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DECEMBER 20, 2013



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She's a hip-hop dancer and avid museum visitor born and raised in Japan. She recently moved to Tokyo to attend university, where she studies Latin American Culture and has even learned to speak a little Spanish. We first spotted her working at our Shibuya store and asked her to model for us. As a child, Yuri was always singing, dancing, drawing and playing basketball. Today, she enjoys taking photos of her travels, dancing, collecting magazines and modeling for us in her free time.

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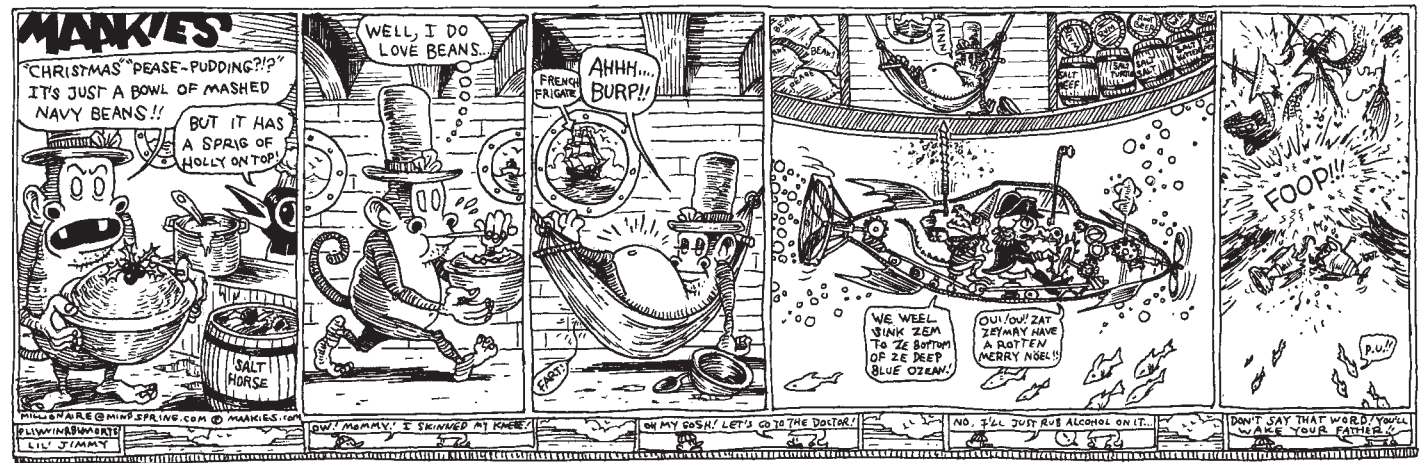
Postmarks

'IT'S AN EGREGIOUS LIE'

Dear Editor,

Regarding "Urban Rail: Which Way to Connect?" [News, Dec. 13]: McCann and King tell us that "the Lamar/Guadalupe area will soon have MetroRapid, which was approved in 2010 as part of Capital Metro's ServicePlan2020." This is at best misleading; under the circumstances it's an egregious lie. The Lamar/Guadalupe rapid bus line was approved in 2004 as part of the same All Systems Go! Long-Range Transit Plan which included the Red Line rail proposal. At the time, Cap Metro promised to implement the rapid bus system first, prior to the Red Line. I was a longtime member of the Austin Urban Transportation Commission and questioned Cap Metro about the delayed deployment of the rapid bus system at every opportunity, from 2004 until mid-2008 when I left the commission. Why is this important? Because now Cap Metro is using the excuse of deployment of rapid bus in 2014 – an entire decade after they promised to do it – as the reason why the Lamar/Guadalupe corridor shouldn't be considered for a rail route. Had they implemented the rapid bus system when they promised, we would have been enjoying the benefits of rapid bus for almost a decade now, including commensurate densification of the corridor and commuter buy-in. That corridor would now be eminently ready for a high-speed, high-capacity, grade-separated rail system. Instead, they put the time and money into the nearly useless Red Line.

As it stands, Austin won't be ready for a real rail system for at least another decade. The proposal to build a low-capacity, at-grade rail line on the Highland corridor would be laughable if it weren't



so potentially damaging to those Austinites who depend on public transportation. Every single time a passenger steps on the Red Line in Leander it costs Austin taxpayers \$17.50. Another rail system like this would siphon funding away from the existing bus system, greatly impacting service for those who depend on this system the most.

Patrick Goetz

THE BEST TRANSIT PLAN IS ...

Dear Editor,

I appreciate your recent coverage of urban rail planning currently underway in Central Texas ["Urban Rail: Which Way to Connect?" News, Dec. 13]. If nothing else, the controversy over which corridors to serve first has generated interest deserving of this critical initiative.

From my vantage point as an advocate for public

transportation and compact growth, I arrived at my support of the broad outline of a first urban rail investment (emphasis on first, as opposed to final) based on the following: Lamar is undeniably an important transit corridor and that's why the region has spent the last 10 years planning to serve it with MetroRapid. We can't pull the plug on a \$48 million investment the month before it opens. Furthermore, I can't fathom telling Austinites we're going to begin urban rail by taking two lanes of traffic off Lamar and subjecting that corridor to years of construction. That seems a more certain path to failure at the ballot than serving other corridors the data said should unequivocally do well with urban rail. Lastly, one of urban rail's most beneficial features is its ability to shape land uses. The Highland and East Riverside corridors offer dramatic possibilities in that regard based on development we know is coming from some of Central Texas' largest institutions (UT, ACC, and Seton Medical Center, to name a few).

To support those planned developments with transit is at the heart of every plan we have for how Central Texas should grow over the next 20 to 30 years (namely CAMPO's 2035 plan and Imagine Austin).

I can only hope the transit community will come together over the well-reasoned plan that has virtually unanimous institutional support as well as broad public support. To undermine urban rail's greatest prospects for success in the last decade would be a travesty we can ill afford. There's much work left to be done, and we'll need the help of everyone who wants passenger rail as part of our future if we're to succeed.

John Langmore

[Editor's Note: John Langmore is vice-chair of the Capital Metro board of directors and also a member of the Central Corridor Advisory Group.]

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FAILED TO REPORT

Dear Editor,
I'm curious as to why the *Chronicle* failed to report what I think are two very important numbers ["The Farm Report: Both Sides Win, Lose," News, Dec. 6]. Out of the 480 people who signed in to speak at the Council hearing, 450 of them were in support of urban farms. Out of the roughly 300 people who packed the City Council chambers, at least 270 members of that crowd were there to support urban farms. They were easy to recognize since they were wearing green T-shirts saying "Support Urban Farms."

Delwin Goss

Oops!

In the Dec. 13 News story, "Urban Rail: Which Way to Connect?" the last sentence in the first paragraph should have read: "According to Montgomery, AURA, the transit advocacy group, strongly prefers 'a fair comparison' of the Highland route with the Lamar/Guadalupe sub-corridor in Phase 2 of Project Connect, but Montgomery's motion to amend the recommendation (adding Lamar/Guadalupe to Highland), failed at CCAG by a vote of 13-2."

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by TOM TOMORROW

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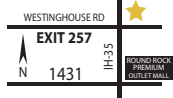
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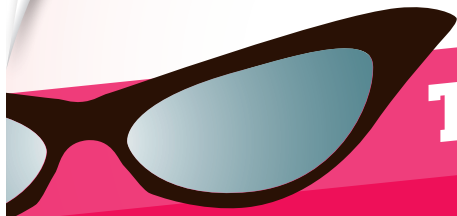
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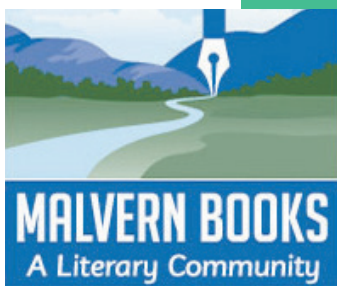


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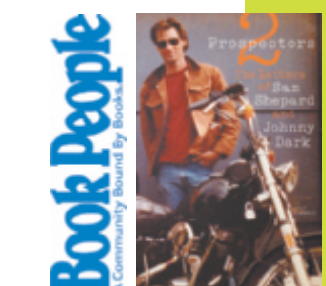


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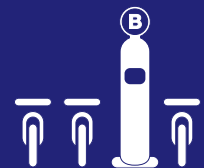


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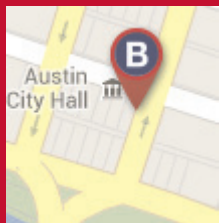


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JANA BIRCHUM

Orane Meacham (l) and 10-year-old Matteo Meacham join a vigil Dec. 14 to mark the one-year anniversary of the school shootings in Newtown, Conn. Texas Gun Sense and Moms Demand Action co-sponsored the event at City Hall.

Making Sense of Newtown

A YEAR LATER, SMALL STEPS TOWARD CHANGING THE GUN VIOLENCE PARADIGM

"Our pain should not be wasted."

— Michele Gay, mother of a murdered Sandy Hook student, in the Cape Cod Times

It seems morbidly appropriate that another school shooting took place just a day before the anniversary of the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre of 26 people in Newtown, Conn. The Arapahoe High School shooting in Centennial, Colo., last Friday bluntly served to remind us that concerning restrictions on gun ownership, not much has changed in a year. The next day, gun control advocates (Moms Demand Action, Texas Gun Sense) rallied across the country (including at Austin's City Hall), rang bells to recall those who died in Newtown, and vowed to keep up the fight for reasonable restrictions on guns.

Their long-term goals are not grandiose, though in the current political context they might well seem unattainable: 1) background checks for gun and ammunition purchases;

2) banning assault-type weapons and large-volume magazines; 3) tracking multiple gun and ammo sales and banning online sales; 4) improving gun product-safety and child-proofing; 5) promoting gun safety; and 6) combating the gun lobby's efforts to weaken gun laws.

As I've written here before, if all gun production and sales stopped tomorrow, it wouldn't put a dent in the millions of guns already in wide circulation. Yet on the most pressing gun issue — keeping guns away from criminals and the mentally ill — even gun enthusiasts say they are supportive. That support flounders whenever there's an actual, specific proposal in play. The gun lobby yells "slippery slope," demands Second Amendment absolutism, and threatens election campaigns — rendering such proposals DOA.

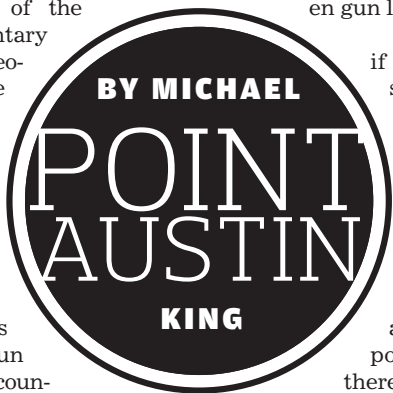
Small Victories

Nevertheless, not all the news is bad. You'll be surprised to learn that in the 2013

session, the Texas Legislature enacted a gun control measure. SB 1189, sponsored by Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Houston, enables a law enforcement officer to seize a firearm possessed by a person taken into custody because of mental illness and judged to be a danger to himself or others. I know what you're thinking: You mean to tell me, before SB 1189, a law enforcement officer *couldn't* seize a weapon possessed by a crazy person? Not unless he or she had used it first, bucko. Can't be too careful about that slippery slope. And the new law makes certain that once this mentally ill person returns to his senses, officials must take the necessary steps to return that firearm.

Until the next time somebody calls 911. Several similar laws were passed across the country this year, most addressing gun possession by the mentally ill; meanwhile, politicians in Texas and elsewhere continue

continued on p.16



QUOTE
of the
WEEK



"Happy Holidays to all, and to all a good-night!"

— the Chronicle Newsdesk, with apologies to Clement Clarke Moore

Headlines

- > Entering the holidays, there's no formal **City Council** meeting again until Jan. 23, but last Thursday (Dec. 12) they decided on — at least temporarily — the next phase of **urban rail** and the work plan for **Auditorium Shores**. See "Work Done and Happy Holidays!" p.18.
- > With a Dec. 9 kickoff Commissioners Court campaign forum co-sponsored by KUT, online city politics newsletter **In Fact Daily** became the **Austin Monitor** last week, now owned by the nonprofit **Capital of Texas Media Foundation** and planning to expand coverage geographically and culturally.
- > Austin's **911 system** went down on Dec. 16. Local emergency services used Round Rock, Pflugerville, and Williamson County's Communications Centers as backups until service was restored, and APD cops were deployed at major intersections in Austin. The city says the problem was an issue with the backup server.
- > **Austin ISD** has decided which campus will host which of its new **single sex schools** next fall. On Dec. 16, trustees voted to turn Gus Garcia Middle School into the **Young Men's Leadership Academy**, while Pearce becomes the **Young Women's Leadership Academy**.
- > Did you get your orange **voter registration certificate** yet? Travis County has mailed them all out, but estimates 14% will be undeliverable due to wrong addresses. If yours hasn't arrived, the county suggests you visit www.txapps.texas.gov/tolapp/sos/sosacmanager to update your address, or www.traviscountytax.org/govoters.do for registration info.

- > The **Travis County Tax Office** issued a press release Dec. 13 after outcry regarding the inclusion of former names on the voter registration cards. Local residents fear the extra names may cause confusion at the polls because of the new Texas Voter ID requirement. Travis Co. Voter Registrar **Bruce Elfant** says the inclusion of former names was mandated by law, but voters can submit a name change to correct the listing.
- > Sen. **Wendy Davis** is pummeling GOP gubernatorial hopeful **Greg Abbott** for refusing to give a straight answer on what he thinks about GOP-inspired cuts to public education. Abbott has claimed he can't say where he personally stands, because he has to defend the cuts in court.

- > For some weeks, the biggest pending headline in town was the fate of UT Longhorns football coach **Mack Brown**, under fan siege for a pedestrian recent win-loss record; Brown finally announced Dec. 14 that he'll step down following the Dec. 30 Alamo Bowl, after 16 years leading the team.

- > The search for a new megamillion-dollar coach will fall to new athletic director **Steve Patterson** and President **Bill Powers**, who has endured his own trial by fire under barely concealed pressure by micromanaging Gov. **Rick Perry** and a couple of his appointed regents — but Powers got a reprieve last week, if not a vote of confidence, as the board and Chancellor **Francisco Cigarroa** announced that despite a "strained relationship," Powers would stay.

POINT AUSTIN *continued from p.15*

to push for guns, including open carry, everywhere and always. We're a long way from addressing our national culture of guns-always-at-the-ready.

Necessary Knowledge

Marking the somber anniversary, Newtown's First Selectman Pat Llodra suggested, "Maybe this tragedy can serve as a reminder for all families to set aside a few minutes to talk together about the importance of compassionate acts – that those acts become the glue that binds us together in our humanity." It's a useful reminder, especially on the eve of the Christmas holiday. Particularly with young perpetrators, when it's not always clear precisely why they take violent actions, the smallest moments of communication or compassion can potentially derail violent or self-destructive impulses. While we're trying to keep firearms out of the hands of criminals or the mentally ill, it's worth remembering that emotional and impulsive young people are also not ideal candidates for weaponry.

That reality is reemphasized by the results of Slate magazine's yearlong project to track every death by gun. Working with volunteer spotters of news reports, Slate's researchers grew increasingly puzzled because their accumulating totals appeared much lower – by more than half – than the annual gun-death statistics issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, gathered from actual death certificates. Senior editor Dan Kois reported last week, "Suicides, it turns out, are this project's enormous blind spot."

Suicides are not systematically reported by local media – indeed, wrote Kois, they "are mostly invisible. And the fact is that suicides make up 60 percent or more of all deaths by gun in America." It's no coincidence that, in a culture generally drowning in guns, gun mythology, and gun sensationalism, young people and others suffering from clinical depression or other mental crises should find guns handy and efficient at abruptly ending their pain.

Kois adds a couple of pieces of good news, at least on the information front. By executive order, President Barack Obama has directed the CDC to resume research on firearms, which had been effectively prohibited by Congress. And Slate's gun deaths project is about to be assumed and expanded by the newly established Gun Violence Archive, a nonprofit funded by Michael Klein, who plans to incorporate official statistics on all forms of gun violence: "Once the integrity of what we're doing is evident," Klein told Kois, "I hope we'll get buy-in from police departments and city governments to share their reports in a timely manner."

Newtown resident Monte Frank wrote recently in the *Guardian*, "Newtown is no longer just a place, but a movement." If that movement is to succeed over the long term, accurate information about the causes and effects of gun violence is fundamental and irreplaceable. ■

The Big C Stands for Corruption

EVEN AFTER REFORMS AT CPRIT, RICK PERRY REMAINS IN CHARGE

On the Friday before District Attorney **Rosemary Lehmborg** stood trial for a civil complaint brought to remove her from office, she called a press conference to announce the indictment of a former executive of Texas' cancer prevention and research agency.

Under the indictment, **Jerald "Jerry" Cobbs** – until last year the chief commercialization officer of the **Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas** – is charged with "securing execution of a document by deception." Translated, that means he awarded an \$11 million grant in 2010 to **Peloton Therapeutics**, a Dallas start-up firm, without running the application through legally required oversight reviews at CPRIT.

Reading from a statement Dec. 6 in front of a clump of TV cameras, Lehmborg said the lone felony indictment would effectively conclude the yearlong CPRIT probe headed by the **Public Integrity Unit**, a state-funded arm of the D.A.'s office charged with investigating public corruption in the state.

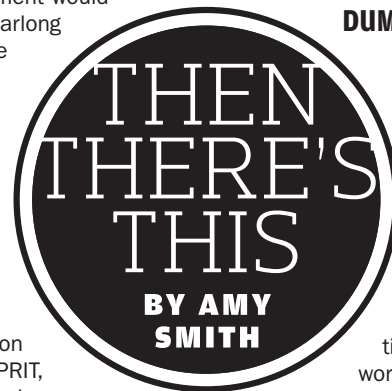
JERRY WHO?

Oddly, in the year since the *Dallas Morning News* and the *Houston Chronicle* began reporting on the political cronyism at CPRIT, Cobbs had been one of the lower-profile names mentioned in news stories that primarily focused on the political contributions **Rick Perry** and **David Dewhurst** raked in from associates of firms awarded millions in grants, on the Perry and Dewhurst donor-appointees on the cancer agency's oversight committee (also known as the foxes guarding the hen house), and the questionable grants CPRIT was awarding in the first place.

By the time the news circulated of the Travis County indictment, Cobbs had quietly turned himself in to authorities and was just as quietly released after posting bail.

Lehmborg, meanwhile, spent the following week getting publicly raked over the coals in a civil trial stemming from a drunken-driving charge in April. The complaint, seeking to

have the D.A. removed from office, was ultimately dismissed and Lehmborg kept her job, what was left of her dignity, and her power to investigate complex public corruption cases like the CPRIT ordeal (see last week's "Point Austin" column for more on the Lehmborg trial and outcome).



DUMBED-DOWN OUTRAGE

It's easy to understand why there was more moral outrage over Lehmborg's night behind the wheel than the massive bungling of a \$3 billion taxpayer initiative to cure cancer. It's easy to understand because, well, it's *easier* to understand, thanks to the dumbed-down video saturation of Lehmborg at her worst, and the endless political posturing we witnessed during this year's legislative session. In June, Perry even made good on his threat to veto the Public Integrity Unit's \$7.5 million budget if Lehmborg didn't heed his call to resign from her post. In a statement accompanying the veto, Perry said, "I cannot in good conscience support continued state funding for an office with statewide jurisdiction at a time when the person charged with ultimate responsibility of that unit has lost the public's confidence." (Perry is under investigation to determine whether he abused his power in delivering the ultimatum.)

If anyone is more deserving of losing the public's confidence, it's our ethically challenged state leaders – not just Perry and Dewhurst, but Attorney General **Greg Abbott**, who served on CPRIT's governing board and,

we now know, never attended any of CPRIT's 23 meetings. A little background here: Perry vowed to work toward curing cancer in his 2007 State of the State address and that same year, with Perry and cancer survivor **Lance Armstrong** leading the campaign charge, voters overwhelmingly approved \$3 billion in bonds to create a cancer research and prevention agency. The very idea of Perry and his friends helping a tax-funded slush fund was one reason I voted against the constitutional amendment. Message to voters about future potential boondoggles: Trust your gut – vote no.

At the very least, this year's Legislature saw fit to implement a number of reforms that added long-overdue transparency and replaced the oversight committee with new members. After seeing how Perry runs his other two pet projects, the tax-financed **Texas Enterprise Fund** and the **Emerging Technology Fund**, it's amazing that the Legislature didn't establish stricter ground rules for CPRIT from the beginning.

A January 2013 audit of CPRIT pretty much confirmed what news outlets had already been reporting, and even Perry had to admit that CPRIT needed fixing. The audit called on the cancer agency to "significantly improve the transparency and accountability of its grant management processes," and noted that "CPRIT's lack of controls for ensuring there are not any business and professional relationships between its peer reviewers and grantees impairs CPRIT's ability to assure the public that its award decisions are not improperly influenced."

More specifically, the audit brought to light questionable decisions made in awarding other grants besides the one awarded Peloton (which has since been required to reapply for funding). The D.A.'s investigation also reviewed two other grants – one awarded to the **Clinical Trials Network of Texas**, and another to a Houston consortium. The latter grant was never funded as it had prompted the resignation of CPRIT's chief scientific officer, who questioned the decision. The probe also concerned potential conflicts of interest related to CPRIT oversight members, but the grand jury returned a single indictment – against a man who most people had never heard of until Dec. 6. ■

CIVICS 101

THURSDAY 19

AUSTIN COMMUNITY 'GREEN' HOLIDAY PARTY Local environmental groups toast the season with an organic dinner, music, and more. 6-10pm. *Barr Mansion, 10463 Sprinkle, 512/926-6907. \$25. www.austineconetwork.com.*

COYOTE HAZING WORKSHOP The Humane Society partners with the city in response to recent coyote sightings, to present "techniques for preventing and solving conflicts with coyotes." Seminar includes tips for protecting pets and more. 7-8:30pm. *Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 512/974-2220. Free. www.humanesociety.org/animals/coyotes/tips/solving_problems.html.*

FRIDAY 20

MONKEYWRENCH BOOKS HOLIDAY BENEFIT DINNER An ugly holiday sweater competition and a vegan feast help raise funds for Austin's collectively-owned radical bookstore. Two seatings. 7pm, 8:30pm. *5604 Manor, 5604 Manor Rd., 512/407-6925. \$15 (sliding scale). www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.*

SATURDAY 21

AUSTIN B-CYCLE DEDICATION CEREMONY Austin finally gets a proper bike share service and B-cycle will be celebrating and letting people try their two-wheelers after the ceremony. Refreshments provided by Whole Foods Market. 9-10:30am. *11th & Congress. Free. www.austin.bicycle.com.*



AUSTIN **B cycle**

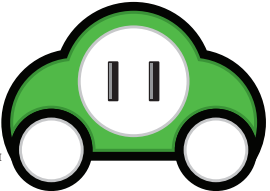
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Colony Park: Finding a Middle Way

Like Goldilocks in the home of the three Bears, residents of northeast Austin told planners last week what designs were “just right” for **Colony Park**. “Block length” was a case in point: They decided an 800-foot block was too long, a 200-foot block too short, and a 400-foot block – which a pedestrian can circle in five minutes – just right.

The Dec. 9 meeting was the second of four scheduled to help plan a new mixed-use development on 208 acres of city-owned land in Colony Park. Funding for the plan comes from a \$3 million **Community Challenge** grant the city won from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s **Sustainable Communities** program. By late spring, the design team, led by **Farr Associates** of Chicago and local Urban Design Group, will finish the master plan, and initial construction plans will be permitted by year’s end. Dirt could start to move in 2015, likely by private builders contracted by the city.

The Colony Park neighborhood and its sister, **Lakeside**, lie north of **Loyola Lane** and south of **Highway 290**, just west of the **Travis County Expo Center**. Between them, the city-owned land is a wild, hilly swath of grass and cedar. Children cut through the area to get to **Overton Elementary**, the recently reopened **Turner-Roberts Recreation Center**, and the multipurpose center next door. The civic buildings sit atop a hill on 50 acres of dedicated parkland the city carved off of its original 258-acre purchase. Maps shade it green and call it “Colony Park,” but that’s a misnomer – it’s devoid of sports fields or playgrounds, amenities on its neighbors’ wish lists.

The public meetings involve residents from a much broader 15-square-mile area in northeast Austin that will be

affected by the project. “You get to shape the future,” **Doug Farr** told them earlier this fall. “In 2030 there will be 1,000 new families living here. Decisions we make today will shape whether we can get our kids to school safely and go places without cars.”

At the October kickoff meeting, residents inventoried the area’s existing strengths and weaknesses. Weaknesses dominated: absentee landlords, crime, a failing middle school, and lack of access to groceries and medical care. Farr’s team then led an “image preference survey,” asking neighbors to choose between pairs of photos: For retail, do you like the design of **Second Street**, with wide sidewalks and ground-floor retail, or do you like a **Walgreens** with a parking lot? “We will try to deliver things you like, and not deliver things you don’t like,” Farr said.

Many of the lowest-rated photos were of Colony Park today; an image of wide, treeless Loyola Lane was derided as looking “like West Texas.” But the brightly colored, contemporary architectural style of the **Agave** neighborhood – part of the larger planning area – won big. “We’re looking for something different” from the suburban ranch-style houses that dominate now, a resident explained.

In last week’s meeting, 60 residents used keypads to vote for design styles in real time. They decided where to put the new development’s residential driveways, how wide to build the streets, and how to manage storm water. At times, their feedback was contradictory. Residents have long wanted a grocery store, restaurants, and entertainment, but they voted against the residential density that would make those amenities possible. Duplexes, town homes, and row houses received low marks because they were associated



with problems in existing multifamily structures. “We want prosperity, and we have enough low-income [housing],” one woman said.

Some of this resistance comes from the perception that northeast Austin is a dumping ground for cheap and subsidized housing. “We want to know what is really coming into our community,” one resident said, suggesting the city had a hidden agenda. “The plan is already on the ground, right?”

“I’m sorry to disappoint you,” Farr replied. “There is no plan,” other than the one coming together that day.

But the city’s original idea for the site – before the grant – was to fill it with low- and moderate-income housing. And clues about the city’s current intentions for the land are reflected in the grant: 500 single-family and 250 multifamily units, 40% of them affordable to residents making 80% of median family income or below.

Whether affordable housing is an opportunity or a threat depends on who’s talking. Homeowners at the meetings associate “**affordable housing**” with an influx of low-income renters. At the same time, some are worried that the neighborhood improvements will lead to gentrification and squeeze existing residents out. Any successful plan will have to avoid the extremes at both ends.

The neighborhood and design team have two more meetings to work out the details of a brand-new, mixed-use, mixed-income development. Affordability and density are two of the biggest areas where they’ll have to make compromises to find what’s just right.

– Robyn Ross

Residents will have a say in how this vacant land in northeast Austin will take shape.



JANA BIRCHUM

Residents were asked to choose between pairs of photos they’d like their neighborhood to look like. Can you tell which of these images rated highest and lowest for “First Impressions?”



Council: Work Done and Happy Holidays!

City Council won’t gather together again officially until the New Year – Jan. 23 (work session Jan. 21) – but members descended the dais after midnight last Thursday (Dec. 12) with a few accomplishments (depending, of course, on your point of view).

After a land-use, political, and environmental struggle of several years, Council essentially ratified the purchase of 606.7 acres of Hays County land known as the **Jeremiah Ventures** tract (after the would-be developer), in a proposed \$18 million deal brokered by the **Nature Conservancy**. Environmental groups and the city had opposed the development because of its scale and location atop the Edwards Aquifer, and because it would employ treated effluent irrigation. Said **Save Our Springs Alliance** Director **Bill Bunch** in supporting the purchase: “Buying this land

for watershed protection is really the ideal outcome for this seven-, eight-year struggle that we’ve been in, over the proposed development of it, up to 1,200 or 1,400 houses and a wastewater irrigation plan.”

The **Parks and Recreation Department** carried a couple of hotly contested items: 1) the installation of parking meters at the **Butler Field** ball parks on Toomey Road; 2) the proposed **Auditorium Shores Improvement Project**. The parking meter proposal is an attempt to balance the needs of park users, nearby businesses (Casa de Luz), and general Downtown parking, where meters are becoming much more common. Not everybody is enthusiastic, notably neighborhood groups, and folks simply accustomed to driving Downtown and finding free space ... in another era. But Council Member **Chris Riley** argued

that business users or Downtown workers are now dominating the spaces and meters will discourage squatting. “What you will find is there is actually parking available for people who want to use the park,” he said. In the end, only CM **Kathie Tovo** opposed the installation, and the vote was 6-1.

The more extended argument was about Auditorium Shores, where planned improvements include a more limited off-leash dog area – strongly opposed by some dog owners accustomed to untrammelled use of the whole park. The **Austin Parks Foundation** and **Trail Foundation** support the changes, which also include major work on the grounds themselves, suffering from years of hard use. (Amy Smith reported in detail on the dispute Dec. 6 in “Then There’s This.”) After roughly two hours of sometimes heated testimony, Council eventually voted unanimously to endorse the plan – although it would not be surprising if that doesn’t settle the matter.

The other heavily watched item was “**Project Connect**,” both a briefing and tentatively a Council endorsement of the “sub-corridors” recommended by the Central Corridor Advisory Group. The arguments were recounted in some detail in last week’s cover story, “Urban Rail: Which Way to Connect?” The central debate, still simmering, is whether the “Highland” or the “Lamar/Guadalupe” sub-corridor should be part of the initial plan. After nearly three hours, Council endorsed the CCAG recommendation of East Riverside and Highland – leaving Lamar/Guadalupe for the next phase. The 2014 question will be if the various advocates can come together over whatever the final plan looks like, and presumably the ballot for November 2014.

Postponed for January fun: revisions proposed for “vested development rights” (i.e., **grandfathering**); and PARD’s proposed Master Plan for **Holly Shores/Fiesta Gardens/Festival Beach**. Woof! – Michael King

Alex,
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♡ Sarah



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NEWS



Superintendent Meria Carstarphen at an AISD board meeting in December 2012

JOHN ANDERSON

Carstarphen Report Card: B for Bland

Seven months of soul searching, and it was all over in five minutes. On Dec. 16, **Austin Independent School District** board president **Vince Torres** ran through the long-overdue annual evaluation of Superintendent **Meria Carstarphen**. The end result was thin gruel, with the blandest of blandishments for the district's CEO, but no overt criticism. Carstarphen's yearly review received a standing ovation from some of the crowd, but it's notable that the board did not offer to extend her contract again.

Normally, the annual evaluation begins before the summer recess and is over in September. This year, it was heavily delayed – partially due to board illnesses, but also because of a lack of consensus in the boardroom. Finally, a decision of sorts was reached. In a brief speech, Torres said that "Overall, the board is pleased with the progress made by the district under Dr. Carstarphen's leadership during the past year." He praised her team for cutting some dropout rates and keeping the district's bond rating high, and praised her personally for rejecting a 3% pay raise for two years in a row.

However, there's a dirty little secret to superintendent evaluations in Texas. No matter how vitriolic the backroom fights, in public, boards will only accentuate the positive

and try to ignore any negatives. So, for example, Torres praised Carstarphen for achievements in two of the five district priorities – cultivating a "whole child, every child" policy rather than teaching to the test, and creating a college-ready culture. However, he was quieter on the other three tenets. Moreover, the report glossed over the catastrophic failure of two of the district's bond measures – especially that of Prop. 4, which went down in no small part due to the inclusion of funding for a boys' academy at Carstarphen's behest.

Most tellingly, the board did not grant Carstarphen a contract extension. In 2011 and 2012, she was given one-year extensions, meaning she's secure until June 2015. That's still longer than any other AISD staff member, as they are all currently employed on one-year contracts. But by not adding more time to her tenure, the board has quietly raised the question of whether the clock is now officially ticking on her time in the district.

Still, even with those clouds on her horizon, the evaluation marked the end of a good, long weekend for Carstarphen. Two days earlier, her parents had visited Austin to see her receive the **Austin NAACP's DeWitty/Overton Freedom Award** for civil rights. The group has been an unwavering

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supporter of her work, and Austin branch president **Nelson Linder** made sure he was front-and-center at Monday's board meeting as Carstarphen delivered her own report to the board. While conceding that "our middle schools have a lot of work to do," she reiterated that Austin is one of the higher-performing districts in the state, and that graduation results are at an "all-time high" of 82.5%. However, she was audibly defensive about criticisms that the district does not provide clear comparisons to the other big cities in Texas, known as the **Metro 8**. She even took potshots at reporting in "the paper" (district shorthand for the *Austin American-Statesman*, which had run an editorial on Dec. 14 arguing that the district should let her contract expire in 2015.)

Both the pro- and anti-Carstarphen forces can arguably walk away claiming a victory. The Carstarphen-boosters were out in force, among them defeated 2006 district board candidate **Alberto Gonzalez** and AISD Facilities Master Plan Task Force member **Larry Amaro** (one of the few supporters among the Allan community of the abortive **IDEA Allan** partnership), both speaking as if the evaluation was a glowing endorsement of her performance. Meanwhile, the last year has undoubtedly seen a cooling of the open warfare between Carstarphen and her critics. After the public backlash over **Allan Elementary** and the **Eastside Memorial** campus, it's been a comparatively peaceful time for the superintendent. "I don't want to see any more fighting," said **Vincent Tovar**, spokesman for **Pride of the Eastside**, summing up the change in mood.

But will this vote be really enough to calm the waters? Carstarphen's tenure remains on a knife edge, and immediately after the evaluation, several board members broke the "**Kumbaya**" chorus. As Carstarphen read out loud the list of schools "frozen to transfers" in the upcoming school year, at-large Trustee **Gina Hinojosa** pushed her for more details on how those campuses were selected. After that, Carstarphen's longest-serving critic, District 7 Trustee **Robert Schneider**, raised the thorny question of when AISD will launch the long-overdue and long-promised districtwide attendance zone re-drawing. The annual tinkering with a few boundaries has done little to alleviate overcrowding in his rapidly-expanding district, and Carstarphen's promise that it will be broached in the next facilities master plan did little to alleviate the tension.

If Carstarphen thinks she has it rough now, she may face a very different board before her contract expires in 2015. The 2012 elections were a referendum on the old trustees, with incumbents replaced by more critical newcomers. It's no secret that 2014 is shaping up to be a repeat of those high-elbows races. Rumors are already spreading that the business community is looking for a candidate to take out Schneider. Meanwhile, when at-large Trustee **Tamala Barksdale** joined the board in 2010, she was expected to be a stronger check on the superintendent. Now she seems likely to face a challenger from the same support base that put her there in the first place. — *Richard Whittaker*

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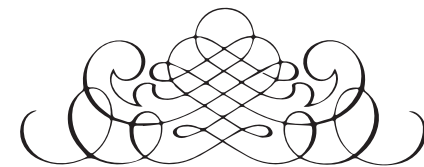
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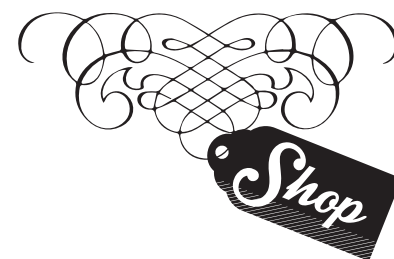
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Rivalry Revs Up for Pct. 2

Sarah Eckhardt's May resignation as Travis County Precinct 2 commissioner to run for retiring County Judge Sam Biscoe's seat touched off a lengthy competition to replace her – one which will have been more than a year in the making by next year's March 4 Democratic primary. Eckhardt's resignation set up an unusual election cycle, in which the two most contested local Democratic primaries are for jobs within Travis County government.

Eckhardt faces former Travis County Democratic Party chairman Andy Brown in the closely matched competition for Travis County's top policy post, while the race to replace Eckhardt as one of the county's four elected commissioners seems set for an unpredictable next couple of months.

Three Democrats with strong résumés and diverse backgrounds are contending for the post: **Brigid Shea**, a former Austin City Council member and longtime local activist on environmental issues who ran a tough race against **Lee Leffingwell** in last year's mayoral election; **Richard Jung**, a former tech entrepreneur and current immigration attorney who's been active in city policy organizations; and **Garry Brown**, a veteran of county government and former chief of staff to former Precinct 3 commissioner **Karen Huber**.

Shea, a former journalist who moved into public advocacy work, arrived in Austin in 1988 and started the Texas chapter of **Clean Water Action**. She co-founded the now legendary local advocacy group **Save Our Springs Coalition**, which succeeded in passing a 1992 ordinance that enshrined protections for the **Edwards Aquifer** and **Barton Creek Watershed**. Encouraged by her colleagues, she said, to run for Council

to protect the ordinance, she won and served from 1993-1996, retiring after the birth of her first son. Her career has lent her a significant degree of name recognition, which even her opponents say is an advantage.

Her eldest son is in high school now, and she says her thinking about the kind of community her kids are likely to inherit is driving her latest campaign. "I'm very concerned about the kind of future we're leaving for the next generation," she says. "I have two teenage boys, and I would love for them to be able to live and work in Austin." But

"we're not on that path." One major thrust of her campaign is a proposed effort to get the Legislature to alter loopholes in the property tax structure – more on that later.

Shea's got a bundle of money – as of the last report, on July 15, she had \$83,375 on hand – and a long list of endorsements, some of them familiar names to those who recall her Nineties advocacy. There's former Texas Agriculture Commissioner **Jim Hightower**, for example, former Austin mayor and state Senator **Kirk Watson** – not to mention the **Austin Firefighters Association** and the Austin and Travis County branch of **AFSCME**. With two-and-a-half months to go before the primary, Shea appears to have a lot of momentum.

Opponent **Richard Jung**, though, says Shea should be getting even more endorse-

ments given her long history in local politics – and sees an opening. A first-generation Korean-American who postponed a career in immigration advocacy and moved to Austin to help take care of his ailing father, Jung helped start a second-source electronics distributor, **Vias International**, which procures and makes equipment for use in semiconductor manufacturing. Vias became a globe-spanning operation – but when Jung's father passed away, he returned to immigration law.

Jung says his business and legal experience provide the potential to bring fresh perspectives and needed expertise to county government – for example, with the "court-

hand. And he says the continuing number of split endorsements in the race – Austin's **Central Labor Council** failed to unite around a candidate, indicating its constituent unions could endorse whom they wished – suggests that he represents a fresher alternative to Shea's potentially older coalition. "I'm a political novice. For me to come in and pick up so many endorsements and organizations, I think that speaks to the fact that someone can win the race besides Brigid," he says. "Even established political people here want something new. And the campaign for us is just starting."

The third Precinct 2 contender is **Garry Brown**, who presents himself as the grassroots candidate. Brown says his pitch – he's the only one in the race with experience working in county government – is resonating with voters, and he's putting his faith in his ability to win over Democratic party activists and build a successful ground game. The Corpus Christi native who stayed in Austin after attending UT-Austin, says only he has the ability to hit the ground running as commissioner, thanks to his inside knowledge of county government, as chief of staff for former Commissioner Huber, and as a current staffer for Precinct 3 Constable **Sally Hernandez**.

"I think there are a lot of things that need to be done to make the county work better. When I first came to work for Karen, 'The wheels of government turn slowly' was kind of the mantra," he said. Pointing to massive population growth projections, he adds: "We can't be doing that anymore." He decries, as do his opponents, the general lack of long-term vision and planning that have characterized the county's inability to deal with population growth.

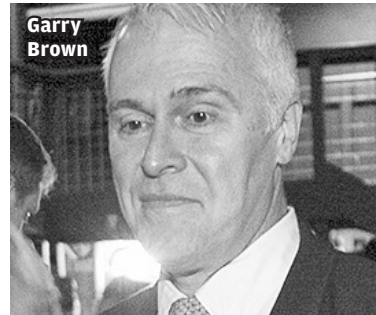
– Christopher Hooks



Brigid Shea



Richard Jung



Garry Brown

house we're going to be building. I want to make sure that we don't have the same problems we've had with past large construction projects." And he's picking up a lot of endorsements, as well. There's Mayor **Lee Leffingwell** and Council Member **Mike Martinez** – whose support for Jung may have something to do with Shea's strong criticism of Leffingwell during the 2012 mayoral race, and her failure to endorse Martinez during the same Council campaign. But Jung has also received the support of groups like the Austin-Travis County **EMS Employees Association** (Jung is a member of the Austin-Travis County EMS Advisory Board).

As of that ancient July 15 financial reporting deadline, Jung had \$87,235 on

Third-Party Candidates Lining Up Again

As Democrats and Republicans head into primary season, it's still busy at the bottom of the ticket. Both the **Libertarian Party** of Texas and the **Green Party** of Texas have announced their list of candidates for the 2014 elections. However, if the accepted political wisdom that the vying third parties are little more than a drag on the slates for the two big parties, it seems the Republicans have far more to worry about from the far-right Libertarians than the Democrats do from the Greens.

There'll be no struggling with the perils of being a write-in candidate for either party. Both gained ballot access in 2014 by winning more than 5% of the vote in the last statewide election. Now they have to capitalize on that. In sheer numbers, the Libertarians had a much more successful year recruiting candidates, with a contender for every statewide, legislative, and Congressional race, plus a bumper crop in county and local races. Some names are already familiar: for example, **Arthur DiBianca** is back for his fourth attempt to unseat Democratic Rep. **Eddie Rodriguez**.

The Greens saw a small but still significant bump in the number of candidates. On Dec. 10, party co-chair **David Wager** announced they will field a

total of 50 candidates across the state, up from the 36 fielded during the 2012 presidential election. Wager said, "Our goal is to provide a progressive alternative to the other two parties in Texas and offer voters more voices and more choices than they might otherwise have on the ballot."

But the odds against either party scoring an upset seem long to nonexistent. The reality is that both do better when there's only a Republican or only a Democrat on the ballot; if a seat is contested by the big two, their share of the vote shrinks. In 2010, the last non-presidential election cycle, the biggest impact was made by **Bob Townsend**, Libertarian challenger to GOP U.S. Rep. **John Culberson**; he pulled in 18% of the vote, but only a handful of the 108 Libertarians running in Texas broke above 3%. The situation is even grimmer for the Greens. Their biggest vote-getter was **Edward Lindsay** in the three-way race for comptroller. Even with no Democrat running, he barely scraped over 6% – just enough to ensure the Green Party a place on the 2014 ballot. This time around, it seems highly likely the Dems will be working to ensure that the Greens will be reduced to a write-in push by the time 2016 comes around.

– Richard Whittaker

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Wish a List

Give 'Til It Helps 2013, Part 1

BY KATE X MESSER

Holiday greetings, friends,

Every year, the cycle rolls back around: pain-need-need-filler. The cycle feels vicious. Is it the same folks who endure the worst of this, year after year, who reluctantly await our benevolence as they try and try and try to navigate a system set up to keep them exactly where they are? Local nonprofits serve needs that represent the physical manifestation of the ultimate trickle-down. As much as we'd like to shrug and blame some vague "other," some monolithic impenetrable that must first fall before we move through, we know in our hearts: The other is us. We each hold the key to so much of the hurt in this world. We each have the power to issue dignity and kindness. We each have what it takes. Many thanks to our local nonprofits for their Herculean, Teresian, Wieselian, Gandhian, Madibian, Aung San Suu Kyi-ian efforts in what often feels like a Sisyphean prank.

Each year, *The Austin Chronicle* invites local nonprofits to submit lists of the things they need to serve our community. Please research the details on what specific items are needed (some are legal mandates, so do call ahead to make sure your gift is appropriate). Hint: Nonprofits *always* need computers/accessories, copies/printing, cash, and your love (i.e., volunteer hours). Let's fulfill some wishes, Austin. — Kate X Messer

Compiled by Kate X Messer, Neha Aziz, Nina Hernandez, and Sarah Marloff. See the full list at austinchronicle.com/wishlist.



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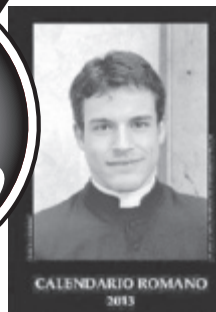
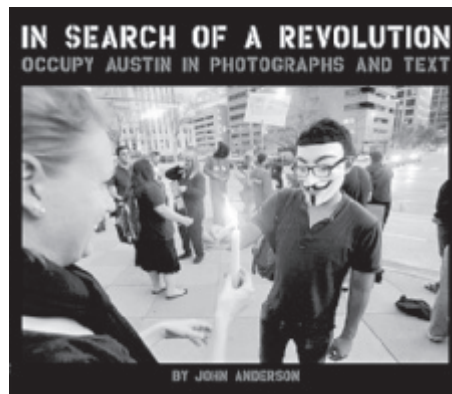
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The Revolution Will Be Photographed

Chronicle staff photographer John Anderson has been documenting Occupy Austin since the very first protest. His new book, *In Search of a Revolution: Occupy Austin in Photographs and Text*, captures every moment - courtroom drama, City Hall encampment, and APD infiltration. It's a powerful (and beautiful) testament to what happens when people have had enough. \$59.99. www.activepresspub.com. Also available: *Occupy Austin: The Encampment Months*, \$24.99.

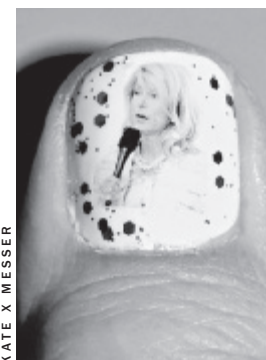


Anno Domini

Maybe it's Pope Francis, and the hope he brings for a new generation, but this year's *Calendario Romano* is particularly filled with vroom. Since 2003, photographer Piero Pazzi has been publishing the calendar as a "way for people to be better informed about the Vatican." We feel positively edified. €10. www.calendarioromano.org.

Nailed It!

She's tough as nails, so why not adorn yours with a mini portrait of Wendy Davis? Meghann Rosales' mobile Nails Y'all business will fix you up with a manicure that will stand out whenever you need to stand with Texas women. www.palomabeauty.com.



- Brandon Watson

THE HIGHTOWER REPORT BY JIM HIGHTOWER

NSA AND DHS DEFEND US AGAINST LIBERTYMANIACS.COM

It's a scary world out there, with global terrorists plotting to kill us.

That's why we must be grateful to the **National Security Agency** and our **Department of Homeland Security**. They're constantly on watch, poised to spring to our defense, no matter from what hellhole the threat emanates. Some homegrown cynics say the billions a year we spend on these two agencies of eternal vigilance is wasted. Yeah? Well, let me rub the noses of those cynics in the dangerous mess right in our own midst that was uncovered and efficiently (dare I say heroically?) dealt with by the proud patriots of the NSA and DHS.

I speak of **LibertyManiacs.com**, a diabolical website run by a fiend named **Dan McCall**. Yes, McCall is an American, but apparently he has been recruited to the dark side, for he's issuing communist-style propaganda that hurts the efforts of our "anti-terror" heroes - or at least it's hurting their feelings.

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.

Specifically, Dan's been selling T-shirts, coffee cups, and other paraphernalia with slogans that mock the two massive spook agencies. For example, one calls DHS the "Department of Homeland Stupidity." Another says: "NSA: The Only Part of Government That Actually Listens." And one even alters the NSA's official logo to read: "Peeping While You're Sleeping."

Top spooks at NSA and DHS were outraged, and both agencies took legal action to try stopping McCall from ... well, from making fun of them. Technically, though, that's not against the law (not yet), so the agencies had to go after him for "mutilation ... or impersonation of government seals."

It turns out that McCall's politics are not at all lefty, but, instead, way out in right field. However, who cares? When two huge, secretive, and powerful agencies try to outlaw parody, that's neither left nor right - it's straight-up stupid.

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Roberto Baylon running his usual route around Hancock Golf Course

PHOTOS BY JANA BIRCHUM

Running to Daylight

Blind runner and teacher determined to see what he can do

BY CHASE HOFFBERGER

I met Roberto Baylon the same day that he'd earned himself a fresh laceration on the right side of his face.

He'd earned it while running – more precisely, while falling – along a stretch of rocks inset down the south side of Hancock Golf Course. He made no mention that the fall also bloodied up a spot on his right shin.

“Got too cocky,” he says. He'll be back running tomorrow, if it's light enough to see.

Baylon, 53, isn't fully blind, though he's legally considered such, and keeps two canes in his bedroom. He lost his vision three years ago – officially, Baylon has been losing his sight since 2008 – but in the half-century before he'd been everywhere around Texas: a childhood spent between El Paso and Ciudad Juárez; time working and schooling himself in the fields of radiology, health administration, and art history in and around Galveston, Dallas, and Phoenix, Ariz. Everywhere he went, he made sure to bring his running shoes. Running helped him collect his thoughts.

“Just to lose weight,” he explains. “Stop smoking. I'd been drinking beers. It was fun, but I had to do something, because otherwise it wasn't going to work out.”

Now, running is an awfully trite symbol for redemption and the triumph of human

spirit, but Baylon really did enjoy it. Since 1980, when he was 20 and living in El Paso, he tried to run as often as he could. He ran his first marathon in Fort Worth in 1991. The New York Marathon followed that November, then again in '92 and again in '96. After that came Dallas, and, most recently, Phoenix in 2006.

In 2007, he moved back to El Paso to take care of family. A year later, he was waking up to blood splotches around the retina of his left eye.

Seeing in the Dark

The cause was diabetes. Baylon had been insulin-dependent for 20 years. By the time he had his first surgery, in April 2010, glaucoma had already begun its work. Doctors tried retina reattachments and valves to stabilize the disorder; nothing did the trick. He was diagnosed as legally blind that year: 20/200 vision in his functioning right eye. Not dark, entirely, but void of any definition. “Nine surgeries in full,” he says. Most recently, in November, a doctor installed a prosthetic ball into his left socket, to replace the eye he'd lost.

Going blind did nothing to damage Baylon's psyche. He says his “Why me?” moment came when he developed diabetes

If the cane's echo changes, you've entered somewhere new.

around 30 – but blindness wreaked havoc on his lifestyle. Work became too difficult; he'd lost much of his ability to see art. And running couldn't happen. He'd already stopped that at the end of 2009.

By then, Baylon had gotten involved with the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, a statewide program that affords disability care to the blind, the deaf, and children with developmental delays. There are a number of statutes and regulations for admission to the DARS program, but if you're legally blind, you stand a good chance of getting in.

Once in, you match up with a vocational rehabilitation counselor and work together to determine what kind of services you're going to need. DARS offers seven services for the visually impaired, including a Vocational Rehabilitation program designed to help get the newly blind working again, and an Independent Living program, which helps individuals accomplish everyday tasks like stocking their refrigerators or making their beds each morning.

Baylon and his counselor thought it would be smart if he came to Austin, where DARS is headquartered, and enrolled in the Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center, a free, intensive training facility off Lamar Boulevard and 48th Street. (The center is named after Judge Criss Cole, who lost his sight as a Marine during World War II, and served in the Legislature from 1955 to 1970.)

“One of the best things I have done,” he says. “They teach you how to be independent. You have to go through what everybody else is doing. If you're not blind, you use a blindfold,” every single day from 8am until 5pm.

Bragging Rights

Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center keeps annotated photographs on the walls that line the khaki-colored halls of its two-story rehabilitative facility. “Roy Henderson (Victoria) reaches into a bus engine,” reads one. “Gilbert Sanchez (El Paso) enjoys the tranquility of a beautiful pond while sitting on a rustic footbridge at Zilker Park,” reads another.

“One of our focuses is developing confidence,” explains Brenda Stone, the vocational rehabilitation coordinator at CCRC, who showed me around the facility. “A lot of time, if you grew up blind, you never really got the opportunity to develop the kind of confidence you might need in adult life. And let's say you go blind as an adult: All of a sudden, you can't do the things you used to be able to do. That takes your confidence away. What we do here is focus a lot on bringing that back.”

Criss Cole rebuilds that confidence by instilling in participants the daily rigors of everyday life, like fixing toilets, rewiring table lamps, sending an email to your mother, or throwing some soup into a hot pot.

Eventually, adaptation. And in some cases, improvement. As in the computer room, where Baylon, formerly a two-fingered typist, learned to feel the full keyboard and strike the keys with 10 fingers.

There's an industrial arts area, where students are tasked to build household objects like boxes or furniture. The program starts with the identification of every tool within a toolbox, then the dissection and subsequent reconstruction of a door knob under the guise of a “Mindfold” – a heavy-duty blindfold. “That teaches us a lot about how to work with people,” explains Kirt Hibbits, who runs the shop. “It might take them four minutes, it might take 15. It might take them the entire class period.”

The point, no matter the time it takes, is for these students to rack up some bragging rights. “A lot of sighted people have never



Roberto Baylon works a power saw under the guidance of Kirt Hibbits at the Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center.

used power tools,” Stone says. “For a blind person to do that, it’s a pretty big accomplishment.” In Baylon’s case, those bragging rights derived from building a table, something he had never done before, which he painted blue and decorated with a plate-glass finish before presenting it to a friend.

“There’s this bond,” he says of the whole space, which fluctuates around 60 students (CCRC caters to roughly 200 Texans every year) and 100 staffers, many of whom are visually impaired themselves. “Everybody’s an example of things you can do or try. Everybody’s got different goals, but you can learn from them. The counselors are the same way. A lot of them are blind and have gone to school and led productive lives – some are getting Ph.D.s.”

‘Feel for the Sun’

The scene I saw that afternoon functioned much like a high school between classes, with as many people hanging out in the hallways checking out their phones as there were students at a computer. Two of them lounged in the shop while I fumbled through power saws, and Christmas decorations hung throughout the kitchen. A peanut gallery assembled outside one room, and stood joking when they learned I’d be a guinea pig for their daily rigors.

Of these, the most essential thing that I experienced was the class on mobility. That was Baylon’s favorite, because that’s the one that throws the students into the strangest situations – Baylon remembers one time when he found himself alone out by some creek – with little in the way of hand-holding. He loved the adventures and challenges of each mission, and the ways in which whoever was taking him would slip away so quietly.

“That’s where you start learning to hear things, or feel for the sun,” he remembers. “Any sign that’s going to orient you, or give an advantage, you start to use that.”

When I went under the blindfold, my instructor Scott Meyer, the orientation and mobility supervisor at CCRC, coerced me down a hallway and stopped me just long enough to familiarize my ears with a soda machine, then instructed me outside and told me to stop walking when I felt the heat of the sun. The sun goes east to west, he reminded, but it’s also always south.

Keep the cane tapping, and listen for people. Ask questions. Feel breezes. If the cane’s echo changes, you’ve entered somewhere new.

Art and Marathons

Baylon keeps two paintings in his apartment: an old one from his parents’ house that his mother gave him, in the kitchen; and a reprint of Caspar David Friedrich’s *The Monk by the Sea*, an early 19th century painting that depicts a monk standing stoically as a storm builds off the coast. That one hangs above his bed. In the original, the sky’s gray, but Baylon had a friend

paint it much darker. “It symbolizes a storm coming,” he says. “A lot of people interpret it a different way, but ever since I started losing my vision ... it looks like he’s going to be wiped out, but the guy is just facing it.”

In the two years since leaving Criss Cole, Baylon’s gotten himself further reacclimated to daily life by teaching Spanish and volunteering at the Volunteer Healthcare Clinic on Medical Parkway, something he never considered before going blind. He exercises two-and-a-half hours every day – this involves, among other things, a single set of 1,000 straight-leg sit-ups – and he’s thinking about using his bachelor’s in art history to begin teaching again.

“I wanted to do counseling at first, but I had no background with that, so I was going to have to do a little extra. Then I started thinking, ‘Well, is your heart really in this?’ My heart is in helping. That’s why I volunteer. I spoke with one of the counselors who’s completely blind. She said, ‘You have a passion for art. Why don’t you teach art?’”

Baylon also began running again in March. Though it’s only possible between 11am and 4pm, and entirely dependent on the amount of sunlight hitting the streets at that time, he gets out as often as he can, running slightly more slowly than he used to, certainly, but still swift enough to draw that laceration on his brow. Generally, he runs from his apartment in Hyde Park to the perimeter of the Hancock Golf Course, which he circumnavigates a few times before heading home. His longest run to date’s been six miles, though that’ll change if he goes through with his plan.

In February, Baylon intends to run the Austin Marathon with his friend, who he first ran alongside in Fort Worth in 1991, who’ll lead him with a tie-and-leash contraption that’ll keep Baylon in line. His goal is to get back to New York – the

most iconic of all marathons, the one Baylon ran three times in the Nineties – but it won’t be in accordance with the race’s time standards. 3:06:00 is not possible for a 53-year-old blind man. Instead, he’s working with Achilles International, a nonprofit dedicated to training disabled runners and helping them all land a spot in New York. Last year, the group sent 300 runners to the Gotham City footrace, providing transportation, guidance, and a support system throughout the weekend.

Baylon says he’s not in running shape now, but he ran that first marathon in ’86 without any type of proper training, and his cardio’s up to speed.

“Once I get started on something, it becomes a challenge,” he says. “Even if I hate it at first, it’s like ‘Okay, is this all you got?’ I see the other people at Achilles now who are in way worse shape than I am. They’re persevering and moving forward. It’s just a personal challenge. It’s the satisfaction of saying, ‘You know what? I can.’”



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- 5:30PM *Beat the Rush* with Mariachi Relámpago
- 6PM Film Screening: *La mujer sin cabeza* [The Headless Woman]
- 7:30PM Art Gazes tour

Plus, enjoy wine and a slice of gourmet pizza for only \$5 in the Blanton Café.

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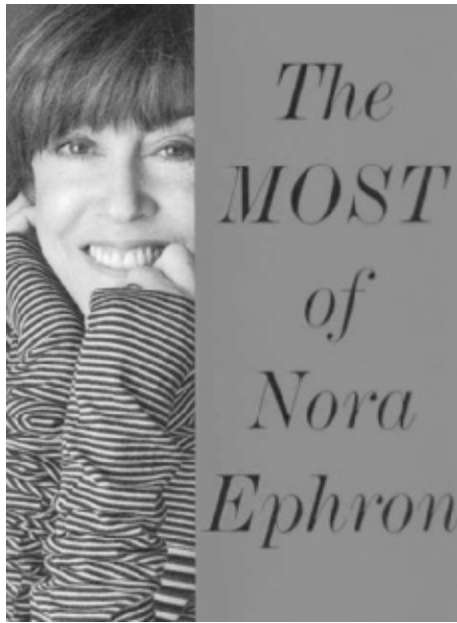
THE ARTS

Get Booked

BIG NAMES AND NEWCOMERS DELIGHT IN THIS COLLECTION OF RECENT RELEASES

Whether you're still shopping for friends and family or desperately looking for a small literary escape from the hustle and bustle of holiday travel and too many family get-togethers, you'll find something worth exploring in this group of fall releases. May your biggest struggle be deciding whether to gift it or keep it for yourself. – *Monica Riese*

For our complete collection of present suggestions, visit austinchronicle.com/giftguide.



The Most of Nora Ephron

by **Nora Ephron**
Knopf, 576 pp., \$35

Essayist. Humorist. Screenwriter. Filmmaker. Journalist. Blogger. It took four paragraphs for her *New York Times* obituary to run through all the hats Nora Ephron wore before arriving at "Novelist." The delayed credit was certainly no slight to her bestselling novel, *Heartburn* – only an indicator of the breadth of her talent. This hefty new collection pays tribute to "the most" of Ephron, reprinting in full *Heartburn*, her 1983 roman à clef about the bust-up of her marriage to Washington political reporter Carl Bernstein, as well as her Oscar-nominated screenplay for *When Harry Met Sally* and the script for two-act play *Lucky Guy*, Ephron's final work. Her nonfiction fills out the rest of the book, with dispatches from her days as a reporter, foodie reveries, memoir writing, meditations on feminism, and profiles of famous women (her pungent portrait of *Cosmopolitan* editor Helen Gurley Brown belongs on the syllabus for every college magazine writing course). The scope is astonishing, and the writing – witty, self-deprecating, alternately soothing and scalding – is something to be savored.

– *Kimberley Jones*

Perfect for: J-school dropouts, beef borscht fans, mothers, daughters

S. by **Doug Dorst and J.J. Abrams** **Little, Brown, and Company, 472 pp., \$35**

Doug Dorst wrote this book because J.J. Abrams had an idea. Dorst you may know because you've read or heard of his first novel, *Alive in Necropolis*, or his excellent collection of short stories, *The Surf Guru*. Abrams you know because *Lost*, because *Star Trek*, because *duh*; Abrams you can now know for having the savvy to team with a man who's turned his idea – "a romance occurs between two people writing in the margins of a book" – into a many-layered literary object that reads like something Edgar Allan Poe and Jorge Luis Borges might've penned after being enchanted by *Griffin and Sabine*. The main novel, called *Ship of Theseus*, is a creepy, symbol-heavy thriller from the Forties about a writerly cadre's possibly terrorist-related program activities throughout history; it's ostensibly written by the reclusive V.M. Straka. The margin notes flooding the pages are by two young academics, Jen and Eric, who become involved in the violent, real-world mystery of Straka as they communicate via the book as a sort of mail drop. The whole complex, gorgeously packaged thing is fitted out with collateral items – postcards, handwritten notes, photocopied records, a napkin from a campus cafe – and will, like a maelstrom, draw you deep into its weird and wordy demesne.

– *Wayne Alan Brenner*

Perfect for: literary thrill-seekers, design mavens, fans of the maritime macabre

Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore by **Robin Sloan** **Picador, 304 pp., \$15** (paper)

It's amazing what we'll do for something we believe in: travel to the other side of the continent, commit theft, organize hundreds of the world's most powerful engineers and programmers In *Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore*, Clay Jannon does all this and more just to solve the mystery of his new employer's peculiar clientele.

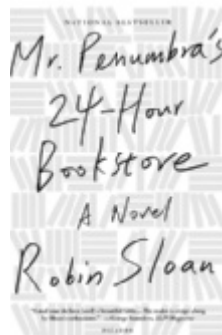
Or at least that's how it started.

Ultimately, Jannon and his friends – a respectable cadre of smart twentysomethings living in the Bay Area – unravel a thread much longer than one San Francisco storefront, but they do it all in the name of adventure, of discovery, and, ultimately, of faith.

There's a strong technological undercurrent that will surely date this story faster than you can say "Google," as well as an inexplicable enthusiasm for rock climbing among its characters, but it's a spirited tale full of passionate people, and that's something we can believe in.

– *Monica Riese*

Perfect for: typography nerds, librarians, start-up junkies



The Goldfinch by **Donna Tartt** **Little, Brown, and Company, 784 pp., \$30**

One of the supreme pleasures for the fiction enthusiast is the immersive power of a novel to enthrall the reader so successfully that when the reverie finally breaks, the coffee's gone cold and the lengthy shadows of twilight approach.

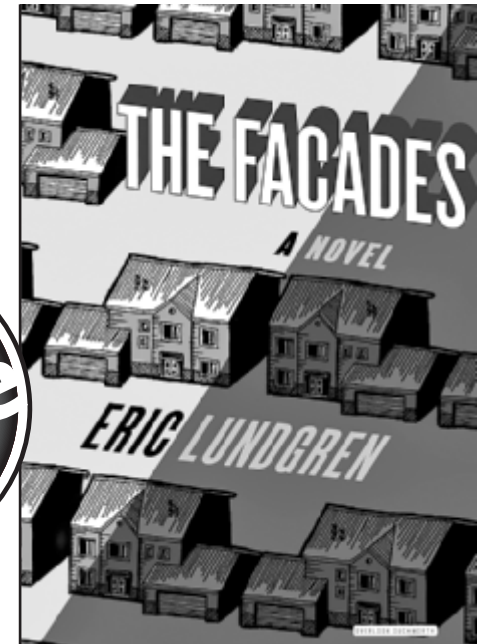
So it is with Donna Tartt's novel, *The Goldfinch*, her first new work in 11 years. Fans of *The Secret History*, Tartt's 1992 debut about pagan shenanigans at an elite college in Vermont, will be right at home here, as the author retains her skill of drawing the reader into a briskly paced story of erudite prose.

Taking more than a few pages from Dickens, Tartt weaves a bildungsroman of fate and coincidence, of tragic reversals and fortuitous convergences. Theo Decker is a 13-year-old who becomes unmoored when his mother is killed in a New York museum bombing of which he is one of the few survivors. After impulsively stealing the titular painting (by 17th century Dutch artist Carel Fabritius) in the chaotic aftermath of the explosion, Theo is placed in the home of a society family on Park Avenue before being whisked away by his deadbeat dad to the desolate, eerily empty suburban sprawl of Las Vegas.

Theo's journey eventually takes him into the international art and antiques black market, full of dangerous Ukrainian gangsters and double-crossing junkies. But through it all, Theo clings to his illicit goldfinch, his only respite against the loneliness and aching loss of his mother. With meditations on art, addiction, and finding meaning in a soulless world, *The Goldfinch* is a triumph – mandatory reading for any serious bibliophile.

– *Josh Kupecki*

Perfect for: brooding art history majors, antiquarians, fans of curling up



The Facades

by **Eric Lundgren**
Overlook Duckworth, 272 pp., \$25.95

Sven Norberg, the narrator of *The Facades*, St. Louis citizen Eric Lundgren's first novel, is one sullen fellow. So sullen, in fact, that, for about three-quarters of the book's pages, it's pretty much all you know about him. Said sullenness comes with good reason: His wife, Molly, a decorated opera singer in the estranged couple's fictional town of Trude, disappeared unexpectedly before the novel's commencement. Dude has no idea where she went. Therapeutically, he roams Trude's streets, describing – in fantastic detail – each nook and cranny to the point that the town, a struggling Midwestern municipal seemingly plucked from eastern Europe's 20th century, assumes more personality than any character save for Norberg's dejected kid, Kyle. This all holds true until the story's spoil unwinds, something that happens so anticlimactically and late in the game you barely notice Lundgren's pulled the sheet out.

– *Chase Hoffberger*

Perfect for: late-blooming history nuts, aspiring urban planners, operatic fanatics



Claude van Lingen

JANA BIRCHUM

Father Time

Claude van Lingen's conceptual artwork counts down from 1,000

BY ANDY CAMPBELL

Even for Co-Lab's ever-mutable Project Space, this was a dramatic installation: dozens of narrow boards, each with one mirrored side, dangled from the ceiling as four high-power projectors threw live feeds from popular news channels: FOX, CNN, HLN, MSNBC. The finely styled coifs and visages of news anchors refracted endlessly off the spinning mirrors, at times transforming the simple four-walled space into an impossible maze. Here was Jane Velez-Mitchell (or was it Greta van Susteren?) informing viewers that New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's bid for re-election resulted in a landslide win, and there was Anderson Cooper warning of Syria's stockpiles (or was it the Nashville plane crash?). On one wall, a pundit speculated on Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius' imminent testimony before Congress, effectively channeling a nation's frustrations with the Healthcare.gov website into wild gesticulations. The word "Luddite" was used.

For most of us, it's not news that we thrive on a daily dose of echo-chamber informatics; but knowing it and feeling it are two different things. In this funhouse of media – more horrorshow than pleasure palace – entrapment was the dominant

affective mode. Amidst the visual and sonic cacophony, septuagenarian artist Claude van Lingen calmly snapped pictures of his installation. Slightly bent over yet still a commanding presence, van Lingen had, in short order, made an incisive critique of contemporary media and politics with his installation *1000 Years From Now, Now, Now, Now, Now.* Said one of Co-Lab's gallery assistants, "I can never stay in here for very long."

How is a length of time measured and crystallized as form? This is a key concern in van Lingen's diverse artistic practice, where timescales dip into millennia, layers of graphite and paint accrete like geological strata, and the performance of drawing is an integral part of the final product. Van Lingen's life and career trajectory, from South Africa to New York to Austin, traces a line of influence that, while not yet widely acknowledged, is certainly felt in the corridors of art-school pedagogy and in the reverential reflections of his students and family. Still, he cuts an odd figure in an Austin arts landscape peppered with young MFAs and post-MFAs, not least because of the seeming paradox between his advanced age and a diamond-sharp conceptual schema.

'It Was Incredibly Lonely'

As police opened fire on the thousands of protesters in the township of Sharpeville, South Africa (eventually leaving 69 people dead, including women and children), they were perhaps unaware of how their actions would catalyze an international response to the 12-year-old apartheid government – apartheid being the systematized segregation and resettlement of, and state-sanctioned violence toward, non-white South Africans, largely instituted by an Afrikaner ethnic minority. While the fallout from the 1960 Sharpeville massacre most prominently resulted in the levying of economic sanctions and boycotts from European and African

Greenberg, the embargo was absolute. Students, then, had to learn about contemporary art from their teachers. Another one of van Lingen's students during that time, Trevor Gould, who is now professor of sculpture at Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec, admits, "It was incredibly lonely. There was nothing like making a sculpture that had a rapport with what was going on in Europe and knowing that you were, in some senses, sitting alone in South Africa." Van Lingen cut this isolation for his students, exhibiting works that were as experimental as he was asking them to be. "There was a lot of respect given to him by young students like myself." Says Stopforth, "It was very much by example that Claude influenced us."

At the time of the Sharpeville massacre, van Lingen was on sabbatical in Paris from his job as a high school teacher in Meyerton, only 20 minutes from Sharpeville. By 1965, he became chairman of the Teacher Training Department at the Johannesburg College of Art. In his 13 years at JCA, van Lingen consistently clashed with faculty members who, while they seemingly embraced newer abstract styles of painting, only did so under the guise of reinforcing Afrikaner nationalist and normative notions of family and politics. Van Lingen couldn't have been farther from such positions. While he does have Afrikaner ancestry, his family "was Anglicized around the turn of the 19th century." Says the artist, "They were drillers for water in the mines, and I went to English boarding schools at convents all of my life. My mother was a single mother. So I felt more English than Afrikaner." Gould confirms that English-speaking South Africans like himself "were automatically consecrated as liberals, but for Afrikaners it wasn't so clear."

During these tense years in South Africa, van Lingen didn't remain artistically aloof; it was only a short time after the Soweto Uprising that van Lingen began to make preparations to leave Johannesburg for New York City. "I'm very concerned about this little Earth and all the troubles that go on here," says van Lingen, "because of the political situation in the country and the school, I got out of it. I moved to New York to get my MFA at Pratt."

How is a length of time measured and crystallized as form? This is a key concern in van Lingen's diverse artistic practice, where timescales dip into millennia, layers of graphite and paint accrete like geological strata, and the performance of drawing is an integral part of the final product.

nations, artists and cultural producers living in South Africa felt its effects most acutely in the (in)accessibility of experimental and conceptual art from Europe and the Americas. Paul Stopforth, who teaches at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and one of van Lingen's former students at the Johannesburg College of Art, remembers, "We never got to see the real thing. We only learned through reproductions and slides." Except for the odd exhibition or a once-in-a-lifetime lecture by modernist critic Clement

At the time of van Lingen's move, the artist was making "flexibles," large sculptures made from different colors of polyurethane foam. Unaware of continental sculptors such as John Chamberlain, who were conducting similar (but smaller-scale) experiments in foam, van Lingen began to investigate principles of balance and body through industrial material. Splayed open or stuffed into Plexiglas vitrines, van Lingen's flexibles were programmed into the 1975 São Paulo Biennial. Installation photographs of this

international exhibition show van Lingen's work, bright and bubbly, effervescing against a mostly drab room hung with abstract work. The sensual pleasures of the flexibles are aptly described in a contemporary review of van Lingen's work: "Foam bulging through a wire mesh invites prodding; curving and swirling, interlocking and hanging foam forms provide a strong visual pleasure."

Creative Thinking and Teaching

Because of their cost and shelf-life ("the damn things wouldn't last for more than a month."), van Lingen abandoned the flexibles on his move to New York. It was there that he began a new series of works, "1000 Years From Now," inspired by a trip to Pearl Paint on New York's bustling Canal Street. Sizing up the various manufactured paints for purchase, van Lingen wondered, "Well, OK, if I take the cobalt blue from six manufacturers and I paint them in panels next to each other, would they be the same?" Fueled by this line of inquiry, "The question came as to whether this would be true for the next 100 years, or 1,000 years from now." And so began van Lingen's earnest engagement with longer timescales – encompassing many tens of generations.

Van Lingen was, in fact, putting his own pedagogy into practice. As part of the foundations faculty at the Johannesburg College of Art, he had developed a course in "creative thinking" titled Perceptual Studies. Inspired by discussions with artist, designer, and architect friends, and Alex Osborn's *Applied Imagination*, this course sought to teach students technique alongside a learned and sustained curiosity about meaning and materials. Gould remembers one exercise where students took a 2' x 3' piece of board and placed stuffing atop it in mounds, covering it with canvas, "so you could draw parallel lines on this irregular surface and understand how line created form." But this was only the first in a multi-step process through which students "arrived at some smart and interesting works. They were flat, didn't have any representational content, but they existed as paintings. It was interdisciplinary, although we didn't use that word then. And perhaps more meaningful because of that." The purpose, for van Lingen, was always to give students a better insight into what kind of artists they could be: "Early on, I asked students to bring to class an object that they liked or disliked, and then they subjected these objects to three or four months of intense visual analysis." He adds, "Through many processes, including research, we got a gestalt. At the end of class, I presented the students with what they had created, saying 'This is you. You've got to know yourself and find your passions.'"

While in New York, van Lingen worked a day job for Scholastic Corporation and was beholden to the fickle fates of the publishing industry. "When a popular series was canceled, Scholastic would fire a bunch of employees; such was the case when *Goosebumps* was canceled in the 1990s and 400 employees, including me, were fired." Hired back soon after by an art director, van Lingen's tenure at Scholastic ran until the final installment of the wildly popular *Harry*

Potter series was imminent. Says the artist, "I just smelled it. And my lady friend at the time was moving to Austin, and I decided I'd move with her." This turned out to be a prescient move, as the night of his farewell party in New York, the art director who once had saved van Lingen from unemployment approached the artist with the news that he had just been fired.

1000 Years From Now, Now, Now, Now, Now.

The BBC call-in radio show *World Have Your Say* is on when I visit van Lingen's home on a quiet street. Work created in the almost 60 years that the artist has now been active peppers the walls, leaving few empty spaces. Gigantic process-oriented drawings – where bits of graphite have gently rained down a sheet of paper evincing rainclouds and the scrim of attendant raindrops – hold court next to brightly collared paintings – the number 1,000 resting scumbly atop all previous integers. It is clear from such obsessive and rigorous work that the eureka moment van Lingen had on Canal Street in 1978 continues to drive his practice.

A series of 15 slim, horizontal paintings are perhaps van Lingen's finest examples of this series. Each canvas is divided into 1,000 squares, each designating a year continuing forward from 1986. For every new year, the artist buys a pre-designated manufactured color paint, and applies it in the appropriate year's square. Thus far, only 28 of the 1,000 squares have been filled, and looking at the canvas it's easy to be overwhelmed by the enormity of the conceptual task van Lingen has lain out for himself.

Ah, but here's the rub: Van Lingen's granddaughter, Meghan McKnight, who lives only a few streets away from the artist, has begun to take up her grandfather's mantle. Raised in Johannesburg and Cape Town, South Africa, McKnight only saw her grandfather "every couple or few years. When he visited, he would show us his drawings, and because I was interested in art, he would give me tips on making work." Moving to Austin in her early 20s, McKnight started to help van Lingen in 2007. "He initially showed me how to paint the different blocks," says McKnight, "but after a couple years of helping him do this, he told me, 'Eventually you'll need to carry on doing this after I pass.' It's something I'm happy to carry on and hopefully pass on to my children."

Van Lingen's thousand-year gambit is not merely a conceptual gesture, but rather an expressed need for continuity beyond the span of a life. While the works often look systemic and cold, their need for maintenance is all too human. They age, sometimes poorly; they need care, sometimes mind-numbingly specific; and they persist, paradoxically shifting and constant. In van Lingen's life and work, says Trevor Gould, "It was about feeling like an artist. You can go through training, you can learn all kind of techniques, but feeling like an artist ... now that is a different proposition." ■

"1000 Years From Now, Now, Now, Now, Now." is on view through Jan. 4, Wednesdays, 5:30-8pm, and by appointment, at N Space, 905 Congress. For more info, visit www.co-labprojects.org.

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EXHIBITIONISM

This Wonderful Life

Zach Whisenhunt Stage, 1510 Toomey,
512/476-0541

www.zachtheatre.org

Through Dec. 29

Running time: 1 hr., 35 min.

So much comes down to faith. When one of the heavenly agents who dispatches aid to mortals in crisis questions the intelligence of Clarence Obody, Angel Second Class, for a mission in Bedford Falls, his colleague counters, "But he has the faith of a child." When the subject of Clarence's assignment tries to persuade the depositors in his family's building and loan association not to panic and withdraw their funds, he tells them, "We've got to have faith in each other." This man, who I suspect you know is named George Bailey, demonstrates his faith in others and his God throughout the 1946 film *It's a Wonderful Life*, and when Martin Burke states his desire to recount that story for a Zach Theatre audience, portraying George, Clarence, and some three dozen other characters in Frank Capra's now-canonized yuletide tale all by himself, he does so with faith of his own: in his abilities as an actor, in this parable that deserves to be shared, and in us to attend to it and find meaning there.

That Burke's expression of love for *It's a Wonderful Life* may come from Steve Murray's script for this one-man stage adaptation matters little, because the actor imbues his performance with such a palpable affection for, and belief in, the film. To borrow a joke that Burke himself



COURTESY OF KIRK TUCK

makes here, punning on the title of another of his solo shows at Zach, he's "fully committed," and as he moves through George's history, with all its sacrifices and disappointments that blind him to its joys and accomplishments, and then into the disorienting, terrifying vision of life if he'd never been born, Burke becomes an evangelist for its message that, as Clarence puts it, "Each man's life touches so many other lives, and when he isn't around, he leaves an awful hole." He never oversells the point, in part because Murray gives him room to acknowledge the one-man-show conceit and tease its absurdities, as well as some of the film's (A bank examiner working Christmas Eve? Really?), but

mostly because director Richard Robichaux brings such clarity to the storytelling, focusing Burke's efforts so he captures each character's essence and can shift from one to another with moves as simple as a tilt of his head. That elegance extends to the understated set by la Ensterä, Jason Amato's lighting, K. Eliot Haynes' sound, and Blair Hurry's costume.

Ultimately, though, this is Burke's vehicle. But unlike *Fully Committed* or *The Santaland Diaries*, here he doesn't so much take the stage as give it, to this story about faith. And whether or not we know the tale already, we come to believe in it because Burke does, so honestly.

— Robert Faïres

The Nutcracker

Dell Hall at the Long Center, 701 W. Riverside, 512/476-2163

www.balletaustin.org

Through Dec. 23

Playful without being cartoonish, traditional yet fresh, Holly Highfill's breathtaking new set designs rendered Ballet Austin's *The Nutcracker* a live picture book of the kind you want to dive into. The Staulbaums' living room, in yellows, pale greens, and rose, was period-perfect and warm. When the tree grew to reveal the world beneath the boughs, where the battle scene takes place, the loudest crash of the cymbals and brassiest brass brought the entrance of two mammoth-sized, primary-colored, wooden pull-toys that towered over the soldiers and rodents. What a thrill!

The battle scene, which often plods along at a tin soldier's pace, flew by too quickly for me on Saturday evening:

I wanted more time to steep in that painted, wooden world, and also to marvel at the new, richly textured, jewel-toned costumes by Judanna Lynn, the crowning brilliance of which was the weapon wielded by the Rat King. He sought to slay the Nutcracker not with the requisite sword but with a gleaming, oversize butter knife — which had both my 7-year-old daughter and me giggling with delight.

After the battle, a few wooden trees begat a forest of white worthy of Robert Frost's snowy woods: deep, dizzying, enthrall-

ing. Against it, the corps of snowflakes costumed in skirts of a perfect drape — the layers reminiscent of the tiered skirts in the party — animated the scene, amidst glistening snowfall and Tony Tucci's magic-hour violet light. Act II's scenery, in layers of pinks and purples — perhaps the colors of candies of bygone days — was at the same time scrumptious and too lovely to eat. Layers of flowery confections bordered a backdrop that glowed in various hues, and with each divertissement, a new sweet or ornament was lowered in, adding layer upon layer to the gorgeous scenario, the stuff of sugarplum dreams.

And the dancing? The entire cast fared well, many at their best, clearly galvanized by their garments and surroundings.

Yet with any art experience, what is presented to you collides with what you bring with you. Or whom. I think that a companion of the age of 7, positioned on the precipice between fantasy and reason, is ideal for this ballet. Though my daughter usually eschews rhine-

stones and tulle, she allowed herself a whispered adoration of the Snow Queen and King in glittering, midnight blue. But she also asked questions of logic. Why, after the battle scene, did angels appear? I was stumped; they don't contribute to the plot. "For magic," I supposed. She accepted this, but as the little gold-skirted girls scurried around Clara, I realized I was quite wrong. The angels are there because that's the point in the score when the harp enters, gliding over the soaring strings. — Jonelle Seitz



COURTESY OF TONY SPIELBERG

A painted, wooden world worth steeping in:
The Nutcracker attacks the rats.

We Were Nothing
Monstrosity Studio, 2514 Wilson

www.poisonappleinitiative.com

Through Dec. 21

Running time: 1 hr., 10 min.

We live in hyper-connected times, and *We Were Nothing* is billed as a play about the world that technology has created for young people to live in. While Poison Apple Initiative describes it as "what happens when relationships never have to have an expiration date," those themes are incidental to the 70 minutes of theatre the company presents. In fact, it's not about much of anything at all, which makes it downright interminable.

Like previous productions from the company, *We Were Nothing* is staged in a nontraditional space: here, a cramped condo. Unlike that other work, though, this play has no connection to the space it occupies; one gets the feeling that Poison Apple picked it because it was free. Will Arbery's play concerns two college-aged women, Kelly and Shelley (Kayla Newman and Terah Zolman), as they text, call, poke, and Skype their way through senior years at their geographically disparate schools.

Terah Zolman (l) and Kayla Newman



The biggest problem with *We Were Nothing* isn't the disconnect between the venue and the material, though — it's the disconnect between the material's ostensible goal of highlighting how technology has strained relationships and the fact that the play doesn't show a relationship that's changed by social media, or by anything else. When we first encounter Kelly and Shelley, they're in the midst of an awkward friendship that is clearly struggling to endure the transition to adulthood. Over the next hour, a series of scenes depicts that awkward friendship over and over, in exactly the same way: The two don't connect, they're not there for each other, etc. The scenes could be placed in literally any order and the play would make the same amount of sense; the ostensible climax, in which they sit in a living room together and have nothing to say, might as well be the opening scene.

None of this is helped by the fact that *We Were Nothing* gives us nothing else to engage with. Kelly and Shelley are the barest of sketches — both script and production treat them with contempt. Director Bastion Carboni has Newman and Zolman end their lines with condescending uptalk and seems to discourage them from portraying either character with a modicum of self-possession. The occasionally empathetic moment from one of the actors quickly gets buried under the turgid script, which wastes entire scenes with shit like having them moon over the supposed depth of "Somebody That I Used to Know" by Australian one-hit-wonder Gotye. We're actively encouraged to view Kelly and Shelley as vapid, and with no substance to their relationship, that's easy enough to do.

From its say-nothing script to its lazy staging to its trite revelations that, er, sometimes people grow apart, *We Were Nothing* is unlikable, bad theatre — not up to Poison Apple's best or the standard it sets for stage productions.

— Dan Solomon

A GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JAZZ CHRISTMAS
Kirk Whalum, Lalah Hathaway & Gerald Albright
SAT, DEC 21

PINK FLOYD LASER SPECTACULAR
NEW YEAR'S EVE
TUE, DEC 31

JEFF COFFIN & THE MU'TET
SUN, JAN 12

EDDIE MONEY
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Dailey & Vincent
SAT JAN 18

Gregg Rolie
SUN JAN 19

Stickmen
MON JAN 20

Hot Tuna
TUE JAN 21

Walking Woody's Road
FRI JAN 24

BS&T
BLOOD SWEAT & TEARS
SAT JAN 25

Stanley Jordan
SUN JAN 26

Strunz & Farah
FRI JAN 31

Hal Ketchum
SAT FEB 1

Pamela Hart, Nada Stearns & Thomas Hughes
SUN FEB 9

Hiroshima
THU FEB 13

The Official Blues Brothers Revue
FRI FEB 14

Gypsy Allstars
SUN FEB 16

Paul Byrom
THU FEB 20

The Guess Who
FRI FEB 21

Monte Montgomery
THU FEB 27

Jon Anderson Voice of Yes
SUN FEB 23

The Chieftains AT RIVERBEND CENTRE
WED FEB 26

The Lettermen
FRI FEB 28

Sharon Corr
TUE MAR 4

Noche Flamenca
THU & FRI MAR 6 & 7

Johnny Clegg
WED MAR 19

Arturo Sandoval
FRI MAR 21

Marc Cohn
FRI MAR 28

JAZZ GETS THE BLUES STEVE COLE, NICK COLIUNNE, CHUCK LOEB, & BRIAN SIMPSON	4.6.14
R. CARLOS NAKAI W/ CLIPMAN, EATON	4.10.14
SPYRO GYRA	4.11.14
BOBBY CALDWELL	4.20.14
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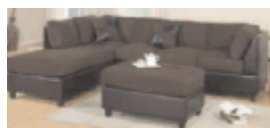
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THE ARTS STYLE

The Rekh & Datta studio is an organized riot of color and pattern. Fabrics in abstract patterns resembling elongated crystals and deconstructed cubes cover every surface and dangle in hankie-sized scraps from the bulletin board, while cotton dresses in spidery geometric prints sway lightly on their hangers.

If founder Rebecca Layton's Kickstarter campaign succeeds (it closes Jan. 10), these hand-printed clothing and housewares will become available in Austin in 2014.

Let's hope that happens, because the textiles Layton designs, commissions, and wears – around her neck, on the day we met in her studio on East Cesar Chavez, in the form of a graceful infinity scarf – are completely unique. Layton's crisp, modern designs, many of them inspired by India's rapidly industrializing landscape, acquire a softness, almost an intimacy, when rendered in the traditional Indian block-printing technique after which the studio is named. Moreover, by working directly with small, often family-owned print shops in Jaipur to execute her designs, Layton carries out her commitment to a "slow clothing" movement that favors sustainable materials, high quality, and fair wages for skilled artisan labor.

And, oh yeah – her Western shirts are killer. Layton first visited Jaipur in the Indian state of Rajasthan, famous for its textiles, in 2005. As a masters student in combined media at Hunter College of CUNY, she had studied the history of wallpaper, and was intrigued by the intricate designs and the precision of the centuries-old hand-stamping technique. Returning to India on a Fulbright, Layton studied the craft alongside the printers themselves, staying an extra year to teach art at an Indian school and suffering a bout of typhoid that almost killed her. When Layton came back to the States, she knew she wanted to bring her designs to a larger audience, while at



Rebecca Layton with a bias-cut top



the same time raising Westerners' awareness of the ancient skill.

The technique, historically confined to the men of a particular Muslim caste (although, according to Layton, more women are beginning to learn), uses hand-carved wooden blocks with a handle on the back, like a stamp. Rekh & Datta is named after the two types of blocks used: first the "rekh" block establishes the line of the pattern, then the "datta" block adds the color.

"The carving of the block is an art form in and of itself," Layton says, turning one of them over in her hands. "The technical know-how really has to be passed down from father to son. They start when they're about 6 years old, and they do these little practice ones and sell them to tourists." She gestures toward a rough block of wood with a bird design carved into the side.

At the printing tables, the blocks are carefully pressed onto a long bolt of fabric and pounded to set the dye. Traditional patterns can have up to 10 colors, which means that a single meter of fabric can take as many as 1,000 prints. "They have these incredible muscles right here from pounding," Layton says, touching the base of her thumb.

Although many large stores like Anthropologie and West Elm use Rajasthani block-printed textiles, they typically conduct their business through middlemen and work in huge batches sometimes ill-suited to the precise work. "They're going to some fancy showroom, and the work's getting farmed out to these print farms," says Layton. "I've seen some print shops where the inks they're using are toxic, and the conditions are gross." Layton's close partnership with the printers, though occasionally complicated by her gender and the language barrier, prevents this scenario; having clocked time at the printing tables herself, she sees them as fellow "makers."

Moreover, the garments created by Layton's collaborator, Polish designer Monika Jakubiak, are impeccably sewn and refreshingly free of the trendiness of many such mass-produced designs. Simple, classic shift dresses, Western shirts, knickers, and boxy, bias-cut tops showcase the lightweight Indian cotton, using the direction of the prints and playing patterns off one another in plackets, yokes, pocket linings, and bindings. The finishing-work on the garments is as precise as the prints, with smooth French seams and delicate, billowy hand pleats. Perfect summer clothes for Texas – and Layton promises that all Kickstarter rewards (I'm looking at you, cowl-neck tee) will be delivered by summer, with gift cards available for the holidays.

The Dallas-born artist points out that Rajasthan has more in common with Texas than you might think. "There's a kind of cowboy culture there," she says. "They have turbans, but they're still cowboys."

See austinchronicle.com/photos for a photo gallery of the Rekh & Datta design studio.

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JOHN ANDERSON

Fancy Salt, We Exalt

FINISHING SALTS BY CONFITURAS

Even though I am a big fan of Confituras' small-batch jams and jellies, I passed up their finishing salts for nearly a year before I finally tried them. I simply figured that I already had fancy salt in my kitchen, and I didn't need any more. Then, a friend shared some of their Cowgirl Salt with me, pouring a good bit out of her jar for me to try at home. I used it that

night on a salad and was so blown away that I have been using it on virtually everything I cook ever since.

By my estimation, a pinch of Confituras' finishing salt makes one's food taste roughly twice as good; a significant improvement to say the least. How can anything make that big of a difference? What makes them so special?

To begin with, all of Confituras finishing salts are made with Texas sea salt mined near Galveston Bay. "I get the strangest looks when I tell people they are made with Texas sea salt," says Stephanie McClenny, owner of Confituras. "But the salt isn't made from evaporated Gulf seawater. It is harvested from heavily protected mines. The salt itself dates back to the Jurassic era, and it is the most beautiful color – the crystals are a light lavender gray." McClenny blends this very pure salt with organic flavorings, such as lemon zest, herbs, and peppers. Flavors include Lime Chile, Orange Chile, Valley Lemon, Cowgirl Salt (made with lemon and pink peppercorn), and her newest flavor, Lemon Rosemary, which is debuting this weekend. "The flavorings are literally picked and added just days before the salts are sold, and they are so fresh," says McClenny. "It really makes a difference."

The 4-ounce jars last a long time, even with frequent use, because only a pinch or two is needed to wake up most dishes. The crystals are coarse; if you prefer your salt more finely ground, they can be run through a regular salt or pepper mill.

Ever since the first day McClenny offered them, these finishing salts have been flying off her tables at area farmers' markets. "People often ask me if I have anything that isn't made with sugar," she explains. "They are really appreciative that I have the salts." Because they are made seasonally, the flavors switch out during the course of the year, which also stimulates sales. "People are usually so happy to see their favorites come back. I just recently started getting this year's Rio Grande Valley lemons!"

All the flavors are \$7 for a 4-ounce jar, or \$25 for a gift pack of four flavors. If there are foodies on your list who seem to already have every kitchen accoutrement conceivable, Confituras finishing salts might be the inspired gift that genuinely pleases. They can be purchased at the Confituras table every Saturday morning at the Downtown and Sunset Valley farmers' markets, on Sundays at the Mueller and HOPE farmers' markets, and online at www.confituras.net. – Kate Thornberry

Meal Times Dec. 19-20

- > **SHERRY TASTING** Local wine distributors will pour samples of their sherry portfolios accompanied by light appetizers for \$5. Guests can also opt to stay for a prix fixe menu dinner with sherry pairings after the tasting for \$65. Reservations can be made by phone for the dinner but are not necessary for the tasting. *Thu., Dec. 19, 6:30-8:30pm. Fino Restaurant Patio & Bar, 2905 San Gabriel, 512/474-2905.*
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FARMERS' MARKET REPORT

Cherokee Purple, Green Zebra, Brandywine, and Sungold: Heirloom tomatoes are thriving in rural greenhouses and have returned to the farmers' markets. Cauliflower, cabbage, and kale made it through the Arctic blasts, as did carrots, beets, and potatoes. Find out where to get holiday chocolates, Meyer lemons, and even a last-minute pastured ham in Friday's online edition of the FMR (austinchronicle.com/daily/food/farmers-market-report).

– K.T.

food-o-file

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

The **Austin Food & Wine Alliance** awarded \$25,000 in culinary innovation grants at a gala last week at the AT&T Executive Education & Conference Center. This year's four winners put forth a fascinating collection of proposals which should serve to enhance our local culinary scene. **Stephanie McClenny of Confituras** will invest a \$10,000 grant in the Preserving Austin Project, an extension of her established canning business which will include gathering oral histories about canning and preserving, continuing community outreach through presenting classes, and creating a mobile kitchen and traveling canning museum. **Ben Runkle and Bryan Butler of Salt & Time Butcher Shop & Salumeria** will use their \$5,000 grant to further the federal certification process in order to become Texas' first USDA-inspected salumi producer, at which point they can add a wholesale cured meat component to their business. **Brandon Ade's Blacklands Malt LLC** of Leander provides the first truly local malted grains for the craft brewing, distilling, and baking industries in post-prohibition Texas. The \$5,000 grant will allow him to expand onsite storage capacity, source more Texas barley, and possibly bring another regional farmer into the fold as a producer. **Skinny Lane Farm** owners **Bekki Callaway** and **Michael Moser** will use their \$5,000 to develop an "on the farm" cooking program to teach area residents healthy cooking methods with fresh produce at their small farm near Elgin. Proposals from **Dewberry Hills Farm, Jester King Brewery**, and the **Fresh Chefs Society** received honorable mention. Congratulations to them all.

Imagine **Valerie Broussard's** surprise when she gave her notice at the **W Hotel** last week only to find that the news was leaked to the media the same day, long before either she or the hotel were prepared to discuss her departure or her emerging business plan. Forager Broussard will indeed be leaving the W to create her own consulting firm that will offer local foraging services as well as information on organic sourcing and zero waste operation to the culinary trade in Austin. Broussard expects to have the new company up and running by February.

The gentrification timeline in central East Austin accelerated greatly last week with the announcement that **La Corsha Hospitality Group** had purchased properties in the 1100 block of East Sixth Street with the intent to create bars, restaurants, and a boutique hotel on the properties. This confirms rumors that have been on the street in that neighborhood for at least the past year. The first fatality is **Cheer Up Charlie's**, which received notice its lease is up Jan. 15, 2014 and will not be renewed. The owners are already on the hunt for a new space. In its place will be Wonderland – a "no frills, neighborhood bar with no food service," as La Corsha partner **Scott Walker** puts it – to be helmed by respected Bar Congress bar manager and Bad Dog Bar Craft co-owner **Jason Stevens**. They hope to have Wonderland open by March 1, 2014. Walker steered clear of the term "dive bar" when describing Wonderland, but said the term had been used in a *Statesman* interview because "we didn't want people to think we were coming to the Eastside to do another Bar Congress." (Somehow I can't help but think the owners of the old conjunto and beer bars displaced along East Sixth over the past 10 years are the ones who appreciate the irony here the most.) Walker also said that construction on the rest of the property would probably not begin for a year to 18 months, so the **East Sixth Filling Station** trailers are in no immediate danger.

The newest member of the fast-growing East Austin barbecue community is **Miss Vivian Franklin**, baby daughter of **Stacy and Aaron Franklin**, born Dec. 4 and weighing in at 7 pounds, 7 ounces, and 22 inches. "She's happy and healthy and we love her to pieces," reports Stacy Franklin.



(l-r) General Manager Keith Pennington, bartender David Abel, owner Bick Brown, and Executive Chef Chris Turgeon of Hyde Park Bar & Grill

Aging With Grace

Hyde Park Bar & Grill, feeding a city across three decades

BY RACHEL FEIT

Every morning Bick Brown wakes up and checks the price of potatoes. The Hyde Park Bar & Grill owner knows that even small fluctuations in price can have a major impact on his business. Although he can't tell you how many pounds of potatoes he goes through in a week, he knows it is a lot. Just about everyone who comes to Hyde Park Bar & Grill expects to eat their famous battered french fries.

"It's funny to think that my legacy to Austin has been the french fry," Brown muses. "People ask for our recipe and I gladly give it to them, because when you make french fries like these, it's a serious commitment." They start with hand-cut Idaho potatoes and soak them in buttermilk.

The potatoes are tossed in seasoned flour, blanched, and then fried. Not only is it labor-intensive, but it also requires the right kitchen setup. Hyde Park Bar & Grill has custom designed a system to handle the massive fry volume. Brown notes, "We have the most expensive fryers you can buy, we filter the oil three times a day to make sure it does not get old, and when we change it, the oil drains directly into holding tanks out back that are emptied every day." The process is not for dilettantes.

When he first hatched the plan for Hyde Park in the early Eighties, Brown wanted to establish a neighborhood bar and grill that served quality food at affordable prices. Back then, casual fine-dining options were

few and far between in Austin, and the restaurant was an instant success. The house was packed every Friday and Saturday night, when waits for a table could exceed an hour. "When we opened the restaurant in 1982, we described it as a contemporary bar and grill," Brown recalls. "Well, now I think it is safe to say that 'contemporary' has long since passed us by."

Nowadays, the Hyde Park Bar & Grill is on no one's most-talked-about list for Austin. On the other hand, meal traffic is still reliable at the original location on Duval Street, so much so that Brown and his partners opened a second location at the Westgate Shopping Center in 2006. Indeed, after 31 years of business, the restaurant has managed to execute a minor miracle in an industry where most places go belly-up in the first two years.

Their success is due in part to their ability to listen to customers and to bring consistency to the food. To do that, they rely on staff, many of whom have been with the restaurant almost since day one, including the general manager at the Westgate location, the bartender at the Hyde Park location, and several of the employees in the kitchen. A number of other employees are going on 16 years. This is practically unheard of for most food establishments. In restaurant chronology, employee years are like dog years: Each one counts for seven.

Lately, the Hyde Park Bar & Grill is walking a tightrope between the loyalists who want everything to be just as it was 30 years ago and a younger generation who see the restaurant as a food-fashion artifact from bygone years. The older clientele still expect their meat and two sides, while younger diners want a composed plate, innovation, and craftsmanship. A story about the popular Wom Kim's peach pudding offers a good example of the tension between old and new. This has been the restaurant's signature dessert since the early years. Initially, it was made with frozen peaches, then a few years ago, in an effort to modernize it, they tried making it with fresh peaches. Longtime customers

complained that it was not as good, so eventually they went back to frozen. (By the way, it's delicious.)

But even with an established clientele, the restaurant struggles to stay relevant. Recently, the restaurant hired Chris Turgeon, formerly of Haddingtons, to update their menu. Using the Westgate location as a testing ground, they've replaced some of the old-fashioned sides and main dishes with foods that appeal to contemporary tastes. Gone are the sweet-corn salad, rice pilaf, and heavy fettuccine with cream sauce (a staple on many a menu of yesteryear); new items include tangy black pepper slaw, herb-roasted veggies, and a greater variety of seafood options.

They have been tinkering with format, have started buying organics, and have also begun making more foods, like their ground beef and the pastrami for their Reuben, in-house. "Our pastrami now tastes better than it ever has," say Brown, who is a pragmatist when it comes to business. If something tastes better made in-house, and there is very little cost difference, then he sees this as a win-win for everyone. So far, the reception to these innovations has been positive.

One of the other ways Hyde Park Bar & Grill has stayed current is by catering to special diets. New notations next to each menu item lets you know if it is gluten-free, vegetarian, or vegan. In fact, the Westgate menu now offers a complete vegan plate consisting of seared sliced cauliflower over curried lentils, as well as a robust selection of veg-based menu items such as veggie burgers, steamed green beans, and spiced baked sweet potatoes. This seems to

Hyde Park Bar & Grill is walking a tightrope between the loyalists who want everything to be just as it was 30 years ago and a younger generation who see the restaurant as a food-fashion artifact from bygone years.



appeal not only to the restaurant's older clientele, who may not be able to pack away the fat and carbs like they once did, but also to a younger, more health-conscious generation of diners trying to ward off premature prescriptions of Lipitor.

Brown and his partners expect to bring the new menu to the Duval Street location shortly after the new year. Longtime customers need not fear: The chicken-fried steak, the pimento sandwich, and — of course — the fries aren't going anywhere. But as Hyde Park Bar & Grill slouches into the 21st century, diners may be in for some surprises yet. ■



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You Want Fries With That?

THE HYDE PARK BAR & GRILL HAS SOME PLEASANT SURPRISES

If you are an Austinite wearing reading glasses right now, wondering when the print in the *Chronicle* got so small, then you probably remember when the french fries at Hyde Park Bar & Grill were the apex of Austin's culinary possibilities. Yeah, that's right, you recall the Eighties, when those battered, seasoned fries accompanied by mayonnaise dipping sauce formed the center of many a family dinner, Friday night student gathering, or romantic first date. Back then, Hyde Park Bar & Grill was the place to entertain outside the home, and no meal was complete without the fries. Fast forward 31 years: Hyde Park Bar & Grill is still serving those same fries ... and I am happy to report, they are still yummy.

In fact, Hyde Park Bar & Grill has managed to withstand the test of time with surprising grace and flexibility. Known for its cozy, suburban take on Southern comfort food, Hyde Park Bar & Grill has modernized their menu over the years but the comfort food stalwarts still hold center stage. Hamburgers are fat and juicy, served on a fresh-made, sturdy bun. Hyde Park's Reuben (\$9.99) is still one of the best of in town, made with thick-sliced grilled pastrami and toasted rye. These days, they make the pastrami themselves, in-house, with fantastic results. Chicken-fried steak (\$12, Hyde Park location), meanwhile, is manly enough for any linebacker. Crisp-battered, amply seasoned, and smothered in bacon-y cream gravy, it is a classic not to be missed. Do order the bright bacon collards and mashed potatoes to go with it. End it all with Wom Kim's legendary peach pudding (\$3.99), moored in a little lake of sweet cream. Sticky and gooey, peach-scented but not too sweet,



JOHN ANDERSON

this is the kind of dessert that tastes like a hammock nap on a lazy Sunday.

Less thrilling are the Yankee crab cakes (\$17). And here it is possible that Hyde Park is simply playing too much outside the pocket. The crab cakes themselves are competent: well-seasoned and not too breadly, even if they are slightly soggy. However, whoever's idea it was to accent them with caramelized onion relish should be publicly flogged. The sugar and acidity in the relish are simply overpowering. Let's face it – no self-respect-

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11am-12mid; Sun., 10:30am-10:30pm

Westgate Location:
4521 W. Gate, 512/899-2700
Mon.-Thu., 11am-10:30pm; Fri.-Sat.,
11am-12mid; Sun., 11am-10:30pm

ing Yank would ever violate a proper crab cake this way.

There are two locations now: the homey original Hyde Park bungalow on Duval, and a tonier modern space in the Westgate Shopping Center. Currently they have different menus. The original location leans more heavily on the standbys that have made the restaurant popular for more than three decades. The new location features a more contemporary menu that blends Southern comfort with urban culinary sensibility. (Owner Bick Brown is using the Westgate location as a test site for menu updates, and plans to roll out the Westgate menu at the Duval location in early 2014, once they iron out the kinks.)

After dining at both locations, I am certain I prefer the fare currently offered at the Westgate restaurant. For instance, the nutty-flavored browned cauliflower (\$2.99) served as a side is satisfying enough to be a meal on its own. Although the fried trout (\$10.99) I ate recently there was overcooked and a little fishy, their grilled salmon over beurre blanc is consistently moist and plate-licking good. The Friday special, a pulled-pork sandwich (\$9.99) with cheese and greens, is properly piggy and may even be habit-forming. The Westgate location also has a wider selection of desserts, including a very fine warm blueberry crumble (\$3.99).

It turns out that Hyde Park Bar & Grill still knows how to please a crowd with its old standards and its updated take on modern comfort food.

– Rachel Feit

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There are dozens of ways to watch a movie these days, and many of those come with their own inherent stressors. When looking for a thoughtful gift for a film lover, we say nothing beats a good, relatively old-fashioned DVD. Let them watch what they want, when they want it, and with a boatload of extra features that will make it worth your hard-earned dollars.

— Monica Riese

For more goodies for the folks on your list, check out austinchronicle.com/giftguide.



The Devil's Backbone

Criterion Collection; \$39.95 (Blu-ray), \$29.95 (DVD)

Guillermo del Toro is fascinated with the Gothic, and his 2001 supernatural melodrama about ghosts and gold in 1930s Spain may be the most perfect expression of that fascination. War orphan Carlos (Fernando Tielve) is the innocent abandoned at an isolated Spanish school, where a dark secret must be unraveled. Del Toro's third film, but the first he felt happy about, *The Devil's Backbone* is a companion piece to the more famous *Pan's Labyrinth*. The director even suggests they could become two-thirds of a trilogy of thematically inter-linked fables set against the Spanish Civil War. In the plethora of bonus features, Oberlin College

professor Sebastiaan Faber and del Toro himself argue that *Backbone* is a metaphor for that bloody conflict. The orphans and their guardians are the flawed but well-intended leftist Republicans, and the brooding and narcissistic handyman Jacinto (*The Last Stand's* Eduardo Noriega) stands in for the preening Fascist Nationalist. But its power is in its relationships, especially how deeply and accurately it re-creates the complex web of allegiances, feuds, and unexpected solidarity between young boys. That one of them is already dead makes the tale all the more eerie.

— Richard Whittaker

RWBY Volume 1

New Video Group, \$24.95 (Blu-ray)

How strong is the cult of local machinima geniuses Rooster Teeth? Their latest creation, Americanized anime *RWBY*, was already inspiring fan art and cosplay when just the trailers were released. It's a simple story, inspired by fairy tales, of four girls training with distinctive hybrid weapons to be monster hunters: Cheerful newcomer Ruby Rose (Lindsay Tuggey) wields her gun-scythe; prissy Weiss Schnee (Kara Eberle) has her mystical rapier; goth Blake Belladonna (Arryn Zech) sports a katana/pistol combo; and boisterous but furious Yang Xiao Long (Barbara Dunkelman) has her gun gauntlets. With *Naruto's* high-energy vibe and character designs clearly inspired by the Japanese Gothic Lolita fixation, *RWBY* also pretty shamelessly plunders the *Harry Potter* franchise for the Hogwarts-esque Beacon Academy, with the occasional nod to the greatest American anime, *Avatar: The Last Airbender*. But series creator Monty Oum works some hyperkinetic magic and conjures up that rarest of beasts: a Web series that deserves a home video release. A few visual corners are boldly cut (only name characters get rendered, so the background cast is silhouettes), but Oum and company keep it goofy and thrilling enough — and expand the universe fast enough — to make you crave Volume 2.

— Richard Whittaker



Martin Scorsese's World Cinema Project

Criterion Collection, \$124.95 (Blu-ray + DVD)

We know you're anxiously anticipating Martin Scorsese's latest offering, *The Wolf of Wall Street*, which opens on Christmas Day. As you're giving thanks for a new Scorsese movie, however, don't forget about the other important work this great filmmaker performs as an archivist and founder of the World Cinema Foundation, which was created to preserve and present the work of international archives and to provide a resource for those countries ill-equipped to do the work themselves. Released last week is a collector's set of restored films, including some from Senegal (*Touki Bouki*), Mexico (*Redes*), India and Bangladesh (*A River Called Titas*), Turkey (*Dry Summer*), Morocco (*Trances*), and South Korea (*The Housemaid*). It's a nine-disc dual-format set customized for Blu-ray or DVD. Each film is introduced by Scorsese, and the extras include interviews, a visual essay, and numerous written essays, including one on Mexican cinema authored by University of Texas teaching treasure Charles Ramírez Berg. — Marjorie Baumgarten

Tokyo Story

Criterion Collection, \$39.95 (Blu-ray + DVD)

Giftng a Criterion release to a lover of cinema can be filed under "no-brainer." But this Blu-ray re-release of the Yasujiro Ozu classic is a must-have. Exactly how classic is *Tokyo Story*? Well, in the latest *Sight & Sound* poll of the greatest films of all time, Ozu is the only director to have two films in the



Touki Bouki



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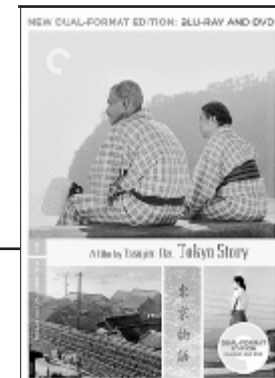
A FILM BY ROBERT ALTMAN



Nashville

Criterion Collection, \$39.95 (Blu-ray + DVD)

So many of Robert Altman's films have the sensation of a circus: the sprawling casts, the overlapping sounds that confuse and tickle the ear, the audience's held breath at a high-wire act. (There were plummets to Earth, certainly; is there another great American director with so many zeros on his ledger?) *Nashville* is the big top, with two-dozen "main" characters sharing the frame — and sometimes a stage, other times a bed — for this geographically specific, micro-in-the-macro illumination of the cultural and political unrest of the times. In an interview (one of three included on Criterion's new release), Altman recalled getting a call from *The Washington Post* when John Lennon was shot in 1980 — five years after *Nashville's* climactic assassination of a celebrity singer — and being asked if he felt responsible for the bullet. Altman's retort, prickly, shrewdly turned: "I said, 'I don't think you should blame me for the assassination. I think you might blame yourself for not listening to my warning.'" — Kimberley Jones



the director's favorite actors: Chishu Ryu as the reserved and kindly patriarch and Setsuko Hara, the widowed daughter-in-law. Ryu radiates emotion with every wrinkle in his face as his

onscreen children make him and his wife feel like nuisances.

Ozu tells a universal tale with his unique cinematic voice. With its paper-thin story and leisurely pace, *Tokyo Story* is at once unassuming and devastating. — James Renovitch

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Having been sitting all day in a second-floor conference room, giving countless interviews, the Talent had a sore throat.

That's how members of the PR team, openly and frequently, refer to the actors they represent: the Talent. It's unnerving. And when used in chatty conversation, a bit absurd.

Though, sometimes, it's true. Oscar Isaac, the titular star of the Coen Brothers' new movie, *Inside Llewyn Davis*, is talented.

Like many Coen Brothers films, *ILD* focuses on an everyday loser failing at life thanks to shitty luck and his own shitty attitude. Set during the emerging Sixties New York folk scene, the struggling – and self-sabotaging – performer Llewyn is caught between his desire for artistic integrity and the cold, hard need for self-preservation (at times literally: It's set in winter). That's what Isaac was here to talk about. His press junket tour started with the premiere in Cannes and hopped to Telluride and Chicago before landing here at the Austin Film Festival. He'd given countless one-on-one interviews, and here he was again, giving another interview to another journo behind the closed conference door.

Usually, nothing good comes of these one-on-one interviews. As a general rule, these five- to 15-minute sit-downs are forced and artificial, which goes a long way toward explaining why various participants compare them to conveyor belts and speed dating.

Why else would the friendly PR reps offer refreshments, pointing the way to a big buffet spread with everything from cold cuts to potato salad? And why else would they allow a freelance writer in that area, unsupervised, where he or she could pocket a handful of jelly beans?

A few minutes later, a disheveled media type scampered out of the room and Isaac's personal bodywoman approached. He was almost ready. She said she'd check in with us after 15 minutes. Asked why checking in was so important, she explained, in the abstract, that the Talent can become miffed if an interview ends suddenly, giving room to an awkward silence.

□

There's another reason press junket one-on-ones are so god-awful: It's always the same questions. In the case of expensive, highly publicized movies, or critical darlings, it's tenfold. And if you have any interest in the release of the much-loved Coen Brothers' \$11 million picture, then you've probably read all previous questions and answers. Having another hack (even a local one) sitting across from the movie star couldn't possibly matter.

Mind you, this is all conjecture. Before this, the only celebrity interaction I'd had was with *The Mentalist*'s Simon Baker. I was a busboy clearing plates; he was a man who wanted to finish his grouper. Underqualified is an understatement.

The wood-floor conference room was mostly bare, except for a small table, where Isaac sat. Like many movie stars, he's a near-perfect human specimen, down to that

distinguished little splotch of white in his otherwise dark hair. I introduced myself as the writer from the "alternative" paper, which felt less distinguished. The pressure of just me and a movie star in the same isolated space was too much. I kinda blacked out. Tunnel vision, at the very least.

According to my voice recorder, Isaac said he'd been doing interviews all day, it wears him out, he had no idea how many interviews he'd done, and he had maybe three or four left. The process would "be a fucking nightmare" if he "didn't love the

and immediately about a project you did two years ago?" – was not original (HitFix).

Still, it was nice hearing Isaac curse like a normal person with a self-aware sense of humor to boot (*The Guardian* thought as much, too). And he mocked stupid questions. Isaac said that when he's asked a "what's it like ..." question, he wants so badly to flutter his hands dramatically, put on a faux poetic voice, and say, "It was like a fog rolling today." Still, that sort of question "gives me a chance to think about it myself, really."



The Talented Mr. Isaac

Scenes from an interview with the star of the Coen Brothers' 'Inside Llewyn Davis'

BY JEFF WINKLER

movie as much as I do." Although some people ask "stupid, shitty questions," Isaac said that he can always find something new in the film, so it's interesting to hear what other people pick up on.

"Actually, here I've gotten really good stuff," he said, after first giving himself a second to think, as seemed to be his habit.

I thought all my questions were pretty original. Most of them, I discover after trawling the Internet,

were not. He'd been asked plenty of questions about being an accomplished musician made to play full-length songs in the movie with conviction ("I've been doing both forever, so I didn't really see a huge separation between [acting and performing]"); about this being his first big role ("It's the thing that I had hoped that I'd get a chance to do," he told the Huffington Post). Even my most personally curious one – "Is it strange to be talking so intimately

The mood changed after about six minutes. When I asked what's the stupidest question he's ever been asked, Isaac's reply was uncharacteristically quick.

"Probably that one," he said.

Shit, I thought, I've pissed off the Talent.

This had been my biggest fear. There are the real horror stories: Tommy Lee Jones is famously hostile, Bruce Willis tired and condescending. In one interview, Jesse Eisenberg was a

complete dick, and a very high Jason Segel made another impossible by giggling the whole way through.

I briefly considered offering the Talent a jelly bean.

Two, painful seconds later, it was "just kidding, man," as Isaac took a sip of tea. I pressed on. "What's it like working for the Coen Brothers?" was an obviously press question (Slant Magazine, HitFix) and I asked if he had a stock answer for that.

"Well, no. I mean, I try to make it interesting for myself," he said.

There was a pause.

"Are you asking what it's like to work with the Coen Brothers?"

"No."

□

Isaac switches it up, but he does have some pretty standard answers (spoilers: He's a huge fan of the Coen Brothers, loves their "theatre of the common man," and he'd work with them again in a heartbeat). This was the role that elevated him from playing memorable, bit-man parts in *Drive* and *Sucker Punch* to what is, essentially, a beautifully filmed one-man-play. Under the pressure of headlining a Co-Bros film, he put everything into the role and yet, gave nothing away. He's both proud and humbled by the effort (as stated in just about every interview), and it's clearly had a profound effect on him.

Or, at least, it did on me. The interview, that is. Twelve disastrous minutes in, we were discussing how he picks roles, and Isaac said it's important to find a role that will keep him interested throughout the time it takes to both shoot and promote. As he expounded, I felt something change in his tone. His eyes focused. His voice dropped and slowed just a beat.

"This thing, this will keep me interested for my lifetime," said Isaac. "I'll have moments now where I'll take a shower and be like, 'Oh, that's what that scene was. I should've done this thing.' ... It's so true to the experience of being alive and existing that when it goes that deep, you can continue [to think about the film]. It goes into infinity."

Damn.

It's hard to describe, but I felt something, a force, rolling over me like a warm blanket as he spoke. I was stunned. And it had nothing to do with imagining Isaac in the shower. I was in a strange, peaceful state where a simple reply felt like a truly honest answer.

A couple minutes later, I'd run out of questions. There was a moment of silence. When Isaac's personal bodywoman came in to check on us, I left very quickly, hoping the Talent wasn't too miffed that the interview ended in a sudden, awkward manner.


□

Isaac's since attended award shows, appeared on Jimmy Fallon, and given hundreds of interviews. Huffington Post and Slate have already added the film to their respective best-of lists. But his earnest comment has stuck with me.

David Mamet, paraphrasing Stanislavski, wrote something similar. Some performances may leave you thinking, "That was awesome!" but are easily forgotten. Then there are "plays ... that are perhaps upsetting or intricate or unusual, that you leave unsure, but which you think about perhaps ... the rest of your life."

That's *ILD*. The weird, Möbius-strip-like beginning-ending; the moments of levity weighted by gloom. The film's tone is exacting in its ambiguity, and the acting explosive in its reservation. Most of this is thanks to Isaac.

The Talent is here. ■



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Saint Wayne Comes to Town

Graying halo-haired hero to the turtleneck set, **Wayne Coyne** slid down the chimney from Oklahoma to deliver a sackful of art pieces to **Waterloo Records** last Wednesday. For an in-store appearance that only came together at the last minute, according to owner **John Kunz**, the **Flaming Lips** frontman materialized a line of autograph-seekers that stretched out the door at times and moved like molasses as the singer yakked with fans. Coyne's handmade creations included the "**Skull Mega Box**," a glass display case containing an upside-down white chocolate skull being sawed in

half by a clear vinyl EP of the first Lips record with a bloody brain descending from it. He also brought "**Fuck You Frog**," a toad-shaped audio memo recorder, loaded with a personal message, sitting in a puddle of "frog piss-flavored hard candy." Even with \$250 and \$350 price tags, fans scooped up the limited quantities as the hours crawled on. Afterward, Coyne headed to the **Museum of Human Achievement** to visit **Zac Traeger** of kindred locals **Zorch**.



Don't Feed the Animals: Wayne Coyne at Waterloo

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Dear Santa

My name is **Kevin**. I'm a 29-year-old musician from Texas. Thanks for the guitar strings you got me last year. I broke every last one of them. This year, I'd like tickets to see **Murder City Devils** at **Mohawk** on Jan. 5. If you can work up enough Christmas magic, I'd also like tickets for **Eyehategod** at **Red 7** on Dec. 30. I've been pretty good this year: I didn't get arrested even once, and I'm helping raise money for a mobile food pantry this month. Please be generous to the slacker musicians of Austin and all the people who do selfless work in the community like **HAAM** and **SIMS**. And don't skimp on the coal for whoever stole my bicycle from outside of the **Scout Inn**. You keep believing in me, I'll keep believing in you.

Cheer Up Charlie's Forced Out

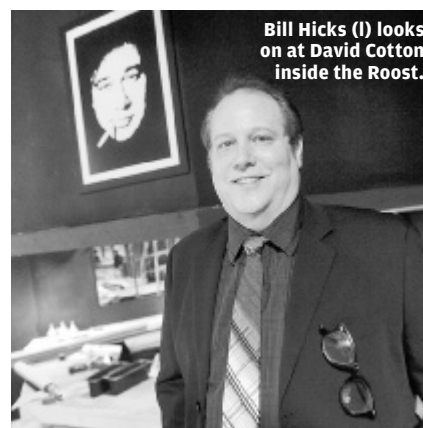
Cheer Up Charlie's got the boot. The popular Eastside bar and music venue vacates its space at 1104 E. Sixth after Jan. 15. The ousting results from the property being purchased by **La Corsha Hospitality Group**, which will open a bar there called **Wonderland**. CUC owner **Tamara Hoover** and manager **Maggie Lea** assured patrons in an open letter that "nothing is dying" and that they plan to find a new home for the queer-friendly haunt. Hoover told "Playback" she's only considering locations where they can host live music, a factor determined more by neighborhood than facilities. "We never really had enough space to have shows at our bar, but our attitude has always been, 'We can make it work,'" she noted. A valuable venue for Austin's emerging acts and smaller touring artists since 2010, CUC's digs also provided stage space during festivals like **Chaos in Tejas** and **South by Southwest**, where in 2010 they were booked by renegade concert promoter **Todd P** and hosted **Moby** and **Skrillex** the following year. With their exit, that strip's independent vibe erodes.

Roost Opening on the North Side

Austin's newest music venue, the **Roost**, will be open before year's end. Occupying the main suite of a strip mall on the decidedly north side **Wells Branch Parkway**, it lies closer to Pflugerville than Downtown, but that's the idea: to give the north Austin, Round Rock, and Pflugerville crowds a premier venue to see live music.

The Roost comes courtesy of a familiar face to the music scene, veteran booker **David Cotton**, along with his brothers **Jimbo** and **John Cotton**, and **John Greenwood**. Their 76-year-old mother **Janet Cotton** will do the accounting. The group renovated the 3,400-square-foot room, which once housed **Ropers Night Club**, and built a custom stage under the acoustic considerations of **Christopher Cross** engineer **Chet Himes**, who also designed its speaker system. Early bookings include **Carolyn Wonderland**, **Shinyribs**, and **Reckless Kelly**, with **Joe Ely** slated for New Year's Eve.

Overall, the vibe's been carefully considered. Ropers' dance floor was repurposed into furniture, a massive library of Texas-centric vinyl will serve as house music, and the walls are slated for decoration from David Cotton's epic stash of Austin concert posters as well as the wooden sign from **Steamboat**.



Bill Hicks (I) looks on at David Cotton inside the Roost.

JOHN ANDERSON

"I knew I'd been collecting artifacts all these years for some reason," smiled David Cotton. "Now I can give people a glimpse at what we were so lucky to see back in the day."

Naturally, Cotton, who slots bands at **Threadgill's** and the **Saxon Pub**, will oversee booking at the Roost. He offered **W.C. Clark** as an example of a weekly happy-hour performer.

"People from Round Rock need a place where they can hear great original music," added John Cotton. "We're not competing with Austin. We're an expansion."

Half Notes

- ▶ **Max Frost's** "White Lies" soundtracks a flashy new commercial for the **Beats by Dre** headphones. The 21-year-old local singer even gets screen time in the star-studded 30-second spot which features **Serena Williams**, **Young Jeezy**, and **Nipsey Hussle** grooving to his track.
- ▶ **Charlie** and **Will Sexton** are listed as official members of a new band called the **Nauts**, which stars **Dave Matthews** and **Jakob Dylan**. The group's reportedly been working on an album.
- ▶ **Ray Price** has sung his last song. The 87-year-old Texan and elder statesman of country music died at home in Mount Pleasant on Monday following a long bout with pancreatic cancer. Price's sophisticated presence and mournful voice could be heard on over 80 country hits, including 1956's "Crazy Arms." Tickets are being refunded for his Jan. 22 performances at the **Paramount Theatre**.
- ▶ **Residual Kid** records with **Dinosaur Jr.** frontman **J. Mascis** in January. The locals' drummer, **Ben Redman**, will no longer keep the beat for eye-dilating space rockers the **Boxing Lesson**, since that job has now been filled by original **Supersuckers** pounder **Dancing Eagle**.
- ▶ **Continental Club** spokesperson **Dianne Scott** said she's hopeful **Steve Wertheimer's** new soul-themed bar and venue, **C-Boy's**, will be open on New Year's Eve. Final inspections are scheduled for this week. C-Boy's sits where grimy rock dive **Trophy's** used to be.
- ▶ **Gary Clark Jr.**, who received two Grammy nods, wasn't the only Austin-grown musician nominated for a phonograph-shaped statuette this month. Onetime locals the **Greencards'** "Sweetheart of the Sun" was nominated for Best Folk Album as was **Sarah Jarosz**, who's also in the ring for Best American Roots Song. **James Cotton's** "Cotton Mouth Man" earned a Best Blues Album mention, while **Brownout** guitarist **Adrian Quesada** played guitar with nominees for Best Tropical Latin Album, **Los Angeles Azules**. **Sarah** and **Shauna Dodds** are up for Best Recording Package for their elaborately lunar art direction on **Reckless Kelly's Long Night Moon**.

The Boxing Lesson

Box sets grow up and out

As the first year physical music sales finally succumbed to online downloads, 2013 also records the unlikely ballooning of box sets. Paradoxically, as CDs begin going the way of vinyl back in the Nineties, boutique compilations keep growing in size, cost, and ambition. Thumb drive collections are the future of the medium, but lavish gather-all continues uncovering earthly treasures that may get lost in translation up in the clouds.

— Raoul Hernandez

Cannibal Corpse *Dead Human Collection: 25 Years of Death Metal (Metal Blade)*



Cannibal Corpse remains the gold standard of death metal. Buffalo's gore kings have amassed a dozen studio spatters since 1990, all housed in the 14-CD *Dead Human Collection*, which includes a live set from 2010 Tampa on both digital and vinyl formats. Skulking fans likely own swathes of the original editions, but spring this on an uninitiated extremist that loves *Metacocalypse*, whose George "Corpsegrinder" Fisher, Cannibal Corpse's current huffer, inspired Dethklok frontman Nathan Explosion. Prints for each of Vincent Locke's horrific LP covers come included and define the band as much as churning violence and misogyny. The cover to 1992's *Tomb of the Mutilated*, death metal's most prominent display of cannibalism, would look nice framed. Notable is the inclusion of the original artwork for *The Bleeding*, depicting a legion of floating zombies, previously only available on rare vinyl releases of the album. Lyrics are also included on the back of the prints, for when you want to recite "Butchered at Birth" at a baby shower. The 2013 calendar arrived outdated even in March, but death metal types love their remains.

— Andy O'Connor

The Grateful Dead *Sunshine Daydream (Veneta, Oregon, 8/27/72) (Rhino)*



Nearly two decades after Jerry Garcia's death, Dead Heads still live to compare shows and rate performances. This Pacific Northwest date from 1972 has long been considered among the band's best, boasting definitive versions of "Dark Star," "Bertha," and "Playing in the Band," among others. Hot off the San Franciscans' first European trek, this show — later declared the last "Acid Test" — benefited Ken Kesey's family farm, the Springfield Creamery. The author's Merry Pranksters and thousands more gathered at the Old Renaissance Faire Grounds on one of Oregon's hottest days with a film crew capturing the scene. After

many years of wrangling to prevent its release, *Sunshine Daydream* gathers all three sets by the band on a 3-CD bundle with DVD or Blu-ray of the resulting film, which captures the sweat of the band and its freedom-loving audience. Meanwhile, the music sounds spectacular, "Bird Song" offering restrained intensity and Merle Haggard's "Sing Me Back Home" sparkling in the twilight. A 40-page book with photos and essays from Prankster Ken Babbs, Dead archivist Nicholas Meriwether, and more make this a definitive document of its time and space.

— Jim Caligiuri

Woody Guthrie *American Radical Patriot (Rounder)*

Capping the centennial commemoration of America's folksinging godfather, *American Radical Patriot* assembles a coffeetable collection of six CDs, a DVD, and a heavy vinyl 78 uncovering Woody Guthrie's government labors. Bill Nowlin contextualizes the commissions: Library of Congress sessions, songs for the Bonneville Power Administration, war ballads, and a public health series about venereal disease. In doing so, the author reveals an unbleached truth-teller who rallied for the common man alongside seven whopping hours of audio. One 1940 session with musicologist Alan Lomax sequentially yields outlaw odes "Billy the Kid," "Pretty Boy Floyd," "Jesse James," and another about taking from the rich and giving to the poor: "Jesus Christ." "I suppose in his own day and time he was called an outlaw," muses Guthrie. *Patriot* pays special attention, particularly on the DVD documentary, to Guthrie's one-month 1941 tenure with the BPA, for whom he wrote 26 songs capturing the nature and humanity along Oregon's Columbia River with Whitmanesque prose like "the misty, crystal glitter of that wild and windward spray" in "Grand Coulee Dam." The 78 features the Okie's 1951 home recording of "The Biggest Thing That Man Has Ever Done" and protégé Bob Dylan singing Guthrie's syphilis warning "VD City" a decade later.



— Kevin Curtin



The Band *Live at the Academy of Music 1971 (Capitol/Ume)*

A glance at the back of this hardback volume whets appetites for *Last Waltz*-style visuals, but the latter portion of this 4-CD/1-DVD set houses a 5.1 Surround Sound mix and only two brief video snippets. Of course, witnessing the Band over the shoulder of Southern sidewinder Levon Helm on a hayride through the "W.S. Walcott Medicine Show" sells this deluxe expansion of the Canadian Mounties' 1972 live landmark *Rock of Ages* in a song. The biblical audio amended a second disc of outtakes on a 2001 reissue, but now all four shows of the NYC stand unfurl another raw blueprint for Americana. Five feral voices become a Civil War of harmony and soul, whether it's Helm carrying "The Weight," Rick Danko igniting his and Dylan's "This Wheel's on Fire," or doomed Richard Manuel and Robbie Robertson sawing floorboards on "Rockin' Chair." Garth Hudson's organ intro to "Chest Fever" choirs up a space orgy of sound. At the moment rock & roll turns from religious ecstasy to spiritual possession ("I Shall Be Released") and speaking in tongues — Helm and Danko yodeling together at the end of "Up on Cripple Creek" — Ahab himself shows up (Dylan) to harpoon the final four songs after Allen Toussaint's firehouse horn arrangements have sounded the cannons.

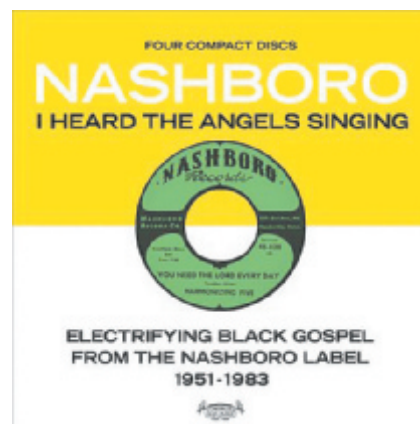
— Raoul Hernandez



I Heard the Angels Singing: Electrifying Black Gospel From the Nashboro Label, 1951–1983 (Tompkins Square)

No corner of American roots music remains as overlooked as postwar gospel. Vast amounts of music on the Chess, Savoy, Jewel, and Songbird labels lie in vaults awaiting rediscovery, but at least Nashboro finally gets a 4-CD overview from the label that gave us eccentric gospel collections *Fire in My Bones* and *This May Be My Last Time Singing*. Nashboro resided in the rural Southern mainstream, which partially accounts for the sound: early sides recorded at funky radio stations. In 1955, they signed Sullivan and Lola Pugh, a Miami duo calling themselves the Consolers, and became players: Sullivan's raw guitar and the act's powerful stage presence made them stars on the gospel circuit, and the records sold well. The other major act was the Fairfield Four, whose a capella program headlined bills well into the Seventies. Other notables include Slim & the Supreme Angels, capable of scary, no-holds-barred performances; Brother Joe May, the "Thunderbolt of the Middle West," here singing "Silent Night"; the Chosen Gospel Singers from Houston (without Lou Rawls on 1962 track "Let Your Life Speak Out"); and Rev. Cleophus Robinson. *I Heard the Angels Singing* doesn't hint at treasures yet to be heard until the last disc, when Nashboro hosted singers from larger labels that let them go at the height of their powers: Dorothy Love Coates & the Gospel Harmonettes peeling paint with "Heaven, I've Heard So Much About It," for instance. Welcome to the music that gave us soul.

— Ed Ward



Lee Hazlewood *There's a Dream I've Been Saving: Lee Hazlewood Industries 1966–1971 (Light in the Attic)*

In his Sixties salad days, Lee Hazlewood wrote and produced hits for Duane Eddy and Nancy Sinatra while pursuing a psychedelic cowboy/MOR-surrealist sensibility on his own iconoclastic recordings. His early successes spawned maverick label LHI (Lee Hazlewood Industries), which now gets its due with this insanely lavish box incorporating four CDs, a DVD of Hazlewood's rarely seen 1970 TV special *Cowboy in Sweden*, and an LP-sized, 172-page hardcover book. Two discs collect Hazlewood's own LHI releases, including haunting cult classic *Requiem for an Almost Lady* and bittersweet Ann-Margret collaboration *The Cowboy and the Lady*, while the remaining pair offers a generous sampling of the label's catalog. That ranges from Gram Parsons' pioneering country-rock outfit the International Submarine Band to memorable gems from unsung heroes including Suzi Jane Hokom, Honey Ltd., Hamilton Streetcar, the Kitchen Cinq, and Sanford Clark, the rockabilly star who benefited from Hazlewood's writing in the Fifties. More affluent completists can upgrade to an even-more-extravagant edition with data discs that encompass virtually everything on LHI. Those settling for the much-cheaper download version won't be disappointed either.

— Scott Schinder



Big "D" Jamboree: Live Recordings From the Stage of the Sportatorium in Dallas, Texas, 1950-1958 (Bear Family)

It was October 5, 1957, and, as emcee Johnny Hicks noted, "It's kind of hard these days to draw a line between country style and rock & roll; they've kindly gotten all mixed up together." The place was the Sportatorium, a huge wrestling arena in Dallas, and the event a transcription segment of the *Big "D" Jamboree*, one of numerous sub-Opry shows airing weekly around the country on which big-name stars did walk-ons and local stars found their apogee. It was a big night out for country fans, and Dallas studio owner David Dennard was certain tapes existed. Years of research proved him right: *Big "D"* contributed to *Saturday Night Country Style*, beamed worldwide via the Armed Forces Radio Network, and the Library of Congress had unplayed transcription discs of 19 shows. Dennard's hard work turned up performances by Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, Gene Vincent, and locals Johnny Carroll and Ronnie Dawson, along with stars like Leon Payne, Hank Locklin, Wanda Jackson, and a bunch you've never heard of, including perky Charline Arthur, a wildcat with a tragic story. Not all of it's great, but a very real slice of Texas music history gets preserved at last.

— Ed Ward



Creedence Clearwater Revival (Fantasy)

Face it, you know these chooglers by heart. Flick the radio dial and you'll likely hear three of Creedence Clearwater Revival's multitudinous hit singles. In fact, after 45 years, "Proud Mary," "Bad Moon Rising," and "Fortunate Son" practically come encoded in newborns' DNA. This 6-CD box, containing all seven studio albums, a live LP, plus another disc's worth of live songs and 25 pre-CCR singles/demos, constitutes everything the Bay Area quartet recorded. Even casual fanatics can trace the development of Stu Cook, Doug Clifford, and the Fogerty brothers over a lifespan shorter than the Beatles', starting with their Fifties-derivative garage rock and charming roots. It's also a reminder that not every great CCR tune came out as a 45, "Effigy," "Someday Never Comes," "Walk on the Water," "Long as I Can See the Light," and "Wrote a Song for Everyone" matching up to better-known ear-worms. Packaged like one of John Fogerty's Kustom amplifiers, *Creedence Clearwater Revival* includes a booklet featuring album-by-album essays and a cool piece on the band's formative years by historian Alec Palao.

— Michael Toland

continued on p.50



Jazz Sides

ECM Selected Signs III – VIII (ECM)

Musical backdrop to "ECM: A Cultural Archeology," a recently-concluded, yearlong exhibit in Munich, this lovingly curated 6-CD set provides a primer to recent Grammy-nominee Manfred Eicher's extraordinary label of international tastes and pristine aesthetics. While the German imprint, founded 1969, remains a stronghold of avant-garde jazz, its classical curating dominates this diverse collection. Spanning from Dallas-born clarinetist Jimmy Giuffre in the Sixties and an excerpt from Steve Reich's 1978 opus, *Music for 18 Musicians*, to trumpeter Ralph Alessi's 2013 album *Baida*, ECM's wintery ambience dominates here, brilliantly juxtaposing seemingly incongruent pieces into beautiful, at times abstract soundscapes. One seamless transition pairs tunes by Norwegian pianist Christian Wallumrød, replete with chamber ensemble, into the lovely "Song for Ania" by Polish jazz trumpeter Tomasz Stańko. Individual highlights include Old and New Dreams' gorgeous interpretation of Ornette Coleman's "Lonely Woman;" "Carta de Amor" from the trio of Norwegian saxophonist Jan Garbarek, Brazilian guitarist-pianist Egberto Gismonti, and American bassist Charlie Haden; and pianist Steve Kuhn's sublime reading of John Coltrane's "Spiritual." Sublime is a perfect way to describe *Selected Signs III – VIII*.

— Jay Trachtenberg





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Blues Before & After

ZZ Top The Complete Studio Albums 1970-1990 (Warner Bros.)

Here's three Texans ram-rodding blues through Marshall amplifiers, then becoming mega-pop stars by wiring their expertise to MTV-era dance floor rhythms. Ten CDs restore and remaster vinyl mixes of the Houstonians' initial run for mini-LP-style discs inside a clamshell box. The sound's solidified by ZZ Top's *First Album* (1970) and *Rio Grande Mud* (1972): Billy F. Gibbons' '58 Les Paul riding Dusty Hill's bass and Frank Beard's drums with a vocal tonality to match. Third LP *Tres Hombres* gives up "La Grange," boogie tale of famed bordello the Chicken Ranch, while follow-up *Fandango!* remains the trio's best early fuzz buster, live and studio sides including perpetual crowd-pleaser "Tush." *Tejas* sprouts great songs like "It's Only Love," but mid-Seventies studio orthodoxy gives them the ambience of a mausoleum. The band re-emerged with *Degüello* and *El Loco* bearing standards "I'm Bad, I'm Nationwide" and "Tube Snake Boogie," the band catching up to New Wave with chorus box guitar and synthesizer. Come '84's *Eliminator*, the boogie reanimates via four-on-the-floor beats, throbbing sequencers, and clever videos for huge hits "Gimme All Your Lovin'" and "Sharp Dressed Man." Sadly, *Afterburner* reaped additional Eighties gloss, but ZZ Top thankfully redresses that abnormality – the title notwithstanding – on final Warner Bros. release *Recycler*.

– Tim Stegall



The Animals

The Mickie Most Years and More (ABKCO/Real Gone)

Like Sixties contemporaries the Rolling Stones, the Animals channeled a love of American R&B into raw, seething rock & roll that ranked with the era's most explosive music. Unlike the former band, the latter act never developed as songwriters, but its early work with pop-savvy producer Mickie Most retains its primal power. Although the Animals' vintage work has been extensively reissued, the band deserves a comprehensive box set, and while *The Mickie Most Years and More* isn't quite that, it collects most of the original combo's studio output as originally heard by Americans – on four U.S. LPs released by MGM Records between 1964 and 1966. They're on CD for the first time, augmented by a 1963 live EP, a handful of key bonus tracks, and David Fricke's too-short liner notes. *The Animals*, *The Animals On Tour*, *Animal Tracks*, and *Animalization* jumble tracks with little historical logic, differing substantially from more cohesive UK versions and limiting this set's archival value. Another strike is the colorful but flimsy outer box. Both issues run secondary to the music, Eric Burdon's scrappy howl and the band's punchy performances on material drawn from authentically rootsy sources and Brill Building tunesmiths, which sounds as magnificent as ever.

– Scott Schinder



The Who Tommy: Super Deluxe Edition (Geffen/UME)

Even in its heart-of-the-atom demo, "Amazing Journey" zips through the British Invasion's primordial chaos to ground zero of rock & roll's original sin: the concept album. The Beatles' revolutionary lurch into modernity, 1967's *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*, turned the era Technicolor by illustrating the power of thematic encapsulation. Six months earlier, closing second LP *A Quick One*, another super-fab English foursome invented the rock opera on the six-part suite of its title track. Three years later, the Who's *Tommy* notched together 24 tracks into a 75-minute narrative like actual rocket science. "Deaf dumb and blind boy/He's in a quiet vibration land/Strange as it seems, his musical dreams/Ain't quite so bad." Thus hatches the genre's Andrew Lloyd Webber, Pete Townshend, whose mouthpiece Roger Daltrey emotes over an instrumental trio hurling sonic boulders like deities in an Olympian thunderstorm. Townshend's demos in this 4-CD, vinyl-size hard case with an immersive 80-page backstory don't match their counterparts on 2011's super-deluxe "director's cut" of *Quadrophenia*, but the remastered double-LP floats in the space between your ears like 3-D audio. Moreover, a bonus live "bootleg" assembles the entire musical from the ensuing tour definitively, a seismic shaking all over that makes the studio version suddenly sound like demos.

– Raoul Hernandez



Eric Clapton Give Me Strength: The '74/'75 Recordings (Polydor/UME)

Beyond the Singer sewing machine needle stitching together this 5-CD/1-Blu-ray family-album-sized keepsake – Eric Clapton's piercing guitar – *Give Me Strength: The '74/'75 Recordings* ultimately underscores the singular genius of its archival overseer Bill Levenson. Compiler of Clapton's *Crossroads*, *Crossroads 2*, both *Layla and Other Assorted Love Songs* multi-disc sets, plus a Bible-sized listing of boxes, reissues, and greatest hits – Velvet Underground to Lucinda Williams – Levenson quilts together Slowhand's rebirth after the three-year heroin ordeal that followed the latter LP. *461 Ocean Boulevard*, home to massive FM hits "I Shot the Sheriff," "Let It Grow," and "Mainline Florida," successor *There's One in Every Crowd*, and their live summation *E.C. Was Here* transform Clapton's early-Seventies surf-and-sandal epoch into a dizzying creative summit on the strength of two dozen outtakes and attendant sessions. "Eric After Hour Blues," Peter Tosh covers, and the doubling of the live LP – a previously unreleased mid-section of "Crossroads," "I Shot the Sheriff," "Layla," and "Little Wing" now at the heart of it – heap atop a massive trove of Stratocaster spell-casting. Carlos Santana on a 23-minute lake-of-fire jam and a blustery Freddie King session in Florida reveal that even other guitar deities paid their six-string respects to God.

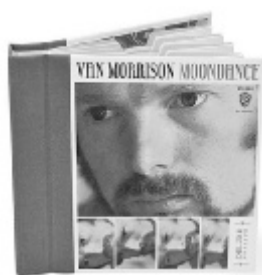
– Raoul Hernandez



Van Morrison Moondance: Deluxe Edition (Warner Bros.)

Expanded album classics can test the patience of all but the most fanatical devotees, but Van Morrison's 1970 breakthrough justifies such an approach. Dreamy yet earthy, accessible yet impenetrable, *Moondance* offers some of the most romantic and resonant music of the Belfast belter's career, introducing standards "And It Stoned Me," "Caravan," "Into the Mystic," and the title track, while setting their author on the musical course he pursued for most of the next decade. The album's deluxe edition combines remastered CD and Blu-ray Audio versions of the original LP with three CDs of outtakes, including a supremely funky "I've Been Working" (from the subsequent *His Band and the Street Choice*), and the bubbly "I Shall Sing," which Art Garfunkel hit with in 1973. The real treasure is a mother lode of work-in-progress material, offering a thrilling, fly-on-the-wall perspective as Morrison and the musicians build the sounds in the artist's head into an enduring classic.

– Scott Schinder



Donny Hathaway Never My Love: The Anthology (Atco/ Rhino)

If his plane crashed or he'd been shot, would Donny Hathaway be as lionized today as Otis Redding or Sam Cooke? Morbid speculation aside, don't let Donny Hathaway's 1979 suicide discount his soul supernova. On this 'bout-time 4-CD career summary, sequencing's everything: Disc 1 has the lushly arranged, socially conscious hits ("The Ghetto," "Giving Up") that evoke Ray Charles and Stevie Wonder, while Disc 2 packs unreleased revelations including "Never My Love," a soaring piano ballad built on the St. Louis-reared singer's church foundation, slow-roil jazz/funk workout "Latin Time," Wurlitzer mantra "Let's Groove," and hard-charging Stax horn swagger "Don't Turn Away." Demons lurk in the exhumed tracks, oft-tentative demos and ambitious symphony "ZYXGY Concerto" mirroring Hathaway's unraveling genius as it morphs from sunny strings to horror-flick panic. More comforting and exhilarating is Disc 3's 1971 NYC Bitter End show, Hathaway boldly opening with "What's Going On" before guitar wizard Cornell Dupree's band burns down the house. Not as perfect as Hathaway's seminal 1972 *Live*, but close. The last chapter reintroduces Hathaway and Roberta Flack, whose vulnerable duets ruled Seventies radio and trained a lovechild on a vital and undervalued talent.

– Scott Jordan



BONUS BOXES

A half-dozen other recent sets were reviewed in our Sept. 20 edition:
austinchronicle.com/issues/2013-09-20

The Beach Boys
Made in California (Capitol)

The Clash
Sound System (Sony Legacy)

Bob Dylan
Another Self Portrait: The Bootleg Series Vol. 10 (1969-1971) (Columbia)

Harry Nilsson
The RCA Albums Collection (Sony Legacy)

Nirvana
In Utero 20th Anniversary Edition (Universal)

Sly & the Family Stone
Higher! (Epic/Legacy)



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepherd



ROY TOMPKINS

A 29-year-old cafeteria worker at Sullivan East High School in Blountville, Tenn., swore to police on the scene in October that she was not the one who took money from a co-worker's purse, and she voluntarily stripped to near-nakedness to demonstrate her innocence. "See? I don't have it," she said. Moments later, an officer found the missing \$27 stuffed in the woman's shoe.

YELLOW AND BROWN VALUES

A Swedish TV show, *Biss och Kajs*, found itself in the spotlight in November – in Russia, where government-run television apparently used it to send a political message to Ukraine by highlighting the program's theme of teaching children about bodily functions. The episode Russia chose featured three bulkily costumed actors sitting around talking – with one dressed in yellow, one in brown, and the other unmistakably as a large, nude human posterior. (*Biss och Kajs* is highly regarded in Sweden; "biss" and "kajs" refer, respectively to the yellow and brown functions.) Ukraine (against Russia's wishes) is considering a trade agreement with the European Union, and, the Russian station director said, pointedly, "There you have European values in all their glory."

COMPELLING EXPLANATIONS

The Bank of England, arguing before the UK's Parliamentary Commission on Banking Standards in October, warned against limiting the bonuses that bankers have come to expect from their lucrative deals – because that might encroach on their "human rights." The Bank suggested it is a human rights violation even to ask senior executives to demonstrate that they tried hard to comply with banking laws (because it is the government's job to prove violations).

SLICK TALKERS

A young woman, accosted by a robber on Washington, D.C.'s Capitol Hill in October, told the man she was a low-paid intern – but an intern for the National Security Agency, and that within minutes of robbing her, the man would be tracked down by ubiquitous NSA surveillance. She said, later (reported the

Washington Examiner), the man just "looked at me and ran away [empty-handed]."

Katarzyna Dryden-Chouen and her husband Clive, busted in a London police raid last year with a marijuana grow operation that had netted an estimated (equivalent of) \$450,000, insisted to a jury in October that their massive haul was not for sale but for "personal" use – in that they worship the Hindu god Shiva, and truly believed that the world would end soon and that they needed a sizable offering to burn. (Actually, the jury bought it. Distribution charges were dismissed, but the couple still faces possible jail time for their cultivation activity.)

IRONIES

The Seattle City Council voted in October to seize a waterfront parking lot by eminent domain from the 103-year-old owner after negotiations to buy the property on the open market broke down. The state is funding a six-year tunnel-digging project in the area, and the city has decided it needs the property for not-yet-specified uses – except that in one part of the property, the city said it plans to operate a parking lot.

KARMA

1) Larry Poulos was stopped on an Arlington, Texas, street in September, bleeding from a head wound and complaining that he had just been robbed by two men. A friend of Poulos later corroborated that, but police also learned that the money Poulos had been carrying was the proceeds of his having robbed a credit union earlier that evening. He was treated for his wounds and then arrested. 2) At least 44 health workers were struck with a suspected norovirus in September at a

Creative Health Care Management convention in Huron, Ohio. (Noroviruses are sometimes called the "Norwalk" virus, named after one notable outbreak in 1968 in Norwalk, Ohio, about 12 miles from Huron.)

"Masculine" Values: Breakaway former officials of the Boy Scouts of America met in Nashville, Tenn., in September to establish a Scouts-type organization that can freely discourage homosexuality, with one leader promising Fox News that the result would be "a more masculine" program. Another prominent attendee, also quoted in the Fox News dispatch, described his sorrow at the BSA's embrace of gay boys. Since this issue broke, he said, "I've cried a river."

In November, Sweden's National Housing Board, in charge of building codes, ordered the country's famous Ice Hotel in Jukkasjarvi (built anew annually out of fresh ice blocks) to install fire alarms. "We were a little surprised when we found out," said a spokeswoman (who acknowledged that the hotel's mattresses and pillows could catch fire).

NOT MY FAULT

Conscience-Cleansing: Greg Gulbransen of Oyster Bay, N.Y., announced in September that he was about to sue the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for dragging its feet in implementing the Gulbransen-inspired 2007 federal legislation that he said would save lives, especially those of toddlers. The unimplemented law would force car manufacturers to install rear-facing cameras as standard equipment, a cause Gulbransen embraced after accidentally, fatally, backing over his own toddler in the family's BMW SUV.

PERSPECTIVE

An exhaustive American Civil Liberties Union report in November showed that more than 3,200 people are serving life sentences in the U.S. for non-violent offenses (about 80% for drug crimes). Most were sentenced under "three strikes"-type laws in which the final straw might be for trivial drug possession, for instance, or for a petty theft such as the \$159-jacket shoplifting in Louisiana, or the two-jersey theft from a Foot Locker. Said the jacket thief, Timothy Jackson, "I know that for my crime I had to do some time but ... I have met people here whose crimes are a lot badder with way less time." Added his sister, "You can take a life and get 15 or 16 years," but her brother "will stay in jail forever. He didn't kill the jacket!"

UNDIGNIFIED DEATHS

1) Douglas Yim, 33, was convicted in September of murdering a 25-year-old man in Oakland, Calif., in 2011 after an evening of teasing by the man, who mocked Yim's certainty about the existence of God. 2) A 27-year-old yoga fanatic in St. Austell, England, drowned in a pit in May during a well-publicized attempt to create an "out-of-body experience" to get as close to death as possible but without going over the line.

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

Send your weird news to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com.
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FILM:
The Headless Woman
Blanton Museum, 6pm

THURSDAY
19

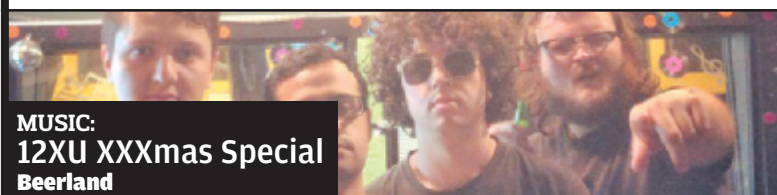
MEAL TIMES: *Holiday Sherry Tasting* Fino, 6:30pm
CIVICS 101: *Prevent Clashes With Coyotes* City Hall, 7pm
KIDS: *Holiday Hip-Hop Theatre Explosion* The Vortex, 8pm
LITERA: *Bedpost Confessions* North Door, 8pm
FILM: *My Night at Maud's* Salvage Vanguard Theater, 8pm



SPORTS:
Austin Toros
Cedar Park Center, 7:30pm

FRIDAY
20

LITERA: *Turk Pipkin* Mozart's Coffee, 6pm
CLASSICAL MUSIC: *Celtic Christmas at the Cathedral* St. Mary's Cathedral, 7:30pm
CIVICS 101: *MonkeyWrench Books Holiday Benefit Dinner* 5604 Manor, 7 & 8:30pm
MUSIC: *Robert Earl Keen's Merry Christmas From the Fam-O-Lee* Moody Theater
MUSIC: *Midlake* Parish
MUSIC: *The Bremen Riot* Carousel Lounge



MUSIC:
12XU XXXmas Special
Beerland

SATURDAY
21

CIVICS 101: *Austin B-cycle Dedication Ceremony* 11th & Congress, 9am
FILM: *It's a Wonderful Life* Alamo Lakeline, 4:20pm
COMMUNITY: *12 Nights - A Christmas Cabaret* Spider House Ballroom, 8 & 10:30pm
MUSIC: *8 Ball & MJG* Red 7
MUSIC: *101X Homegrown Live* Holy Mountain
COMEDY: *Bob Khosravi* Velveeta Room, 9:30 & 11:30pm



COMMUNITY:
Trail of Lights
Zilker Park, 7-10pm

SUNDAY
22

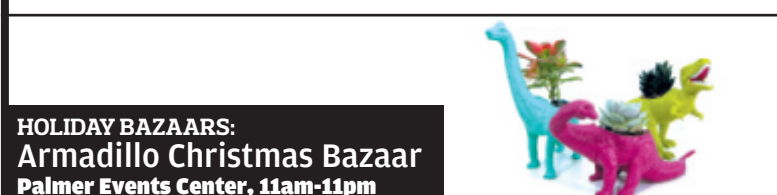
MUSIC: *Bells of Joy* Threadgill's World HQ
KIDS: *Flying Theater Machine* Hideout Theatre, 2pm
COMMUNITY: *A Child's Christmas in Wales* First Presbyterian Church, 3pm
GAY PLACE: *Whatchu' Talkin' Bout Christmuss!?* The North Door, 8:30pm
MUSIC: *Faster Pussycat* Infest
FILM: *Tales of the Third Dimension in 3-D* Alamo Ritz, 10:15pm



DANCE:
The Nutcracker
Long Center, 2pm

MONDAY
23

HOLIDAY BAZAARS: *Blue Genie* Marchesa Hall, 10am-10pm
FILM: *Elf Quote-Along* Alamo Village, 7:05pm
MUSIC: *Little Elmore Reed Blues Band* Legendary White Swan
FILM: *Ghost Stories for Christmas* Alamo Ritz, 9:35pm



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

TUESDAY
24

VISUAL ARTS: *Will Klemm* Wally Workman Gallery, 10am-5pm
FILM: *A Christmas Story* Alamo Ritz, 4:20pm
MUSIC: *Ortiz Brothers Blues Condition* Legendary White Swan
MUSIC: *Bill Kirchen & Friends* Palmer Events Center



THEATRE:
A Christmas Story
Zach Theatre, 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY
25

GAY PLACE: *Daddy Wayne's Christmas Dinner* Bout Time II, 11am
MUSIC: *Miss Lavelle White's Christmas Show* Saxon Pub
MUSIC: *Dale Watson & His Lonestars* Continental Club



MUSIC:
Trans-Siberian Orchestra
Frank Erwin Center

THURSDAY
26

OUT OF TOWN: *Auslander Winter Music Festival* Fredericksburg
FILM: *Babe and The Adventures of Milo and Otis* Blue Starlite Drive-In, 7pm
FILM: *Xmas Pops Sing-Along* Alamo Ritz, 10pm

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THEATRE

OPENING

HOLIDAY HIP-HOP THEATRE EXPLOSION Here's a full three nights of family-friendly performance hosted by **Zell Miller III** and featuring **DaShade Moonbeam**, **Mindz of a Different Kind**, and many more B-boyz, poets, dancers, singers, and theatre artists. *Thu.-Sat., Dec. 19-21., 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 512/478-5282. \$10-30. www.vortexrep.org.*

CLOSING

STEEL MAGNOLIAS Robert Harling's Southern-fried hit comedy is directed by **Andy Berkovsky** for **City Theatre**. *Through Dec. 22. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5:30pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 512/524-2870. \$15-25 (\$10, Thursdays). www.citytheatreAustin.org.*

ELF EMPLOYMENT Puppets? Yes, but not the darling denizens of *Trouble Puppet*. This is the family-friendly **Puppet Improv Project**, presenting "a colorful cast of mischievous imps and woodland creatures who brighten the stage with a musical and interactive situation comedy – based on suggestions from the audience about the life of elves in Santa's Workshop." Bring the kids! *Through Dec. 22. Sat.-Sun., 6pm. Institution Theater, 3708 Woodbury, 512/895-9580. \$7. www.theinstitutiontheater.com.*

AND THEN THERE WERE NONE A classic **Agatha Christie** murder mystery takes the stage to the heights of sleuthing and terror. See: Ten strangers, each with a dark secret, are summoned to the island mansion of an eccentric millionaire, but when the guests arrive their host is nowhere to be found ... and the guests are being killed one by one. A terrific cast is directed by **Lara Toner** for **Austin Playhouse**, and you know somebody is gonna get out alive ... right? *Through Dec. 22. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse at Highland Mall, 6001 Airport, 512/476-0084. \$28-35 (half-price, students). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

THE NORTH PLAN **Street Corner Arts** returns to the fast-paced, politically charged world of playwright **Jason Wells** with this black comedy in which a State Department bureaucrat absconds with the top-secret enemies list of a ruthless faction that's seized power (and enforced martial law) in Washington ... arrested in the Ozarks, the on-the-lam politico's only hope is a motor-mouthed redneck who's turned herself in for



The Wonder Bread Years

Pat Hazell returns with his popular comedy: a nostalgic look at childhood for the entertainment of all – especially for those who were kids way before Hong Kong Phooey chop-sockied his way into Saturday morning cartoon-time. Remember when?

Dec. 19-22. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 512/457-5100. \$39 and up. www.thelongcenter.org.

drunk driving. Directed by **A. Skola Summers**, starring **Rommel Sulit** and **Indigo Rael**. (Soundtrack bonus: lots of Skynyrd.) *Through Dec. 21. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 512/479-7529. \$20 (\$15, students, teachers). www.streetcornerarts.org.*

WE WERE NOTHING! Staying in touch via social media? What happens when relationships never have to have an expiration date? This play by **Will Arbery**, created in collaboration with Lisa Szolovits, Shelley Fort, Elly Smokler, and Emilie Soffe for **Poison Apple Initiative** may answer those questions in ways that will surprise you. Directed by **Bastion Carboni**. *Through Dec. 21. Wed.-Sat., 8pm. Monstrosity Studio, 2514 Wilson. \$15-25. www.poisonappleinitiative.com.*

ONGOING

A CHRISTMAS STORY Philip Grecian's version of **Jean Shepherd's** holiday classic gets the full Zach treatment as **Dave Steakley** directs the show for your nostalgic yuletide enjoyment, with **Marco Perella** as the Adult Ralph and the story's narrator, with **Keaton Brandt** as the Young Ralphie, **Meredith McCall** as Mother, and **Chris "Fra-gee-lee" Gibson** as the Old Man. *Through Dec. 29. Tue.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2:30pm. (Note: no show on Dec. 24; see website for more information.) Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 512/476-0541. \$18-65. www.zachtheatre.org.*

THIS WONDERFUL LIFE **Richard Robichaux** directs this **Steve Murray** one-man adaptation of the beloved Capra film *It's a Wonderful Life*, which sounds like a

pretty decent holiday treat, y'know? Like, why the hell not? But then you learn that **Martin Burke** will be playing all 37 characters from the movie himself – and you realize it's more like an **OMG-don't-miss-this-show** situation at Zach Scott this holiday season. *Through Dec. 29. Wed.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2:30pm. (See website for more information.) Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 512/476-0541. \$18-65. www.zachtheatre.org.*

COMEDY

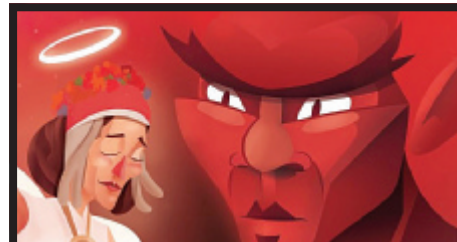
IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 512/467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Carmen Lynch When she'd had enough of professional flamenco dancing, this woman turned to, among other things, stand-up comedy – and free-lancing for *Mad* magazine. You might've seen her on the first season of *Last Comic Standing*, remember? She's also performed at HBO's big gig in Aspen, although, we don't know, can she be even funnier than local opener **Lucas Molandes**? See for yourself this weekend. *Dec. 19-21. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$9-19.*

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803-B Airport, 512/814-8696. www.coldtownetheater.com.

This Week in Coldness: Isn't it high time you visited ColdTowne again? With their new paint job 'n' all? And these shows! Check 'em out: **The Mission**

La Pastorela:
A Sheperdela's Storia

The **Austin Latino Theater Alliance** presents this traditional Christmas tale, bringing contemporary Austin characters to life in a show directed by **Patricio Villarreal Avila**. *Dec. 19-22. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat.-Sun., 7pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River, 512/537-2582. \$15 (\$10, children). www.maccaustin.org.*

A storytelling project. *Thu., 10pm. \$5. Movie vs. Movie Fri., 7pm. \$4. Bad Boys*, featuring improv by boys who are, well, somewhat rude. *Fri., 8:30pm. \$5. Live at ColdTowne is stand-up comedy. Fri., 10pm. \$5. Dysfunctional Holiday Issues Festival* with the **Keteers** and **Precious Dads**, oh yes! *Sat., 8:30pm. \$7. The Frank Mills* and their smart, character-driven improv, run rampant with **Midnight Society**. *Sat., 10pm. \$7. Midnight Society & Gong Show Sat., 11pm. \$5.* And don't forget the rest of the week: Stand-up with the **Jam** (with **Oh, Science!** on Sundays, **Maggie Maye's** stand-up mic Mondays, the **Tuesday Night Jam**, improv antics with **Miller and Purselly** and **Cagematch** on Wednesdays.)

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 512/320-0553. www.estersfollies.com.

Esther's Follies Musical comedy skits, magic, and a political satirical revue with the bustling back-

See what shenanigans ol' **Rebecca and Stanley** get into this year (see Friday).

MARGARET WRIGHT HOLIDAY HAPPY HOURS The legendary Ms. Wright on the black and whites is a great way to kick off the holidays. *Thursdays & Fridays, 6-8pm. Skylark Lounge, 2039 Airport. Free.*

HOLIDAY HAPPY HOUR Join our allies, pals, and fam from NARAL at this achingly yummy Eastside sandwich mecca. *Thu., Dec. 19, 6-8pm. Gourmands, 2316 Webberville. www.facebook.com/prochoicetexas.*

BEDPOST CONFESSIONS End the year with a happy ending ... or 12. *Thu., Dec. 19, 8-10:30pm. The North Door, 502 Brushy. \$10. www.bedpostconfessions.com.*

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION HAPPY HOUR Da bears luv u and show it with hot food, DJ Danny, and drinks so cheap, you'll think it's 1988. *Fri., Dec. 20, 3-9pm. The Iron Bear, 121 W. Eighth. www.facebook.com/theironbearatx.*

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION CHRISTMAS PARTY Rose spreads the buffet love, and the bar features drink specials as easy as \$1-2-3. *Fri., Dec. 20, 6-10pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth. Free. www.facebook.com/oilcanharrys.*

QUEER QUMBIA DJ.ang.g and pals will make you move. *Fri., Dec. 20, 7pm-12mid. Cheer Up Charlie's, 1104 E. Sixth. Free. www.facebook.com/deejay.ang.g, www.facebook.com/qumbiaqrewatx.*

KNT ALL-IDAY SHOW There are way more than three kings. *Fri., Dec. 20, 9pm. Elysium, 705 Red River. \$7-10, sliding scale. knt.producers@gmail.com, www.kingsnthings.org, www.elysiumonline.net.*

WHATCHU' TALKIN BOUT CHRISTMUSS? Rebecca Havemeyer and Stanley Roy ain't the half of it. Mitzi, Silky, LSM, Russell, Khatti, the Infant o' Prague, and bacon, bacon, bacon. The MUST-SEE show of the year. And if ya fancy: See it from the balcony with a bottle and thou. And maybe some bacon? *Fri.-Sun., Dec. 20-22, 8:30pm. North Door, 502 Brushy. \$12-150. www.facebook.com/rebecca.havemeyer, www.ndvenue.com.*

WHITE WINTER HOLIDAY BALL Love Inks, Party Girl (members of the Carrots), Tele Novella, Big Bill wish you winter wonders. *Fri., Dec. 20, 9pm. Spider House Ballroom, 2906 Fruth. \$10. www.facebook.com/spiderhouseballroom.*

WINTER SOLSTICE HOLIDAY CELEBRATION Sweet treats both fattening and aural: book signings with Laurie Coker and the *Chronic's* own Melanie Haupt; Solstice Ritual + the Poetry of Abe Louise Young; and Solstice Songs singer/songwriters Nancy Scott, Kiya Heartwood, and more. *Sat., Dec. 21, 2-6pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 512/472-2785. Free. www.facebook.com/bookwomanatx.*

MINOR MISHAP'S WINTER SOLSTICE PARADE OF LIGHT Lanterns would be lovely. So bring them. *Sat., Dec. 21, 5:30-7:30pm. Lady Bird Lake. Free. www.facebook.com/minormishapmarchingband.*

LOVE. AT THE STATESIDE The spotlight will be on rotation as Ginger Leigh, Wendy Colonna, Patrice Pike, Hedda Layne, and Shelley King shine, shine, shine, shine, and shine. *Sat., Dec. 21, 7pm. Stateside at the Paramount, 719 Congress, 512/472-5470. \$30-75. www.loveaustintexas.com/stateside.htm.*

AVANT GLAM: 12 NIGHTS They mean avant. Sassy Delure, Frannie Brown, Roxie Moxie, Lady Luck, and more. *Sat., Dec. 21, 8 & 10:30pm. Spider House Ballroom, 2906 Fruth, 512/480-9562. \$15-30. www.facebook.com/avantglamcabaret.*



JANA BIRCHUM

HO-LIGAZE Two super gay traditions continue this week: **Rebecca Havemeyer** and **Stanley Roy's** Xmas mess (see Friday) and **Bout Time II's** honoring of **Daddy Wayne's Free Christmas Dinner** (see Wednesday). Stay toasty, luvs. Hold close those dear. And deer.

ON OUR GAYDAR

AUSTIN LGBT BAR ASSOCIATION FESTIVUS PARTY All year long these legal eagles look out for the rest of us. Taco bar, drinkies, and one would hope, the pole? Holiday attire and a food pantry item for ASA are the admission requests. *Thu., Dec. 19, 6-10pm. Austin LGBT Bar Association, 1101 Enfield. www.facebook.com/austinglbtbarassociation.*

drop of Sixth Street on view through the stagefront window! And now the gang's **Trotting' With the Turkeys** in a revue that features "The Baracky Horror Picture Show!" and the F1-trolling "Gridlocked: The Musical," and that's only two of the night's many rollicking musical send-ups. Bonus: the large-scale illusions and arch antics of magician **Ray Anderson**. Reservations recommend-ed. *Thu., 8pm; Fri-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$24-29.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 512/476-0473. www.hideouttheatre.com.

It's Hideoutrageous! Here's your one-stop Downtown emporium of laughter, art, and sweet coffee drinks (and now: wine cocktails), run like a brilliant clockwork made from Del Close's skull. **The Threeer** Three improv troupes in one show. *Thu., 8pm. \$5.* **The Free Fringe** Experiments in improv. Gone wrong? Gone right? Gone free! *Thu., 10pm.* **The Big Bash: All-Star Holiday Show** Yes! The best improvisers in town will jingle your bells and warm your cockles and make you laugh like Santa intended you to. *Fri., 8pm. \$15.* **2 x 4** Four, ah-ah-ah! Four improv duos! *Fri., 8:30pm. \$5.* **The Spectacle** presents the Crabbies-fueled house troupe **Parallelogramophonograph** and **Indigo Shift**. *Fri., 10pm. \$10.* **A Bedtime Gorey** Improv in the style of ... yes ... **Edward Gorey!** *Sat., 8pm. \$12.* **Maestro** A whole stage-full of wild imps, battling for victory. Always recommended, especially if it's your first time seeing live improv. *Sat., 10pm. \$12.* **Another Weekender** brings a student showcase and **Shades of Brown**. *Sun., 8pm. \$5.*

INSTITUTION THEATER 3708 Woodbury, 512/895-9580. www.theinstitutiontheater.com.

It's Institutional! Fuck, It's Christmas What's Christmas like in the ATX? What's it like when Institution sketch comedians get ahold of it and turn it inside out in odd and possibly perverse ways? OMG, is it even legal to do this shit with crackles? *Fri-Sat., Dec. 20-21, 8pm. \$12.* **Triple Scoop** Two improv troupes and stand-up comedian **Sara Reihani**. *Sat., Dec. 21, 10pm. \$5.* **The Rubber Room** is an open improv jam, yo, so join in – if you dare. *Sun., Dec. 22, 8pm. Free.* **The 'Doctor Who' Theatre Holiday Special** Live, improvised fanfic performed all up in Father Christmas' turf, with the TARDIS and the sonic screwdriver and the Daleks and all among the mistletoe and possibly the birth of Jesus of Gallifrey. *Fri., Dec. 27, 8pm. \$12.*

NEW MOVEMENT THEATER 616 Lavaca, 512/788-2669. www.newmovementtheater.com.

It's Subterranean! It's that space Downtown – an underground space, literally, and swarming with improvisers and sketch comics – right there on the corner of Seventh and Lavaca. And this is what's up next: **Student Union** *Thu., 7:30pm. \$5.* **Lights Up!** with Off the Top Dope, Divorcees, and the Harrington Foundation. *Thu., 8:30pm. \$5.* **Block Party** Open-mic mayhem. *Thu., 9:30pm. Free.* **Alex Koll: Stand-up** *Fri., 9pm. \$10.* **Dating.com/Judge G-Su** *Fri., 10:30pm. \$5.* **Vanessa Gonzalez: I Don't Know the Words** Solo sketch show! *Sat., 9pm. \$5.* **The Megaphone Show** True stories told, and then mercilessly fucked with. *Sat., 10:30pm. \$5.*

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 512/469-9116. www.thevelveetaroom.com.

Two Friday Shows **Lucas Molandes** presents this Friday-night double-shot of laughter each week, curating two shows of the best stand-up comics around. **The Early Show** 9:30pm. **\$5.** **The Late Show** 11:30pm. **\$5.**

Bob Khosravi Man, the Velv is riding out the last of this year in excellent style, here pairing the affable and hilarious Khosravi with opener **Kat Ramzinski** for a night of truly Austin-style laughs and lunacy. *Sat., Dec. 21, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$10.*

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

SURE THING A stand-up showcase hosted by **Duncan Carson** and **Brendan K. O'Grady**. You need to know more than that, Austinite, you don't know what's funny. We mean, hell, **Charlie Sotelo** recommends this. *Saturdays, 8pm. Austin Java, 1206 Parkway, 512/476-1829. www.austinjava.com.*

AVALANCHE COMEDY The entire structure of Monday-night comedy in this joint is supported by the mighty, well-oiled thews of **Ryan Cownie**, former Mr. Universe (1974) and heir to the Cownie Re-Sealable Luncheon Meats empire. He'll wrangle a fine lineup of comics tonight: Of that you can be certain. *Mondays, 9pm. Holy Mountain, 617 E. Seventh, 512/391-1943. www.holymountainaustin.com.*

JAZZ CIGARETTE This new stand-up showcase is hosted by **Joe Hafkey** and **Mac Blake**. (We mean, 2013 *Funniest Person In Austin* winner Mac Blake, of course.) Tonight's special, special, special, special guest: **Matt Bearden**. *Mondays, 9pm. Spider House Ballroom, 2906 Fruth, 512/480-9562. \$5 (\$2, students). www.spiderhousecafe.com.*

DANCE

LOOKING FOR DANCE CLASSES? Swing? Ballet? Tango? Hip-hop? Pole-dancing? We've got a myriad of classes listed online, all manner of schools waiting to get your feet firmly on the floor to joyful moves.

BALLET AUSTIN: THE NUTCRACKER This year, Ballet Austin's Artistic Director **Stephen Mills** brings you the beloved tale and his acclaimed choreography enhanced by the world premiere of spectacular new sets and costume designs. *Dec. 19, 20, 21, 22, 7:30pm; Dec. 21, 22, 23, 2pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 512/476-2163. \$15-78. www.balletaustin.org.*

BALLET AFRIQUE: WITHER OR FLY This dance collaboration presented by **China Smith**, **Ryane Byrd**, and **Danielle Thomas** celebrates the **Umoja** company's transition into young adults. *Thu.-Fri., Dec. 19-20, 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 512/474-7886. www.balletafriqueaustin.org.*

AUSTIN UPTOWN DANCE: PERFORMANCE & SOCIAL AFFAIR A bit of social dancing, some excellent performances – ballroom, country, swing, and salsa! – and then a whole lot of social dancing with DJ Kristy. *Sat., Dec. 21, 7pm. Uptown Dance Studio, 8868 Research #706. \$10-20. www.austinuptowndance.com.*

CLASSICAL MUSIC

CELTIC CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL The Celtic Cultural Center of Texas presents this night featuring some of the city's most honored vocalists, including **Brett Barnes**, **Danny Johnson**, and **Stephanie Prewitt** – led by director **Jeffrey Jones Ragona**. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 20-21, 7:30pm. St. Mary's Cathedral, 203 E. 10th, 512/472-4540. \$30. www.celticcenter.org.*

TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA: THE MOST CHRISTMAS EVE TSO celebrates their first 15 years of touring with an encore and final performance of their multi-platinum rock opera. *Thu., Dec. 26, 3 & 8pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 512/477-6060. \$40 and up. www.uterwincenter.com.*

VISUAL ARTS

CLOSING

GRAYDUCK GALLERY: SEND OFF After three-and-a-half years in South Austin, the grayDUCK folks are closing the door on their beloved gallery space for a move to the Eastside. This final show in the venue across the street from Elizabeth Street Cafe features a collaboration with master printmaker **Satch Grimley**, presenting original, small-batch prints by **Allen Brewer**, **Sabra Booth**, **Adrian Landon Brooks**, **Jeannie Crosby**, **Jennifer Davis**, **Jenna Foster**, **Katy Horan**, and more. *Through Dec. 22. 608-C W. Monroe, 512/826-5334. www.grayduckgallery.com.*

PHOTO MÉTHODE GALLERY: THE DUTIFUL DAUGHTER Selections of still-life photography by **Laura Pickett Calfee**, from the recent Grace Museum exhibit curated by **Judy Tedfor Deaton**. *Through Dec. 21. 2832 E. MLK. 512/294-9550. www.photomethode.com.*

PUMP PROJECT: MUTATIONS OF PROGRESS **Maria Hansen** uses watercolors in exploring the aftermath of collapse – from industrial, socio-economical, natural, and personal disasters. *Through Dec. 21. Wed. & Sat., noon-5pm. 702 Shady. www.pumpproject.org.*

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: WILL KLEMM "Luminous still life and landscape work in oil completed over the last year." Indeed, the key word for this solo show by the masterful Klemm is "luminous," and the paintings on display here will light up even the darkest of these wintery days. *Through Dec. 24. 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com.*

ONGOING

02 NORTH GALLERY: WE INVENTED LOVE SOMEHOW AND WITHOUT MERCY OR INSTRUCTION Never mind the music, friend: What **Bob Schneider** does with visual arts is at least equally compelling, and this is a show of the man's newest mixed-media work. Recommended. *Through Jan. 4. 2830 E. MLK, 512/477-9328. www.flatbedpress.com.*

ART.SCIENCE.GALLERY.: TRADING CARDS EXHIBITION Here's a showcase of original science-related trading cards, presented by the folks who brought us that buggy "Ecllosion" exhibition during EAST, featuring cards created by artists from across the city, across the state, and across the country. (Note: The gallery's still in the Canopy compound, but now it's moved right next door to Big Medium.) *Through Jan. 5. 916 Springdale, Building 2, #102. www.artsciencegallery.com.*

AUSTIN ART GARAGE: BOTTICAL This showing – this weird and delightful showing – of new works by **Brian Imler** depicts seafaring characters living their lives inside of bottles. *2200-J S. Lamar, 512/351-5934. www.austinartgarage.com.*

AUSTIN ART SPACE: 12BUY12 Good and square and not too expensive: annual holiday show, featuring works by members of the **Austin Visual Arts Assoc.** *Through Jan. 11. Fri-Sat., 11am-6pm. 7739-Q Northcross, 512/970-1700. www.austinartspace.com.*

BIG MEDIUM: ENJOY YOUR LIFE This is a new exhibition of paper-cut art by Half Japanese's **Jad Fair**. *Through Jan. 4. 5305 Bolm. www.bigmedium.org.*

CO-LAB: 1000 YEARS FROM NOW, NOW, NOW, NOW, NOW **Claude van Lingen's** paintings, drawings, and mixed-media constructions portray the linear concepts of space and time and the layering of the physical, conscious, and subconscious experiences we might have as individuals or as a global collective. (See feature, p.32.) *Through Jan. 4. Wednesdays, 5:30-8pm, and by appointment. N Space, 905 Congress. www.co-labprojects.org.*

COMMON HOUSE: COWBOYS & INDIANS & INDIANS Here's a new body of work from Austin artist **William Gaynor**, featuring paintings on paper and reclaimed book covers that visualize his travels through India and Texas. *906 E 49th. www.common-house.com.*

DAVIS GALLERY: HOLIDAY SHOW Reckon we've trumpeted the goodness of the Davis venue so often in these pages that you know this show's gonna be a knockout. The best of the best from the gallery's regu-

lars – **David Leonard**, **Caprice Pierucci**, **Randall Reid**, **Susu Meyer**, **Sam Yeates**, **Faustinus Deraet**, and more – decking the walls with examples of human-made beauty both intricate and simple. *Through Jan. 4. 837 W. 12th, 512/477-4929. www.davisgalleryaustin.com.*

FLATBED PRESS: SUITE SYMPHONY Witness here the bold color and patterns of **Anne Conner's** woodcuts, with selections from her Brentwood, Park, and Fleetwood suites of prints. *Through Jan. 4. 2830 E. MLK, 512/477-9328. www.flatbedpress.com.*

GALLERY AT MUSEO: NOTEWORTHY Music-inspired art, featuring the work of **Robbin Robertson Polter**, **Cornelius Carter**, **Ginger Grasley**, and **Ike Rodriguez**. *Through Jan. 11. 11266 Taylor Draper. 512/775-7547.*

GALLERY BLACK LAGOON: SUBLIME PARADIGM Artists **Rich Brouillet**, **Kelvin Brown**, **E.S. Olsen**, **Robbie Ortiz**, **Richard Sober** are featured in this new show. *Through Jan. 12. 4301-A Guadalupe, 512/371-8838. www.galleryblacklagoon.com.*

GALLERY BY JEANA MARINO Art by **Greta Olivias**, **Marilyn Rea Nasky**, **Rebecca Bennett**, and more. *612 Brazos #100, 512/560-7924. www.jeanamarino.com.*

IMAGINE ART: THIS ABILITY New show from the East Austin center for artists with disabilities. *2830 Real. 512/448-1840. www.imagineart.net.*

LA PEÑA: RBJ ARTISTS' COLLECTIVE Works in carving, watercolor, intarsia, photography, jewelry, and acrylics, featuring artists and craftsmen from the Rebekah B. Johnson Residential Tower. *227 Congress #300, 512/236-0610. www.lapena-austin.org.*

LAGUNA GLORIA: FURTHEST WEST Artist **Erin Curtis** marries her interests in traditional craft and textiles, gendered labor, and modernist architecture and furniture to create a colorful, painterly installation for this elegant venue-in-the-woods of the Contemporary Austin. *Through Jan. 5. Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th. 512/458-8191. \$5 (free, Tuesdays). www.thecontemporaryaustin.org.*

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: PERSONAL, POLITICAL, MYSTERIOUS Art doesn't get much more impressive than this – namewise, craftwise, and meaningfulnesswise. Here's a show of painting, sculpture, drawing, and photography – from **Robert Gober**, **Louise Bourgeois**, **Nancy Grossman**, and others of equally regarded ilk. Here's an exhibition in the elegant Downtown gallery that'll remind you why you like living in this city. Recommended. *Through Jan. 11. 360 Nueces #50, 512/215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.*

Day Trips

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

The **Charles Goodnight Historical Center** in Goodnight, Texas, returns the home of a Texas pioneer to its former glory. After a six-year restoration, the house where the cattleman lived for 40 years once again welcomes visitors.

The complex also includes a new museum that tells the story of Goodnight's life, from cattle drives to the landmark JA Ranch to saving the last herd of the southern bison. He was a man of uncommon stature and accomplishment.

Built in 1887, the two-story house was Goodnight's headquarters after the former Texas Ranger left the JA Ranch. Owned by Irishman John Adair and managed by Goodnight, the JA was the first permanent cattle operation in the Panhandle. Walking through the house you can almost hear the scrape of spurs on the wood floors. The rooms are small, but bright. Brick fireplaces once warmed each room.

Goodnight often slept on the porch on the southeast corner of the house. From here the old plainsman had a view of the sunrise and sunset. Visible to the southwest are the jagged edges of the flat prairie where he once lived in a dugout cabin in Palo Duro Canyon.

The Goodnight Center is just off US 287 about 40 miles east of Amarillo. Descendants of the bison calves that Mary Ann Goodnight persuaded her husband to rescue are in the pasture next to the house. The complex is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 5pm.

1,168th in a series. Collect them all. Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of "Day Trips," is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.

LISTINGS

MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM: MIX 'N' MASH Here are dozens of original works donated by local, national, and international artists. Many styles, many mediums, many marvels. *Through Jan. 5. 419 Congress, 512/480-9373. \$10. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.*

MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERA The curators of Austin's charming MNAE offer outdoor tours of selections from the "impermanent collection" and Ephemerata Gardens. Bonus: You can taste things from the garden! *Saturday, 10am-1pm. 1808 Singleton, 512/320-0566. www.mnae.org.*

PRIZER: FARMER AS ARTIST Eighteen local farmers, including **Carol Ann Sayle** of Boggy Creek, **Brenton Johnson** of Johnson's Backyard Garden, and **Max Elliott** of Urban Roots exhibit works of art in a show examining the link between creativity and farming. *2023 E. Cesar Chavez.*

PRO-JEX GALLERY: BEAD, BOOK, AND BODY This tripartite show features the beaded jewelry of **Beth McElhaney**, a book signing of **Natalie Flowers'** new book *I Heard What You Weren't Saying*, and photos chosen by **Neil Coleman** representing the human body. *Through Dec. 29. 1710-C S. Lamar, 512/203-2009.*

RADICAL TRANSFORMATION: MAGNUM PHOTOS INTO THE DIGITAL AGE The **Harry Ransom Center** presents this stunning overview of images that have shaped history and revolutionized photography's influence on modern culture in the last century. Photographic documents by Magnum founders **Robert Capa**, **Henri Cartier-Bresson**, **David "Chim" Seymour**, **George Rodger**, and many more – right up to these Internetted times. *Through Jan. 2014. 300 W. 21st, 512/471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.*

SLUGFEST GALLERY: JILL THRASHER Here's a fine display of the acclaimed artist's fresh and immediate prints – produced during life-drawing sessions, **within the duration of each model's pose.** Figurative beauty, impeccably captured and printed; so, of course, recommended. *Through Dec. 29. Saturdays, 2-6pm. 1906 Miriam, 512/477-07204. www.slugfestprints.com.*

SOUTHPOP: THE AUSTIN-SAN FRANCISCO CONNECTION Holy cross-pollination, Sixties-era Batman! Make a beeline to this visually amplified tale of two cities and the art they together and separately wrought. *Through Jan. 4. 1516-B S. Lamar, 512/440-8318. www.southaustincenter.org.*

STUDIO 10: BEAUTY REVEALED: IMAGES OF WOMEN New paintings by Augusto Brocca. *Through Feb. 15. 1011 West Lynn, 512/236-3333. www.studiotenarts.com.*

TEXAS FOLKLIFE: PAPER CUTS By Bradley Jay Williams. *Through Feb. 28. 1317 S. Congress, 512/441-9255. www.texasfolklife.org.*

THE BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART Two main exhibitions are on display for your viewing pleasure at UT's gorgeous Blanton right there on MLK. **Imperial Augsburg: Renaissance Prints and Drawings, 1475-1540** *Through Jan. 5. The Nearest Air: A Survey of Works by Waltercio Caldas* *Through Jan. 12. 200 E. MLK Jr., 512/471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

THE CONTEMPORARY AUSTIN: LIAM GILLICK AND MARIANNE VITALE Liam Gillick's installed a vivid minimalist sort of architectural sculpture on the grounds of Laguna Gloria and, in the Jones Center Downtown, the second in his series of videos "dealing with specific architectural sites toward the construction of new, speculative narratives addressing territory, power, and change." **Marianne Vitale's** gone rather architectural here, too, using her signature railroad ties and other articles of industrial ferroequinia to build full-size bridges with; those bridges are then set on fire and extinguished before they turn to ash – and now meticulously transported to TCA's Jones Center. *Through Jan. 4. 700 Congress, 512/453-5312. www.thecontemporaryaustin.org.*

THE OWL GALLERY: MULTISTABLE "Images investigating the phenomena of unreconcilable experience linked to photography." Perhaps this Owl is not what it seems. *1522 E. 12th. 512/579-7451.*

TINY PARK: A CATALOGUE Gallerists **Thao Votang** and **Brian Willey** present work by 30 Austin-based artists, chosen regardless of media, subject, conceptual leaning, age, or career stage. This year-end exhibition's an aesthetic salmagundi featuring art by **Sandy Carson**, **Autumn Spadaro**, **Anthony Garza**, **Claude van Lingen**, **Jules Buck Jones**, **Janaye Brown**, **Michael Sieben**, **Russell Etchen**, **Sonya Berg**, **Jamie Panzer**, **Leah Haney**, **Kevin McNamee-Tweed**, and more. *Through Jan. 18. Saturdays, noon-5pm. 1101 Navasota #2. www.tinyparkgallery.com.*

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: ARCADIAN RHAPSODY Multimedia artist **Yuliya Lanina's** surreal imagery elicits uneasiness and empathy via bizarre characters that come to life through mechanization, animation, and music. *Through Feb. 6. 1710 Lavaca, 512/477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.*

YARD DOG FOLK ART: SIBERIAN STREET SCENES Pennsylvania artist **Kurt Herrmann's** watercolors document a recent trip to visit his in-laws in Siberia. *Through Dec. 31. 1510 S. Congress, 512/912-1613. www.yarddog.com.*

ZILKER BOTANICAL GARDEN: PERCUSSION OF THOUGHT Austin artist **Chesiel John** showcases her passion for giving new life to found objects with this collection of repurposed barrel drums adorned with an array of ephemera. *Through Dec. 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 512/477-8672. \$2 (\$1, children). www.tmofo.org.*

SPACES

BASS CONCERT HALL: TAYLOR WINN XL PAINTINGS 2350 Robert Dedman, UT campus. www.taylorwinnart.com.

A JPEG IS NOT A PHOTOGRAPH: AUSTIN STREET PHOTOGRAPHY The photographic works of **R.J. Robinson**. *Through Jan. 4. Mozart's Coffee Roasters, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 512/477-2900. www.toomanysunsets.com.*

BLUE GENIE ART BAZAAR Need something Austin-y (art, jewelry, prints, clothing, etc., whatnot, and then some) for a loved one this year? More than 135 artists and artisans will help you with your gifting conundrums. Special events occur throughout the month of December, so shop early and often. *Every day through Dec. 24, 10am-10pm. Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 6406 N I-35. Free. www.bluegenieartbazaar.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. 17-24, 11am-11pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. \$7 (free, kids). www.armadillobazaar.com.*

YULE BAZAAR is one of your last chances for unique holiday shopping as vendors, entertainers, and musicians congregate to help you get in the spirit of shopping local. Warm up by the yule campfire, sit down for real talk on the dark side of the season, and get the kids singing along to some of the live acts. *Sat.-Sun., Dec. 21-22, noon-5pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 512/478-5282. Free. www.vortexrep.org.*

**Turk Pipkin:
When Angels Sing**

Here's the renaissance man himself, amid coffee and a panoply of holiday lights, presenting his book that's the basis of that new movie starring Willie Nelson, Harry Connick Jr., Kris Kristofferson, Connie Britton, and Lyle Lovett.

**Fri., Dec. 20, 6:30-8pm. Mozart's Coffee Roasters,
3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 512/477-2900.
www.mozartcoffee.com.**

When Angels Sing



LITERA

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

BEDPOST CONFESSIONS Here's the popular monthly show where an array of writers and performers represent a wide range of sexualities through storytelling and performance. Truthful, timely, and titillating, this month features presentations by **Mia Martina**, **Kate Caldwell**, **Amy Floca**, and **Charlie Nox** – and your own confessions read onstage. Bonus: sexy door-prizes from Package Menswear and Glo's Goodies. *Thu., Dec. 19, 8pm. The North Door, 502 Brushy, 512/485-3002. \$10. www.bedpostconfessions.com.*

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

STORY CIRCLE NETWORK Nonprofit organization for women, offering monthly reading and writing circles and more, in North, Central, and South Austin. *512/454-9833. www.storycircle.org.*

WRITE BY NIGHT Write, read, collaborate, or just kick back and dream: This is the writerly sanctum you've been looking for, right there near Downtown. See details online. *512/322-5242. www.writebynight.net.*

OPEN MICS

NEO-SOUL LOUNGE Where great poetry gets its flavor. Hosted by South Flavas. *Thursdays, 9pm-12mid. 1050 E. 11th. \$6. www.southflavas.com/neosoul.html.*

OPEN MICS Austin Poetry Slam *Tuesdays, 8pm. Spider House Ballroom, 2906 Fruth. Full English Tea Room* Thom hosts. *Saturdays, 6-9pm. 2000 Southern Oaks. Spoken & Heard* *Sundays, 7-10pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725. More listed online!*

COMMUNITY

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 on the 12 acres surrounded by the 1.5 million lights of Santa's Ranch. Why not join him? *Through Jan. 4, 6-10pm. 9561 N. I-35, New Braunfels (two miles south of Tanger Outlet Mall). \$28 per car (\$56 for a season pass). www.santasranch.net.*

AUSTIN TRAIL OF LIGHTS Still bright and free after all these years. Every day has live entertainment, myriad photo-ops, and, of course, funnel cake. Go online for a schedule of shuttles and other transpo options. You can pay online for parking or a pass that lets you cut everyone in line. Bike racks will be available for your pedal pushers. *Every day through Dec. 22, 7-10pm. Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 512/974-6700. Free. www.austrailoflights.org.*

LA PASTORELA - A SHEPERDELA'S STORIA This comedy for the whole family is a cherished holiday tradition, now with a new twist. Directed by Patricio Villarreal Avila for the Austin Latino Theatre Alliance, performed in Spanish with English surtitles. *Through*

Hornography

BY RUSS ESPINOZA



Breaking up is hard to do, even if you're calling it a "mutual decision," as **Mack Brown** has been so eloquent to do last weekend about ending his relationship with Texas football. The team's head coach announced Sunday that he will step down after Dec. 30's Alamo Bowl in San Antonio against No. 10 Oregon, closing a tenure that lasted 16 years.

While Brown is now a single Duck hunt away from transitioning into a special assistant role to UT president **Bill Powers**, new athletic director **Steve Patterson's** search for the program's next head coach is already underway.

And while Texas owns the wealthiest athletics budget in the country, their bottomless coffer couldn't dissuade four-time national champion **Nick Saban** from signing a big contract extension with Alabama last Friday. Saban-mania died that day, but UT's football team – 30-20 record since 2010 and all – still has the cachet to go after anyone they want.

National speculation abounds as to who'll inherit the kingdom, but the viable names floating around are as star-studded as it

gets: Ohio State's **Urban Meyer**, Les Miles from LSU, Baylor bandleader **Art Briles**, Oklahoma State's **Mike Gundy**, and UCLA's **Jim Mora**, as well as NFL coaches like **Jim Harbaugh**, **Pete Carroll**, and recently fired Texans coach **Gary Kubiak**. Penn State's **Bill O'Brien** and Vanderbilt's **James Franklin** are also receiving mounting attention as dark horse candidates in the staff pool.

Whoever Texas inks, it begs to question of what will become of Brown's staff, particularly coordinators **Greg Robinson**, who rescued an awful unit from **Manny Diaz** this year, and offensive counterpart **Major Applewhite**, who may have engineered a few more points against Baylor if he hadn't lost quarterback **David Ash** early in the year and lead rusher **Johnathan Gray** mid-way through.

They may both be coaching for their jobs come next Monday, when the Longhorns try to send Brown out grinning against a speedy Oregon squad that'll be tough to dismiss. Behind stud QB **Marcus Mariota**, the Ducks have averaged 46.8 points per game – a total Texas eclipsed only once the whole year.

ARABIC BAZAAR Arabic music, belly dancing and belly-dance classes, 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. 22, 10am-7pm. 5013 Duval St., 512/533-9227. www.thearabicbazaar.com.*

EAST SECOND STREET FLEA Seriously folks, this is one of your last chances for local gifts from the likes of Dandy's Gentleman's Store, Farewell Books, Flattrack Coffee, Petrified Design, Traveller Denim, and more. *Sun., Dec. 22, 10am-5pm. 1710 E. Second. Free. www.facebook.com/east2ndstreetflea.*

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, 512/454-9912. Free. www.vsatx.org.*

Holiday Bazaars

Dec. 22: Thursday-Friday, 8pm; Saturday-Sunday, 7pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River, 512/537-2582. \$15 (\$10, kids). www.altateatro.com.

HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOW This local coffee shop has been stepping up its holiday-light game for years. Every hour on the hour the lights and music explode with the spirit of the holidays. Through Dec. 31, 6-11pm. Mozart's Coffee Roasters, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 512/477-2900. Free. www.mozartscoffee.com.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS & ICE It's not exactly a winter wonderland 'round these parts, but you can at least skate around the ice rink with 200,000 lights to help you get in the mood. Go online for package deals and VIP pricing. Through Jan. 6. Omni Barton Creek, 8212 Barton Club Dr. \$23 (\$17, kids). www.bartoncreek.com.

PAUL KLEMPERER'S FESTIVUS CELEBRATION Jazz, blues, country, Latin, and world music give this holiday showcase of music, comedy, and storytelling a bit of bite. Fri., Dec. 20, 7pm. Stateside at the Paramount, 719 Congress, 512/589-8514. \$20. www.pksax.com.

TEXARTS PRESENTS A COOL YULE CABARET Classic holiday tunes performed in the style of Mel Torme, Nat King Cole, Peggy Lee, and many more. Get in the spirit of the season if you haven't already. Fri.-Sat., Dec. 20-21, 7-9pm. TexARTS, 2300 Lohmans Spur, 512/852-9079 x101. \$20-30. www.tex-arts.org/acyc.html.

BAMBOO GROVE GROOMING It's all pretty bamboo until it starts taking over your yard. Learn to keep it at bay and looking good. Bring hand clippers, loppers, saws, gloves, and a beverage. Sat., Dec. 21, 9:30am. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 512/929-9565. Free with admission to the park. www.bamboocentral.net.

TINPLATE TRACKERS TRAIN CLUB Come watch the choo-choos and inspire the next generation to keep this historic hobby alive and well. You might even be allowed to sit behind the controls if you're kind enough to the tip jar. Saturdays, 11am-5pm and Sundays, noon-5pm through Jan. 1. ArtSpace, 231 E. Main, Round Rock, 512/689-2450. Donations appreciated. www.trainweb.org/ttat.

HOLIDAY ICE SKATING Having trouble finding an iced-over lake here in Austin? Your local ice rink will have seasonal skating specials every Saturday through Dec. 21. Go online for more info and time details. Chaparral Ice, 14200 N. I-35, 512/252-8500. \$10. www.chaparralice.com.

12 NIGHTS CHRISTMAS CABARET Avant Glam Cabaret invites some friends to put some jingle in your bells (whatever that means). You'll never hear the holiday classics the same after all the dancing, burlesque, and bellydance action. Sat., Dec. 21, 8 & 10:30pm. Spider House Ballroom, 2906 Fruth, 512/480-9562. \$20 (\$15, advance); \$25, reserved seating. www.fb.com/avantglamcabaret.

CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES Dylan Thomas' holiday tale gets a musical backdrop in the style of an old-time radio show. Good for all ages. Sun., Dec. 22, 3pm. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 512/345-8866. \$15/\$5 kids. alexcokemusic@sbcglobal.net.

DIY ORNAMENTS & GIFT TAGS CLASS Because handmade gifts are just better. It's a scientific fact. Sun., Dec. 22, 3pm. The North Door, 502 Brushy, 512/485-3002. \$35. www.ndvenue.com/event/426349-diy-ornaments-gift-tags-austin.

Soccer Watch BY NICK BARBARO

The **Austin Aztex** won the PDL championship back in August, but the awards keep rolling in. The Aztex were named **PDL Organization of the Year** Friday at the annual United Soccer Leagues Hall of Fame & Awards Dinner – along with Orlando City (USL PRO), and the Dayton Dutch Lions (W-League) – and were also one of three teams recognized with the league Fair Play Award. That adds to their previous sweep of PDL Coach of the Year (**Paul Dalglish**), league MVP (**Kris Tyrpak**), and playoff MVP (**Sito Seoane**) – a remarkable record in a highly competitive 64-team league... Tyrpak, a Dripping Springs native who just finished his college career, has been selected to participate at the **2014 MLS Player Combine**, Jan. 10-14 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.... Aztex owner **David Markley** posted his year-end open letter Tuesday, confirming that a move up to the pro level is still in the works: "While it is still premature to announce specific plans or timing, I can assure you that the off-season has been consumed by financial modeling and meetings with potential investors and business partners which will help us take this next step. There was a temptation to join the pro ranks for the 2014 season, but we remain committed to having the right team, with the right partners, at the right time." See the full text at www.austinaztex.com.

Hosts **Raja Casablanca**, sitting mid-table in the Moroccan league, stunned South American champion **Athletico Mineiro** of Brazil in a **Club World Cup** semifinal Wednesday; they'll meet European champion **Bayern Munich** in the CWC final Saturday in Marrakech (1:30pm, Fox Sports 2).

SPORTS

THE MAIN EVENT

USA DIVING WINTER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS There will be past Olympians and world championship team members taking to the board to see who is the best in the country. There will be so little splash you'll barely know they're diving. Through Sun., Dec. 22. Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swim Center, MLK & Trinity, 512/471-7771. www.texasports.com.

THE HOME TEAMS

AUSTIN TOROS Got family in town for the holidays? Bring 'em out to see our D-league squad face Delaware. Fri.-Sat., Dec. 20-21, 7:30pm. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/600-5000. \$4-99. www.nba.com/dleague/austin.

ST. EDWARD'S BASKETBALL Vs. Oklahoma Panhandle State: women at 5:30pm, men at 7:30pm. Vs. Newman: women at 1pm, men at 3pm. 3001 S. Congress. \$5. www.athletics.stedwards.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Women's Basketball Vs. Northwestern State. Fri., Dec. 20, 7pm. \$4-12. **Men's Basketball** Vs. Michigan State. Sat., Dec. 21, 3pm. \$6-25. Erwin Ctr., 1701 Red River. www.texasports.com.

TEXAS STATE Men's Basketball Vs. UT-Tyler. Sat., Dec. 21, 4:30pm. \$6-10. **Women's Basketball** Vs. UTA. Sun., Dec. 22, 1pm. \$4-6. Strahan Coliseum, San Marcos. www.txstatebobcats.com.

RECREATION & FITNESS

GROWN FOLKS STEP, ROLL 'N' BOWL! The MYEC hosts this adult skate/bowl party with music from guest DJs. BYOB (no coolers). Third Saturdays, 9pm. Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex, 1156 Hargrave, 512/472-6932. \$5. www.myec.net.

KIDS

POSADA CELEBRATION Southwest Key's Latino Arts Preservation Program students use song, dance, and more to tell a traditional Mexican Posada. Mr. Claus will be there to distract kids from the crafts, face-painting, and other fun things to do. Thu., Dec. 19, 6-8pm. Southwest Key Community Center, 6002 Jain, 512/583-2568. Free.

HOLIDAY HIP-HOP THEATRE EXPLOSION Zell Miller III hosts this evening of family-friendly poets, dancers, singers, and theatre artists, all with a hip-hop bent. Thu.-Sat., Dec. 19-21, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor, 478-5282. \$20 (\$30, priority seating). www.vortexrep.org.

CHILDREN'S NUTCRACKER The Austin City Ballet presents the 13th 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.-Sun., Dec. 20-22. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 512/974-4000. \$25 (\$15, children). www.austincityballet.org.

LITTLE ELVES Drop the kiddies (ages 3-7) off and get some holiday shopping done or just take a short break from child-rearing. Fri., Dec. 20, 3-6pm. Cedar Park Recreation Center, 1435 Main, Cedar Park, 512/401-5500. \$25. www.cedarparktexas.gov.



new year's guide

A GATSBY-INSPIRED AFFAIR Pay a little extra for a full meal or just come out for the party with drinks, hors d'oeuvres, party favors, and DJ-spun tunes. 6pm-2am. Blackfinn Ameripub, 11410 Century Oaks Terrace, 512/836-3466. \$25-75. www.facebook.com/events/261697347313739.

AUSTIN SOCIAL SCENE GALA Get your cocktail attire out, and prepare for some elegant partying with a cash bar and live music keeping the social interactions lubricated. Live music from DysFunkShun JunkShun and cover band Encore supply the tunes. 8pm. The Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 6406 N I-35, 512/337-7890. Free. www.austinsocialscene.com.

NEW YEAR'S REVOLUTION! Three stages, six bands, and a handful of DJs and artists keep the blood flowing until the ball drops. Food and drink will also be available. 8pm-2am. Spider House Ballroom, 2906 Fruth, 512/480-9562. \$15-25. www.spiderhousecafe.com.

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT KUNG FU SALOON Suite 709, Zeale, the Hood Internet, and the house DJ keep you moving into the new year. 10pm-2am. Kung Fu Saloon, 510 Rio Grande. \$50. www.eventbrite.com/e/kung-fu-saloon-austin-nye-2013-tickets-9758525011.

REMIX & REVELRY Pop sensation Max Frost headlines this evening on the second floor of the W Hotel. Prepare for 2014 with an open bar, apps, and Champagne at midnight. 9pm-2am. W Hotel, 200 Lavaca, 512/542-3600. \$225 (\$300, VIP). www.whotelAustin.com/nye.

AUSTIN'S NEW YEAR A performance from Sarah Hickman and fireworks cap off this evening of art, film, and music for the whole family. It's kinda like every other day in Austin only condensed into a few hours of citywide partying. 5-10pm. Auditorium Shores, 920 W. Riverside, 512/974-7700. Free. www.austintexas.gov/any.

IMPROV EXTRAVAGANZA The Hideout invites you to ring in the new year improv-style, with an evening of games and skits. Candy for the early show and Champagne for the night owls. 8 & 10:30pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 512/476-0473. \$30. www.hideouttheatre.com.

CHARITY GALA & CASINO ROYALE Don't let the three-course meal keep you from the casino games, silent auction, and dancing. There's even a late-night quesadilla bar for those midnight munchies. Proceeds go to C5 Texas, a local life-skill development program. 7pm-2am. American Legion Hall, 2201 Veterans Dr., 512/832-2565. \$150. www.c5yf.org.

These are just a few of our complete New Year's listings online at austinchronicle.com/nye, or check back next week.

SNOW DAY Build a snow-man or throw a snowball with real snow! The mall will have carolers, music, and more, but you'll likely be distracted by the that fluffy white stuff we don't see much around these parts. Sat., Dec. 21; noon-4pm. Hill Country Galleria, 12700 Hill Country Blvd., Bee Cave, 512/263-0001. Free. www.hillcountrygalleria.com.

SECOND SHEPHERDS' PLAY Learn the story of Coll, Daw, and Gib: shepherds who were the first to see baby Jesus. At least that's how it goes down in this staged comedy written in medieval times. Appropriate for all ages. Sat. & Sun., Dec. 21-22. Scottish Rite Theater, 207 W. 18th, 512/472-5436. \$9 (\$6, kids). www.scottishritetheater.org.

STEVE FOR THE HOLIDAYS Think all holiday tales are stale? Well, this one is made fresh right before your eyes with the improvising help of kids in the audience. Saturdays through Jan. 4, 10am. ColdTowne Theater, 4803-B Airport, 512/809-0017. \$3-5 suggested donation. www.moveyourtale.com.

HOLIDAY KIDS CAMP If your kids are hopped up on holiday excitement try this minicamp of arts, crafts, gift-making, movies, and pizza. Parents can take a little break at the bar, but remember you're back on duty come 2pm. Sat., Dec. 21, 10am-2pm. The North Door, 502 Brushy, 512/485-3002. \$30. www.ndvenue.com/event/426589-holiday-kids-camp-make-take-austin/.

FISH GALLERY CHRISTMAS PARTY & SALE The store will have a sale all day, but the read fun starts at 4pm when there will be ornament making, cookies, cocoa, stories, and more fun for the kiddos. Sat., Dec. 21, 4pm. Fish Gallery, 6500 N. Lamar, 512/381-0158. Free. www.thefishgallery.com.

DISNEY JUNIOR LIVE: PIRATE & PRINCESS ADVENTURE We've never heard of Sofia the First or this new incarnation of the Never Land Pirates, but we're sure your kids have. It's probably safe to assume Disney knows how to entertain kids. Sun., Dec. 22, 1, 4, & 7pm. Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 512/477-6060. \$20 and up. www.uterwincenter.com.

FLYING THEATER MACHINE PRESENTS: CLOCKWORK STORIES Recommended for ages 4 to 10. Sundays through Dec., 2pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 512/443-3688. \$7. www.hideouttheatre.com.

OUT OF TOWN

COWBOY CHRISTMAS Celebrate Christmas with a Western-theme weekend with lots of activities, shows, animals, wagon rides, music, and a visit from Santa. Sat.-Sun., Dec. 21-22, 10am-5pm. Enchanted Springs Ranch, Boerne. \$14/\$7. www.enchantedspringsranch.com.

LUCKENBACH CHRISTMAS BALL Join Gary P. Nunn for a Hill Country Christmas holiday tradition of dancing the night away. Sat., Dec. 21, 9pm. Luckenbach. \$20. www.luckenbachtexas.com.

THE AUSLANDER WINTER MUSIC FESTIVAL Enjoy six nights of good German food, a great beer selection, and terrific local music rolling up to the new year. Thu.-Tue., Dec. 26-31. The Auslander, 323 E. Main St., Fredericksburg. www.theauslander.com.

BOXING DAY CELEBRATION British tradition holds the day after Christmas as a time to give gifts to the service industry, but in the Hill Country it is a time to gather with friends and enjoy music, refreshments, and the reading of A Christmas Carol. Thu., Dec. 26, 10am-5pm. Becker Vineyards, Stonewall. Free. www.beckervineyards.com.

ZWEITE WEIHNACHTEN keeps alive the German tradition of community gathering the day after Christmas for a "Second Christmas" with refreshments, decorations, and German Christmas items. Thu., Dec. 26, 2-4pm. Gillespie Co. Historical Society Hall, 312 W. San Antonio, Fredericksburg. Free. www.pioneer museum.net.



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Inside Llewyn Davis

D: Ethan Coen, Joel Coen; with Oscar Isaac, Carey Mulligan, John Goodman, Justin Timberlake, Adam Driver, Garrett Hedlund, Ethan Phillips, Robin Bartlett, Stark Sands, Alex Karpovskiy. (R, 105 min.)

Shot in winter grays with no warming ambers and the whiff of tuberculosis hanging around all

the players, *Inside Llewyn Davis* is a chilly thing – a nominal comedy in brisk shivers. It's set in Greenwich Village in the early Sixties, the same time Dylan was starting to make a name for himself, although the film only obliquely references the real-life stars of the day. (The title and color palette echo *Inside Dave Van Ronk*, the 1963 album by Van Ronk, nicknamed the Mayor of MacDougal Street, ground zero of the Sixties folk revival.)

Formerly part of a semi-successful duo act, the folk singer Llewyn Davis (Isaac) is forging ahead solo now, but his melancholic nature doesn't bode well for his marketing prospects. Llewyn is down and very nearly out: Homeless and broke, he's resorted to couch-surfing; he almost ruins a recording gig by unwittingly mocking the simpleton ditty to the songwriter's face; and his best girl loathes him (granted, she's his best friend's wife). Llewyn is not a bad man, and when he sings, he's an angel. But he's also in pain and kind of an asshole – careless and contrarian – lost.

The Coen brothers nail the folk personas, all shiny-eyed and turtlenecked (beware their jaw snap when crossed), and the cold-bloodedness of its benefactors – the agents, record producers, and cafe proprietors. But this is an affectionate goosing, not a lampooning, of the era and the culture, energetically enacted by a tight troupe of scene-stealers, including John Goodman as a jazzbo in a Caesar bowl cut and the withering Carey Mulligan, playing a steely folk chanteuse (how she manages

to be both dowdy and luminous is a mystery, or a miracle). Just as essential is the soundtrack, produced by T Bone Burnett with the Coens and performed by the actors, from the charming geegaw "Please Mr. Kennedy" to "Fare Thee Well," a lament you're certain to go home humming.

But Isaac, in his first top-billed role, is the star, slow-burning and hunch-shouldered, with a gentle, lulling singing voice and an outer-boroughs-spiky speaking voice. Isaac is a handsome, not short man, but he's filmed to seem stubby, as if prematurely ground down by life. His Llewyn is the spiritual (if shitheel) cousin to *A Serious Man's*

Larry Gopnik, and *Inside Llewyn Davis* is just as doleful a film, if not quite as soul-stirring. In lesser pictures, the Coens have shown an awful mean streak, but here, as with *A Serious Man*, they take their title to heart: This is no outsider's sneer, but a sincere tunneling inside a hurting human forever rolling the boulder up the hill – or, more aptly, chasing his own tail to the edge of collapse.

Early in the film, there is a storybook-magical scene, wherein a tabby cat rides the subway and peers over Llewyn's shoulder, out the window. The cat, one imagines, is marveling at a new world for the pawing. The bitter rub of the film is that, no matter where Llewyn goes, it's always the same damn thing, just a different area code. In a way, Llewyn does succeed in catching his tail. Squint, and you can almost see the bite marks – self-inflicted, naturally. (See "The Talented Mr. Isaac," p.44, for our interview with the actor.)

RECOMMENDED



Arbor, Violet Crown

NEW REVIEWS

★ AMERICAN HUSTLE

D: David O. Russell; with Christian Bale, Amy Adams, Bradley Cooper, Jeremy Renner, Jennifer Lawrence, Louis C.K., Robert De Niro, Michael Peña, Elisabeth Röhm, Jack Huston, Alessandro Nivola. (R, 138 min.)

It's all about the hair in *American Hustle*: a small-time con man's elaborate comb-over; a well-meaning politician's rockabilly pompadour; a beautiful grifter's feathered mane; an ambitious G-man's pin-curl perm; a slightly unhinged blonde's pile-on. The movie is a time capsule of hairdos and hairdon'ts from the Carter era. A dark comedy loosely based on the FBI's Abscam sting operation in the late Seventies, this entertaining take on the American art of reinvention delights in the era's sense of fashion (costume designer Michael Wilkinson nails the look) without distracting from its dysfunctional collision of con artists, undercover agents, and mobsters. You never know what's going to happen next in Eric Warren Singer and David O. Russell's twisty screenplay in which things can derail at any minute. Players get played; scammers get scammed. What begins as a straight-forward operation to ensnare a New Jersey mayor with dreams of a reinvigorated Atlantic City changes overnight into a big-game hunt for notorious mafiosi and greedy congressmen. If this is how things usually work, God help us all.

While the element of unpredictability invigorates *American Hustle*, it's not the stylistic wild ride you might expect from the previews. The wow factor keeps to a minimum. (Clearly, director Russell isn't interested in comparisons to Martin Scorsese.) Much of the drama internalizes, particularly in the dynamic between the two principal characters, the street-smart Irving Rosenfeld (Bale) and the faux British poseur Sydney Prosser (Adams). At heart, this is a love story between two inherently dishonest people who need to trust each other to survive. For these soul mates coerced into participation by the Feds, this is the most dangerous hustle of all because it's the one that threatens to break them apart. They're nothing without each other, romantically or criminally speaking. The wordless glances between them say everything.

Above everything else, Russell has an unerring talent for drawing out the best from his actors. Everyone here is in top form, though Cooper's near-maniac FBI agent dictates some odd acting choices. Not surprisingly, Bale and Adams inhabit their hustlers like a second skin, down to Irving's shamelessly protruding potbelly and Sydney's near-bare breasts peeking out from every outfit she wears. Renner, Louis C.K. and Röhm also hold their own in less showy but watchable roles. Special mention, however, is reserved for Lawrence's mesmerizing turn as Irving's nut-job spouse, a Real Housewife on the verge of spontaneously combusting. (Things have a habit of catching fire when this gaga lady is around.) An unabashed extrovert who speaks first and thinks (maybe) later, Rosalyn Rosenfeld, ultimately holds all the cards in the elaborate operation underway – and she hasn't a clue. (But she knows she's gorgeous; watch her work a room with a single look.) It's a juicy role for any actress, but Lawrence takes it two or three steps further than anyone else who

comes to mind could. She's a true original, a *rara avis* with beautiful plumage.

★★★★

– Steve Davis

Alamo Lakeline, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Metropolitan, Moviehouse, Tinseltown North, Violet Crown, Westgate

ANCHORMAN 2: THE LEGEND CONTINUES

D: Adam McKay; with Will Ferrell, Paul Rudd, Steve Carell, David Koechner, Christina Applegate, Dylan Baker, James Marsden, Meagan Good, Kristen Wiig, Fred Willard, Josh Lawson. (PG-13, 118 min.)

The year has not been kind to film comedies. A quick glance at critics' end-of-year Top 10s – including the Austin Film Critics Association – reveals a severe dearth of outright yuks over the past 12 months. Fleeting comedic dramas galore, but overall, it's been a very *Oh, Brother Where Art Thou?* year for theatrical releases, and I mean that in the original *Sullivan's Travels* way. Why so serious? Blame it on the zeitgeist, I suppose. Happily, tonsorial-centric newscaster Ron Burgundy (Ferrell) has returned to the fray in this surprisingly guffaw-inducing sequel to his 2004 origin story. At two hours long, *The Legend Continues* starts to continue a little too much midway through, but I have to admit the final 25 minutes are so deliriously absurdist that they're worth the price of admission on their own.

Co-scripted by Ferrell and Adam McKay once again, the psycho-pompous Burgundy and his San Diego news team – disco-licious Brian Fantana (Rudd), racist sportscaster Champ Kind (Koechner), and just plain nuts weatherman Brick Tamland (Carell) – regroup to take their particularly egocentric brand of reportage to New York City. It's there that a billionaire Aussie (Lawson) is about to launch Global News Network, the world's first 24-hour news channel. Set in 1980, Burgundy and his crew find the very notion of can't stop/won't stop news perplexing, but the pay is good and the gang is game, although not before seriously ticking off GNN's prime-time anchor Jack Lime (Marsden). Chaos and much *Zoolander*-esque hilarity ensues.

It's worth pointing out that *The Legend Continues* does a fine job of skewering the current tsunami of televised-news overload. "Why do we need to tell people what they need to know?" asks Burgundy. "Why can't we tell them what they want to know?" Take that Fox News – *Pow!* Right in the kisser!

As with the original *Anchorman*, the gags fly fast and free; not all of them work, but a romantic subplot between linguistically challenged Brick and GNN secretary Chani (Wiig) is an inspired comedic dorkgasm. Less engaging is Applegate as Burgundy's estranged wife and former co-reporter Veronica Corningstone, but with all the satirical machismo and goofball testosterone floating around like so much smog in Guangzhou, it's difficult to fault her.

A plethora of third-act cameo appearances by everyone from the ghost of Stonewall Jackson to Wes Mantooth (Vince Vaughn) effectively save *Anchorman 2* from being simply a mediocre *meh* sequel and turn it into a total comedy freak-out – which, I

BY KIMBERLEY JONES

daresay, is exactly what the zeitgeist needs right about now.

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

47 RONIN

D: Carl Rinsch; with Keanu Reeves, Hiroyuki Sanada, Kô Shibasaki, Tadanobu Asano, Min Tanaka. (PG-13, 119 min.)
Not reviewed at press time. Keanu Reeves stars as a member recruited to a band of samurai warriors who are fighting the supernatural forces that killed their master. (Opens Wednesday, December 25.)

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

GRUDGE MATCH

D: Peter Segal; with Robert De Niro, Sylvester Stallone, Kim Basinger, Kevin Hart, Alan Arkin, Jon Bernthal. (PG-13, 113 min.)

This is a strange, unfunny, and unmoving boxing riff that simultaneously apes the hoary templates of Thirties and Forties fisticuffs films, nails cliches, and telegraphs its eventual outcome at every opportunity. A remarkably uninspired movie overall, *Grudge Match* is pure pabulum melodrama all the way down to the final count. Two veteran actors playing two aging warhorses, both nursing the 30-year-old titular grudge, are brought together to finally vie for the TKO, and the results are deeply dispiriting. You're probably wondering: "Is it as awful as Clint Eastwood's 2008 codger drama *Gran Torino*?" Well, yes, Virginia, and here's blood in your eye.

Peculiarly timed to a holiday release, I'm at a loss as to what inexplicable niche demographic *Grudge Match* is going for. It's clearly not capitalizing on the success of geezer bloodbaths such as *The Expendables* franchise, and it's a distant cry from blood-and-thunder classics like Robert Rossen's *Body and Soul* and Michael Curtiz's *Kid Galahad*. Instead, the pitch seems to have been more along the lines of "*Raging Bull* meets *Rocky*, but they're totally old, out-of-it dudes with family, alcohol, and cash-flow issues." It

probably made sense on paper, but on the screen it merely conjures the ghosts of the once whippet-fit De Niro and the ever abdominal Stallone. Pathos is ladled on with all the subtlety of a sledgehammer to the cranium, and Tim Kelleher's script is as painfully punch-drunk as they come.

The vastly superior *Grumpy Old Men* (with Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau) mined relatively similar emotional and aging issues with infinitely more aplomb, wit, and wisdom. *Grudge Match* merely made me want to watch De Niro's Scorsesean rage (and spittle) fly once more in *Raging Bull*, or for that matter, Stallone's underdog Rocky (a man with very few options) holler out for his true love Adrian. *Grudge Match* yells a lot and maniacally yanks at the heartstrings like a buzzard ripping out soft tissue, but even the in-ring battle choreography is abysmal. It's all pretty depressing, to be truthful, and even Basinger, as Stallone's long-ago love interest, is wooden, inert, and looks like she's mentally counting to 10 in every scene, waiting for the whole mess to be over. (Opens Wednesday, December 25.)

– Marc Savlov
Alamo Lakeline, Barton Creek Square, Gateway, iPic, Metropolitan, Moviehouse, Westgate

JUSTIN BIEBER'S BELIEVE

D: Jon M. Chu. (PG, 92 min.)
Not reviewed at press time. You're either a Belieber or you ain't – which will no doubt color whether you regard this backstage and performance film as a lump of coal or the best Christmas gift ever. (Opens Wednesday, Dec. 25.) – Marjorie Baumgarten
Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown North

MANDELA: LONG WALK TO FREEDOM

D: Justin Chadwick; with Idris Elba, Naomie Harris, Tony Kgoroge, Riaad Moosa, Jamie Bartlett, Lindiwe Matshikiza, Terry Pheto, Deon Lotz. (PG-13, 139 min.)
The planned December release of this biopic about the universally revered South African leader could not be better timed. This nation-builder and worldwide face of the anti-apartheid movement died at the beginning of this month at the age of 95, following a prolonged illness, and was laid to rest after a 10-day mourning period that coincidentally coincided with the planned international rollout of *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*. To top things off, Google also announced in a year-end press release that the search

engine's No.1 trending search of 2013 was Nelson Mandela. It's too bad, then, that Justin Chadwick's film does not offer a more substantial portrait of the man, whose passing is a fresh wound to mourners and curious onlookers worldwide.

The film draws from Mandela's autobiography; but 95 years is an awful lot of life to cover, even in a movie that's 139 minutes long. Much of the story of the movement against apartheid, the African National Congress, and Mandela's 27 years in prison is gravely condensed, as perhaps it needs to be. Worse, however, is Chadwick and screenwriter William Nicholson's great-man approach, which blocks out the contributions and sacrifices of others in the struggle in favor of more single-minded hero worship. Opening with an idyllic tribal sequence in the sun-flared village of Mandela's childhood (and eventual burial place), the movie moves forward in episodic, chockablock fashion. We witness Mandela as a young lawyer in Johannesburg, his failed first marriage, his growing radicalization, his love affair with his second wife Winnie Mandela – but these events exist without integration into the larger context of the political movement. The only exception is the depiction of the marriage between Nelson and Winnie – so close at first blush, but then damaged by his incarceration, and then hers, which is followed by Winnie's militant radicalization just as Nelson urges nonviolence.

What cannot be missed, however, is the commanding performance of Idris Elba as Mandela. Although he bears little resemblance to Mandela, this chameleonic actor captures a sense of the subject through his gestures and gait. Appearing in virtually every scene of the film, Elba is captivating to watch. Those not already familiar with the history of the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa may find they need to turn elsewhere to fill in the movie's many gaps. *Long Walk to Freedom* venerates a man, not a movement. But as the world mourns the loss of a great humanist and visionary, this film can provide a starting place for deepening one's knowledge. (Opens Wednesday, December 25.)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Arbor

SAVING MR. BANKS

D: John Lee Hancock; with Emma Thompson, Tom Hanks, Colin Farrell, Paul Giamatti, Bradley Whitford, B.J. Novak, Jason Schwartzman, Annie Rose Buckley, Ruth Wilson, Rachel Griffiths. (PG-13, 125 min.)

In *Saving Mr. Banks*, British author P.L. Travers (Thompson) resists the efforts of Walt Disney (Hanks) to sanitize her beloved literary creation, *Mary Poppins*, on film with the same conviction as the no-nonsense nanny who was carried by the east wind to the Banks family household and into the imaginations of young readers the world over. Singing chimney sweeps? Ghostly! Animated penguins? Never! Dick Van Dyke? Oh, the horror! The battle of wills re-enacted in this love letter to everything Disney takes place over a fortnight in 1961 during the stateside preproduction of the film musical, with the studio team bending over backward to convince Travers to give them the screen rights to the character. Her face scrunched in stubborn resolve, the author refuses to compromise on the tiniest of details.

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Galaxy Theatres presents "*The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug*" in DBox Motion Seats. Tickets on sale in Theater and Online.
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) DBox Motion Seating Fri. - Thu. 11:00 2:30 6:00 9:30
American Hustle (R) Fri. & Sat. 11:00 1:40 4:25 7:10 10:00 11:55
Sun. - Thu. 11:00 1:40 4:25 7:10 10:00
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 11:00 11:05 1:35 1:45 4:10 4:30 6:55 7:15 9:30 10:00 11:59
Sun. - Thu. 11:00 11:05 1:35 1:45 4:10 4:30 6:55 7:15 9:30 10:00
Saving Mr. Banks (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. 12:45 3:45 6:35 9:15
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 11:00 12:00 2:30 3:30 6:00 7:00 9:30 10:30 11:45
Sun. - Thu. 11:00 12:00 2:30 3:30 6:00 7:00 9:30 10:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. 11:30 3:00 6:30 10:00
Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 11:20 1:50 4:15 6:45 9:15 11:30
Sun. - Tue. 11:20 1:50 4:15 6:45 9:15
Frozen (PG) Fri. - Tue. 1:30 4:15 6:50 9:25
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) Fri. - Tue. 12:30 3:50 7:15 10:15
Parents: Remember that after 6pm there are no children under 6 allowed into R Rated films
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<i>American Hustle</i> (R)	★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be
<i>Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues</i> (PG-13)	★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless
<i>47 Ronin</i> (PG-13)*	★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points
<i>Grudge Match</i> (PG-13)*	★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots
<i>Inside Llewyn Davis</i> (R)	★ Poor, without any saving graces
<i>Justin Bieber's Believe</i> (PG)*	☹ La bomba
<i>Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom</i> (PG-13)*	
<i>Saving Mr. Banks</i> (PG-13)	
<i>The Secret Life of Walter Mitty</i> (PG)*	
<i>Walking With Dinosaurs</i> (PG)	
<i>The Wolf of Wall Street</i> (R)*	

SHOWTIMES

FRIDAY, DEC. 20 - THURSDAY, DEC. 26

An asterisk (*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted.

FOR UPDATED SHOWTIMES, SEE austinchronicle.com/film.

Changes may sometimes occur; viewers are encouraged to call theatres to confirm showtimes.

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Bangarang: Batman Returns: Mon, 6:30pm

Only at the Alamo: Cartoon Cereal Party: Christmas Edition: Sat, noon

Action Pack: Christmas Pops Sing-Along: Thu (12/26), 10:00pm

Master Pancake: Christmas Show: Fri-Sat, 7:00, 10:00

Big Screen Classics: A Christmas Story: Sun-Mon, 4:00pm; Tue, 4:20pm

Tough Guy Cinema: Die Hard: Sun, 6:45pm

Action Pack: Elf Quote-Along: Tue, 7:00, 9:30; Wed, 5:55pm; Thu (12/26), 7:20pm

Ghost Stories for Christmas: Mon, 9:35pm

***The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug:** Fri, 2:10, 3:15, 6:00, 9:40; Sat, 10:45am, 2:20, 3:20, 6:00, 9:40pm; Sun, 11:00am, 12:15, 2:40, 6:25, 9:55pm; Mon, 11:10am, 3:05, 6:50, 10:35pm; Tue, 12:35, 1:35, 5:10, 8:45; Wed, 11:35am, 2:15, 3:15, 6:50, 8:30, 10:30pm; Thu (12/26), 11:40am, 1:30, 3:25, 5:25, 9:05pm

Tales of the Third Dimension in 3-D: Sun, 10:15pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKELINE

14028 U.S. 183 N., Bldg. F, 512/861-7070.

Kids' Camp: The Adventures of Tintin: Sat-Sun, 9:45am; Mon-Tue, 9:50am; Thu (12/26), 10:00am

***American Hustle:** Fri, 11:55am, 2:05, 3:20, 4:55, 7:25, 8:10, 11:05, 11:25pm; Sat, 10:15am, 1:40, 3:20, 4:55, 6:30, 8:10, 10:55, 11:25pm; Sun, 10:00am, 12:40, 1:45, 2:10, 4:50, 5:20, 7:45, 8:30, 10:30, 11:15pm; Mon, 10:00am, 10:50, 12:55, 5:25, 7:45, 8:40, 7:50, 9:50, 11:10pm; Tue, 10:00am, 10:50, 12:15, 2:45, 3:45, 6:40, 7:50pm; Wed-Thru (12/26), 10:10am, 1:50, 4:35, 8:20, 11:35pm

***Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues:** Fri, 10:00am, 1:00, 1:45, 4:00, 5:25, 7:00, 8:25, 10:00, 11:25pm; Sat, 10:00am, 1:00, 1:00, 2:10, 4:00, 5:25, 7:00, 8:25, 10:40, 11:25pm; Sun, 10:00am, 10:50, 12:55, 1:45, 4:00, 5:00, 7:05, 8:10, 10:15, 11:00pm; Mon, 11:50am, 12:35, 2:25, 3:30, 5:20, 6:20, 8:15, 9:15, 10:20pm; Tue, 11:50am, 12:35, 2:25, 3:30, 5:20, 6:20, 8:15pm; Wed-Thru (12/26), 10:00am, 1:30, 5:25, 7:55, 11:10pm

Action Pack: Christmas Pops Sing-Along: Sat, 10:15pm

Action Pack: A Christmas Story Quote-Along: Mon, 4:15pm

Dallas Buyers Club: Fri, 11:45am; Sat, 11:20am; Sun, 10:15am, 9:50pm; Mon, 9:55am, 12:50, 11:25pm; Tue, 10:00am, 1:05, 4:00pm

Action Pack: Elf Quote-Along: Tue, 7:10pm

***47 Ronin (3-D):** Wed-Thru (12/26), 10:15am, 1:20, 4:25, 7:35, 10:45pm

***Frozen:** Fri, 10:05am, 12:50, 7:00, 9:45pm; Sat, 10:30am, 11:55, 3:45, 6:50, 9:35pm; Sun, 11:20am, 1:20, 4:05, 6:45, 9:30pm; Mon, 10:10am, 11:35, 2:20, 5:05, 7:00, 9:45pm; Tue, 11:35am, 2:20, 5:05, 7:00pm; Wed, 10:00am, 12:45, 3:35, 6:00, 8:45pm; Thu (12/26), 11:40am, 1:25, 4:35, 3:35, 6:00, 8:45pm

***Grudge Match:** Wed-Thru (12/26), 11:15am, 2:00, 4:55, 7:45, 10:35pm

***The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug:** Fri, 10:25am, 2:25, 6:00, 9:40pm; Sat, 10:45am, 2:25, 6:00, 9:40pm; Sun, 10:35am, 2:25, 6:00, 9:40pm; Mon, 10:35am, 2:05, 6:00, 10:35pm; Tue, 10:35am, 2:05, 6:00pm; Wed-Thru (12/26), 11:30am, 3:20, 6:15, 10:15pm

Action Pack: Home Alone Quote-Along and Pizza Party: Mon, 7:10pm

***The Hunger Games: Catching Fire:** Fri, 11:55am, 3:00, 6:20, 9:45pm; Sat, 11:40am, 2:20, 7:30, 9:55pm; Sun, 11:20am, 3:00, 6:20, 11:45pm; Mon, 1:15, 4:45, 8:05, 11:05; Tue, 1:15, 4:45, 8:05; Wed, 11:05am, 2:30, 6:00, 9:20pm

It's a Wonderful Life: Sat-Sun, 4:20pm

Action Pack: National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation Quote-Along: Sun, 7:25pm

***Saving Mr. Banks:** Fri, 10:45am, 3:45, 7:50, 10:50pm; Sat, 1:15, 2:40, 6:20, 10:00; Sun, 12:20, 3:25, 6:30, 9:55; Mon, 10:15am, 1:20, 4:20, 7:30, 10:05pm; Tue, 10:15am, 1:20, 4:20, 7:30pm; Wed-Thru (12/26), 11:40am, 3:00, 7:15, 10:30pm

***The Secret Life of Walter Mitty:** Wed-Thru (12/26), 10:55am, 1:00, 4:00, 6:55, 9:45pm

Action Pack: Totally Eighties Sing-Along Dance Party: Fri, 10:25pm

***The Wolf of Wall Street:** Wed-Thru (12/26), 10:45am, 2:40, 6:35, 10:55pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SLAUGHTER LANE

5701 W. Slaughter Ln., 512/476-1320. Showtimes at this venue are subject to frequent change. Please confirm daily times by phone or website.

***American Hustle:** Fri, 11:55am, 3:25, 6:40, 7:40, 9:55, 11:00pm; Sat, 10:55am, 12:55, 3:45, 6:50, 8:00, 11:15pm; Sun, 10:20am, 12:45, 4:50, 8:30, 10:40, 11:35pm; Mon, 12:45, 4:15, 8:00, 10:00, 11:15; Tue, 10:10am, 12:30, 3:55, 6:40, 7:50pm; Wed, 11:40am, 1:25, 4:40, 8:15, 11:30pm; Thu (12/26), 11:40am, 1:30, 4:45, 8:15, 11:30pm

***Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues:** Fri, 10:30am, 12:10, 1:25, 3:40, 4:20, 6:20, 7:15, 9:10, 10:10, 11:30pm; Sat, 9:35am, 10:35, 12:30, 1:40, 3:25, 4:40, 6:25, 7:35, 9:20, 10:50, 11:35pm; Sun, 9:50am, 10:30, 12:25, 1:45, 3:20, 4:40, 6:25, 7:45, 9:20, 10:10, 11:45pm; Mon, 10:35am, 11:35, 1:35, 2:40, 6:00, 7:35, 9:00, 10:45pm; Tue, 10:45am, noon, 1:45, 3:05, 4:45, 6:00, 7:25pm; Wed, 10:05am, 1:00, 4:15, 7:35, 10:35pm; Thu (12/26), 10:30am, 1:05, 4:15, 7:35, 10:35pm

Master Pancake: Christmas Show: Sun, 7:15pm

Action Pack: A Christmas Story Quote-Along: Mon, 4:35pm

Dallas Buyers Club: Fri, 11:25am, 2:20, 5:20, 8:20, 11:15pm; Sat, 10:00am, 2:10, 5:05, 8:25, 11:25pm; Sun, 11:15am, 2:10, 5:10, 7:05, 11:00pm; Mon, 11:15am, 2:10, 5:10, 8:25, 11:20pm; Tue, 10:10am, 2:25, 5:20, 11:50pm (12/26), 10:50am, 10:15

***47 Ronin:** Wed, 2:00, 5:05, 8:00, 10:55; Thu (12/26), 1:55, 5:05, 8:00, 10:55

***47 Ronin (3-D):** Wed, 11:40am; Thu (12/26), 11:05am

***Frozen:** Fri, 11:00am, 2:05, 3:05, 4:55pm; Sat, 9:25am, 12:15, 1:10, 3:10, 4:05am, 6:00, 8:50pm; Sun, 9:30am, 12:15, 1:25, 3:05, 6:00, 8:50pm; Mon, 10:30am, 12:25, 1:15, 3:10, 4:00, 6:50, 9:35pm; Tue, 10:00am, 11:35, 12:50, 1:25, 3:40, 4:20, 6:25pm; Wed-Thru (12/26), 10:00am, 12:45, 3:45pm

***The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug:** Fri, 10:40pm; Sat, 4:20, 10:30; Sun, 2:40, 10:30; Mon, 3:40, 10:40, 1:15; Tue, 11:00am; Wed, 10:20am, 9:50pm; Thu (12/26), 10:15am, 9:55pm

***The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D):** Fri, 3:15, 7:00; Sat, 11:55am, 7:10pm; Sun, 10:55am, 6:50pm; Mon, 11:55am, 6:25pm; Tue, 2:40, 7:05; Wed, 2:15, 6:00; Thu (12/26), 2:10, 6:00

Action Pack: Home Alone Quote-Along and Pizza Party: Mon, 7:15pm

***The Hunger Games: Catching Fire:** Fri, 11:10am, 2:35, 6:05, 9:35pm; Sat, 11:30am, 2:50, 6:15, 9:45pm; Sun, 11:20am, 2:45, 6:15, 9:45pm; Mon, 11:10am, 2:35, 6:00, 9:25pm; Tue, 1:05, 4:25, 7:45

It's a Wonderful Life: Sun, 4:30pm

Kids' Camp: Kung Fu Panda 2: Sat, 9:20am; Sun, 9:55am; Mon, 10:15am; Tue, 10:00am; Thu (12/26), 10:25am

***The Secret Life of Walter Mitty:** Wed, 10:30am, 3:20, 6:45, 9:35pm; Thu (12/26), 3:20, 6:45, 9:35

Action Pack: Totally Eighties Sing-Along Dance Party: Sat, 10:05pm

***The Wolf of Wall Street:** Wed-Thru (12/26), 11:20am, 2:55, 6:20, 10:15pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson,

512/459-7090. 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.

***American Hustle:** Fri, 9:30am, 4:55, 6:30, 8:10, 11:25pm; Sat, 10:55am, 1:20, 3:55, 4:45, 6:35, 8:00, 9:50pm; Sun, 11:05am, 12:50, 3:20, 4:35, 6:00, 9:15, 10:15pm; Mon, 10:25am, 12:55, 3:20, 4:40, 6:00, 9:15, 10:20pm; Tue, 11:30am, 1:25, 4:40, 6:15pm; Wed, 11:05am, 4:05, 7:20, 10:35pm; Thu (12/26), 9:35am, 12:50, 4:05, 7:20, 10:35pm

***Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues:** Fri, 9:40am, 12:35, 3:30, 6:00, 8:55, 11:50, 12:05am; Sat, 9:40am, 12:10, 3:20, 6:00, 8:55, 11:20pm; Sun, 9:50am, 1:40, 4:05, 7:00, 10:45pm; Mon, 10:00am, 1:40, 4:10, 7:45, 10:50pm; Tue, 9:30am, 12:25, 3:20, 7:55pm; Wed, 11:55am, 2:50, 6:00, 8:55, 11:50pm; Thu (12/26), 12:10, 2:50, 6:00, 8:55, 11:50

Action Pack: Elf Quote-Along: Sun, 7:00pm; Mon, 7:05pm

***The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug:** Fri, 9:05am, 7:15, 9:45pm; Sat, 10:40am, 2:20, 7:15, 10:55pm; Sun, 10:00am, 2:20, 6:35, 9:45pm; Tue, 9:45am, 12:05, 2:45, 6:40pm; Wed, 11:30am, 3:15, 6:25, 10:55pm; Thu (12/26), 11:10am, 3:15, 6:25, 10:55pm

***The Hunger Games: Catching Fire:** Fri, 9:20am; Sat, 12:35pm; Sun-Mon, noon; Tue, 3:50pm

Classics: It's a Wonderful Life: Tue, 7:10pm

Kids' Camp: Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events: Sat, 9:30am; Sun-Mon, 9:20am; Tue, 9:15am; Thu (12/26), 9:25am

Redline: Fri, 10:55pm

The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid

***The Wolf of Wall Street:** Wed, 12:10, 2:20, 6:55, 10:05; Thu (12/26), 10:25am, 3:20, 6:55, 10:05pm

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail

(at Jollyville), 512/231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm.

About Time (CC/DVS): Fri-Sun, 12:20, 9:45; Mon, 12:20, 9:40; Tue, 12:20pm

The Book Thief (CC/DVS): Fri-Tue, 3:20, 6:40

Dallas Buyers Club (CC): Fri-Mon, 12:50, 4:00, 7:10, 10:00; Tue, 12:50, 4:00, 7:10

Inside Llewyn Davis (CC): Fri-Mon, noon, 1:10, 2:40, 3:50, 5:20, 7:20, 7:50, 9:50, 10:20; Tue, noon, 1:10, 2:40, 3:50, 5:20, 7:20, 7:50

Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom: Wed, Thu (12/26)

Nebraska (CC/DVS): Fri-Mon, 1:00, 4:10, 7:30, 10:15; Tue, 1:00, 4:10, 7:30

Philomena (CC/DVS): Fri-Mon, 12:10, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10; Tue, 12:10, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40

Saving Mr. Banks (CC/DVS): Fri-Mon, 12:40, 3:40, 7:00, 9:55; Tue, 12:40, 3:40, 7:00

12 Years a Slave (CC/DVS): Fri-Mon, 12:30, 3:30, 6:50, 9:50; Tue, 12:30, 3:30, 6:50

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square

mall, MoPac & Highway 360, 888/262-4386. Matinee discounts available before 4pm daily. Bring 'Your Baby

matinees the first Tuesday of every month.

American Hustle (CC/DVS, digital): Fri, 12:50, 4:00; Sun, 12:50, 4:00

American Hustle (digital): Fri, 10:05am, 6:05, 7:30, 9:20, 10:40pm; Sat, 10:05am, 12:50, 4:00, 6:05, 7:30, 9:20, 10:40pm; Sun, 6:05, 7:30, 9:20, 10:40; Mon-Thru (12/26), 12:35, 7:30

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (digital): Fri, 10:20am, 11:15, 1:10, 2:10, 4:20, 5:05, 5:50, 7:10, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 10:15am, 10:20, 1:10, 2:10, 4:20, 5:05, 5:50, 7:10, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 11:00pm; Sun, 10:05am, 10:20, 11:15, 1:10, 2:10, 4:20, 5:05, 5:50, 7:10, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 10:35pm; Mon-Tue, 2:10, 8:00, 9:50, 12:10, 7:55; Thu (12/26), 2:10, 8:00

***Dallas Buyers Club (digital):** Fri, 9:40am, 12:20, 3:00pm; Sat-Sun, 9:30am, 12:15, 3:00pm

47 Ronin (3-D): Tue, 8:00pm

47 Ronin (digital): Wed-Thru (12/26), 2:00, 7:40

***Frozen (3-D):** Fri, 12:25pm; Sat, 2:35, 3:25

***Frozen (digital):** Fri, 9:45am, 11:45, 2:35, 3:25, 5:25, 8:20, 11:00pm; Sat, 9:45am, 11:45, 12:25, 5:25, 8:20, 11:00pm; Sun, 9:45am, 11:45, 12:25, 3:25, 5:25, 8:20, 11:00pm

Grudge Match (digital): Wed-Thru (12/26), 1:20, 7:00

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D): Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 2:45, 6:15, 9:50pm; Sun, 11:00am, 2:45, 6:15, 9:55pm

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D, IMAX): Fri-Sun, 9:15am, 12:40, 4:10, 7:45, 11:15pm

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (digital): Fri-Sun, 10:05am, 1:40, 5:15, 8:50pm

***The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (digital):** Fri, 9:35am, 1:00, 4:25, 7:50, 11:10pm; Sat-Sun, 9:30am, 1:00, 4:25, 7:50, 11:10pm

Justin Bieber's Believe (digital): Wed-Thru (12/26), 1:00, 8:30

***Out of the Furnace (digital):** Fri-Sun, 2:35, 8:20

Saving Mr. Banks (CC/DVS, digital): Fri, 9:55am, 7:20, 10:15pm; Sun, 9:55am, 7:20, 10:15pm

Saving Mr. Banks (digital): Fri, 1:30, 4:30; Sat, 9:55am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15pm; Sun, 1:30, 4:30; Mon-Thru (12/26), 1:35, 7:15

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (digital): Tue, 4:00pm; Wed-Thru (12/26), 2:20, 8:05

***Thor: The Dark World (digital):** Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 5:30, 11:10pm

***Tyler Perry's A Medea Christmas (digital):** Fri-Mon, 9:30am, 12:15, 3:00, 5:45, 8:30, 11:05pm

Walking With Dinosaurs (3-D): Fri, 9:40am, 2:20, 7:00pm; Sat, 9:35am, 2:20, 7:00pm; Sun, 9:35am, 7:00pm; Mon-Thru (12/26), noon, 7:00

Walking With Dinosaurs (digital): Fri-Sat, noon, 4:40, 9:30; Sun, noon, 2:20, 4:40, 9:30

BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM

1800 N. Congress, 512/936-4629.

Great White Shark (3-D, IMAX): Fri-Sat, 10:30am; Mon, 10:30am; Tue (12/26), 10:30am

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (IMAX): Fri-Tue, 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15; Thu (12/26), 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15

Texas: The Big Picture: Fri-Sat, 9:30am; Mon, 9:30am; Thu (12/26), 9:30am

Titans of the Ice Age (3-D): Fri-Sat, 11:30am; Mon, 11:30am; Thu (12/26), 11:30am

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 E. Whitestone,

800/326-3264. Call theatre for complete list of movies and showtimes.

American Hustle (digital): Fri-Mon, 11:20am, 2:50, 6:30, 9:50pm; Tue, 11:20am, 2:50, 6:30pm

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (digital): Fri-Mon, 10:00am, 11:30, 1:10, 2:40, 5:50, 7:30, 9:00, 10:30pm; Tue, 10:00am, 11:30, 1:10, 2:40, 4:20, 5:50, 7:30pm

47 Ronin (digital): Tue, 8:00pm

Frozen (3-D): Fri-Mon, 11:40am, 2:2

MOVIEHOUSE AND EATERY 8300 N. FM 620 Bldg B, 512/501-3520.
American Hustle: Fri-Mon, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30; Tue, 4:30, 7:30; Wed, 4:15pm; Thu (12/26), 3:15pm
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues: Fri-Mon, 10:30am, 1:30, 7:00, 10:00pm; Tue, 10:30am, 1:30, 7:00pm; Wed, 11:15am; Thu (12/26), 9:45am
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (Stadium Seating/The Big House): Fri-Tue, 4:30pm
47 Ronin: Wed, 11:00am, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00pm; Thu (12/26), 10:00am, 3:15, 6:15, 9:00pm
Frozen: Fri-Tue, 10:30am, 1:00, 3:30, 6:15pm; Wed, 11:00am, 1:45, 2:30pm; Thu (12/26), 10:15am, 12:45, 1:30pm
Grudge Match: Wed, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 8:45; Thu (12/26), 12:30, 3:15, 6:00, 7:45, 10:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug: Wed, 11:00am, 5:15, 9:45pm; Thu (12/26), 10:00am, 4:15, 8:45pm
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D): Fri-Mon, 1:00, 7:30, 11:00; Tue, 1:00, 7:30; Wed, 1:30pm; Thu (12/26), 12:30pm
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire: Fri-Tue, 10:30am, 3:30pm; Wed, 7:30, 11:00; Thu (12/26), 6:30, 10:00
Out of the Furnace: Fri-Mon, 10:00am, 12:45, 7:00, 9:45pm; Tue, 10:00am, 12:45, 7:00pm
Saving Mr. Banks: Fri-Tue, 9:00pm
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (Stadium Seating/The Big House): Wed, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30; Thu (12/26), 4:00, 6:45, 9:30
Walking With Dinosaurs: Fri-Tue, 4:30pm; Wed, 2:00pm; Thu (12/26), 1:00pm
Walking With Dinosaurs (3-D): Fri, 2:00pm; Sat, 2:00pm; Sun-Sat, 2:00pm; Sun-Mon, 2:00pm; Mon-Tue, 2:00pm; Tue, 2:00pm; Wed, 11:00am; Thu (12/26), 10:00am

TEXAS SPIRIT THEATER AT THE BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM 1800 N. Congress, 512/936-8746. Call theatre for films and showtimes.
The Polar Express: Sat-Mon, 6:00, 8:00

TINSELTOWN NORTH N. I-35 & FM 1825, 512/989-8535.
 Cost for 3-D and XD shows is regular ticket price plus a premium.
American Hustle (digital): Fri, 12:40, 2:35, 4:00, 6:00, 7:30, 9:20, 10:45; Sat-Mon, 11:15am, 12:40, 2:35, 4:00, 6:00, 7:30, 9:20, 10:45pm; Tue, 11:15am, 12:40, 2:35, 4:00, 6:00, 7:30pm
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (digital): Fri, 11:45am, 12:50, 1:55, 3:00, 4:05, 5:05, 6:15, 7:20, 8:25, 9:30, 10:35pm; Sat-Mon, 9:45am, 10:40, 11:45, 12:50, 1:55, 3:00, 4:05, 5:05, 6:15, 7:20, 8:25, 9:30, 10:35pm; Tue, 9:45am, 10:40, 11:45, 12:50, 1:55, 3:00, 4:05, 5:05, 6:15, 7:20, 8:25pm
The Best Man Holiday (digital): Fri, 4:25, 10:25; Sat-Mon, 10:10am, 4:25, 10:25pm; Tue, 10:10am, 4:25pm
47 Ronin (3-D): Tue, 8:15pm
47 Ronin (digital): Tue, 8:00pm
Frozen (3-D): Fri, 2:25, 5:15, 8:00; Sat-Mon, 11:40am, 2:25, 5:15, 8:00pm; Tue, 11:40am, 2:20pm
Frozen (digital): Fri, 12:55, 3:45, 6:40, 9:25; Sat-Mon, 10:05am, 12:55, 3:45, 6:40, 9:25pm; Tue, 10:05am, 12:55, 3:45, 6:40pm
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D, HFR): Fri, 12:30, 1:10, 3:10, 4:35, 5:10, 7:10, 8:30, 9:10; Sat-Mon, 11:10am, 12:30, 1:10, 3:10, 4:35, 5:10, 7:10, 8:30, 9:10pm; Tue, 11:10am, 12:30, 1:10, 3:10, 4:35, 5:10, 7:10pm
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D, HFR, XD): Fri, 2:30, 6:30, 10:30; Sat-Mon, 10:30am, 2:30, 6:30, 10:30pm; Tue, 10:30am
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (digital): Fri, 11:50am, 1:50, 3:50, 6:00, 7:50, 9:50pm; Sat-Mon, 9:50am, 11:50, 1:50, 3:50, 6:00, 7:50, 9:50pm; Tue, 9:50am, 11:50, 1:50, 3:50, 6:00, 7:50pm
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (digital): Fri, 2:45, 6:25, 10:00; Sat-Mon, 11:20am, 2:45, 6:25, 10:00pm; Tue, 11:20am, 2:45, 6:25pm
Classics: It's a Wonderful Life: Tue, 2:00, 7:00
Justin Bieber's Believe (digital): Wed-Thu (12/26), 11:00am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00pm
Saving Mr. Banks (digital): Fri, 1:00, 4:10, 7:15, 10:15; Sat-Mon, 9:55am, 1:00, 4:10, 7:15, 10:15pm; Tue, 9:55am, 1:00, 4:10, 7:15pm
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (digital): Tue, 5:00, 8:00
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (XD): Tue, 4:00, 7:00
Thor: The Dark World (3-D): Fri-Mon, 10:45pm
Thor: The Dark World (digital): Fri-Mon, 1:05, 7:35, Tue, 1:05pm
Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (digital): Fri, 12:45, 2:15, 3:40, 5:00, 6:35, 7:55, 9:15, 10:45; Sat-Mon, 10:00am, 11:25, 12:45, 2:15, 3:40, 5:00, 6:35, 7:55, 9:15, 10:45pm; Tue, 10:00am, 11:25, 12:45, 2:15, 3:40, 5:00, 6:35pm
Walking With Dinosaurs (3-D): Fri, 12:35, 3:25, 5:45, 8:20, 10:40; Sat-Mon, 10:05am, 12:35, 3:25, 5:45, 8:20, 10:40pm; Tue, 10:05am, 12:35, 3:25, 5:45, 8:20pm
Walking With Dinosaurs (3-D, digital): Fri, 2:00, 4:30, 7:25, 9:55; Sat-Mon, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:25, 9:55pm; Tue, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:25pm

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American Hustle: Fri, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:20, 9:40, 10:00, 10:50pm; Sat, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40, 10:00, 10:50pm; Sun-Mon, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40pm; Tue, 11:30am, 2:10, 5:30, 7:15, 8:20pm
Dallas Buyers Club: Fri-Sat, 12:10, 3:15, 5:00, 7:30; Sun-Mon, 1:25, 4:00, 6:30, 8:25; Tue, 1:35, 4:00, 6:25
Inside Llewyn Davis: Fri, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 10:20; Sat, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:20; Sun-Mon, 10:45am, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00pm; Tue, 11:00am, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00pm
Nebraska: Fri-Sat, 10:50am, 2:35, 6:00, 8:25pm; Sun-Mon, 11:05am, 3:30, 6:00, 9:00pm; Tue, 11:00am, 3:05, 4:50, 8:50pm
12 Years a Slave: Fri-Sat, 12:30pm; Sun-Mon, 12:45pm; Tue, 12:20pm

WESTGATE 11 S. Lamar & Ben White, 512/899-2717. Discounts daily before 6pm. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a \$3.50 premium.
American Hustle (CC/DVS): Fri-Tue, 10:00am, 1:05, 4:10, 7:20pm; Wed, noon, 3:15, 7:15; Thu (12/26), 10:00am, 1:05, 4:10, 7:20pm
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (CC/DVS): Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 12:55, 1:55, 4:00, 4:50, 7:10, 7:45, 10:40pm; Mon, 11:00am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:40pm; Tue, 11:00am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45pm; Wed-Thu (12/26), 11:20am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35pm
47 Ronin (3-D, CC): Wed, 12:45, 6:45, 10:35; Thu (12/26), 9:45am, 12:45, 6:45, 10:20pm
47 Ronin (CC/DVS): Wed-Thu (12/26), 3:45pm
Frozen (CC/DVS): Fri-Mon, 10:25am, 11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40pm; Tue, 10:25am, 11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:10pm
Grudge Match (CC/DVS): Wed-Thu (12/26), 11:00am, 1:45, 4:35, 7:25, 10:15pm
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (3-D, CC, HFR): Fri-Mon, 11:00am, 2:25, 5:50, 9:15pm; Tue, 11:00am, 2:25, 5:50pm
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (CC/DVS): Fri-Mon, 11:45am, 3:15, 6:45, 10:10pm; Tue, 11:45am, 3:15, 6:45pm
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire: Fri, 12:55, 4:05, 7:15, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 12:55, 4:05, 7:15, 10:00, 10:30; Mon, 11:00am, 12:55, 2:10, 4:05, 5:20, 7:15, 8:30, 10:30pm; Tue, 11:00am, 12:55, 2:10, 4:05, 6:30, 7:15pm
Saving Mr. Banks (CC/DVS): Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 12:45, 3:50, 7:00, 10:05pm; Mon, 10:30am, 1:15, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50pm; Tue, 10:30am, 1:15, 4:10, 7:00pm; Wed, 11:00am, 1:55, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm; Thu (12/26), 10:30am, 1:15, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50pm
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (CC/DVS): Wed-Thu (12/26), 11:10am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30pm
Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (CC/DVS): Fri-Mon, 10:15am, 12:40, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:25pm; Tue, 10:15am, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40pm
Walking With Dinosaurs (3-D, CC): 12:20pm
Walking With Dinosaurs (CC/DVS): Fri-Mon, 10:00am, 2:40, 9:55pm; Tue, 10:00am, 2:40pm; Wed, 2:30, 9:30; Thu (12/26), 10:00am, 2:30, 9:30pm
The Wolf of Wall Street (CC/DVS): Wed, 11:00am, 2:50, 6:45, 9:50pm; Thu (12/26), 10:30am, 2:30, 6:30, 9:50pm

She's a walking wet blanket who disdains California sunshine and Mickey Mouse, a misanthrope in the Happiest Place on Earth. It seems Uncle Walt has finally met his match, that is, until he does his homework and unravels the Electra complex troubling his reluctant collaborator.

The armchair psychology in *Saving Mr. Banks* is fairly crude but never treacly. In a series of clunky flashbacks depicting Travers' childhood in the Australian outback, the film reveals her difficult relationship with her father, who – like the patriarch Mr. Banks in *Mary Poppins* – is an unhappy man toiling in the banking profession. But the similarities between fact and fiction stop there. *Saving Mr. Banks* postulates that Travers' resistance to the Disneyfication of the Banks family and the nanny who rescues them stems from a lifetime of guilt over the untimely death of her father, a charming but irresponsible man who struggled with the demons of alcoholism. It's dark stuff for the Magic Kingdom, but no worries. In a stroke of sneaky genius, the film turns the determined Disney into a tough-love father figure who consoles the beaten-down Travers with an interminable homily about assuaging life's painful memories. It's a hogwash justification for the Disney philosophy of filmmaking, but as delivered by the consummate pro Banks, you find yourself halfway believing it.

The saving quality here is Thompson's performance as the prickly Travers. Even when the script requires her to disparagingly comment on some aspect of American

culture every three minutes (as if the jokes are programmed with a timer), there's something undeniably pleasurable in watching this sorely missed actress take charge. But as Travers' brittleness slowly gives way to vulnerability, Thompson is in full bloom. She falters only in one scene, through no fault of her own. In a rehearsal rendition of "Let's Go Fly a Kite," the last musical number in *Mary Poppins* that's sung by a reinvigorated Mr. Banks, Travers finally succumbs to the enterprise and before you know it – she's tapping her feet, singing, and dancing! It's the film's long-anticipated moment, and you don't believe a minute of it. It's a bitter pill to swallow, one that all the sugar in the world can't help go down.

★★★ – Steve Davis
 Alamo Lakeline, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, iPic, Moviehouse, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY

D. Ben Stiller; with Stiller, Kristen Wiig, Sean Penn, Adam Scott, Adrian Martinez, Kathryn Hahn, Shirley MacLaine. (PG, 114 min.)
 A mild-mannered *Life* magazine photography editor capable of astonishing feats of derring-do in his dream life, Walter Mitty (Stiller) – in real life – can hardly make eye contact with his lady crush (Wiig) or say boo to his bullying new boss (Scott). Still, the three-act structure demands that even the

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most indecisive character must come to a crossroads and choose left or right, and so it goes for Walter when he's tasked to find a missing photo negative that may or may not be located on the other side of the planet. Will the unadventurous man take the leap? Will the quiet man discover his voice? Stiller, who also directs, scores Walter's fateful call to action to a song by the supergroup Arcade Fire, whose modus operandi is something of a sonic pummel. *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* shares the same assaultive tendencies, although Stiller's method is more like a thousand tiny fists shiatsuing the nerves. It's relaxing, really.

Based on the 1939 story by James Thurber and adapted by Steve Conrad, this *Walter Mitty* isn't about a sad sack, but rather a man haunted by regret. Circumstance turned him timid, and, in the film's pointedly aspirational messaging, the right circumstances may yet turn him heroic. He gets plenty of practice in elaborately staged day-dreams – fighting fires, socking his boss in the jaw – but the light amusement of these early set-pieces is overwhelmed by the sensation of buckets of money and a small army of technicians servicing essentially throwaway gags. (The exception is a low-tech heart-tugger, starring Wiig and an acoustic guitar, that moves the film forward; the other dream-scapes stop it in its tracks.) *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* is a very pretty production – pretty colors, pretty scenery, pretty bromides – and a busy one, too, which helps distract us from the sad fact that the movie is generous and humane but not all that interesting.

Could it be the case of a director miscalculating his leading man's strengths? The actor – lean and wolfish and listing darkly – wears Walter's hauntedness beautifully. But the director, palpably straining for something epic, troubles an interior drama with so much empty razzle-dazzle. The passion is there; it's only poured in the wrong places. (*Opens Wednesday, December 25.*)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
Alamo Lakeline, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Gateway, Moviehouse, Tinseltown North, Westgate

TYLER PERRY'S A MADEA CHRISTMAS

D: Tyler Perry; with Perry, Chad Michael Murray, Tika Sumpter, Anna Maria Horsford, Eric Lively, Larry the Cable Guy, Kathy Najimy. (PG-13, 100 min.)

Given that Tyler Perry is the ultimate auteur of the *Madea* series – not only does he write, direct, produce, and star, but the films are made by his studio – there is something perplexing, though perhaps also a bit endearing, about to how rough and unpolished they are. The unevenness of *A Madea Christmas* really stands out. Based as it is on a play by Perry, there had to have been at least two completed drafts of the work, although there is no evidence of this in the released film, which comes across as rushed and unfinished.

The charm of the *Madea* films, if that is the right word, is Perry's in-drag portrayal of the lead character. Madea is completely over-the-top, saying and doing whatever she pleases. A force of nature, she is as out of control as a bad storm. Yet, she seems somehow ill-conceived. Sometimes she is as the fool in a Renaissance-era English play, speaking the



The Wolf of Wall Street

truth when no one else is or can even see it. Other times she is just rude, overbearing, and obnoxious.

This one begins with a tour de force by Madea as the most nightmarish department-store Santa Claus of all time, rude and hostile. Soon fired, she is recruited by her friend Eileen (Horsford) to travel to rural Alabama and pay a surprise visit to Lacey (Sumpter), Eileen's daughter, a small-town schoolteacher. What neither Madea nor Eileen knows is that Lacey has married Connor (Lively), a white man. Lacey is so convinced that this news will kill her mom that she keeps it from her, pretending Connor is just the hand on her farm. The situation is compounded when his redneck parents (Larry the Cable Guy and Kathy Najimy) arrive. While they are as down-home Southern as they can be, Perry plays with stereotypes (in a somewhat heavy-handed way) by having them be coarse yet open and tolerant.

There are subplots involving local farmers, the town's traditional Christmas pageant, the school where Lacey teaches, and an old boyfriend of hers (JR Lemon). As is Perry's wont, there is religious proselytizing and heavy-handed moralizing clothed in predictable melodrama. Everything is resolved with a clumsy *deus ex machina*, with a doubling down of *deus*.

Ultimately, regardless of plot, Madea is the center, purpose, and driving force of the film. The contradictions are not overwhelmed but emphasized by Perry's outsized performance. Madea rages through it all, speaking her mind, including a turn where she verbally tortures and mangles the traditional Christmas narrative. Rather than rising above the fray, Madea is very much the fray itself.

★★ – Louis Black
Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Westgate

WALKING WITH DINOSAURS

D: Barry Cook, Neil Nightingale; with the voices of Charlie Rowe, Karl Urban, Angourie Rice, John Leguizamo, Justin Long, Tiya Sircar, Skyler Stone. (PG, 87 min.)

A truly ambitious, nicely animated pre-historic romp, this film features a stunning disconnect between cinematic *mise-en-scène* and narrative content. The press material

insists, "For the first time in movie history, audiences will truly see and feel what it was like when dinosaurs ruled the Earth. *Walking with Dinosaurs* is the ultimate immersive, big screen adventure for families. Meet dinosaurs more real than you've ever seen ..." – that is, until the voiceovers begin and the story unfolds.

Yes, the film evidences a sincere and deep effort toward the creation of dinosaur portrayals and accurate geographic and environmental settings. Unfortunately, all the sophisticated energy used to create some kind of tangible verisimilitude is squandered on a plot that seems yanked from one of those horrific Disney nature films from the Fifties. Corny and obvious would be compliments to this film's script.

The story of an outcast young dinosaur, the runt of the litter, who falls in love while slowly growing to manhood, is maddeningly predictable and beyond hackneyed. The misadventures he suffers are children's-coloring-book obvious; the overall narrative trajectory contains no surprises. The film is narrated by a beautifully colored bird, Alex (Leguizamo) in an inexplicably thick Hispanic accent combining story narration with lame jokes and tossed-off observations. One critic, not all that unkindly, compared this characterization to Jar Jar Binks. It is the worst of what is a complete catalog of awful voiceovers.

Obviously, I'm not even close to the intended audience for this film, but it was maddening and frustrating to watch so much ambition wasted on delivering such lame junk. Very young children, I suspect, will like it, but the closer viewers are to puberty, the less likely it is to hold their interest.

★ – Louis Black
Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Moviehouse, Tinseltown North, Westgate

🐺 THE WOLF OF WALL STREET

D: Martin Scorsese; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Jonah Hill, Margot Robbie, Matthew McConaughey, Kyle Chandler, Jon Bernthal, Jon Favreau, Rob Reiner, Jean Dujardin, Joanna Lumley, Cristin Milioti, Christine Ebersole, Ethan Suplee. (R, 179 min.)

The Wolf of Wall Street is Martin Scorsese's latest take on the American hoodlum, a species the filmmaker returns

to time and again in films such as *Mean Streets*, *GoodFellas*, *Casino*, and *Gangs of New York*. Here the thugs wield not guns and cudgels but telephones and the art of the hard sell to fleece victims from their money, sure as any lowlife pickpocket. Based on the memoirs of Jordan Belfort (adapted for the screen by Terence Winter, the primary writer and producer of *The Sopranos* and *Boardwalk Empire*), Scorsese's film chronicles this young stockbroker's untimely arrival on Wall Street just prior to the bottom falling out of the system on Black Monday in 1987; Belfort's reinvention as a broker of speculative penny stocks where his commission was 50%; and his formation of his own firm with the distinguished-sounding name Stratton Oakmont, where he became a multimillionaire by his mid-20s. Belfort's life of excess – drugs, women, schemes – comprises the bulk of the movie, until his downfall at the hand of a dogged FBI agent, and Belfort's later reemergence as a promotional speaker.

The dwarf-tossing contest on the stock brokerage's floor, which is depicted in the film's opening sequence (before the story backtracks to tell the tale of how things became so crazed), serves as an instant alert to the level of debauchery ahead. Belfort's outsize appetites make Gordon Gekko's greed seem tame by comparison. As Belfort, Leonardo DiCaprio (in the actor's fifth collaboration with Scorsese) delivers some of the finest work of his career, careening from cocaine- and morphine-fueled highs to the film's most memorable sequence as he crawls in a Quaalude-induced stupor from a country club to his Ferrari and proceeds to drive home. (The sequence is practically the inverse of the jacked-up, climactic sequence in *GoodFellas*, which culminates in the bust of Ray Liotta's character.) DiCaprio is crazed, funny, imperious, and possessed in this, his second portrayal this year of a Long Island tycoon (how quickly *The Great Gatsby* fades). Wonderful performances abound throughout the film, including supporting work by Jonah Hill and Matthew McConaughey (in his one unforgettable, emblematic scene), and cameos from familiar faces such as author Fran Lebowitz, former detective Bo Dietl, and filmmaker Spike Jonze dot the landscape.

Seemingly taking its cue from Belfort's shenanigans, the film is completely without modulation. It starts with all the knobs cranked up to 11 and remains that way for the next three hours. While what's onscreen is never uninteresting, its unrelentness is exhausting. Complete with a full array of Scorsesean camera flourishes (brought to fruition by cinematographer Rodrigo Prieto) and carpeted with several racks of well-chosen rock tunes (hats off to music supervisor Robbie Robertson), *The Wolf of Wall Street* never loosens its grip. Reportedly, Scorsese's first cut of the film was four hours long, and I can't wait to someday see that original cut to find out whether it has more dramatic ebb and flow than this current release. As is, *The Wolf of Wall Street* matches its subject's excesses to a wearying and stupefying extent. All should be well if you just remember to buckle up your jet pack before launch. (*Opens Wednesday, December 25.*)

★★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Lakeline, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Alamo Village, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Gateway, iPic, Westgate

FIRST RUNS

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

THE BOOK THIEF

D: Brian Percival; with Sophie Néllisse, Emily Watson, Geoffrey Rush, Ben Schnetzer, Nico Liersch, Heike Makatsch, Kirsten Block; narrated by Roger Allam. (PG-13, 131 min.)

Based on Aussie author Markus Zusak's staggeringly popular 2005 bestseller, *The Book Thief* relates the intimate tale of one plucky young girl's coming of age-cum-survival quest amid the apocalyptic insanity of Nazi Germany. It's 1938 in a small village outside of Munich, when 11-year-old orphan Liesel Meminger (Néllisse) is shipped off to live with her German proxy parents: kindly, compassionate World War I veteran Hans Hubermann (Rush), who teaches our heroine to read and write, and his dour wife Rosa (Watson). As *Kristallnacht* arrives, a Jewish boxer, Max (Schnetzer), is secreted away in the family's basement, and Liesel joins the Hitler Youth. Percival's film chucks out the novel's crisp, occasionally sublime storytelling in favor of huge swaths of maudlin melodrama and countless cloying wartime clichés. Heaven this is assuredly not, and at over two hours long, *The Book Thief* will have you squirming in your seat, waiting for the torture to end. (11/29/2013)

★ ★ ★ — Marc Savlov
Arbor, Hill Country Galleria

DALLAS BUYERS CLUB

D: Jean-Marc Vallée; with Matthew McConaughey, Jennifer Garner, Jared Leto, Denis O'Hare, Dallas Roberts, Steve Zahn, Griffin Dunne. (R, 117 min.)

Matthew McConaughey's career resurrection is in full bloom in the true-to-life *Dallas Buyers Club*. Electrician/rodeo rat/Texas good ol' boy Ron Woodroof (McConaughey) — a card-playing, substance-abusing, sexist, and homophobic jerk — is, at the outset in 1985, far from an appealing character. After doctors (Garner and O'Hare) tell him that he is HIV-positive and has only a month to live, Woodroof finds his way to Mexico, where an unlicensed American doctor (Dunne) fortifies him with a cocktail of vitamins and drugs. Soon he is smuggling the Mexican drugs across the border and seizes on the idea of a buyers club to redistribute the drugs to other Texans in need. Thus begins Woodroof's transformation from goner to survivor, and from homophobe to rough-edged humanist. *Dallas Buyers Club* is an indelible story about one man's unwillingness to go gently into that good night, and the personal growth he experiences along the way. (11/15/2013)

★ ★ ★ ★ — Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Lakeline, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Violet Crown

FROZEN

D: Chris Buck, Jennifer Lee; with the voices of Kristen Bell, Idina Menzel, Jonathan Groff, Josh Gad, Santino Fontana, Alan Tudyk, Ciaran Hinds, Edie McClurg. (PG, 108 min.)

Like *The Little Mermaid*, this animated film mines Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales for material, discards the most brutish bits, and applies a heavy Disney top gloss. *Frozen* doesn't benefit from the above comparison (it ranks a distant second), but the film can count in its favor visual grandeur, two energetic young women as co-leads, and a couple of above-average plot twists. Screenwriter/co-director Jennifer Lee hooks an empowerment story around two fire-and-ice siblings — eldest Elsa (voiced by Menzel), who can control snow, and Anna (Bell), a blithe chatterbox who is unaware of her sister's powers until Elsa accidentally plunges their tiny Nordic kingdom into endless winter. When Elsa self-banishes to a hermetic life on top of a mountain, li'l sis chases after her, bringing along an anti-social ice merchant (Groff) and a sweet, dim, sentient snowman, whose spirit — pure of heart, noble in intention — carries throughout the film. (11/29/2013)

★ ★ ★ — Kimberley Jones
Alamo Lakeline, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Moviehouse, Tinseltown North, Westgate

The Polar Express

D: Robert Zemeckis; with Tom Hanks. (2004, PG, 100 min.) Chris Van Allsburg's magical tale of the Christmas Eve re-education of a Santa-doubting adolescent gets the motion-capture treatment. (*) @Texas Spirit Theater, Saturday-Monday, 6, 8.



THE HOBBIT: THE DESOLATION OF SMAUG

D: Peter Jackson; with Ian McKellen, Martin Freeman, Richard Armitage, Benedict Cumberbatch, Evangeline Lilly, Lee Pace, Luke Evans, Stephen Fry, Ken Stott, Orlando Bloom, Graham McTavish, William Kircher, Dean O'Gorman. (PG-13, 161 min.)

Superior in nearly all ways to its predecessor, Peter Jackson's second epic adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's prequel to *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy is a welcome surprise. *The Desolation of Smaug* chuffs along at a steady, if still overly lengthy, stride thanks to the titular dragon-of-all-dragons, Smaug (voiced by Cumberbatch). I'm not even going to attempt to capsulize the film's jam-packed plotting. There's so much going on — Ian McKellen's Gandalf is off on his own quest now, and the dwarves accompanying puzzled-sweet burglar Bilbo Baggins (Freeman) are prone to more infighting than the NBA — that it's easy to lose sight of the fact that, at its heart, this is a relatively simple quest tale. A popcorn movie (in the best sense) disguised as deep-core nerdism, *The Desolation of Smaug* is, on the whole, a vast improvement over *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*. Well done, Mr. Jackson. (12/13/2013)

★ ★ ★ ★ — Marc Savlov
Alamo Ritz, Alamo Lakeline, Alamo Slaughter Lane, Alamo Village, Barton Creek Square, Bullock Museum, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Gateway, iPic, Lakeline, Moviehouse, Tinseltown North, Westgate

HOMEFRONT

D: Gary Fleder; with Jason Statham, James Franco, Winona Ryder, Rachelle Lefevre, Izabela Vidovic, Kate Bosworth, Omar Benson Miller, Chuck Zito. (R, 100 min.)

Helmed by journeyman director Fleder, and buoyed by a script (by Sylvester Stallone) based on Chuck Logan's *Phil Broker* series, *Homefront* is a throwback to an older style of action thriller. It's better than it has to be. Ex-DEA agent Broker (Statham) has retired with his daughter Maddy (Vidovic) to backwater Louisiana in search of the quiet life. Alas, that is not to be as he encounters a meth-crazed redneck (Bosworth), her evil, speed-manufacturing brother Gator (Franco) — and his goons. Following his sister's admonishment to "mess with their heads," Gator discovers Broker's past involvement in the killing of an imprisoned kingpin's son. Using his drug-dealing and -using stripper girlfriend Sheryl Mott (Ryder) as a go-between, Gator offers the gang leader (Zito) Broker's location. *Homefront* is mostly predictable, but throws a few curveballs and ends up being surprisingly entertaining, if not at all outstanding. (11/29/2013)

★ ★ ★ — Louis Black
Metropolitan

THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE

D: Francis Lawrence; with Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Woody Harrelson, Sam Claflin, Jeffrey Wright. (PG-13, 146 min.)

Hunger is a powerful motivating force, one that was made palpable in the first film adaptation of Suzanne Collins' bestselling, alternate-history, young-adult book series about a nation under the boot of a fascistic ruler. Innocent spitfire Katniss Everdeen (Lawrence) has become a reluctant symbol of rebellion since she bested the Hunger Games last time out, inflaming the nation with the realization that there is wiggle room under said boot. Make no mistake, however: The game may have changed,

but she's still a pawn. When *Catching Fire* inevitably wends its way back to the Hunger Games' gladiatorial horrorscape, the competition is culled from previous victors. The combat action ain't all that, but Lawrence is a star — as infinitely watchable picking her nose as picking off enemies with a bow and arrow (spoiler: She doesn't actually pick her nose). This latest film leaves us hungering for more, which means only that it's working. (11/22/2013)

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

NEBRASKA

D: Alexander Payne; with Bruce Dern, Will Forte, June Squibb, Bob Odenkirk, Stacy Keach, Mary Louise Wilson, Rance Howard. (R, 115 min.)

Seventysomething Woody Grant (Dern) has the head-first, quick-step dodder of a toddler, dangerously fast and ever on the edge of a tumble. And a tumble is surely coming: It has to be, with Woody fixing all his hopes on the fantasy payout of a Publisher's Clearing House-like scam. His exhausted, crabby wife Kate (Squibb) has no patience for her husband, but son David (Forte) agrees to drive him from their home in Billings, Mont., to Lincoln, Neb., where Woody is convinced a \$1 million prize is waiting for him. A dry and exacting humorist whose films include *About Schmidt* and *Sideways*, Alexander Payne's funny, detached picture of Midwesterners is par for the course, but he gets great work out of his lead actors. SNL alum Forte is a surprising fount of melancholy and frustrated ambition, while Dern masterfully conveys the inner depths of a man who might not be all there. (11/29/2013)

★ ★ ★ ★ — Kimberley Jones
Arbor, Violet Crown

OUT OF THE FURNACE

D: Scott Cooper; with Christian Bale, Woody Harrelson, Casey Affleck, Sam Shepard, Willem Dafoe, Zoe Saldana, Forest Whitaker. (R, 115 min.)

Taking place amid the rusted-out lives of America's steel belt, *Out of the Furnace* calls to mind *The Deer Hunter* by its settings and themes. Like his father before him, Russell (Bale) goes to work every day at the steel mill in Braddock, Pa. After a stint in jail for vehicular manslaughter — he's in there long enough for his girlfriend (Saldana) to have abandoned him for the local sheriff (Whitaker), and for his brother Rodney (Affleck) to have returned from his fourth tour of duty in Iraq — Russell tries to rebuild his life. When Rodney goes missing after a bare-knuckle boxing match, Russell and his uncle (Shepard) go after the thugs and their leader, Harlan DeGroat (Harrelson). Though fairly predictable, Scott Cooper's film brims with atmosphere and Bale, Affleck, and Harrelson deliver terrific performances. Smokestack lightning this film is not, but *Out of the Furnace* nevertheless provides a solid whiff. (12/13/2013)

★ ★ ★ — Marjorie Baumgarten
Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Moviehouse

PHILOMENA

D: Stephen Frears; with Judi Dench, Steve Coogan, Sophie Kennedy Clark, Michelle Fairley, Barbara Jefford, Anna Maxwell Martin, Mare Winningham. (PG-13, 97 min.)

It's nice to see Stephen Frears (*High Fidelity*, *The Queen*) back on firmer dramatic ground with *Philomena*, a drama which derives its pleasures most-

ly from the study in contrasts between the film's two central characters. The story is based on a memoir by former BBC journalist Martin Sixsmith, who, as the film begins, has just been axed from his job. Soon, Martin (Coogan) stumbles into a juicy story and finds a newspaper eager to foot the bill for his research. Accompanying him every step of the way is Philomena Lee (Dench), who wants to learn what happened to her son who was taken from her when she gave birth in a convent 50 years ago. They definitely make for an odd pair, although they remain united through their circuitous search for answers. For the viewer, however, solving the mystery is not nearly as engrossing as watching the actors' pas de deux. (11/29/2013)

★ ★ ★ — Marjorie Baumgarten
Arbor, Hill Country Galleria, Metropolitan

THOR: THE DARK WORLD

D: Alan Taylor; with Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman, Tom Hiddleston, Anthony Hopkins, Christopher Eccleston, Idris Elba, Kat Dennings, Stellan Skarsgård, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje, Rene Russo, Chris O'Dowd. (PG-13, 111 min.)

How's your appetite for lore? It will surely be tested in this latest installment of the Marvel cinematic universe, which presents some ponderous business about truculent elves, nasty superwarriors christened the Kursed, and intimations of a coming "eternal night." This sequel to 2011's *Thor* warms to the touch slowly, with Thor (Hemsworth) moping around Asgard and casting long looks at Earth, where his estranged love Jane Foster (Portman) is still doing her astrophysicist thing. But once Jane discovers a portal between realms, Thor swoops into her orbit, bad penny/bonny baddie Loki (Hiddleston) enters the fray, and the film finds its forward thrust, confidently alternating beats between the solemn, the swash-buckling, and sworn to fealty to the Marvel master plan. Smartly dissociating itself from the recent rash of long-winded and self-serious superhero spectacles, *The Dark World* instead humbly lobs this open invitation: *Let's have some fun, shall we?* And so we did. (11/08/2013)

★ ★ ★ — Kimberley Jones
Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North

12 YEARS A SLAVE

D: Steve McQueen; with Chiwetel Ejiofor, Michael Fassbender, Lupita Nyong'o, Benedict Cumberbatch, Adepero Oduye, Sarah Paulson, Paul Dano, Paul Giamatti, Alfre Woodard, Garret Dillahunt, Brad Pitt. (R, 133 min.)

Brutal yet elegant, *12 Years a Slave* is a beautifully rendered punch to the gut about the most shameful chapter in American history. Based on the 1853 memoir of Solomon Northup — an educated freeman from Saratoga, New York, who endured a nightmare of involuntary servitude — this is no Tarantino revenge fantasy. Embracing a transcendent authenticity, *12 Years a Slave*'s refusal to sentimentalize or manipulate bestows the film with a graceful dignity, as personified in Ejiofor's mournful performance as a man of constant sorrow. Fassbender, too, is a revelation as Northup's monstrous, pathetic master, Edwin Epps, and newcomer Nyong'o exhibits a masterful balance of strength and frailty as the waifish female slave Patsey. Painterly and evocative, with a penchant for long, unflinching tableaux, director McQueen tackles profound despair, heartbreak, and horror ... and yet you can't look away. *12 Years a Slave* is a movie for the ages. Absolutely remarkable. (11/01/2013)

★ ★ ★ ★ — Steve Davis
Arbor, Violet Crown

also playing Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

ABOUT TIME ★ ★ ★ ★ Arbor

BAGGAGE CLAIM ★ ↗ Millennium

THE BEST MAN HOLIDAY ★ ★ ★ ↗ Tinseltown North

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 ★ ★ Movies 8

DESPICABLE ME 2 ★ ★ ↗ Movies 8

ESCAPE PLAN ★ ↗ Movies 8

GRAVITY ★ ★ ★ ★ Gateway, Metropolitan

JACKASS PRESENTS: BAD GRANDPA ★ ★ ↗ Movies 8

LAST VEGAS ★ ★ Movies 8

PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS ★ ↗ Movies 8

TURBO ★ ★ ★ Movies 8

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

THURSDAY 19

★ **Angel (1982)** D: Neil Jordan; with Stephen Rea, Veronica Quilligan. (R, 92 min.) **Austin Film Society: The First Wave of Irish Cinema.** In Neil Jordan's first feature film as a director, a Northern Ireland musician is increasingly drawn into a mysterious and violent underworld after witnessing two murders. @Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 7:30pm.

Christmas Pops Sing-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm.

Elf Quote-Along (2003) D: Jon Favreau; with Will Ferrell. (PG, 95 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 6:50pm.

SPACES

★ **The Headless Woman (2008)** D: Lucrecia Martel; with Maria Onetto, Claudia Cantero, César Bordón. (NR, 87 min.) **Blanton's Third Thursday.** In this thoughtful Argentine movie, a woman loses her wits after hitting something while driving. Afterward, a seeming amnesia sets in, followed by the character's dislocation in her own skin. The film is presented in conjunction with the museum's rotation of works by Doris Salcedo. Jean Anne Lauer will speak after the film about director Lucrecia Martel and contemporary Argentine cinema. @Blanton Museum Auditorium (on the UT campus), 6pm.

★ **My Night at Maud's (1969)** D: Eric Rohmer; with Jean-Louis Trintignant, Françoise Fabian, Marie-Cristine Barraut, Antoine Vitez. (PG, 110 min.) **Cinema41.** Belonging to Rohmer's cycle of films called "Six Moral Tales," *My Night at Maud's* features Trintignant as a devout and uptight Catholic who becomes infatuated with a woman who is quite his opposite. As in all Rohmer's films, the characters discuss the issues involved in continual conversations. (*) @Salvage Vanguard Theater, 8pm; BYOB.

Warm Bodies (2013) D: Jonathan Levine; with Nicholas Hoult, Teresa Palmer, Rob Corddry, Analeigh Tipton, Dave Franco, John Malkovich. (PG-13, 98 min.) **Austin Public Library: Based on Books.** Free. (*) @Yarborough Branch Library, 6:30pm.

FRIDAY 20

Christmas Show Master Pancake. This seasonal show features the Master Pancake regulars and clips from favorite holiday TV specials and other weird holiday programs. @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10.

Redline (2009) D: Takeshi Koike; with the voices of Takuya Kimura, Yū Aoi, Tadanobu Asano. (NR, 102 min.) This completely hand-drawn, animated film from Japan is set in the world of intergalactic auto racing. @Alamo Village, 10:55pm.

Son of Blob (1972) D: Larry Hagman; with Robert Walker Jr., Gwynne Gilford, Richard Stahl, Richard Webb, Godfrey Cambridge, Carol Lynley. (PG, 91 min.) **Austin Film Society: Auteur Obscure.** Before he became J.R. Ewing, Larry Hagman directed this comic horror movie about a scientist whose wife defrosts the blob he brought back from the North Pole. @Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 8pm.

Totally Eighties Sing-Along Dance Party Action Pack. @Alamo Lakeline, 10:25pm.

SPACES

Die Hard and Scrooged Blue Starlite Drive-In: Double Feature. @Austin Studios, 7:30pm.

Pastorela (2011) D: Emilio Portes; with Joaquín Cosío, Carlos Cobos, Eduardo España, Dagoberto Gama, Héctor Jiménez. (R, 88 min.) **Noche de Pelicula.** In this Mexican comedy, a man who has always portrayed the devil in the town's annual nativity play is miffed when the new pastor recasts the role. (*) @EsquinaTango, 8:30pm.

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 Jan. 3 issue is Monday, Dec. 23.** 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, 512/458-6910; or email.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

SATURDAY 21

The Adventures of Tintin (2011) D: Steven Spielberg; with Jamie Bell, Andy Serkis, Daniel Craig. (PG, 107 min.) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** Free. (*) @Alamo Lakeline, 9:45am.

Cartoon Cereal Party: Christmas Edition Holiday cartoons – with lots of sugary cereal on the menu. @Alamo Ritz, 12pm.

Christmas Pops Sing-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Lakeline, 10:15pm. (See Thursday, 12/19.)

Christmas Show Master Pancake. @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10. (See Friday.)

★ **It's a Wonderful Life (1946)** D: Frank Capra; with James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore. (NR, 129 min.) This sentimental perennial is a holiday chestnut. A man learns that he's made a difference in the lives of others, and an angel gets its wings. (*) @Alamo Lakeline, 4:20pm.

Kung Fu Panda 2 (2011) D: Jennifer Yuh; with the voices of Jack Black, Angelina Jolie, Gary Oldman, Dustin Hoffman. (PG, 90 min.) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** Free. (*) @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 9:20am.

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004) D: Brad Silberling; with Jim Carrey, Meryl Streep, Jude Law. (PG, 113 min.) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** Free. (*) @Alamo Village, 9:30am.

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. @Alamo Village, 12mid.

Totally Eighties Sing-Along Dance Party Action Pack. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 10:05pm. (See Friday.)

SPACES

Elf (2003) D: Jon Favreau; with Will Ferrell, James Caan, Zooey Deschanel. (PG, 95 min.) **Blue Starlite Drive-In: Double Feature.** (*) @Austin Studios, 7pm.

The Polar Express (2004) See p.63.

SUNDAY 22

The Adventures of Tintin (2011) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** @Alamo Lakeline, 9:45am. (See Saturday.)

Christmas Show Master Pancake. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7:15pm. (See Friday.)

A Christmas Story (1983) D: Bob Clark; with Peter Billingsley, Darren McGavin, Melinda Dillon. (PG, 98 min.) **Big Screen Classics.** Ralphie wants nothing more for Christmas than a Red Ryder 200-shot, range-model air rifle, but he must convince Mom and Dad that, if lucky enough to receive this "Holy Grail of Christmas presents," he won't shoot his eye out. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 4pm.

Die Hard (1988) D: John McTiernan; with Bruce Willis. (R, 131 min.) **Tough Guy Cinema.** (*) @Alamo Ritz, 6:45pm.

Elf Quote-Along (2003) Action Pack. @Alamo Village, 7pm. (See Thursday, 12/19.)

★ **It's a Wonderful Life (1946)** @Alamo Lakeline, 4:20pm; Alamo Slaughter Lane, 4:30pm. (See Saturday.)

Kung Fu Panda 2 (2011) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 9:55am. (See Saturday.)

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** @Alamo Village, 9:20am. (See Saturday.)

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation Quote-Along (1989) D: Jeremiah S. Chechik; with Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo, Randy Quaid. (PG-13, 97 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Lakeline, 7:25pm.

Tales of the Third Dimension in 3-D (1984) D: Worth Keeter, Tom McIntyre and Earl Owensby; with Fran Taylor, Leon Rippey, Robert Bloodworth. (NR, 85 min.) Presented here in 2-D, this obscure horror anthology consists of three short films, one of which is set at Christmastime. Never officially released on video, the Alamo is screening this from rare tape acquired directly from the film's auteur, Earl Owensby. @Alamo Ritz, 10:15pm.

SPACES

The Polar Express (2004) See p.63.



Master Pancake serves up their annual Christmas Show, Friday-Sunday.

MONDAY 23

The Adventures of Tintin (2011) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** @Alamo Lakeline, 9:50am. (See Saturday.)

Batman Returns (1992) D: Tim Burton; with Michael Keaton, Michelle Pfeiffer, Danny DeVito, Christopher Walken. (PG-13, 126 min.) **Bangarang!** Gotham City is once again riven with crime, so Michael Keaton and director Tim Burton's Batman save the citizens from the megalomaniacs. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 6:30pm.

A Christmas Story Quote-Along (1983) D: Bob Clark; with Peter Billingsley. (PG, 94 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Lakeline, 4:15pm; Alamo Slaughter Lane, 4:35pm.

A Christmas Story (1983) **Big Screen Classics.** @Alamo Ritz, 4pm. (See Sunday.)

Elf Quote-Along (2003) Action Pack. @Alamo Village, 7:05pm. (See Thursday, 12/19.)

★ **Ghost Stories for Christmas** Throughout the Sixties and Seventies, *Ghost Stories for Christmas* regularly appeared on the BBC every Christmas Eve. This presentation includes 1968's "Whistle and I'll Come to You" and 1972's "A Warning to the Curious." Both are based on tales first told by master ghost story writer M.R. James at nocturnal Christmas gatherings in his chambers when he taught at Eton and Cambridge. @Alamo Ritz, 9:35pm.

Home Alone Quote-Along and Pizza Party (1990) D: Chris Columbus; with Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci. **Action Pack.** @Alamo Lakeline, 7:10pm; Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7:15pm.

Kung Fu Panda 2 (2011) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 10:15am. (See Saturday.)

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** @Alamo Village, 9:20am. (See Saturday.)

SPACES

The Polar Express (2004) See p.63.

TUESDAY 24

The Adventures of Tintin (2011) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** @Alamo Lakeline, 9:50am. (See Saturday.)

A Christmas Story (1983) **Big Screen Classics.** @Alamo Ritz, 4:20pm. (See Sunday.)

Elf Quote-Along (2003) Action Pack. @Alamo Lakeline, 7:10pm; @Alamo Ritz, 7, 9:30. (See Thursday, 12/19.)

★ **It's a Wonderful Life (1946)** **Classics.** @Tinseltown North, Hill Country Galleria, Tinseltown South, CM Stone Hill Town Center, 2, 7; Alamo Village, 7:10pm. (See Saturday.)

Kung Fu Panda 2 (2011) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 10am. (See Saturday.)

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** @Alamo Village, 9:15am. (See Saturday.)

WEDNESDAY 25

Elf Quote-Along (2003) Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 5:55pm. (See Thursday, 12/19.)

THURSDAY 26

The Adventures of Tintin (2011) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** @Alamo Lakeline, 10am. (See Saturday.)

Christmas Pops Sing-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm. (See Thursday, 12/19.)

Elf Quote-Along (2003) Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 7:20pm. (See Thursday, 12/19.)

Kung Fu Panda 2 (2011) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 10:25am. (See Saturday.)

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004) **Alamo Kids' Camp.** @Alamo Village, 9:25am. (See Saturday.)

SPACES

Babe and The Adventures of Milo and Otis Blue Starlite Drive-In: Double Feature. @Austin Studios, 7pm.

IMAX

Great White Shark (2013) D: Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas; narrated by Bill Nighy. (NR, 40 min.) This 3-D film explores the great white's place in our imaginations and fears, while concentrating on key aggregation points in the waters off Mexico, South Africa, Los Angeles, and New Zealand. Thu. (12/19)-Sat., 10:30am; Mon., 10:30am; Thu. (12/26), 10:30am.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.) Texas is shown to be a land broad enough to produce everything from grapefruit to microchips. Thu. (12/19)-Sat., 9:30am; Mon., 9:30am; Thu. (12/26), 9:30am.

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (2013) D: Peter Jackson; with Ian McKellen, Martin Freeman, Richard Armitage, Benedict Cumberbatch, Evangeline Lilly, Lee Pace, Luke Evans, Stephen Fry, Ken Stott, Orlando Bloom, Graham McTavish, William Kircher, Dean O'Gorman. (PG-13, 161 min.) Review on p.63. (*) Thu. (12/19)-Tue., 12:30, 3:45, 7, 10:15pm; Thu. (12/26), 12:30, 3:45, 7, 10:15pm.

Titans of the Ice Age (2013) D: David Clark; narrated by Christopher Plummer. (NR, 45 min.) Computer-generated imagery brings to life this mysterious era of the Ice Age. Thu. (12/19)-Sat., 11:30am; Mon., 11:30am; Thu. (12/26), 11:30am.

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

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

OFFSCREEN

Austin FilmWorks: The Film Mind This 12-week course covering **advanced cinematography and directing**, taught by filmmaker **Steve Mims**, blends an in-depth examination of current large-sensor digital cinematography with classic filmmaking techniques. Register now for the spring 2014 schedule. See website for details. www.austinfilmworks.com.

Faces of Austin: Shorts Competition The city of Austin invites Austin-area filmmakers to submit films of less than 10 minutes' length – films shot in Austin or highlighting an Austin topic or organization. Both fiction and nonfiction works are acceptable. Selected films will have a premiere screening during the SXSW Film Conference Community Screenings. See website for details and application. Deadline: *Jan. 21, 2014*. www.austintexas.gov/facesofaustin.

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. 512/322-0145. www.austinstudios.org.

The Screenplay Workshop: Winter Registration Screenwriting Fundamentals Everything you must know to write a screenplay. *Tuesdays, Jan. 7-Feb. 4, 7-9:30pm; Saturdays, Jan. 11-Feb. 8, 1:30-4pm. \$225.* **Screenwriters Master Class** Write a feature-length screenplay in 10 weeks. *Tuesdays, Jan. 7-Mar. 11, 7-9:30pm; Saturdays, Jan. 11-Mar. 15, 1:30-4pm. \$395.* **Private Screenwriting Coaching and Consultation, Skype Group Video Workshop** also available. See website for details. www.thescreenplayworkshop.org.

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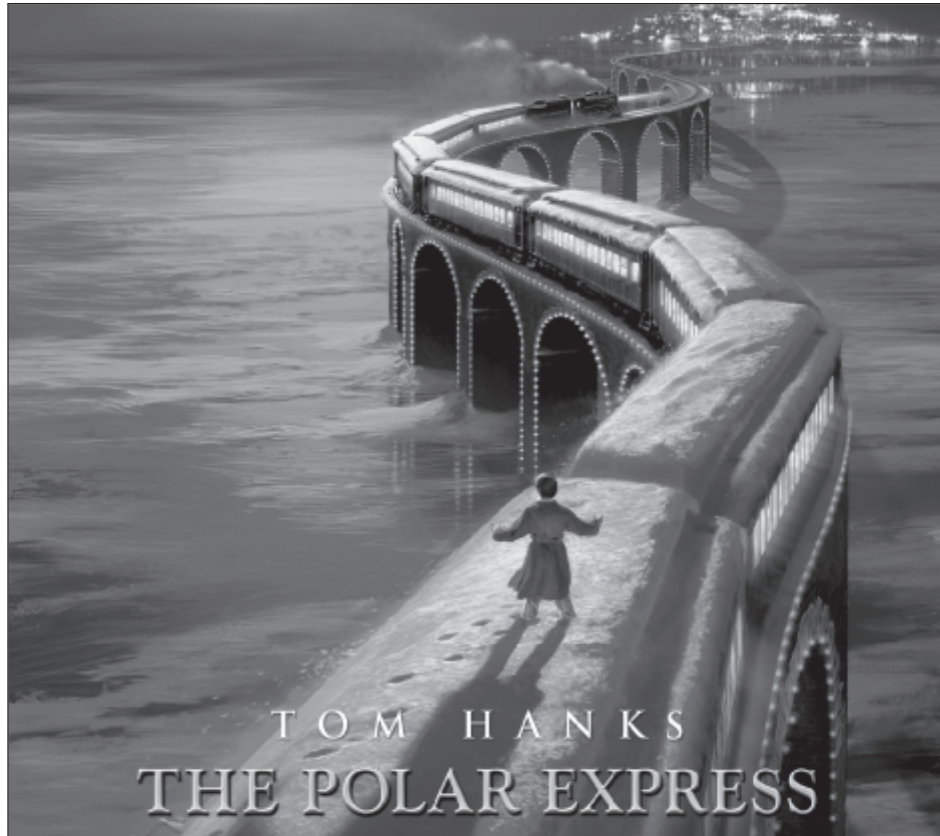
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Robert Earl Keen's Merry Christmas From the Fam-O-Lee



Thirty years ago, Robert Earl Keen won the New Folk competition at the Kerrville Folk Festival. Yes, he's been at it that long. Nevertheless, he claims 2013 was one of the best years he's had in a very long time. From selling out a run of 17 shows in the Northeast to sharing the stage with his old Aggie friend Lyle Lovett for their first-ever series of acoustic performances, his plate overflowed.

"It was the first years in a dozen that we turned stuff down," he claims. "My schedule was just too full. One of my goals at the beginning of the year was to make a record. I've started to make a record, so I'm batting .500 with that."

It won't be just another Robert Earl album, either. He's exploring his love of bluegrass and recording songs from the likes of Bill Monroe and Flatt & Scruggs as backed by Rich Brotherton, Bill Whitbeck, and Marty Muse from his band, and guest hot-

shots Danny Barnes, the Greencards' Kym Warner, and Sara Watkins from Nickel Creek.

"We've tracked 26 songs so far, and I don't think we're even finished," admits Keen. "I've wanted to do this for a long time and thought I'd better do it now. It'll probably be out in May."

"Admittedly, I'm not a quote/unquote bluegrass singer, so I want things to sound good. I don't want it to sound like I'm straining to sound like Monroe or the Stanley Brothers. I could sit down and make up some fake bluegrass songs, but I just thought it would sound really contrived."

"I want to make the songs sound like how bluegrass sounds to me."

And just so you know, this project didn't spring from any sort of writer's block.

"Oh no. I write all the time. I'm just trying to do something different."

— Jim Caligiuri

ACL Live at the Moody Theater, Friday 20
Terri Hendrix & Lloyd Maines open

MIDLAKE Parish, Friday 20

The departure of founding frontman Tim Smith halted production of the Midlake's fourth LP, yet the newly released *Antiphon* (ATO) reboots the Denton sextet with more power as guitarist Eric Pulido takes over the lead role. A stronger, psych-driven interplay now grounds the band's pristine prog-folk as version 2.0 regroups into more aggressive directions.

— Doug Freeman

CARPER FAMILY BAND CHRISTMAS SHOW/ AKINA ADDERLEY'S CHRISTMAS SHOW Central Market N. Lamar/Central Market Westgate, Friday 20

Your favorite grocery offers up quite a choice of free Christmas tunes. Fans of trad country and bluegrass done up with pretty harmonies should head north for the Carper Family, whose latest *Old-Fashioned Gal* melds middle-20th century sounds with 21st century sentiment to conjure the local trio's spirit of Christmas past. Southbound, Akina Adderley jingles her youthful rock & soul as fueled by the horns from her Vintage Playboys, goodies both gritty and sweet.

— Jim Caligiuri

THE BREMEN RIOT/ CHURCHWOOD Carousel Lounge, Friday 20/Saturday 21

The Bremen Riot — local singer/songwriter Mike Nicolai fronting bar rockers Grand Champeen — didn't so

much release its recent debut *PM Magazine* as simply open the door and hope it wandered out on its own. Yet it's one of the best rock discs from Austin this year, so this rare gig, with the Decade Show before and Militant Babies after, is a must. The next night rocks just as hard, thanks to the Beefheartian blues of Churchwood, whose own 2013 LP 2 proves the genius of its eponymous debut was no fluke. The Blitzens, Chablis, and Ron Titter Band open. — Michael Toland

101X HOMEGROWN LIVE: GRAPE ST., MIRROR TRAVEL, JOHN WESLEY COLEMAN Holy Mountain, Saturday 21

The final 2013 installment of 101X's Homegrown Live, in which the alternative frequency hosts a handful of local acts that rarely, if ever, actually get played on the radio. Jangly guitar-pop outfit Grape St., led by Harlem ex-pat Curtis O'Mara shouting ear-worming oldies hooks over trebly garage-rock licks, tops the bill. Distortion dynamo Lauren Green's hazy rock trio Mirror Travel and rock & roll street poet John Wesley Coleman set the stage. — Kevin Curtin

12XU XXXMAS SPECIAL Beerland, Saturday 21

Gerard Cosloy shakes a tube sock full of garage-punk on this five-band XXXMas Special presented by the Matador Records co-owner's local imprint 12XU. Off-the-rails NOLA trio Buck Biloxi & the Fucks top the bill, but its true treasures lie in the local heap of Flesh Lights, Ghetto Ghoul,

and Gospel Truth. Ragged, slightly reclusive pop-punk quartet Sweet Talk, whose October EP *Flash of Light* sears the simplicity of January's *Pickup Lines*, decks the halls as well. Cosloy in a Santa suit? We wish.

— Chase Hoffberger

8 BALL & MJG Red 7, Saturday 21

On 8 Ball & MJG's last scheduled visit to Austin, during South by Southwest 2009, the rap duo missed their flight and that was that. Nonetheless, their bawdy band of Memphis brawlers still sport "Space Age Pimpin'" *From the Bottom 2 the Top*. Evidence stands in two recent solo efforts, 8 Ball's 2012 release *Life's Quest* and MJG's 2013 manifesto *Too Pimpin'*, a pledge of allegiance to the art of pimpin' "24-7, 365."

— Chase Hoffberger

LITTLE ELMORE REED BLUES BAND/ORTIZ BROTHERS BLUES CONDITION Legendary White Swan, Monday 23/Tuesday 24

A huge portrait of Lightnin' Hopkins leaves no doubt that the Legendary White Swan knows its shit when it comes to blues. Every Monday, you'll find former TC's Lounge favorites the Little Elmore Reed Blues Band beating out Chicago- and New Orleans-style jams. Anchored by drummer Mark Hays and bassist J.P. Whitefield, they often feature guitar aces Willie Pipkin and Mighty Mike Schermer, harp cat Greg Izor, and pianist Emily Gimble. Tuesdays, sit in with psych-blues sibs

the Ortiz Brothers of Amplified Heat, who invite any players open to something other than SRV. — Kevin Curtin

MISS LAVELLE WHITE'S CHRISTMAS SHOW Saxon Pub, Wednesday 25

The much adored Miss Lavelle White returns to the Saxon Pub for her 11th annual Christmas show. Nobody knows the stage quite as well as the legendary vocalist who started by singing gospel in her native Louisiana, and eventually performed with some of the biggest names in music. An unshakable Austin tradition, she remains a vocal powerhouse at age 84, retaining both the famous spirit and sass which enhance her mix of blues, R&B, and soul. As always, proceeds benefit the Austin diva. — Nina Hernandez

THE TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA: THE LOST CHRISTMAS EVE Frank Erwin Center, Thursday 26

One of the most consistent touring successes of the past 15 years, the Trans-Siberian Orchestra makes its annual stop in Austin the day after its main obsession. That won't stop fans from flocking to its metal/classical/choral extravaganza, especially given that this is the final go-round for its rock opera *The Lost Christmas Eve*. Former Megadeth guitarist Al Pitrelli is musical director of the touring incarnation, so expect plenty of power chords and flash guitar solos amongst the tinsel and Yuletide cheer.

— Michael Toland

soundcheck

BY RAOUL HERNANDEZ

BASTARD SONS OF JOHNNY CASH Broken Spoke, Friday 20

When did these Cali kickers move to ATX?

TWO HOOTS & A HOLLER Hole in the Wall, Saturday 21

Rick Broussard's two-step rock and dip-your-date hop.

REVEREND HORTON HEAT Emo's, Saturday 21

Houston hellion rages with Two Tons of Steel and Dale Watson.

SHOULDERS' HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA Austin Beer Garden Brewing Co., Saturday 21

Local equivalent to the Pogues' "Fairytale of New York."

SUZI STERN Brass House, Saturday 21

Lush-voiced local keeps *Romancing the Dark*.

GOSPEL JAZZ CHRISTMAS

One World Theatre, Saturday 21

Kirk Whalum, Lalah Hathaway, and Gerald Albright, 7 & 9:30pm.

MAX BEMIS

Stubb's, Saturday 21 Say Anything savant and adopted Texan.

BELLS OF JOY

Threadgill's World Headquarters, Sunday 22

Gospel brunch cooks up grace.

FASTER PUSSYCAT

Infest, Sunday 22 Taime Downe still yowls metallic.

BILL KIRCHEN & FRIENDS

Palmer Events Center, Tuesday 24 Dieselbilly meets the Texana Dames.

DALE WATSON & HIS LONESTARS

Continental Club, Wednesday 25 Country Christmas miracle.

in-stores: Friday: Eldritch Cleaver, Shawn David McMillen's Mancat House Band, Ralph White & Walter Daniels, Trailer Space, 7pm; Saturday: Old Cave, Circle of Vultures, Bone Orchard, Trailer Space, 7pm



FEB 14
IRIS DEMENT
 ON SALE FRIDAY @ 10AM

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 MARC BROUSSARD
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AUSTIN TRAIL OF LIGHTS Still bright and free after all these years. Every day has live entertainment, myriad photo ops, and, of course, funnel cake. Go online for a schedule of shuttles and other transpo options. You can pay online for parking or a pass that lets you cut everyone in line. Bike racks will be available for your pedal pushers. *Every day through Dec. 22, 7-10pm. Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 512/974-6700. Free. www.austrailoflights.org.*

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. 17-24, 11am-11pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. \$7 (free, kids). www.armadillobazaar.com.*

USA DIVING WINTER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS There will be past Olympians and world championship team members taking to the board to see who is the best in the country. There will be so little splash you'll barely know they're diving. *Through Sun., Dec. 22. Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swim Center, MLK & Trinity, 512/471-7771. www.texasports.com.*

CELTIC CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL The Celtic Cultural Center of Texas presents this night featuring some of the city's most honored vocalists, including Brett Barnes, Danny Johnson, and Stephanie Prewitt – led by director Jeffrey Jones Ragona. *Fri-Sat., Dec. 20-21, 7:30pm. St. Mary's Cathedral, 203 E. 10th, 512/472-4540. \$30. www.celticcenter.org*

THE CONTEMPORARY AUSTIN: LIAM GILICK AND MARIANNE VITALE Gillick presents the second in his series of videos "dealing with specific architectural sites toward the construction of new, speculative narratives addressing territory, power, and change." Marianne Vitale's gone rather architectural here, too, using her signature railroad ties and other articles of ironhorsery to build full-size bridges with, and those bridges are then set on fire and extinguished before they turn to ash – and now meticulously transported to TCA's Jones Center. *Through Jan. 4. 700 Congress, 512/453-5312. www.thecontemporaryaustin.org*



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Thu, Dec 19
The Band Of Heathens
 8:00 - \$15/\$20
 La Tampiquena 10:00-11 Piqued Jacks 12:00-15
Eightysixxed
 6:00-NO COVER Happy Hour

Fri, Dec 20
Eric Tessmer
 11:30 - \$10/\$12
Traveling Red River Songwriter Tour
 9:00 - \$15/\$15
Denny Freeman
 6:00-NO COVER Happy Hour

Sat, Dec 21
Guy Forsyth
 8:00 - \$10
 Carson McHone 10:00 - \$7 Brewski Sal Mineo 6:00-12/\$15
 Curtis McMurtry 12:00 - \$5 Wink Keziah 3:30 - NO COVER

Sun, Dec 22 Enjoy Keith's BBQ Every Sunday!
THE RESENTMENTS
 7:30 - \$10
 The Welch Family Throwdown 3:00 - \$10/\$15 Piqued Jacks 12:15 - NO COVER
 John Gaar 3:30 - NO COVER Hill Country Gentlemen 10:30 - \$5

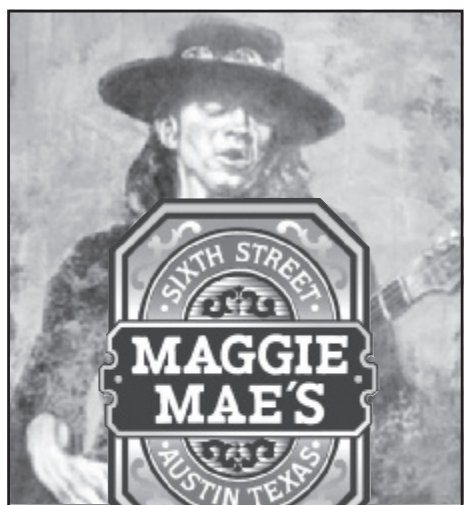
Mon, Dec 23
Ari Neufeld 7:00 - \$5 **Sons of Slim** 8:30 - \$5
Ashley Monical 11:00 - \$5 **Brother Nothing** 12:30 - NO COVER

Tue, Dec 24 Christmas Eve
Carson McHone & Her Friends 9:00 - FREE
 Leo Rondeau, Zack Moulton, Roger Wallace, David Beck, Jordan Webster, Rebecca Patek, Halley Anna Finlay, Robert Allen Caldwell

Wed, Dec 25
Miss Lavelle White's
Christmas Show
 & Special Guests 8:00 - \$10/\$15
Kem Watts
 10:00 - \$5

Soulhat - Dec 27
James McMurtry - Dec 28
Shinyribs - Dec 28
Arthur Brown - Dec 29
Del Castillo - Dec 30

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AARON NAVARRO 8PM

FRIDAY 12/20
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 BURLESQUE AND CABARET
 DJ KENN ROOFTOP DJ KID GIBSON ROOM

SATURDAY 12/21
YOUNG COSTELLO WITH **THE LOST PROJECT** CLUB 10PM
 DJ KENN ROOFTOP

SUNDAY 12/22
ALAN HAYNES

MONDAY 12/23
MONDAY NIGHT BLUES JAM WITH MIKE MILLIGAN & THE ALTAR BOYZ

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WEDNESDAY 12/25
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COWBOY DAVE BAND 10PM
SILAS LOWE 7PM

FRI 12.20 NOEL MCKAY MIDNIGHT
DAMON BRAMBLETT 10PM
GUMBO CE SOIR 7PM
CAJUN DANCE LESSONS 6PM

SAT 12.21 *55 Cover* WHITE GHOST SHIVERS @ 12:30AM
MCMERCY FAMILY BAND 11PM
WILD BILL'S CHRISTMAS PLAY 9:45PM
DAVE INSLEY'S CARELESS SMOKERS 7:30PM

SUN 12.22 NOT IN THE FACE MIDNIGHT
URBAN ACHIEVERS BRASS BAND 11PM
LOVE LEIGHS 9PM
CONJUNTO LOS PINKYS 5PM

MON 12.23 BAR BRAWLL III MIDNIGHT
JIM STRINGER AND HIS AM BAND 10PM
BEN BALLINGER 7PM

TUE 12.24 NO BANDS
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

WED 12.25 CLOSED!

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THURSDAY DECEMBER 19
JOHN HESLEY COLEMAN
FRIDAY DECEMBER 20

GRISSMUS EDISHUN
SATURDAY DECEMBER 21

MERRY CHRISTMAS

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THE Continental CLUB
 THURSDAY DECEMBER 19
 HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM
 12AM **WHISKEY SISTERS**
JIMMY AND THE MUSTANGS
 10PM **GUY FORSYTH'S HOT HOT RIVETERS**
 FRIDAY DECEMBER 20
 HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM **THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS**
 12AM **COWBOY DAVE**
 10:30PM **JUNIOR BROWN**
 HAPPY BIRTHDAY **HERMAN THE GERMAN**
 9PM
 SATURDAY DECEMBER 21
 MATINEE DOORS 3PM **REDD VOLKAERT**
 12AM **T-BIRD & THE BREAKS**
 10PM **LATASHA LEE AND THE BLACK TIES**
 SUNDAY DECEMBER 22
 MATINEE DOORS 3PM **PLANET CASPER**
 WITH MANDY MERCIER AND DAVID HALLEY
 7:30PM **3RD ANNUAL ALL AGES SHOW!**
THE WAGONEERS
 10:15PM **HEYBALE**
 WITH REDD VOLKAERT, EARL POOLE BALL AND DALLAS WAYNE
 MON DECEMBER 23
 HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM NO COVER
THE PETERSON BROTHERS
DALE WATSON AND HIS LONESTARS
 10PM

TUESDAY DECEMBER 24
CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS EVE
 SEE YOU TOMORROW FOR DALE WATSON'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOW & DANCE!
 WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 25
 CLUB OPENS AT 9PM SHOW AT 10PM
MERRY TEX-MAS Y'ALL

DALE WATSON AND HIS LONESTARS
 *** COMING SOON ***
 THURSDAY DECEMBER 26
 HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM **WHISKEY SISTERS**
SICK OF YOUR FAMILY? ESCAPE WITH THE BAH HUMBUG HOLIDAY SHOW WITH
 12AM **JAMES MCMURTRY**
 10PM **JON DEE GRAHAM**
 FRIDAY DECEMBER 27
 HAPPY HOUR 6:30PM **BLUES SPECIALISTS**
 12AM **BILL CARTER & THE BLAME**
 10PM **THE RELATIVES FEAT. REV. GEAN WEST**
 SATURDAY DECEMBER 28
 MATINEE 3:30PM **REDD VOLKAERT**
 12AM **T.G. BAD**
DENNY FREEMAN - JOHN X REED
SPEEDY SPARKS - RODNEY CRAIG
 10PM **LOU ANN BARTON**
 SUNDAY DEC. 29 • DOORS AT 3PM •
LIBBI BOSWORTH BENEFIT & POT LUCK
 WITH: MIKE BARFIELD • SUSANNA VAN TASSEL
 GURF MORLIX • MONTE WARDEN • EARL P. BALL
 MARCIA BALL • BRENNEN LEIGH • ANDREW NAFZIGER
 MARK PATTERSON • RANDY GLINES • LIBBI BOSWORTH
 TUESDAY DECEMBER 31
 12AM **BARFIELD THE TYRANT OF TX FUNK**
 10PM **JIMMIE VAUGHAN**
 AND **THE TILT-A-WHIRL-BAND**
NEW YEAR'S EVE TIX ON SALE NOW

 • IN THE GALLERY • DOORS AT 8PM •
 THURSDAY DECEMBER 19
 10:30 **TAMEGA JONES**
 8:30 **SIT DOWN, SERVANT!**
 FRIDAY & SATURDAY DECEMBER 20 & 21
 10:30 **MIKE FLANIGIN TRIO**
 FRI 8:30 **ROBERT KRAFT**
 SAT 8:30 **SCARLET OLSON**
 SUNDAY DECEMBER 22
 10:30 **DUPREE**
 8:30 **WHITMORE - GRAHAM GUITAR PULL**
 MONDAY DECEMBER 23
 10:30 **KALU JAMES**
 8:30 **CHURCH ON MONDAY**
 ELIAS HASLANGER • DR. JAMES POLK • JAKE LANGLEY
 TUESDAY DECEMBER 24
CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS EVE
 WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 25
 DOORS AT 9:00PM
 10:30 **TRUBE • FARRELL • SNIZ**

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CLUB LISTINGS

THURSDAY 19

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL
Justif

BAT BAR Jordan Dewbre (4:00), Phil Luna (7:00)

BEERLAND Preston's Pity Party w/ the Dead Space, 10101, Golden Ghetto, Eets Feats (9:00)

BOURBON GIRL Auxillary

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton ♪ (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Bends, Brazilian Space Program, Lost Cat Magnet (9:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Matthew Robinson & the Jelly Kings (6:30) A

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Jaqui Walker (6:30) A

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Garrett Snowden (9:00)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Austin Party Band

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Sit Down Servant, Tameca Jones (8:30); In the Club: The Whiskey Sisters (6:30), Hot Nut Riveters, Jimmy & the Mustangs (10:00)

DIRTY DOG BAR DeadTooth (8:00) R

DIZZY ROOSTER Lonestar Rejects

THE DRAG BAR Sanchez Mac (9:00)

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Massimo Gerosa (6:00), Julia Ward (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM The Jitterbug Vipers (6:00), Bruce Saunders (9:30)

FLAMINGO CANTINA DJ Richard Henry (9:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Nate Boff (6:00), Alvin Crow (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Jamie Wilson, the Mavericks (8:00) R

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Natalie Zoe ♪ (6:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Amanda Cevallos & the High Hands (9:00)

HOLY MOUNTAIN Pagame, Son de Rey, La Vida Buena (9:00)

INFEST Pain Through Fate, Hazard of Industry, Dragon Blood Sex Machine, Evil Come Evil Go (9:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Stefan Harpin (8:00)

MERCER STREET DANCEHALL Doug Moreland & the Flying Armadillos (7:30)

METAL & LACE Sensational Fibs (10:00) R

MOHAWK Real Live Tigers, Tenlons Fort, Will Courtney (9:00) R

MOONTOWER SALOON Eddie & the Eveready (6:00)

NEWORLEDELI Giulia Millanta

THE NOOK Sean Evan

ONE-2-ONE BAR Songwriters Series w/ Suzanna Choffel ♪, Will Evans, Nathan Singleton, Drew Smith; the Memphis Strange, Blue Bear ♪ (7:00) R

PALMER EVENTS CENTER Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Sarah Pierce (noon); the Carper Family (3:30); Shinyribs (8:00) A

PARISH Mamafesta, A Live One (10:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Shawn Nelson, Amber Lucille ♪, Johnson (6:30) A

ROAD SHOWS

December

THU 19

DeadTooth, Dirty Dog Bar

The Mavericks, Gruene Hall

Sensational Fibs, Metal & Lace

Will Courtney, Mohawk

Suzanna Choffel, One-2-One Bar

Contrabandits, the Sahara Lounge

Lake Lady & the Mountain Man, the Scoot Inn

FRI 20

Robert Earl Keen, ACL Live at the Moody Theater

Junior Brown, Continental Club

French Horn Rebellion, Empire Control Room

Amanda Shires, Mohawk

Midlake, Israel Nash, Parish

Hooka Hey, the Scoot Inn

SAT 21

Buck Biloxi & the Fucks, Beerland

Casket of Cassandra, **Insurgence**, Dirty Dog Bar

Reverend Horton Heat, Emo's

Modern Don Juans, Ginny's Little Longhorn Saloon

Autobody, Mohawk

Kirk Whalum, **Lalah Hathaway**, **Gerald Albright**, One World Theatre

Love & Light, **Spankalcious**, Parish

SBall & MJG, Red 7

Les Brouvas, the Sahara Lounge

Max Bemis, **Matt Pryor**, **Sherri DuPree**, **Merriment**, Stubb's

Circle of Vultures, **Bone Orchard**, Trailer Space Records

SUN 22

Faster Pussycat, **the Blitz**, **Carmeci**, Infest

TUE 24

Dwight Smith, Halcyon
Emily Herring, Triple Crown

THU 26

Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Frank Erwin Center

Happy Campers, **Oh Antonio + His Imaginary Friends**, Holy Mountain

The Tennessee Stiffs, **New Revival**, One-2-One Bar

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, 512/454-5766 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.



FRI 12/20 8PM
KLBJ & THE AUSTIN MUSIC FOUNDATION WELCOMES:
VALLEJO X-MAS SHOW
WITH **PODUNK, CANVAS, CHERYL MURDOCK**

SAT 12/21 10PM
ANTONE'S PRESENTS:
MINGO FISHTRAP AND HARD PROOF AFROBEAT
FRI 12/27 & SAT 12/28 8PM
TWO NIGHTS OF OLD 97s
OPENING FRIDAY: **HICKOIDS, SEALION**
SATURDAY: **QUAKER CITY NIGHT HAWKS, RTB2** [C3CONCERTS.COM](http://c3concerts.com)
SUN 12/29 7PM
CAROLYN WONDERLAND

New Years EVE
With
DOYLE BRAMHALL II
** PLUS **
SMOKESTACK, JJ JOHNSON & CHRIS BRUCE, DEREK O'BRIEN, DENNY FREEMAN, LARRY FULCHER, MIKE FLANIGIN, EMILY GIMBLE, GEORGIA BRAMHALL AND ZAPATA! OPENING
Champagne Toast at Midnight!
GENERAL ADMISSION
VIP TABLES AVAILABLE

2015 E. RIVERSIDE ALL AGES WELCOME
ADVANCE TIX @ ANTONESNIGHTCLUB.COM

Lucky lounge

LIVE MUSIC EARLY... LATE NIGHT LOUNGIN'
NO COVER • FREE SHOWS

THU 12/19 STEFEN HARPIN 8PM

FRI 12/20 PRINCETON RUNAWAY 9PM

SAT 12/21 DJ SEAN SOUL SPINS TILL 2AM

TUE 12/24 13TH ANNUAL MAZEL BALL 9PM

WED 12/25 WYLDZ WEDNESDAYS 10PM

New Year's Eve BLOWOUT 8PM
MORE INFO & TICKETS AT WWW.LUCKYLOUNGENYE.EVENTBRITE.COM

209A West 5th St. 479-7700
www.theluckyloounge.com • www.facebook.com/luckylooungeatx

The NORTH DOOR

LIVE MUSIC. UNIQUE EVENTS. INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMING.
THIS WEEK: \$3 IMPERIAL TALL CANS

THU 12-19 BEDPOST CONFESSIONS 7P
readings on sex, sensuality & the steamy side of life

FRI 12-20 AND SAT 12-21 REBECCA HAVEMEYER 730P
AND STANLEY ROY present:
Whatchu' Talkin' Bout' Christmuss?!?
with special guests:
Mitzi Myers - Little Stolen Moments
Russell Reed - Silky Shoemaker - Khatti-Q

SAT 12-21 NORTH DOOR ARTS & DRAFTS presents: HOLIDAY KIDS CAMP 10A
MAKE-AND-TAKE GIFTS, PIZZA & CLASSIC CHRISTMAS FLICKS

SUN 12-22 NORTH DOOR ARTS & DRAFTS presents: 3P
DIY Ornaments & Gift Tags with Jennifer Cunningham

Want To Teach a Class?
WE'RE LOOKING FOR INSTRUCTORS
INFORMAL CLASSES AT THE NORTH DOOR EMAIL LEAH@NDVENUE.COM FOR MORE INFO!

UPCOMING SHOWS:
12.26 Thursday Night Social Ride
12.27 The Good Life/Austin Mic Exchange
12.28 Eagle Claw, Fleshlights, the Bad Lovers, Ditch Witch
12.29 DIY NYE Resolution Charts & Sparkly Bows w/ Jennifer Cunningham
12.31 Scott Biram, Honky & Chill Cold Blood

HAPPY HOUR IN THE LOUNGE TUE - FRI / 5PM - 8PM
502 BRUSHY ST, 78702
THENORTHDOOR.COM • FACEBOOK.COM/NDVENUE • @NDAUSTIN

OPEN AT 3PM CHRISTMAS DAY

CASINO EL CAMINO

Bar & Grill

517 EAST 6TH ST. • 512.469.9330
OPEN AT 11:30 AM 7 DAYS A WEEK
KITCHEN OPEN 'TIL 1:30 AM EVERY NIGHT

the EASTERN

AUSTIN TEXAS

1511 B E 6th Street (6th & Comal)
Mon-Sun 12pm-2am

\$1 OFF HAPPY HOUR noon-9pm daily
Sun. THE WALKING DEAD
Mon. FILM & A 40
Tues. \$1 SHORTY NIGHT

www.TheEastern.net

BAR-B-Q—COLD BEER—LIVE MUSIC
801 RED RIVER 480-8341
WALLER CREEK AMPHITHEATER

STUBB'S

THU JAN 30
SHOOTER JENNINGS & WHITMORE'S OUTLAWS
WITH JUDD HENRY MASON
ON SALE FRI DEC 20 @10AM

FRI FEB 14
THE BRIGHT LIGHT SOCIAL HOUR
WITH THE TONTONS

FRI FEB 21
DR. DOG
WITH SAINT RICH

SAT MAR 1
Dropkick Murphys
St. Patrick's Day Tour 2014
with special guests
LUCEBO

FRI MAR 7
G. LOVE & SPECIAL SAUCE
WITH KRISTY LEE

FRI JUL 11
Lindsay STIRLING
ON SALE FRI DEC 20 @10AM

IN THE CLUB

SAT DEC 21 DOORS 8:30PM
MAX BEMIS WITH MATT PRYOR, SHERRI DUPREE-BEMIS, PERMA, AND MERRIMENT

FRI DEC 27 DOORS 8PM
SWIMMING WITH BEARS
WITH RMRS, TELEVANGELIST, AND LUKE DAVIS

TUE DEC 31 DOORS 9PM
NYE: WOOD & WIRE AND MILKDRIVE
TIX INCLUDE FREE BBQ AND CHAMPAGNE TOAST!
FREE WEEK THU JAN 2 DOORS 8PM
VAGABOND COLLECTIVE PRESENTS: THIEVES, PSWINGSET, PHANTOM LAKES, NOMINEE

FREE WEEK FRI JAN 3 DOORS 8PM
HELLO WHEELS AND POSSESSED BY PAUL JAMES
WITH EL CAMPO AND SOUR BRIDGES

FREE WEEK SAT JAN 4 DOORS 8PM
AUSTIN VIDA PRESENTS: PIÑATA PROTEST
WITH THE YOUNG MATHS, COMO LAS MOVIES, AND MIGRANT KIDS

FREE WEEK TUE JAN 7 DOORS 8PM
OLD SALT UNION AND ALI HOLDER AND PHOEBE HUNT

FREE WEEK WED JAN 8 DOORS 8PM
GROOVE THINK WITH HENRY + THE INVISIBLES, TRANSCONTINENTAL TRIP, AND CHESTERFIELD.

FREE WEEK THU JAN 9 DOORS 8PM
DIAMOND CUTS AND CAPTAIN OF THE A.M. WITH JERICHO FEAT. RUBY JANE, AND TAYLOR BAKER

FREE WEEK FRI JAN 10 DOORS 9PM
SETH SHERMAN AND THE PRESERVATION

FREE WEEK SAT JAN 11 DOORS 9PM
MARMALAKES AND WHALERS WITH SAME VEINS

FOR PRIVATE EVENTS | TICKETS AVAILABLE AT STUBB'S
CALL 444-2001 | & C3CONCERTS.COM

Flipnotics

HAPPY HOUR DAILY 4PM-8PM
Come try our new wine selections

THURSDAY, 12/19
• Tiffany Dodgen 7pm
• Open Mic with Lisa Ketylle 8pm

FRIDAY 12/20
• Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs 7pm
• Ray Prim's Soulwriters in the Round w/ Tje Austin & Drew Davis 9pm

SATURDAY, 12/21
• William Graham w/ Payton Nicole, Lili Hickman, & Harper Starling 6pm
• Srumero 8pm
• Matt Butler Quartet 10pm

SUNDAY, 12/22
• The River Has Many Voices 7pm
• Jonathan Milton & Friends CD Release 9pm

MONDAY, 12/23 BLUEGRASS NIGHT!
• Bottom Dollar String Band 7pm
• The Bluegrass Outfit 9pm

TUESDAY, 12/24 CHRISTMAS EVE - OPEN 'TIL 5PM!

WEDNESDAY, 12/25 Merry Christmas!

COFFEE • BEER + WINE • DAILY SPECIALS
1601 BARTON SPRINGS RD
512-480-8646 • FLIPNOTICS.COM

Season's Greetings
FROM YOUR FRIENDS DOWN SOUTH

Open at 7pm Christmas Day

CASINO

SOUTH SIDE LOUNGE
THE FAST TRACK ON WEST BEN WHITE

OPEN 4-2 SEVEN DAYS A WEEK
1502 W. BEN WHITE BLVD • 512.445.9122

TEXAS CLUB BAR & GRILL

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 **NO COVER!**

TEJANO NIGHT

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

TEJANO & HIP HOP DJs

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

JIMMY GONZALEZ

KARAOKE WEDNESDAYS

BEER BUCKET SPECIALS
M-TH ALL NIGHT • NO COVER!

4914 Burleson Road (512)541-7621

LIVE MUSIC

Sun 22
LUCAS HUDGINS AND THE FIRST COUSINS
CHRISTMAS SHOW 9:00

Mon 23
BRENNEN LEIGH 9:00

Tue 24
CLOSED

Wed 25
CLOSED

Thu 26
RATTLE ROCK NIGHT 9:00

Fri 27
MODERN DON JUANS 11:00

Private Events Samantha Cox 512-298-0328
m-f 4p-2a sat-sun 6p-2a **Open Daily**
TheRattleInn.com 512-373-8306

THREADGILL'S
dang. threadgills.com

SOUTH ON RIVERSIDE

Sun Dec 22 **Bells of Joy** 11am
no cover

301 W Riverside Dr (512) 472-9304

*Both locations will be open
Christmas Day
Happy Holidays!*

NORTH ON LAMAR

Sun Dec 22 **Shawn Pander**
11am; no cover

Tue Dec 31 **New Years Eve with
Jimmy LaFave**
call for more details!

6416 N Lamar Blvd (512) 451-5440

CLUB LISTINGS

FROM THURSDAY

RED 7 Chancellor, Shrines, Megabig (9:00)

REMEDY 90's w/ DJ Mighty Fly (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Big Red Drum (9:00)

RUSSIAN HOUSE East Side Dandies (A)

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Jeff Lofton Trio (6:30)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Marshall Owen, Contrabandits, Los Federales (10:00) (R)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Soul Wagon (7:00)

SAXON PUB Eightysixxed (6:00), the Band of Heathens, La Tampiquena (8:00)

THE SCOOT INN Antiques, Marcus Brown, Jordan Price, Lake Lady & the Mountain Man (8:00) (R)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Blue Finger Disco

SPEAKEASY Pickin' Ain't Easy, DJ FNDOMNTL

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE **SIDE** Billy Bacon (4:00), Kacy Crowley, Miles Zuniga, Matt the Electrician (6:00) (A)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Hitsquad

TOM'S TABOOLEY Mark Garrison (4:00) (A), Ben Livingston (6:30) (A)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Shawn David McMillen, Mex-Mode, Rob Funkhauser (7:00) (A)

TRIPLE CROWN Nate Guthrie (6:00); Hair Farmers, Goodwill Souljahs, Are You Crazy? (10:00)

Z'TEJAS The Brew (6:00)

FRIDAY

ACL LIVE AT THE MOODY THEATER Robert Earl Keen's Merry Christmas From the Fam-O-Lee w/ Terri Hendrix & Lloyd Maines (8:30) (A)(R)

ANDERSON MILL TAVERN Rick Plester

ANTONE'S Vallejo Christmas Show w/ Cheryl Murdock, Canvas, Podunk (8:00) (A)

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. Li'l Mikey & the Soda Jerks (6:30)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL The Stars

BEERLAND PC the Kid, Camry, Alex & Apogii, DJ Slantic, Dai (9:00)

BOURBON GIRL Spunky Greta

BROKEN SPOKE David Madewell, Dance Lessons, Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash (6:00) (A)

BUDDY'S PLACE Son Geezinslaw, Glenn Collins (8:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Decade Show, the Bremen Riot, Militant Babies (9:00) (A)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH The Carper Family Christmas Show (6:30) (A)(R)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Akina Adderley's Christmas Show (6:30) (A)(R)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Charlie Stout & Benton Leachman, Foscoe Jones & the Distractions (9:00)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Guilty Pleasures

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Robert Kraft Trio, Mike Flanigin Trio (8:30); In the Club: the Blues Specialists (6:30), Cowboy Dave, Junior Brown (10:30) (A)

DIZZY ROOSTER Street Kingz

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

(A) ALL AGES VENUE (R) ROADSHOW (A) RECOMMENDED (M) HEAR MUSIC ONLINE



Austin City Limits Live at The Moody Theater

acl-live.com • 877-4-FLYTIX • Box Office, 310 Willie Nelson Blvd, M-F 10-3pm

TICKETS ON SALE FRI, 10AM!

TRISHA YEARWOOD

WWW.TRISHAYEARWOOD.COM

MAR 26

ROBERT EARL KEEN'S
MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE FAM-O-LEE
w/ LLOYD MAINES & TERRI HENDRIX

FRI DEC 20

ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO
w/ LUCINDA WILLIAMS, JOE ELY, BUTCH HANCOCK, TERRY ALLEN, ROSIE FLORES & ROXY ERICKSON
PRESENT "THE UNITED SOUNDS OF AUSTIN"
A JOURNEY THROUGH 60 YEARS OF AUSTIN MUSIC

SAT JAN 11

JAN 19 THE BEACH BOYS

FEB 19 PAT METHENY UNITY GROUP

JAN 29 **ALTON BROWN LIVE!**
THE EDIBLE INEVITABLE TOUR

FEB 20 **Jonny Lang**

FEB 26 **SHARON JONES & THE DAP KINGS**

Josh Ritter
w/ GREGORY ALAN ISAKOV

SAT JAN 18

FEB 11 **Gordon Lightfoot**

FEB 27 **AMOS LEE**
MOUNTAINS OF SORROW, RIVERS OF SONG TOUR

f t @ # ACLLIVE All dates, acts, ticket prices subject to change w/o notice. All tickets subject to applicable service charges. atat

IT'S MUSICMAKERS AUSTIN 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Xmas sale

OPEN SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER

Our best year-end xmas & anniversary deals are a-cooking hot

ALL IN STOCK GUITARS, AND GUITAR & BASS AMPS ARE A MINIMUM OF 30% OFF RETAIL
MANY SELECT FLOOR MODELS ARE MARKED DOWN TO 40% OFF RETAIL
COME SEE THE SALES CREW FOR YOUR BEST DEALS OF 2013

Holiday Saver Specials

ALL FENDER CABLES EXTRA 40% OFF ALREADY DISCOUNTED PRICE!
ALL SOLDIER GUITAR STRAPS EXTRA 25% OFF ALREADY DISCOUNTED PRICE!
ALL GUITAR AND BASS STRINGS EXTRA 20% OFF ALREADY DISCOUNTED PRICE!
SMOKEY AMPS ONLY \$22! & BOSS CLIP ON TUNERS \$26.95!
FENDER ACOUSTIC GUITAR PACKS \$119 - \$199
MARSHALL TUBE HALF STACK \$799! (ONE AVAILABLE) & ALL T-SHIRTS \$8 - \$15

MUSICMAKERS AUSTIN
GUITARS / PRO-AUDIO / SALES / SERVICE

517 S. LAMAR @ BARTON SPRINGS RD.
512-444-6686 • MUSICMAKERSAUSTIN.COM
10-6:30 M-F • 10-5PM SAT • 1-5PM SUN

STRANGE BREW Audio by **QSC**
Lounge Side

Jimmy LaFave Fri. Jan 10th 8 pm
Butch Hancock Fri. Feb 14th 8 pm
Glenn Miller Orchestra Sat Feb 15th 7 & 9:15 pm

Tickets & Schedule at www.StrangeBrewLoungeSide.com

Thursday December 26th
 Billy Bacon 4p Robert LaRoche 6p
 Miles Zuniga 7p Matt the Electrician 9p

Friday December 27th
 John Enslie 4p David Ducharme-Jones 6p
 Lisa Tingle 8pm Lauren Silva 10p

Saturday December 28th
 FREE, Kids Show W/ Big Don 10a,
 Michael Shay 6p Sara Hickman 8p,
 Bruce Hughes, Acoustic 10p

Sunday December 29th
 Gospel Brunch 11a,
 Sunday Bedlam 3p, Sam Baker & Friends 5p
 Geeks Who Drink Trivia 7p

Monday December 30th
 Juke Joint Prophets 4p,
 Hot Nut Riveters 6p Wrenfro 8p
 The Brothers Vinyl! 10p

Tuesday December 31st
 Grouchy Like Riley 4p Private Event 6p
 Happy New Year, Have Fun!
 Please don't Drink and Drive!

Wednesday January 1st
 Nate Rodriguez 6p
 Van Wilks 8p Dave Scher 10p

5326 Manchaca Rd, Austin, TX 78745
 512-828-7636

FLAMINGO CANTINA
 515 EAST 6TH STREET AUSTIN, TEXAS
 BRINGING GOOD VIBES TO AUSTIN FOR OVER 22 YEARS
www.flamingocantina.com

THU 12.19 DJ RICHARD HENRY

FRI 12.20 BENEFIT FOR THE PHILIPPINES
 DJRJ, LADY SHACKLIN,
 ISISTREN, CRUCIAL
 PROPHET + MORE

SAT 12.21 DUB GIDEON
 \$5

12.24 & 25: CLOSED MERRY XMAS!

FRI 12.27 END OF YEAR REGGAE JAM!
 DJ JAH FLEX +
 BABY G

SAT 12.28 FLACO JIMENEZ
 MAX BACA +
 LOS TEXMANIACS
 GRAMMY AWARD WINNERS!
 \$10

TUE 12.31 NYE REGGAE BASH!
 MAU MAU CHAPLAINS

12.29: BRIDGING THE MUSIC
 *****FREE WEEK*****

01.02: Ugly Elephant, Hotel Oscar
 01.03: The Bandulus + Friends
 01.04: Ashes of Babylon Album Release Party,
 Judivan Roots, DJ Isaiah
 01.07: Comedy Show
 01.08: Dreadneck Night with Mau Maus
 01.09: Frontier Live, Canned Beets, Groove
 Metrics
 01.10: Cilantro Boombox, Bamako Airlines, DJ
 JJ Lopez

PARISH

THU 12/19 A LIVE ONE (TWO SETS)
 WITH **MAMAFESTA**
 DOORS@9PM

FRI 12/20 MIDLAKE WITH
ISRAEL NASH
 (C3CONCERTS.COM)
 DOORS@8PM

SAT 12/21 LOVE AND
LIGHT WITH
SPANKALICIOUS
 DOORS@9PM

FRI 12/27 RE:EVOLUTION MEDIA PRESENTS:
NADIS
WARRIORS
 DOORS@9PM

SAT 12/28 SPOONFED
TRIBE WITH
HENRY + THE INVISIBLES,
HATCH, DJ BERLIN
 DOORS@7PM

MON 12/30 SHAKEY
GRAVES &
ROBERT ELLIS
 NIGHT 1 WITH **DANNY MALONE**
 DOORS@8PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE &
 AT THE BOX OFFICE OF THE PARISH UNDERGROUND
 214 East 6th Street ★ Austin, TX
www.TheParishAustin.com

CHEER UP CHARLIE'S

12/19: Neon Rainbows 90's Country Night w/ DJ Girlfriend and T-Lan

12/20: Queer Qumbia Dance Party

12/21: Five Things (Farewell CUC Show)
 9-10pm, OUTSIDE STAGE
 Shaky Graves, Love Inks
 10pm-12am, OUTSIDE STAGE
 DJ Honeycomb
 12-2am, INSIDE STAGE

12/22: McMercy Family Band 10-11pm
 Uncle Ted's Dirty Santa
 DJ Dance Party 11pm-2am

12/26: Netherfriends, Corduroi,
 & Selva Oscura 10pm-2am

1104 EAST 6TH • 431.2133

ONE-2-ONE
 LOCAL LIVE MUSIC

THU, DEC. 19
SONGWriters SERIES WITH
SUZANNA CHOFFEL, WILL EVANS,
NATHAN SINGLETON & DREW SMITH 7PM
FRANCIS (RYAN CARTER) 9:30PM
BLUE BEAR 11:30PM

FRI, DEC. 20
JOHNNIE GOUDIE 6PM
EXTREME HEAT 7:30PM
LISA TINGLE 7:30PM
UNDER THE SUN 9:30PM

SAT, DEC. 21
BILL CARTER 7:30PM
WATER & RUST 9:30PM
DAVE SCHER TRIO 11:30PM

SUN, DEC. 22
AMANDA CEVALLOS 9:30PM

MON, DEC. 23
DAN HARVEY & A IS RED 7PM
Motown Monday WITH
The Matchmaker Band 9PM
THE NIGHTOWLS 11:15PM

THU, DEC. 26
SONGWriters SERIES WITH
JON BECKHAM, DUSTIN WELCH,
GRAHAM WILKINSON, & DREW SMITH 7PM
NEW REVIVAL 9:30PM
THE TENNESSEE STIFFS 11:30PM

FRI, DEC. 27
FORGOTTEN SPACE
GRATEFUL DEAD TRIBUTE BAND 9PM

HAPPY HOUR DAILY 5-7PM • 125 FREE PARKING SPACES
 \$2 WELLS • DOMESTICS WEEKDAYS 5PM-7PM

1509 S. LAMAR 473-0121
ONE2ONEBAR.COM

(508 E. 6th Street)

Grand Opening! of the Palm Door on Sixth

80's

Breakfast Supper Club Feast & Dance Party Bash!

9pm-2am
New Year's Eve

Presented by
 Pink Avocado, Palm Door on Sabine,
 and Bread and Circus Supper Club

Purchase Tickets online at:
<https://breadandcircus.ticketbud.com/nye2013>

PALM DOOR ON SIXTH

Live DJ
 Photo Booth
 Costume Contest
 Light Bites from 9 to 11pm
 Midnight Champagne Toast
 All you can eat breakfast 12:30 to 2am
 Full cash bar with specialty cocktails, beer & wine

DJ set by **ulovei**

Ticket Price \$50 ea
 Ages 21 & Up

THE HISTORIC SCOOT INN

THU DEC 19 7:15PM
LAKE LADY & THE MOUNTAIN MAN,
JORDAN PRICE,
MARCUS BROWN,
ANTIQUES, DJ MAGIC B

FRI DEC 20 8:30PM
HENRY & THE INVISIBLES,
MEGAFUNA,
HOOKA HEY, MEGABIG

SAT DEC 21 9PM
THE GENTS,
THE CHORDEROYS,
FOG & BONE

SUN DEC 22 7PM
BAD SANTA PARTY

MON DEC 23 7:15PM
JOSEPH KING, DJ JOE G,
FAIRBANKS, DEEP ELLA

FRI JAN 17 7:30PM
THE BLIND PETS,
RESIDUAL KID,
DIRTY FEW,
PIZZA TIME

1308 EAST 4TH STREET AT NAVASOTA ★ AUSTIN, TX
scootinnaustin.com

THU, DEC. 19
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SUZANNA CHOFFEL, WILL EVANS,
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Motown Monday WITH
The Matchmaker Band 9PM
THE NIGHTOWLS 11:15PM

THU, DEC. 26
SONGWriters SERIES WITH
JON BECKHAM, DUSTIN WELCH,
GRAHAM WILKINSON, & DREW SMITH 7PM
NEW REVIVAL 9:30PM
THE TENNESSEE STIFFS 11:30PM

FRI, DEC. 27
FORGOTTEN SPACE
GRATEFUL DEAD TRIBUTE BAND 9PM

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LIVE MUSIC SHOWS TIMES

6:30-9PM at both locations unless otherwise noted

Café hours at both locations: 7am-9pm Sun-Thur; and 7am-10pm Fri & Sat

CENTRAL PARK

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Thursday, December 19

MATTHEW ROBINSON & THE JELLY KINGS
Blues Christmas Show

Friday, December 20

CARPER FAMILY BAND
country, Bluegrass Christmas Show

Saturday, December 21

ALBERT & GAGE The Christmas Show

Sunday, December 22

THE TEA MERCHANTS
Celtic Christmas Show

Thursday, December 26

LETICIA RORIGUEZ Latin

Friday, December 27

TAMECA JONES soul grooves

Saturday, December 28

WENDY COLONNA Gulf Coast soul

Sunday, December 29

CHARLES THIBODEAUX & THE AUSTIN CAJUN ACES

Thursday, January 2

BISCUIT GRABBERS Americana

Friday, January 3

NAGA VALLI India Soul Grooves

Saturday, January 4

RAY PRIM

Soul Grooves

Sunday, January 5

THE LOVE LEIGHTS

Swing

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Thursday, December 19

JAQUI WALKER soul blues

Friday, December 20

AKINA ADDERLEY'S CHRISTMAS SHOW
jazzy, bluesy Christmas Music

Saturday, December 21

ELIAS HASLANGER QUARTET
jazz

Thursday, December 26

DURAWA Americana

Friday, December 27

CIENFUEGOS cuban

Saturday, December 28

BELLTOWER jazzy soul blue

Thursday, January 5

MAGNIFICENT 5 swing

Friday, January 3

COPA KINGS swing

Saturday, January 4

HOT TEXAS SWING BAND
western swing

Thursday, January 9

HOLLYWOOD REVUE

soul

Friday, January 10

BLACKBIRD 3

Jazz

Saturday, January 11

THE LOST PINES

Bluegrass, Americana

Check out our Central Market Music 'You Tube' site: www.youtube.com/user/CentralMarketMusic

CLUB LISTINGS

FROM FRIDAY

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill

Bar: Weldon Henson; Starlings, TN (6:00)

EAST SIDE SHOW ROOM

Blue Squeeze Box ♪ (11:00)

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mariachi

Los Toros (8:30) Ⓐ

ELEPHANT ROOM Violet

Crown Revue w/ Liz Morphis (6:00); Beto y Los Fairlanes (9:30)

EMPIRE CONTROL ROOM

Sphynx, French Horn Rebellion (9:00) Ⓐ

FLAMINGO CANTINA Benefit

for the Philippines w/ Crucial Prophet, Isistren, Lady Shacklin, DJ RJ (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE

Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs (7:00) Ⓐ

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON

Jeremy Steding ♪, John Edward Baumann (6:00)

GRUENE HALL Holiday Show

w/ Warren Hood, Bruce Robison & Kelly Willis (8:00) Ⓐ

GÜERO'S TACO BAR The

Bob Fuentes Show (6:30)

HOLY MOUNTAIN New

Arrows, My Golden Calf, Magnet School (9:00)

INFEST Li'l J, Chris Chirp,

East 35, Smackola, Nook

IRON CACTUS NORTH David

Massey

THE LOST WELL DJ Crypt

LUCKY LOUNGE Princeton

Runaway (9:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS

Leeann Atherton (7:00) Ⓐ

MOHAWK Amanda Shires

(9:00) Ⓐ

MOONTOWER SALOON Clay

Compania (8:00)

NEWORLDELI Danny Britt

THE NOOK Public

Disturbance

ONE-2-ONE BAR Extreme

Heat, Lisa Tingle, Under the Sun (7:30)

PALMER EVENTS CENTER

Armadillo Bazaar w/ Suzanna Choffel, Eliza Gilkyson, Jimmy LaFave Ⓐ

PARISH Israel Nash, Midlake

(9:00) Ⓐ

POODIE'S HILLTOP

ROADHOUSE Charlie Pierce (4:00) Ⓐ, Wink Keziah, Libby Koch, Jimmy & the Mustangs (6:00) Ⓐ

RILEY'S TAVERN Tejas

Brothers (9:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE SIMS

Benefit w/ Samantha Lee, Jackie Venson, Chesterfield, Afrofreque (7:30)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR T.

Jarrold Bonta (7:30)

SAXON PUB Denny

Freeman (6:00), Red River Songwriters, Eric Tessmer (9:00)

THE SCOOT INN Megabig,

Hooka Hey, Megafauna, Henry + the Invisibles ♪ (9:00) Ⓐ

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Suede

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS NORTH

Matt Cline (9:00)

SPEAKEASY Continuums

(9:30)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE

SIDE David Ducharme-Jones ♪ (6:00); the Bell Sounds, Strange Nang (8:00) Ⓐ

SWAN DIVE Coattails, Sun

Machine, Sucka Please

TEXAS MIST DJ Joe

Hernandez (9:00)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Sean

Evans

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TEXAS RENEGADE 10PM

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DEC 27 DEVIL'S HOLLOW (JACKIE VENSON OPENS)
DEC 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH DOCTOR G & THE MUDCATS
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9 PM ▶ Ⓐ MRS. GLASS THE JAKE LEVINSON BAND COME SEE MY DEAD PERSON (HOUSTON TX)
9 PM ▶ Ⓐ RICK BROUSSARD'S TWO HOOT AND A HOLLAR BIG BRITCHES

SUNDAY 22: MONDAY 23: TUESDAY 24: WEDNESDAY 25:

9 PM ▶ AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT
9 PM ▶ JUNKYARD MONGRELS / BLUEBIRD SPECIALS / JOSH BUCKLEY
10 PM ▶ Ⓐ CHRISTMAS EVE
9 PM ▶ CHRISTMAS KARAOKE

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INFEST

THURS. 12/19 ⇒ LOCAL MUSIC NIGHT W/ PAIN THROUGH FATE, HAZARD OF THE INDUSTRY DRAGON BLOOD SEX MACHINE & EVIL COME EVIL GO. 8PM. \$5.

FRI. 12/20 ⇒ WHO CAN PULL THE BIGGEST CROWD? JUDGING AND SPECIAL PERFORMANCES BY: NOOK, SMACKOLA OF DIRTY WORMZ LIL J OF LOEG'Z, EAST 35, CHRIS CHIRP, LIL SICC, GERALD G AND AUSTIN MARTIN! 9PM.

SAT. 12/21 ⇒ THE WHITE OUT PARTY - OFFICIAL COMING OUT PARTY FOR MILLION DOLLAR MODELS "MODELS OF SUCCESS" W/ DJ FIRE & DJ JB. 9PM.

SUN. 12/22 ⇒ FASTER PUSSYCAT W/ DHARMA KINGS (FEAT. AUSTIN'S OWN DAVID KOMIE), THE BLITZ & CARMELI. 7PM. \$15.

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THU 19
MARSHALL OWEN 10P
CONTRABANDITS 11P
LOS FEDERALES 12A

FRI 20
SIMS BENEFIT
SAMANTHA LEE 7:30P
JACKIE VENSON 8:45P
CHESTERFIELD 10P
AFROFREQUE 11:30P

SAT 21
LES BROUVAS
(FROM FRENCH RIVIERA) 8P
HUERTA CULTURE 10P
ZOUMOUNTCHI 12A

SUN 22
MARKET BAZAAR 5P
THADDEUS DENTON 8P

MON 23
HOLIDAY SONG SWAP 8P
JOHN EVANS, GRAHAM WILKINSON,
JONNY BURKE, ROMI MAYES
THE HANG (JAMES SOLO) 11P

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EDDIE & THE EVEREADYS

FRI. 12.20 • 8PM
CLAY CAMPAGNIA

SAT. 12.21 • 8PM
BRACKEN HALE

SUN. 12.22 • 3PM
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CLUB LISTINGS

FROM FRIDAY

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS

Ralph & Walter, Shawn David McMillen's Mancat House Band, Eldritch Cleaver (7:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN

Bottom Feeders (6:00); Lonesome Heroes, Chuck Fleming, Victor Holk (10:00)

THE WHITE HORSE

Zydeco Dance Lessons, Gumbo Ce Soir (6:30)

SATURDAY

311 CLUB

Joe Valentine (7:00) **A**

ANDERSON MILL TAVERN

Melodic Drifters

ANTONE'S

Hard Proof Afrobeat, Mingo Fishtrap (9:00) **A**

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO.

Shoulders' Holiday Extravaganza (9:00) **A**

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL

Dahebegebees

BAT BAR

Street Kingz (4:00)

BEERLAND

Ghetto Ghouls, the Gospel Truth, Sweet Talk, the Flesh Lights, Buck Biloxi & the Fucks (9:00) **A**

BOURBON GIRL

Tarantulas

BRASS HOUSE

Suzi Stern (8:00) **A**

BROKEN SPOKE

Eric Besaw, Dance Lessons, the Derailers (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE

Ron Titter Band, Chablis, the Blitzens (9:00) **A**

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH

Albert & Gage Christmas Show (6:30) **A**

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH

Elias Haslanger (6:30) **A**

CHEATHAM STREET

Warehouse Christmas Party Potluck w/ Texas Renegade (7:30)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Tish & Misbehavin' (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB

Gallery: Scarlett Olson, Mike Flanigin Trio (8:30); In the Club: Redd Volkaert (3:30), Latasha Lee & the Black Ties, T Bird & the Breaks (10:00)

CU-29 Ron & Sam (9:00)

DIRTY DOG BAR

Insurgence, Casket of Cassandra, Beyond Gods & Empires, Blood for Master (8:00) **A**

DIZZY ROOSTER Sugarbomb

DONN'S DEPOT

Nash Hernandez Orchestra

THE DRAG BAR

Skyline, Bret Coats (8:00)

THE DRISKILL HOTEL

Driskill Bar: Sour Bridges (9:00)

EAST SIDE SHOW ROOM

Hau'n's Mill (11:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM

Ephraim Owens Quintet (9:30)

EMO'S

Two Tons of Steel, Dale Watson, Reverend Horton Heat (9:00) **A**

FLAMINGO CANTINA

Dub Gideon (9:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON

Modern Don Juans (9:00) **A**

GRUENE HALL

Traveling Red River Circus (1:00), Reckless Kelly (9:00) **A**

GÜERO'S TACO BAR

Los Tipicos de Cuba (2:30), the Banzai Project (6:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL

Two Hoots & a Holler (10:00) **A**

HOLY MOUNTAIN

Grape St., Mirror Travel, John Wesley Coleman (9:00) **A**

INFEST

White Out Party w/ DJ Fire, DJ JB

THE LOST WELL

Profane Anything Band

LUCKY LOUNGE

DJ Sean Soul

MOHAWK

Orthy, Autobody (8:00) **A**

MOONTOWER SALOON

Bracken Hale (8:00)

NEWORLDELI Jim Scarborough

THE NOOK Matt Cline

ONE WORLD THEATRE

Gospel According to Jazz Christmas w/ Gerald Albright, Lalah Hathaway, Kirk Whalum (7:00, 9:30) **A**

ONE-2-ONE BAR

Water & Rust, Dave Scher Trio (9:30)

PALMER EVENTS CENTER

Armadillo Bazaar w/ Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland, Alpha Rev **A**

PARISH

Spankalicious, Love & Light (10:00) **A**

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE

The Everydudes (4:00) **A**, Texas KGB, Cody Joe Hodges (8:00) **A**

RED 7

8Ball & MJG (9:00) **A**

RILEY'S TAVERN

Sam Bentley (9:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE

Les Brouvas, Huerta Culture, Zoumountchi (8:00) **A**

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR

Matt Farrell (7:30)

SAXON PUB

Wink Keziah (3:00); Bruce Brewski, Carson McHone, Guy Forsyth (8:00)

THE SCOOT INN

Fog & Bone, the Chorderoys, the Gents (9:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL

The Crush

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS

CEDAR PARK LC Rocks (9:30)

SPEAKEASY

Cilantro Boombox, Suns of Orpheus (10:00)

STATESIDE AT THE PARAMOUNT

Love. w/ Hedda Layne, Hedda Layne, Ginger Leigh, Patrice Pike, Wendy Colonna, Shelley King (7:00)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE

Side Hey Lollies (11:00am); Jane Bond, Colin Gilmore & Nicolette Good, Bruce Hughes (6:00) **A**

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 9:15PM **JESSE DAYTON**

FRI, DEC 20 6-8PM **BAND IN RESTAURANT**
 8-9PM **DANCE LESSONS**
 9:30PM **BASTARD SONS OF JOHNNY CASH**

SAT, DEC 21 6-8PM **BAND IN RESTAURANT**
 8-9PM **DANCE LESSONS**
 9:30PM **THE DERAILERS**

TUE, DEC 24 CLOSED

WED, DEC 25 CLOSED **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

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FRIDAY DECEMBER 27
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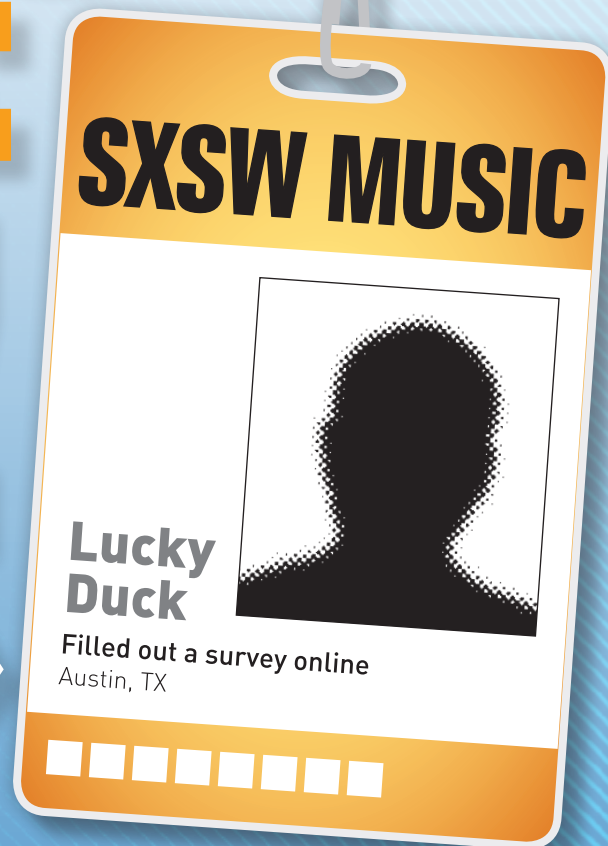
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CLUB LISTINGS

FROM SATURDAY

STUBB'S Merriment, Sherri
DuPree, Matt Pryor, Max
Bemis (8:30) Ⓡ

SWAN DIVE Kev Bev Collins,
Woodland Creatures

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Guilty
Pleasures

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS
Bone Orchard, Circle of
Vultures, Old Cave (7:00)
ⓇⓂ

TRIPLE CROWN Those
Nights, Gary Newcomb Trio,
Salt Water Shoes

SUNDAY

**AUSTIN BEER GARDEN
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Rodriguez, Bob Appel, Two
Day Suitcase (3:00)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL
Open Mic (7:00)

BB ROVERS Open Mic
(7:00) Ⓜ

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB
Irish Tune Session (9:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH
Tea Merchants (noon) Ⓜ

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery:
Whitmore-Graham Guitar Pull,
Dupree (8:30); In the Club:
Planet Casper (3:30); the
Wagoneers, Heybale! (7:30)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly
Playboyz (7:00) Ⓜ

**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER
GRILLE** Kris Kimura
(7:00) Ⓜ

ELEPHANT ROOM Kevin
Lovejoy Trio (9:30)

FRIENDS J.T Coldfire (5:30),
Blues Jam (9:00)

**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN
SALOON** Dale Watson
(4:00), the Sour Bridges
(8:30)

**GREEN PASTURES
RESTAURANT** Jacques
Vilmain (11:00am) Ⓜ

GRUENE HALL Tish Hinojosa
(12:30) Ⓜ

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Michael
Guerra (3:00)

HOUSE WINE Justin Landers
(6:00)

INFEST Carmeci, the Blitz,
Dharma Kings, Faster
Pussycat (7:00) ⓇⓂ

MOHAWK Bang Feather
Bang, Little Science, 3D
Friends (9:00)

MOONTOWER SALOON
Lucas Cook (3:00)

NEWORLDELI Uke Jam

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java
Jazz (11:00am) Ⓜ

THE OASIS The Brew Ⓜ

ONE-2-ONE BAR Possum
Posse (7:30), Amanda
Cevallos (9:30)

PALMER EVENTS CENTER
Armadillo Bazaar w/ Sons
of Fathers, Marcia Ball w/
Sarah Elizabeth Campbell,
the Band of Heathens Ⓜ

**POODIE'S HILLTOP
ROADHOUSE** Tessa Lou &
the Shotgun Stars (4:00),
Jon Napier (7:30) Ⓜ

RATTLE INN Lucas Hudgins &
the First Cousins (7:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE
Market Bazaar (5:00),
Thaddeus Denton (9:00)

SAXON PUB Welch Family
Christmas (3:00),
John Gaar (5:30), the
Resentments (7:30), Hill
Country Gentlemen (10:30)

THE SCOOT INN Bad Santa
(5:00)

SPEAKEASY Open Turntable

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE
SIDE Purgatory Players
(11:00am) Ⓜ, Sunday
Bedlam, Sam Baker
(3:00) Ⓜ

STUBB'S The Durdens
(11:00am)

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ
The Bells of Joy (11:00am)
ⓇⓂ

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic

Z'TEJAS The Jitterbug Vipers
(6:00)

MONDAY

ANTONE'S Blue Monday w/
Derek O'Brien (6:00) Ⓜ,
Austin Blues Society Open
Mic (8:00) Ⓜ

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB
Open Mic (8:00)

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco
(6:30) Ⓜ

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery:
Church on Monday,
Kalu James ♪ (8:30); In
the Club: the Peterson
Brothers (6:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Brian
Kremer (6:00)

**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER
GRILLE** Mark Goodwin
(7:00) Ⓜ, Kris Kimura
(7:00) Ⓜ

ELEPHANT ROOM The
Jitterbug Vipers (6:00),
Jazz Jam w/ Pete Rodriguez
(9:30)

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles
Thibodeaux & the Austin
Cajun Aces (6:30) Ⓜ

**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN
SALOON** Texas Mavericks
Doug Sahn Christmas
Hoot Night (8:00)

GRUENE HALL The Kirks
(6:00) Ⓜ

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LEGENDARY WHITE SWAN
Little Elmore Reed Blues
Band (9:00) Ⓡ

**MOZART'S COFFEE
ROASTERS** John
Wilson Ⓜ

NASTY'S DJ Mel

NEWORLDELI Open Mic w/
Hudson James (5:30)

ONE-2-ONE BAR Don
Harvey & A Is Red (7:00),
MatchMaker Band, Ryan
Harkrider & the Nightowls
(9:00)

**PALMER EVENTS
CENTER** Armadillo Bazaar
w/ Terri Hendrix, Hot Club
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CLUB LISTINGS

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Songwriters w/ WC Jameson, Jon Napier **A**

RATTLE INN Brennen Leigh (9:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ John Whipple (9:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Holiday Song Swap w/ John Evans, Graham Wilkinson, Jonny Burke, Romi Mayes, Chris King & the Liberators, the Hang (7:00)

SAXON PUB Ari Neufeld, Lonelyland, Ashley Monical (7:00)

THE SCOOT INN Deep Ella, Fairbanks, DJ Joe G, Joseph King (8:00)

SHENANIGANS Open Blues Jam w/ Breck English (7:30)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Faron

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Juke Joint Prophets (4:00); Hot Nut Riveters (6:00); Wrenfro, the Brothers Vinyl (8:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN Everyday's a Hollyday (6:00), Chief & the Doomsday Device

VICTORY GRILL Open Pro Blues Jam w/ Matthew Robinson, Harold McMillan (9:00)

TUESDAY

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne Smith (7:00)

THE DOGWOOD Colt Landon Baker (7:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EAST SIDE SHOW ROOM DJ Gatsby (10:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00), Jolly Jazzers (9:30)

ELYSIUM Eurotrash (10:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen (9:00) **A**

HALCYON Dwight Smith (10:00) **A**

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LEGENDARY WHITE SWAN Ortiz Brothers Blues Condition (8:00) **A**

LUCKY LOUNGE Mazel Ball (9:00)

PALMER EVENTS

CENTER Armadillo Bazaar w/ Albert & Gage, the Jitterbug Vipers, Bill Kirchen w/ Connie Hancock **A**, Texana Dames, Bill Kirchen **A**

RATTLE INN George Devore's Backstage Jam (9:00)

SAXON PUB David Grissom (6:00), Lisa Tingle, Christmas Eve Show (6:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Faron

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Bill Davis (9:00)

SPEAKEASY Open Mic

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Grouchy Like Riley (4:00); Durawa, Apostles of Manchaca, David Hamburger (6:00) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN Emily Herring (6:00) **A**

Z'TEJAS Robert Kelly (6:00)

WEDNESDAY

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Bill Carter; Trube, Farrell & Sniz (8:30); In the Club: Dale Watson & His Lonestars Christmas Dance (9:00) **A**

DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Honky Tonk Doctors

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Derral Gleason, Freddy Steady KRC & Emily Grace Berry (6:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Alex Coke, Rich Harney (9:30)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Tracie Lynn (9:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE The Wyldz (10:00)

SAXON PUB Miss Lavelle White's Christmas Show (8:00) **A**

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Encore

SPEAKEASY Modern Day Midas

TRIPLE CROWN Attic Ted, We Deal in Lead, Unsurpassed Profit (10:00)

THURSDAY

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. David Beebe & the Conrads (8:00)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Karl Morgan

BAT BAR Jordan Dewbre (4:00), Phil Luna (7:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Dirty Cello (7:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Leticia Rodriguez (6:30) **A**

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Durawa (6:30) **A**

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle,

CONTINENTAL CLUB

Gallery: Sit Down Servant, Tameca Jones (8:30); In the Club: the Whiskey Sisters (6:30), Jon Dee Graham & James McMurtry BAH HUMBUG Holiday Show (10:00)

THE DRAG BAR Sanchez Mac (9:00)

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Derral Gleason, Paula Held (6:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith, Brannen Temple

FRANK ERWIN CENTER Trans-Siberian Orchestra: *The Lost Christmas Eve* (6:00) **A**

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON John Evans (6:00), Alvin Crow (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Tommy Elskes & Van Wilks (6:00) **A**

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Loose Wheels (6:30)

HOLY MOUNTAIN Oh Antonio + His Imaginary Friends, Happy Campers, Snapping Chowsky (9:00) **A**

MERCER STREET DANCEHALL Doug Moreland & the Flying Armadillos (7:30)

ONE-2-ONE BAR Drew Smith, Graham Wilkinson, Dustin Welch, Jon Beckham (7:00); New Revival, the Tennessee Stiffs (9:30) **A**

REMEDY 90's w/ DJ Mighty Fly (10:00)

RUSSIAN HOUSE East Side Dandies **A**

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Jeff Lofton Trio (6:30)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Rick McRae (7:00)

SAXON PUB Eightysixed (6:00), Patrice Pike, Jerry Fuentes (8:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL The Max

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Billy Bacon (4:00), Kacy Crowley, Miles Zuniga, Matt the Electrician (6:00) **A**, Billy Bacon (4:00); Robert LaRoche w/ David Perales, Miles Zuniga, Matt the Electrician (6:00) **A**

TOM'S TABOOLEY Mark Garrison (4:00) **A**, Ben Livingston (6:30) **A**

TRIPLE CROWN David Harris (6:00); 'Merica Made in China, the Flying Buttresses, Marcus Morales (10:00)

Z'TEJAS The Brew (6:00)

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"Gifting!"

The LUV DOC

Dear Luv Doc,

I can never think of what to buy my wife for Christmas, and when I ask her, she says she has everything she needs. It's true. When she needs something, she buys it. What do you get for someone who has everything?

— Thoughtless

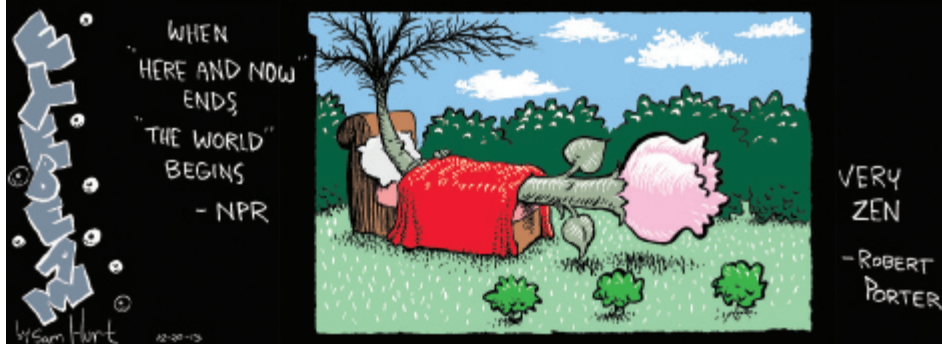
That's easy, Thoughtless, just get her what she *wants*: a billionaire husband who looks like Taylor Kitsch. She already has what she *needs*: you. No offense, but you're kind of like duct tape on a radiator hose: necessary but not optimal. Clearly you're getting the job done, so kudos on that. She can limp down the road until she gets to her final destination, but wouldn't it be great if she could blaze her way there in a Lamborghini Veneno? If you don't know what that is, Duct Tape, let me tell you. It is the most expensive car in the world. It clocks in at \$3.9 million. Yes, dollars. I would tell you to buy one, but the only three ever made have already been sold – probably to really thoughtful billionaires who look like Taylor Kitsch and really care about their wives. You can order one, but it's not going to be on your doorstep by Christmas – not even with Amazon Prime. Truth is, there is a pretty decent chance that your wife doesn't even want a Veneno for Christmas. I know that sounds completely insane, but there are some people for whom the thought of owning an outrageously expensive, high-performance, luxury sports car does absolutely nothing. Usually those are people who can't afford one. They're also called liars, but I don't want to get into name-calling. After all, it's the holidays! For all I know, your wife doesn't even know how to drive. If you're lucky (and I hope you are), she's into something more pedestrian ... like Beanie Babies ... or seashell art ... or crochet. That shit is off the hook, yo! (Someone should crochet a sweater that says that.) Anyway, the point is that if you don't know what your wife is into, you need to figure that shit out. You're probably going to have to talk to her ... or at the very least her children (works for me) ... and find out what gets her excited, then go and get something that feeds that excitement – even if it means hiring a Taylor Kitsch look-alike (or Taylor himself if that's how strong you roll) to pose for her sculpture class wearing a baby-oil-greased vinyl banana-hammock. Texas forever. The bottom line is this: You need to communicate with your wife and find out what it is that truly gives her pleasure and then somehow make it happen. That's what thoughtfulness is. I'll be honest with you though: I'm fucking miserable at it, but I have high hopes for you, Duct Tape, very high hopes.

a SHOT in the DARK

BENDER BREAK-UP BOY
Do you do the weird stuff? I said if it weren't for the BF, I'd be all over you m'damnself, but he's generous and kink-curious... Interested or just flattered? **When: Saturday, November 16, 2013. Where: Bender Bar and Grill. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900004**

**NEED SOME ADVICE FROM THE LUV DOC?
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COMIX



PEPPERMINT TEARS

RYAN HENNESSEE 2013



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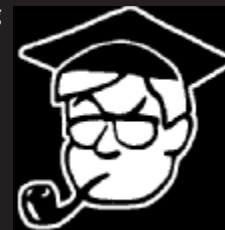
The first telegraphs came in the form of optical telegraphs, including the use of smoke signals, beacons, or reflected light. A semaphore network invented by Claude Chappe operated in France from 1792 through 1846 and was widely imitated throughout Europe and the U.S. The last commercial semaphore link ended in Sweden in 1880.

According to author Matthew Hart, a loaf of bread costs \$12 on the black market in the gold mine tunnels of South Africa.

Since 1990, the proportion of women crossing the finish line in running events has more than doubled (25% in 1990, to 56% in 2012).

According to Pro-Football-Reference.com, this season's NFL kickers have made 99.6% of their extra points and 85.9% of their field goals, both records for any season to date.

According to writer Richard J. Miller, coca leaves are still used to flavor Coca Cola, after most of the cocaine content is removed.



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 mрпиants@austinchronicle.com.

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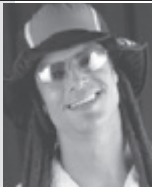
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LEGAL

Application has been made with The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Beer Retail dealer's on premise license by Blue Crystal SEC Inc. DBA Senior Billiard Club at 15803 Windermere Dr # 206 Pflugerville TX 78660, Travis County. Dan Nguyen is president.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit and Mixed Beverage Late Hours Permit to be held by The Original Hoffbrau, Inc. dba The Hoffbrau located at 613 W 6th Street, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78701. President/Secretary of said company is Zachary Ray.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Package Store Permit, and Beer Retailer's Off Premise Permit by Georgie's All American LLC, dba All American Discount Liquors to be located at 411 Brazos St. Ste. 100, Austin, Travis County, TX 78701. Officers are Abraham George, member.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-13-000210 TO: GROVER SMITH Defendant, in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your Attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, the same being JANUARY 20, 2014, a default judgment may be taken against you. CAUSE NUMBER: C-1-CV-13-007921, GARCIA V SMITH Filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW #2, Heman Marion Sweatt Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas, on August 27, 2013. STYLED: GARCIA V SMITH NATURE OF SUIT: DECEP-

TIVE TRADE PRACTICES Given under my hand and seal of Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk on December 02, 2013. County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 149325, Austin, Texas 78714-9325 By Deputy: /s/ A. DURAN Plaintiff Attorney: MARTIN JAY CIRKIEL 1901 E PALM VALLEY BLVD ROUND ROCK, TX 78664-9421

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-12-006645 TO: JOSE RUIZ 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, 126TH 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 AND TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER of MARCY ZAPALAC Petitioner(s), filed in said court on AUGUST 8, 2013, against JOSE CARMEN RUIZ-MONDRAGON and said suit being entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF KAITLYN JAZMIN ZAPALAC, A CHILD", the nature of which suit is a request ORIGINAL PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP AND TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER The Name, Birth date, and Place of Birth of said is as follows: KAITLYN JAZMIN RUIZ-MONDRAGON MARCH 4, 2010 AUSTIN, TX

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, and 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, December 13, 2013. AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA Travis County District Clerk Travis County Courthouse 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767) Austin, Texas 78701 By /s/ CASTILLO MONTOYA ROSALINDA, Deputy REQUESTED BY: KAREN WANG 1601 E. CAESAR CHAVEZ STE 105 AUSTIN, TX 78702 BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 468-8003 FAX: (512) 852-4574

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-13-000210 TO: ROSARIO MABEL REYES 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

NOTICES cont.

District Court, 53RD 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 FOR CONSERVATORSHIP IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP, AND MOTION FOR DECLARATION OF DEPENDENCY filed in said court on JAN 14, 2013, and said suit being number D-1-FM-13-000210 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF ADONIS E. DELARCA-REYES, A CHILD". The nature of said suit is a request to appoint managing and possessory conservators. 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, December 13, 2013.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ FERNANDEZ JAMES A, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
SUSANNA CASTILLO LITTLE-JOHN
812 SAN ANTONIO STREET,
SUITE G-23
AUSTIN, TX 78701
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 377-1663
FAX: (512) 777-4902

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-13-006717
To: ANTONIO AGUILAR GARCIA and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. 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, 98TH 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 filed in said court on DEC 04, 2013, MOTION FOR TEMPORARY ORDER, filed in said court on DEC 17, 2013, and NOTICE OF SETTING FOR WED-JAN-15-2013 at 8:30 a.m. FAMILY DOCKET, filed in said court on DEC-17-2013 and said suit being number D-1-FM-13-006717 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF MAYRA LIZETH AGUILAR DE LA CRUZ AND ANTONIO ZEDRICK AGUILAR DE LA CRUZ. The nature of said suit is a request to appoint managing and possessory conservators. 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, December 17, 2013.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ FERNANDEZ JAMES A, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
SUSANNA CASTILLO LITTLE-JOHN
812 SAN ANTONIO STREET,
SUITE G-23
AUSTIN, TX 78701
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 377-1663
FAX: (512) 777-4902

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-13-003970
To: MARTIN JAIMES DIAZ and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. 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, 126TH 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 filed in said court on JULY 16, 2013, MOTION FOR TEMPORARY ORDER, filed in said court on DEC 4, 2013, and NOTICE OF SETTING FOR WED-JAN-15-2013 at 8:30 a.m. FAMILY DOCKET, filed in said court on DEC-17-2013 and said suit being number D-1-FM-13-003970 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF MARTIN JAMES CRUZ AND VALERIA JAIMES CRUZ, CHILDREN. The nature of said suit is a request to appoint managing and possessory conservators. 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, December 17, 2013.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ FERNANDEZ JAMES A, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
SUSANNA CASTILLO LITTLE-JOHN
812 SAN ANTONIO STREET,
SUITE G-23
AUSTIN, TX 78701
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 377-1663
FAX: (512) 777-4902

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-13-006717
To: ANTONIO AGUILAR GARCIA and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. 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, 98TH 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 filed in said court on DEC 04, 2013, MOTION FOR TEMPORARY ORDER, filed in said court on DEC 17, 2013, and NOTICE OF SETTING FOR WED-JAN-15-2013 at 8:30 a.m. FAMILY DOCKET, filed in said court on DEC-17-2013 and said suit being number D-1-FM-13-006717 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF MAYRA LIZETH AGUILAR DE LA CRUZ AND ANTONIO ZEDRICK AGUILAR DE LA CRUZ. The nature of said suit is a request to appoint managing and possessory conservators. 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, December 17, 2013.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ FERNANDEZ JAMES A, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
SUSANNA CASTILLO LITTLE-JOHN
812 SAN ANTONIO STREET,
SUITE G-23
AUSTIN, TX 78701
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 377-1663
FAX: (512) 777-4902

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF EDGAR RAY FINCHER III Deceased, No. C-1-PB-13-001111 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.
MIRNA G PARTIDA aka MIRNA PARTIDA FINCHER and all The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed in Probate Court No. 1, Heman Marion Sweatt Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas, on December 13, 2013, an Amended Application to Determine Heirship, for Appointment of Independent Administration 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 EDGAR RAY FINCHER III, 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 December 16, 2013.

Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. BOX 149325
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ O. RUIZ

D-1-GV-00-000571 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98TH District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-00-000571, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Austin Community College, Leander Independent School District and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 14 are plaintiffs, and Paul Mathieson, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns & successors of the Estate of Paul Mathieson are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$13,088.32** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 22, 2012.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 7, Resubdivision of Tract No. 33 of Lake Travis Subdivision, Plat No. 4/140 as described in Volume 3016, Page 1320 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$13,088.32** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-11-000820 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-

QUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 419TH District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-11-000820, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Jonestown, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Mark Eaves, Mark Patterson (In Rem Only) and Frances Patterson (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Billing Number: 67917 = \$2,884.19 and Billing Number 67918 = \$12,650.54** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 419TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 2, 2011.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Billing Number: 67917 Lot 722, Jonestown Hills-Unit 6, Plat No. 19/90, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Document number 2008122429 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Billing Number: 67917 = \$2,884.19 and Billing Number 67918 = \$12,650.54** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-11-001017 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-11-001017, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Don D. Ford III, Dependent Administrator of the Estate of Michael John Wimble, Deceased, Sean M. Wimble, Robert Alan Benson (In Rem Only), Yasseman Benson a/k/a Yasseman Moayed Benson (In Rem Only) and United States of America/Internal Revenue Service (In

Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$17,155.68** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 2, 2012.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **5.162 acre tract out of Lot 30, Panoramic Hills, Plat No. 38/50 as described in Volume 13362, Page 1368 and Probate Cause No. C1-PB-09-001699 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$17,155.68** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-000412 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98TH District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-000412, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Austin Community College, Leander Independent School District and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 14 are plaintiffs, and Lei Laney a/k/a Leila Marie Laney n/k/a Leila Marie Mauney, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Lei Laney a/k/a Leila Marie Laney n/k/a Leila Marie Mauney are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,687.84** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on January 8, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 11, Resubdivision of Tract No. 33 of Lake Travis Subdivision No. 9, Plat No. 4/140 as described in Volume 3902, Page 1370 and Volume 6755, Page 1884 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,687.84** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said

suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001249 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53RD District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001249, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No.1, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Russell Carrow and United States of America (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Billing Number 821341 = \$6,430.09 and Billing Number 821342 = \$6,630.60** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53RD District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 21, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Billing Number: 821341 Lot 4, Block 1, Round Mountain Oaks Revision of a Portion of Lot 44, Plat No. 200700139 as described in Document number 2008037907 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas**

Billing Number: 821342 Lot 3, Block 1, Round Mountain Oaks Revision of a Portion of Lot 44, Plat No. 200700139 as described in Document number 2008037907 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Billing Number 821341 = \$6,430.09 and Billing Number 821342 = \$6,630.60** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER

INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001261 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001261, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Jonestown, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Phil Mockford, Trustee are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$11,163.32** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 13, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lots 13 and 14, Jonestown Hills-Unit No. 3, Plat No. 14/2 as described in Document number 2007003036 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$11,163.32** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER

PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001268 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53RD District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001268, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Charles A. Plato and United States of America (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$15,384.01** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53RD District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 23, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 87, Leander Hills, Section 2, Plat No. 85/73A as described in Document number 2007028059 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.**


THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$15,384.01** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013.

CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE

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PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001298 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE OF a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53RD District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001298, wherein Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health and Austin Community College are plaintiffs, and Thelma Denman, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, assigns, successors and heirs of the Estate of Thelma Denman and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$14,495.14** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53RD District Court of Travis County, Texas, on May 23, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 6, Block 6, St. John's Home Addition, Plat No. 4/42 as described in Volume 652, Page 518 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$14,495.14** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001309 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE OF a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001309, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and William A. House are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$7,339.18** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 7, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed

to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 168B, Resubdivision of Lots 168, 169 and 170, Sandy Creek Ranches, Phase Five, Plat No. 66/67 as described in Document number 2001019529 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$7,339.18** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001533 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE OF a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200TH District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001533, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Leroy H. Davis, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns & successors of the Estate of Leroy H. Davis and Dorothy M. Davis, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns & successors of the Estate of Dorothy M. Davis are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$8,852.28** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 19, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 174, Sandy Creek Ranches, Phase Six, Plat No. 66/68 as described in Document number 2002237805 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$8,852.28** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS

IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001546 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE OF a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001546, wherein Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Jonestown, Austin Community College and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Olan Dwayne Poteet are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$7,040.79** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 27, 2013.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lots 27 and 28, Unit No. 4 Addition to Jonestown Hills, Plat No. 14/29 as described in Document number 1999077172 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$7,040.79** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-12-001558 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE OF a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-12-001558, wherein City of Austin, Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health, Manor Independent School District and Austin Community College are plaintiffs, and Art Collection, Inc., Dynamic Finance Corporation (In Rem Only), Propel Financial Services, LLC (In Rem Only) and Longaro & Clarke, L.P. (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$8,693.61** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis

County, Texas, on May 17, 2013. I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **3.553 acres, more or less, out Margarito Castro Sur. 50, being that 63.279 acre tract as described in Document number 2003229900, Save and Except that portion of the 63.279 acre tract as conveyed in Document number 2003234940 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$8,693.61** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanterman DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-302541 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE OF a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353RD District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2013 in a certain cause numbered GV-302541, wherein Austin Community College, Leander Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Peggy Jean Marbut (In Rem Only), if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns & successors of the Estate of Peggy Jean Marbut, Sally Finley Cox, State of Texas/Bond Forfeiture Section (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$5,801.03** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353RD District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 22, 2011.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2013, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of January, 2014 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: **Lot 14-4, Leander Hills, Plat No. 83/109A as described in Document number 2004142583 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.** THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$5,801.03** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 2013. CARLOS B. LOPEZ, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Sergeant Charles Lanter-

man DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

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. LP-LA-VVVW119 2008 INFINITI G35X; SILVER VIN-JNKBV61F68M280154 ACCIDENT - ROUND ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT 11/22/2013 @ 10:00 PM LOCATION - 740 ROUND ROCK AVENUE, ROUND ROCK TX Aviles & Gabes Wrecker Service, Inc. 2311 W Howard Ln Austin, TX 78728

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation: **STOP SIGNS ON COLEMAN BRANCH CREEK ROAD, WEBBERWOOD RIDGE DRIVE, AND WEBBER OAKS COVE; AND SET MAXIMUM PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMITS ON DECKER LAKE ROAD, ALL IN PRECINCT ONE.**

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposal action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the State's Self-Storage Facility Lien Law, on **January 7, 2014**, following the sale at our self storage facility located at 12506 N. Lamar Blvd. Austin, TX 78753, CubeSmart General Manager, states that the following property is being sold to satisfy the landlord's lien and will sell at public sale: **CubeSmart #6324 2220 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, TX 78741** Yvonne Rena Lewis Felipe Nieto Cynthia Covarrubia Dale Alan Shaffer Andrew Walter Bruce Olga Morales Ron Hernandez World Class Cage Fighting Taishawn Thompson Tracey Suire Philip Clayton Owen Karl Herrera William Brown Norma Guerrero Berniece Pleasant-Jones Annge Jones Avalos-Uresti, Naomi Candale

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Notice is hereby given that

pursuant to the State's Self-Storage Facility Lien Law, on **January 7, 2014**, following the sale at our self storage facility located at 2220 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, TX, 78741, CubeSmart General Manager, states that the following property is being sold to satisfy the landlord's lien and will sell at public sale: **CubeSmart #0751 610 E. Stassney Lane Austin, TX 78745** Anna Marie Feiler Bobbie Addison Eulalio Gonzales Alaona M. Gonzalez **CubeSmart #0753 10025 Manchaca Rd. Austin, TX 78748** Eric Ludzenski Eric Ludzenski Risijaya Liyanapatabendy

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien. **Sale is 10:00 am, January 10, 2014.** Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash at the time of auction. Cleanup and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves right to withdraw property from sale or not accept any bidder. Property will be sold in entire contents of each individual storage unit. Property includes contents of spaces of following tenants: Carina Correa, Patricia Strow, Ashlee Keim, Michelle Lee Conteras, Steve Wilson, Tommy Dean Rodriguez, Aracely Rodriguez, and Joann Guzman. Property being sold includes the following: Toys, TV, clothes, shoes, vacuums, chairs, tables, dresser drawers, sofas, refrigerator, lamps, mini racers, kitchenware, grills, utility rack. Contact Lockaway Storage 7320 E. Ben White Blvd. Austin, TX, 78741. 512-385-4777

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien. **Sale is 11:30pm, January 10, 2014.** Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash at the time of auction. Cleanup and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves right to withdraw property from sale or not accept any bidder. Property will be sold in entire contents of each individual storage unit. Property includes contents of spaces of following tenants: Denise Berry, Melissa Welch, Christine Claypool, Arian Rostimi, Christopher Shuack, Robert Hayse, Minerva Farthing, Anna-Ayn Osuch. Property being sold includes the following: Furniture, boxes, artwork, bedding, appliances, shoes, memorabilia, tools, A/C unit, dolly, books, cooler. Contact Lockaway Storage 9910 Slaughter Creek Dr., Austin, TX, 78748. 512-282-7807

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Ch 59 of the Texas Property code, Stow Away Storage located at 2051 Lohmans Spur, Lakeway, TX 78734 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord lien. Auction will take place on Jan 3, 2013 at 11:00 am. Property will be sold to the highest bidder and includes household items from the following tenants: Austin Waterscape Design-shelving, equipment; Canos Total Yard-care; Don Hillin-furniture, golf clubs; Brian Howard-freezer; Douglas Ramsey-grill, shelves; Jamie Yasenik; Renee Rider; Edward Kimbrell-equipment; Philip Stewart-white 1988 BMW 5is; Mel Kurth; Annmarie Rowlan-file cabinets; Darleen Valentine-yard signs; aceaacioncompany.com K. Ware

#16014

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH WILLARD WINKLEY, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-001988, styled Estate of Joseph Willard Winkley, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original Letters Testamentary were issued on December 12, 2013, to Charles Anthony Winkley and Joseph Scott Winkley. Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representatives of the estate in care of the attorneys at the following address: c/o GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY A Professional Corporation Attn: Kerry K. Ugarte P.O. Box 98 401 Congress, Suite 2200 Austin, Texas 78767-0098 All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED December 12, 2013. GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY A Professional Corporation P.O. Box 98 401 Congress, Suite 2200 Austin, Texas 78767-0098 All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED December 12, 2013. GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY A Professional Corporation P.O. Box 98 401 Congress, Suite 2200 Austin, Texas 78767-0098

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BLANCHE KRAMER, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of Blanche Kramer, Deceased, were issued on December 11, 2013, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002005, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: Kenneth Kramer and Iris Jean Kramer The mailing address for the

Independent Co-Executors is: c/o Joel H. Whitney The Whitney Law Firm, P.L.L.C. 1250 S. Capital of Texas Highway Building III, Suite 400 Austin, Texas 78746 512/329-2042 512/329-2588 (Fax) 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 11th day of December, 2013. Respectfully submitted, THE WHITNEY LAW FIRM, P.L.L.C. By: Joel H. Whitney State Bar No. 24008580 1250 S. Capital of Texas Highway Building III, Suite 400 Austin, Texas 78746 512/329-2042 512/329-2588 (Fax) Attorney for the Independent Co-Executors of the Estate of Blanche Kramer, Deceased

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF HOWARD ELTON LACEY, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002030, styled Estate of Howard Elton Lacey, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on December 5, 2013, to Bonnie B. Lacey. Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representative of the estate in care of the attorneys at the following address: c/o GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY A Professional Corporation Attn: Patricia A. Campbell P.O. Box 98 401 Congress, Suite 2200 Austin, Texas 78767-0098

AV0122 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 RECEIVE 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;

JANUARY 22, 2013 @ 9:30 AM @ SOUTHWEST WRECKER, 8200 S. CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX 78745

135056816	2004 SAAB	4DR	CGJ9151	TX	Y3FPD45Y941027601
135056818	1996 FORD	PK	80VJ26	TX	1FTFH25H7TLA54832
135056643	1989 CHEV	2DR	LFT377	TX	1G1GF11W6K7102630
135056397	1997 TOYT	LL	855LBJ	TX	JT3GP10V500013530
135055699	2004 TOYT	LL	005RBZ	NM	JTEBT1R7848010272
135055644	RENTON	BOAT			390
135055228	1999 DODG	VN	Y66BPB	TX	2B6HB11Y5XK507156
135055234	1973 OLDS	2DR	CK8J896	TX	3J57K3R248807
135056644	1987 CHRY	2DR	J37VHR	TX	1B3CA64A6HG109096
135056391	1995 CHEV	4DR	BGY2450	TX	1Y1SK52665Z087169

NOTICES cont.

All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED December 9, 2013. GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY A Professional Corporation P.O. Box 98 401 Congress, Suite 2200 Austin, Texas 78767-0098 512.480.5625 Telephone 512.480.5825 Fax: By: /s/ Patricia A. Campbell State Bar ID No.: 03714100 ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JAMES GRIER CAMPBELL, JR.

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of James Grier Campbell, Jr., Deceased, were issued on December 12, 2013, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002096, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to the estate's independent executor without bond, Margaret Olivia Betters Campbell. All persons having claims against the estate currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims should be addressed in care of the representative's attorney, Lawrence A. Russell, 9951 Anderson Mill Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78750. Dated this 12th day of December, 2013.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JESSIE J. VAN KOTEN, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jessie J. Van Koten, Deceased, were issued on October 29, 2013, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-001718 pending in the Travis County Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to Charles D. Van Koten as Independent Executor. The residence of the Independent Executor is in Travis County, Texas. The post office address for claims is: Estate of Jessie J. Van Koten, Deceased Gilman & Associates, P.C. 703 West 10th Street Austin, TX 78701-2033 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 21, 2013. Gilman & Associates, P.C. 703 West 10th Street Austin, TX 78701-2033 Attorneys for the Executor

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF WILLIE MAE KIRK, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Willie Mae Kirk, Deceased, were issued on December 3, 2013, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-000825 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 in Travis County, Texas, to: Sandra Kirk. All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the Executor of the estate at the Executor's residence within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o Phillip A. Danks 4117 Guadalupe Street Austin, Texas 78751 Dated this 11th day of December, 2013. /s/ Phillip A. Danks Attorney for the Estate of Willie Mae Kirk, Deceased

NOTICE TO BIDDERS PROPOSAL FOR TRAVIS: PHASE 1 - STREETScape

Sealed proposals addressed to

Travis County Municipal Utility District No. 21 ("OWNER") for furnishing all labor, materials, equipment, and performing all work required for the Travis: PHASE 1 - STREETScape will be received at **RVI Planning and Landscape Architecture, located at 712 Congress Ave, Suite 300, Austin, Texas, 78701** (Landscape Architect's Offices) on or before **December 20th, 2013 at 11:00 A.M.** At this time bids will be publicly opened. Copies of the Plans, Specifications, and Bidding Documents will be on file at the Engineer's Offices where they may be examined without charge. Qualifications must be provided in order to gain access to Bid Documents. Digital (pdf format) copies of the plans, specifications, and bidding documents will be made available free-of-charge to pre-qualified bidders upon request. Digital copies may be obtained through RVI Planning and Landscape Architecture (512) 480-0032 on or after November 29th, 2013.

A Cashier's Check, Certified Check or acceptable BIDDER's Bond, payable to Travis County Municipal Utility District No. 21, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the Bid must accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the Contract, the BIDDER will execute the contract and bonds within ten (10) days of award of the Contract. Performance and Payment Bonds shall also be executed on the forms furnished by the OWNER and shall specifically provide for "Performance" and for "Labor and Materials Payment". Each bond shall be issued in an amount of one hundred percent (100%) of contract price by a solvent Surety company, authorized to do business in the State of Texas and acceptable to the OWNER. The OWNER reserves the right to reject any and all bids to waive any and all technicalities and formalities in bidding. The OWNER reserves the right to determine which bidders are qualified, and which bids are responsive and lowest, and to award the Contract on this basis. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after opening of the bids. If a submitted bid is withdrawn within said period, bid guaranty shall become the property of the OWNER, not as penalty, but as liquidated damages, or OWNER may pursue any other action allowed by law. A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on December 5, 2013 at 10:30 A.M. in the Landscape Architect's Office. Prospective bidders are encouraged to visit the site.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS Sealed proposals addressed to Cypress Ranch, Ltd. ("OWNER") on behalf of Cypress Ranch Water Control and Improvements District No. 1 ("DISTRICT") for furnishing all labor, materials, equipment, and performing all work required for the construction of WEST CYPRESS HILLS PHASE 2, SECTION 3 UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS will be received at the office of Texas Engineering Solutions, LLC ("ENGINEER") at 5000 Bee Caves Rd, Suite 206, Austin, Texas 78746 until **Thursday, January 16, 2014** at 2:00pm. Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud. Any proposal received after the closing time will be returned unopened. Proposals shall be plainly marked with name and address of the BIDDER and the following words: PROPOSAL FOR WEST CYPRESS HILLS PHASE 2, SECTION 3 UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS

The WEST CYPRESS HILLS PHASE 2, SECTION 3 UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS proposal includes the construction of approximately: 1817 LF Right of Way preparation; 2107 LF of 18" to 36" Class III RCP storm sewer with inlets, headwalls, manholes, and drainage appurtenances; 1989 LF of 8" water line with hydrants, valves, and associated appurtenances; 2118 LF of 8" wastewater line

with manholes, services, and associated appurtenances; and water quality and detention facilities. All work must conform to State of Texas, County of Travis and Cypress Ranch Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 rules and criteria.

Copies of the Plans, Specifications, and Bidding Documents will be on file at the office of Texas Engineering Solutions at 5000 Bee Caves Rd, Suite 206, Austin, TX 78746, where they may be examined without charge. Copies may be examined or obtained from the ENGINEER on or after January 7th, 2013 for a non-refundable fee of \$75.00 per set. Checks for Plans and Specifications, and Bidding Documents shall be made payable to Texas Engineering Solutions. A Cashier's Check, Certified Check or acceptable Bidder's Bond, payable to Cypress Ranch, Ltd. in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the Bid must accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the Contract, the BIDDER will enter into a contract and execute bonds within ten (10) days of award of the Contract. Performance and Payment Bonds shall also be executed on the forms furnished by the OWNER and shall specifically provide for "Performance" and for "Labor and Materials Payment". Each bond shall be issued in an amount of one hundred percent (100%) of contract price by a solvent Surety company, authorized to do business in the State of Texas and acceptable to the OWNER.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any and all bids to waive any and all technicalities and formalities in bidding. The OWNER reserves the right to determine which bids are most advantageous to the OWNER and the DISTRICT, and to award the Contract on this basis. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after opening of the bids. If a submitted bid is withdrawn within said period, bid guaranty shall become the property of the OWNER, not as penalty, but as liquidated damages, or OWNER may pursue any other action allowed by law. A pre-bid conference will be held on **Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at 2:00pm** at the offices of the Engineer (Texas Engineering Solutions) at 5000 Bee Caves Road, Austin, TX 78746. While the pre-bid conference is not mandatory, prospective bidders are strongly encouraged to attend, as well as visit the site before or after the meeting.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS and **NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR** Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Max Carlton Bolen, Deceased, were granted and issued to Ronald Lee Bolen, as Independent Executor of the Estate, on December 10, 2013, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002064, in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law, addressed in care of the representative's attorney as follows:

Estate of Max Carlton Bolen c/o Calley D. Callahan, Attorney KNOLLE, HOLCOMB, KOTH-MANN & CALLAHAN 7600 N. Capital of Texas Highway Building B, Suite 110 Austin, Texas 78731 Dated this the 10th day of December, 2013. Respectfully submitted, KNOLLE, HOLCOMB, KOTH-MANN & CALLAHAN By: /s/ Calley D. Callahan State Bar No. 00796293

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Anthony J. Ruffino were issued on December 10, 2013, under Cause No. C-1-PB-13-001775, in the Probate Court Number

One, Travis County, Texas, to Donna A. Ruffino, Independent Executor. 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. Any such claims should be addressed to Donna A. Ruffino, Independent Executor of the Estate of Anthony J. Ruffino, and should be sent to 20925 Windmill Ridge St., Pflugerville, TX 78660.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Bertha Fioravanti, Deceased, were issued to Juliana Timpe on December 10, 2013 in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-000896, pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas. Claims should be delivered to the Independent Administrator's attorney at the following address: c/o Elizabeth Brenner, Burns Anderson Jurg & Brenner, L.L.P., 78755.

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 December 19, 2013. Elizabeth Brenner Attorney for Independent Administrator BURNS ANDERSON JURY & BRENNER, L.L.P. Telephone: (512) 338-5322 Facsimile: (512) 338-5363

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Billy P. Kincaid, Deceased, were issued on December 12, 2013, in Docket No. C-1-PB-13-001889, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Mike Truesdale. The address of the Independent Executor is in Austin, Travis County, Texas. The mailing address is c/o Law Office of Michael S. Truesdale, PLLC, 801 West Avenue, Suite 201, Austin, TX, 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 the 12th day of December, 2013 - by /s/ Mike Truesdale

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Douglas Kent Ozias, Deceased, were issued on December 5, 2013, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002009, pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to Orin Michael Ozias. All persons having claims against the Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and manner prescribed by law to the following: Estate of Douglas Kent Ozias, Deceased Orin Michael Ozias, Independent Executor c/o Kenton D. Johnson, Attorney at Law 1823 West 38th Street Austin, Texas 78731 Publishing Date: December 20, 2013

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ERIN LEA TOWNS, Deceased, were issued November 26, 2013, in Docket No. C-1-PB-13-002015, pending in the Probate Court #1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Elizabeth A. Towns, Independent Executor, to serve without bond. Claims should be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate as follows: Elizabeth A. Towns Independent Executor Estate of Erin Lea Towns, Deceased c/o Law Offices of James R. Beck 14550 Torrey Chase Blvd.,

Ste 150 Houston, TX 77014 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. LAW OFFICES OF JAMES R. BECK /s/ ALAN L. STROUD Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Everetta McArthur, Deceased, were issued on December 10, 2013, in Docket No. C-1-PB-13-002021 pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to Erin D. McArthur, Independent Executor. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, may address them in care of the attorney for the Estate within the time and in the manner prescribed by law, as follows: Representative, Estate of Everetta McArthur, Deceased, c/o Sal Levatino, attorney for the estate, 1524 South IH-35, Suite 234, Austin, Texas 78704. Dated December 10, 2013.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MARGARET METTEAUER a/k/a MARGARET A. METTEAUER, Deceased, were issued to MELINDA METTEAUER MASPERO a/k/a MELINDA METTEAUER JASKO, as Independent Executor of said Estate, on December 10, 2013, in Cause No C-1-PB-13-002077, pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the address of her attorney Carolyn Collins Ostrom within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Carolyn Collins Ostrom Collins Ostrom PLLC Attorneys and Counselors 816 West 10th Street Austin, TX 78701 DATED the 20th day of December, 2013.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MARGARET METTEAUER a/k/a MARGARET A. METTEAUER, Deceased, were issued to MELINDA METTEAUER MASPERO a/k/a MELINDA METTEAUER JASKO, as Independent Executor of said Estate, on December 10, 2013, in Cause No C-1-PB-13-002077, pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to MELINDA METTEAUER MASPERO a/k/a MELINDA METTEAUER JASKO, Independent Executor of said Estate, in care of her attorney Carolyn Collins Ostrom within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Carolyn Collins Ostrom Collins Ostrom PLLC Attorneys and Counselors 816 West 10th Street Austin, TX 78701 DATED the 20th day of December, 2013.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Norma D. Smith A/K/A Norma E. Smith, Deceased, were issued on December 10, 2013, in Docket No. C-1-PB-13-002078, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: James Robert Smith. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims shall be addressed to: "Representative, Estate of Norma D. Smith A/K/A Norma

E. Smith c/o John W. Brodnax John W. Brodnax, P.C. 1202 Lakeway Drive, Suite 1 Lakeway, Texas 78734" (512) 261-0101 DATED the 10th day of December, 2013. /s/ John W. Brodnax ATTORNEY FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of CORNELIOUS AMOS, Deceased, were issued on November 26, 2013, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002027, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: CAROLYN M. AMOS HOUSE. The residence of the Executor is in Travis County, Texas, and the post office address for the mailing of claims is: c/o TRAVIS BRENT HULL THE LAW OFFICE OF TRAVIS BRENT HULL, PLLC Attorney for CAROLYN M. AMOS HOUSE, Independent Executor 808 W. 11th Street, Suite 200 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 manner prescribed by law. DATED the 20th day of December, 2013. /s/ TRAVIS BRENT HULL, Attorney for CAROLYN M. AMOS HOUSE, Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

On December 10, 2013, Hilary Diane Spilo qualified as Dependent Administrator of the Estate of David Allen Spilo, Deceased, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-001606 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the Dependent Administrator is c/o Claude E. Ducloux, 400 W. 15th, Ste. 808, Austin, Texas 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law. Hilary Diane Spilo, Dependent Administrator of the Estate of David Allen Spilo, Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On December 10, 2013, Lawrence M. Olsen qualified as Independent Executor without bond of the Estate of Florence Keyes Olsen, Deceased, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002026 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the Independent Executor is c/o H. Allen Hill, Jr., 400 W. 15th, Ste. 808, Austin, Texas 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law. Lawrence M. Olsen Independent Executor of the Estate of Florence Keyes Olsen, Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

On December 10, 2013, Linda Jean Wallis, was appointed Independent Executor without bond in the Estate of Bobby Lee Wallis, Deceased, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-001487, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the Independent Executor is c/o Andrew C. Friedmann, Attorney & Counselor at Law, 4408 Spicewood Springs Road, Austin, Texas 78759, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.

NOTICE TO PRESENT CLAIMS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of CLIFTON CURTIS SNEED, Deceased, were issued on December 10, 2013, in Cause No. C-1-PB-13-002080, in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to ROSIE LEE SNEED, as Independent Executor. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to the Executor c/o Rodney Sheppard,

Attorney at Law, 509 Powell Street, Austin, TX 78703 within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Independent Representative/ Compliance Architect (IR/CA) Services for the Design-Build Development of a New Travis County Civil and Family Court House, Q1309-006-JT Opens: January 15, 2014 @ 2:00 PM Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, 700 Lavaca Street, Suite 800, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

PUBLIC AUCTION Pursuant To Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, A1 U-Store-It which is located at 4632 S. Lamar Blvd Austin, Tx will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale will be held at 9:00am on Saturday December 21, 2013. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Deposit for removal and cleanup may be required. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and withdraw the property from sale. Property in each unit will be sold by unit. Erin Klave, A69- Household items, Furniture Kim Foster, B8 - Household items, Furniture

STOR SELF STORAGE In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at Stor Self Storage locations listed below; And due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash only!

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Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the State's Self-Storage Facility Lien Law, on January 7, 2014 at 12:30 P.M. at CubeSmart Store # 6558, 12506 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas, CubeSmart General Manager, states that the following property is being sold to satisfy the landlord's lien and will sell at public sale: CubeSmart/Your Storage Solution #6558 12506 N. Lamar Blvd. Austin, TX 78753 Annette W. Coxall, Annette Coxall Antoinette Chambers, Antoinette Chambers Alexandra Rivera McKenzie T. Moor, Mckenzi T. Moore

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsy for December 20-26

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Many farms in California's Tulare County grow produce for supermarket chains. Here's the problem: Those big stores only want fruits and vegetable that look perfect. So, if there are brown spots on the apples or if the zucchinis grow crooked or if the carrots get too big, they are rejected. As a result, 30% of the crops go unharvested. That's sad because a lot of poor people who live in Tulare don't have enough to eat. Fortunately, some enterprising food activists have begun to work out arrangements with farmers to collect the wasted produce and distribute it to the hungry folks. I gather there's a comparable situation in your life, Sagittarius: unplucked resources and ignored treasures. In 2014, I hope you take dramatic action to harvest and use them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Derrick Brown has a poem entitled "Pussycat Interstellar Naked Hotrod Mofo Ladybug Lustblaster!" I hope that at least once in 2014 you will get up the nerve to call someone you love by that name. Even if you can't quite bring yourself to utter those actual words, it will be healing for you to get to the point where you feel wild enough to say them. Here's what I'm driving at, Capricorn: In the coming months, you will be wise to shed any inhibitions that have interfered with you getting all of the free-flowing intimacy you'd love to have.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "Artists who are content merely to hone their gifts eventually come to little," says the Belgian writer Simon Leys. "The ones who truly leave their mark have the strength and the courage to explore and exploit their shortcomings." I'd like to borrow that wisdom and provide it for you to use in 2014, Aquarius. Even if you're not an artist, you will be able to achieve an interesting kind of success if you're willing to make use of the raw materials and untapped potential of your so-called flaws and weaknesses. Whatever is unripe in you will be the key to your creativity.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In 2014, you will have the mojo to escape a frustration that has drained you and pained you for a long time. I mean you can end its hold on you for good. The coming months will also provide you with the chance to activate and cultivate a labor of love that will last as long as you live. While this project may not bloom overnight, it will reveal its staying power in dramatic fashion. And you will be able to draw on the staunch faith you'll need to devote yourself to it until its full blessings ripen.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "Life is best organized as a series of daring ventures from a secure base," wrote psychologist John Bowlby. Some of you Aries enjoy the "daring venture" part of that formula, but neglect the "secure base" aspect. That's why your daring ventures may on occasion go awry. If you are that type of Ram, the first half of 2014 will be an excellent time to correct your bad habit. Life will be offering you considerable help and inspiration in building a strong foundation. And if you already appreciate how important it is for your pursuit of excitement to be rooted in well-crafted stability, the coming months will be golden.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Here's a tale of three renowned Taurus brainiacs: Immanuel Kant, John Stuart Mill, and Bertrand Russell. They all had IQs over 175 and all made major contributions to philosophy. Yet all three were physically inept. Kant had trouble keeping a sharp point on his writing instrument, the quill, because he was clumsy using a knife. Mill was so unadventurous he found it a chore to tie a knot. Russell's physical prowess was so limited he was incapable of brewing a pot of tea. Chances are that you are neither as brilliant nor as uncoordinated as these three men. And yet, like them, there is a disconnect between your mind and body - some glitch in the way the two of them communicate with each other. The coming year will be an excellent time to heal the disconnect and fix the glitch.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A horticultural company in the UK is selling TomTato plants to home gardeners. Each bush grows both cherry tomatoes and white potatoes. The magic was accomplished through handcrafted hybridization, not genetic engineering. I foresee a comparable marvel in your long-term future, Gemini. I'm not sure about the exact form it will take. Maybe you will create a product or situation that allows you to satisfy two different needs simultaneously. It's possible you will find a way to express two of your talents in a single mode. Or perhaps you will be able to unite two sides of you that have previously been unbonded. Congratulations in advance!

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "To destroy is always the first step in any creation," said the poet E.E. Cummings. Do you buy that idea, Cancerian? I hope so, because the cosmos has scheduled you to instigate some major creative action in 2014. In order to fulfill that potential, you will have to metaphorically smash, burn, and dissolve any old structures that have been standing in the way of the future. You will have to eliminate as many of the "yes, buts," "I can'ts," and "not nows" as you possibly can.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): When did you first fall from grace? Do you remember? It has happened to most of us. We spend time being privileged or cared about or respected, and then, suddenly, we no longer are. We lose our innocence. Love disappears. Our status as a favorite comes to an end. That's the bad news, Leo. The good news is that I think the months ahead may be time for you to climb back up to one of those high states of grace that you fell from once upon a time. The omens suggest that even now you're making yourself ready to rise back up - and sooner than you think, there will be an invitation to do so.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Leonardo da Vinci created the painting *St. Jerome in the Wilderness* around 1480. It now hangs in the Pinacoteca Vaticana, a museum in Vatican City. For several centuries, though, the treasured work of art was missing. Legend tells us that in the early 19th century, Napoleon's uncle found the lower half of the painting in a junk shop in Rome. Years later he stumbled upon the top half in another back alley, where it was being used as a wedge in a shoemaker's bench. I foresee the possibility of a comparable sequence unfolding for you in 2014, Virgo. You just may manage to restore a lost beauty to its proper place of honor, one step at a time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The Italian painter Tintoretto (1518-1594) was a Libra. He worked with such vigor and passion that he was nicknamed *Il Furioso* - The Furious. One of his crowning achievements was his painting *Paradise*, which is 74 feet long and 30 feet tall - about the size of a tennis court. It adorns a huge wall in the Doge's Palace, a landmark in Venice. I propose that Tintoretto serve as one of your inspirational role models in 2014. The coming months will be an excellent time for you to work hard at crafting your own personal version of paradise on Earth. You may not be so wildly robust to deserve the title "Il Furioso." But then again, you might.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Between 2002 and 2009, Buddhist monk Endo Mitsunaga spent a thousand days meditating as he did a ceremonial walk around Mount Hiei in Japan. In 2006, English writer Dave Cornthwaite took 90 days to skateboard across the entire length of Australia, a distance of 3,618 miles. The first man's intentions were spiritual, the second man's adventurous. The coming months will be prime time for you to contemplate both kinds of journeys, Scorpio. The astrological omens suggest that you will generate extra good fortune for yourself by seeking out unfamiliar experiences on the open road. To get yourself in the mood, ruminate on the theme of pilgrimage.

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.

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