, Mindy Kaling, Brandon Scott, Joe Lo Truglio, Dennis Haysbert. (PG, 101 min.)

Candyland meets *Tron* by way of Nintendo's *Donkey Kong*, a splash of treacly Disneyana, and a gooey series of sugar-bomb, high-fructose, racing set-pieces: Such are the ingredients of *Wreck-It Ralph*. The end result isn't a disaster, but it is unfocused, and most of the gags hit with all the punch of a well-suckled gumdrop. The titular Ralph (voiced by Reilly) is the "bad guy" in a fictional video game called *Fix-It Felix Jr.*, who dreams instead of being a hero. Miffed, Ralph abandons his own game and crosses over to others: from the bug-infested, first-person shooter *Hero's Duty* to *Sugar Rush* – a Wonka-fied go-kart racer. There, he meets Vanelllope von Schweetz (Silverman), the pair form a wary alliance, and, hey, what do you know, they learn some serious life lessons. Sweet enough but in the end a bit of a corny-syrupy wipeout, *Wreck-It Ralph* is middling, candyfloss-saturated family-night fare. (11/02/2012) ★★ – Marc Savlov

Alamo Lake Creek, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Highland, Galaxy Moviehouse, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

also playing

Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

★ BRAVE

★★★ Movies 8

★ FINDING NEMO

★★★★ Movies 8

THE ODD LIFE OF TIMOTHY GREEN

★★★ Movies 8

PARANORMAL ACTIVITY 4

✓ Tinseltown South

DECEMBER 6-13

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

THURSDAY 6

Christmas Pops Sing-Along Action Pack. @ Alamo Lake Creek, 7pm; Alamo Ritz, 10:15pm.

★ **Doug's Favorite Christmas Movie The Benson Movie Interruption.** Comedian Doug Benson and his pals will be sitting in the front row with mics, cracking jokes and hurling barbs at Doug's favorite Christmas movie of all time. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Elf Quote-Along (2003) D: Jon Favreau; with Will Ferrell. (PG, 95 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm.

Gremlins (1984) D: Joe Dante; with Zach Galligan, Phoebe Cates, Hoyt Axton. (PG, 106 min.) **Big Screen Classics.** A teenager's furry little pet of mysterious origins spawns a whole town full of snaggle-toothed killer gremlins. It's suburban splatter mixed with humor and in-jokes. (*) @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 4pm.

★ **Pola X (1999)** D: Leos Carax; with Guillaume Depardieu, Katerina Golubeva, Catherine Deneuve. (NR, 134 min.) **Austin Film Society Presents: Leos Carax.** Carax's follow-up to *The Lovers on the Bridge* is based on Herman Melville's novel *Pierre, or the Ambiguities*, and is rich in images and ideas. A man who shuffles between the houses of his mother and fiancée becomes involved with a woman who says she is his illegitimate sister. (*) @Alamo South Lamar, 7pm.

★ **Psycho (1960)** See p.75.

★ **Pulp Fiction (1994)** D: Quentin Tarantino; with John Travolta, Samuel L. Jackson, Uma Thurman. (R, 154 min.) **NCM Fathom: Tarantino XX.** In celebration of Tarantino's 20 years of making movies, the screening will be accompanied by a special biographical film and a hand-picked selection of Tarantino's inspirational movie trailers. (*) @CM Cedar Park, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, Arbor, Tinseltown North, Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, 7pm.

FRIDAY 7

Choose Your Own Master Pancake Master Pancake Theater. Bring a DVD of your choice to the show, the audience will select a favorite entry, and Master Pancake will do an instant mockery. @Alamo Ritz, 10:30pm.

Christmas Pops Sing-Along Action Pack. @ Alamo Slaughter Lane, 10pm; Alamo Village, 12mid.

Gremlins (1984) Big Screen Classics. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 4pm. (See Thursday, 12/6.)

★ **Mystery Christmas Mock Master Pancake With Doug Benson.** Movie interrupter Doug Benson joins the Pancake mockers. @Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm.

★ **Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Adaptation (2003)** D: Eric Zala; with Chris Strompolos, Angela Rodriguez, Eric Zala. (NR, 100 min.) **Raiders Book Tour.** In 1982, three Mississippi teens embarked on a project of fan worship when they re-created a shot-by-shot remake of *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. The book, *Raiders!: The Story of the Greatest Fan Film Ever Made*, tells their story. Author Alan Eisenstock will be in attendance for a book signing. @Alamo South Lamar, 7pm.

SPACES

★ **Friday Night Lights (2004)** D: Peter Berg; with Billy Bob Thornton, Tim McGraw. (PG-13, 117 min.) **Blue Starlite Drive-In: Selected by the Austin Film Society.** H.G. Bissinger's classic book about the secular religion of high school football was adapted for the screen prior to becoming a TV show. Stop-motion animated holiday favorites will also screen. (*) @Austin Studios, 7pm.

FESTIVALS

★ **End-of-Semester Screenings** This showcase of undergraduate student work created during the fall semester begins on Tuesday, Dec. 11 and continues through Saturday Dec. 15. It culminates on Sunday, Dec. 16, with screenings of the graduate students' documentaries from 3-5pm and graduate students' thesis films from 7-10pm at McCullough Theatre. New this year is Digital Demo Day on Thursday, Dec. 13, 3-6pm in UT's CMB Studio 4B, featuring a digital arcade in which the public can try out students' games, watch animation and FX demos, and play with interactive stories. See rtf.utexas.edu/events/end-semester-screenings-1 for the complete schedule. @ CMB Studio 4D (UT campus), CMB Studio 4B (UT campus), McCullough Theatre.



SATURDAY 8

Elf Quote-Along (2003) Action Pack. @Alamo Lake Creek, 4pm. (See Thursday, 12/6.)

★ **Elf (2003)** D: Jon Favreau; with Will Ferrell, James Caan, Zoey Deschanel. (PG, 95 min.) As the titular elf, Ferrell embraces the comic absurd with arms outstretched. (*) @Flix Brehouse, 10:30am.

★ **Lifeforce (1985)** D: Tobe Hooper; with Steve Railsback, Peter Firth, Frank Finlay, Mathilda May, Patrick Stewart. (R, 116 min.) **70mm at the Ritz.** A spaceship investigating Halley's Comet returns with alien creatures that drain human beings of their "lifeforce." @Alamo Ritz, 3:30pm.

Little Women (1994) D: Gillian Armstrong; with Winona Ryder, Trini Alvarado, Kirsten Dunst, Claire Danes, Susan Sarandon, Samantha Mathis, Christian Bale. (PG, 115 min.) **Afternoon Tea.** Louisa May Alcott's March sisters remain resonant in a new season. (*) @Alamo Lake Creek, 4pm.

★ **The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon** D: Peter Jackson; with Elijah Wood. (PG-13) @ Barton Creek Square, Highland, Flix Brehouse, Alamo Slaughter Lane, 10am.

★ **The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon** @Tinseltown South, Tinseltown North, Southpark Meadows, Hill Country Galleria, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Movies 8, CM Round Rock, CM Cedar Park, 11am. (See above.)

★ **The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon** @Gateway, Metropolitan, 11:15am. (See above.)

★ **The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon Dine-In.** @Galaxy Moviehouse, noon. (See above.)

Rise of the Guardians (sensory friendly) (2012) D: Peter Ramsey; with the voices of Hugh Jackman, Alec Baldwin, Jude Law, Isla Fisher, Chris Pine, Dakota Goyo. (PG, 97 min.) **Autism Society of America: Sensory-Friendly Films.** At these screenings, the auditorium has its lights brought up and the sound turned down. Additionally, audience members are welcome to get up and move around during the screening and bring along special-diet snacks. @Barton Creek Square, 10am.

Road House (1989) D: Rowdy Herrington; with Patrick Swayze, Kelly Lynch, Sam Elliott, Ben Gazzara. (R, 114 min.) **Master Pancake.** The Pancake cutups hurl their commentary at one of the easiest-to-ridicule films ever, in which Swayze plays an itinerant Zen bouncer. @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10.

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.

Un Ballo in Maschera (2012) D: David Alden. (NR, 240 min.) **Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD.** Marcelo Álvarez stars as the conflicted king of Verdi's opera; Fabio Luisi conducts. @CM Cedar Park, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, Arbor, Tinseltown North, 11:55am.

SPACES

The Sandlot and Caddyshack Blue Starlite Drive-In: Patron Picks. *The Sandlot* begins at 7pm, *Caddyshack* at 8:30pm. @Austin Studios, 7pm.

Check Film Listings online or on your mobile device for full-length reviews, up-to-date showtimes, archives, and more!
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The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

SUNDAY 9

★ **Apocalypse Now (1979)** See p.73.

Bad Santa (2003) D: Terry Zwigoff; with Billy Bob Thornton, Tony Cox, Bernie Mac. (R, 91 min.) (*) @Paramount, 9:05pm.

★ **Boy Meets Girl (1984)** D: Leos Carax; with Denis Lavant, Mireille Perrier. (NR, 100 min.) **Austin Film Society: The Films of Leos Carax.** Carax stamps his personal vision on a simple love story in his first feature film. Shot in black and white, *Boy Meets Girl* begins the filmmaker's "l'amour fou" trilogy. @Alamo South Lamar, 7pm.

Elf Quote-Along (2003) Action Pack. @Alamo Lake Creek, 4pm. (See Thursday, 12/6.)

Home Alone (1990) D: Chris Columbus; with Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci, John Candy, Daniel Stern. (PG, 102 min.) **Food & Film: Dinner Party.** (*) @Alamo Lake Creek, 7pm.

Little Women (1994) Afternoon Tea. @Alamo South Lamar, 4pm. (See Saturday.)

The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Hobbit Feast (PG-13, 640 min.) **Food and Film.** Sold out. @Alamo Ritz, 10am.

★ **The Lord of the Rings Trilogy Marathon** @Tinseltown South, Tinseltown North, Southpark Meadows, Hill Country Galleria, Cinemark Stone Hill Town Center, Movies 8, CM Round Rock, CM Cedar Park, 11am. (See Saturday.)

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989) D: Jeremiah S. Chechik; with Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo. (PG-13, 97 min.) The third in the Vacation series is reliably amusing, with script by John Hughes and a fabulous cast. @Paramount, 7pm.

Scrooged (1988) D: Richard Donner; with Bill Murray. (PG-13, 101 min.) **Food & Film: Dinner Party.** Dinners past, present, and future. (*) @Alamo Village, 7pm.

Trailer War American Genre Film Archive. The program is advertised as a collection of the "best, strangest, and most amazing coming-attraction trailers in the world." @Alamo South Lamar, 10pm.

SPACES

Dexter @Jo's (Downtown), 8pm.

The Walking Dead @Elysium, 8pm.

MONDAY 10

★ **Apocalypse Now (1979)** See p.73.

Bad Santa (2003) @Paramount, 7pm. (See Sunday.)

The Big Lebowski Quote-Along (1998) (R, 117 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo South Lamar, 10pm.

★ **Head (1968)** D: Bob Rafelson; with Peter Turk, Davy Jones, Micky Dolenz, Michael Nesmith, Annette Funicello, Timothy Carey. (G, 86 min.) **Music Monday.** The Monkees overstepped in a most fascinating manner during their jump from the little screen to the big. Rafelson and co-conceptualist Nicholson did for the Monkees what Richard Lester did for the Beatles with *A Hard Day's Night* and *Help!*, creating a wacked-out, aimless universe that constantly riffs on popular culture. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 10:30pm.

★ **Mauvais Sang (1986)** See p.73.

Mystery Preview Master Pancake Theater. Mystery mocking. @Alamo Village, 7pm.

★ **National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989)** @Flix Brehouse, 7:20pm; Paramount, 9pm. (See Sunday.)

★ **Psycho (1960)** See p.75.

HOLIDAY FILMS

for

the NAUGHTY & THE Nice



DECEMBER 09-10

DECEMBER 12-13

NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CHRISTMAS VACATION
SUN (12/9) 7:00PM MON (12/10) 9:00PM

HOLIDAY INN
WED (12/12) 7:00PM THU (12/13) 9:30PM

BAD SANTA
SUN (12/9) 9:05PM MON (12/10) 7:00PM

WHITE CHRISTMAS
WED (12/12) 9:10PM THU (12/13) 7:00PM

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TUESDAY 11

★ **Cymru Fach (2008)** D: Gruffydd Davies; with Lowri Gwynne, Gareth Pierce. (NR, 73 min.) **Austin Film Society: Wales on Screen.** A compendium of morality tales about sexual mores, this film highlights the beauty and eccentricity of the Welsh language. @Alamo South Lamar, 7pm.

★ **Deathdream (1974)** D: Bob Clark; with John Marley. (PG, 88 min.) **Terror Tuesday.** A soldier's corpse returns from Vietnam more bloodthirsty than ever. @Alamo Ritz, 10:15pm.

★ **Love Actually (2003)** D: Richard Curtis; with Hugh Grant, Emma Thompson. (R, 135 min.) **Girlie Night.** This merry skein of loves lost and found is set in holiday-season London. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

★ **Psycho (1960)** See p.75.

Retro TV Party: TGIF Holiday Show Action Pack. Christmas episodes from sitcoms that aired on TV on Friday nights in the Nineties inspire holiday joy. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7pm.

Trapped in the Closet: The R. Kelly Sing-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Lake Creek, 7pm.

SPACES

Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (2012) D: Eric Darnell, Tom McGrath and Conrad Vernon; with the voices of Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer, Jada Pinkett Smith, Martin Short. (PG, 85 min.) **Austin Public Library: Family Movie Night.** Free. (*) @Twin Oaks Branch Library, 6:30pm.

★ **Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale (2010)** D: Jalmari Helander; with Onni Tommila. (R, 80 min.) **Austin Public Library: Weeknight Cinema - Frozen Folktales.** Quite the opposite of treacly holiday fare, this European import features one very bad Santa. (*) @Milwood Branch Library, 6:30pm.

★ **The Structure of Crystal (1969)** D: Krzysztof Zanussi; with Andrzej Zarniecki, Jan Myslowicz. (NR, 74 min.) **Austin Public Library: Polish Films.** Two former university friends who have taken different paths in life try to reconnect with each other. @Howson Branch Library, 7pm.

WEDNESDAY 12

★ **Chariots of Fire (1981)** D: Hugh Hudson; with Ben Cross, Ian, Charleson, John Gielgud. (PG, 124 min.) **TeamFX.** The screening of this Oscar-winner is a benefit for the Austin Children's Center. Julie Gillis and Christopher Lucas will emcee the event. Make reservations and donations at www.tugg.com/events/2218. @Alamo South Lamar, 6:30pm.

★ **The Dirty Outlaws (1967)** D: Franco Rossetti; with Andrea Giordana, Rosemary Dexter, Franco Giornelli. (R, 103 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** Spaghetti Western. @Alamo Ritz, 10:45pm.

★ **Elf Quote-Along (2003) Action Pack.** @Alamo Lake Creek, 7pm. (See Thursday, 12/6.)

★ **Holiday Inn (1942)** D: Mark Sandrich; with Bing Crosby, Fred Astaire, Marjorie Reynolds, Virginia Dale. (NR, 100 min.) In this holiday chestnut, a singer and a hoover vie for a girl's attention. @Paramount, 7pm.

★ **Home Alone (1990) Cinemark Classics.** @Tinseltown South, Tinseltown North, Hill Country Galleria, 2, 7. (See Sunday.)

★ **Lifeforce (1985) 70mm at the Ritz.** @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Saturday.)

★ **Love Actually (2003) Girlie Night.** @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7pm. (See Tuesday.)

★ **Psycho (1960)** See p.75.

★ **Radio Unnameable (2012) AFS Doc Nights.** See p.72.

★ **Sushi: The Global Catch (2011)** D: Mark Hall. (NR, 75 min.) **Austin Sierra Club.** The history, economy, ecology, and future of this popular food item are explored in this documentary. The director will be in attendance for a Q&A. Reserve tickets at www.tugg.com/events/2242. @Alamo South Lamar, 7:30pm.

★ **White Christmas (1954)** D: Michael Curtiz; with Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, Vera-Ellen. (NR, 120 min.) Whether you're a seasoned regular or a newbie, this Irving Berlin holiday classic about four entertainers falling in love and saving a Vermont inn is essential seasonal froth. @Paramount, 9:10pm.

THURSDAY 13

★ **Christmas Pops Sing-Along Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 10pm. (See Thursday, 12/6.)

★ **Elf Quote-Along (2003) Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 6:30pm. (See Thursday, 12/6.)

★ **Gremlins (1984) Big Screen Classics.** @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7pm. (See Thursday, 12/6.)

★ **Holiday Inn (1942)** @Paramount, 9:30pm. (See Wednesday.)

★ **Psycho (1960)** See p.75.

★ **White Christmas (1954)** @Paramount, 7pm. (See Wednesday.)

SPACES

★ **I Am (2011)** D: Tom Shadyac. (NR, 76 min.) **Workers Defense Project.** In this personal documentary, the director of *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*, explores the intersection of science and spirituality. (*) @5604 Manor, 7pm.

★ **Things To Come (1936)** See p.75.

IMAX SEE SHOWTIMES FOR SCHEDULE

★ **Rocky Mountain Express (2011)** D: Stephen Low. (NR, 45 min.) Giant IMAX cameras were strapped to a 1930s steam engine from the Canadian Pacific Railway to follow its trek through the Rockies, from Vancouver to Calgary.

★ **Skyfall (2012)** D: Sam Mendes; with Daniel Craig. (PG-13, 143 min.) See First Runs section for review.

★ **Texas: The Big Picture (2003)** D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.) Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as the state is shown to be a land capable of producing everything from grapefruit to microchips.

★ **To the Arctic 3D (2012)** D: Greg MacGillivray; narrated by Meryl Streep. (G, 40 min.) Immense glaciers and melting ice must be navigated by a mother polar bear and her two 7-month-old cubs in this intimate 3-D documentary filmed at the top of the world.

OFFSCREEN

★ **501 Studios: Soundstage + HD Theatre** 501 Studios' soundstage in Downtown Austin doubles as a theatre - with a Sony Qualia HD projector, a 28-foot screen, 180 (removable) seats, a vintage popcorn machine, and affordable rates. Need a venue for premieres, wrap parties, or concerts/plays/performances featuring projection? This could be the place. It's also available as a soundstage or green screen. 485-3000. www.501studios.com.

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★ **Call to Filmmakers: Faces of Austin 2013** The city of Austin invites all Austin-area filmmakers to submit their work reflecting the diverse faces, voices, and experiences of our city. Selected films will have a premiere screening during the SXSW Film Conference Community Screenings in March 2013 and will be shown at Austin City Hall, on Channel 6, on the city website, and at special screenings throughout the year. See website for details. Deadline: Jan. 15. 974-7700. www.austintexas.gov/department/faces-austin.

★ **Screen It Like You Mean It** Austin Studios has a state-of-the-art screening room, which is available to the public on a rental basis. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, a surround-sound system, and supports Super 35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Accessibility, restrooms - the works. It also has a break room suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. 322-0145. www.austinstudios.org.

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 Dec. 14 issue is Monday, Dec. 10.** 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):

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The Eastern Sea's First Christmas

The water's been choppy for the Eastern Sea this year.

The Austin eightpiece finally birthed its seemingly cursed sophomore album, *Plague*, this summer, and, after a cathartic home base celebration that sold out the inside room at Stubb's, the group took off on a whirlwind national tour.

As 2012 winds down with spiked eggnog and warm December breezes, the Eastern Sea fires off a new full-length, *First Christmas*. Talk about getting in the spirit.

"The year was tough, but a Christmas album seemed like a great way to end it," chuckles frontman and principal composer Matt Hines, noting that the group's third album combines holiday standards with what the band calls "soon-to-be classics" on nine tracks. "We took some favorites we thought we could re-create

well, then took the spirit of those to create our own."

First Christmas finds the band swapping darker folk-pop for jollier fare. Not that the band abandons its signature sound.

"We tried to make our mark on the songs, which can be difficult with classics, but songs like 'Walking in the Air' meshed with our aesthetic," explains Hines.

After a kickoff at the Parish Saturday night, the band hits the road to spread the holiday cheer.

"We hope people get to hear some of their favorite Christmas tunes, and we hope they love what we thought emulated the spirit of Christmas."

— Abby Johnston

The Parish, Saturday 8
Graham Wilkinson opens

MIKE COOLEY

Hole in the Wall, Thursday 6 & Friday 7

Half the main songwriting duo behind Georgia's Drive-By Truckers, Mike Cooley's long been reluctant to go it alone, but this two-night run marks his Austin solo debut. In the early days, the Hole served as the Truckers' favorite local pit stop, so it's also a homecoming. Cooley's new live LP, *The Fool on Every Corner*, alternates between rowdy and sentimental, just like the characters in his songs. Sure to be lots of DBT favorites. See interview on the Earache! blog. — Jim Caligiuri

ODD FUTURE/TRASH TALK *Emo's East/Red 7, Friday 7*

Lost in the riots and recklessness now synonymous with the Odd Future party bus is the degree to which Tyler, the Creator and his Cali cronies held hip-hop in a death grip in 2010, releasing a string of mixtapes that shook the industry and ushered in a new era of juvenile shock rap. This spring's *OF Tape Vol. 2* lacks the luster of Tyler's "French!" or Earl Sweatshirt's "Luper," but it's still enough to elicit wide-eyed amazement. Across the river, punk thrashers and OF labelmates Trash Talk blow out the speaker box via October's 119. — Chase Hoffberger

THE MEDITATIONS

Flamingo Cantina, Saturday 8

Since forming in 1974, the Meditations have been among the

most revered of Jamaica's vocal harmony groups. So impressed was Bob Marley that he recruited the trio to back him on "Rastaman Live Up!," "Blackman Redemption," and "Punky Reggae Party." They've also accompanied Jimmy Cliff and Gregory Isaacs. Regular visitors to Austin since the riddim-filled nights of Liberty Lunch, the Meditations always complement deep roots reggae with velvet harmonies.

— Jay Trachtenberg

HELL'S BELLES

Longbranch Inn, Saturday 8

Hell's Belles, a partially Austin-based, all-female AC/DC tribute, captures the essential energy of Australia's infamous power chord enthusiasts. Adrian Conner of Adrian & the Sickness fame dons a school-girl outfit and leads the charge as Angus Young, who once commended the Belles as his favorite self-tribute. Saturday night at the Longbranch comes with a guaranteed high-energy opening set of strung-out blues punk from the Dicks-related El Pathos.

— Kevin Curtin

JANIS IAN

One World Theatre, Monday 10

Known for her groundbreaking Sixties hit "Society's Child," and then almost a decade later for the Grammy-winning "At Seventeen," Janis Ian grew into a champion songwriter. Her ability to capture the universal in song makes the New York folkie the envy of pupils and followers half her

age. Ian's recent work as an author has garnered her notoriety, both for her autobiography (newly available in paperback) and in the realm of science fiction.

— Jim Caligiuri

PAPER CUTS: THE PRESERVATION

Palm Door, Tuesday 11

The whole remains greater than the sum of its parts for this local Dr. Dog-inspired sextet that boasts three lead singers, two Matteolis (longtime Weary Boy Mario and crooning wife Cayce), and one adventurous debut LP in last October's *Two Sisters*. Recently, the band entrenched itself within Danny Reisch's East Austin studio, to finalize another EP, much of which you'll hear played live at the *Chronicle's* free Paper Cuts series. RSVP at austinchronicle.com/paper-cuts.

— Chase Hoffberger

BLOC PARTY

Emo's East, Wednesday 12

British quartet Bloc Party's been in more video games than it's had albums. Fourth disc, *Four*, retains the same drama. Guitars and drums wrapped up in surgical strikes, frontman Kele Okereke's a bundle of nerves; you might even catch a banjo or two. It's rare that big-ticket indie rock survives hiatus, ego, and mediocre solo projects, but Bloc Party emerges intact. Upstart indie poppers the Chevin open. You get the feeling the Leeds fourpiece grew up wanting to be like Bloc Party. — Luke Winkie

ARMADILLO CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: RUTHIE FOSTER/ RAY WYLIE HUBBARD

Palmer Events Center, Wednesday 12/Thursday 13

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas once 900 Barton Springs Rd. gets Bazaar. From Dec. 12 through Dec. 24, three sets a day accompany weird, wacky, and wondrous holiday consumption, kicking off with two locals who had a fruitful 2012. Roots powerhouse Ruthie Foster *Let It Burn*, while outlaw Ray Wylie Hubbard sang *The Grifter's Hymnal*. Fiddle phenom Ruby Jane (noon) and singer-songwriter-soulman Kalu James (3:30pm) precede the former. Headliners 8pm, \$8.

— Raoul Hernandez

POWELL ST. JOHN

Sahara Lounge, Thursday 13

Powell St. John was well-established here by the Sixties, with songs recorded by Janis Joplin and the 13th Floor Elevators, before moving to California and forming Mother Earth with Tracy Nelson. With more recent recordings like *Right Track Now* in 2005, St. John still mines the rich veins of Texas music with golden elements of rock, folk, blues, and psych. Tons of guests, including Charlie Prichard, Maryann Price, and Dan & Christy Foster. — Margaret Moser

soundcheck

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RALPH 'SOUL' JACKSON

Continental Club, Friday 7

'Bama-born Muscle Shoals find finally debuts *The Alabama Love Man*.

SOAK REUNION

Red Eyed Fly, Friday 7

Nineties major label alt.rock industrialists regroup at home venue.

THE WELL

Red 7, Saturday 8

Homegrown post-Sabbath doom with Ssserpentsss, Markov, and Vegatron.

UNKNOWN RELATIVES LP RELEASE

Hotel Vegas, Saturday 8

Feral ATX garage sturm/drang with boffo support from Elvis, Grape St., etc.

OH NO OH MY, THE LAUGHING, THE PRESERVATION

Swan Dive, Saturday 8

Red River pop triple stack.

BROWNOUT/ WHISKEY SHIVERS

Frank/White Horse, Saturday 8

River City smack-down: Latin guitar blaze (two sets) or wild countrybilly?

A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

Antone's, Sunday 9

Austin Chamber Music Center presents Vince Guaraldi bop, 4 & 6pm.

SUSAN TORRES Y CONJUNTO CLEMENCIA

Scoot Inn, Tuesday 11

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SONS OF FATHERS

Poodie's, Tuesday 11

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URANIUM SAVAGES

Gypsy Lounge, Wednesday 12

Cap City Pythons turn 38, free.

TED RUSSELL KAMP

Continental Club, Thursday 13

Shooter Jennings' bassist and SoCal country whisperer, 10pm.

in-stores:

Friday: **Space Camp Death Squad, Ryan Cownie, Teenage Cave Girl, Explosion Horse**, Trailer Space, 7pm; Saturday: **Scott Riegel**, Antone's Records, 3pm; **Cheapo's Last Dance**, with **Modern Don Juans, the Mighty Land Shark, Ruby Dee & the Snakehandlers, the Go-Wows, and the Ugly Beats**, Cheapo Records, 3-8pm; the **Violet Crowns, Drider, Cabra**, Trailer Space, 7pm; Wednesday: **BDRR, Jezebeam, Aeolus, Aunts Analog, Perpetual Care**, Trailer Space, 7pm; Thursday: **Matt Needles Presents a Hardcore Show**, Trailer Space, 7pm

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Sa. 12/8 **OUTSIDE** So It Is Written, Jimmy Jet's TV Set, Our Home The Sun, Dead Rock Stars, R Father & The Dashing Bastards

LOUNGE Estelline, The Last Ones

Su. 12/9 **OUTSIDE** B-Movie Victims, The Transporters, Atlas Versus, Six Points Of View

Mo. 12/10 **LOUNGE** Brian Wolff, Right Honey, J Ray, Chemical Grove

Tu. 12/11 **OUTSIDE** Inch Of Dark, The Wolf Bit Mark, Nevarwas

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RED 7, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100
RED EYED FLY, 715 Red River, 474-1084
RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132
ROADHOUSE, 1103 Wonder St., Round Rock, 512/218-0813
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE, 11800 N. Lamar #6, 835-2414
RUSTY'S, 405 E. Seventh, 482-9002
RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, 107 W. Sixth, 477-7884
THE SAHARA LOUNGE, 1413 Webberville Rd., 927-0700
SAM'S BBQ, 2000 E. 12th, 478-0378
SAM'S TOWN POINT, 2115 Allred, 282-0083
SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR, 5900 Slaughter #400, 288-9994
SAXON PUB, 1320 S. Lamar, 448-2552
SCHOLZ GARTEN, 1607 San Jacinto, 751-5650
THE SCOOT INN, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200
SFC FARMERS' MARKET AT SUNSET VALLEY, 3200 Jones, 236-0074
SFC FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN, Fourth & Guadalupe, 236-0074
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL, 9012 Research Ste. C-1, 380-9443
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS CEDAR PARK, 601 E. Whitestone, Cedar Park, 512/260-2060
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS NORTH, 11416 RR 620 N., 401-2060
SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017
SPIDER HOUSE 29TH ST. BALLROOM, 2906 Fruth, 480-9562
ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 14311 Wells Port Dr., 251-0698
THE STAGE ON SIXTH, 508 E. Sixth, 614-1540
STATE CAPITOL ROTUNDA, 11th & Congress,
STRANGE BREW AUSTIN COFFEE, 5326 Manchaca Rd., 828-7636
STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341
SWAN DIVE, 615 Red River, 994-2819
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
TEXAS MIST, 1115 Bastrop Hwy., 385-3553
TEXAS MUSIC THEATER, 120 E. San Antonio St., San Marcos, 512/667-7216
THE THIRSTY NICKEL, 325 E. Sixth, 473-8891
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
TOM'S TABOOERY, 2928 Guadalupe #102, 479-7337
TRAILER SPACE RECORDS, 1401-A Rosewood, 524-1445
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary St., San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
UNCLE BILLY'S ROOFTOP ON LAKE TRAVIS, 6550-B Comanche Trail #201, 266-0111
VARSITY BAR, 2324 Guadalupe, 795-8888
VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 291-6211
VOLSTEAD LOUNGE, 1500 E. Sixth, 680-0532
WAR HORSE, 209 W. Fifth, Ste. B, 685-1962
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WEIRDOS, 12408 MoPac N., 291-6703
WHIP IN, 1950 S. I-35, 442-5337
THE WHITE HORSE, 500 Comal, 502-4637
Z'TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355

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 Tickets & Information: acl-live.com • Waterloo Records • 8774FLY TIX
 ACL Live Box Office: 310 Willie Nelson Blvd, 78701 • Mon-Fri, 10-3pm

TICKETS ON SALE FRIDAY, 10AM>

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 MEMBERS OF HIS ORIGINAL TOURING BAND
 AND ACCOMPANYING STRING SECTIONS
 ALL-STAR TRIBUTE ALBUM
 AVAILABLE EARLY 2013
 JOHN.DENVER.COM
FEB 21

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Bryan ADAMS
 The Bare Bones
 Tour
SAT DEC 15

ROBERT EARL KEEN'S MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE FAM-O-LEE
 SPECIAL GUEST
 TERRI HENDRIX
 w/ LLOYD MAINES
SAT DEC 22

toadies
FRI DEC 28

RECOLLECTIONS & REVELRY AN EVENING WITH ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO BAND & GUESTS
SAT DEC 29

Willie & Friends: Family New Year!
 w/ THE MAVERICKS - 12/30
 w/ IRON & WINE - 12/31
DEC 30-31

GREGG ALLMAN & JOHN HIATT
 w/ THE ROYAL SOUTHERN BROTHERHOOD
JAN 2

KEANE
JAN 17

PACHANGA FEST PRESENTS LOS LOBOS ACOUSTIC EN VIVO
FRI, JAN 18

DIANA ROSS
JAN 30

Funky Meters
SAT, FEB 9

MATCHBOX TWENTY
MAR 25

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The WHITE HORSE

5TH & COMAL MON-SUN 2PM-2AM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6
HH W/THE GEOFF UNION BAND: 7P
EARLE POOLE BALL: 10P MIKE & THE MOONPIES: 12A

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7
HH W/AUSTIN STEAMERS: 7P
COUNTRY WILLIE: 10P ROGER WALLACE: 12A

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8
2STEP LESSONS: 6P JOSH LIGHTNIN & THE LONESTAR DRIFTERS: 7P LONESOME HEROES: 10P
WILD BILL'S COUNTRY CHRISTMAS PLAY: 11P
WHISKEY SHIVERS: 12A

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9
WHITE HORSE 1 YR ANNIVERSARY!!!
CONJUNTO LOS PINKYS: 5P LOVES IT!: 9P
URBAN ACHIEVERS BRASS BAND: 11P

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10
HH W/CARSON MCHONE: 7P ROLLFAST RAMBLERS: 8P
JIM STRINGER & THE AM BAND: 10P BO PORTER: 12A

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11
HH W/SILAS LOWE: 7P FINGERPISTOL: 10P MRS. GLASS: 12A

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12
HH W/ROBERT ALLAN CALDWELL: 7P JOHN EVANS: 10P
LEO RONDEAU: 12A

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SAUCE DJ JERICHO

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

DYSFUNKSHUN JUNKSHUN DJ KB

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

ADAM RODGERS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

CARSON ALEXANDER

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

SALSA NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

SOUND REVEL

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

ROCKHARD ATX DJ BLUNT FORCE


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Antone's AUSTIN, TEXAS

12/10 BLUE MONDAY W/ DEREK O'BRIEN & SHUFFLE UP AND DEAL

THU 6 DEC



ZACH WEBER
AUSTIN HEAT
DOORS: 8PM

SUITE 709



FRIDAY DECEMBER 7, 2012
TJE AUSTIN | BEN BAXTER | GOOD SHIVE LOW
DOORS: 8PM

SAT 8 DEC



FUNKY BATZ HOLIDAY BASH W/ JOE KROWN TRIO
FEATURING
WALTER "WOLFMAN" WASHINGTON,
THE REVIVALISTS,
UNCLE BRUNO
DOORS: 8PM

SUN 9 DEC

ANTONE'S & AUSTIN CHAMBER MUSIC CENTER PRESENT:


A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS
THE MUSIC OF VINCE GUARALDI
DOORS: 3 & 5:30PM

TUE 11 DEC



WHISKEY SHIVERS
WILD CHILD,
HELLO WHEELS,
THE BLUEBIRD SPECIALS,
KATIE PENGRA
DOORS: 7PM

ANTONE'S & HAAM PRESENTS:



2ND ANNUAL HOLIDAY HAAM JAM CD RELEASE PARTY
DOORS: 7PM

DEC. 14 - RYAN BEAVER, BRIAN KEANE, ERIK LARSON & PEACEMAKER // DEC. 18 - WHISKEY SHIVERS, MIKE & THE MOONPIES, WILD BILL'S COUNTRY CHRISTMAS // DEC. 20 - COWBOY MOUTH // JAN. 17 - HEARTLESS BASTARDS (C3CONCERTS.COM) // JAN. 25 - QUIET COMPANY CD RELEASE W/ WILD CHILD, TELEGRAPH CANYON AND MAGNOLIA SONS (C3CONCERTS.COM) // FEB. 22 - OLD 97'S TOO FAR TO CARE TOUR W/ SALIM NOURALLAH AND OPENING SOLO SET BY RHETT MILLER (C3CONCERTS.COM)

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1500 E. 6TH STREET

THUR. 6th

10:45PM SANTA CRAWL!!!

FRI. 7th

10PM HUNDRED VISIONS
THE WOLF BOP ENGLISH

SAT. 8th

8PM UNKNOWN RELATIVES
(RECORD RELEASE PARTY)
ELVIS SHIVERY SHAKES
GRAPE ST. DEEP SPACE
FREE HOT DOGS & BURGERS! 18+

SUN. 9th

1-9PM ROCK N ROLL MALL
HEAVY METAL XMAS
THE WELL SWEAT LODGE ANCIENT WISDOM

5PM BLOOD THUNDER MUSTARD!
BLOODY SABBATH BBQ
NO COVER! FREE FOOD!

10PM **YGMFU**
ROCK N ROLL DISCO & KARAOKE
\$1 DRINKS TIL MIDNIGHT!!
WITH DJs Bad Ass Bitches

TUE. 11th

10PM WILL COPE & FRIENDS

WED. 12th

10PM MOTEL BALL BAND
TIJUANA BIBLE FIRST CIRCUIT
DJ AARON BLOUNT

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BUTCHER BEAR, 4TH WALL, KID SLICE, HOSO D
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12/21 AUTO BODY'S CHRISTMAPOCALYPSE
W/ LEARNING SECRETS + SPECIAL GUEST

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

DOORS @ 8PM: ODD FUTURE'S TEXAS TOUR

ODD FUTURE

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

DISCO DONNIE & NIGHTCULTURE PRESENT:

DOORS @ 9PM: **TRITONAL**
SUPER 8 & TAB • KYAU & ALBERT • WILL HOLLAND

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

DOORS @ 9PM: 101X INDEPENDENT WORKFORCE
BLOC PARTY • THE CHEVIN
X-MAS:
C3CONCERTS.COM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

DOORS @ 8PM: **THE DIGITAL WILD**
BIPOLAR BEARS • MORE BANDS TBA

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

DOORS @ 9PM:
MARINA AND THE DIAMONDS
ICONA POP C3CONCERTS.COM

COMING SOON: 12/14 KROX X-MAS: SILVERSLURP PICKUPS W/ YOUNGBLOOD HAWK, LAMDYNAMITE - SOLD OUT!
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WILD CHILD • 1/18 LED ZEPPELIN 2 (C3CONCERTS.COM) • 1/23 CALEICO W/ BARHAMAS (C3CONCERTS.COM)
• 1/25 DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS W/ HOUDMOUTH (C3CONCERTS.COM) • 1/26 GETO BOYS • 1/27 BADFISH, A TRIBUTE
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Sun
Dec 9

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11 am

no cover

NORTH ON LAMAR

Sun
Dec 9

Hot Club de Fork

11 am

no cover

Wed
Dec 12

Bracken Hale

7 pm

no cover

Mon
Dec 31

New Years Eve with... Jimmy LaFave

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HAPPY HOUR DAILY 4PM - 8PM
Come try our new wine selections

THURSDAY (12.6)
• Steve Stubblefield (Starlings, TN) 6pm
• Open Mic with Lisa Kettyle 8pm

FRIDAY (12.7)
• Andrew Blanton 6pm
• Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs 7pm
• Will T. Massey 9pm

SATURDAY (12.8)
• Matthew Squires 6pm
• North Point 7pm
• Capital Zen
• Songwriters Night 9pm

SUNDAY (12.9)
• The Stray Bullets 7pm
• The State 9pm

MONDAY (12.10)
• Bottom Dollar String Band 7pm
• The Bluegrass Outfit 9pm

TUESDAY (12.11)
• Seth Sherman 7pm
• Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory 9pm

WEDNESDAY (12.12)
• Suttree 6pm
• Gabe Hascall 8pm
• Paula Aubert 9pm

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DEC 7
BOTTOM HEAVY

DEC 7
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DEC 7
REMMINGTON STEELE
AFTERHOURS: VIBRATIONS //
JASON JENKINS + STEEL GROOVES

DEC 7
BEAT BINGE PRESENTS: NIT GRIT //
BREDE + DJ KOSS + GAMMA

DEC 7
GABRIEL & DRESDEN - MATT LANGE -
JASON JENKINS - ANDREW PARSONS - CHRISTIAN B.
ALL TICKETS TO BENEFIT FOR SEABROOK JONES

103 EAST 5TH STREET
10PM - 2AM. AFTERHOURS 2:30AM - 4:30AM

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CLUB LISTINGS

THURSDAY 06

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE

Johnny Gonzales (5:00)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL

Dean Seltzer

BAR MIRABEAU

Paula Maya (7:00)

BAT BAR

Wrecker Lee (7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB

Kristen Smith (8:00)

BEERLAND

Jack Ruby, Neon Huffa, Grim Nasty, Machete Mike (9:00) 📍

BLIND PIG PUB

John Prather (4:00)

BROKEN SPOKE

Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton (6:00)

CACTUS CAFE

Ruby Jane (8:30) 📍

CAROUSEL LOUNGE

Blue Lou, Asleep in the Desert (7:00)

CEDAR STREET

Eddie Schmidt w/ LynZ Wells (6:00), Fabulous Cherry Bombs (9:00)

CHAIN DRIVE

Attic Ted, Kingdom of Suicide Lovers, Gary Barfitts, Beth Israel, Aurora Plastics Company (10:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE

The Tall Boys (6:00), All Over but the Cryin' Fest w/ Brett Hauser, Victor Holk, Pawnshop Gold (9:00)

CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE

Tony Redman (7:00) 📍

CHUGGIN' MONKEY

Amber Lucille (4:30), Cody Rowe (9:30)

CLUB DE VILLE

Windy Andre, Steamroller

CONTINENTAL CLUB

Gallery: Dan Dyer, Tameca Jones (8:30); In the Club: The Whiskey Sisters (6:30), King Corduroy, Soulhat (10:00)

COPA BAR & GRILL

Salsa & Bachata Lessons, DJ Alvaro (8:30)

DIZZY ROOSTER

John Chavez (6:00), Lloyd Miller (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT

Murphy's Inlaws

DOWN UNDER DELI

Open Mic w/ Bob Sarnataro (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE

James Polk (7:30) 📍

ELEPHANT ROOM

The Jitterbug Vipers (6:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA

Tone Monkeys, Miss Diagnosed, the Inverters, Dark Matter (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEEHOUSE

Starlings (TN) (6:00) 📍, Open Mic w/ Lisa Kettyle (8:00) 📍

FRIENDS

Clay Compania, Eric Tessmer (7:00)

FRONTIER BAR

Prohibition Repeal Party w/ Bailey Moore, Susquehanna Hat Company, That Damned Band

GIDDY UPS

Open Mic w/ Greg Duffy (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON

Alvin Crow (9:00)

GUERO'S TACO BAR

Bobby Fuentes (6:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL

Mike Cooley (9:00) 📍

HOLY MOUNTAIN

Leopold & His Fiction

HOTEL VEGAS

Graham Wilkinson (7:00)

KICK BUTT COFFEE

Open Mic w/ Ernie B. (7:00) 📍

LAMBERTS

Yellow Red Sparks, ZZ Ward (9:00) 📍

LUCKY LOUNGE

Ian McLagan & the Bump Band, Stone Rollers (6:00)

MIMI'S CAFE

Kim Kafka, Kim Kafka (6:30)

MOHAWK

Waves Seminar w/ Brett Orrison (5:00); Maryann, Other Lovers LP Release (9:00) 📍

MONKEY NEST

Trio del Rio (8:00)

ND AT 501 STUDIOS

Abstract Rude, Blueprint, the Kleenz (8:00) 📍

ROAD SHOWS

December

THU 6

Jack Ruby, Beerland
Mike Cooley, Hole in the Wall

ZZ Ward, Yellow Red Sparks, Lamberts

Maryann, Mohawk
Blueprint, Abstract Rude, ND at 501 Studios

Jake Flores, Red 7
Steve Poltz, Saxon Pub

Good Shive Low, Antone's
Math the Band, Beerland

Ralph "Soul" Jackson, the Saucerians, Continental Club

Odd Future, Emo's East
The Texas Blue Dots, Ginny's Little Longhorn Saloon

Cody Canada, Gruene Hall
Randy Tate, Headhunters

Mike Cooley, Hole in the Wall
Matthew & the Arrogant Sea, ND at 501 Studios

Spyro Gyra, One World Theatre
Odd Future, Trash Talk, Red 7

Beth Wood, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
New York City Queens, Triple Crown

SAT 8

Joe Krown Trio w/ Walter "Wolfman" Washington, the Revivalists, Antone's

Bill Bailey & the Wild Ones, Carousel Lounge

Modern Don Juans, Cheapo Discs

Adam Johnson, Cheatham Street Warehouse

Christopher Anton, Iris, Echo Over Voices, Elysium

Super 8 & Tab, Will Holland, Emo's East

The Meditations, Flamingo Cantina

Blackstone Rangers, Frontier Bar

Ted Russell Kamp, Gruene Hall

G-Eazy, Holy Mountain
Deep Space, Hotel Vegas
Power Trip, Mohawk
Cabra, Trailer Space Records

SUN 9

Kirk Whalum, Keiko Matsui, Amber Bullock, One World Theatre

MON 10

Boyfrndz, Mohawk
Janis Ian, One World Theatre

TUE 11

Dwight Smith, Halcyon
Tyler Guthrie, Lucky Lounge
Bomb the Music Industry, Mohawk

WED 12

Bloc Party, the Chevin, Emo's East

HOD, Red 7
Dee Purkeypale, the Sahara Lounge

THU 13

First Circuit, Matthew & the Arrogant Sea, the Blackheart

Nori, Cactus Cafe
James Arthur's Manhunt, Chain Drive

Ted Russell Kamp, Continental Club

Eli Young Band, JT Hodges, Emo's East

The Cerny Brothers, Lamberts

Turbo Fruits, Mohawk
Powell St. John, the Sahara Lounge

The Reds, Sherlock's Baker St. Pub & Grill

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.

SIDESHOW

Tattoo AND Piercing

GRAND RE-OPENING PARTY

THIS FRIDAY DEC. 7TH

STARTS AT 8PM

COMPLIMENTARY BEER, PIZZA AND LIVE MUSIC

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SAT JAN 26
DWEEZIL ZAPPA PLAYS ZAPPA
FRONTIER TOWN & THE ZAPPA FAMILY TRIBE

SAT FEB 9
ALISA & SPECIAL SAUCE
WITH SWEAR AND SHAKE

SAT FEB 16
LOTUS
WITH MOON HOCH

THU FEB 21
Rebellion
WINTER GREENS TOUR 2013
J BOOG HOT RAIN
ON SALE FRI DEC 7 @10AM

TUE FEB 26
TAME IMPALA
ON SALE FRI DEC 7 @10AM

WED FEB 27
DROCKICK MURPHY'S
ON SALE FRI DEC 7 @10AM

THU FEB 28
BIG GIGANTIC
ON SALE FRI DEC 7 @10AM

FRI MAR 1
COHEED AND CAMBRIA
BETWEEN THE BURIED AND ME
RUSSIAN CIRCLES
ON SALE FRI DEC 7 @10AM

FRI & SAT MAR 29 & 30
DWAYNE YOUNG
ON SALE FRI DEC 7 @10AM

IN THE CLUB

THU DEC 6 DOORS 9PM
DEADEYE
FRI DEC 7 DOORS 9PM
PAPER ROUTE
WITH THE LENNINGS
SAT DEC 8 DOORS 9PM
MICE AND RIFLES
WITH LITTLE RADAR AND MY GOLDEN CALF
MON DEC 10 DOORS 8PM
LITTLE HURRICANE
WED DEC 12 DOORS 8PM
FATBACK CIRCUS
WITH SUPERLITEBIKE AND SOUR BRIDGES
FRI DEC 14 DOORS 9PM
THE MASTERSONS
WITH MAX GOMEZ
SUN DEC 16 DOORS 8PM
MY JERUSALEM WITH FRANK SMITH

MON DEC 17 DOORS 8PM
KINKY
WITH MEXICAN DUBWISER
THU DEC 20 DOORS 6PM
SONGSEED'S AUSTIN MUSIC
SHOWCASE - HOLIDAY BENEFIT
FOR GROUNDED IN MUSIC
FRI DEC 21 DOORS 9PM
O CONQUEROR
WITH SOUTHBOUND DRIVE
AND THE CHORDEROVS
SAT DEC 22 DOORS 9PM
DON CHANI
THU DEC 27 DOORS 9PM
ROYAL TEETH
MON DEC 31 DOORS 9PM
NYE: T BIRD & THE BREAKS
WITH HENRY + THE INVISIBLES
COMPLIMENTARY BUFFET AND CHAMPAGNE TOAST!

SUN JAN 20 DOORS 6:30PM
ACTION ITEM
WITH BEFORE YOU EXIT,
PARADISE FEARS, HELLO HIGHWAY
AND TUCKER JAMESON
WED JAN 23 DOORS 9PM
THE WHIGS
SAT JAN 26 DOORS 9PM
PERPETUAL GROOVE
MON JAN 28 DOORS 8PM
AUGUSTANA (ACOUSTIC)
WITH LAUREN SHERA
SAT FEB 23 DOORS 9PM
JUKEBOX THE GHOST
WITH MATT POND
AND LIGHTHOUSE & THE WHALER
SUN FEB 24 DOORS 8PM
ELECTRIC SIX

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CHOSEN ONE OF "AMERICA'S BEST BARS" IN PLAYBOY'S GUIDE TO AMERICA'S GREATEST BARS IN 2000 AND AGAIN IN 2010!

COMING SOON...
12/14 AND 12/16 **PATTY GRIFFIN SOLD OUT**
12/21 **25TH ANNIVERSARY WEEK** W/ THRU COBRAS • RELATIVES • DALE WATSON
12/31 JONES FAMILY • SOULHAT • AND MORE!

THURS DEC 6 6:30PM NO COVER
WHISKEY SISTERS
12AM **SOULHAT**
10PM **KING CORDUROY**
FRIDAY DEC 7 H. H. 6:30PM THE LEGENDARY **BLUES SPECIALISTS**
BAD TRIP PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
12AM **RALPH "SOUL" JACKSON**
10PM **THE SAUCERIANS**
MATINEE 3PM NO COVER **REDD VOLKAERT**
11:15PM **DALE WATSON & HIS LONE STARS**
9:30PM **COWBOY DAVE BAND**
SUNDAY DEC 9 MATINEE 3PM NO COVER **PLANET CASPER JUNIOR BROWN AND THE LOVELY TANYA RAE**
7:30PM **HEYBALE** WITH **REDD VOLKAERT, EARL POOLE BALL PLUS DALLAS WAYNE** 10:30PM

MONDAY DEC 10 HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM NO COVER **PETERSON BROTHERS**
10:45PM **DALE WATSON & HIS LONE STARS**
HAPPY HOUR 7PM TUESDAY DEC 11 **TONI PRICE**
12AM **SUPER BARFIELD**
10PM **THE TYRANT OF TX FUNK**
10PM **SPEEDY SPARKS**
DENNY FREEMAN, JOHN X REED AND RODNEY CRAIG
WEDNESDAY DEC 12 HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM NO COVER **JITTERBUG VIPERS**
12AM **JAMES McMURTRY**
10PM **BEAVER NELSON**
THURSDAY DEC 13 HAPPY HOUR NO COVER **WHISKEY SISTERS**
12AM **THE PRESERVATION**
10PM **TED RUSSELL KAMP**
H. H. 6:30PM THE LEGENDARY **BLUES SPECIALISTS**
FRIDAY DEC 14 12AM **LIL' BAND O GOLD**
10PM **JUNGLE ROCKERS**
MATINEE 3PM NO COVER **REDD VOLKAERT**
DOORS 3PM **SOULHAT**
12AM **LOU ANN BARTON**
10:30PM **PATTY GRIFFIN SOLD OUT**
8PM **DRIVER**

UPSTAIRS IN THE GALLERY
- THU 10:30-8:30 **TAMECA JONES DAN DYER**
FRI & SAT 10:30 **MIKE FLANIGIN TRIO**
FRI W/ JOHNNY MOELLER & FROSTY
SAT W/ DENNY FREEMAN & FROSTY
SUN 10:30 **DUPREE** W/ MIKE FLANIGIN, JAKE LANGLEY & KYLE "POPS" THOMPSON
FRI 8:30 **ROBERT KRAFT**
SAT 8:30 **SCARLETT OLSON**
SUN 8:30 **JAMES ROBINSON**

GALLERY OPENS AT 8:00PM
- MON 10:30-8:30 **MARSHALL HOOD BAND**
8:30 **CHURCH ON MONDAY**
ELIAS HASLANGER & DR. JAMES POLK AND JAKE LANGLEY
- TUE 10:30-8:30 **EPHRAIM OWENS EXPERIENCE**
8:30 **JAMES McMURTRY**
- WED 10:30-8:30 **TRUBE, FARRELL, SNIZ**
8:30 **BARBARA K**
HECTOR MUNOZ & MIKE HARDWICK

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CLUB LISTINGS

FROM THURSDAY

NEWORLEDELI Sue Young, Bradley Kopp, Rusty Nelson
ONE 2 ONE BAR Harry Bodine, Progress, Dahebegebees (7:00)
OPA! Doug Pegg (7:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Jordan Mitchell (5:00); Down Home, Jerry Kirk (7:00) **A**
RED 7 Jake Flores Spite Club **R**
ROADHOUSE Mojo Jam Session
RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Jeff Lofton Trio (7:00)
THE SAHARA LOUNGE Chavez do Mar, Chesterfield, Candiland (7:00)
SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Jackie Venson, Andrew Venson (6:30)
SAXON PUB Eightysixxed (6:30), Steve Poltz, Chad Sullins (9:00) **R**
SCHOLZ GARTEN The Cornell Hurd Band (6:00) **A**
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL The Stars
SPEAKEASY The Vurdicit (9:00)
THE STAGE ON SIXTH Jonny Gray (9:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic
THE THIRSTY NICKEL Mike V. Trio (4:30), Lloyd Miller (8:30)
TOM'S TABOOLEY Classical Thursday w/ Lauren Gould, Kelly Waddle (7:30) **A**
TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Pharoahs, the Men (7:00) **A**
TRIPLE CROWN Matthew Martin Cain (6:00); Booth, Language Room, Hope & Stay (9:00)
VOLSTEAD LOUNGE The Shake (10:00)
WAR HORSE Dennis Jay, Tom Ben Lindley & the Law, Opie Hendrix (7:00)
Z'TEJAS The Brew (6:00)

FRIDAY

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (5:00)
ANDERSON MILL TAVERN J.T. Coldfire
ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE The Chevelles **A**
ANTONE'S Good Shive Low, Ben Baxter Band, Tje Austin, Suite 709 (8:00) **R**
BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Dahebegebees
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Michael Holt (10:30)
BEERLAND Dead Space, Gangster Rainbow, Math the Band, Daniel Francis Doyle (7:00) **A**
BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons, Two Tons of Steel (8:00)
BUDDY'S PLACE Son Geezinslaw, Glenn Collins (8:00)
CACTUS CAFE Slaid Cleaves (8:30) **A**
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Mad Cowboys (7:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Garrett Snowden, Jason Eady (9:00)
CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE Southeast Players (7:00) **A**
CHUGGIN' MONKEY Mike V. (4:30), Mike V. (9:00)
CLUB DE VILLE Sweetpea, Shiny Empire, Your Friendly Ghost
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: J.D. Pendley w/ Liz Morphis, Mike Flanigin Trio (8:30); In the Club: The Blues Specialists (6:30), the Saucerians, Ralph "Soul" Jackson (10:00) **R**
DIZZY ROOSTER Aaron Navarro (6:00), the Bomb Squad (9:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kevin Lovejoy Trio (8:00) **A**
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mariachi Tamazula (8:00) **A**, Tipicos de Cuba (11:00) **A**
ELYSIUM Kings N Things (9:00)

EMO'S EAST Odd Future (9:00) **R**
FAIR BEAN COFFEE Open Mic w/ Amy Zamarripa (5:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Afrofreque, LZ Love (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs (7:00) **A**, Will T. Massey (9:00) **A**
FRIENDS J.T. Coldfire (4:00); Swamp Sauce (8:00)
FRONTIER BAR The Venturous, Leslie Scisson, Black Forest Fire, Followed by Static
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dane Sterling (6:00); Sean Young, the Texas Blue Dots (9:00) **R**
GRUENE HALL Chris Knight, Cody Canada, Jason Boland (8:00) **R**
GUERO'S TACO BAR Los Flames (6:00)
HEADHUNTERS Randy Tate (12mid) **R**
HILL'S CAFE Shad Blair **A**
HOLE IN THE WALL Mike Cooley (9:00) **R**
HOLY MOUNTAIN Feral Future, Crooked Bangs, Skycrawler, the Young
IRON CACTUS NORTH Sherah
JUNIOR'S GRILL & ICEHOUSE The Staylins (9:30) **A**
LAMBERTS Little Lo, Gold Beach
LATITUDE 30 Los Jefes (5:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Anniversary Party (9:00)
MAGGIE MAE'S Jason Patton (9:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00) **A**
MICKEY'S THIRSTY I LOUNGE Austin Rocks (8:00)
MIDNIGHT RODEO Granger Smith
MOHAWK Oh No Oh My, the Baker Family, Black Books, Good Field (9:00)
ND AT 501 STUDIOS Matthew & the Arrogant Sea, Vicodin Lens, Scan Hopper (9:00) **R**

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THU 6TH - 9PM **R** FRI 7TH - 9PM **R** SAT 8TH - 9PM **R**

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HARRY BODINE 7PM

FRI. DEC. 7
GEORGE DEVORE 11PM
GINGER LEIGH BAND 9PM
GARRETT LEBEAU 7PM

SAT. DEC. 8
SOUNDS UNDER RADIO 11:30PM
THE REYNOLDS NUMBER 10PM
WILL EVANS PROJECT 8:30PM

MON. DEC. 10
DAN DYERS WITH SPECIAL GUESTS 7PM
MOTOWN MONDAYS
 WITH THE MATCHMAKER BAND 9PM
RYAN HARKRIDER AND THE NIGHTOWLS 11:15PM

TUES. DEC. 11
TREETOP SAILORS 11PM
THE MOONSHINERS 9PM
KUDZU KARNIVAL 7PM
 (MONTE MONTGOMERY, BRIAN ANDREW LEE, PHIL BASS AND JAMES SPEER)

WED. DEC. 12
1UP 11PM
BLACK RED BLACK (BRANNED! TEMPLE, EPHRAIM OWENS AND RED YOUNG) 9PM
KARL MORGAN BAND 7PM

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Dec 6, Thu
Steve Poltz 9:00 - \$10/\$15
Chad Sullins 11:00-\$5
 Down Home 12:45-\$5
 Eightysixxed 6:00-NO COVER Happy Hour

Dec 7, Fri
Malford Milligan 9:00 - \$10/\$12
NAKIA 11:00 - \$10
Denny Freeman Uhlrich Ellison
 6:00-NO COVER Happy Hour 12:40 - \$7

Dec 8, Sat
The South Austin Moonlighters
Lonnie's Birthday Party! 8:30 - \$10
Qand A CD Release! 5:30-\$15
 Chad Johnson 12:00-\$5
 Bracken Hale 3:00-NO COVER

Dec 9, Sun
THE RESENTMENTS
 With Miles Zuniga of Fastball, and John Chipman
 7:30 - \$10
Javier Soliz **George Rarey** **Down Home**
 3:00 - NO COVER 5:00 *NO COVER 10:30 - \$5

Dec 10, Mon
BOB SCHNEIDER & LONELYLAND 8:30 \$10
 Reserve \$25 seats at
 outhousetickets.com/Artist/Bob_Schneider
James Bullard **Emily Wolf** **The Leavers**
 12:30 - \$5 7:00 - \$10 11:00 - \$5

Dec 11, Tue
Bruce Hughes and the All Nude Army 8:30 - \$5
George Rarey **Bad Intentions**
 10:30 - \$5 12:30 - \$5
David Grissom
 6:00 - NO COVER Happy Hour

Dec 12, Wed
 Traveling Red River Songwriters' Festival
Walt Wilkins and the Mystiqueros
 With Susan Gibson, Drew Kennedy, Kelley & Brandy of The Trishas
 9:00 - \$10/\$15
JOHNNY NICHOLAS
 & Hellbent w/ Cindy Cashdollar
 6:00 - NO COVER Happy Hour

Butch Hancock Dec 14
Joe Ely Two Nights Dec 21-22

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- FRI 07 DEC** **HYDRA MELODY**
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- SAT 08 DEC** **BROWNOUT (2 SETS!)**
Doors 9:30PM \$10.00 All Ages
DJ Mahealani
- MON 10 DEC** **MOM ATX (MOWTOWN ON MONDAYS)**
Doors 9:00PM All Ages MOM DJs and Friends of Sound Records present MOM Weekly Dance Party Resident DJs Cool Hands, B Sears, Chorizo Funk
- THU 13 DEC** **THE GOOD MUSIC CLUB CD RELEASE**
Doors 9:30PM FREE All Ages
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- FRI 14 DEC** **FOXY DANGEROUS**
Doors 9:00PM \$5.00 All Ages
Sam Pace and the Gilded Grit, The Stayouts
- SAT 15 DEC** **END OF THE WORLD SHOW**
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CLUB LISTINGS

- FROM FRIDAY**
- NEWORLDELI** Jeremy Burchard, Moonlight Social
- ONE 2 ONE BAR** Garrett LeBeau, Ginger Leigh, George Devore (7:00)
- ONE WORLD THEATRE** Spyro Gyra (7:00, 9:30) (A) (R)
- OPA!** Jessica & Deann Rene (8:00)
- POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE** Carl Hutchens (4:30) (A), Mark Allan Atwood, Don't Kill the Hang (9:00) (A)
- POODLE DOG LOUNGE** Aaron Tinjum & the Tangents
- RED 7** Trash Talk DJ Set w/ Odd Future (9:00) (R)
- RED EYED FLY** Soak (9:00)
- THE SAHARA LOUNGE** Blastphamus, Resistance Ensemble, Chris Catalena & the Native Americans (10:00)
- SAM'S TOWN POINT** Classic Rock Open Jam w/ Breck English (8:40)
- SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR** Soul Wagon (7:00)
- SAXON PUB** Denny Freeman (6:00), Ulrich Ellison, Malford Milligan, Nakia (9:00)
- SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL** Go Go Dolls
- SHOOTERS BILLIARDS NORTH** LC Rocks (9:30)
- ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** Beth Wood, Kim Richardson, Louise Mosrie, R.J. Cowdery (6:30) (R)
- THE STAGE ON SIXTH** Tish Lancaster & the Mizzbehavin Band (8:30), Austin Heat (9:00)
- STRANGE BREW AUSTIN COFFEE** Lounge Side: Patricia Vonne, Radiola, Don Harvey & A Is Red (7:00) (A)
- TEXAS MIST** DJ Joe Hernandez (9:00)
- THE THIRSTY NICKEL** Rock Hard ATX (9:00)
- TRAILER SPACE RECORDS** Explosion Horse, Teenage Cave Girl, Ryan Cownie, Space Camp Death Squad (7:00) (A)
- TRIPLE CROWN** Mark Jungers (6:00); Buzz & Bangs, Lion & the Giraffe, New York City Queens, Fire in the Pines (9:00) (R)
- UNCLE BILLY'S ROOFTOP ON LAKE TRAVIS** Jeff Strahan (8:00)
- WAR HORSE** Jennifer Ellen Cook, Beth Lee, Hoodygoode (7:00)
- THE WHITE HORSE** Austin Steamers, Country Willie, Roger Wallace
- CLUB DE VILLE** Think No Think, March Fourth
- CONANS PIZZA** Pamela Allen, the Biscuit Rollers (7:00) (A)
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Scarlett Olson, Mike Flanigin Trio (8:30); In the Club: Redd Volkaert (3:30), Cowboy Dave, Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)
- DIZZY ROOSTER** Mike V. (6:00), Lixbox (9:00)
- DOWN UNDER DELI** Ru Coleman (8:00)
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Lucky Strikes (8:00) (A)
- ELYSIUM** DJ Scorpio, Echo Over Voices, the Nimbus, Exit, Iris, Christopher Anton (8:00) (R)
- EMO'S EAST** Will Holland, Kyau & Albert, Super 8 & Tab, Tritonal (10:00) (R)
- FADÓ IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT** Blaggards (9:30)
- FLAMINGO CANTINA** Tribal Nation, the Meditations (9:00) (R)
- FRANK** Brownout (9:30) (A)
- FRIENDS** J.T. Coldfire (4:00); Stevie Norman (7:30)
- FRONTIER BAR** Pangea, Residual Kid, Obscured by Echoes, Blackstone Rangers, the Boxing Lesson (R)
- GIDDY UPS** Lost John Casner (9:00)
- GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Mike Barfield (9:00)
- GRUENE HALL** Ted Russell Kamp (1:00); Thom Shepherd, Kevin Fowler (9:00) (R) (A)
- GÜERO'S TACO BAR** Texas Tycoons (6:30)
- HILL'S CAFE** Jaelyn Lucas (A)
- HOLE IN THE WALL** Arum Rae, Texas Eastside Kings (9:00)
- HOLY MOUNTAIN** A Night for the Ladies w/ G-Eazy (R)
- HOTEL VEGAS** Deep Space, Grape Street, Elvis, Unknown Relatives LP Release (8:00) (R)
- LATITUDE 30** Los Jefes (5:00)

!SATURDAY!

- AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE** Johnny Gonzales (5:00)
- ANDERSON MILL TAVERN** Guilty Pleasures
- ANTONE'S** Uncle Bruno, the Revivalists, Joe Krown Trio w/ Walter "Wolfman" Washington (8:00) (R) (A)
- ANTONE'S RECORDS** Scott Riegel (3:00) (A)
- BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL** Swagger
- BARTON CREEK FARMERS MARKET** Jimmy Joe Natoli, the Better Halves (9:00am) (A)
- B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Altar Boyz (10:30)
- BEAUTY BALLROOM** Queerbomb Benefit w/ Super Creeps (8:00)
- BEERLAND** Sabbath Crow (9:00)
- BROKEN SPOKE** Dance Lessons, Billy Mata (8:00)
- CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Bill Bailey & the Wild Ones (7:00) (R)
- CHEAPO DISCS** Last Dance w/ The Ugly Beats, the Go-Wows, Ruby Dee & the Snakehandlers, The Mighty Landshark, Modern Don Juans (3:00) (R)
- CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Adam Johnson (R)
- CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE** Ralph White (7:00) (A)
- CHUGGIN' MONKEY** John Chavez (4:30), Tish & Misbehavin' (9:30)

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LONGBRANCH INN El Pathos, Hell's Belles

LUCKY LOUNGE Mark Gibson & Ryan Magnani CD Release (9:00)

MAPLEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Cherrywood Art Fair w/ Cherrywood Road, Kathy Murray, Eric Blakely, Troy Campbell, The Blitzens, Growl, Holy Wave, the Zoltars, Patricia Vonne (10:00am)

MOHAWK Unmothered, Mindless, Wet Lungs, Power Trip (9:00) **R**

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OPA! Tanya Winch (3:00); Felix Pompa, Diamond Simon (5:00)

THE PARISH Graham Wilkinson, the Eastern Sea's First Christmas (9:00)

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POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Down Home, Cord Carpenter, Possum Posse (7:00) **A**

RED 7 Vegatron, Markov, Ssserpentsss, the Well (9:00)

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Texas Sky (6:30)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Lannaya, Aciable, Zoumountchi (8:30)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Hot Club Soda (7:00)

SAXON PUB Q&A CD Release (5:30); The South Austin Moonlighters, Chad Johnson (9:30)

SFC FARMERS' MARKET AT SUNSET VALLEY Sara Shansky (10:00am)

SFC FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN Rose Kimball & Judy Painter (10:00am)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Electric Circus

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS CEDAR PARK Check 1 (9:00)

STRANGE BREW AUSTIN COFFEE Lounge Side: Meggan Carney, Ray Prim (8:00) **A**

STUBB'S My Golden Calf, Little Radar, Mice & Rifles (10:00)

SWAN DIVE The Preservation, the Laughing, Oh No Oh My (9:00)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Earl Hinton (4:30), Jonny Gray (8:30)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Cabra, Drider, Violent Newborns (7:00) **R A**

TRIPLE CROWN Kabomba, Mamafesta (10:00)

WAR HORSE Vanishing Kings, Barbarians of Sevilla, Scorpion Child (7:00)

WEIRDOS Noah Peterson (8:00)

THE WHITE HORSE Whiskey Shivers (9:00)

SUNDAY 09

ANTONE'S "Charlie Brown Christmas" w/ Michelle Schumann (3:00, 5:30) **A**

BARTON CREEK FARMERS MARKET J. Wagner (10:00am) **A**

BAT BAR Amber Lucille (7:00)

BB ROVERS Open Mic (7:00) **A**

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Joe Gee (noon), Irish Tunes Session (9:00)

BLIND PIG PUB Clay Compania

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE ChurchUP (6:00)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Mike V. Trio (4:30)

CLUB DE VILLE Heart & Soul Sound System

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00) **A**

DIZZY ROOSTER John & Derek (6:00), Sonny Wolf (8:30)

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 10 • 6:30PM

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THU 12/6 **IAN MCLAGAN & THE BUMP BAND** 6PM
LATER: **STONE ROLLERS** 10PM

FRI 12/7 **LUCKY LOUNGE 15TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY** 8PM

SAT 12/8 **MARK GIBSON & RYAN MAGNANI CD RELEASE PARTY** 9PM

SUN 12/9 **LUCKY LOUNGE XMAS PARTY** 9PM

TUE 12/11 **TYLER GUTHRIE** 9PM

WED 12/12 **AL FASHION** 5PM

THU 12/13 **IAN MCLAGAN & THE BUMP BAND** 6PM
LATER: **UGLY ELEPHANT & LA VIDA BUENA** 9PM

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BRANNEN TEMPLE 9PM

MONDAYS
JODI ADAIR 6PM
Scrappy Jud
Newcomb 8pm
GARRETT LABEAU AND THE WORKING MAN'S REVIVAL 10:00

TUESDAYS
The Apostles of Manchaca
Jeff Plankenhorn, Michael O Connor
Malford Millagan 7PM
DUTAWA 9:30

WEDNESDAYS Alex Ruiz 7pm
Will Knaak & Kacy Crowley 9pm
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Sat 12/8
Meggan Carney 8:15 PM
Ray Prim's EP Release! 9:30PM

FRI 12/14
GREEZY WHEELS HOLIDAY SHOW 8 PM
Shakedown 10PM

SAT 12/15
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KUTX 98.9 will carry all your favorite music programs, including *Eklektikos* with John Aielli, *Twine Time* with Paul Ray, *Horizontes* with Michael Crockett, *Left of the Dial* with Jeff McCord, *Folkways* and music with Jay Trachtenberg, Matt Reilly, Susan Castle, Laurie Gallardo, Jody Denberg and Kevin Connor.

When the music shifts to KUTX 98.9, KUT 90.5 will become your source for live national programming, up-to-the-minute news and real-time discussion throughout the day with shows including *Tell Me More*, *The Takeaway*, *Talk of the Nation* and additional programs from NPR and the BBC.

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Get the details about **KUTX 98.9**, our all-music service, and **KUT 90.5**, our all-news service, online at kut.org.

KUTX
MUSIC 98.9

AUSTIN MUSIC EXPERIENCE

CLUB LISTINGS

FROM SUNDAY

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura (7:00) **A**

ELYSIUM Salon Sunday w/ DJ Pumpkinspice, DJ Minimus

EMO'S EAST FUCAPAJ Benefit w/ Super Comedia Show, Los Lonely Boys (8:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Bridging the Music Showcase & Competition w/ Caleb Contreras, Jazzie J., Buenos Diaz, Dubwerth, Lisa Escamia (6:30)

FRIENDS J.T Coldfire (5:30), Blues Jam (9:00)

FRONTIER BAR Red Dirt Rebellion, Dave Insley's Careless Smokers, Sugar Smoke, Tyler Stuckey & Mini Shotgun

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (4:00)

GREEN PASTURES RESTAURANT Jacques Vilmain (11:00am) **A**

GRUENE HALL Bret Graham (12:30) **A**

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trent Turner & the Moontowers (3:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Ben Ballinger, Carpetbagger, Moneywell Spunt (10:00)

HOUSE WINE Justin Landers (6:00)

JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE Ted Hall's Blues Church & Jam (8:00) **A**

LUCKY LOUNGE Texas Sky (9:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Rockin' Gospel Project (noon) **A**

MOHAWK TRCOA Singer/Songwriter Competition (8:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00am) **A**

THE OASIS The Brew **A**

ONE WORLD THEATRE Gospel Jazz Christmas w/ Amber Bullock, Keiko Matsui, Kirk Whalum (6:00, 8:30) **R A**

OPA! Mike Smith (1:00); Musically Declined, Blue Bear (3:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Tessy Lou Williams & the Shotgun Stars (4:00), Bracken Hale (7:30) **A**

RATTLE INN Backstage Jam w/ George Devore (7:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE The Diplomats, Mind at Large, Big Bill, Minds of a Different Kind of Cipher ATX (6:00)

SAM'S BBQ Lili and Walter (3:00)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Danielle Reich (11:00am)

SAXON PUB Javier Soliz, George Rarey (3:00); (3:00), the Resentments (7:30), Down Home (10:30)

SPEAKEASY Adam Rodgers (10:00)

SPIDER HOUSE 29TH ST. BALLROOM Mic Exchange w/ P-Tek (8:00)

STATE CAPITOL ROTUNDA Tapestry Singers (noon)

STRANGE BREW AUSTIN COFFEE Lounge Side: Jeff Lofton, Brannen Temple (7:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Grant Ewing, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

THE WHITE HORSE Conjunto Los Pinkys (5:00)

MONDAY 10

ANTONE'S Blue Monday w/ Derek O'Brien (6:00) **A**

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open Mic (8:00)

CACTUS CAFE Austin Songwriters Group (8:00) **A**

CEDAR STREET Open Mic

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30) **A**

CHUGGIN' MONKEY the Bomb Squad (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Church on Monday, Marshall Hood (8:30); In the Club: The Peterson Bros. (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)

DIZZY ROOSTER Dave Moretz (6:00), Lloyd Miller (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Patricia G. (6:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura (7:00) **A**

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces (6:30) **A**

FRIENDS Eric Tessmer (9:30)

FRONTIER BAR Bearded Ox, Bad Lucifer

HALCYON Roberto Riggio (10:00) **A**

HEADHUNTERS Poweraxium (9:00)

THE HIGHBALL MatchMaker Band (8:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Blue Ribbon Bird, Austin Steamers, Christy Hays & Her Sunday Best (8:00)

HOLY MOUNTAIN Bryce Clifford

HYDE PARK THEATRE Eddy Hobizal (7:30) **A**

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

MOHAWK Sip Sip, Shivery Shakes, Boyfrndz, Growl (8:00) **R**

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson (8:00) **A**

NASTY'S DJ Mel

NEWORLDELI Open Mic w/ MT Hellton (6:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR MatchMaker Band, Ryan Harkrider & the Nightowls (9:00)

ONE WORLD THEATRE Janis Ian (7:00) **R A**

OPA! Jason Stone & Juliette Buck (7:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Lauren Cervantes & the Soul Supporters

SAXON PUB Emily Wolfe, Lonelyland, the Leavers, James Bullard (7:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Brent Michael Wood

SPEAKEASY Clay Compania (9:00)

STRANGE BREW AUSTIN COFFEE Lounge Side: Jodi Adair, Scrappy Jud Newcomb, Garrett LeBeau (6:00) **A**

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Jason Patton (9:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Tony Taylor (6:00), Chief & the Doomsday Device (9:00)

VARSITY BAR The Union League Sessions (9:00) **A**

VICTORY GRILL Open Pro Blues Jam w/ Matthew Robinson, Harold McMillan (9:00)

WAR HORSE Josh Dodds' SS Showcase (8:00)

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CLUB LISTINGS

TUESDAY

ANTONE'S Bluebird Specials, Hello Wheels, Wild Child, Whiskey Shivers (7:00) **A**

AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Marc Dulang (8:00) **A**

BAT BAR Jason Patton (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne Smith (7:00)

BEAUTY BALLROOM DJ Czech One, DJ Notion (9:00)

BLIND PIG PUB Nothing Left

BROKEN SPOKE Amanda, Weldon Henson (6:00)

CACTUS CAFE UT Butler School of Music Live Music Academy (8:00) **A**

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Double Bogie, Estelline (7:00)

CEDAR STREET The Chris Castaneda Project

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Brett Hauser, Will Arrington

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Sonny Wolf (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: James McMurtry, Ephraim Owens Experience (8:30); In the Club: Toni Price (6:30), Denny Freeman, John X. Reed, Speedy Sparks, Rodney Craig; Barfield, the Tyrant (10:00)

DIZZY ROOSTER Aaron Navarro (6:00), Tish & Misbehavin' (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kevin Lovejoy Trio (7:00) **A**

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00)

ELYSIUM Mic Stand Lobotomy: Sej, MyKRONYK Jones, Mr. Phil, Baca, Slicc, SHSM, TravisT, Aray & Hack, Dark Half, Smallz One, Scum

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (9:00) **A**

FRIENDS Erin Jaimes (7:00), J.T. Coldfire (10:30)

FRONTIER BAR Fancy Time, Gorilla Gorilla

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Honky Tonk Hanukkah (9:00)

HALCYON Dwight Smith (10:00, 10:00) **R A**

HOLE IN THE WALL East Cameron Folkcore, Clyde & Clem's Whiskey Business (10:00)

HOLY MOUNTAIN Arum Rae, Jonny Burke, Emily Bell

HOTEL VEGAS The Love Leighs (8:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LUCKY LOUNGE Tyler Guthrie (9:00) **B**

MOHAWK Young///Savage, Capitalist Kids, Bomb the Music Industry (9:00) **B**

MOJOE ROOM BAR & GRILL Love & Harmony Open Mic (9:00) **A**

ONE 2 ONE BAR Skirt the Issue, Half Grand, the Moonshiners, Treetop Sailors (7:00)

OPA! Treachery of Others (7:00)

THE PALM DOOR Chronicle Paper Cuts w/ the Preservation (7:00)

PLUSH Sonar

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Ashley Monical (6:30) **A**, Sons of Fathers (8:30) **A**

RUSTY'S Country Dance, Open Mic (9:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Danny Malone, Black Cadillac (10:00)

SAXON PUB David Grissom (6:00), Uranium Savages, Bad Intentions (8:30)

THE SCOOT INN Susan Torres y Conjunto Clemencia (7:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL John Boyd

SPIDER HOUSE 29TH ST. BALLROOM Austin Mic Exchange Hip Hop Open Mic (11:00)

STRANGE BREW AUSTIN COFFEE Apostles of Manchaca, Durawa (7:00) **A**, Lounge Side: Jeff Plankenhorn & Michael O'Connor (7:00), Durawa (10:30) **A**

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Mike V. Trio (9:00)

TOM'S TABOOLEY Open Mic w/ Jesse Gregg (7:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN The Pistolsmiths (6:00), David Shabani (9:00)

TROPHY'S Acoustic Open Mic (9:00)

WAR HORSE May Sun, Mark Allan Atwood (7:00)

WHIP IN White Horse Orchestra (9:30) **A**

THE WHITE HORSE Silas Lowe, Fingerpistol, Mrs. Glass

Z'TEJAS Robert Kelly (6:00)

WEDNESDAY

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (5:00)

ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Singer-Songwriter Night (6:00) **A**

ANTONE'S Holiday HAAM Jam CD Release (7:00) **A**

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Jordan Tanner

BAT BAR Jo Hell (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB William Kelly (10:00)

BLIND PIG PUB MC80

BROKEN SPOKE T. Jarrod Bonta, Dance Lessons, Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Daniel Cioper (7:00)

CEDAR STREET The Spazmatics (9:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (11:00)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Danny Smith (4:30), Aaron Navarro (9:30)

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Friday, December 7
DALE WATSON honky tonk Christmas show

Saturday, December 8
SEU JACINTO Brazilian

Sunday, December 9
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Thursday, December 13
DANIELLE REICH QUARTET jazz

Friday, December 14
FLYING BALALAIKA BROTHERS
Russian Texas two step

Saturday, December 15
BLACKBIRD 3 featuring **LIZ MORPHIS & BILLY MURPHY** jazzy bluesy Christmas show

Thursday, December 20
DRY CREEK RAMBLERS bluegrass, Americana

Friday, December 21
THE WARREN HOOD HOLIDAY SHOW

Thursday, December 6
ERIK HOKKANEN surf, twang, gypsy

Friday, December 7
LONE STAR SWING western swing

Saturday, December 8
CHARLES THIBODEAUX & AUSTIN CAJUN ACES

Thursday, December 13
BLACKBIRD 3 with a guest appearance by **TAMECA JONES** jazz

Friday, December 14
THE MAGPIES featuring **DAVID PULKINGHAM** Latin, pop

Saturday, December 15
CARPER FAMILY BAND bluegrass country Christmas Show.

Thursday, December 20
WILL TAYLOR & STRINGS ATTACHED the Christmas show

Friday, December 21
AUSTIN PIAZZOLLA QUINTET tango

Saturday, December 22
JENNIFER ZAVALA indie pop jazz

Thursday, December 27
THE LOVE LEIGHS hot jazz, Americana

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A woman in a black bikini and high heels is posing in a club setting. She is surrounded by confetti and a large, ornate frame. The background is dark with some lights.

CLUB LISTINGS

FROM WEDNESDAY

CLUB DE VILLE Texas Never Whispers

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Barbara K; Trube, Farrell & Sniz (8:30); In the Club: The Jitterbug Vipers (6:30) Ⓜ, Beaver Nelson, James McMurtry (10:00)

DIZZY ROOSTER Bob Floyd (6:00), 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 (7:00) Ⓜ

ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharaohs (6:00)

EMO'S EAST The Chevin, Bloc Party (10:00) Ⓜ

FLAMINGO CANTINA Mau Mau Chaplains (9:00)

FRIENDS Swamp Sauce (8:00), Ryan & the Relics (10:30)

FRONTIER BAR Voluptuous Neighbors, Mini Shotguns

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Robert Banta (9:00)

GRUENE HALL The Georges (6:00) Ⓜ

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Larry Monroe Radio Show (6:30)

GYPSY LOUNGE Uranium Savages (9:00)

HALCYON Donello (10:00) Ⓜ

HOLE IN THE WALL Sam Pace & the Guilded Grit, Chris Ruest (10:00)

HOLY MOUNTAIN Dead City Riot, Morning Glory

LUCKY LOUNGE Al Fashion (5:00)

NASTY'S Dirty Soul & Funk w/ DJ Chulo (10:00)

ND AT 501 STUDIOS Nerd Nite (7:30)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Karl Morgan Ⓜ, Black Red Black, 1UP (7:00)

OPA! Roger Len Smith (7:00)

PALMER EVENTS CENTER Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Ruby Jane, Kalu James Ⓜ, Ruthie Foster (noon) Ⓜ

PEDRO'S PLACE La Moña Loca (9:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Ulrich Ellison (4:00); No Bad Days Open Mic w/ B.B. Morse (6:00) Ⓜ

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

RED 7 HOD, Vomiter (9:00) Ⓜ

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Mayeux & Broussard, Dee Purkeypille (7:00) Ⓜ

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Blues Jam w/ Breck English (8:40)

SAXON PUB Johnny Nicholas & the Hellbent w/ Cindy Cashdollar (6:00), Walt Wilkins & the Mystiqueros (9:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Safety Patrol

SPEAKEASY Clay Compania (9:00)

STRANGE BREW AUSTIN COFFEE Lounge Side: Alex Ruiz (7:00), Will Knaak & Kacy Crowley (9:00) Ⓜ

STUBB'S The Sour Bridges, SuperLiteBike, Fatback Circus

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Mike V. Trio (4:30), Lloyd Miller (9:00)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Jezzebeam, Perpetual Care, Breakdancing Ronald Reagan, Aeolus (7:00) Ⓜ

TRIPLE CROWN The Love It Band Ⓜ (6:00); Villians, Immerse, Kulprett Kommand (9:00)

VARSITY BAR Jack Higginbotham (9:00) Ⓜ

WAR HORSE Fluoxetine, Gilded Splinters (9:00)

WHIP IN Jenn Hitt (9:30) Ⓜ

Z'TEJAS Randy Weeks, Stephen Doster, Bill Carter (6:00)

THURSDAY

AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (5:00)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Pete Minda

BAR MIRABEAU Paula Maya Ⓜ (7:00)

BAT BAR Wrecker Lee (7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Kristen Smith (8:00)

THE BLACKHEART Gary Newcomb, Matthew & the Arrogant Sea, First Circuit, the Lonesome Heroes (10:00) Ⓜ

BLIND PIG PUB John Prather (4:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton Ⓜ (6:00)

CACTUS CAFE Nori (8:30) Ⓜ Ⓜ

CEDAR STREET Eddie Schmidt w/ LynZ Wells (6:00), Fabulous Cherry Bombs (9:00)

CHAIN DRIVE Crooked Bangs, Women in Prison, James Arthur's Manhunt Ⓜ

CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE Tony Redman (7:00) Ⓜ

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Amber Lucille Ⓜ (4:30), Cody Rowe (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Dan Dyer Ⓜ, Tameca Jones (8:30); In the Club: The Whiskey Sisters (6:30), Ted Russell Kamp, the Preservation (10:00) Ⓜ

COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa & Bachata Lessons, DJ Alvaro (8:30)

DIZZY ROOSTER John Chavez (6:00), Hitsquad (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws

DOWN UNDER DELI Open Mic w/ Bob Sarnataro Ⓜ (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Robert Kelley (7:00) Ⓜ

ELYSIUM DJ & Gogo Competition (9:30)

EMO'S EAST JT Hodges, Eli Young Band (8:30) Ⓜ

FLAMINGO CANTINA Holiday Island, Doc Holliday & the Frankenstein Monster, World Racketeering Squad (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Starlings (TN) (6:00) Ⓜ, Open Mic w/ Lisa Kettyle (8:00) Ⓜ

FRANK Good Music Club CD Release w/ Jack Wilson (9:30) Ⓜ

FRIENDS Brother Magnum & the Razorbumps, Eric Tessmer (7:00)

GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Greg Duffy (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Alvin Crow (9:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR The Fabs Ⓜ (6:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Brian Pounds, Mayeaux & Broussard, the Hang (10:00)

HOLY MOUNTAIN Growl, Hello Caller Ⓜ, Major Major Major, Sphynx

HOTEL VEGAS Graham Wilkinson (7:00)

KICK BUTT COFFEE Open Mic w/ Ernie B. (7:00) Ⓜ

LAMBERTS The Cerny Brothers, These Mad Dogs of Glory (7:00) Ⓜ

LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band, Ugly Elephant Ⓜ, La Vida Buena (6:00)

MOHAWK Sweet Talk, Turbo Fruits (9:00) Ⓜ

ND AT 501 STUDIOS Christmas Apokalypto w/ Stanley Roy Williamson, Rebecca Havemeyer (8:30)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Progress, Dahebegebees (7:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE James Bullard (4:00) Ⓜ, Down Home (6:00); Wood Talley, Jerry Kirk (8:00) Ⓜ

ROADHOUSE Mojo Jam Session

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Jeff Lofton Trio (7:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Dan & Christy Foster, Charlie Prichard, Maryann Price, Powell St. John (8:00) Ⓜ

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Ava Arenella (6:30)

SAXON PUB Eightysixxed (8:30); Patrice Pike, Hillbilly Picnic, Ulrich Ellison (8:00)

SCHOLZ GARTEN The Cornell Hurd Band (6:00) Ⓜ

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL The Reds Ⓜ

SPEAKEASY The Vurdick (9:00)

THE STAGE ON SIXTH Jonny Gray (9:00)

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Mike V. Trio (4:30), Lloyd Miller (8:30)

TOM'S TABOOLEY Classical Thursday w/ Lauren Gould, Kelly Waddle (7:30) Ⓜ

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Matt Needles (7:00) Ⓜ

TRIPLE CROWN Molly J. Hayes (6:00); Bonsai Nation, Relief, Sean Murray (10:00)

VOLSTEAD LOUNGE The Shake (10:00)

Z'TEJAS The Brew (6:00)

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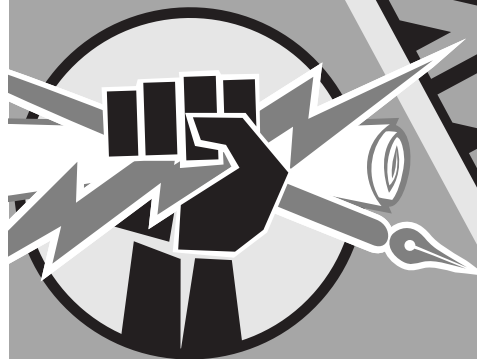
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a SHOT in the DARK

MCDONALDS CEDAR PARK
Mom always taught me.. nothing ventured nothing gained... I should've listened.. You were hot.. no denial. Red shirt.. jeans.. two year old in tow. You're married.. I am too.. interested? **When: Tuesday, December 4, 2012. Where: McDonalds Cedar Park. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905696**

LOOKING FOR RB
I like that you didn't hit my bike, and I'd like to buy you a drink for it. To prove it's you, what CD did you leave me? **When: Sunday, November 11, 2012. Where: 5th & Colorado (Outside the Hanger). You: Woman. Me: Man. #905695**

BERNADETTE'S BAR SATURDAY
Wanted to talk 2u more, however due to circumstances unknown, clammed up! Hope you didn't think I was snubbing, though kind of was. Hopefully see you tonight at Club 1808? **When: Saturday, December 1, 2012. Where: Bernadette's Bar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905694**

WILD WEST FRIDAY
We two-stepped past midnight at Wild West. I had to call it an early night. Hoping we get the chance to dance again. **When: Friday, November 16, 2012. Where: Wild West. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905693**

UT/KANSAS GAME TEXICAN NORTH
You: Watching game in the bar, brunette, UT shirt, jeans in cowboy boots. Me: red shirt, table to your right. You looked back when you were leaving. Lets meet sometime. **When: Saturday, October 27, 2012. Where: Texican Cafe North. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905690**

DOG PARK GUY
We met Thanksgiving night in a dog park. You had 2 dogs Jasmine & Comet. You were really sweet/ cute. Wish I'd gotten your number before having to leave. Rendez-vous again? **When: Thursday, November 22, 2012. Where: Camden Shadow Brook Apartments Dog Park. You: Man. Me: Man. #905689**

RIVERSIDE 711 MORNINGMAKER
11-23.10ish, greaser opens door for gorgeous red head in black dress. Made morning drinks together. We basically had our first date. Care for a 2nd, where I actually talk rather than having a stooipid smile? **When: Friday, November 23, 2012. Where: 711 riverside. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905688**

TRANKA
I see you everywhere, I pick your voice out of crowded clouds of conversation, every thought is shaped to fit your curves. I can't go on missing you. **When: Friday, November 23, 2012. Where: everywhere. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905687**

MOTORCYCLE WRECK MOPAC
might be luckiest person I've seen. Hope you were as-sound-as you seemed and it wasn't just shock talking. If that's the adult version of a slip-n-slide, then I pass. **When: Tuesday, November 20, 2012. Where: Eating asphalt. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905686**

KITTEN LOVES MOWER
I walked into your house 10 years ago. I didn't take good care of our love. Nobody can replace you. I miss and love you so much. Please Come Home! Forever Your Kitten. **When: Wednesday, October 31, 2012. Where: Seattle 2003. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905685**

The LUV DOC



"Swinging!"

LuvDoc,

My wife and I have been spending a lot of time with a fun couple she met through her spinning class. We really like spending time with them, but we think they might be swingers. When we go out to dinner, they always make allusions to sex, etc., and it makes us a bit uncomfortable. They're fun people who don't have any kids and live in a condo Downtown. We're afraid they are going to take

it too far some night and ruin our friendship. What should we do to make it apparent to them we're not into that type of thing and still maintain our friendship? — Skittish

Skittish ... this isn't a huge problem. What's the worst that could happen? Maybe you end up in a gimp suit with a ball gag in some redneck gun store basement? OK, I'll admit that's a pretty ugly scene, but what if it was something less dramatic? What if you have dinner at their place, and after a few bottles of expensive wine, you end up doing a seductive pole dance in their boom-boom room? What's the harm in that - well, other than having the video posted on Facebook? For all I know, you might be an awesome pole dancer and get like a million hits or something anyway. Point is, you might all end up in a huge, greasy, writhing fuckball someday, but right now you don't know, and there's no sense giving it any thought until they actually pop the question. You're just stressing over something that doesn't even exist - like God or mathematics. I can tell you one thing: You dropping coy hints that you're not a bottom or that your wife's not into rug munching is only going to further titillate your friends if they are swingers, and make you look silly if they're not. My suggestion to you is to enjoy their company - which you clearly do - and not worry about whether they have a dungeon with a spin fuck harness, a grease gun, and a hamster habitat. It's really none of your business anyway - well, at least until they ask you to pick out a hamster.

NEED SOME ADVICE FROM THE LUV DOC?
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free! MEET **CHRONICLE** READERS WHO SHARE YOUR ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS
PROFILE OF THE WEEK

LAWYER, SWEET, TALL

How delightful am I? I value relationships over "things". I like to stay active. I like local spots and prefer casual. Single and comfortable but miss having a partner. legalangel, 57

BROWSE through tons more pics and profiles at austinchronicle.com/personals

COMIX

PEPPERMINT TEARS

RYAN HENNESSEE 2012



MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS

Gangnam style? What about Gangnam history? Forty years ago, this district of Seoul was called Jamwon-dong and consisted mainly of farmers working in cabbage fields and pear orchards.

Since 1964, Smokey Bear has had his own ZIP Code: 20252.

During World War II, Hershey's cranked out 24 million chocolate bars a week.

Unlike the movie version of Tarzan, in Edgar Rice Burrough's book, the character was multilingual.

Artist Margaret Keane is universally known as the "mother of big-eye art." Her sad-eye waif paintings were popular from the Fifties through the Seventies. In the 1960s, her art was sold under the name of her husband, Walter Keane, who locked her in a room, forced her to paint, and took credit for her work. She will be portrayed by Reese Witherspoon in an upcoming film.

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 mrspants@austinchronicle.com.

EYEBEAM LIVE (From real life!) by Sam Hart

—STOBBS, 2009, TWILIGHT—
I THOUGHT IT WAS A HILARIOUS COINCIDENCE THAT THE SWARMY (OF SWARMY? THEN WERE TINY AND WOULD HAVE BEEN INVISIBLE INDIVIDUALLY) APPEARED TO BE IN FORMATION ABOVE THAT PARTICULAR DUDE. LATER I SAW THEIR HYPNOTIC, SYNCHRONIZED HOVERING IN A DIFFERENT SPOT OF COURSE I LOOKED IMMEDIATELY BELOW THEM. AND YES! THERE HE WAS.





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AD
of the
WEEK



MnB Vaccine for Young Adults and Teens (ages 10-25)

Young Adults and Teens are at the highest risk of contracting Meningococcal Disease.¹ While the current MCV4 vaccine protects against Meningococcal Types A, C, Y and W-135, a protective vaccine against Type B (MnB) is not yet available. MnB causes 1 out of every 3 cases of Meningococcal Disease in the United States.²

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1. www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vdp-vac/mening
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APPLICATIONS OPERATIONS ENGINEER Manage hardware and software infrastructure at our Austin TX location. Demand Media, Inc. Email sarah@demandmedia.com.

IT
Open Text, Inc. is seeking a Manager Network Team for Austin, TX. Qualified candidate will analyze, test, troubleshoot, and evaluate existing Vignette wide area networks (WAN), Internet, and voice systems. Perform network maintenance on these Vignette systems to ensure networks operate correctly. Plan, configure, and manage Vignette wide area network (WAN) and local area network (LAN) routers and related equipment, and internet and voice systems' network security and firewall software including: a) building network system's firewalls, b) managing the network systems' host security, security settings and access traffic allowed

in network, permissions for groups and individuals, file permissions, back and disaster recovery plans, file system integrity, and c) adding and deleting of network users. Monitor these network unified communication infrastructures and services performance to ensure performance standards are met. Define parameters for installation and testing of these local area network (LAN), wide area network (WAN), hubs, routers, switches, controllers, multiplexers, and related networking equipment. Configure and implement voice deployments for these systems. Install new hardware and software systems and components, ensuring integration with existing Vignette network systems. Implemented ASC software services to manage Cisco hardware located centrally including wireless and VPN authentication. Use knowledge of: Vignette networks system software; software architect; software source codes; functionality; data networking diagrams to create knowledge, structures; MPLS routing, CIS ILS Administration; Blue Coat Network Engineering, Checkpoint firewall; Cisco phone and video systems including Cisco Call Manager/UMC with Unity, and consulting methodologies for Vignette templates and presentations, to perform duties. Ensure timely user notification of maintenance requirements on these systems on a global basis and its effect on system availability. Investigate, recommend and install enhancements and operating procedures that optimize these networks' availability. Maintain user accounts that had been modified for specific Vignette network use, creating and disabling parts of the system as necessary. Maintain network documentation on key Vignette systems and processes including network diagrams, data-flow, scheduled tasks, backup schedules, disaster recovery strategy, and vendor contacts. Conduct proof of concept/feasibility studies for Vignette network system upgrade projects, improvements and other conversions based on source code, networks systems diagrams, data flow, scheduled tasks, backup schedules, disaster recovery and network systems menus and data input procedures. Conduct training sessions to remotely link from Vignette wide area network topology. Interested applicants should apply online at: www.opentext.com.

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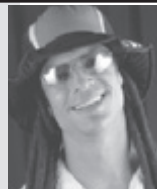


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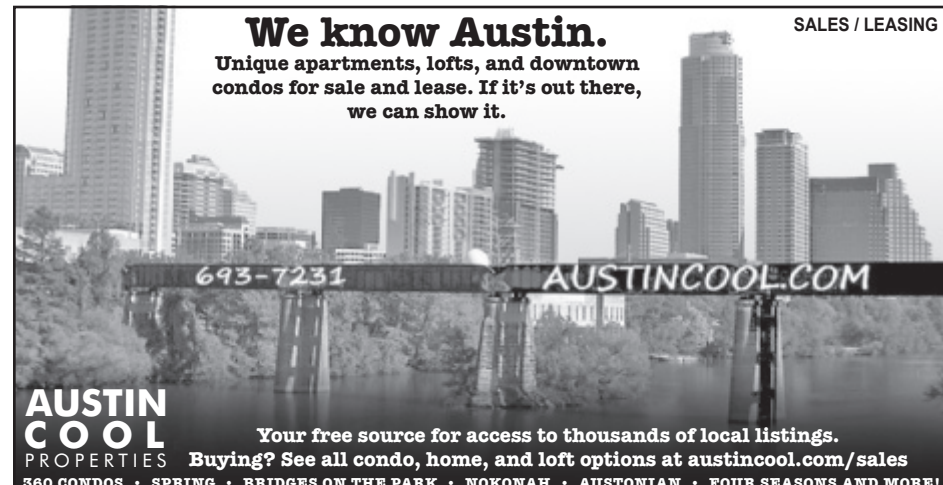
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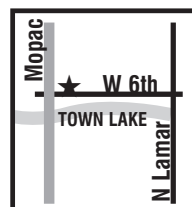
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LEGAL

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit with Mixed Beverage Late Hours Permit by Colorado Street Managers, LLC d/b/a Colorado Street Managers located at 503 Colorado Street, Suite 100, Austin, Travis County, Texas, 78701. Manager of said company is William Ball.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit, Food and Beverage Certificate, and Mixed Beverage Late Hours Permit by Essper LLC dba Inchin Bamboo Garden, to be located at 3107 S Interstate 35, Round Rock, Travis County Texas. Managing Members of Essper LLC are Ravi Ramiseti, Sunil Konda, Vara Prasad Challa.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit, and Late Hours Permit by Syndicate LLC, dba Syndicate to be located at 1113 R.R. 620 South, Lakeway, TX 78734. Officers are Michael S. O'Brien, Manager and George J. O'Brien, Manager.

AUCTION Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, **STORAGE TOWN USA**, Located at 13107 Dessau Rd #100, AUSTIN TEXAS 78754 will hold a Public Auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlords lien. **Sale will begin at 11:00AM December 19th, 2012. PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH.** Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Cleaning deposit required.

Contents described as follows: furniture, appliances, tools, electronics, computers, clothing, books, movies, sealed boxes.
Property being sold includes contents in units of the following: 1029 Uzo Nwaboku, 256 Basilio Samudio, 294 Beatriz Martinez, 251 Tanya Love, 79 Carolina Macedo, 85 April Leal, 414 Jon Tran, 49 Ray Hendricks, 267 Michael Reisch, 1072 Miguel Hinojosa, 21 & 22 Kimberly Perkins.

CITATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: RUBY ANN ROJAS 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.

A petition was filed on the 31st day of March, 2011, in the indicated court of TRAVIS County, Texas. You are directed to file a written answer to the petition on or before 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition.
The suit is an action to establish paternity of and to enter appropriate orders for the conservatorship and support of the following children subject of the suit:
Name / Sex / DOB / Birthplace
DESTINY JONIQUE SANCHEZ / F / 1/31/1997 / MCALLEN, TX
PRECIOUS RUBY SANCHEZ / F / 1/20/2000 / AUSTIN, TRAVIS, TX
MAY ANGELL JJ SANCHEZ / F / 4/28/2006

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. No property is involved in the suit.

The suit is entitled:
CAUSE NUMBERS
D-1-FM-01-006106 & D-1-FM-09-002558

IN THE INTEREST OF DESTINY JONIQUE SANCHEZ PRECIOUS RUBY SANCHEZ CHILDREN
Other parties to the action:
THE STATE OF TEXAS
RUBY ANN ROJAS
ERNESTINA HERNANDEZ
JOSE JUAN SANCHEZ
ISSUED under my hand and seal of said court this __th day of October, 2012.

LOUIS T DUBUQUE
ATTORNEY OF RECORD
State Bar No. 061544000
CHILD SUPPORT UNIT 0703N
1616 HEADWAY CIRCLE
STE. 100
AUSTIN, TX 78754
Phone (512) 339-1135
Toll Free 1 (800) 687-8265
Fax (512) 339-9051
Attorney for Petitioner
AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA, District Clerk
TRAVIS County, Texas
P.O. BOX 679003
AUSTIN, TX 78767-9003
By: /s/ Deputy

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-12-006542
TO: UNKNOWN FATHER OF RUTH GERALDINE GOMEZ 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 ORIGINAL PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP OF JOSEFINA M. RAMIREZ Petitioner(s), filed in said court on NOVEMBER 21, 2012, against LUCIA JENNIFER GOMEZ and UNKNOWN FATHER OF RUTH GERALDINE GOMEZ Respondent(s), and said suit being number D-1-FM-12-006542 the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF RUTH GERALDINE GOMEZ, A CHILD", the nature of which suit is a request ORIGINAL 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, November 21, 2012.
AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ JAMES FERREL, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
JOSEFINA M RAMIREZ
904 GLEN OAK DRIVE
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78745
(512) 577-3389

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-12-006575
TO: UNKNOWN FATHER OF FABIAN JOE GARCIA 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, 261ST 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 AND PETITION TO CHANGE THE NAME OF A CHILD OF SAN JUANITA HERNANDEZ Petitioner(s), filed in said court on NOVEMBER 26, 2012, against NANCY SANCHEZ UNKNOWN FATHER OF FABIAN JOE GARCIA Respondent(s), and said suit being number D-1-FM-12-006575 the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF FABIAN JOE GARCIA, A CHILD", the nature of which suit is a request PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP AND PETITION TO CHANGE THE NAME OF A CHILD.

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, November 26, 2012.
AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
PREPARED BY: ANDRADE

ELIAS
REQUESTED BY:
SAN JUANITA HERNANDEZ
2304 PERRY AVE #104
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78704

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-12-006648
TO: FATHER UNKNOWN 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, 250TH 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. TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER OF SUSIE GARZA ROMERO Petitioner(s), filed in said court on NOVEMBER 29, 2012, against UNKNOWN FATHER Respondent(s), and said suit being number D-1-FM-12-006648 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF MIA NICOLE GARZA, A CHILD", the nature of which suit is a request PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP. TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER.

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, November 29, 2012.
AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ ELIZABETH GARCIA, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
SUSIE GARZA ROMERO
2000 BURTON DR
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78741

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF CLETO ELEQUIN AKA CLETO ELEQUIN, JR. Deceased, No. C-1-PB-12-000368 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.
STUART SCOTT ELEQUIN The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on March 21, 2012, an Application to Determine Heirship, for Probate of Will and for issuance of 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 CLETO ELEQUIN, 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

MD
MD is a tough little girl who loves to play. She's the mom of 3 spunky little pups. As much as she loves her babies, she is ready for a home of her own where she can be somebody's baby!



260-SPCA CALL FOR HOURS
909 S. BAGDAD RD., LEANDER, TX
CENTRALTEXASSPCA.COM

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

NOTICES cont.

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 March 21, 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 ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ELVIA OVALLE GARZA Deceased, No. C-1-PB-12-001301 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

NANCY GARZA RODRIGUEZ fka NANCY GARZA BANKS and all the alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on October 30, 2012, an Amended Application to Probate Will, Declaration for Heirship, and Issuance of 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 ELVIA OVALLE GARZA, 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 November 29, 2012.

Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. BOX 149325
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ O. RUIZ

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JENNELL RAE JOHNSTON Deceased, No. C-1-PB-12-001963 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

RAY E JOHNSTON alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on November 30, 2012, an Application to Determine Heirship AND 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 JENNELL RAE JOHNSTON, 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 November 30, 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 GUARDIANSHIP OF CAROL M BORILLA AKA CAROL M CAROTHERS an alleged Incapacitated Person, No. C-1-PB-10-001560 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

Craig Hopper, Temporary Guardian of the Person and Estate pending contest in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on November 28, 2012, an Account for Final Settlement in the said estate and request(s) that said Court order Comerica Bank & Trust, N.A., as successor Trustee of the Carothers Family Bypass Trust & the Carothers Surviving Spouse's Trust, to make distributions to Temporary Guardian for any final, approved attorneys' fees and expenses related to his appointment; that the Court enter an order discharging Temporary Guardian from his trusts Temporary Guardian of the Person and Estate Pending Contest of Carol M Borilla aka Carol M Carothers; that the Court release the surety on Temporary Guardian's bond from further liability and declare that this Temporary Guardianship is closed; and such further relief the Court deems just & necessary.

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 November 29, 2012.

Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. BOX 149325
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ M. LIMON

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as required by title 18, United States Code, section 983(a) (2)(A) and/or title 19, United States Code, section 1607 et seq of seizure at Austin, Texas, on the dates specified below, of the following merchandise, liable to forfeiture to the United States under provisions of various statutes cited. Any person claiming such property is hereby notified to file his claim at the Custodian's, 7501 Esters Blvd., Suite 160, Irving, Texas 75063 (or by mail to P.O. Box 619050, D/FW Airport, Texas 75261), within 20 days (or 35 days if case is denoted as C.A.F.R.A.) after the first publication of this notice together with a bond in the amount of \$5000 or 10% of the value of the claimed property (for cases not denoted as C.A.F.R.A.), whichever is lower, but not less than \$250, with approved sureties as provided for in title 19, United States Code, section 1608. The cost bond amount, if required, is specified below for each referenced case. Once the cost bond and/or claim to the merchandise has been filed, the case will be forwarded to the United States Attorney for the institution of forfeiture proceedings in federal district court. If you are indigent (needy and poor) you may not be required to post the monetary bond. If no claim is filed (or bond given) as provided in the aforesaid statute, the property herein described will be declared forfeited to the Government of the United States and disposed of

in conformity with the laws and regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury: 2012550600003601: 43 Counterfeit I-Pads – in violation of 19 USC 1526(e), because the articles bear a "counterfeit" version of a trademark, registered and recorded for importation protection with the United States Government and 19 USC 1595a(c)(2)(C) & 17 USC 602, pursuant to the provisions of title 19, Code of Federal Regulations, section 133.42, in that the items have been determined to be "piratical" infringing copies of recorded and registered copyrighted works protected by the United States Government - seized on August 15, 2012 at Austin, Texas (total appraised value \$17,471.76 - cost bond required \$1,747.00)

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLE 2000 white Buick 4d, Lic# 3-53944a (MT), VIN#1G4HP52K744100567, towed 10-23-12. Stored at Jay's Towing, 10607 Circle Drive, Austin, Texas 78736.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLE Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicle(s) have been impounded and are being stored at the following location for claiming. 1996 Ford Aerostar Van LP-NONE VIN: 1FMCA11U2TZB30598 Travis County Sheriff's Office Traffic Stop/Arrest 11/18/2012 @ 12:00PM Location-20200 Lindeman Ln Leander, TX

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pinkies American Towing Inc; TDLR VSF #0646291 vsf located at 1804 Oak Hill Lane, Austin, TX 78744, 512-233-4869 has in its custody a 2011 TOYOTA SCION; VIN JTKKUU4B1E013527; LP# 744FGC(OR); impounded 11/26/2012 by authority of AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT. The charge as of 12/03/2012 is \$394.85; daily storage rate is \$20/day + tax.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on December 12, 2012 Ace Auction Company Auctioneers, TX-16453 Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code (Chapter 576 of the 68th Legislature), beginning at 12:00 pm at Extra Space Storage 6512 McNeil Dr. Austin, TX 78729. 512-250-9879

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances. 6512 McNeil Dr. 512-250-9879 F115-Shan Wright H103-Matt Johnston H217-John Kolc Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale is at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at Oak Hill Mini's, 5100 Roadrunner Lane, Austin, TX 78749. Property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for cash. Cleanup and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from the sale. Property includes contents of the units of the following tenants: MELISSA DEXTER- mattress, sofa, bikes, washer/dryer, lamps, kitchen stuff, furniture, boxes, misc.; DEREK BITBITSCH- tires, rims, pool supplies and equip., work bench, misc.

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 19th of DECEMBER 2012 on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE. NO SMOKING, PLEASE. Wednesday, December 19, 2012.**

9:00 a.m. Public Storage @9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, TX 78748

0354 - Smith, Sandi Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

0395 - Prince, Josephine Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

9:30a.m. Public Storage @ 7200 S 1st Street, Austin, TX 78745

A008 - Cooper, Kelsie Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools E026 - Rodriguez, Jacob Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Toys E056 - Loving, Ruby Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Toys C069 - Pate, April Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

J267 - Cano, Rosemary Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools K299 - Rodriguez, Clayton Tools

N412 - moonenham, william Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools N422 - Black, Jayson Bedding / Clothing; Electronics / Computers

N427 - Johnson, Ronna Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools Q514 - Haehnel, Nadia Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools S587 - Garza, Albert Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

T596 - Reyes, Joel Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture U650 - Cardenas, Priscilla Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture U655 - Arnold, Kevin Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture U665 - Allen, Cathy Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools U671 - Leyendecker, Joe Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools

10:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 7112 S Congress, Austin, TX 78745

B17 - Harrison, Mary Jane Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture C20 - DeAngelo, Angela Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture C9 - Coy, Mark Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture E40 - Laird, Cecilia Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture G30 - Valles, Dora Furniture; Toys

J13 - Kelly, Michael Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools J28 - Perry, James Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools K12 - Gerro, Norma Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Toys L67 - Clifford, Sharon Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Toys

161 - De Leon, Natasha Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 215 - Johnson, Anthony Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 222 - White, Allen Bedding / Clothing; Boxes /

Bags / Totes; Furniture 356 - Maldonado, Jose Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 697 - Charles, David Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 747 - LaFave, Stacey Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture 764 - Warg, Tracy Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture **12:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 2301 E Ben White, Austin, TX 78741**

1111 - Lopez, Michael Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Toys

2042 - Williams, Kenyon Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 3072 - Triska, Richard Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 3087 - Martin, Bernadette Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 3156 - MALDONADO, CAROL Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools 3166 - Miller, Leta Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

1:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 5016 E Ben White, Austin, TX 78741

B003 - Coleman, Felicia Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture C075 - Villegas, Adrian Boxes / Bags / Totes; Toys C087 - Davis, Iris Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools C148 - Garcia, Crystal Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture C154 - Harding, Daniel Bedding / Clothing; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

C171 - Baze, Kristina Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture C208 - Alvarez, Raechel Boxes / Bags / Totes C245 - Robinson, Lalove Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

C293 - Ancira, Feliz Boxes / Bags / Totes C296 - Vantho, Pia-Alexandra N. Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

C293 - Ancira, Feliz Boxes / Bags / Totes C296 - Vantho, Pia-Alexandra N. Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

C343 - Rodriguez, Jennifer Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture D002 - Morones, Margaret Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

D002 - Morones, Margaret Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture D549 - Powell, Devin Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture D555 - Crawford-Levy, Carol Bedding / Clothing; Furniture

12:18 N. Mopac Expressway Austin, TX 78758
B106 - Hernandez, Juana Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools D549 - Powell, Devin Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture D555 - Crawford-Levy, Carol Bedding / Clothing; Furniture

10:00 a.m. Public Storage @ 12318 N. Mopac Expressway Austin, TX 78758

B106 - Hernandez, Juana Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools D549 - Powell, Devin Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture D555 - Crawford-Levy, Carol Bedding / Clothing; Furniture E017 - Barrera-Gallego, Lina Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

2:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 2121 S IH 35, Austin, TX 78741

1004 - Sosa, Omar Bedding / Clothing; Tools 2005 - Londenberg, Joel Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 2067 - Morado, Tamia Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

3061 - Seymour, Steven Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture **3:00 p.m. Public Storage @ 1213 W. 6th Street Austin, TX 78703**

5139 - Barte, Richard Bedding / Clothing 3:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 5220 W. Hwy 290, Austin, TX 78736

1142 - Miller, Kasandra Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

2016 - Cornejo, Ernesto Boxes / Bags / Totes 4032 - GONZALES, LYDIA Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

3:45 p.m. Public Storage @ 3911 RR FM 620 S, Bee Cave Road Austin, TX 78739

1211 - Moore, Jeff Bedding / Clothing; Books / Files / Cabinets; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 1255 - Mccann, Mitch Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 2344 - Maus, Evelyn Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

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 21st of December 2012 on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE. Friday December 21s , 2012 9:30 a.m. Public Storage@ 1517 Round Rock Ave. Round Rock, TX 78681**

1139 - Wyatt, Nicole Boxes / Bags / Totes 2109 - Blevins, Shauna Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes

2124 - Carlton, Jermaine Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 3105 - Riley, Brandon Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 4104 - Gaitan, Jose

4110 - Hughes, Eric Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 4120 - Lucero, Brandie Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

5106 - Victoria, Kathryn Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 5115 - Moffett, Donna Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 5141 - Bowman, Donna Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

8102 - Wimberly, Landonnche Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 8143 - Martinez, Onis Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 8153 - Anders, Keocha Furniture

8169 - Davis, Antwan Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 8174 - Webb, Crystal Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

9102 - Lampher, Nicole Books / Files / Cabinets; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers

9124 - Herring, Chris **10:00 a.m. Public Storage@ 12318 N. Mopac Expressway Austin, TX 78758**

B106 - Hernandez, Juana Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools D549 - Powell, Devin Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture D555 - Crawford-Levy, Carol Bedding / Clothing; Furniture

10:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 9205 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78758

A078 - Garzonie, Jennifer Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

2058 - Gordon, Craig Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 2089 - Noyola, Priscilliana Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 3028 - Watson, Kristin Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

3070 - Harris, Matthew Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture C107-A - Ferguson, Jeffrey Electronics / Computers; Furniture

E015 - Williams, Warren Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture E034 - Valle, Lindsey Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture E098 - buntrock, matt Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

E138 - Ham, Alyssa Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes **11:00 a.m. Public Storage@ 10931 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78759**

2216 - Harris, Heidi Furniture 2279 - Conner, Stacy Boxes / Bags / Totes C039 - Dykes, Devin Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

D027 - Ewald, Adam Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture D046 - Tadlock, Joshua Boxes/Bags/Totes E016 - Young, dan Furniture

E019 - Williams, Lori Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools E048 - Flores, Jesse A Furniture G020 - Feller, Gene Electronics / Computers

11:30 a.m. Public Storage@ 12915 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78750

3066 - MUNDY, ROBERT All

items 4050 - Atkins, Matt all items 5006 - Rhoades, Jarod Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 4005 - Smith, Eddy Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture; Tools C003 - Jones, James Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools D011 - saunders, katina Boxes / Bags / Totes D020 - Kinefelter, Eva Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture D025 - Spinks, Jimi Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture 12:00 p.m. Public Storage@ 13675 N. U.S. Hwy. 183 Austin, TX 78750

0106 - Baylor, Jeri Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 0223 - Carr, Donathan Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 0231 - Cantu, Maricela Bedding / Clothing; Furniture

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 20th of December 2012 on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE. Thursday December 20th, 2012**

9:00 a.m. Public Storage @ 1033 E. 41St. Austin, TX 78751

2024 - Moriok, Robert Bedding / Clothing; Furniture; Tools

2060 - Blount, Douglas Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 3012 - Ochiltree, Latasha Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Toys 5133 - Erwin, David Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Vehicles / Boats

9:30 a.m. Public Storage@ 10001 N. I-H 35 Austin, TX 78753

1021 - Johnson, Angela Boxes / Bags / Totes 2058 - Gordon, Craig Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 2089 - Noyola, Priscilliana Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 3028 - Watson, Kristin Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

3070 - Harris, Matthew Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture C107-A - Ferguson, Jeffrey Electronics / Computers; Furniture

E015 - Williams, Warren Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture E034 - Valle, Lindsey Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture E098 - buntrock, matt Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

E138 - Ham, Alyssa Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes **11:00 a.m. Public Storage@ 10931 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78759**

2216 - Harris, Heidi Furniture 2279 - Conner, Stacy Boxes / Bags / Totes C039 - Dykes, Devin Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

D027 - Ewald, Adam Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture D046 - Tadlock, Joshua Boxes/Bags/Totes E016 - Young, dan Furniture

E019 - Williams, Lori Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools E048 - Flores, Jesse A Furniture G020 - Feller, Gene Electronics / Computers

11:30 a.m. Public Storage@ 12915 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78750

3066 - MUNDY, ROBERT All

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2024 - Moriok, Robert Bedding / Clothing; Furniture; Tools

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9:30 a.m. Public Storage@ 10001 N. I-H 35 Austin, TX 78753

1021 - Johnson, Angela Boxes / Bags / Totes 2058 - Gordon, Craig Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 2089 - Noyola, Priscilliana Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 3028 - Watson, Kristin Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

3070 - Harris, Matthew Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture C107-A - Ferguson, Jeffrey Electronics / Computers; Furniture

E015 - Williams, Warren Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture E034 - Valle, Lindsey Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture E098 - buntrock, matt Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

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E019 - Williams, Lori Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools E048 - Flores, Jesse A Furniture G020 - Feller, Gene Electronics / Computers

11:30 a.m. Public Storage@ 12915 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78750

3066 - MUNDY, ROBERT All

78753
114 - Baker, Sharon Boxes / Bags / Totes 255 - Thomas, Jataro Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 311 - Wilson, Richard Boxes / Bags / Totes 501 - Castillo, Antonio Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 705 - Mosier, Kim Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 733 - Hodges, Ruth Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture 924 - Sotelo, Carlos Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools 11:00 a.m. Public Storage@ 8101 North Lamar Blvd. Austin, TX 78753

1039 - Clemente, Andres Appliances 1120 - Webster, Melissa Books / Files / Cabinets 128 - Brannan, Brian Bedding / Clothing; Furniture 1455 - Rivera, Natalie Boxes / Bags / Totes

sold by the space. Property being sold includes contents of spaces of following tenants:
 Craig Ferreira unit size: 24x30 – Refrigerator, Queen Bed, Tools, clothes lockers, Tool Boxes, Shelving, Filing Cabinets, Misc household
 Robert Harding unit size: 10x10 – 48" TV, Wheel barrel, Christmas Yard Ornaments, Stereo, 3 Twin Beds, Dresser, Office Chair, Kitchenware, Misc household
 Tim Quigly unit size: 10x10 – 2 TV's, Chairs, Sofa, Art, Garden Tools, Dumbbells, DVD, Jack Stands, Misc boxes, bags.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, Notice is hereby given that Great American Storage at 16450 RR 620 N, Round Rock, TX 78681 (512-248-1518), will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale. Unit will be sold at public auction through online auction services of www.sealedonlinebids.com with bids opening at 9am on Dec 10, 2012 and closing 9:05am Dec 18, 2012. The personal goods stored therein by the following may include but are not limited to: general household items, furniture, boxes, clothes and appliances from the following tenants spaces: Donald Teague, April Foster, Angela Bain. Purchases must be made with cash or credit card and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed within 24 hours of the time of purchase. Great American Storage reserves the right to retract bids Sale is subject to adjournment or deletion.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, **Stor-A-Way-Slaughter Creek** which is located at 9706 Manchaca Road, Austin Texas 78748 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. **Sale will begin at 1:00 o'clock PM on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 at 9706 Manchaca Road, Austin Texas 78748.** Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Clean-up and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property in each space will be sold by the space. Property being sold includes contents of spaces of following tenants: Nekeisha Sanders-washer, dryer, bed frame, bed mattress Lisa Kuffel-TV, misc boxes, totes, bar stools, mattress, end tables, area rugs
 Richard W Sams-speakers, misc household, misc boxes, bedding, clothing
 Heidi Rowling- TV, misc boxes, chair, household misc totes
 Julie Gonzales- washer, dryer, chair, treadmill, misc boxes, totes, dining room table and chairs, glider chair
 Christina Lavalliere- sofa, mattress, vacuum, microwave, TV, misc household items
 Janie G Casares- treadmill, sofa, love seat, dresser, patio couch, misc boxes, pictures
 Nemer Massaad- TV sofa, love seat, bed, misc furniture, luggage, dolly
 Isaac M Martinez- misc household

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ACEA U. ODELL Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ACEA U. ODELL were issued on November 27, 2012, in Cause No. Co. C-1-PB-12-001817, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: W. WADE ODELL
 The address of such Independent Executor is 3009 Washington Square, Austin, Texas 78705.
 The Independent Executor directs that all claims against this Estate be addressed to: W. WADE ODELL
 Representative of the Estate of

ACEA U. ODELL
 c/o Nancy N. Scherer
 Scherer & Scherer
 602 West 13th Street
 Austin, Texas 78701
 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 DATED this 29th day of November, 2012.
 NANCY N. SCHERER
 SCHERER & SCHERER
 602 WEST 13TH STREET
 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701
 ATTORNEYS FOR THE INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF AVIA CAROLYN AGUILLARD, DECEASED
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Avia Carolyn Aguilard, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2012, in Cause No. C-1-PB-12-001798 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Ami Cortes.
 The residence of such Executor is Travis County, Texas. The office address is:
 Ami Cortes
 c/o Amy P. Bloomquist, Esq.
 Attorney at Law
 614 Capital of Texas Hwy. South Austin, Texas 78746
 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 DATED the 29th day of December, 2012.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JESSE DYLAN RICHARDSON, DECEASED
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Jesse Dylan Richardson, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2012, in Cause No. C-1-PB-12-001504 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Robert S. Richardson.
 The residence of such Independent Administrator is Travis County, Texas. The office address is:
 Robert S. Richardson
 c/o Amy P. Bloomquist, Esq.
 Attorney at Law
 614 Capital of Texas Hwy. South Austin, Texas 78746
 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 DATED the 29th day of December, 2012.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF LORENE B. LAIRD Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of LORENE B. LAIRD were issued on November 29, 2012, in Cause No. C-1-PB-12-001717, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: CHARLES E. LAIRD, JR.
 The address of such Independent Executor is 3882 Regent Drive, Dallas, Texas 75229.
 The Independent Executor directs that all claims against this Estate be addressed to: CHARLES E. LAIRD, JR.
 Representative of the Estate of LORENE B. LAIRD
 c/o Nancy N. Scherer
 Scherer & Scherer
 602 West 13th Street
 Austin, Texas 78701
 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 DATED this 29th day of November, 2012.
 NANCY N. SCHERER
 SCHERER & SCHERER
 602 WEST 13TH STREET
 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701
 ATTORNEYS FOR THE INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ROBERT W.

STARCK, DECEASED CAUSE NO. C-1-PB-12-001657 NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
 Notice is hereby given that on November 16, 2012, Letters Testamentary were issued to: Andrew P. Starck by the Honorable Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, in Cause Number C-1-PB-12-001657 pending upon the Probate Docket of said Court. All persons having claims against said estate are on notice of this administration and hereby requested to present the same within the time prescribed by law to: THOMAS O. BARTON
 MCGINNIS, LOCHRIDGE & KILGORE, L.L.P.
 600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100
 Austin, Texas 78701

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration of the Estate of Christian Moreno-Franco a/k/a Cristian Moreno, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2012 in CAUSE NO. C-1-PB-12-001756, pending in Travis County Probate Court, Travis County, Texas to Gaspar Gonzalez Martinez a/k/a Gaspar Gonzales, Independent Administrator. All persons having claims against said Estate are required to present them to Rose Cohen, Attorney at Law, 805 West 10th Street, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78701 within the time prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration of the Estate of Bryan Moreno-Franco, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2012 in CAUSE NO. C-1-PB-12-001757, pending in Travis County Probate Court, Travis County, Texas to Gaspar Gonzalez Martinez a/k/a Gaspar Gonzales, Independent Administrator. All persons having claims against said Estate are required to present them to Rose Cohen, Attorney at Law, 805 West 10th Street, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78701 within the time prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Agnes Rose Caldwell, Deceased, were issued on November 15, 2012, in Cause No. C-1-PB-12-000373, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Ronald Lee Caldwell.
 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.
 c/o: John A. Crane
 Attorney at Law
 4425 S. Mopac Bldg. II, Suite 204
 Austin, Texas 78735
 DATED the 27th day of November, 2012.
 John A. Crane
 State Bar No.: 050066490
 4425 S. Mopac Bldg. II, Suite 204
 Austin, Texas 78735
 Telephone: (512) 469-9444
 Facsimile: (877) 469-9439
 Attorney for Ronald Lee Caldwell

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of DOROTHY M. BERRY, A/K/A DOROTHY MOULDEN BERRY, A/K/A DOROTHY RUTH MOULDEN, and A/K/A DOROTHY BERRY, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2012 under Docket No. C-1-PB-12-001735, pending in the Probate Court at Law of Travis County, Texas to WAYNE BERRY, A/K/A CLARENCE BERRY, A/K/A CLARENCE WAYNE BERRY.
 Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:
 Representative, Estate of Dorothy M. Berry, A/K/A Dorothy Ruth Moulden, A/K/A Dorothy Berry, Deceased
 c/o Glen Gonnert, Attorney

at Law
 812 West 11th Street, Suite 201
 Austin, Texas 78701
 All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 Dated this 7th day of December, 2012.
 /s/ Glen Gonnert, Attorney for Applicant

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Edward Arthur William Smith, Deceased, were issued on November 20, 2012, in Cause No. C-1-PB-12-001820, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to Pehr A. W. Smith as Independent Executor.

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.
 Estate of Edward Arthur William Smith
 Pehr A. W. Smith, Independent Executor
 c/o Greg Johnson, Attorney at Law
 Farrell & Pak, PLLC
 1411 West Ave., Suite 100
 Austin, Texas 78701
 DATED the 27th day of November, 2012.
 /s/ Greg Johnson
 FARRELL & PAK, PLLC
 1411 West Ave., Suite 100
 Austin, Texas 78701
 Telephone: (512) 323-2977
 Facsimile: (512) 708-1977

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Floyd V. Pritchett, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2012, in Cause No. C-1-PB-12-001707, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to Colleen Wiggins as Independent Executor.

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.
 Estate of Floyd V. Pritchett
 Colleen Wiggins, Independent Executor
 c/o Greg Johnson, Attorney at Law
 Farrell & Pak, PLLC
 1411 West Ave., Suite 100
 Austin, Texas 78701
 DATED the 27th day of November, 2012.
 /s/ Greg Johnson
 FARRELL & PAK, PLLC
 1411 West Ave., Suite 100
 Austin, Texas 78701
 Telephone: (512) 323-2977
 Facsimile: (512) 708-1977

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of GEORGE EBBIN BERRY, Deceased, were issued on November 7, 2012, in Docket No. 12-0745-CP4, pending in the Probate Court, Number Four, Williamson County, Texas, to: MICHAEL EUGENE MILLS.
 The residence of the Independent Executor is in Taylor, Williamson County, Texas. The Residence Agent for the Executor is Gilbert Prud'homme whose mailing address is: Mr. Gilbert Prud'homme
 Law Offices of Gilbert Prud'homme
 8217 Shoal Creek Blvd, Suite 104
 Austin, Texas 78757
 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 26th day of November, 2012.
 Michael Eugene Mills
 Independent Executor
 By: /s/ Gilbert Prud'homme,
 Resident Agent and Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Kelly Carter, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2012 under Docket

No. C-1-PB-12-001765 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to David Keith Boyd.
 Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:
 Representative,
 Estate of Kelly Carter, Deceased
 c/o Bethann Eccles
 Eccles & McIntosh, PC
 506 West 16th Street
 Austin, Texas 78701
 All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 Dated November 27, 2012.
 Eccles & McIntosh, PC
 Bethann Eccles
 Attorney for Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Letha M. Kilcrease, Deceased, were issued on November 20, 2012, in Cause No. C-1-PB-12-001785, pending in the Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Texas, to: Linda M. Clevlen.
 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 Mack Ray Hernandez
 Attorney at Law
 901 South MoPac Expressway,
 Barton Oaks Plaza One, Ste. 300
 Austin, TX 78746
 DATED the 7th day of December, 2012.

/s/ Mack Ray Hernandez
 Attorney for Linda M. Clevlen
 State Bar No.: 09519000
 901 South MoPac Expressway,
 Barton Oaks Plaza One, Ste. 300
 Austin, TX 78746
 Telephone: (512) 477-9433
 Facsimile: (866) 819-5374
 MackRay@HernandezLaw.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that

original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Marilyn Jeanette Mitchell, Deceased, were issued to Julie Weiss whose residence and mailing address is 300 Lake View Drive, Spicewood, Texas 78669 on November 15, 2012, by the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, in Cause No. C-1-PB-12-001795, which is still pending, and that the Executor now holds such Letters Testamentary.
 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: Josie Margaglione
 Margaglione Law, PLLC
 20808-B W. Highway 71
 Spicewood, TX 78669
 Josie Margaglione
 Attorney for Julie Weiss
 State Bar No.: 24057661
 Margaglione Law, PLLC
 20808-B W. Highway 71
 Spicewood, TX 78669
 Telephone: (512) 2154439
 Facsimile: (512) 5326085
 Email: josie@margaglione.law.com
 Dated November 30, 2012.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the estate of RONALD DOUGLAS MATTHYS, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2012, under Cause No. C-1-PB-12-001777, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to BARBARA ANN MATTHYS.
 The post office address is: Representative, Estate of RONALD DOUGLAS MATTHYS, Deceased
 c/o Barbara Ann Mathys
 717 B Jane Austin Trail
 Pflugerville, Texas 78660



AV0102 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;

125052582	2001	CHEV	PK	AP87818 TX	2G0CE19T611116955
125052587	1994	MAZD	4DR	DR8N116TX	1YVG622CR5S191265
125052585	1994	DODG	4DR	BK1B893TX	1B3ED46T5RF137997
125052594	2000	MERC	4DR	NSW464 TX	2MEFM75W9YX743174
125052602	2002	CHRY	4DR	DX5T682 TX	2C3HE66G52H136641
125051775	2000	DODG	PK	45LJ28 TX	1B7GL22N8Y5800541
125051767	2001	MAZD	4DR	BK9T200 TX	JM1B1J222610434392
125051076	2002	VOLK	4DR	MNP405 TX	3WVS869M2M163583
125050144		HMDE	TRAL		

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Call the Austin Chronicle Classifieds!

The *Chronicle* accepts legal notices for publication at a rate of \$2.75 per line, \$25 per col. inch. The *Chronicle* provides a notarized affidavit of publication for each notice at no additional cost. The legal requirements for such notices may vary, so we can't confirm if the *Chronicle* meets your needs; please check the requirements for your notice prior to running. Upon request, the *Chronicle* will provide its most recent independently audited circulation report.

For a rate quote call Jessica Nesbitt at 512-454-5765, ext.168, e-mail jnesbitt@austinchronicle.com, or fax to 512-458-6910, attn: Jessica



The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

A VISIT FROM THE CREDIT-CARD GRINCH

My credit card company is still trying to charge me for several holiday gifts that I bought for my kids but then returned a few days later. I've called several times but I can't seem to get it sorted out. What's the best way for me to get the credit card company's attention and have them take care of the problem?

It sounds like you've been visited by the credit-card Grinch this holiday season. Your credit card company has made a "billing error." Most billing errors can be resolved if you have a basic understanding of the Fair Credit Billing Act (FCBA), a federal law passed by Congress in 1975 to help consumers settle disputes with their credit card companies. Under the FCBA, a consumer may challenge credit card charges for numerous reasons, including charges for goods or services that were not accepted or that were not delivered as agreed (i.e., a defective product) and charges made by unauthorized persons.

There are, however, specific things you must do to challenge the billing error. You must send the credit card company a letter (via certified mail, return receipt requested) stating that there has been a billing error, and the letter must be sent within 60 days of the first bill you received that gave you notice of the billing error. The letter should include your name and account number, a statement that you think your bill contains an error and the actual dollar amount of that error; as well as the reasons why you believe the bill is incorrect. Try to include photocopies of all receipts and any documents that were relevant to the transaction.

The credit card company is required to acknowledge receipt of your letter within 30 days after receiving it, and has a maximum of 90 days to investigate the claim. If there is an error on your bill, the credit card company should write to you explaining the corrections that have been made to your account. Alternatively, if the credit card company still believes there is no mistake, you will be notified with the reasons why it believes the bill is correct. Keep in mind that while you are allowed to withhold payment on the disputed item during this process, you are required to make regular payments on the rest of the items listed on your credit card bill. The good news is that your credit card company cannot threaten to damage your credit rating while the dispute over the billing error is ongoing.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to inclusion in future columns.

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsy for December 7-13

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): If you thoroughly shuffle a deck of cards, the novel arrangement you create is probably unique in all of human history; its specific order has never before occurred. I suspect the same principle applies to our lives: Each new day brings a singular set of circumstances that neither you nor anyone else in the last 10,000 years has ever had the pleasure of being challenged and intrigued by. There is always some fresh opportunity, however small, that is being offered to you for the first time. I think it's important for you to keep this perspective in mind during the coming week. Be alert for what you have never seen or experienced before.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): I wish I could do more than just fantasize about helping you achieve greater freedom. In my dreams, I am obliterating delusions that keep you moored to false idols. I am setting fire to the unnecessary burdens you lug around. And I am tearing you away from the galling compromises you made once upon a time in order to please people who don't deserve to have so much power over you. But it's actually a good thing I can't just wave a magic wand to make all this happen. Here's a much better solution: You will clarify your analysis of the binds you're in, supercharge your willpower, and liberate yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In his book *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues*, Tom Robbins talks about a gourmet who "gave up everything, traveled thousands of miles and spent his last dime to get to the highest lamasery in the Himalayas to taste the dish he'd longed for his whole life, Tibetan peach pie. When he got there ... the lamas said they were all out of peach. 'Okay,' said the gourmet, 'make it apple.'" I suspect you'll be having a comparable experience sometime soon, Aquarius. You may not get the exact treat you wanted, but what you'll receive in its place is something that's pretty damn good. I urge you to accept the gift as is!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "Having 'a sense of self' means possessing a set of stories about who we are," according to William Kittredge in his book *The Nature of Generosity*. He says there are two basic types of stories: The first is "cautionary tales, which warn us" and therefore protect us. The second consists of "celebratory" tales, which we use to heal and calm ourselves. I believe that you Pisceans are now in a phase when you primarily need celebratory stories. It's time to define yourself with accounts of what you love and value and regard as precious.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Spencer Silver was a co-inventor of Post-it notes, those small, colorful pieces of paper you can temporarily attach to things and then remove to use again and again. Speaking about the process he went through to develop this simple marvel, he said, "If I had thought about it, I wouldn't have done the experiment. The literature was full of examples that said you can't do this." I'd like to make him your patron saint for the next few weeks, Aries. Like him, you now have the chance to make practical breakthroughs that may have seemed impossible, or at least unlikely. Ignore conventional wisdom - including your own. Trust your mischievous intuition.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The axolotl is a kind of salamander that has an extraordinary capacity for regenerating itself. If it loses a leg in an accident, it will grow a new one in its place. It can even fix its damaged organs, including eyes, heart, and brain. And get this: There's never any scar tissue left behind when its work is done. Its power to heal itself is pretty much perfect. I nominate the axolotl to be your power animal in the coming weeks, Taurus. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you now have an extraordinary ability to restore any part of your soul that got hurt or stolen or lost.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In the coming months, I hope that you will get sweet revenge. In fact, I predict that you will get sweet revenge. Keep in mind that I'm not talking about angry, roaring vindication. I don't mean you will destroy the reputations of your adversaries or reduce them to humiliating poverty or laugh at them as they grovel for mercy while lying in a muddy gutter. No, Gemini. The kind of revenge I foresee is that you will achieve a ringing triumph by mastering a challenge they all believed would defeat you. And your ascent to victory starts now.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): I would love to speak with you about your hesitancy to fully confront your difficulties. But I will not speak forthrightly, since I'm pretty sure that would irritate you. It might even motivate you to procrastinate even further. So instead I will make a lame joke about how if you don't stop avoiding the obvious, you will probably get bitten in the butt by a spider. I will try to subtly guilt-trip you into taking action by implying that I'll be annoyed at you if you don't. I will wax sarcastic and suggest that maybe just this once, ignorance is bliss. Hopefully that will nudge you into dealing straightforwardly with the unrest that's bubbling.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "Drama is life with all the boring parts cut out of it," said Leo filmmaker Alfred Hitchcock. By that criterion, I'm guessing that your experience in the coming week will have a high concentration of magic and stimulation. You should be free from having to slog through stale details and prosaic storylines. Your word of power will be *succulence*. For best results, I suggest you take active control of the unfolding adventures. Be the director and lead actor in your drama, not a passive participant who merely reacts to what the other actors are doing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): One of my spiritual teachers once told me that a good spiritual teacher makes an effort not to seem too perfect. She said some teachers even cultivate odd quirks and harmless failings on purpose. Why? To get the best learning experience, students must be discouraged from over-idealizing the wise advisors they look up to. It's crucial they understand that achieving utter purity is impossible and unrealistic. Being perceived as an infallible expert is dangerous for teachers, too; it makes them prone to egotistical grandiosity. I bring this up, Virgo, because it's an excellent time to reduce the likelihood that you'll be seduced by the illusion of perfection.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): This would be a good week to talk to yourself far more than you usually do. If you're the type of person who never talks to yourself, this is a perfect time to start. And I do mean that you should speak the words out loud. Actually address yourself with passionate, humorous, ironic, sincere, insightful comments, as you would any person you care about. Why am I suggesting this? Because according to my interpretation of the astrological omens, you would benefit from the shock of literally hearing how your mind works. Even more importantly: The cheerleading you do, the encouragement you deliver, and the motivational speeches you give would have an unusually powerful impact if they were audibly articulated.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In the fairy tale "Beauty and the Beast," a grotesque humanlike creature hosts the heroine in his home, treating her like a queen. She accepts his hospitality but rejects his constant requests to marry him. Eventually, he collapses from heartache. Moved by the depth of his suffering, she breaks into tears and confesses her deep affection for him. This shatters the spell and magically transforms the Beast back into the handsome prince he originally was. Your life may have parallels to this story in the coming months, Scorpio. You might be tested. Can you discern the truth about a valuable resource that doesn't look very sexy? Will you be able to see beauty embedded in a rough or shabby form?

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsy'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.

NOTICES cont.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 27th day of November, 2012. Jeanette K. Schaefer, Attorney at Law /s/ Jeanette K. Schaefer Attorney for Applicant

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of SYLVIA COFIELD ELLISON, Deceased, were issued on November 27, 2012, in Docket No. C-1-PB-12-001720, pending in the Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to DALE A ELLISON, Independent Executor. The residence for 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 within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 7th day of December, 2012. Respectfully submitted, THOMPSON & TIEMMANN 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 of the Estate of Noe Antonio Salazar, Deceased, were issued on November 20, 2012, in Cause No. C-1-PB-12-001790, by the Travis County Probate Court Number One, to Matthew T. Salazar, Independent Executor of the Estate of Noe Antonio Salazar. All persons having claims against said Estate are required to present them to Richard Thormann, Attorney at Law, 805 W. 10th Street, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78701 within the time prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS The Will of Helyn Virginia Forgason has been admitted to probate in Travis County (No. C-1-PB-12-001437) with Letters Testamentary issued to Judy Forgason, M.D. on October 18, 2012. All persons having claims against the estate being administered shall present same within the time prescribed by law, addressed to Judy Forgason, M.D., Independent Executor, Estate of Helyn Virginia Forgason, in care of attorney Janet A. Freeman, Sapp, White & Freeman, P.C., 545 N. Upper Broadway, #1009, Corpus Christi, TX 78401-0676.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items: 1. Flexible Base Material, Type A, Grade 2, 1211-006-SC Opens: December 27, 2012 @ 10:00a.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.

PUBLIC NOTICE Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, Wells Branch Self Storage, located at 1763 Wells Branch Parkway, Austin, Texas 78728, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 1:00PM, Dec. 20, 2012. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for CASH. Deposit for clean up and removal required. Personal padlock required by successful bidder. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid, and to withdraw any property from sale. Property from each unit may be sold by space only! Property being sold includes contents in units of the following:

B133 Maile J. Lowe B433 Jacqueline D.Clemens C209 Rosemarie SanMiguel C408 Vanessa J. Minter D406 Rafael Reyes D507 Rodney Warren Stonebraker Couch, queen mattresses and box springs, king size mattress and box springs, tires, speakers, t.v.'s, t.v. stands, bedframes, headboard, night-stands, shelves, totes, table saws, scrap wood, table, chairs, coffee table, chest of drawers, guitar, mirrors, shoe rack, artwork, frames for artwork, bookcase, pedestal, speakers, love seats, bedding, clothes, lots of misc.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF LCRA HIGHLAND LAKES WATERSHED ORDINANCES DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION Applicant Information: **APPLICATION NUMBER:** D12-00019 **PROJECT NAME:** Lake Travis ISD Elementary School 6 **APPLICANT NAME & ADDRESS:** Lake Travis ISD 3322 RR 620 South Austin, TX 78738

SITE LOCATION: Cypress Ranch Boulevard and Future Verbenca Parkway in Travis County, TX (West Cypress Hills Subdivision)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project includes the construction of Elementary School and associated infrastructure on 12.75 acres. The Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) acknowledges that an application for Development Permit approval under the LCRA Highland Lakes Watershed Ordinance has been submitted.

LCRA has determined that the application is administratively complete. Any interested person may comment on the application. Written comments should be addressed to: LCRA, Mail Stop L-421, P.O. Box 220, Austin, TX 78767; or delivered to 3700 Lake Austin Boulevard no later than 15 days from this publication. Additional information regarding this application may be obtained by contacting the LCRA Watershed Management Office at 473-3200, ext. 2324.

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