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VOL. 28 ☆ NO. 23
FEB. 6, 2009



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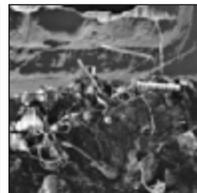


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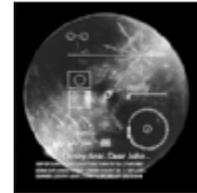
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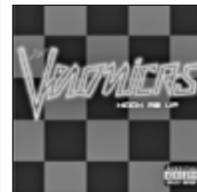


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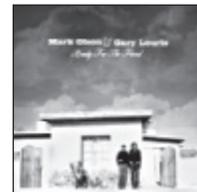


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The Message

Republicans try to rewrite a history of privileging party over principle

BY LOUIS BLACK

“Clear and sweet is my soul ... and clear and sweet is all that is not my soul.

“Lack one lacks both ... and the unseen is proved by the seen, Till that becomes unseen and receives proof in its turn.”

– Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*

“Do I contradict myself?

Very well, then, I contradict myself; (I am large – I contain multitudes.)”

– Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*

This Particular Leg of the Journey Began With Six Characters in Search of a Dance and Several Tiny Dance Steps Searching as Well. A Dance From the Middle of Winter.

This is the second column in an interlude between the “Page Two” that appeared in the Jan. 23 issue and whenever this reverie ends, when we will return to the “Page Two” previewed at the end of that aforementioned column. In order to get to a beginning, it felt as though certain underlying thoughts, basic assumptions, and structural constructs should be suggested.

Going back to last week’s examination of the differences between a principled position and a partisan one, I want first to clarify that these are somewhat arbitrary terms: They align with dictionary definitions but are being used here in perhaps a broader sense.

As was presented last week: “A principled position involves commitment to a law, a rule, and/or a code that is applied essentially in the same way in every situation. A partisan position is one for which ideological and/or party loyalties are the guiding principles. The latter is more a makeshift definition, though one that can be driven as intensely by different moral and/or policy beliefs as by party loyalties.”

The first six years of the Bush administration saw all branches of the government essentially fall into Republican hands. This resulted in a partisan privileging that not only affected legislation but was accompanied by both official (government staff) and unofficial (lobbying organizations) purging attempts to clear out as many Democrats as possible and replace them with Republican loyalists. This campaign was carried to such extremes that candidates for overseas governmental positions were routinely asked about their position on legalized abortion, even though that opinion was in no way germane to the jobs for which they were applying.

It is important to note that the unity of message, goal, and purpose here was partisan and not ideological. Certainly,

political philosophy was part of the package, with much of the inappropriate questioning emanating from specific party planks. The gist, however, was not the triumph of ideas but of party. Although now he claims he was misquoted, this was the time when GOP strategist Karl Rove was predicting a one-party government into the future. It was obvious to Rove that party, and party dominance, was always more important than ideology and philosophy. His strategic emphasis was always on good guys and bad guys; his maneuvering was designed to facilitate that scenario more than to convey a message.

The end result of all of this was not that Republicans stayed sharply focused on message or used the opportunity to aggressively advance their vision of this country. Certainly, there was some of that – but only some. What caused such systemic, economic, diplomatic, and social devastation was the triumph not of ideology but of party. It was not the appropriateness of the Republican Party message that was most aggressively advanced but rather the inherent correctness of Republicans. More than a little of this was because there were many who wanted to beat up on Democrats even more than they wanted to disenfranchise that party’s ideological beliefs. In these terms, what became most important was that Republicans won (dominated) and Democrats lost (were humiliated), with specific policy implementation a concern but not as important as partisan politics.

Still, though the emphasis was elsewhere, an enormous amount of legislation in tune with the Republican platform was passed. Interestingly, whereas business regulations were loosened, environmental restrictions neutered, and much of the social safety net gutted, most of the more important issues, even according to Republicans, were ignored.

There was nothing substantial done by the administration on Social Security and Medicare reform. There was the largest expansion ever of those enrolled in Medicare. The addition of a prescription-drug benefit was supposed to help ease the financial burden of millions of seniors and the disabled, but the ranks of the uninsured grew from 38.4 million in 2000 to 45.7 million in 2007. In terms of the future, especially in regard to funding, there were no substantial reforms or innovations.

Nothing was done about immigration reform. Instead of balancing the budget, the administration’s tax cuts and wild spending created the greatest deficit ever. There was virtually no movement toward energy independence, with the administration defeating all attempts to institute the federal Corporate Average Fuel Economy standard. About the only noticeable energy ploys were desperate, second-term Hail Mary passes,

such as pretending that more offshore and domestic drilling would solve all problems. By the end of the Bush administration’s second term, the American economy tanked and the dollar weakened.

Currently, the Democratic majority seems more interested in wallowing in dominant party privilege than accomplishing all that much. Still, given the Republicans’ own track record and the lockstep, anti-economic-recovery-bill vote, when they bemoan the lack of bipartisan cooperation in the current Congress, it’s hard not to do spit takes. Moreover, as they heatedly pant over a trillion-dollar bailout budget, it is impossible to see this as anything but pathetic posturing, given the Bush administration’s trillions of dollars in deficits with nothing to show for it – except that it is easy to demonstrate the rich have grown substantially richer. When Republicans’ solution to the economic disaster is anchored to the pillar of tax cuts, there has to be some questioning of all the tax cuts passed that at least partially lead to this problem.

Republican priorities still seem to be more about partisanship than anything to do with what is best for the country – but perhaps this view is just a reflection of my biases. Regardless, the proof is in the pudding. Whereas many are trying to claim that only weeks into this new administration, the pudding has been rendered inedible, the truth is the ingredients are barely lined up in order to begin the preparation.

But back to the future: The question about the first six years of the Bush administration is whether its problem was about the policies being pushed (principles) or the aggressive way they were being pushed and the government was being positioned (partisanship). Maybe it was mostly the way those two were married: bad policies being pushed in an aggressively partisan manner? Obviously, that discussion is exactly rearranged when it comes to those who approved of the Bush administration: Were they fonder of the policies or the strident partisanship by which they were advanced – or equally taken by both?

I feel I may be in the minority in that I found both disagreeable but was probably more distressed by the lack of respect for precedent and bipartisan interaction than by the specific policies, no matter how much I disagreed with them.

Now, when I say I feel in the minority, I suspect at first many will shake their heads, claiming to share my concerns. Whereas lip service to the Constitution and its basic trust in bipartisan conflict, debate, and compromise, even at its most extreme, is easy to come by in the abstract, when specifics are the concern, that lip service often fades to silence.

Without beating my usual and beloved dead horses, the main reasons for supporting either Ralph Nader or Ron Paul for president cannot even be distantly claimed as a passion for bipartisan interaction. These two candidates both represent not only extreme positions but ones with precious little interest in cooperation and/or compromise. The idea is that the difference between the two parties is either nonexistent or at least not very great, so it is time to openly advocate extremes.

continued on p.8

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If these candidates were elected, the purity and success of their accomplishments would not only require that certain policies be passed but that the government be less expansive and more partisan.

Clearly, I have a point of view on all this, but I suggest that some of those who violently disagree with me but champion the necessity of purer partisan vision think through exactly what they believe and would like to see happen. Frequently, it seems as though people passionately committed to politics embrace conflicting and contradictory beliefs that, since they exist as beliefs rather than realities, never have to be reconciled.

An aside: The above at least tries to deal in the rational and the logical. But in many ways, our lives are guided by miracles and magic, regardless of however we each individually label those: the unexpected, the unprepared for, the euphoric moment, the aesthetically caused climax, the accessing of vision whether holy or mundane.

It doesn't happen often – there is no way it could – but sometimes, just sometimes, when everything aligns right, you get to watch the heart of the revolution beat in front of you: not just beat, but beat anew. I'm not talking about a political or human revolution of liberation, oppression, or aberration. I'm talking about the personal yet visionary revolution, about the pumping of your blood when the rate speeds up or transcends

just the heart to integrate with the pulse of dreams or of the cosmos or of mundane, daily life reimagined with awe. The pumping through your body, the greater pumping of the spirit, the heart beating as one with the culture and the world.

Lots of people, when speaking of these moments, drape them in God and religion, in the blessing of the holy and the grace of the lord. Why not? That could be right. Who the hell knows exactly what it is? But to claim you do know is propriety, not generosity; is restricting, not liberating; is staking a territorial claim rather than surrendering to a grander, yet accessible, glory.

There is a moment when the holiest of spirits explodes through you matched to the body electric, racing at the speed of light, love ricocheting around in the confined space of your body as though the craziest pinball the Nazt ever blessed is hitting everywhere. Hitting everywhere inside you, including memory and the metaphysical, as well as absolutely including the physical. Hitting for every point and striking every secret bonus target, setting off bells, clangers, and whistles till steam is coming out of your ears, and out of your ears is coming steam electric.

It might be during love or sex or love and sex, maybe when dreaming or reading, when watching a movie or listening to music, or maybe just when walking up the stairs. It might be when anticipated or completely unanticipated, when expected or entirely unexpected.

Now, those who are so wrapped in their egos that any moments of extraordinary magic have to be defined by points on their linear biographies often take these experiences as though they are speaking to God. The lightning that thus electrifies one's life is reduced from its illogical, nonspecific, explosive wonder to a known and familiar motif: The grandeur of the universe is restricted to a thimble of holy water used to anoint oneself.

These strikes can come in magnificent gowns or just wearing a hoodie. They come as angels sing or cats fight or tires go flat.

Almost 30 years ago, at Austin's Municipal Auditorium, I attended a rap show, though I knew almost nothing of rap at the time. The next-to-last act was Grandmaster Flash & the Furious Five. They were electrifying, eye-opening, different, and magnificent. At the end, Grandmaster said to the audience, "Remember, we are not a band; we are seven men and two turntables." It was not the revolution, but it was a moment of revolution. It was a column of light blasting through me to skew every navigational tool I had always used to get by. In the middle of writing, I thought of that evening. I was overwhelmed again – and because it is that moment and an endless series of similar ones that inform whatever I do; I figured I should share.

"The highway is your girlfriend as you go by quick"
 – Jonathan Richman, "Roadrunner" ■

Postmarks

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or e-mail address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Letters may not be edited, added to, or changed by sender once we receive them.

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BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS' FAILURES

Dear Editor,

I almost did not read the article about Austin boards and commissions ["A Cacophony of Passions," News, Jan. 30] because it reminds me again of the failure of our city government to understand the problems in my area of Austin. It is another reminder that Southeast Austin is not represented in city government, while other areas are overrepresented. The Southeast area continues to be neglected because we have no voice on the City Council. I have applied several times over the years to various boards, and I have never been contacted about participating. I looked at the membership of the boards your article listed as first tier. It only takes a few minutes to type the names into the Travis County voter registration search to find where they claim to reside. (One member of the Board of Adjustment shows his residence at a business address, and several board members are apparently not voters or property owners.) Most of those found are residing in West Austin, coincidentally where

CONTINUED ON P.10

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POSTMARKS CONTINUED FROM P.8

almost all the City Council members in the last 20 years have lived. Several come from just a few ZIP codes (i.e., 78704). This is another example of the way the politically powerful, privileged few control the city government and resources and why we should have voted for single-member City Council districts.

Glen Shield

SOS WRONG ON WILDFLOWER COMMONS

Dear Editor,

When Austin voters approved the Save Our Springs Ordinance, we failed to understand the impact of low-density development on local air quality, to say nothing of global warming. Central Texas is still in the Eighties on land use and water policy despite (or because of) the concerted efforts of many passionate people. However, the ground has shifted, and like the political landscape, many activists failed to notice.

The greatest threat to water quality and quantity in the Barton Springs Zone is the loss of open space. Open space, undisturbed land, allows storm water to percolate into the ground and feed creeks and streams that regenerate the aquifer and preserve adequate flows at Barton Springs. Current policy exacerbates the loss of open space with roads and sprawl.

The SOS Alliance argues: "We should stop development over the aquifer." There's a disconnect between property rights (the right to develop that is quintessentially Texan) and the public right to enjoy the natural environment. SOS demonstrates another disconnect. Research shows

CONTINUED ON P.12

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

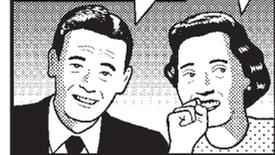
THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING REPUBLICAN PARTY

ACCORDING TO A NEW GALLUP POLL, THERE ARE NOW ONLY FIVE STATES IN WHICH THE MAJORITY OF VOTERS ARE SELF-IDENTIFIED REPUBLICANS.

ER--THE POLITICAL PARTY THAT LEFT US WITH AN IMMINENT ECONOMIC MELTDOWN AND TWO UNWINNABLE WARS?

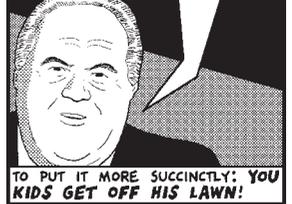
HEH HEH! CAN'T SAY I'VE HEARD OF 'EM!

COUGH!



RUSH LIMBAUGH BLAMES THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY!

"WE'VE LOST THE CULTURE...IT IS UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT THAT PEOPLE WATCHING MTV, GOING TO SEE THE ROT HOLLYWOOD'S PUTTING OUT, LISTENING TO THE ROT MUSIC IS TODAY, THAT EVERY FOUR YEARS THEY'RE GOING TO...VOTE REPUBLICAN!"



TO PUT IT MORE SUCCINCTLY: YOU KIDS GET OFF HIS LAWN!

AND--AFTER YEARS SPENT ACCUSING LIBERALS OF "WANTING THE PRESIDENT TO FAIL," THE G.O.P.'S CURRENT LEADER-BY-DEFAULT HAS THIS TO SAY ABOUT THE NEW PRESIDENT:

"--I HOPE HE FAILS!"



YES, TIMES MAY BE TOUGH--BUT REAL REPUBLICANS HOPE THE ADMINISTRATION CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT!

IF THEY SOMEHOW MANAGE TO KEEP US OUT OF A DEVASTATING ECONOMIC DEPRESSION--

--IT WILL HURT SARAH PALIN'S SHOT AT THE PRESIDENCY!

I'D RATHER SLEEP IN A CARDBOARD BOX THAN LET THAT HAPPEN!



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Like Bush's policies on sex education and condoms, "just say no" led to Texas having one of the highest teen birth rates in the country. "Just saying no" to development within the city's jurisdiction has led to sprawl in Hays County and the Belterra wastewater mess.

We must reconcile environmental policy and land development with the political realities in Texas. SOS' "just say no" to Wildflower Commons (actually all projects) exacerbates sprawl in Hays County ["Naked City," News, Jan. 30]. Oak Hill gets hammered with traffic and overblown highway improvements, and the planet gets hammered with greenhouse gases. SOS' current efforts are a disaster for the very things we all want to protect.

David Richardson
 Oak Hill

HOPE LEE NICHOLS IS WRONG

Dear Editor,

Re: "Democrats to Challenge Dunbar on Education Board" [Newsdesk, Jan. 30]: Actually, Lee Nichols does not know that there will be any Democrat running against Cynthia Dunbar, and neither do I. The filing for this office is not until Dec. 3 of this year; the office requires lots of work and pays zero, zilch. Members get travel expenses and are put up in nice hotels and get meals, but that's about it.

The State Board of Education meets about seven times a year, for two or three working days, all day, either Wednesday through Friday or Thursday through Friday, usually in Austin.

To run as a Republican or Democrat, one needs a \$300 filing fee or 500 signatures. Libertarians need no filing fee, but then again, Libertarians never get elected.

The State Board of Education is important because of the influence it has on textbooks, etc., for K-12 education.

To learn more about the SBOE, come to the forum on it at Yarborough Branch Library, 2200 Hancock, from 11:45am to 1:15pm on Saturday, Feb. 7.

I hope to see you there.

John Keohane

FOUND A REVIEWER TO TRUST

Dear Josh Rosenblatt,

After I saw *Into the Wild*, I searched almost in vain to find a review that reflected my own reaction to the main character and finally found yours [Film Listings, Oct. 19, 2007], which was very close to my own. I just saw *Seven Pounds* and again searched for some reviewer whose reaction was similar to my own, and again yours was the only one [Film Listings, Dec. 19, 2008]. I'm always looking for a reviewer I can trust, and now I think I have found one. Thanks.

Donald Graham
 Paris, France

RATIONAL THOUGHT MUST PREVAIL

Dear Editor,

I was relieved to finally read (or hear) a news article that made this debate between the State Board of Education and the defenders of science education clear ["On the Lege," News, Jan. 30]. I attended the board meeting last month because this is a hugely important issue that has lasting implications for our students. I was appalled at the poor coverage that the meeting and the topic received in the local news. This article, in contrast, made the controversy very clear and underscored how important it is that science and rational thought prevail on this topic. Not only will the decisions made by this board affect the curriculum for the next 10 years, its decisions will also affect what the multimillion dollar textbook industry will publish in its textbooks. Will we have one textbook developed for Texas while the rest of the country has its own (accurate) version? I was also appalled at the line of narrow-minded and repetitive questioning by our school board members. I was embarrassed at times by the shameful and willful ignorance. This article should be more widely read so that our collective willful ignorance will not allow this body to determine the content of our children's curriculum based on faulty ideology. I hope Lee Nichols continues to illuminate the nuances of the debate so that the public is aware of what the real, long-lasting implications of the board's decisions are.

Cristina Everett

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news

Headlines

- ▶ So are we broke or not? In his **emergency items** request to legislators on Feb. 3, Gov. **Rick Perry** asked for extra cash and legislation for hurricane reconstruction and insurance reform, state schools, and screening equipment for prisons.
- ▶ Closer to home, City Council candidate **Rick Cofer** exited the Place 1 race last week, leaving **Chris Riley** and **Perla Cavazos** to duke it out. "City Hall Hustle," p.16, has the details.
- ▶ The mayoral race continues apace, and this Saturday brings two campaign office openings: **Lee Leffingwell's** shindig runs from 2 to 4pm, at 700 N. Lamar, while **Brewster McCracken's** office party starts at 4pm in the Village Shopping Center (2700 W. Anderson #901).
- ▶ The **Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund** is suing the Texas Department of Public Safety for new regulations that make it harder for foreign workers with a valid visa to get a driver's license.
- ▶ A Minneapolis federal jury announced it was deadlocked in the trial of Austinite **David McKay**, accused of making and possessing Molotov cocktails with the intent of disrupting the 2008 Republican National Convention. McKay's free on bond; the feds will retry the case. See "Mistrial, Retrial for McKay," p.18.

Rick Cofer



City Manager Marc Ott and Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr

JOHN ANDERSON

Austin's first female fire chief, Rhoda Mae Kerr, was sworn in Jan. 30 before a packed audience at City Hall. The fourth-generation firefighter was chief of the Little Rock Fire Department before accepting the Austin post last year. She takes over a department that continues to struggle with how to diversify its ranks. "There is really a great value in having diversity in any organization," she said at the ceremony. Monday was Kerr's first official day on the job, overseeing a department of more than 1,000 firefighters for \$160,000 a year.

- Jordan Smith

The Way of the Strayhorn

There goes Carole, wandering off the range again

BY MICHAEL KING

I'd forgotten Carole Keeton Strayhorn is such a hoot. Unless Mike Levy finally decides to jump in and start raising lots of sand, "Carole" (as she prefers this go-round, apparently having jettisoned "Grandma" in order to pitch to a younger demographic) is likely to provide the most entertainment on this year's mayoral campaign trail. CKS was at it again last week, in a "slash the budget" presser aimed at demonstrating she's a finance whiz who knows where to find (all together now!) the "waste and fraud" that's overloading the city budget. She reiterated her phantom "\$137 million deficit" that's based on using an "all funds" number – including revenue-generating departments like Austin Energy – instead of a "general funds" budget number that must by law be balanced (hence the current wage and hiring freeze at City Hall). The *Chronicle's* Wells Dunbar has already punctured this nonsense in "City Hall Hustle" (Jan. 16), and his conclusion bears repeating: "But for anyone – much less the former state comptroller – to stoke fears about a \$137 million shortfall in the midst of dire financial times is ignorant at best and irresponsible at worst."

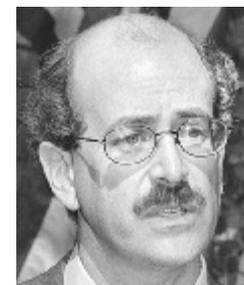
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Strayhorn's scattershot recklessness is in keeping with her lifelong habit of briskly campaigning on whatever the current political market will bear. And if her Gatling-gun pronouncements are inconsistent, who can listen fast enough to notice? Earlier this month at her kickoff presser, in virtually a single breath she first excoriated high city budgets and then complained that cops and firefighters can't afford to live in the city. Since public safety is by far the city's single greatest expense, does she propose to simultaneously cut police salaries and raise them?

Perhaps, at that point, Strayhorn thought she still had a shot at endorsements from the cop and firefighter unions, since gone by default to Lee Leffingwell. No matter: Strayhorn's persistent method, like an anti-missile system, is to sling confetti in the air and hope the voters are sufficiently distracted not to notice her contradictions. She pulled a characteristic stunt in her gubernatorial run, piling up nearly empty petition boxes in order to pretend she had more support than she did. Her early "lead" in mayoral fundraising is similarly likely to disappear.

CONTINUED ON P.17

QUOTE of the WEEK



"Any of us would be better than Dunbar."

– Former congressional candidate Lorenzo Sadun, discussing potential Democratic opponents to District 10 State Board of Education member Cynthia Dunbar, who recently warned of President Barack Obama's plans to impose martial law



▶ After published worries that it wouldn't make good, **Thomas Properties Group** coughed up \$18 million in property taxes this week. The group owns the **Frost Bank** building, 300 W. Sixth, and several other posh offices; the payment was in question due to TPG's involvement with bankrupt **Lehman Brothers**.



SANDY CARSON

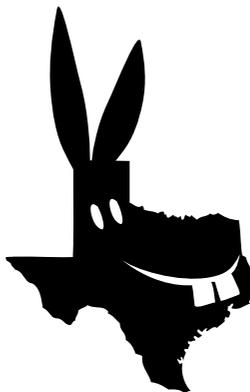
- ▶ Quick reminder to take immediate action if you smell natural gas: A **house blew up** in Hyde Park on Feb. 2 following a gas leak. The family escaped just before the blast, and there were no serious injuries.

► **HOW TO SAVE YOUR FAVORITE PROGRAM** Is there a city service or program you strongly feel should not be cut as the city squeezes out more than \$20 million in budget reductions next year? Send your comments to the city; they'll be reviewed by staff and compiled into a document for the mayor and council, prior to budget-cut deliberations. Write to community-feedback@cityofaustin.org. Meanwhile, the city's **Dollars and Sense** initiative has yielded close to 1,000 cost-saving ideas from staff; it runs through Feb. 13. — *Katherine Gregor*

► **BIG AQUIFER FIGHT** Hays County has become the latest party to join a contested case against **Jeremiah Venture LP**, a group planning a 607-acre subdivision in Hays Co., on a site located in the Edwards Aquifer watershed, adjacent to Austin watershed protection lands and a rock-crushing site. Hays Co. Commissioner Jeff Barton introduced the motion to join the suit, which was unanimously passed. The opposing parties were divided into three groups at a **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality** hearing Jan. 26. Hays joins the city of Austin and the Lower Colorado River Authority in one group, Save Our Springs Alliance is in another, and the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District is in the third. The developers want to discharge 330,000 gallons of treated effluent across more than 122 acres. Opponents are concerned that the proposed site may contain significant recharge features and that the thin, rocky soil will allow runoff to seep into the aquifer. — *Jacob Cottingham*

► **TINA LOSES RNC BID** Republican Party of Texas Chair **Tina Benkiser** has failed in her run to replace Jo Ann Davidson as co-chair of the Republican National Committee. In December, Benkiser struck a deal with former Ohio Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell to run on a joint ticket. But on Jan. 30, the 168 RNC members selected former Maryland Lt. Gov. **Michael Steele** as the RNC's first African-American chair and former RNC Western States Association Vice Chair **Jan Larimer** of Wyoming as his co-chair. — *Richard Whittaker*

► **MILES AND MILES OF BLUE** A new Gallup report throws the idea of Texas as a red state into question. In "State of the States: Political Party Affiliation," released Jan. 28, the polling firm reports that of 19,415 Texans surveyed in 2008, 43% described themselves as Democrats or Democrat-leaning, while only 41% self-identified as Republicans. Republican Party of Texas spokesman **Hans Klingler** called the figures a rallying cry for Republicans and said the 2010 elections will belong to "the party that is able to reach out and capture that middle and claim them as conservative and liberal." He argued that Democrats had failed the real test, which is parlaying that support into winning a statewide race. — *R.W.*



► **EASY WITH THAT MATCH** The **Texas Forest Service** is urging citizens from Austin to San Antonio, south to Cotulla, across the Hill Country, and over to the Rio Grande to be aware of heightened wildfire danger due to low humidity levels and high winds. Said Tom Spencer, TFS predictive services department head: "This weather, added to critically dry fuels, such as grasses and trees, can lead to very high to extreme fire danger." Central Texas has the potential to see very dangerous wildfires due to the prolonged drought. Through February, grasses and trees are expected to remain critically dry, and conditions could lead to wildfires that will be hard to contain and can quickly endanger public safety. — *Michael King*

THE HUSTLE FOR PLACE 1

Who are the new coalitions?

BY WELLS DUNBAR

While the race for Austin mayor has been garnering the most sound bites and column inches, May's City Council races – especially for Place 1, **Lee Leffingwell's** vacated seat – have been subtly shifting for several weeks. Last week saw the first seismic development: candidate **Rick Cofer's** exit from the Place 1 race.

"This decision has not been easy," Cofer wrote in a note to supporters, adding, "we would have run a strong campaign to win this race." However, he continued, "with **Chris Riley** and **Perla Cavazos** in this race, I know that Austin will have the right leadership with the right priorities. I also know that I can continue to serve this city through my work on the **Solid Waste Advisory Council**, neighborhood association, and other community organizations. And all of this has helped me realize that this is not the right time or right race for me."

The exit is unfortunate for politics fans, as aside from the mayor's race, Place 1 was shaping up to be the most strongly contested. The tightness was reflected in **fundraising**: Cofer came in behind Cavazos, taking a respectable \$15,080 to her \$17,945, but both trailed Riley's \$26,090 haul. (Cofer has taken pains with his contributions: He itemized every contribution and listed each contributor's occupation, a meticulousness that must come in handy now, as he's promised to return each contribution and "eat the cost" of his campaign.)

Although Cofer's ties in Democratic politics and organizing brought him good contributors and contacts, in this crowded contest, the 26-year-old candidate was wise to bow out without a loss on his record. While optimistic about his support and "pretty confident" labor and public-safety endorsements could've come his way, Cofer conceded the "enviros and the Democrats were fairly split." Now, support for Cavazos and Riley – which was strong to begin with – has further coalesced. Riley's campaign kickoff was widely attended (the Hustle was out of town, but the Burnt Orange Report's Matt Glazer called the turnout "pretty stunning"), which certainly didn't hurt his monetary lead. But deeper than dollars is the support Riley is tapping, from a coalition of influential, respectable developer types – the acceptable establish-

ment (**Perry Lorenz**, **Larry Speck**, **Larry Warshaw**) – that like to line up behind council winners, along with those Dems and enviros.

Cavazos is tapping into a different constituency, one galvanized by the candidate but also by her gender and ethnicity. Locally, this includes such boosters as former state Rep. **Ann Kitchen**, former Council Member **Jennifer Kim**, and longtime enviro **Robin Rather** – progressives lauded more often for their ideals than their winning records. She also brings contacts from her time as policy analyst for Texas Sen. **Eddie Lucio** (Rep. **Eddie Rodriguez** and the senator himself). Combine those with prominent neighborhood and Latino supporters (**Lori** and **Sabino Renteria**, county Commissioner **Margaret Gomez**), and she has a formidable base of support – not the same gang as instrumental in determining past elections but possibly a power ascendant. (Cavazos' formal kickoff just occurred Tuesday.)

Consider also mayoral candidate **Brewster McCracken's** aggressive courtship of new clean-energy companies and digital-entertainment mavens. First there was his formal campaign announcement at HelioVolt and, this week, his campaign's Austin-vision commercial contest, featuring as judges film and gaming pros **Robert Rodriguez**, **Richard Garriott**, **Elizabeth Avellan**, **Richard Linklater**, and McCracken himself. From the looks of it, BMC also seems to be trying to carve out a new coalition.

Returning to Cofer, his satisfaction with the remaining Place 1 candidates makes an endorsement unlikely. Referring to his reasons for bowing out, he cites "two things that changed over the two-odd months of campaigning: One is I got satisfied that the other folks in this race are on board with where I am, the issues that are important to me, and what motivated me to run in the first place. The other thing was, after a while thinking about it, it's not the right time for me politically, personally, whatever. It's a difficult decision, but one I feel very good about in my gut. But I'm still going to be active in the things I care about, like garbage and neighborhood issues." ■

The Hustle's on Twitter! Follow along at www.twitter.com/cityhallhustle, or e-mail wells@austinchronicle.com.



res publica FOR MORE DETAILS AND EVENTS, SEE COMMUNITY LISTINGS, P.60.

THURSDAY 05

AUSTIN ENERGY TOWN HALL MEETING

Discuss AE's plan for meeting electricity demands through 2020. 6:30pm. Carver Branch Library, 1161 Angelina. www.austinsmartenergy.com.

CONFERENCE ON LATIN AMERICA Thu.-Sat., Feb. 5-7. UT Thompson Conference Center, Red River & Dean Keeton, 577-7446. Free. www.utexas.edu/cola/insts/illias/conferences/ilassa_09/index/.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING Help determine Austin's funding priorities for 2009. 6:30pm. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second. www.cityofaustin.org/housing/conplan_09-14.htm.

FRIDAY 06

WEAR RED FOR WOMEN

The American Heart Association encourages everyone to wear red and challenge women to know their risks for heart disease and live heart-healthy lives. www.goredforwomen.org.



SATURDAY 07

TEXAS ECONOMIC SUMMIT Austin Interfaith will convene top business, education, political, and faith leaders to create a strategy for dealing with the economic crisis. 9am-1pm, Catholic Diocese of Austin Pastoral Center, 6225 Hwy. 290 E. www.austininterfaith.org.

FORGOTTEN PATRIOTS WORKSHOP Black History Month events continue with a trip back to America's roots. Learn to follow your family tree back to the American Revolution with this workshop. 2-5pm. University Hills Branch Library, 4721 Loyola, 929-0551. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE FESTIVAL Celebrate Black History Month with music, art, community awards, and enough family fun to keep your heart rate up. This year's theme is promoting health and wellness in the neighborhood. 10am-4pm. Greater Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1801 Pennsylvania, 478-7578. Free. www.ujamaa-austin.org.

LEE LEFFINGWELL CAMPAIGN KICKOFF 2-4pm. 700 N. Lamar. www.voteleffingwell.com.

NATIONAL BLACK HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

It's all about the testing and treatment, people. Folks of all stripes are invited to mobilize and proactivate at this health fair with all the fixin's: entertainment, food, and health info and services. 10am-4pm. Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon, 972-5631. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/health/news_natl_black_hiv_aids_day.htm.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION FORUM 11:45am-1:15pm. Yarbrough Branch Library, 2200 Hancock Dr. Free.

STREAMS AND SALAMANDERS First event in the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve Hike & Lecture Series: Aquatic ecologist Mateo Scoggins and biologist Nathan Bendik discuss stream ecology and related issues. 10am-noon. Austin Nature & Science Center, 301 Nature Center Dr. 327-8180. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/water/wildland/onlineregistration/ecowebevents.cfm.



SUNDAY 08

AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE CELEBRATION recognizes local students and educators of African descent for their performance and contributions to AISD. 3pm. Delco Center, 4601 Pecan Brook Dr., 414-0112. Free. www.austinisid.org/newsmediareleases/?more=1737.

BACKYARD FOOD PRODUCTION WORKSHOP E-mail for location and to register for this workshop covering such topics as rainwater and gray-water systems, mulching, animal husbandry, calorie crops, and more. Put the supermarket in your back yard. 9am-5pm. \$100. cindy@gvct.com.

LEGISLATIVE POLICY FORUM Discuss hot issues of the 81st legislative session in a non-partisan environment. Guest experts get the ball rolling every Sunday. 4-6pm. First United Methodist Church Family Life Center, 1300 Lavaca, 478-5684.

Keep Your Eye on the Pea

It was odd enough that Strayhorn chose to hold her budget photo op in Northwest Hills, where the foreclosure tumbrels haven't exactly been rolling of late. She was backed up by humble homeowner Bradley Bengtson, a businessman who said his property taxes had tripled in 14 years – not only on his \$411,000 homestead but on the *four* rental properties he owns (including a couple in Hyde Park), with a total appraised value for the five of \$1.24 million (and that's presuming his holdings are only in Travis County).

I don't begrudge Bengtson his real estate (he told the *Statesman* that the rental properties don't currently yield "much" profit). But he's certainly aware that recent tax increases have been largely a consequence of rises in value (presumably good for an investor), not city rates (which in recent years have mostly been lowered by City Council), and that in any case, the city accounts for less than 20% of the property-tax bite. Some 75% goes to the Austin Independent

School District and Travis County, and AISD's 55% is almost entirely a consequence of the state's refusal to adequately support public schools. If Bengtson doesn't know that, former Comptroller Strayhorn certainly does – and blasting the city with bad numbers and worse aim is, to coin a phrase, irresponsible at best.

Even setting aside all these awkward details, what on earth gave Strayhorn the notion that the Bengtsons, God bless them, are financially representative of "hardworking Austin families" who Strayhorn claims are finding the city budget to be an unbearable burden? To stage her budget dog-and-pony show on these numbers and in this setting reflects her current tone deafness about Austin and Austinites, confirmed by her 13.7% Travis Co. vote in that ill-fated 2006 governor's race.

You Must Remember This

Maybe I'm jumping the gun. Carole's been beating the bushes for weeks, Leffingwell's barely gotten started, and there's plenty of time for him and the others to find ways to fall on their faces. Brewster McCracken seems to be working up to something like that, having spent the last month running away from positions – mass transit, home energy conservation, climate action, rail election – that he has been boyishly enthusiastic about on the dais. If Levy does enter the race, along with the couple of odd-men-out already jockeying for the Jennifer Gale Memorial Vote, the May 9 tally may become all about getting into the run-off.

Maybe Carole's got some secret strategy to upend the Austin electoral universe. But in addition to getting beyond her ham-handed opening salvos, like Men in Black agents J and K, she's going to need a magic Neuralyzer to make voters forget a great many alien apparitions: her finger-in-the-wind political loyalties; her permanent campaigns for whatever office seems to be available; her advocacy for the

Strayhorn's scattershot recklessness is in keeping with her lifelong habit of briskly campaigning on whatever the current political market will bear.

South Texas Nuclear Project, aka "the bottomless money pit"; her craven use of the state's scandalous mistreatment of foster children for her own political advancement (if you need a reminder on that one, see Jordan Smith's stunning "Campfire Horror Story," Nov. 21, 2008).

The list, alas, goes on. Strayhorn certainly has reason to be proud of her early political work, especially as an education advocate (AISD and Austin Community College) and as a woman who broke considerable political ground in Texas. But as happens to far too many public officials, once she became a permanent candidate, her sense of purpose and direction became increasingly blurry and uncertain with each succeeding campaign. From the looks of it thus far, she's likely to discover Austin's a very different town from the one where the mayor was once known as Carole Keeton McClellan. ■

MONDAY 09

DOCUMENTARY & DISCUSSION

of a film about the great progressive activist, Abe Osheroff: *One Foot in the Grave, the Other Still Dancing*. After the film, two of Osheroff's colleagues will discuss his life and work. 7pm. UT Thompson Conference Center, 26th & Red River, 471-2933. Free. www.thirdcoastactivist.org.

GLOBAL FINANCE UPDATE: EUROPE Discuss how the global economic crisis is affecting European-U.S. relations. 7pm. Ragsdale Center, Jones Auditorium, St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 233-1678. Free. www.stedwards.edu/kozmetzky/welcome.htm.

IMMIGRATION SPEAKER SERIES A panel of experts discusses the possibilities for detention reform and ending family incarceration. 6-8pm. TICE Community Space, 1009 E. 11th.



TUESDAY 10

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING Help determine Austin's funding priorities (this week centers around the HIV Planning Council) for the 2009 fiscal year. 6pm. 1520 Rutherford, Bldg. 1, first floor. www.cityofaustin.org/housing/conplan_09-14.htm.

WEDNESDAY 11

SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOODS OF NORTH CENTRAL AUSTIN meets this month for a presentation from Triangle developer Tom Terkel. 6:30-8pm. Christian Village Apartments activity room, 7925 Rockwood. www.snaustin.org.

THURSDAY 12

CENTRAL TEXAS AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY SUPPORT CONFERENCE Thu.-Fri., Feb. 12-13, 8am-4:30pm. Omni Southpark, 4140 Governor's Row, 440-4063. Free. www.ctaafsc.org.



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City Counseling What's that on the dais?

New developments in the May election campaigns are happening virtually daily (preoccupying "City Hall Hustle"), so it's sometimes hard to concentrate on what's happening with our current City Council – the folks actually running city policy at the moment. Please welcome an occasional feature – let's call it "City Counseling" – where we'll be putting council issues and initiatives on the couch for further analysis.

WILDFLOWER REPLANTED

The biggest item on council's comparatively light agenda last week (Thursday, Jan. 29) didn't even come up. Approval of planned unit development zoning for **Wildflower Commons**, the controversial mixed-use development proposed in far Southwest Austin, over the **Edwards Aquifer recharge zone**, was postponed by council to its Feb. 12 meeting. The **Save Our Springs Alliance** is already claiming a victory, posting on its website, "Because of our collective action, the developer of the proposed 265 acre shopping mall/multi-family [project] is offering changes." **Steve Drenner**, the project's attorney (and former Hill Country Conservancy president), is bristling at the blog-burst, telling City Hall watchdog newsletter *In Fact Daily* the SOS "shopping mall" descriptor is "the most absurd characterization I have ever heard." The project, slated at MoPac and State Highway 45 South, is on land covered by the original SOS Ordinance and a related agreement formed with landowner/developer **Gary Bradley**, limiting impervious cover on the project. The heated argument is over whether or not it will comply with the Bradley Agreement.

NOT-SO-SPECIAL ELECTION

Almost silently, council did settle one controversy surrounding the mayoral election last week without comment: when the special election to fill **Lee Leffingwell's** vacated Place 1 seat would occur. Leffingwell insisted that announcing his run for mayor within 120 days of the May 9 general election meant the election to name his replacement could occur on that same day. However, in a letter to City Attorney **David Smith**, mayoral rival **Brewster McCracken** questioned whether the 120-day window should instead count back from a potential run-off in the Place 1 race – possibly triggering an expensive special election. Apparently Smith agreed with Leffingwell (backstage, in executive session), as the council indeed set the special election date for May 9, the same day as the general election. Council passed the measure, silently and unanimously, on consent.

IN THE CHAMBER

City Hall itself was open to the public a little bit more last week. An item sponsored by Leffingwell, **Randi Shade**, and **Sheryl Cole** made Council Chambers and City Hall's Boards and Commissions Room available as "free speech spaces" every Tuesday, if you book a reservation. The rooms had previously been available for public use only with a council member's sponsorship. "In the grand scheme of things, this is a symbolic issue, but symbols are important," open-government advocate **Paul Robbins** said at the item's passage. "This is one of dozens of things that need to be done to restore participatory democracy in Austin, but it is a positive step." – *Wells Dunbar*

ANC: Do More With Less

A double-bill attraction of City Manager **Marc Ott** and new Parks & Recreation Department Director **Sara Hensley** brought a standing-room-only crowd to last week's **Austin Neighborhoods Council** meeting. Ott gave a sobering talk about the city of Austin's looming **budget shortfall**, emphasizing that the cuts now necessitated by shrinking municipal revenues aren't just about finding "fat" but rather will require cutting painfully into "muscle." He let city of Austin Chief Financial Officer **Leslie Browder** present the depressing details: "Impact of Recession on 2009 Budget." For 2008, the city made \$8 million in spending cuts necessitated by lower sales-tax revenue; for 2009, a \$25 million budget gap is projected, requiring more than \$20 million in additional cuts. If city revenues from sales tax and development fall even lower than projected, the surgery could

get bloodier for both 2009 and 2010. Still, Ott pointed out, many cities have it far worse.

Ott then asked for ideas from the crowd for ways to save on city spending. In response he heard a "greatest hits" list of ANC members' hot-button complaints. Among the suggestions: **Domain subsidies** (stop them), the **animal shelter** (don't build a new one), **Water Treatment Plant No. 4** (don't build it), the **Riverside Boardwalk** (don't build it), **parks and libraries** (fund them anyway).

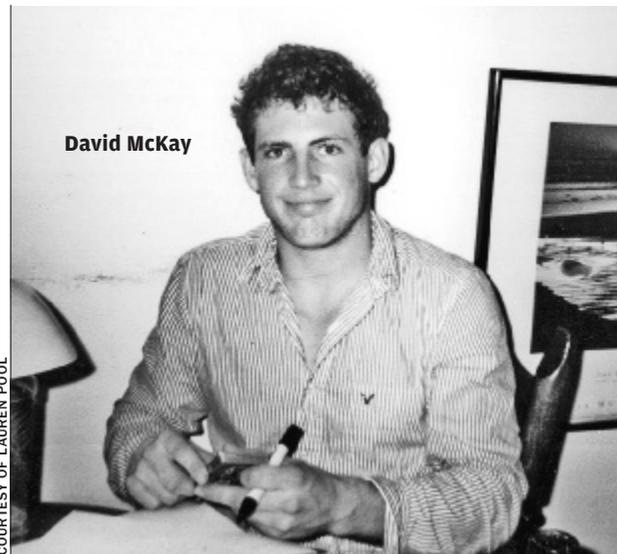
After Ott departed with his entourage, an upbeat Hensley transformed the energy in the room. She spoke of initiating interdepartmental cooperation on a new comprehensive plan for trails in Austin (with Public Works Director **Howard Lazarus** and Transportation Director **Rob Spillar**). She's pursuing collaborative efforts with Neighborhood Housing and

Community Development Director **Margaret Shaw** and Neighborhood Planning and Zoning Director **Greg Guernsey** (who also attended) for projects such as new "pocket parks" for parkless neighborhoods. She's already read and forwarded recommendations for expanded parks facilities from the "Families & Children Task Force Report." She's asked **Roger Duncan** at Austin Energy to use PARD as a city pilot program for buying only electric, eco-conscious mowers, blowers, and vehicles. She wants to reduce her vehicle fleet – and put her staff on bicycles and scooters. ("Wow!" was one spontaneous response.)

Hensley asked the ANC crowd for suggestions and responded enthusiastically to every one – then gave out her e-mail and phone number. (All contact info for city staff is available by calling 311.) Predictably, folks asked for more services, more parks and facilities, better maintenance, and longer hours. Hensley offered to send PARD staff out to gather input and solve problems at neighborhood association meetings. The ANC crowd clearly was knocked out by her openness and responsiveness. Said ANC President **Danette Chimenti** pointedly in closing, "It was very refreshing to hear from our new Parks director!"

There was only one problem: a total disconnect between all the new goodies that ANC members want and the presentation they'd just heard on the grim realities of the city budget.

– *Katherine Gregor*



David McKay

COURTESY OF LAUREN POOL

Mistrial, Retrial for McKay

After being held without bail for five months, 22-year-old **David McKay** stepped out into the Minnesota cold on Monday after being released on a \$25,000 bond following a mistrial. The weeklong trial, in which McKay was charged with possession of unregistered firearms, ended after jurors admitted they couldn't reach a verdict. McKay's defense hinged on **Brandon Darby**, the 32-year-old activist turned informant whose cooperation with the FBI led directly to McKay's arrest in September.

Both McKay and Darby took the stand and during cross-examination gave differing views on basically the same story: McKay, along with his friend **Bradley Crowder**, who pleaded guilty Jan. 8, bought bomb-making materials from Wal-Mart and assembled eight **Molotov cocktails** during last summer's **Republican National Convention** in St. Paul, which were found in the basement of the residence in which McKay was arrested in the early hours of Sept. 3. The stories diverge, however, when it comes to Darby's involvement: McKay says that he wouldn't have built those bombs had Darby not encouraged him to do so after coming up with the idea in the first place; Darby insists that not only did he not encourage McKay and Crowder but that short of admitting that he was working undercover with the FBI, he did everything he could do to talk them out of it. (See "The Informant," Jan. 23, and "RNC Aftermath," Jan. 16.)

After deliberating since Thursday afternoon, the eight-woman, three-man jury returned to the courtroom Friday morning to ask the judge to define the terms "induce" and "persuade." They wondered if simply mentioning Molotov cocktails was grounds for entrapment. According to reports from within the courtroom, the judge refused to define the terms. By the time Monday rolled around, the jurors still seemed to feel that they didn't have enough information and asked to see the transcripts of the e-mail exchanges between Darby and the FBI – particularly one in which Darby mentions his desire to continue working with the bureau – and testimony of the meeting that took place Aug. 31, the night before the Wal-Mart shopping trip. The requests were denied, and that afternoon, the panel was officially a hung jury.

McKay isn't off the hook, however. Conditions of his release include that he surrender his passport, submit to drug testing, and live with his father in Midland until court-approved housing is arranged. The prosecution has no plans to drop charges, and a retrial has been set for March 16.

– *Diana Welch*

Rally for Yogurt Shop Defendants

Supporters of yogurt shop defendants **Michael Scott** and **Robert Springsteen** took to the street Jan. 24, calling for charges against the two to be dropped. The two men await a retrial for the grisly 1991 murder of four teen girls. New DNA evidence found on the girls does not match either defendant, which supporters say exonerates the two men (see "Yogurt Shop," Jan. 16). The pair are due back in court in early March for a hearing that should determine whether they'll have a chance to be released on bail while awaiting trial. – *Jordan Smith*



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TPWD Film: Watching the Rivers Flow

When the **Texas Parks & Wildlife Department** gave legislators a sneak preview of its new documentary, *Texas: The State of Flowing Water*, it wasn't just an excuse for some scenic photography. "Water for wildlife is water for people," Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission Chairman **Peter Holt** told lawmakers and environmentalists at University of Texas-Austin's new AT&T Conference Center on Jan. 21. "These things are inseparable."

Each session, the Legislature deals with dozens of water bills focused on individual water districts. Now pressure is on them to build a comprehensive, statewide water plan, balancing demand and conservation. In 2001, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 2, creating the **Texas Water Advisory Council** and establishing an integrated water policy that TPWD staffers are optimistic will continue this session. TPWD Executive Director **Carter Smith** said that while current shortages get headlines, "We need to be planning for the future of our water resources, whether it's raining or we're in the throes of a dead drought."

The big concern, and the central issue in the documentary, is "environmental flow." That's the technical term for ensuring that enough water is moving through rivers and ponds to keep them viable: Take too much out upstream, and supplies and ecosystems downstream disappear. In 2007, the Legislature

passed two big bills (Hous Bill 3 and SB 3) establishing the Environmental Flows Allocation Process and bringing agencies, including TPWD and the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**, together on the new **Environmental Flows Advisory Group**. Now legislators must consider the group's findings and build new policy. (Echoing President Barack Obama's inaugural speech, Holt promised that "sound science will be our guide.") "Everyone understands the value of protecting environmental flow," Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter Director **Ken Kramer** said. "The only question now is how."

As the population of Texas swells and becomes increasingly urbanized, legislators are worried that residents will regard essential natural resources such as water as unlimited. During its **Sunset Advisory Commission** review, TPWD was advised to work with other departments to reverse this trend in poor education. While staff hopes this documentary will help, department spokesman **Tom Harvey** encourages Texans to use and appreciate the state's waterways. He added, "If you don't do anything else, get out there and paddle." — *Richard Whittaker*

Texas: The State of Flowing Water airs on PBS stations around the state, including KLRU in Austin, at 8pm Thursday, Feb. 12. For more info, see www.texasstateofwater.org.

Hyde Park Baptist Loses Appeal

On Jan. 30, the **3rd Court of Appeals** rejected the appeal of the **Hyde Park Baptist Church** of a decision in Travis Co. district court that found the church liable for negligence in its day-care program. In the original lawsuit brought by **Tara Turner** and **Terry Curtis** on behalf of their son Parker, the jury found that in 2004 and 2005, longtime teacher **Sue Lowry** had "physically, emotionally, and verbally abused" Parker in her class for toddlers and that the church's negligence had contributed to his injuries. Day-care administrators had been told repeatedly of Lowry's rough treatment of the children, including Parker, but did not respond until a teacher's assistant, acting on her own, initiated an investigation by **Child Protective Services**. The jury awarded a total of \$163,562 to the family, including pain, past and future medical expenses, and mental anguish. Hyde Park appealed the award and the jury's 80% allocation of fault to the church. Writing for the court, Justice **Diane Henson** rejected the appeal on all grounds and affirmed the trial court's judgment. For more detail, see "When the Bough Breaks," Nov. 17, 2006.



— *Michael King*

OH, HECHT!

Texas Supreme Court Justice **Nathan Hecht** is appealing a **Texas Ethics Commission** finding that he accepted a large in-kind donation (in the form of discounted legal fees) and failed to report it as a political contribution. Hecht incurred more than \$476,000 in legal fees in his fight with the **State Commission on Judicial Conduct**, which sanctioned Hecht for speaking out publicly in support of **Harriet Miers** when she was named by former President **George W. Bush** as a nominee to the U.S. Supreme Court. But ultimately, Hecht only paid roughly \$309,000 of the fees billed by his attorney at the law firm of Jackson Walker. Hecht said the discount was a negotiated fee (a way for a person of "limited means," Hecht said in an affidavit, to pay his debt), but nonpartisan advocacy group **Texas Watch** argued that the deep discount



Nathan Hecht

lowered Hecht's bill, he argues. "The commission itself mandates that politicians and judges be charged for goods and services like any other customer," Hecht's petition reads. "Nevertheless, the commission's decision creates a different legal fee structure for judges alone. Under this new structure, adjustments to legal bills to establish a reasonable fee turn into improper campaign contributions." — *Jordan Smith*

Riding to the Rescue

City officials recently joined the **Greater Austin Crime Commission** to unveil the group's gift of two new motorcycles outfitted for use by city paramedics. The addition of the motorcycles is part of **Austin-Travis Co. EMS'** efforts to become more nimble within a changing urban environment — the bikes will allow medics to get to calls more quickly, especially within increasingly congested Downtown, where ambulances can have trouble maneuvering quickly.

— *J.S.*



JANA BIRCHUM

How to Turn Purple to Blue

"I believe that in 2010, if you register a million Latinos in Texas, with another 400,000 African-Americans, at the top of the ticket a Democrat would win. It would be an Anglo Democrat with 1 million. With 1.5 million Latinos, at the top of the ticket any person of any color would win as a Democrat."

So declared **Lydia Camarillo**, vice president of the **Southwest Voter Registration Education Project**, at last week's **Central Texas Democratic Forum**. Camarillo told the monthly gathering of local Democrats that 2 million Hispanics are not registered to vote in Texas, and it's time to do something about it.

"What does that mean?" she asked. "It means you either have a shot at being a blue state now, or you have a shot at being a blue state in 25, 30 years. You decide. It's your choice. And it's a matter of resources — whether you do it as Democrats or you invest with groups like Southwest Voter Registration Education Project in a nonpartisan way."

The Southwest Voter Registration Education Project is a nonprofit and thus by law nonpartisan: "We don't tell voters how to vote; that's the law — we follow the letter of the law," Camarillo said. "But what we do understand is that voters, Latino voters in particular, understand

what's in their best interest. We have a saying at Southwest Voter: 'Change the voter; change the outcome.'

The 2010 election is of landmark importance, Camarillo said, not only because of the statewide offices at stake but also because of the redistricting that will follow — and redistricting will be especially important this time because Texas is likely to gain as many as four seats in Congress. But seizing that opportunity will cost money, Camarillo said.

The iron could be especially hot now if a recent **Gallup Poll** is correct: Surveying 19,415 Texans, the poll found that 43.4% identified themselves as Democrats, while just 41% identified as Republicans. "There is an opportunity. It costs about \$10 per voter to register a voter in Texas," Camarillo said. "I think that with \$17 million, we can register 1 million new voters very quickly, because it costs more when you're trying to do it quickly. ... The question is, do you do it quickly now, or do it within five years?"

"Texas raises a lot of money [for Democrats]," Camarillo said, "but all the money goes out [of state] or stays in the campaigns, but it's not enough to expand. What we're about is expansion. And the party needs to think about expanding its universe of voters." — *Lee Nichols*

the hightower report

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

THE CLUELESSNESS OF WALL STREET CEOS

This is going to sound silly, given the massive bailouts that Wall Street's financial giants are receiving from us taxpayers, but maybe we should take up a collection to buy a clue for the CEOs of these giants. Or maybe buy some ethics – do they sell those on eBay?

The latest outbreak of banker cluelessness comes from John Thain, who was honcho of Merrill Lynch until a few days ago. Merrill, which lost \$15 billion in just the last three months of last year, was such a mess that it was taken over by Bank of America in a fire sale. Well, a fire sale underwritten by you and me – Bank of America was given \$20 billion by the government to take Merrill Lynch, plus Uncle Sugar guaranteed another \$120 billion-worth of bad investments that the two merged entities have on their books.

In the midst of this embarrassing collapse and bailout, what was CEO Thain doing? Redecorating his office. Nero might have fiddled as Rome burned, but Thain went shopping while Merrill imploded. He spent \$1.2 million last year to spiff up his executive nest, including paying \$87,000 for a rug and \$68,000 for a credenza.

But he also focused on important personnel matters, such as trying to weasel a bonus of about \$30 million for himself – a tidy reward for presiding over the demise of his bank and the loss of jobs for thousands of his employees. Board members balked at this, however, so Thain didn't get the money, but he did rush out end-of-year bonuses to other top executives – just before the bailout money was paid.

Thain's excesses were too much for his overseers at Bank of America, so he was forced to resign. As a pampered prince of Wall Street, however, his downfall will be cushioned by millions of dollars in severance and retirement money – and he still won't have a clue about what a greed head he is.

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.

GRUMPY BUSHITES

After the inauguration of the new president, Dick Cheney was grumpy. OK, he's always grumpy, but this was grumpier than usual.

What irked Dick was that his buddy Bush had not pardoned the convicted felon Scooter Libby, who had served for years as Cheney's political hit man. "I strongly believe that he deserved a presidential pardon," Dick griped the day after he and Bush left office.

Come on, Cheney – Bush had already commuted Scooter's sentence, so your boy never did a day of jail time. Besides, it's your own legal prospects you might want to focus on.

But the ex-veep was not the only grump after the inauguration. Some of George W.'s top staffers were PO'd by the new president's inaugural address. "There were a few sharp elbows that really rankled and I felt were not as magnanimous as the occasion called for," harrumphed longtime Bush crony Karen Hughes. "It was pretty clear he was taking shots," grouched White House speechwriter Mark Thiessen. And Karl Rove, George W.'s vituperative political operative, vented that the speech was "a last angry frenzy" intended to malign Bush.

Oh, get a grip! The inauguration was not a farewell party for George. It was a major presidential transformation, and the people of America – and the world – wanted very much to hear Obama say clearly that he would make a sharp break from the autocratic, plutocratic, kleptocratic Bush regime.

Phrases like "restore science to its rightful place" and "we reject as false the choice between our safety and our ideals" were not "sharp elbows" – they were changes that the American people enthusiastically voted for and now expect Obama to deliver.

If the Bushites are unclear about how people feel about them, they should've heard the inaugural crowd's cheer of relief when George W.'s helicopter lifted off from the Capitol grounds to fly him out of town. He's gone! He's gone!

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Big Tex Budget Blues

The money debate begins: 'Every Texan for himself' vs. 'All in this together'

BY RICHARD WHITTAKER

In his State of the State address to the Legislature last week, Gov. Rick Perry said once again that he knows how to keep Texas solvent: Double-down on every business-friendly incentive policy, and keep state spending low. But Democratic and Republican legislators actually building the 2010-11 biennial state budget face falling revenues, a tax base overdue for effective reform, rising unemployment, falling health-insurance coverage, crumbling infrastructure, and agencies in urgent need of investment. Even in dire economic times, can Texas afford to be skittish about the state budget?

The Big Picture

While Perry eagerly cited the Fortune 500 companies previously attracted to Texas by low taxes and soft regulation and the 1.2 million new jobs created since 2003, every current indicator reflects that in Texas, as elsewhere, the economic wave has crested. According to the Texas Workforce Commission, the state lost 25,700 nonagricultural jobs in December alone – mostly the type of better-paid blue-collar jobs that came with benefits – and unemployment rose from 5.7% to 6%. The state comptroller's office predicts another 111,000 nonfarm jobs will be lost over the next eight months.

And while demands on state services will inevitably increase, the projected revenue is stagnating. In her biennial revenue review, Comptroller Susan Combs estimated that Texas will receive \$91 billion in federal receipts and funds for dedicated spending, plus \$76.7 billion from general-revenue-related taxes and fees for a grand total of \$167.7 billion. Take out all dedicated funding, and Combs forecasts this leaves the state \$77.1 billion for general-purpose spending in 2010-11 – down 10.5% from 2008-09. The situation is bad enough that Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and House Speaker Joe Straus want to cut 2.5% from the current budget and have asked state agencies to suggest voluntary cuts. Analysts with the progressive Center for Public Policy Priorities (which bases its projections on actual needs rather than simply previous budgets) calculate there is a \$5 billion gap between cash and commitments in the current budget. They expect that will swell to \$9 billion in 2010-11.

Same Pie, Smaller Pieces

Sen. Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, chaired the Senate Finance Committee last session and delivered its interim report to the new session. With the House still finalizing committee appointments, Senate Finance took the initial lead on budget-building by starting public hearings on Feb. 2. (There's already a disagreement brewing: The Senate wants an extra

\$200 million for Health and Human Services and \$251 million for education, above House proposals, and neither comes close to state agency requests.) "The task is always the same," Ogden said. "We've got to balance the budget and serve the essential needs of Texans. The challenge for us is to listen, and that's what we'll be doing for the next three or four weeks: listening to Texans about the budget that we've introduced and then make changes as appropriate."

The big-ticket items are perennial: Medicaid, insurance, public education, college tuition, and transportation (with prison spending and rhetoric largely a barometer of the economic times). With the economy in free fall, the need for safety-net services will rise. Rep. Dawnna Dukes, D-Austin, has served on the House Appropriations Committee since 2003 and says she was disappointed by the lack of discussion of pocketbook items. "With so many people becoming unemployed," she said, "the thing that they lose is health insurance."

Rep. Donna Howard, D-Austin, said the state needs to be ready to take advantage of promised federal cash. She explained:

"If we have more money for the [Children's Health Insurance Program], it's going to require that the states invest matching funds. Many of us are going to be pushing for that."

Education will also be getting more discussion: Ogden says he wants to tackle, once again, the "Robin Hood" system of public-school funding (whereby property-wealthy school districts help subsidize property-poor ones), and Perry wants a college tuition freeze – locking in for four years at the student's freshman rate. Howard is concerned about the details. "There are strings attached to the freeze: You have to keep the same major, and you have to graduate on time," she said, and that timeline is difficult for nontraditional students and certain majors. More importantly, she argues, legislators must take a long-lasting approach to higher-education funding and discuss real investment beyond tuition. She said: "In 2003, [deregulation] was an effort to deal with a budget shortfall. Here we are with another budget shortfall, and we want to freeze tuition fees?" Texas Democratic Party Chairman Boyd Richie's response to Perry's partial freeze was even blunter. He said: "To say, 'My answer is to freeze it at its current level for incoming classes,' that's like saying gasoline is \$4 a gallon, [and] we're going [to] freeze it at that price. I still can't afford it."

Even if the state finds a way to relieve family budgets, there are some big reforms it must pay for, such as restructuring the Texas Youth Commission. If it closes current rural facilities, as has been widely advocated, not only

will the Lege have to build new ones nearer cities, but there will be pressure to help those communities losing a major employer. Yet after the abuse scandals of 2007, that investment can't wait. Ogden says he wants a similar overhaul of the heavily criticized state school system. "I'm tired of getting beat up for how we treat our mentally retarded citizens," he said.

How to Pay for It

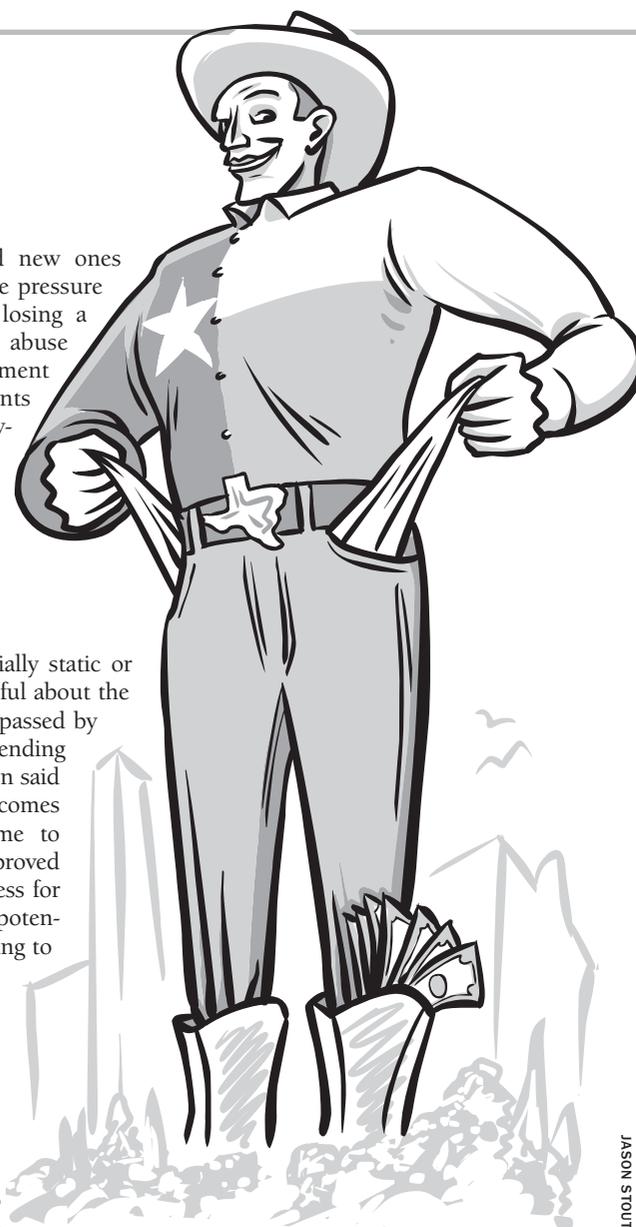
With state revenues essentially static or worse, state agencies are hopeful about the federal stimulus package just passed by the U.S. House and now pending before the Senate. While Ogden said that the national debt that comes with the plan "is scaring me to death," he expects it will be approved early in the state budget process for distribution. Even with that potential injection, all eyes are turning to the state's Economic Stabilization Fund – more colloquially known as "the Rainy Day Fund" – estimated to reach \$9.1 billion in the next biennium (largely thanks to that nearly forgotten spike in gasoline prices and therefore oil severance taxes). No one is advocating emptying the coffers, but the question is how deep legislators dare go. "Based on the comptroller's estimates, it looks like we're going to have to tap into that to the tune of \$2 billion to \$3 billion to be reserved for 'significant one-time expenditures, not recurring items'" – something Ogden thinks possible because "those terms are kind of vague."

Center for Public Policy Priorities senior fiscal analyst Dick Lavine argues that reflexive position fails to acknowledge why legislators started the fund in 1988. "It's supposed to stabilize the budget," he said. "We have a recent publication from [bond-rating house] Standard & Poor's that says that this is what it's for. It does not hurt your bond rating to spend it." Along the same lines, CPPP senior budget analyst Eva DeLuna Castro warns that if Texas wants to keep those Fortune 500 companies that make Perry so proud, that means investment. She explained, "If we lured them here on the promises that they won't have to pay any taxes, then they're still going to want good roads and schools and infrastructure."

But while legislators are under pressure about how much money they spend, they're also under pressure about what money pays for which agency. That means the end of diver-

sions – when a tax supposedly dedicated for one agency helps fund another. But Ogden argued: "That term 'diversion' needs more definition. It's not a diversion to use gasoline-tax revenue for [the Department of Public Safety], because they're as entitled as [the Texas Department of Transportation]. So the question there is not ending a diversion that isn't one – it's can we put more money in highway construction?"

To prevent the budget process from becoming a shell game, legislators are pondering at least some targeted tax increases. There's Senate Bill 217, the plan by Transportation Committee chair Sen. John Carona, R-Dallas, to index-link the state gas tax to highway construction costs. Lavine encourages legislators to stop thinking about revenue projections as immutable prophecy. He said: "People are willing to pay taxes for things they care about, like people in [the Austin Independent School District] voting for a couple of extra pennies for schools. ... For suburbanites, roads to commute on are pretty important." Lavine also argues for fixing tax loopholes to boost revenue. "There's a Sunset Act for all the agencies," he said. "But once a tax break is in the



JASON STOUT



tax code, no one goes back and looks at it." Legislators, he added, need to see if "all those special exemptions and special treatments ... have outlived their usefulness."

Democrats are reflexively quick to defend themselves against allegations that they plan to tax their way out of a deficit. Freshman Rep. Diana Maldonado, D-Round Rock, arrived on an education slate and hopes to bring some lessons from Round Rock Independent School District's innovative approach to college partnerships and dual-credit courses to statewide policy, "so by the time [students] graduate from high school, college is a little more affordable."

From another direction, state Democratic Party Chair Richie argues that big changes can be made by rejecting wasteful and unsuccessful policies driven solely by Republican political dogma, using the opportunity to take another shot at the opening week's political hostilities. "It seems to me," he said, "you could get there by not spending two, three, four days working on Senate rules just so you can get voter ID passed to solve a problem that doesn't exist."

To Lavine, Texans must get past the mentality that a tax dollar that doesn't return directly to their front doors is a wasted dollar. He explained: "It's a consumer orientation: You get what you pay for. But are you on your own, or are we all in this together?" ■

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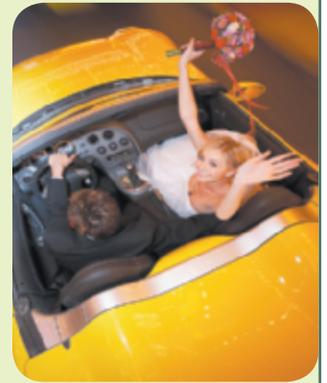
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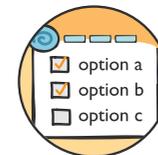
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State Rep. Donna Howard

JANA BIRCHUM

Nurses Workload Fight Just Begun

We gave a passing mention to Austin Rep. **Donna Howard's** House Bill 591 a couple of weeks ago because, enjoying the support of both the **Texas Hospital Association** and **Texas Nurses Association**, we didn't foresee it having much opposition. Not so fast, says the **National Nurses Organizing Committee**. Howard's bill (and the Senate twin authored by Sen. **Jane Nelson** of Flower Mound) "doesn't have any teeth," complains **Jesse Romero**, a lobbyist for the NNOC, a famously activist union.

The bill would elevate nurse staffing committees in Texas hospitals to standing committees that would report directly to the hospital's governing body, require that hospitals implement and enforce policies to ensure that **nurse staffing levels** are adequate to patients' needs, and in formulating those policies, "give significant consideration" to the recommendations of those committees. The bill is a response to the nationwide hospital nursing shortage.

However, "There is no nursing shortage," counters Romero. "There's a shortage of nurses willing to do adverse work, because their licenses are on the line." The way to counter that, he says, is to legally mandate **minimum nurse-patient ratios**, which NNOC would do in proposed legislation it calls the **Texas Hospital Patient Protection Act**, for which they've picked up Sen. **Mario Gallegos**, D-Houston, as a sponsor.

The NNOC points to California, where the union successfully killed a 2005 attempt by Gov. **Arnold Schwarzenegger** to relax mandatory ratios. After Schwarzenegger relented, a spokeswoman for the California Health and Human Services Agency told the *Los Angeles Times*, "We had 10 months of experience with the court-mandated ratios and there seems to be no negative impact on the healthcare system. Our data shows that hospitals have been able to meet the lower ratios, and some hospitals have even signed it into their labor contracts."

But Howard, herself a former nurse, doesn't think that's the way to go. "The whole point of this bill was to allow flexibility rather than one-size-fits-all, which is what NNOC has been recommending," she says. "Just think about what happens in a hospital setting, and you realize there are unique patient needs, unique levels of acuity, regardless of the setting. There's also different educational levels of the nurses – some have just gotten out of nursing school; some have 20 years of experience."

The Texas Nurses Association and Texas Hospital Association echoed Howard's sentiments. "We don't believe in [mandatory ratios]," says **Clair Jordan**, TNA's executive director. "The reason we don't, what experience we've drawn from what California has done, California is the only state that has done mandatory ratios. The nine other states that have taken action have followed our lead, which is to set up a system whereby the hospital establishes and the nurses establish the actual staffing plans for the institution. ... Obviously the skill level [differences among nurses] leads you to make false assignments. Because an experienced nurse may be able to handle five, while a brand-new nurse may be able to handle only two."

But, also pointing to the California experience, Romero says that hospitals there actually reduced nurse turnover and raised profits with the ratios in place, drawing 80,000 licensed registered nurses back into the profession. "The empirical fact is, ratios work," he says. (Howard says she asked NNOC to produce documentation of those statistics, and it had failed to do so.)

The bottom line for Romero: "Hospitals can already [lower the ratios] on their own, but for whatever reason, they choose not to." Romero cited tragedies that prompted certain hospitals in Texas to lower their ratios, "but guess what happened after the media was gone? They went right back up."

– Lee Nichols



HOUSE COMMITTEES LESS IS MORE

The prevailing image from last session in the Texas House was then-Speaker **Tom Craddick** claiming absolute authority. Now legislators hope new **House rules** will redress that imbalance and produce the member-run house that Speaker **Joe Straus** has promised. Authored by Rep. **Burt Solomons**, R-Carrollton, and adopted on a 147-1 vote, House Resolution 2 takes on a long-standing complaint – that extra committees had been created just so the speaker could hand out chairmanships to allies – and a dilemma reverberating from last session: how to replace the speaker.

There will be fewer committees than last session (35, down from 40), more members on those remaining committees, and more members will be able to apply on the basis of seniority rather than be allocated seats on the speaker's whim. Solomons explained, "We've had some committees just sitting out there, and Speaker Straus and I both agreed there ought to be some reorganization." As for boosting the number of seats, he said: "More members have more opportunities to ask for more substantive committees. You can't have that when every committee has seven members."

House Democratic Caucus Chair **Jim Dunnam**, D-Waco, supports the thrust of the change and says this is more like the House from before the divisive Craddick era: "When I first came in the Legislature, I found there were fewer committees and larger committees, and that gave more members input and more individual members influence."

Some changes were obviously significant. The **Regulated Industries Committee**, often seen instead as a roadblock to effective regulation of the electricity and telecoms industries, has been dissolved. A new **Technology, Economic Development, and Workforce Committee** is intended to foster better relations between university researchers

and business to produce more high tech and green-collar jobs. Other changes were more inside-baseball. (The sole nay vote to the rules, Rep. **Harold Dutton**, D-Houston, opposed moving authority over the Texas Youth Commission, previously split between Corrections and his Juvenile Justice & Family Issues Committee, to solely under Corrections.)

The biggest argument concerned the powerful **State Affairs Committee**, which gains extra oversight over state agencies and institutions but also assumes authority over regulated industries. To reflect that new power, it will swell from nine members to 15, but the chair will not be able to serve on another substantive committee. Dunnam called it "a new supercommittee, or rather the old supercommittee come back ... that seemed to work well in the Nineties." Solomons was more cautious about making State Affairs too powerful, especially when it was assigned partial responsibility for handling the **federal stimulus package**. "That's really an Appropriations issue," he said. But with input from both the Senate and the governor on any spending, he said, "I think it's probably going to be fine."

The new rules also make the speaker more accountable to the members, including setting out formally how to remove the speaker from office. Rep. **Phil King**, R-Weatherford, lost a brief fight to require a supermajority vote to remove, and the process will require a simple majority. Again, Dunnam argues this restores balance to the House. He noted:

"What the speaker did last session was really a novel concept in saying that he didn't have to recognize members. So we clarified what people thought was the rule before last May."

Members from both parties must wait to see who fills the committees and whether Straus will fulfill his promise of an equitable division of posts – decisions the speaker's office says will be announced in early to mid-February.

– Richard Whittaker

Strama Steers Clean Car Bill

If Rep. **Mark Strama**, D-Austin, gets his way, new cars in Texas could be as clean as those in California.

Strama, who is positioned to become a leader on environmental and energy-efficiency legislation in the House, has filed HB 776, which would raise the emissions standards for new cars to the highest level permissible under federal law. The federal **Clean Air Act** allows states to choose between national standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency and the low-emission vehicle standards (LEV II) set by the California Air Resources Board. Strama's bill and the matching Senate version, SB 119 by Sen. **Rodney Ellis**, D-Houston, would put all new cars produced from 2012 onward and sold in Texas on the higher California standards. "This is something I've worked on for 18 years since I was a staffer for Senator Ellis in 1991," Strama said. "The standards adopted by California are undoubtedly stricter, and 13 other states with air pollution problems and that want their citizens to drive

the cleanest, most efficient cars have selected them. We want Texans to have those same standards."

With Texas being such a huge car market, Strama said, "This would force manufacturers to produce cars that burn less gasoline." Ellis' office estimates that, even with an average increase in car payments of \$7 a month for a more fuel-efficient vehicle, drivers of new fuel-efficient cars would save \$18 on gas, leaving them \$11 better off every month.

While it wouldn't tackle old gas guzzlers, which Strama called "the larger problem in the current vehicle mix," he sees this bill, programs such as the **Texas Emissions Reduction Plan** (which provides incentives for upgrading or replacing polluting vehicles), and Gov. Rick Perry's proposal for \$5,000 toward buying plug-in hybrid cars in areas failing to attain air-quality standards as part of a long-term solution. "Over a 20-year period," he said, "we need not only to get old cars off the road but to get the cleanest cars on the road."

– R.W.



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Dukes Moves to Boost Film Incentives

In 2007, Gov. Rick Perry signed off on \$22 million in funds for the new **Texas Moving Image Industry Incentive Program**. For the next biennium, Perry wants to boost that investment to \$60 million, and Rep. **Dawnna Dukes**, D-Austin, wants to fine-tune legislation to keep media production in Texas. "We want to be realistic and competitive," she said.

According to the **Texas Film Commission**, about 150 TV, film, and computer-game productions have applied to the program, bringing in \$200 million in spending and receiving \$10.5 million in grants. But the program saw teething troubles, with a backlog of applications and concerns about low payouts (see "Abandoning the Nest," Screens, May 23, 2008). Texas actually saw a drop in film production after the program began, as a tight economy overwhelmed creative decisions on location choices. "The conversation has changed," said Texas Film Commission Director **Bob Hudgins**. "Filmmakers tell us, 'Our investors say we have to go here and we have to go there.'"



Over the interim, lawmakers and the commission met with studios to discuss what Texas needs to do to stop projects going elsewhere, to states with similar incentive programs, such as Louisiana. The incentive package was quickly identified as the weak link. Dukes explained: "We put some very high standards in the bill, to encourage the use of Texas residents in the production and the amount of production. The bars are a bit high, so we have not been able to capitalize as much as we would have desired."

Dukes has introduced **House Bill 873** to address those lessons learned. The bill drops the total amount of in-state spending required for a qualifying production and extends the program to cover the potentially lucrative educational and instructional video market. Dukes hopes this will attract filmmakers back to Texas (Rep. **Rafael Anchía**, D-Dallas, is working on a soundstage-development construction bill, to ensure there's enough production space if they do come). Most importantly, the bill gives the Film Commission



State Rep. Dawnna Dukes

more authority over the program so it can be more responsive to shifting market demands. While commissioners will still be responsible to the Legislature and the comptroller, Dukes explained, "We did not want to come back every single session to micromanage."
— Richard Whittaker

Senate: Patrick Gets Promoted

If it's all change in the House committees, on the **Senate** side it's more of the same. On Friday, Jan. 30, Lt. Gov. **David Dewhurst** released his list of committees and appointments, with few shifts from 2007. All of last session's committees are back, while three subcommittees — Agriculture & Rural Affairs, Economic Development, and Higher Education — become full committees. Among the Travis Co. delegation, Sen. **Jeff Wentworth**, R-San Antonio, remains chair of Jurisprudence, and Sen. **Kirk Watson**, D-Austin, keeps his vice chairmanship of Transportation & Homeland Security. But most attention has been paid to Sen. **Dan Patrick**, R-Houston — the conservative radio talk-show bullhorn — getting two vice chairmanships (Education and Higher Education) in only his second session.
— R.W.

Dunbar Will See Opposition in 2010

In 2006, Republican **Cynthia Dunbar** of Richmond drew no Democratic opposition in her run for the District 10 seat on the **State Board of Education**, allowing her an easy 70% win over a Libertarian opponent.

But with Dunbar making a spectacle of herself lately — being a pro-creationism, anti-evolution voice on the board; writing editorials warning of martial law under an Obama administration; and writing a book calling public education an unconstitutional "subtly deceptive tool of perversion" — and the Democratic Party resurging in Texas, she won't get such an easy walk in 2010.

In the past two days, party activist **Susan Shelton** confirmed to the *Chronicle* that she definitely plans to challenge Dunbar, and UT math professor **Lorenzo Sadun** said he's "very likely." Sadun also said he's heard as many as a dozen people are thinking of running as Democrats.

"Yes, I'm running," Shelton said at the **Central Texas Democratic Forum** last week.

"I've been reading Dunbar's book, and we need somebody less extreme in there.

"I had to run," she continued. "It's a cliché, but I'll need somebody to take care of me in my dotage, and I need them to be educated. There was no way I could not do this."

District 10 includes the northern half of Travis County, all of Williamson and Bastrop counties, and all or part of 13 other counties to the east and southeast. That pits liberal Austin against more conservative rural counties, but the fact that Travis, Williamson, and Fort Bend counties make up half the vote — and that WilCo and Fort Bend, while still Republican, have been trending toward Democratic — gives Shelton optimism. She emphasized that she won't begin actively campaigning until after Austin's May 9 municipal elections. She serves as political director for **Lee Leffingwell's** mayoral campaign and said she wants to focus on "one race at a time."

Sadun said that if he finally makes it official, he'll also wait until after the muni contests. He said he also wants to wait to see the results of several SBOE-related bills before the Legislature, which will wrap up in May. "None of them are likely to go anywhere," he opined, but if a bill by Austin Rep. **Donna Howard** to make SBOE elections nonpartisan succeeds, "that will change everything. ... Then the election would be in November with no run-off. In that case, we must not have the anti-Dunbar candidates splitting the vote."

Both Democrats said they respect each other but the prospect of a primary opponent would not change their plans. "Shelton is a really good person," Sadun said, "but her expertise is in other areas, and I think I'd be the stronger candidate. But any of us would be better than Dunbar."

Sadun ran for Congressional District 10 in 2004 as a write-in. Failing to have his name on the ballot doomed him to only 6% of the vote. This time around, he said, he plans to lay the groundwork necessary for a real campaign.
— Lee Nichols

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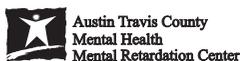
Terrie Williams, best-selling author of *Black Pain, It Just Looks Like We're Not Hurting*.

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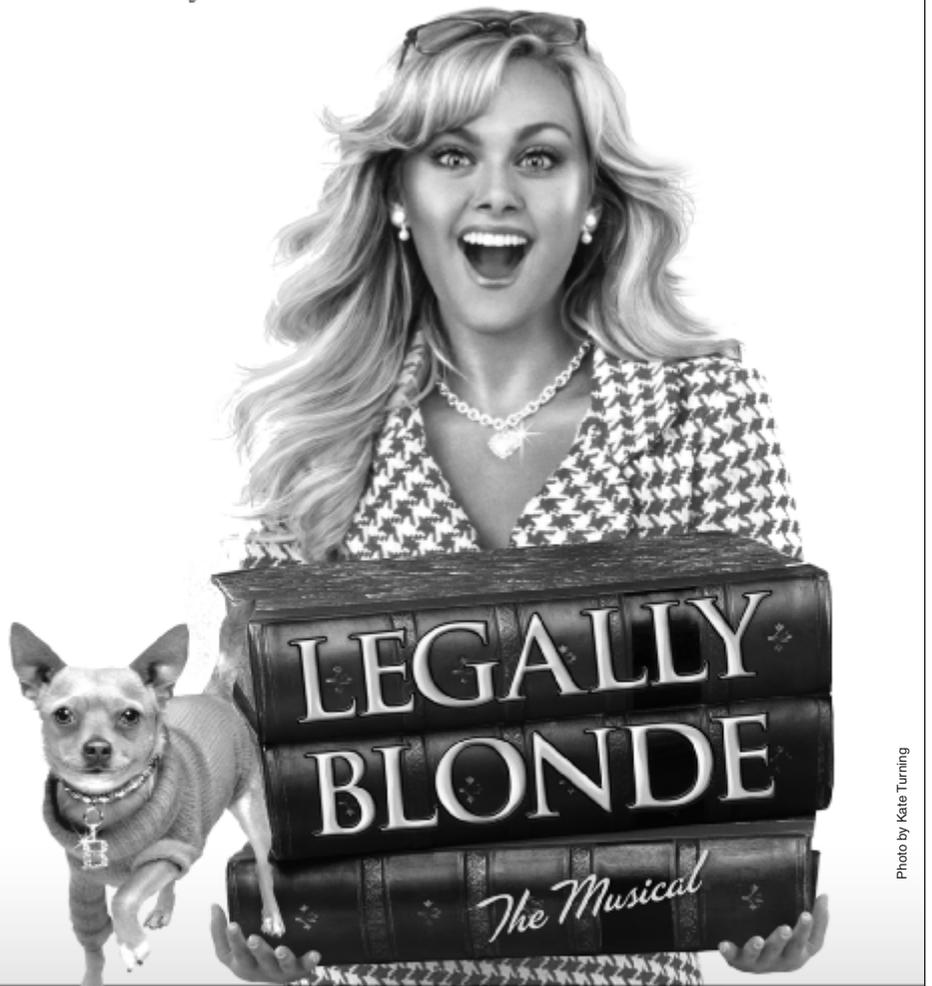
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Top: *Workers emerging from a coal mine.* Dhanbad, Bihar State, India, 1989, Gelatin Silver Print, 19 1/2 X 28 7/8 inches, Photographs by Sebastião Salgado / Amazonas Images **Bottom Right:** *Crow Chair.* Melissa Miller, 2007, Aluminum and oil paint, 6 x 4 x 4 inches, Courtesy of Damian and Paula Priour **Bottom Left:** *Attack Chair.* David Hesser, 2007, Steel, leather, and wood. 5 x 6 x 6 inches, Courtesy of Damian and Paula Priour

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THE arts

IN MEMORIAM Shekhar Govind

On Jan. 13, at the age of 51, Shekhar Govind died in his sleep. This unexpected loss has affected the many who loved him and the artistic community that had grown to depend on him.

Possessed of a brilliant mind and heart, Govind was a professor, a systems analyst, and a philanthropist. After retiring from academia, he rediscovered an old love: the theatre. Living near the Vortex, he stopped by one day to see if he could be of assistance. His partner, Diane Christopherson, recalls, "They allowed him to have a hammer and

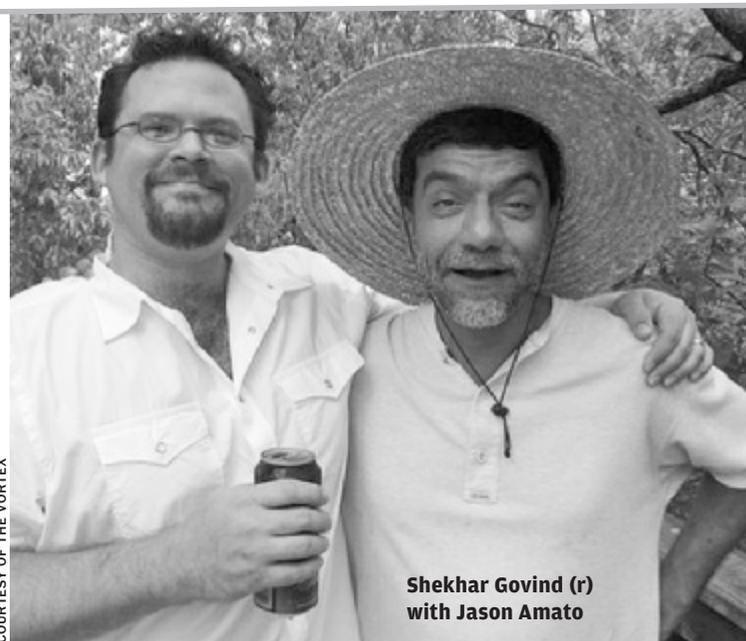
a nail, and within a short time, he was invited to be on the board of directors." To review the accomplishments, credits, and honors he logged in four years boggles the mind. He was involved in every aspect of the theatre's life, from facility repairs to performance. Artistic Director Bonnie Cullum notes: "Shekhar was one of the best things that ever happened to me or the Vortex. Each day I encounter yet another place where I would have turned to him first for help."

No job was too big or too small for Govind's fine attention. His

humor was ever present, whether doing magic tricks for his fellow engineers or solving complex problems in the service of stagecraft. Always a student of life, even had he lived eternally, Govind never would have exhausted his endless interests.

Vortex Repertory Company is dedicating its current season to Shekhar Govind. A celebration of his life will be held Saturday, Feb. 7, 1pm, at the Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd. For more information, call 478-5282 or visit www.vortexrep.org.

— Hannah Kenah

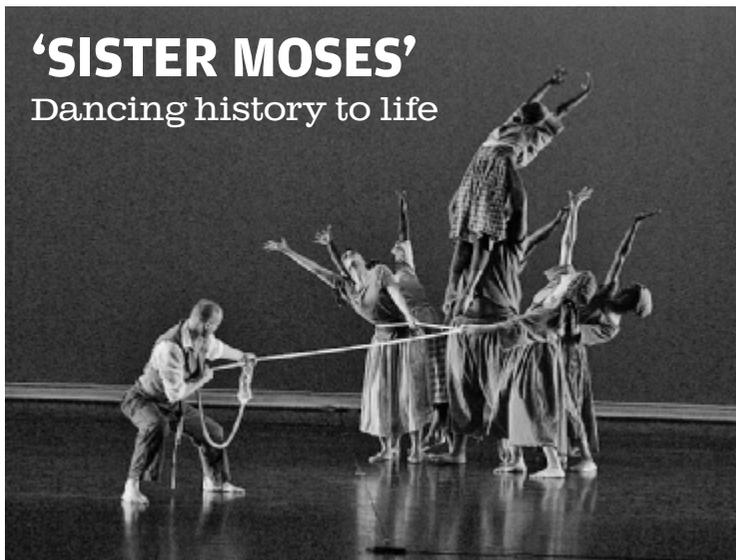


Shekhar Govind (r)
with Jason Amato

COURTESY OF THE VORTEX

'SISTER MOSES'

Dancing history to life



A child is ripped from a mother's arms and held up for scrutiny and bidding. There is a powerful difference between reading about slave auctions in books and seeing one physicalized before you. Desert Dance Theatre's *Sister Moses: The Story of Harriet Tubman* expresses a painful and courageous history in just such an immediate way, and audiences have responded to its power. The dance drama has been performed in Arizona annually for the last 17 years. According to the company's associate artistic director, Renee Davis, it became "the *Nutcracker* of Black History Month" there. This year the dance will be performed in Austin for the second time in a production designed to involve local artists. Davis describes sharing the work with the community members who will participate in its performance: "Part of us teaching the movement is telling the history. The strength is in their understanding

of what we're trying to portray. We're trying to bring history to life."

Davis moved to Austin in 1998, but she returns to Arizona whenever Desert Dance Theatre performs *Sister Moses* since, in addition to her ongoing duties as associate artistic director, Davis has danced the role of Harriet Tubman since the work premiered. Over 17 years, the character has sunk deep into her bones. When she speaks of Tubman, it's as if she is speaking of a dear friend. "Harriet Tubman was one of those people who, even from birth, was destined to do something great," she says. "In her heart, she yearned for freedom."

Davis and Desert Dance Theatre hope that eventually *Sister Moses* will become an annual event in Austin. This year's production bodes well for that goal.

Almost all of the roles have been filled with local dancers, and the Huston-Tillotson University Concert Choir will perform the spirituals that score the dance. Foods based on the foods that slaves ate, along with explanations of their cultural significance, will be prepared for the reception by Travis High School's Institute of Hospitality & Culinary Arts. "That's what I love, and that's what I shoot for!" exclaims Davis. "To involve as much of the community as possible. So you're not just telling the story; you're not just creating an arts event; you're creating an experience."

After 17 years, is Renee Davis tired of playing Harriet Tubman? Not in the slightest. In fact, other work now pales in comparison. She says, "It's an honor to keep doing it." And Davis draws courage from the very woman she is portraying. Of her tireless efforts, Tubman once said, "The Lord who told me to take care of my people meant me to do it just so long as I live, and so I do what he told me to." Davis is struck by Tubman's clarity. "All of

her words, in such simple language, are so inspirational," she says. "If each person could find their purpose in life, think what a better world we'd be in." Listening to her passion, one gets the sense that Davis has found her clear purpose in life: to share the story of Harriet Tubman and to dance that story as strong and as long as possible.

— H.K.

Sister Moses: The Story of Harriet Tubman will be performed Friday, Feb. 6, 7:30pm, at Shoreline Center, 15201 Burnet Rd. For more information, call 297-7410 or visit www.sistermoses.org.

UT PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

New director running the show

As Bass Concert Hall went dark for its long renovation in 2007, the University of Texas Performing Arts Center of which it's a part lost its director; Pebbles Wadsworth, who had run the UTPAC since 1992, announced she would retire in January 2008. But no sooner did Bass' lights come on again last month than the UTPAC had a new leader. At the hall's reopening concert on Jan. 23, UT College of Fine Arts Dean Doug Dempster announced that Kathleen Panoff, executive director of the University of Richmond's Modlin Center for the Arts, had been chosen to run the complex. She takes the reins from Interim Director April Holmes Aug. 1.

The UTPAC, with six venues ranging from the 200-seat Brockett Theatre to the 3,000-seat Bass, is a serious step up from the Modlin's 600-seat concert hall and 550-seat theatre. But judging from the high marks given Panoff by colleagues, patrons, and artists alike, she seems quite capable of making that leap. University of Richmond School of Arts & Sciences Dean Andrew Newcomb told the University of Richmond newspaper that Panoff's "energy and enthusiasm have inspired the entire university" and credits her with putting Modlin "on the map." Modlin Associate Director David Howson praises Panoff's "great sense of artistic quality" and "incredible ability to get students engaged in the arts," something Panoff is already on record as making a priority in her new job. Panoff's tenure at Modlin also demonstrated a commit-

ment to partnering with other cultural entities, especially in ways that strengthen their community.

It will be interesting to see how that last plays in the Republic of Burnt Orange, which has at times shown great sensitivity to the community beyond the 40 Acres (e.g., repeatedly postponing the Bass renovation while the Long Center was under construction so the ballet, opera, and symphony would not be stuck without a place to perform) but has just as often given Austin the cold shoulder, acting as if it couldn't be bothered with the city that surrounds it. Panoff was present at Modlin from its founding and, during her 13 years there, had a pretty free hand to shape the facility she wanted. Now, though, coming into a center with a 28-year history that precedes her, not to mention a school and a bureaucracy many times larger than her previous one, she'll have her work cut out for her. Still, Panoff is said to be very bright and a tireless worker, and she is one Virginia native who already knows her way around Texans, having spent some years teaching music in Dallas. (Also on her résumé: development officer, Cincinnati National Public Radio affiliate WGUC-FM; managing director, Cincinnati Playhouse; and president of her own consulting firm for strategic planning, marketing, and fundraising.) That suggests she is well-equipped to get things done at the UTPAC. In any case, we wish her well. Congratulations, Ms. Panoff, and welcome to Austin.

— Robert Faires

Retracing Their Steps

Two choreographers explain why it's tough to get old dances back on their feet

BY JONELLE SEITZ

"When you're creating, the studio just throbs with energy," says dance company director and choreographer Kathy Dunn Hamrick. "But when you're trying to bring a piece back, it's like doing math homework." If her tone sounds a little spent, that's because Hamrick is smack-dab in the middle of a yearlong effort to restage samples from a decade of her work, and a quadruple bill of excerpts is scheduled to open on Feb. 7. Add to this month's dance calendar Ballet Austin's Valentine's Day weekend revival of Stephen Mills' *Hamlet* from 2000, and we've got a month heavy on recycled works. Recession-style programming? Possibly. But the opportunity to see a work for the second or third time, rare in a modest-sized city like Austin, affords a chance for dance attendees and choreographers to look at works from new angles, via fresh interpretations and additional notches of wisdom.

Hamrick's unenthusiastic take on reacquainting herself with old works stems partially from the lack of an effective method of recording them. Our experience of, say, an old painting is renewed when it's hung in a different time and place. For a play's revival, actors learn the script and follow the stage directions, according to the insights of the director. Musicians decipher the notes and, maybe aided by the conductor, interpret the dynamics indicated by the score to bring a piece of music to new fruit-

tion. But a dance, arguably, is extinguished each time the curtain falls. It lingers, dormant and parasitic, in the muscle memory and brain chemicals of the dancers and choreographer, but to re-create it is almost to develop a thing from scratch.

It's true that context, direction, and interpretation are at play in the revival of a dance, but there is rarely a good enough picture or description of the dance itself to start from. Sure, there are systems of dance notation, cryptic collections of shapes and symbols that only specialists can understand. But despite the complexity of such notes, they tell little about what the actual movement should look like, let alone its quality, mood, and motivation. And, of course, there is video, indispensable but often regarded as an inefficient and superficial way to revive a dance. Because dancers learning choreography from video do so by watching others, they may inadvertently mimic those interpretations instead of developing their own. Subtle motivations – the unison breath taken by back



Kathy Dunn Hamrick

JOHN ANDERSON

rows of the ensemble, a soloist's dart of the eyes that precedes the rest of the body to a new place – are lost. Plus, it's bewildering and tedious to translate the reversed image on the TV screen into the correct steps and formations in the studio.

TV used to occupy kids is sometimes called the "free babysitter"; TV for teaching dancers could be called the "free répétiteur" (that's dance-stager, in this context, if you don't speak French). Neither is a comparable substitute for the real thing. Most reputable companies, though, use video only to jog the memory of whomever is leading the rehearsal: choreographer, director, or répétiteur. Then, the steps are painstakingly described, demonstrated, and corrected, human to human, pretty much the same way they were developed in the first place.

When Mills created *Hamlet*, he was in his first full season as artistic director of Ballet Austin (though he'd been with the company for several years as resident

choreographer and then interim director). This month's production will be *Hamlet*'s eighth incarnation – since the premiere, it has been set on five other companies, and Ballet Austin brought it back in 2004. It's a luxury to stage the work at home, Mills says, where the rehearsal period is measured in weeks instead of, yikes, days. In the interest of economy, the evening-length ballet has been staged elsewhere in as few as 10 days, and "in a story like *Hamlet*, there's so much complexity of character and layers of metaphor that you just can't get to when you have to do it in such a short period of time." Working with dancers whose aptitudes and personalities he already knows helps, too, and facilitates more thoughtful casting. All the *Hamlets* and *Ophelias* in this month's double-cast production are new to their roles, with the exception of Paul Michael Bloodgood, who learned *Hamlet* as an understudy in 2004.

CONTINUED ON P.32

Relearning a dance from video is like "wearing someone else's clothes for a while," says choreographer Kathy Dunn Hamrick. "You just have to do it over and over again until you can make it your own."



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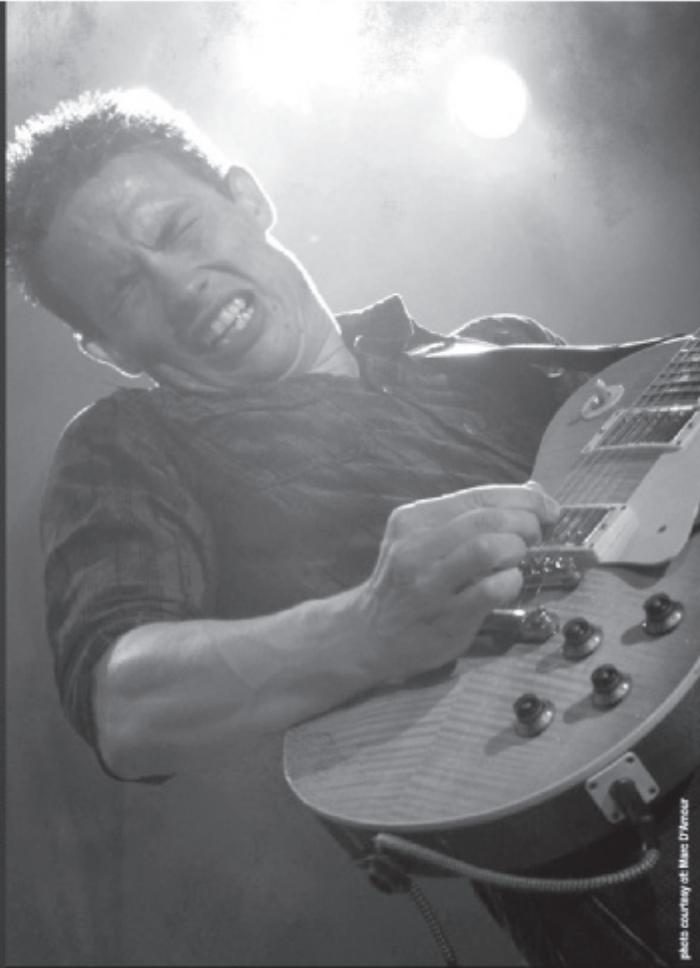
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Of the seven dancers in Hamrick's mixed program, two performed in previous stagings of "Slammed" (2002) and "Blurred" (2004), which are excerpted along with "Spin" (2005) and "Woman Smiling" (2002). Hamrick herself danced in all four of the premieres, but she's not doing that this time around. Instead, she's spending her time ensuring that the dances make sense as excerpts and adjusting them for a new type of venue – while all the works premiered at the State Theatre, the excerpts will be shown at Cafe Dance, a studio space where the audience surrounds the performers on all sides. For her, rebuilding the choreography from video is the real bugaboo. "When you are making up a dance on the spot, it makes sense to you. The way you're interacting with the music and the dancers and the space itself, it's organic. But when you're learning it on video, trying to relearn it, it seems so arbitrary," she explains. "It's like wearing someone else's clothes for a while, and you just have to do it over and over again until you can make it your own."

For Hamrick, the work can evolve in this process, especially considering that she sees

her current aesthetic as somewhat changed. "Sometimes I'll have to say [to the dancers]: 'Stop looking at the videotape. This is the way I'm moving now. Maybe I was so focused on counts and unison and the idea of perfection. Now I'm looser, and I want a little more flow in the spine.'" Other times, the reasons for edits are more practical. If a piece involves lifts – and in Hamrick's work, that means women lifting women – they might have to be changed to suit different body types. Or a few extra years of firsthand

Kathy Dunn Hamrick Dance Company presents its second program of works from its first 10 years Saturdays, Feb. 7-21, 6 & 8pm, at Cafe Dance, 3307-B Hancock. For more information, call 934-1082 or visit www.kdhdance.com.

Ballet Austin presents Hamlet Feb. 13-15, Friday and Saturday, 8pm; Sunday, 3pm, in Dell Hall at the Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside. For more information, call 476-2163 or visit www.balletaustin.org.

experience with kinesiology might prompt her to rethink a decision: "Sometimes now I'll go back and say: 'That was really bad for the knees; that was not a good choice. Let's do it differently.'"

Mills sees any change that's occurred over *Hamlet's* eight years as more evolutionary, and he doesn't take changing the steps lightly. "Maybe some dancer doesn't like to turn so much or turns to the left easier than to the right. I make alterations like that, but there are certainly no major shifts, because the choreography is very tight and very polyphonic, so the groups relate to one another in a very musically specific way." (The ballet is set to a recorded score of



Stephen Mills

JOHN ANDERSON

Philip Glass works.) That said, some subtle changes occur, under even Mills' own sensitive radar. His understanding of the characters has been enriched, largely through working with different dancers' interpretations of them. "In 2000, I really didn't know the characters," he admits. "I was making steps and making relationships with people and doing all the things you do when you're

making a new ballet, but it's interesting in that each time you work with dancers, you give them information, but they give you information back. So in each production that I've had the opportunity to mount, the production has changed based upon my relationship with the dancers, what they gave me and how I interpreted it. When I stage this work with my company now, they

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Photo: Greg Barrett

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get the benefit of all that experience with all those other dancers.”

The question that neither Mills nor Hamrick seems to be able to answer is how audiences' expectations and receptiveness have changed. Certainly, even first-tier subscribers are coming to the theatre with different social and financial baggage than they carried in 2000 or 2002. Mills sees his streamlined version of *Hamlet* – his take isn't housed in a Danish castle – as key to its continued relevance. “I think in 2000, America was economically at a really high place – you could talk about the gluttony of consumerism and all that – and that's really where this *Hamlet* started. If you take away the kings and queens, what do you have? You have corporate America. So while we're not specific about that, it's kind of the ideal of these characters.”

Hamrick, whose loyal following generally sells out her limited-seating shows, views her work's pertinence through a more personal lens. “If I feel it isn't relevant, I'm not bringing it back. There are some pieces like that. When I went back to them, they didn't speak to me right now. I can look back at them and appreciate what I was trying back then, but it's not relevant to me now. And I am a person in this world.” ■

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Book of Longing was co-commissioned by the University of Texas at Austin Performing Arts Center

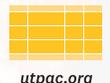
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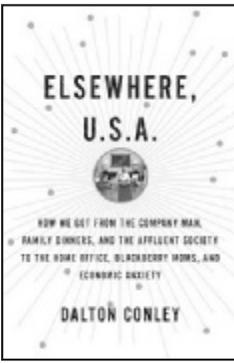
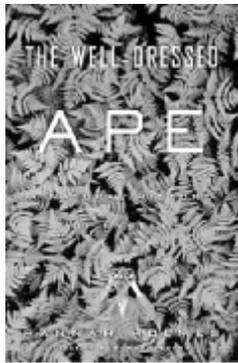


**THE WELL-DRESSED APE:
A NATURAL HISTORY OF MYSELF**

by Hannah Holmes
Random House, 368 pp., \$25

"[T]he human, built for distance, sweats buckets. In soggy per inch of hide, the human animal is bested only by the horse." I inserted that little nugget into every conversation I had for a week (note to self: discussion of sweat production in polite society definitely *not okay*); it's just one of many fascinating facts trotted out in the delightful anthropological study-cum-memoir *The Well-Dressed Ape: A Natural History of Myself*. Holmes endeavors, quite ambitiously, to properly classify the human beast alongside the animal kingdom while simultaneously delineating that which makes humans unique, such as our ability to ponder the morality of our actions (thus enabling the formation of the likes of the Voluntary Human Extinction Movement). With something of a twinkling of the eye, Holmes adopts a science-wonk voice to discuss messy human behavior, as when she recalls her first love, a relationship she describes as her "first serious attempt at pair-bonding." Although the book's title suggests something more confessional, Holmes mostly uses her own body and experiences as jumping-off points for macro-scale investigation. A chapter on behavior breaks down her daily routine by linking a human characteristic (such as road rage) with its animal analog (murderous, territorial chimpanzees, for instance). Holmes describes herself as a science journalist, which sounds dry – and the book is indeed quite dense – but throughout she makes the material hugely engaging, peppered with wry asides (having never reproduced, she refers to herself as the "dead-end twig" of the family tree) and the occasional startlingly lyrical moment, as when she ponders staring too long at her own eyeball in the mirror: "Am I looking at myself or into myself? Brittle stars don't suffer such anxieties. They measure light and act accordingly." That's what makes a star a star; what makes us human, as Holmes' book proves again and again, is the ability to make ourselves a little crazy contemplating who we are and how we came to be that way.

– Kimberley Jones



**ELSEWHERE,
U.S.A.: HOW WE
GOT FROM THE
COMPANY MAN,
FAMILY DINNERS,
AND THE AFFLUENT
SOCIETY TO THE
HOME OFFICE,
BLACKBERRY
MOMS, AND
ECONOMIC ANXIETY**

by Dalton Conley
Pantheon, 240 pp., \$24

Make no mistake: *Elsewhere, U.S.A.*, is a frightening place, but for someone who enjoys a good dystopia, it's one worth visiting.

The main character in this nonfiction tale of how we live now is one Mr. 2009. Mr. 2009 still uses Mr. 1950s as a reference point, and while this may have been his first mistake, it will not be his last. Because, while the people described in books such as Sloan Wilson's *The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit* (1955) or David Riesman's *The Lonely Crowd* (1950) may have been struggling against a tide of conformity that would have them trade their individuality to become faceless drones who perform bland tasks that provide no sense of purpose, this Mr. 2009, this Elsewhere Man, is so fragmented by competing demands for his attention that he has no way of connecting to any authentic, core self.

By entering the class of strivers Conley calls the "America professional," Mr. 2009 ceases to be an individual, becoming instead an intravidual. This intra-

vidual is a sort of Antichrist for Zen Buddhism (the Antibuddha?). Instead of being completely aware of his inner being and therefore able to act in the world with presence and intention, he is entirely distracted. Conley describes "a hyperactive people constantly shuttling between where we think we have to be ... and where we think we should be." The thing that distinguishes intraviduals – with their ever-climbing salaries, their ubiquitous BlackBerrys, and their increasing job insecurity – from mere on-the-go types is their wholesale rejection of leisure time as a reward for work. Like a rotund physique or lily-white flesh, the experience of leisure time, once the hallmark of the rich, is now exclusively the purview of the poor. In this dystopia, intraviduals convince themselves that all-consuming work is an end unto itself, but take a look at Conley's description of his wife's situation: "Natalie loves her work, but she constantly feels overwhelmed by it, as if her very work were an abusive, oppressive boss screaming at her." Sounds like love at first sight, no?

In his final analysis, Conley appears to bolster his thesis that a fragmented, contradictory self is the new normal by contradicting the tone of discontentment that permeates most of the book. Though Conley appears to have intentionally written a mournful lament that never fails to count the cost of entering the Elsewhere society, in his final analysis his recommendation is actually "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em." Believing "you can never go home again" or "hold yourself to a mythologized standard of the past," Conley advises to "blend and bend ... between the domains of life."

– Tim Warden

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SHARP TEETH
TOBY BARLOW
HarperCollins
Tuesday, February 10 7 PM



Sharp Teeth was one of the books featured in our 2008 Winter Catalog (check page 2). So, needless to say, we were thrilled when author Toby Barlow decided to visit the store for his paperback tour. *Sharp Teeth* is a completely unique book, and we urge you to pick up; you'll be hooked in no time. It's written completely in verse, which lends a mystical and otherworldly feel to this tale of werewolves. BookPeople highly recommends this event! Tonight at 7 PM.

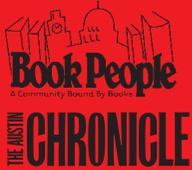
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THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE'S SHORT STORY RECEPTION

Join *The Austin Chronicle*, BookPeople, and KGSR 107.1FM for the 17th annual Short Story Contest Reception.

You are invited to hear the first-, second-, and third-place winners read their short stories at the special reception. Honorable mentions will also be announced. Refreshments and light hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Special thanks to the 2008-2009 Short Story Contest judges: Rebecca Beagle, Bonnie Brzozowski, Doug Dorst, and Greg Koehler.

WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED ON WED., FEB. 11, AT BOOKPEOPLE AT 7PM.

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THE ARTS STYLE

after a fashion

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

DEBATE Months ago, I wrote about the appalling trend of **bachelorette parties** – replete with bridal veils and “I’m the Bride” T-shirts – overtaking gay dance clubs. The girls who do this say it’s so much more fun at our few gay bars, rather than at the hundreds of straight bars (or “ladies-only” clubs) available to them. I was recently asked to help host one of those bachelorette parties ... and declined politely, explaining that I was among those that felt that the celebration of heterosexual marriage in a venue whose regular customers are denied the right to marriage was hypocritical. It’s not a new story. The bar owners don’t really care as long as their cash registers keep ringing up sales, but many customers feel displaced ... not especially by the women themselves but by the heterosexual male friends that accompany the throngs of soon-to-be newlyweds. It’s a conundrum. A sizable amount of gays feel that a gay bar should be exactly that: a gay bar. I count myself among those who feel that way. But it’s a very dicey subject to bring up. Gays fight against discrimination, but isn’t closing the doors of gay bars to certain individuals a form of discrimination itself? I’m confused.

NOTES Last weekend’s sold-out **Merry Merry Martini Mixer** for **Equality Texas** (www.equalitytexas.org) was just about as merry as it gets, Mary. **Mercury Hall**, one of my favorite venues, was awash in **Ketel One Vodka** and the glamorous souls who give even more than money to Equality Texas, guaranteeing that the good fight will continue... I will *not* be making an appearance at

AIDS Services of Austin’s upcoming **Viva Las Vegas** benefit on Feb. 21 as promised. Or at least as I promised ASA. So the fashion-themed event will have to do without me ... at least in person. But that doesn’t mean you can’t go. Get your tickets at www.asaustin.org. ASA is in high gear with the upcoming Viva event, as well as the annual **Hill Country Ride for AIDS** coming up in late April.



Members of the cast of Zach Theatre’s *Beehive* bid you a ‘do.

THE BIG ‘DO Through Feb. 22, you’ll have your chance to say a fond farewell to **Zach Theatre’s** longest running show, *Beehive*. A tribute to the hairstyle and the glamorous, dangerous girls that wore them, directed, of course, by the brilliant **Dave Steakley** and starring some of Austin’s biggest and brightest stage talents. Go to www.zachtheatre.org for more info.

SUNDAY! Sunday, Feb. 8, 6pm at **Antone’s**: Do not miss **With Love to Moms**, a benefit for the mother of our friend **Pam Blanton** (www.blantonpr.com). Pam’s mother, **Elizabeth Parr**, is fighting mouth cancer and neither insurance nor Medicare will cover the cost of the treatment necessary. Pam, whose agency has represented some of Austin’s most prestigious businesses, has been selfless in putting together benefits for others and for getting generous donations from her clients. Now, she needs our help. With Love to Moms features **Dale Watson & His Lone Stars**, **Alpha Rev’s Casey McPherson**, **Lucky Tubb & the Modern Day Troubadours**, **Penny Jo Pullus**, and a surprise appearance by one of Austin’s most beloved performers. Tickets are \$15 (at www.antonet.net, through Front Gate Tickets at 389-0315, or at the door). The show begins at 7pm.

(L-r) Tony Senecal, Micah King, and Mark Ashby add merriness (or is it Mary-ness?) to the Merry Merry Martini Mixer.



PHOTOS BY SEABROOK JONES / www.lulubits.com

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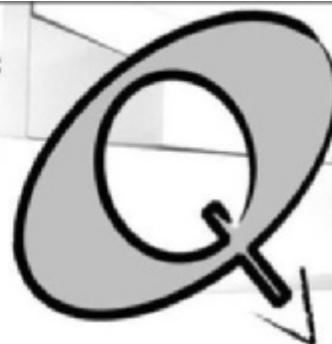


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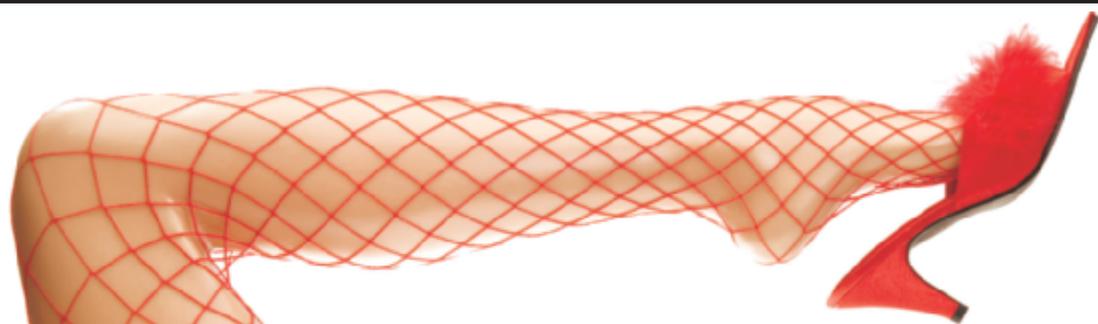
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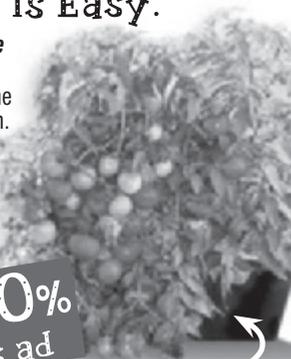
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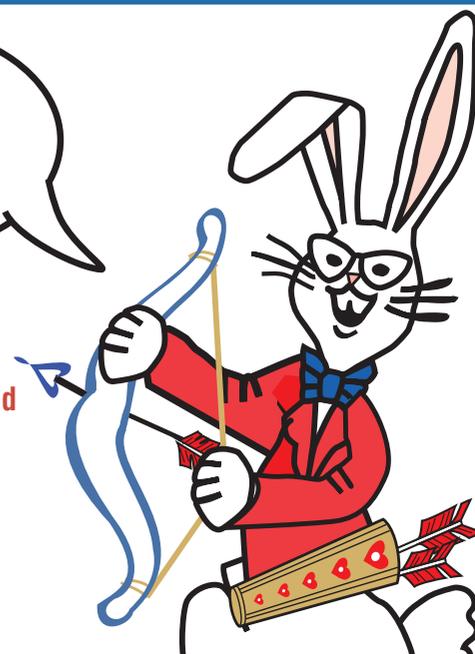
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The last thing I expect when meeting a new interview subject is to be overcome with envy, but that is exactly what happened when I sat down with cake artist **Paloma Efron** in the sunny kitchen workshop at the end of her driveway. Don't get me wrong: Efron's convenient workshop would be the envy of any serious baker – the sunny space has a commercial refrigerator, regulation sinks, plenty of stainless-steel shelves and work tables, a gas range, both a KitchenAid and a 20-quart Hobart mixer (!), plus a comfortable area where she can confer with prospective clients. Having her personal workshop just across the yard from home is making it possible for the busy mother of two young children to build a successful custom-cake business. Bride-to-bride recommendations, referrals from wedding planners, and exposure on wedding sites such as the Knot are helping to make Efron's cakes all the rage with Austin brides these days.

Efron's background in graphic arts is reflected in the distinctive cake designs that emerge from the drawings in her pile of sketchbooks, and her Le Cordon Bleu baking training is readily apparent in every bite of her delicious cakes. Each customer gets a personal consultation to discuss designs and flavors before Efron works her magic in the kitchen. Prospective brides and grooms are invited to tastings to seal the deal. The day we visited, I sampled her most recent Valentine's inspiration: chocolate cake layers filled with vanilla-bean chocolate ganache, vanilla-bean custard buttercream, and fresh strawberries; frosted with vanilla Swiss meringue buttercream; and enrobed in pale-brown fondant decorated with pink piping and lacy pink fondant lovebirds. The charm of the design was surpassed only by the exquisite flavor of the cake that was quite a hit back at the office. In addition to wedding cakes, Efron also creates desserts for special occasions – she'll be glad to show you photos of the Austin mural she whipped up for the mayor's birthday, a fairy-tale castle, or the cowboy boot that looks as though it could scoot right off the table. A delectable custom Paloma Efron creation could make your wedding or special occasion the envy of every guest.

- V.B.W.



R.I.P.
Roger Mollett, 53, died last week in a Minnesota hospital from complications of diabetes and liver disease. For many Austinites, the genial chef was the individual they most identified with the flagship Central Market grocery store, because he was the first food information specialist (foodie) hired in 1993, he helped to create the in-store demonstration department, and he taught more than 20,000 students in the very popular Good Cook series of basic-techniques classes in the Cooking School from 1995 until 2003. He also represented the store in regular local TV and radio cooking segments for several years. Mollett's legion of local friends and fans will remember him fondly for his enthusiastic appreciation of fine French food, his good taste and

unerring talent for ferreting out thrift-shop treasures, and his complete devotion to his beloved partner, Greg Murphy, and their pets. Mollett was an inspiring teacher, a delightful host, and a cherished friend to many. He is survived by an older brother and sister and their extended families in Texas and Oklahoma, Murphy, and their "girls," Emma and Chloe, of Minneapolis. Mollett always said he wished to be cremated and have his ashes sprinkled over the Paris he adored. While we can't say for sure what Murphy will do about that, we do know there will be a celebration of Mollett's life at Boggy Creek Farm some time later in the spring, and we'll provide more information about the event when definite plans are made.

- V.B.W.

food-o-file

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

Earlier this week, restaurateur **Art Blondin** described himself as "overwhelmed" by the outpouring of love and support he received from the Austin community when folks learned that his wife, **Zenobia Sutton** (the "Z" in Artz), was seriously ill and his South Austin mainstay, **Artz Rib House** (2330 S. Lamar, 442-8283, www.artzribhouse.com), was threatened with closure. While Blondin was spending the days at his wife's bedside in the intensive care unit, his longtime employees and many of the musicians who've played at the restaurant over the years pitched in to help. They were all aware that Art has donated to or hosted many benefits in support of musicians and other good causes over the years, and they wanted to return the favor. The devoted staff kept the doors open and food on the tables while Blondin's friends **Danny** and **René Britt** helped round up musicians and generated media coverage for a successful fundraiser at Artz on Jan. 26. The Britts are currently putting together another benefit with plenty of local music and a silent auction, scheduled to take place at **Scholz Garten** (1607 San Jacinto, 474-1958, www.scholzgarten.net) on Sunday, Feb. 22. A relieved and thankful Art said Monday: "Z is out of intensive care, and the restaurant is staying open. Austin is the best place in the world to live." Amen, brother, and pass those country-style pork ribs... Rumors have been buzzing about impending changes at **Starlite** (407 Congress, 374-9012, www.starliteaustin.net), and we've finally received confirmation about what's up. At this point, the restaurant has ceased regular serving hours except for the popular Sunday brunches and a prix fixe dinner on Valentine's Day. For the next few months, Starlite facilities and staff will be available for private and corporate catered events (e-mail Deana Saukam at deanna.events@gmail.com), including a full party schedule during **South by Southwest** in March... While Starlite adapts to changes in the Warehouse District, another restaurant in the same company is busy with expansion. **Woodland** (1716 S. Congress, 441-6800, www.woodlandaustin.com) is currently renovating the next-door space formerly occupied by **Gallery SoCo** to add a much-needed waiting area with comfortable lounging furniture and an upscale coffee bar, complete with baristas serving coffees from **Owl Tree Roasting**. Partner **Daniel Northcutt** reports they hope to have the new area in operation by the middle of the month... The newest entry in the South Austin street-food scene is **Izzoo Tacos** (1207 S. First, 326-4996), a new venture from fourth generation Austin chef **John Galindo**, formerly of **Cedar Grove Steakhouse** in Wimberley and **NoRTH** in the Domain. Drop by his colorful trailer to enjoy tasty tacos and Mexican tortas overlooking Bouldin Creek. The blackened tilapia torta with fresh-cut fries is particularly appealing... Some of my *Chronicle* colleagues who are familiar with their steak burgers, Chicago-style hot dogs, and frozen custard are very pleased to note that a new outlet of the Wichita, Kan.-based **Freddy's Frozen Custard** chain has opened in Cedar Park (1465 E. Whitestone Blvd.). For more details, see www.freddysfrozencustard.com.

recently reviewed

AMERICAN CAFE: CORAZON AT CASTLE HILL

The offspring of the well-loved Castle Hill Cafe has a refocused menu, but regulars are glad that what wasn't broken remains. Look for Mexico-centric dishes and top-notch service. 1101 W. Fifth, 476-0728.

www.corazonatcastlehill.com.

AMERICAN CAFE: DRUNGO ICE HOUSE

This neighborhood haunt is still a relative new kid, but plenty of flat-screen TVs, Wi-Fi, and groaning platters of seafood will make it an institution quickly. 2828 Rio Grande, 478-6666. www.drungoicehouse.com.

Event Menu Feb. 7-28

- ▶ February and chocolate are a natural fit. Chef instructors and students at the **Texas Culinary Academy** (11140 Burnet Rd. #2100, 837-2665, www.tca.edu) present their fourth annual **Chocolate Show and Competition** with competitions in chocolate showpieces, truffles, molded chocolates, ice creams, and cupcakes; chef demonstrations; chocolate exhibits and food-tasting stations; and a \$10 wine-and-chocolate tasting at 3pm in the school's **Ventana** restaurant with sommelier **Jane Nickles**. All other events are free. Saturday, Feb. 7, noon-3pm.
- ▶ Chef **Shawn Cirkiel** will celebrate the first anniversary of **parkside** (301 E. Sixth, 474-9898, www.parkside-austin.com) by presenting a fabulous six-course tasting menu that previews the meal he plans to serve at an appearance at the **James Beard House** in New York City later this spring. The special \$100-per-person dinner kicks off a week of anniversary celebrations. Reservations are required. Monday, Feb. 9, 7pm.
- ▶ **Whisk Handcrafted Cuisine** (4238 Bee Caves Rd., 329-6405) has several tasty events scheduled this month, including a class on Feel Good Food with owner **Linda Waller** on Wednesday, Feb. 11; a Food & Wine Pairing dinner with **Kristi Atkins** on Tuesday, Feb. 17; and a Chef's Table with **Jacob Zavala** on Saturday, Feb. 28. For detailed menu information and to make necessary reservations, see www.whiskaustin.com. - V.B.W.

Tea Gets Hot in Austin

Cool weather, hot tea

BY LINDSEY GOODWIN

Maybe it's the reported benefits of heart health, cancer prevention, and mental clarity. Maybe it's the epicurean lifestyle emanating from Whole Foods' flagship store. Or the old college town need for liquid sources of relaxation and caffeine. Whatever the reason, tea is getting hot in Austin.

Loose-leaf tea is an increasingly common offering in local grocery stores, cafes, restaurants, coffeehouses, and health-related venues, as well as in a rising number of teahouses and tea shops. Tea events are also on the rise – last December's

Edible Austin Tea Party had an astounding 500 visitors, and teahouses around town are hosting numerous smaller events to increase awareness about and consumption of their beverage of choice. Like most rapid-growth trends that find their way to Austin, the results are anything but cookie-cutter; as Austinites turn to tea, they infuse it with Austin's local flavor. Here are a few of the teas and tisanes (aka herbal teas, though they come from different plants than actual tea) that are catching on around town.

Iced (and often sweetened) tea

Trend starters: Southerners looking for respite from the summer heat

Who's catching on: Northerners and other non-native Austinites who love the icy, refreshing brew's sugar/caffeine boost

Where to buy it: Most restaurants and grocery stores carry bottled iced teas, such as local brand Sweet Leaf Tea. Spots such as the Steeping Room, Halcyon, Galaxy Cafe, and Chado Tea Market offer fresh-brewed, specialty versions of the drink.

Green tea, a great source of antioxidants called "catechins," as well as other antioxidants that other teas (but not necessarily tisanes) contain

Trend starters: Asian populations, students/professors who spent time in East Asia, and Austin immigrants from larger, coastal American cities

Who's catching on: Baby boomers and people who are interested in alternative medicine or overall wellness

Where to buy it: Whole Foods' tea bar, Jade Leaves Teahouse (an extension of Turtle Dragon's herbal and acupuncture offerings), Casa de Luz (also home to yoga and tai chi classes, massage, and macrobiotic vegan food)

Oolong tea, the most nuanced and foodie-friendly tea of them all

Trend starters: Chinese/Taiwanese populations, oenophiles looking for teas

with complexity and depth of flavor, and various palate-centric companies

Who's catching on: The growing population of gourmands

Where to buy it: The Steeping Room, Zhi Tea Gallery, Chado Tea Market

Flavored/blended teas, such as Earl Grey or masala chai (aka chai)

Trend starters: Numerous populations with a common interest in flavorful teas

Who's catching on: Anyone who likes strong (and usually sweet) flavors

Where to buy it: Halcyon, Galaxy Cafe, Whole Foods' tea bar, Tea Embassy, Zhi Tea Gallery, the Steeping Room, Chado Tea Market, Hudson's on the Bend, or (for masala chai specifically) Whip In Parlour Cafe and Koriente Restaurant & Tea House



Owner Tony Ingargiola at Chado Tea Market

JOHN ANDERSON

With thousands of types

of tea available in the U.S., there are varieties aplenty to attract a wide range of new tea drinkers. Still, the two most common reasons people in the U.S. are gravitating toward tea are the same across most tea types: an ever-increasing interest in health benefits and a growing desire for new and intriguing flavor profiles.

Potential health benefits of tea include increased heart health (the best documented benefit), increased mental clarity and focus (which recent studies attribute to a chemical unique to tea called L-theanine), association with decreased abdominal fat, positive effects on mood, and better dental health. Tisanes often offer other potential health benefits, such as relief of tension or digestive problems. For these reasons, teas and tisanes have been immensely popular among baby boomers and other populations interested in overall health or in focus, weight loss, mood stabilization, and other specific health concerns.

In terms of flavor, tea has an exceptional range, which is said to be second only to wine. Additionally, it pairs wonderfully with a number of international cuisines, which helps explain why it's the second-most-popular beverage in the world after water. Tea's range and pairing capabilities have stirred up great interest among gastronomes all the way from top restaurateurs to home cooks on the lookout for something new to tantalize their taste buds.

Despite these factors and tea's swell in popularity, making the switch from coffee to tea can be a tricky lifestyle change for hardened coffee fanatics, who may find themselves craving coffee despite their desire to stick with tea. The trick, said Amy March, tea sommelier and co-owner of the Steeping Room, is to wean yourself off coffee slowly as you replace it with the right teas for your tastes. She added that the mouthfeel, aromas, and flavors of coffee can be paralleled in tea, but "tea has

a mellowing effect from L-theanine. It's never quite the same as coffee, even with the same caffeine level. You're clear and relaxed instead of hyper and jittery." Here are her recommendations for making a successful transition to tea based on your current coffee preferences:

Your coffee craving:

Pungency, strong flavor, and full body, but not a lot of complexity

Roasty, mellow flavors, as in South American coffees

Extra flavors (vanilla, chocolate, caramel, hazelnut, fruit, mint, etc.)

The richness of lattes

Robust, spicy flavor profiles and full body, like in Ethiopian or Sumatran coffees

Smoky/tobacco notes or a clean taste without a lot of finesse

Mouthfeel, body, and flavor of a good espresso

A pot of coffee drunk throughout the day

A caffeine buzz

Teas to try:

Kenyan black teas or Irish breakfast tea, with or without milk

Houjicha roasted green tea

Similarly flavored teas

Malty Assam black teas or tea lattes

Fresh-brewed masala chai, with or without a drop of honey

Gunpowder green tea

Younger Tuo Cha (or Bird's Nest) *pu-erhs* with or without sugar and half-and-half

Quality oolongs that can yield multiple infusions throughout the day

Black tea or yerba maté – drink more for additional caffeine

Likewise, wine lovers can find teas of their liking based on their wine flavor preferences. Jeffrey Lorien, tea sommelier and co-owner of East Austin's Zhi Tea Gallery, said developing a tea palate can be easier than developing a wine palate because, "wine still hasn't been totally democratized here, but there's accessibility with tea. It's the people's drink." Here are some tasty suggestions for wine lovers from Lorien.

Your favorite wines:

Spritzers or other wine-based drinks

Assertive, full-bodied reds

Mellow, balanced reds

Crisp, dry whites

Floral whites

Complex, nuanced wines

Dessert wines

Sparkling wine

Teas you'll love:

Tea-infused cocktails or flavored teas

Lightly oxidized oolongs for mouthfeel or Assam/Sri Lankan (aka Ceylon) teas for flavor

More oxidized oolongs and high-quality, well-aged *pu-erhs*

Really good Japanese green teas such as *gyokuro* or *sencha* or *bai mu dan* white tea (aka *pai mu tan*)

Darjeeling second flush black tea or Silver Needle white tea (aka Bai Hao Yinzhen)

Keemun black tea and oolongs such as Oriental Beauty (aka Dong Fang Mei Ren or Bai Hao Oolong) and Tie Guan Yin (aka Iron Goddess of Mercy, Iron Buddha, and Ti Kwan Yin)

Sweet/floral blends, Oriental Beauty oolong, Darjeeling Second Flush, and well-crafted, rooibos-based "dessert teas"

Kombucha for mouthfeel and uplifting effect

Yerba maté, a high-caffeine herb native to South America that is often blended with mint, citrus, or other natural flavors

Trend starters: South and Central American populations

Who's catching on: College students and others in search of high-caf alternatives to coffee and cola

Where to buy it: Grocery stores such as Wheatsville Co-op and Whole Foods Market, cafes such as Spider House, tea shops such as Chado Tea Market

Rooibos (aka red tea or red bush tea) and honeybush (a close relative of rooibos), an antioxidant-rich, caffeine-free tisane from South Africa that's often used in fruity, floral, chocolaty, or otherwise sweet blends

Trend starters: South African expatriates and a new generation of tea blenders

Who's catching on: African-Americans who are interested in their heritage, people seeking an antioxidant boost or who love sweet, flavored blends

Where to buy it: Whole Foods' tea bar, Tea Embassy, Chado Tea Market, the Steeping Room

Kombucha, an effervescent, cultured beverage that usually has a sweet tea base and a New Age following

Trend starters: Health-centric Chinese populations

Who's catching on: Health-centric people of all kinds and those interested in kombucha's mood-altering effects

Where to buy it: Local brands Buddha's Brew (five bottled varieties) and OK Kombucha (kombucha kits and bottled kombucha) are available at Jade Leaves and various grocery stores, including Whole Foods and H-E-B.

Boba, or "bubble tea," a syrupy-sweet

concoction typically served with tapioca pearls or jelly cubes and a modicum of tea

Trend starters: Taiwanese and Chinese populations

Who's catching on: Young people in search of a sugar buzz with a touch of caffeine

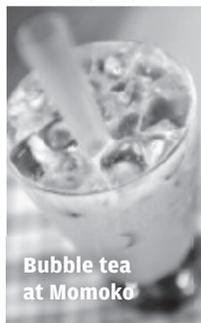
Where to buy it: Tapioca House, Coco's Cafe II, Koriente, Momoko, Lux Bakery & Cafe

Tea lattes, tea mocktails, and other creative tea-based drinks

Trend starters: Fusion-foodies and younger populations interested in spicing up tea

Who's catching on: The youth population and people who are looking for fun, flavorful, and colorful alternatives to cocktails

Where to buy it: The Steeping Room, Spider House, boba joints



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

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JEFFREY'S Jeffrey's has long set the standard for elegantly casual fine dining in Austin. Carefully prepared food, intimate ambience, and superior service. 1204 West Lynn, 477-5584. www.jeffreysaustin.com. \$\$\$\$

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MANSION AT JUDGES' HILL A terrific date spot with a small, romantic dining room and an abbreviated but well-chosen wine list. The cooking is creative but simple, relying on quality, fresh ingredients. 1900 Rio Grande, 495-1800. www.mansionatjudgeshill.com. \$\$\$\$

MIRABELLE RESTAURANT Northwest Hills neighbors have embraced a casual fine-dining outlet in their midst, and wine lovers from all over town are making it a destination restaurant. 8127 Mesa Dr., 346-7900. www.mirabellerestaurant.com. \$\$\$

PAGGI HOUSE An eclectic interpretation of American regional cuisine in a sophisticated, revamped setting makes this new incarnation of an old favorite a Downtown destination. 200 Lee Barton Dr., 473-3700. www.paggihouse.com. \$\$\$

RESTAURANT JEZEBEL Owner/chef Parind Vora's delightful spicing and inventive combinations of flavor show his Indian heritage. The service is gracious and attentive, as well as bilingual! 914-C Congress, 499-3999. www.restaurantjezebel.com. \$\$\$\$

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ROCCO'S GRILL Overlooking the hills of Lakeway, Rocco's pasta and seafood selections are the way to go. 900 RR 620 S. Ste. A-106, 263-8204. www.roccosgrill.com. \$\$\$

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THE BELMONT This gorgeous eatery and bar serves superb drinks to a sea of young professionals decked out and looking for fun. The service is the best in town, and the food is superb on some nights and middling on others. 305 W. Sixth, 457-0300. www.thebelmontaustin.com. \$\$\$

BESS BISTRO ON PECAN This gem offers a varied menu of international comfort food served in a relaxed bistro atmosphere. A great selection of beer and spirits and a well-thought-out wine list complement the experience. 500 W. Sixth, 477-2377. www.bessbistro.com. \$\$\$\$

CAFE CASTRONOVA The range of this eclectic menu goes from Russian-style beef Stroganoff to jambalaya. Before you end the evening, stop by the Casbah for a cigar. 900 RR 620 S. Ste. C-104, 263-3322. www.cafecastronova.com. \$\$\$

CARMELO'S RISTORANTE offers an upscale Italian and Continental menu in a beautifully restored Downtown railroad hotel. Live accordion music five nights a week. 504 E. Fifth, 477-7497. www.carmelosrestaurant.com. \$\$\$\$

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FINO RESTAURANT, PATIO & BAR Influences from Nice to Morocco, Italy to Athens, are all ably executed here by chef Jason Donoho. 2905 San Gabriel, 474-2905. www.astiaustin.com. \$\$\$

FONDA SAN MIGUEL offers popular Nueva Cocina cuisine, which takes traditional Mexican ingredients and gives them a French spin. Try the white-cheese queso. 2330 W. North Loop, 459-4121. www.fondasanmiguel.com. \$\$\$\$

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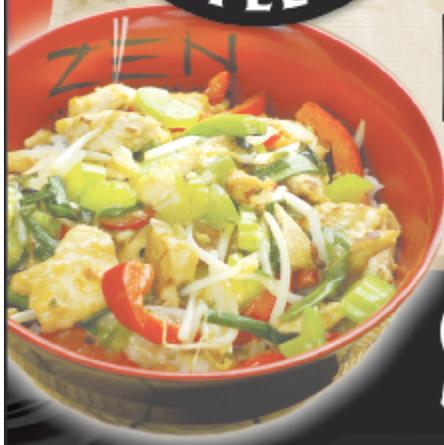
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screens

THE SLOW MAGIC OF STOP-MOTION

Henry Selick on adapting Neil Gaiman's 'Coraline'

BY MARC SAVLOV

Tim Burton's name might be the one that generally precedes the four most beloved words in all of Nineties cinema – *The Nightmare Before Christmas* – but it was animator Henry Selick who did the infinitely labor-intensive, frame-by-frame stop-motion work that made Jack Skellington sing and dance and live.

The *Chronicle* recently spoke with Selick about his new adaptation of Newbery Award-winning author Neil Gaiman's *Coraline*, a modern day take on the classic fairy-tale tropes.

Austin Chronicle: What was the first animated film you saw that really evoked that “gosh wow!” sense of wonder?

Henry Selick: It would have to be Ray Harryhausen's *The 7th Voyage of Sinbad*. My mother took me to that when I was about 4 years old, and the cyclops in particular? I knew that thing was real. I never imagined it was only 12 inches tall, and it's stayed with me my whole life. I had nightmares about it. But I wanted to know more. Something about Harryhausen's creatures, and his monsters particularly, is that you like them. They're human; they're charming.

He was creating these creatures and animating them on very small budgets and on very tight deadlines, and so he didn't have time to make his animations more smooth.

They're a little rougher, a little cruder, but they're also more human as a result.

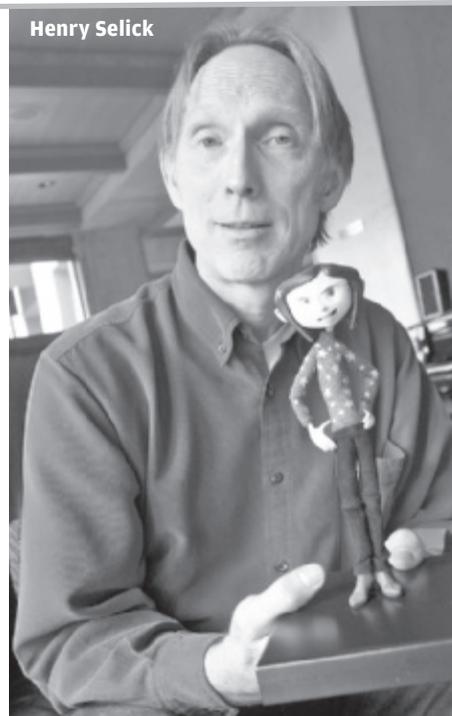
AC: How did you first come across *Coraline*?

HS: I was introduced to Neil through his agent before the book was even finished. ... I loved it immediately. It's *Alice in Wonderland* meets *Hansel and Gretel*, and it felt, to me, more like the earliest Disney films that had the darkest action, films like *Snow White* and *Pinocchio* and even *Bambi*. It's a modern fairy tale, but it's not trying to modernize fairy tales; it's still getting back to our ancestors warning their kids not to go near the cave because the saber-toothed tiger will kill you and eat you.

AC: *Coraline the movie* is considerably different from *Coraline the book*. How did you go about adapting the project for the screen?

HS: With great difficulty. ... It wasn't that I lacked faith in my writing; it was that I was fooled a bit and thought that Neil's book was practically a screenplay already and we would be able to shoot it virtually as it was. That turned out not to be the case. I was collaborating too much with Neil on the first script. Neil is great, and he has an opinion, and he's smart, but at the end of the day, the script sucked. ... The only way I could do it was to tell Neil: “I'm going away. I'm gonna go do what I have to do, and I hope I come back with something you like, but I can't even begin

Henry Selick



JOHN ANDERSON

to predict what's going to happen.” So that's what I did, and it took over a year.

AC: What was the first major change you initiated?

HS: I relocated the story to the U.S. from the UK. I set it in Ashland, Oregon, because they have a Shakespeare festival there which made sense for the two characters who are retired actors. I also felt that *Coraline* needed someone to go up against, someone that was her own size, and that's how the character of Wybie came about. It took a long time to grow him into a flesh-and-blood part of the story and not just a device. ■

OLD DOG, NEW TRICKS



Turns out there's life yet in Showbiz Pizza's animatronic band, the Rock-afire Explosion

While the 2008 release of the third season of *Family Jewels* was retiring platoons of Kiss Army boots across the country, some die-hard music fans were just “Stumbling” on to pop culture's newest call to arms: The Rock-afire Explosion's YouTube version of “Love in This Club.” Posted by the Rock-afire's biggest fan, Chris Thrash, the video has received millions of hits and effectively saved the frontman, gorilla Fatz Geronimo, from the two most common comeback outlets tenuously popularized by his fellow 1980s pop icons: reality TV and VH1's *Where Are They Now?*. Showbiz Pizza's former house band – an animatronic collective that included Dook LaRue, the drumming dog, and Mitzi Mozzarella, a singing mouse – can now be found online, performing dozens of recent hits, including the White Stripe's “Conquest” and Shakira's “Hips Don't Lie.” Filmmakers Brett Whitcomb

and Bradford Thomason cataloged the robot band's rise, fall, and recent renaissance in their first feature-length documentary, *The Rock-afire Explosion*.

“I came across a video that [Thrash] had put up of his Rock-afire performing ‘Ms. [New] Booty,’ by Bubba Sparxxx, and a couple other ones he had done at the time,” says Thomason, the film's writer. “I was just intrigued by the videos. And seeing the Rock-afire again brought back a lot of memories I didn't even know I had.” Thomason passed the videos on to editor/director Brett Whitcomb, and the two started trying to contact Thrash online. It was difficult at first. “He was receiving thousands of e-mails a day by then,” explains Whitcomb. “People wanted him to program a song or their band's music.”

In an effort to preserve what they consider a piece of their childhood while highlighting memorable characters, Whitcomb and Thomason focused their film on Thrash, a working-class resident of Phenix City, Ala., who saved up to buy one of the last, unused, and complete Rock-afire Explosions. “To me,” explains Thrash, “and perhaps others, [the Rock-afire] is a symbol of childhood. An escape to a world that was simpler – less complicated. Fun! It functions for me

as a hobby, like anyone else who has a hobby,” says Thrash. “Mine is just a little unusual.” Thrash purchased his set with no previous programming experience, which provided a challenge. “A lot of people think [the characters] just move to the beat of the music. That is totally wrong! Every little thing you see in a show was manually programmed, saved, and overlapped. Over and over again.”

Thrash's popular performances helped centralize a small but loyal online community set on repopularizing the previous staple of childhood pizza parties. Since the filming of the documentary, Thrash has opened his own Showbiz Pizza, where his Rock-afire routinely performs. This leaves much of the online performances appearing today in the hands of Aaron Fechter, the documentary's co-star and the Rock-afire's original creator. At Fechter's website, www.starsoft.com/fans, fans can now bid on the next song to be “Rock-afired.” The two most recent winners? Nine Inch Nails' “1,000,000” and Jump Jump Dance Dance's “Do It for Love.” – Ashley Moreno

The Rock-afire Explosion screens Sunday, Feb. 8, 7pm, at the Alamo Ritz. Director Brett Whitcomb and Rock-afire star Billy Bob Bear will be in attendance at the all-you-can-eat pizza party. Additional screenings happen throughout the week. See www.originalalamo.com for more info.

MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION

Criterion Collection, \$39.95

It's easy to take restoration for granted as nothing more notable than a pop of color and a crisper soundtrack, but filmmaker Allison Anders – a Douglas Sirk fanatic and contributor to this Criterion Collection two-disc release – puts the power of restoration in perspective. She describes her own eureka moment as when Rock Hudson's hospital pajamas – dishwasher-colored and forgettable as rendered on tinny late-night TV – suddenly transform, post-restoration, into the richly detailed silk jacquard lounging clothes of a spoiled playboy. You can bet Sirk selected those pajamas as exactly as he did everything else, from lighting design to an outré color composition that flew in the face of the Technicolor proscriptions of the day. *Magnificent Obsession* (1954) heralded Sirk's astonishing end-career run of gloriously over-the-top women's pictures; it was certainly his most ludicrously plotted (what Sirk called a “combination of kitsch and craziness and trashiness”).

Hudson plays Bob Merrick, a ne'er-do-well whose speedboat crash inadvertently leads to the death of the town's beloved Dr. Phillips. Merrick's wrongheaded attempt to make amends results in the accidental blinding of Phillips' widow, Helen (Wyman, who would reunite with Hudson the next year in Sirk's superior *All That Heaven Allows*, where their age difference played more notably). Merrick, posing as a stranger, then woos Helen while devoting his life to becoming an eye surgeon, fulfilling the title's m.o. (sort of a Judeo-Christian idea of doing good works without demanding approval or reward). Sirk didn't get enough credit at the time for the artistry of his weepies, an artistry made even more apparent when put up next to John M. Stahl's 1935 version (also adapted from Lloyd C. Douglas' New Testament-heavy novel and also included in the Criterion release). Stahl's black-and-white take, starring Irene Dunne and Robert Taylor, is positively screwball by comparison. After 80 minutes of their light lifting, one practically moans for Sirk's celestial-sounding orchestrations and Hudson's granite good looks. As if we needed reminding.

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– Kimberley Jones

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Fan Favorite

How the geekdom came together to save a love song to 'Star Wars' from the dark side

BY MARC SAVLOV

In 1997 local slam poet and writer Ernie Cline wrote a script called *Fanboys*. It was the story of four *Star Wars* fans who road-trip from Ohio to Skywalker Ranch in the Bay Area of California to steal a print of *Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace* so that one of their number, who is terminally ill with cancer, can see it before he dies. It was a sweet story of friendship and fandom and the enormous and emotional lengths that one will go to help out the other. It was a story about love, actually.

Just more than 10 years later, *Fanboys*, directed by Kyle Newman and released by the Weinstein Co., is finally arriving in theatres. In the interim, Cline and Newman had the sort of freakishly bizarre, occasionally nightmarish Hollywood experience that makes for, well, a great script. The *Fanboys* you see at the movie theatres this weekend is not the *Fanboys* they originally set out to make, but it's close enough, sweet enough, and entertaining enough to be worth your while – especially if, like us, one of your most cherished memories is of that gargantuan Imperial Destroyer pursuing Princess Leia's tiny rebel ship in the opening moments of George Lucas' *Star Wars*.

The *Austin Chronicle* sat down with Cline and discussed the improbably problematic gestation of *Fanboys*, why *Star Wars* still rules, and how a small online insurgency came to triumph over the Empire of Darth Weinstein.

Austin Chronicle: How was *Fanboys* conceived?

Ernie Cline: My mother had died the year before, so death was very much on my mind at the time. I remember thinking, "Well, what if I got sick and was unable to see this movie that I'd waited and wanted to see for so long?" That was where the germ of the *Fanboys* script came from. Once I had the idea, I wrote it really fast. Looking back now, if I'd known anything about film production – at the time I was really just a movie fan – I probably wouldn't have done it. The plan was to get the film shot and out before *Episode I* hit the theatres in May of 1999, because I felt that after that, no one would ever want to see it. So that's what I originally tried to do.

AC: Harry Knowles and Ain't It Cool News eventually became a huge factor in the making of the film, right?

EC: Yeah, for sure. I gave him a copy of the script and told him I was going to try and make it – this was back in 1997 – and he read it, loved it, and the very next day wrote this great review of it and posted it to his site. At the time I really had no inkling of the power that Harry wielded in Hollywood then, but suddenly I was fielding calls from *Newsweek*, *The Village Voice*, just all this national press calling about this little project of mine that in reality had no money, no cast, no nothing. It

was really a joke, but nobody knew that. Harry reviewing the script and saying he was going to play himself in it lent it instant credibility that it really did not deserve to have, at least at that point.

AC: What impact did the release of *The Phantom Menace* have on *Fanboys*?

EC: That brought it even more attention. The Artists and Entertainment Group called me along with several other agencies and movie studios who expressed interest in seeing the script, but nothing ever came of it. I did get in touch with a young producer by the name of Matt Perniciaro [*What We Do Is Secret*] who was a huge *Star Wars* fan and who read the script, optioned it, and flew down to Austin to watch [Peter Jackson's] *Bad Taste* at the Alamo and discuss making *Fanboys*. By that point, *Episode I* had come out and had been kind of a disappointment.

AC: What did you think of *Episode I*? Honestly?

EC: I felt bad for George Lucas, because no matter what he did, there was simply no way he could ever produce something that would live up to what had been fermenting in the imaginations of this entire generation of kids. These kids were now adults, and they wanted very, very much for this new film to give them back their childhood.

That was when Matt sort of encapsulated the whole idea of *Fanboys*, which was that it was a film about four friends sharing this one common experience and how this particular generation felt about *Star Wars*. That made *Fanboys* relevant and viable despite the fact that *Episode I* had come and gone.



AC: But there was a new hope, so to speak, right?

EC: Right. [Director] Kyle Newman came on board. He was the biggest *Star Wars* fan imaginable, even bigger than me. Just like everyone else, Kyle had heard about the script on *Ain't It Cool News* years before, but he had gone to NYU film school and won awards for his short films and was just enthusiastic about getting *Fanboys* made no matter what. The other thing that finally got *Fanboys* made was the involvement of Kevin Spacey's production company, Trigger Street, which came about because Matt had a relationship with Evan Astrowsky, one of *Fanboys*' eventual producers, who passed it on to Spacey, who read it, though it was great, and said, "Let's do it."



Ernie Cline

AC: What was George Lucas' official position on *Fanboys* at this point? He knew about it, right?

EC: That was one of the big worries we had. We knew that we'd never be able to make the movie without clearances from Lucasfilm. But – and I can't verify this, but it sounds right – Kevin Spacey had met Lucas on the set of *Superman Returns*, where Spacey was playing Lex Luthor, and mentioned that he was trying to get this little film called *Fanboys* made. So he asked Lucas for permission, Lucas gave it, and then once that happened, once it was "*Fanboys* with the permission of George Lucas," then everything happened very fast. It had been, at that point, seven years of false starts and limbo, and then – bang! – off we go.

AC: How did you end up at the Weinstein Company?

EC: DreamWorks and Steven Spielberg were interested in it for a time, but when they said no thanks, they handed it off to the Weinstein Company and told them, "You

"Once word got out – and it got out really, really fast – that the Weinsteins were trying to recut the movie, the *Star Wars* fans started to turn on them in a way that nobody expected."
– *Fanboys* screenwriter Ernie Cline

should check this out, because this is the best movie we're not going to make." Harvey Weinstein read it on a Friday night and on Saturday morning called and said, "I want to make this movie with you guys." That was October of 2005, and by February of 2006, we were shooting *Fanboys*.

AC: Are you allowed to talk about the Weinsteins' misguided attempt to recut the film and the huge online protests that followed?

EC: I can, yes. Guillermo del Toro had warned me about the Weinsteins when I met him once at the Alamo. Because of his experience with the Weinsteins butchering *Mimic*, he's just one of many people who has an "I've been screwed over by the Weinsteins" story.

What happened with *Fanboys* was this: We finished the film in March of 2006, and then the reshoots began. In the meantime, Kyle had gone off to make a remake of *Revenge of the Nerds* for Fox Atomic, and while he was doing that, [producer] Scott Mosier came in and directed some of the reshoots. Which was fine. *Revenge of the Nerds*, however, fell apart, and whatever faith the Weinstein Company had in Kyle fell apart with it. And then the test screenings began. When they would show it at *Star Wars* conventions, the numbers were through the roof. When they showed it to a test audience in Rosita, California, it wasn't getting *The 40-Year-Old Virgin* numbers that the Weinsteins wanted to see. And so they thought that by recutting *Fanboys* to make it less geeky and less nerdy, they could make it into a movie for everyone, which, of course, was never the point in the first place. *Fanboys* was always aimed directly at the fans. But the Weinsteins

brought in a series of other writers whose job it was to pitch ideas to make it into a broader type of comedy. They also decided to completely remove the film's inciting subplot, which is that one of the four friends has cancer and is dying. And that subplot was what made the whole movie

make sense. It was about friends helping friends while confronted by impossible odds, just like *Star Wars* itself. But the Weinsteins thought the whole cancer thing was a bumner and brought in another director for reshoots again. By this time, it's late 2007, a year and a half after we wrapped, and the 25th anniversary of *Star Wars* had come and gone, which was a golden release opportunity that the Weinsteins completely blew.

AC: How could Harvey Weinstein miss that? It seems like it would have been the perfect time to release *Fanboys*.

EC: *Grindhouse* had just been released, and I think they felt burned by that, because it didn't do well in theatres at all. I think in

the wake of that debacle, they began to question not only *Fanboys* but all of their projects. But honestly, dude, I don't know. I've given up trying to second-guess the Weinstains' reasoning, attempting to figure out why they did what they did.

AC: Without the cancer element, then *Fanboys* is really more akin to National Lampoon's *Star Wars* Road Trip.

EC: Yeah, totally.

AC: So ultimately, thanks to the fans and fan-related test screenings, the Weinstains got the message that the film was better off the way you had written it and Kyle had directed it, right?

EC: Exactly, yeah. Once word got out – and it got out really, really fast – that the Weinstains were trying to recut the movie, the *Star Wars* fans started to turn on them in a way that nobody expected. It got to the point where the fans, from all over the world, paralyzed the offices of the Weinstein Company by sending literally thousands of e-mails a day.

AC: What were you and Kyle thinking while all this was going on?

EC: We didn't know if it was going to be released, cut, or get dumped straight onto video or what. But once the fan outcry reached the point where it was featured in *The Hollywood Reporter* and *Variety* and pretty much everywhere, the Weinstains relented. What I heard was that Harvey called Kevin Spacey up and said: "You can have the movie back; just turn the Internet off. Please." And that's when Kyle was allowed back onto the project to fix the film.

AC: And the biggest irony of all is ...

EC: ... that last summer we got to go to Skywalker Ranch to do the final sound mix, yeah. The surrealness of that was lost on no one.

AC: How do you feel about the *Fanboys* that's being released tomorrow? Is it anything like what you first imagined it would be? Are you happy with it?

EC: It turned out okay, but it was so ugly there for a while. For a little, low-budget *Star Wars* fan movie to get all this press, I'm kind of worried that people have been waiting for so long – 10 years – for this movie to come out that it's kind of like *The Phantom Menace* in a way. It's never going to live up to the hype of being this big Judd Apatow, \$30 million comedy, which is how they're marketing it. It's not what I pictured, in both good and bad ways. It's a little more crude in parts, thanks to Harvey, and it's not as sweet or emotional as I had originally hoped it would be. It's kind of uneven because of all the hired hands that were brought in. But the whole thing was a learning experience for me.

AC: What did you learn, specifically?

EC: I guess I learned that stuff that you think is impossible and could never happen is in fact not impossible at all and can happen.

AC: There is no try; there is only do.

EC: That's it. ■

Fanboys opens in Austin on Friday. See Film Listings, p.72, for review.

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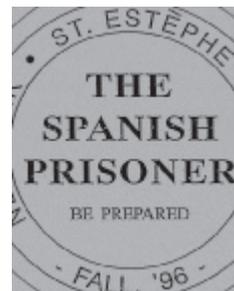
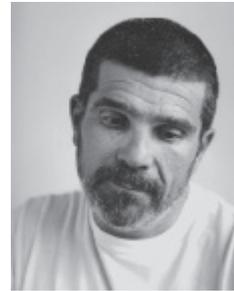
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A Delay for DTV Transition

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

Ain't democracy grand? Last week, I reported that the DTV transition was going forward, as planned, on Feb. 17. President Obama had asked for a delay to allow consumers (and the governing bodies set up to aid in the transition) to be better prepared. While the Senate passed legislation to approve a delay, the House did not. The Senate passed the bill again last Thursday (as last week's *Chronicle* hit the streets), sending it to the House for another shot. Because of how our system works, the second run of the legislation by the House now only requires a majority vote, not a two-thirds vote like the first time. Therefore, it is expected to pass, and Obama will sign the bill soon thereafter. If all of this happens (which now seems likely), the DTV transition will be delayed till June.

Why all the fuss? It depends on where you stand.

For consumers, it gives you more time to find, purchase, and set up a digital converter box that will enable your TV not connected to cable or satellite service to receive the new signal. It allows the federal government to

find some more cash to fund and distribute coupons to the million or so consumers who requested coupons but did not get them because the coffers ran dry. The broadcast-TV industry is probably very happy. February is a sweeps month. The lingering effect of the writers' strike pushed series premieres well into January, and losing viewers who are just now migrating back to TV during sweeps month is highly undesirable. But June is typically filled with reruns and less-expensive-to-produce reality series.

If you're AT&T or Verizon, you may be a little miffed. Both companies doled out millions of dollars to purchase the spectrum freed up by the DTV conversion in order to improve their services. They've kept mum during the ongoing "DTV: Now or later?" discussion. But small TV stations are piping up, according to a Feb. 1 article in *TV Week*. The sour economy is only making the DTV transition more difficult for small stations in markets that serve rural and/or poor communities, already cash-strapped. Locally, most of the area network affiliates are broadcasting in digital and analog until the final transition date comes to pass and analog broadcasts go away forever.

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Fan Alert

After a couple of delays and much behind-the-scenes chatter, **Joss Whedon's** long-awaited *Dollhouse* premieres on (gulp) Friday the 13th. Typically, that time slot is considered the worst real estate in broadcast prime time. But the network has pretty much promised to let *Dollhouse* air all 13 episodes – no matter what the early ratings look like – in order to allow the show to gain traction, build an audience, and perhaps go on for more episodes. So, in that way, Friday the 13th is looking pretty lucky. Still, Whedon needs to attract more than his existing fans, who are an ardent but relatively small bunch.

Dollhouse premieres Friday at 8pm on Fox. Cable channel TNT will host a live Web chat with **Eric McCormack** (*Will & Grace*), **Tom Cavanagh** (*Ed*), and other stars of the new series *Trust Me* on Monday, Feb. 9, from 10 to 11pm. Log on at www.tnt.tv.

As always, stay tuned.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at tveye@austinchronicle.com.

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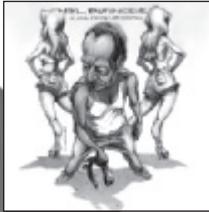
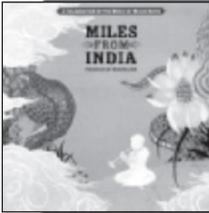
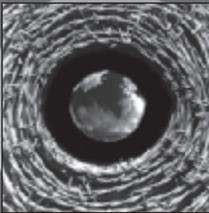
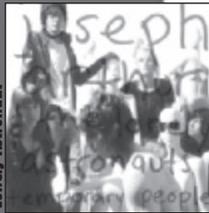
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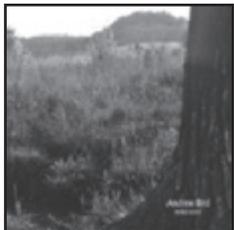
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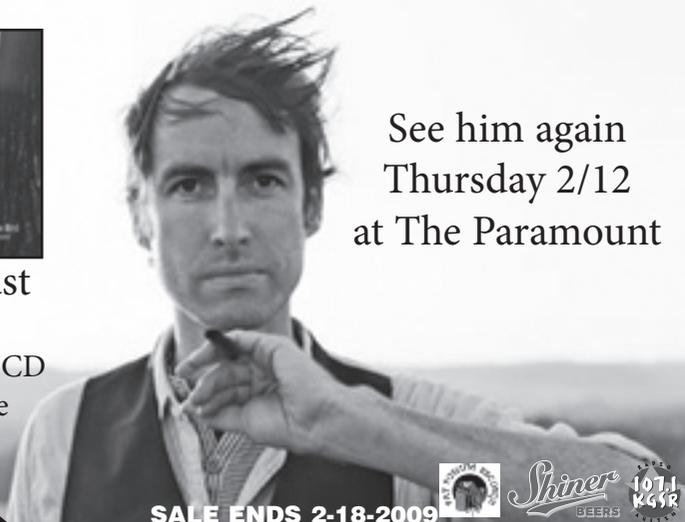


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music

OFF THE RECORD

MUSIC NEWS by Austin Powell

Last of the Breed

At the turn of the century, **Atlantic Records** mogul **Jerry Wexler**, whom **Doug Sahm** called “the funky Jewish king of black music,” began dispersing his record collection to family and friends. A few crates’ worth of Western swing records – mainly compilations of 78s preserved onto LPs in the 1970s – went to **Asleep at the Wheel’s Ray Benson**. “Western swing? Nobody knows it,” Wexler reasoned at the time (see “A Man and a Half,” Dec. 1, 2000). “I mean, God bless Ray Benson, because he’s the man.” Scribbled next to 39 song titles were the letters “WN,” marking selections Wexler had hoped **Willie Nelson** would cut for a **Bob Wills** tribute during the singer’s brief tenure on Atlantic (check out “Troublemaker,” Dec. 29, 2006). After seeing the Wheel on Nelson, **Merle Haggard**, and **Ray Price’s Last of the Breed** DVD, Wexler revived the idea with the Austin institution as backing band, later helping Benson narrow down the selections and offering feedback through

out the recording process. The resulting LP *Willie and the Wheel*, released this week on Benson’s **Bismeaux Records**, is a fitting tribute not only to the Western swing genre but also to Wexler, whose local legacy touches on the careers of **Lou Ann Barton**, **Freda & the Firedogs**, and **Stevie Ray Vaughan**. He died last August shortly after the album’s completion and is credited as executive producer. “We were kindred souls, the kind of people that studied the music,” Benson remembers. “We were both looking for the roots of American music. The only difference is that he was there.” The Wheel rolls into **Antone’s** on Saturday with a special guest – the **Red Headed Stranger’s** tour itinerary appears to be open – before hitting the road for the rest of the month, including stops on the *Late Show With David Letterman*, at **Willie’s Place** in Carl’s Corner (Feb. 24), and a taping for **Austin City Limits**. For more of Benson’s reflections on Wexler, see austinchronicle.com/earache.



DAVID GAHR/COURTESY OF JERRY WEXLER

Atlantic swing: (l-r) Jerry Wexler, Willie Nelson, Doug Sahm, Arif Mardin



Pillow Queens

JOHN ANDERSON

Way Down in the Hole

Getting to **Club 1808** (1808 E. 12th) can match navigating *The Wire* – speaking from personal experience – but the Eastside dive is quickly becoming Austin’s answer to the **Smell** scene in Los Angeles: an incubator for off-the-radar art-punks. Roughly the size of **Ginny’s Little Longhorn Saloon**, the decidedly DIY venue has the feel of a basement party, especially last Saturday when Austin’s **Pillow Queens** concocted a glorious mess of infectious garage pop. **Cry Blood Apache** holds down a weekly residency on Tuesdays, while **Manikin** throws down

next Friday. “It’s interesting,” says owner **Gene Mays**, carefully choosing his words to describe the music. Struggling to compete with the strip’s BYOB clubs, Mays heeded the advice of **Emo’s** proprietor **Frank Hendrix** and started booking indie bands about a year ago with help from **Chaos in Tejas** organizer **Timmy Hefner**, though it’s clear an urban-music format might prosper in the area. He now plans to expand into a neighboring space. “I’ve been happy with the business so far,” Mays says. “No complaints.”

Random Play

City Council has approved the induction of **Michael David Fuller**, better known as **Blaze Foley** (see “A Walking Contradiction,” Dec. 24, 1999), into the **Austin Music Memorial**, along with jazz giant **Gene Ramey** and blues specialist **T.D. Bell**. Rounding out the list of this year’s inductees are **Camilo Cantu**, **Lonnie Guerrero**, **Bill Neely**, **Robert Shaw**, **C.B. Stubblefield**, and **Damita Jo De Blanc Wood**.

There’s a free **Teen Music Texas** forum at 7pm on Tuesday, Feb. 10, at the **Save Austin Music Headquarters** (3708 Woodbury), helping address common interests surrounding musicians under the drinking age. That same night **Youth Spin**, **KOOP’s** teen-produced radio program which airs Fridays, 6-7pm, begins its spring training for students at the **Griffin School**. Contact adam@griffinschool.org.



Lost Highways

Primal roots purveyors **Hillgrass Bluebilly Entertainment** recently released *Hiram and Huddie*, a potent double-album tribute to **Hank Williams** and **Lead Belly** that features local favorites **Scott H. Biram**, **Wayne “the Train” Hancock**, and **William Elliott Whitmore**. “They were the first two that really introduced that darkness and those cold truths to American music,” says the Bastrop-based HBE’s **Keith Mallette**. The 20-song compilation is available at **Yard Dog Gallery**, where cover artist **Jon Langford** of the **Mekons** currently has an exhibit, but you can also score a copy on Thursday, Feb. 12, at **Emo’s**, which hosts the **Reverend Peyton’s Big Damn Band** (“Rock Island Line”), along with local trailblazers **Possessed by Paul James** (“Bourgeois Blues”), and **Tom VandenAvond** (“I Can’t Help It If I’m Still in Love With You”). Next up, Hillgrass Bluebilly is wrangling a double-barrel tribute to **Johnny Cash** and **R.L. Burnside**, while also pairing bluegrass patriarch **Ralph Stanley & His Clinch Mountain Boys** with original Delta bluesman **T-Model Ford** for a living legends showcase on March 17. “We feel like we’re sitting on a real treasure here,” Mallette concludes. “All of this is music is pure and from the heart.”

Have a Drink on Me

Inspired by Dr Pepper’s gamble with **Guns n’ Roses’ Chinese Democracy**, **Peej Reid** is making the **Real Heroes**, whom he used to manage, an offer they can’t refuse: If the local pop-rock outfit releases its third album by the end of 2009, he’ll buy everyone in Austin of legal age a shot of scotch.

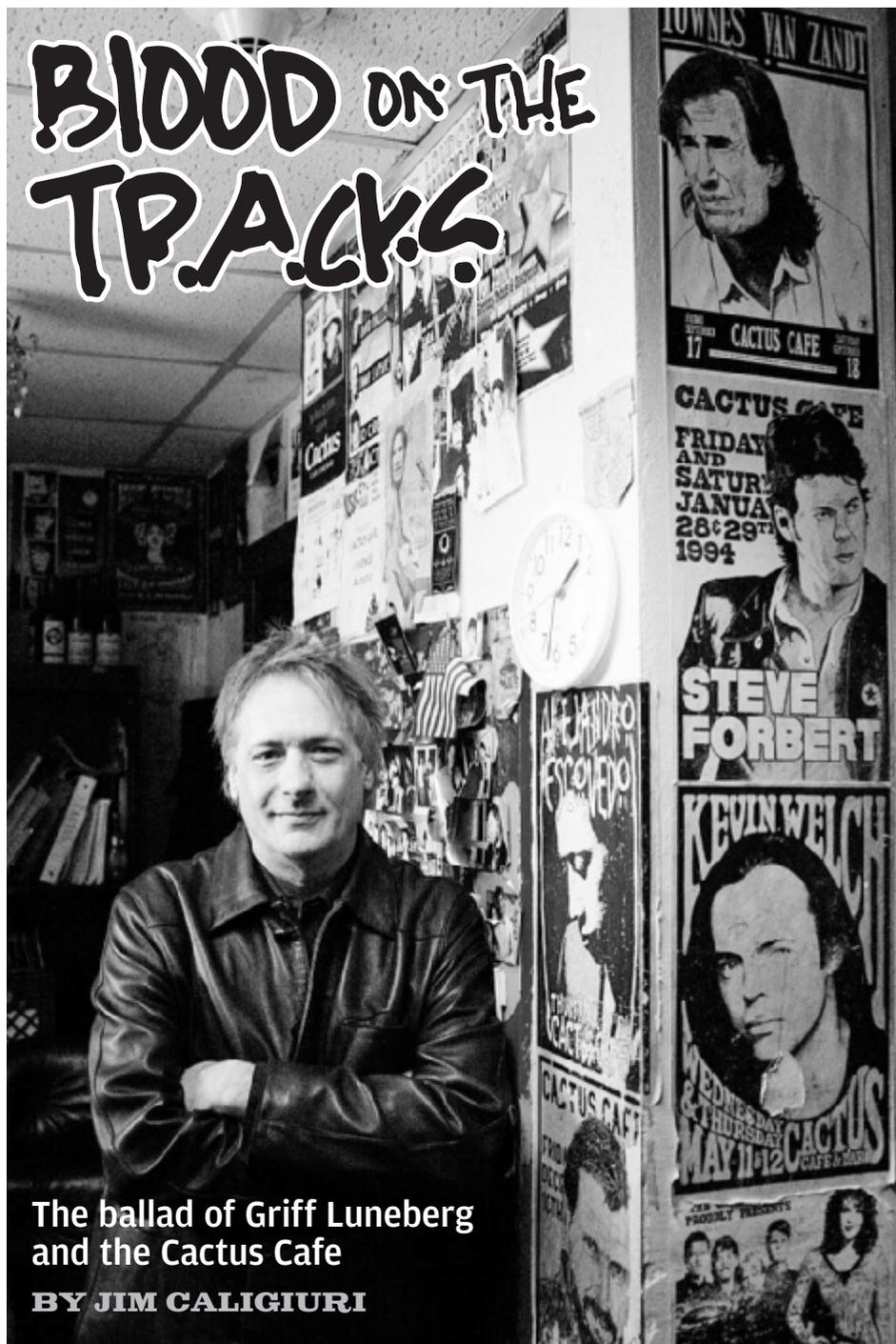
“When I left town a few years ago, the album was practically finished,” says Reid, now an attorney in New York City. “It had a much bigger sound and even some brass sections and orchestral arrangements. ... I don’t know what the holdup is.” Since 2004’s *Greetings From Russia*, the **Real Heroes** have mostly split time between cover band **Skyrocket!** and the **Household Names**. “It’s finished and in boxes in my room; I’ve been trying to give it a bit of time to have some perspective on it,” explains singer/guitarist **Benjamin Hotchkiss**, who sent out copies to a few labels last week. “I didn’t want to watch it flounder in obscurity without a band to support it. We haven’t had very good communication as a group for a while, but now things have spun around, and we’re rehearsing. And now we have some extra incentive to get it out.” Cheers!



Real Heroes

AUBREY EDWARDS

BLOOD ON THE TRACKS



The ballad of Griff Luneberg and the Cactus Cafe

BY JIM CALIGIURI

Cactus Cafe is celebrating its 30th anniversary this month. Griff Luneberg has run the intimate, Texas Union listening room for 28 of those years. He's the guy with a bad case of bedhead making sure it all runs as smoothly as an accomplished singer-songwriter with an acoustic guitar and amplification. "Griff is the Cactus," agrees Lyle Lovett, who played his first headlining shows there.

"He's the equal to Clifford Antone in a way," Joe Ely chimes in. "He's the perfect match for the place. He has a complete understanding of the people that play there and what they need. It's the whole atmosphere. It's not easy to create a place where singer-songwriters can have a home and feel comfortable, and that's exactly what he's done."

While Antone (1949-2006) loved the spotlight, Luneberg is a humbler sort, claiming

that he's only actually been onstage in front of an audience a couple of times, even though he often doubles as the venue's greeter at its familiar tavern door. The comparison between the two live-music mentors works along the lines of both men's lifelong commitment to performance and belief in its reverberation with people in general and Austinites specifically.

Luneberg was born in Chicago in 1957. His father worked for an oil company, so the family bounced around a lot — New York, San Francisco, Connecticut, and New Orleans — before settling into late-1960s Houston. In high school, he nursed a love for early Foghat but had an epiphany when he purchased an eight-track of Bob Dylan's *Blood on the Tracks* in the mid-1970s.

"It changed my life," remembers Luneberg. "I'd heard of Dylan and heard some of his



Cactus Cafe precursor the Chuck Wagon, 1933

COURTESY OF THE TEXAS UNION ARCHIVES

stuff, but after I bought that album — I've never stopped listening to it. I went on to buy all of Dylan's records in chronological order."

Exploring Dylan, he discovered godfather folkies Woody Guthrie and Ramblin' Jack Elliott as well as "new Dylans" John Prine and Loudon Wainwright III. Luneberg credits his sister with turning him onto cosmic cowboys like Michael Martin Murphey around the same time. Little did he know that he would soon be booking musical storytellers of such ilk for years to come.

He spent a semester at Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos, but the Armadillo World Headquarters and the Split Rail in Austin were his stomping grounds on weekends. He transferred to the University of Texas and got a degree in government, but his real education began in 1979 when the Texas Union reopened after several years of renovations. One of its new spaces was ultimately dubbed the Cactus Cafe and came to hold a liquor license.

"It was originally a coffee-house," explains Luneberg. "It always had really good coffee — the same brand of coffee we serve today. I really liked the vibe. It was a laid-back atmosphere."

Music arrived not long after the joint opened, but only on weekends. There was no stage, no sound system. Luneberg was hired on as a bartender.

"Some of the acts were good, but it was primarily cover bands booked by the student activities office," he recalls. "Acoustic acts would do Loggins & Messina and Seals & Crofts. There was no cover charge, and I was the only one there running the place. I complained because I was trapped for five hours a night. I'm a big fan of music, and I would make my views known on the programming. So finally, they turned booking over in-house. The manager was Sharla Ann Baker, but she worked days. She hired me. She's really the one who believed in me from the beginning."

It was Baker who pitched an original-music series Thursday nights.

"We wanted to have a cover charge, which was a big step at the time," says Luneberg. "There was a lot of hesitation on the administration's part over whether or not people would

pay to see music. It was November 1982, and Nanci Griffith was the first act. We charged a dollar of students, 2 for nonstudents.

"The place was packed."

Baker left in 1983, and Luneberg took over as Cactus manager and booker and never looked back. "A lot of what went on was trial and error," he admits. "We built the stage and dragged in a little PA. I got to run sound, and I didn't know how to run sound. I just learned it. I was thrown to the wolves.

"But I knew who was good! You have to have an intuitive sense about who to book and what prices to charge. There's a little research involved, but I have a good talent gauge. Even if they don't draw a crowd the first few times they play, I know that they're talented and they will build a crowd. That's what it's all about: building an audience for those that deserve one."

Luneberg first claims that Shawn Colvin and Patty Griffin first appeared in Austin on the Cactus stage. Bruce Robison remembers he first played

"Griff is the Cactus," agrees Lyle Lovett.

"Travelin' Soldier," the huge hit for the Dixie Chicks, at an open mic there. The club has featured an amazing array of talent over the decades, from Bill Monroe and Townes Van Zandt to J.

Mascis and Mountain's Leslie West. Beyond the history, Luneberg has created a Shangri-la for both musicians and audiences alike.

"What happens onstage is the most important thing that happens here," he nods. "The bar is secondary. It's not like that in other clubs. For musicians, it's just a real nurturing environment. One thing I've learned is that it's all about building relationships with people. Loyalty is an important quality in the music business. If you stick with someone, most will remember that. We come from a place where we respect an artist, and they remember that. When Lyle Lovett outgrew the Cactus, we booked him in the Union Ballroom. Then the next time he played, he wanted to go to the Paramount. He called and told me that he wanted to play the Paramount, but he wanted the Cactus to promote the show. I told him I was flattered, but I couldn't do something like that. I'll never forget that."

A myriad of acts associated with the Cactus haven't forgotten Griff Luneberg, either. Here's a sampling of what a few of them had to say.

**Celebrating 30
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Through March 7**

www.cactus.union.utexas.edu

- Tom Russell (Feb. 6)
- Joe Ely & Joel Guzman, Rosie Flores (Feb. 7)
- Andy McKee (Feb. 9)
- Graham Weber, Dana Falconberry, Southpaw Jones, Leatherbag, Betty Soo (Feb. 10)
- Fred Eaglesmith (Feb. 11)
- Alejandro Escovedo (Feb. 12 & 13)
- Terri Hendrix (Feb. 14)
- Ian Moore, Hilary York (Feb. 18)
- Texas Troika, Cactus Song Swap: Slaid Cleaves & Eliza Gilkyson, Bruce Robison (Feb. 19)
- Chris Smither (Feb. 20)
- Austin Lounge Lizards (Feb. 21)
- Peter Rowan (Feb. 22)
- Mary Gauthier, Gurf Morlix (Feb. 24)
- Guy Clark (Feb. 26 & 27)
- Steve Forbert (Feb. 28)
- Richard Thompson (March 1 & 2)
- Ana Egge, Michael Kingcaid (March 3)
- Battlefield Band (March 4)
- Danny Schmidt, Carrie Elkin (March 6)
- 11th annual Townes Van Zandt Birthday Salute: Butch Hancock and compadres (March 7)

Cactus Chorus

I.Y.I.E. I.O.V.E.T.T

“Griff is one of the all-time great guys in the music business. For a long time, the Cactus Cafe was the only place I played in Austin. It was Griff who gave me the opportunity to play my own shows in Austin for the first time. Griff is the Cactus. I hope you give him the credit he deserves, because he would never ask for credit for himself. He’s a humble, soft-spoken guy and an incredibly supportive character.”

SARA HICKMAN

“I’ve known Griff a long time – 20 years this year. He’s an enigma, that’s for sure. I think of him as someone who lays it out straight, no qualms, tell it like it is. He’s made me laugh; he’s made me think; he’s made me cry pretty hard. But I appreciate the deep love he has for music. I couldn’t imagine Austin without him. He’s an Austin institution to me, because he was the first club owner I worked with here, and he’s always had, always got, that shock of bedhead hair. I got signed to Elektra Records off Griff’s stage, so he’ll always have a place in my heart, because he helped me shine and hone my craft in that weathered, cozy room.”

SLAID CLEAVES

“Ah, Griff. I’ve never met someone who so obviously excels at exactly one thing in his life – to the exclusion of all else. Griff is the Cactus Cafe. The two are unimaginable without the other.

CONTINUED ON P.56

**BLOCK-BY-BLOCK
COVERAGE**

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 Tom Rush
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 Daniel Johnston
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 Kirsten Hersh
 Jesse Winchester
 Two Nice Girls
 Duncan Sheik
 Steeleye Span
 J.J. Cale
 Arlo Guthrie
 Utah Phillips
 Red House Painters
 Hot Tuna
 Robert Fripp & Projekt 3
 J. Mascis
 Stanley Jordan
 Wishbone Ash
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 Jules Shear
 Karla Bonoff
 Everything but the Girl
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 Freakwater
 Leslie West & Mountain
 Jimmy Webb
 Doug Sahm



Texas Troika: (l-r) Griff Luneberg, Susan Svedeman, and Chris Lueck. Between the three staffers, they have almost 70 years invested at the Cactus Cafe.

TODD V. WOLFSON

"He was hard on me when I was coming up through the ranks. I begged and cajoled for opening slots my first several years in Austin. He feels badly about it now, like he should have supported me more. I was pretty frustrated with him, too, but now I'm glad he was rough on me. It made me work a lot harder on my craft, and that eventually paid off.

"I worked for Griff as soundman for a year or so, and I saw a seemingly obsessive attention to detail: the position of the velvet curtain, the lights dimmed certain amounts at different stages of the show, preshow and post-show music just the right volume and just the right compatible artist. If something was off, things could get tense for the staff real quick. It seemed wacky at first, but then I realized that's what it takes to get to the level of quality the Cactus is known for.

"He can be brutally honest, which sometimes seems like insensitivity. But I see him paying a price for the honesty that ends up making us stronger. Bottom line: He's dedicated his life to the Cactus Cafe. I believe he would sacrifice anything - his health, his personal life, his future - to the venue.

"You don't see that a lot."

PAY WYLLIE HUBBARD

"As long as I've known Griff, he's been efficient and aboveboard. He runs a remarkable venue that I love to play. There's this legacy there. You go there and think of all the performers that have performed on that stage. As

a performer, the bar is set very high, because the audience is so attentive. You get on that stage and think: 'I better have my act together. I can't phone this in.' The people who come there are knowledgeable about the craft of songwriting. For me, when I get there, it's why I'm doing this. It's a feeling that you get in very few venues."

ELIZA GILKYSON

"Griff has never tried to claim star status. He's always been humble about his place in the scheme of

so generic. He's got all the bumps and scars that make a real human being. He stands up for the artists and the art."

TOM RUSSELL

"Griff has been the keeper of the flame for acoustic music in Texas ever since I can remember. He likes to show me the spot in his office, behind the beer coolers, where he's worn a hole in the wall with his shoe from sitting there 30 years with his foot up, poring over the booking cal-

"He's dedicated his life to the Cactus Cafe. I believe he would sacrifice anything - his health, his personal life, his future - to the venue."

- Slaid Cleaves

things in Austin, and for that reason, he's unsung. I think this town would be missing something if he wasn't here. If he stopped, we'd notice how he changed things around Austin. He's got a great ear. He takes chances on people. He took chances on me for years when I was coming down from New Mexico. Twenty people would come to the show, and he'd tell them that I was one of the best songwriters in the country. He'd say things like that when I didn't have anything going. He'd just listen to his own voice about music. He's a mess. He's got a lot of leaks in his bell jar, but that's what I love about him. He's a true character. I worry that we aren't creating new characters; we're getting

endar. It's proof he's paid the dues. And Lord knows he has. He's survived things that would have slaughtered most men. I love Griff. He's a deeply honest cat."

BRUCE ROBISON

"The first place I played my songs was at the open mics at the Cactus. Then [Griff] gave me some opening slots that were among the first gigs that I ever got, '89 to '90. The truth is, we had to threaten him bodily, me and my brother [Charlie]. We confronted him one night at the Hole in the Wall. He's got a lot of people bothering him for gigs, and he's been a real supporter, even though my stuff is miles on the

country side, and it's really a folk club. I don't think he knew who we were at the time. We were both drunk, and we confronted him: 'Listen ya idiot, you need to book us at your place.' We've all laughed about it many times since. Griff's the real thing."

TODD SNIDER

"[Griff's] a great friend to me, is clearly a major part of the Austin songwriting community, and has been as long as I've been following it. My wife and I love to see Griff whenever we can, and it's an honor to us that one of my wife's paintings hangs in his house. Some of my best times in Austin have been hangin' around the Cactus after the show with Griff and company. The fact the Cactus is a songwriting institution is fairly undebated, I'd say, and everyone knows that Griff is the reason for that. From Townes to Hayes [Carl] and whoever after, we all are grateful to and indebted to our brother."

MATT THE ELECTRICIAN

"I was at the Rocky Mountain Folks Fest in Lyons, Colorado, playing in the song contest, and when I got offstage, this guy came up to me and said he was a big fan and then introduced himself as John Gorka. I asked him how he had even heard of me, and he said that the last time he had played the Cactus, he was in Griff's office, and he asked Griff to recommend some good, new singer-songwriters he should be aware of. Griff went to his huge stack of CDs on the windowsill and handed John one of mine. I thought that was so cool and in keeping with Griff's commitment to continuing the singer-songwriter/folk scene moving forward. I know many other songwriters in town who have told me similar stories."

BETTY GOO

"When I first decided I wanted to write and sing music, I didn't know much about doing it - except that I eventually wanted to play the Cactus. I had gone there plenty of times as a listener, so I knew the shows Griff put there were special. By the time I was releasing my first album, I had barely played out at all ... just a couple of months' worth of tiny gigs at restaurants and coffee shops.

"I contacted Griff about doing my CD release there, and he told me, 'Come play the open mic.' So I did. I didn't expect him to be there. I'd done it before, and he wasn't there. But I went, and he came. He heard me do two songs, and he booked me a show. It was amazing. In fact, just after that

open mic, he booked me to open for the sold-out Jackopierce show!

"Besides giving shows, Griff has introduced me to other singer-songwriters in town he thought I should know – like Abi Tapia, who's a really good friend of mine now. ... I'm grateful to Griff for all he does at the Cactus, but I'm also grateful the Cactus is around so I could meet Griff. He's a straightforward advice-giver, a helper when he's able, and he's always been honest with me. He's a sensitive soul who cares a lot about music and the people who make it."

TOM. PITTMAN ☆ **AUSTIN**
LOUNGE LIZARDS ☆

"I think Griff likes it when you push back a little. If you just give in to what he says, he doesn't respect you. It can get

nasty, but it doesn't have to. When we first started, we brought our own audience. We played regularly at Maggie Mae's, which was the folk club at the time, in the early 1980s. We were playing at the Cactus fairly regularly, but he took us for granted in the beginning. There was this spell of five gigs in a row that he canceled on us because a national act came along. We

said, 'Well, we can't afford to play here.' So we went a couple or three years without playing there. I think at the time he was just learning the business. But there's one thing he's brilliant at. That room will hold, if it's very full, 120 or 130. He can take 30 people and make it look full. He can kind of predict what the audience will be, and he'll set the furniture up to what he expects, and his expectations are usually very accurate." ■

"He's the equal to Clifford Antone in a way," Joe Ely chimes in. "He's the perfect match for the place."



Cactus Griff, 1984

JOHN CARRICO

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BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

Working on a Dream (Columbia)

First and foremost, Bruce Springsteen has realized that oft-evoked rock & roll ideal almost never pulled off since *Sgt. Pepper* replaced singles with the album. Boss struck while the iron was hot. Because everyone who saw Springsteen & the E Street Band live over the last two years behind 2007's *Magic* will assuredly raise their hands to rock. For Jersey's favorite son to then make his best album of the decade on stolen tour time is a superstar feat. Not that his 24th disc rivals *Born to Run*. And yet opening *Working on a Dream* with the couplet "He was born a little baby on the Appalachian Trail/At six months old he'd done three months in jail" telegraphs a top-down time, especially since "Outlaw Pete," easily read as tribute to Pete Seeger – who's prompted two Springsteen releases in the past five years – runs at a length that matches the singer's ringlets and beard in the 1970s. Where 2002's *The Rising* sought to reassure in a post-9/11 dawn (and cried for an old-school label edit) and *Magic* aimed one last swift if errant kick at a new millennial order (now superseded), *Working on a Dream* crowns Springsteen & the E Street Band's most productive period since their first four LPs. Recent bad habits remain, the frontman still scraping his epiglottis with fare too transparently blue-collar anthemic ("Working on a Dream," "Kingdom of Days") and even mundane (*Lucky Town/Human Touch* throwback "Queen of the Supermarket"). Penultimate cut "Surprise, Surprise" belongs on *Tracks II*. Fortunately, "My Lucky Day" raves on pure ramrod, while the heart of the album, brand-new Asbury Park Hall of Famer "What Love Can Do" through "Life Itself," coasts with a confidence not heard since *The River*. While Brendan O'Brien's hamfisted production on the previous two E Streeters was criminal, here the platter's pointed filigree – Fat Possum breakdown "Good Eye," willfully Beatles-esque "Tomorrow Never Knows" – even masks Clarence Clemons' overall absence from the proceedings. "The Last Carnival," eulogy for late group organist Danny Federici, closes this lean *Dream* with a contained blast of gospel stunning in its closure. Bonus cut "The Wrestler" pins a coda on flawless sequencing. Wind it out as the years go passing by. **(Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band shake the Frank Erwin Center April 5.)**

★★★

– Raoul Hernandez

ANDREW BIRD

Noble Beast (Fat Possum)

Over the last decade, Chicago's Andrew Bird has created his own lexicon of pop music, layering spells of violin and guitar into novelistic labyrinths. The first half of fifth LP *Noble Beast*, buoyed by the brief, aqueous interlude "Uou," marks his most exquisite work to date. His Orbison-like croon is pushed to the forefront, guiding the movements, which makes opener "Oh No" and "Tenuousness" sound like jigsaw-puzzle pieces falling into place, gradually unfolding into a much bigger picture, while "Fitz and the Dizzyspells" and "Effigy" mirror the wide-lens grandeur of 2007's *Armchair Apocrypha*. Though less focused, the latter half has its moments, notably the romantic "Souverian" and "Not a Robot, but a Ghost," which crosses the songsmith's former vehicle, *Bowl of Fire*, with sideman Martin Dosh's kitchen-sink instrumentalism. With *Noble Beast*, Bird proves that he's a whistling Renaissance man for modern times. **(Andrew Bird's show at the Paramount Theatre, Thursday, Feb. 12, is sold out.)**

★★★★

– Austin Powell



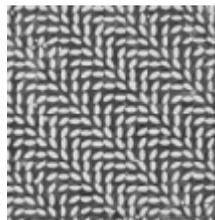
ANIMAL COLLECTIVE

Merrweather Post Pavilion (Domino)

The praise bestowed on Animal Collective is justified, even if the exultation over the Baltimore-born trio's latest LP is overblown. From the group's freak-folk anticipation on 2003's *Campfire Songs* to its ushering in indie's new density with *Feels* (2005), the Collective forges musical frontiers even when the results are scattershot. *Merrweather Post Pavilion* decamps as the outfit's most consistent album, readily remixable but largely lacking moments of thrilling unexpectedness that redeemed the band's electro-eccentricities. "In the Flowers" opens with an eerie and subdued underwater warp, but its mid-song surge is predictable and uninspired, as opposed to the touch of Beach Boys harmonies on the equally mellow "Bluish." "My Girls" and "Summertime Clothes" are catchy highlights, the latter layering skuzzy beats under chanted verses, but the droning "Daily Routine" is as tedious as its title. Animal Collective has backslid into a comfortable, but unfortunately unexciting, middle ground.

★★★

– Doug Freeman



in box

BY RAOUL HERNANDEZ

THE COMPLETE MOTOWN SINGLES

Vol. 11B: 1971 (Hip-O Select)

Despite messieurs David Ruffin and Eddie Kendricks having outgrown the Temptations and Smokey Robinson readying his exit from the Miracles; regardless of the Supremes going through the motions post-Diana Ross, Florence Ballard, and Holland-Dozier-Holland; and notwithstanding Martha & the Vandellas down to their last three Motown singles and the Four Tops reduced to covering "MacArthur Park," Detroit's soul brand wasn't about to concede July-December 1971 to the fact that L.A. was quickly becoming its base of operations. Although November's Vol. 11A betrayed a



noticeable limp, 11B recovers with a 5-CD bumper crop of B-sides, one-offs, and songs that haven't seen the light of playback since they were pressed on a 7-inch splat of petroleum product. The first grouping boasts Bobby Darin's affecting cover of Dylan's "I'll Be Your Baby Tonight."

New Orleans powerhouse Jack Hammer (né Earl Burroughs) doing his best Edwin Starr-style "War" cry on interracial shout-out "Colour Combination" and equally potent flip side "Swim" constitute his

only Motown output. Finally, 11A's surprise stars Stoney & Meatloaf here debut on CD a cover of the Tempts' "The Way You Do the Things You Do." Filler includes Marvin Gaye's "Inner City Blues (Make Me Wanna Holler)," Stevie Wonder's "If You Really Love Me," and Jr. Walker's raw vocals on "Way Back Home." So long, Detroit. ★★★

HOMMAGE À NESUHI (Atlantic/Rhino)

"This boxed set is the life's work of two men: one the master, the other the apprentice." Forward author David Dorn still mourns "the apprentice," his father Joel Dorn (1942-2007), who died the day after "putting the final touches" on this boutique, limited-edition, 5-CD labor of love. Tellingly, Rhino Handmade's latest Atlantic Records anthology not only memorializes the label's jazz "master," Nesuhi Ertegun (1917-1989), but its mixtape mentality also fetes the eyes and ears that made music's most renowned indie. Ahmet Ertegun (1923-2006), Jerry Wexler (1917-2008), Tom Dowd (1925-2002), and Arif Mardin (1932-2006) built a house that Ray Charles and myriad others then helped refurbish. Nesuhi's standardization of



the 12-inch LP and producing all of John Coltrane's and Ornette Coleman's defining work on the label assures him musical immortality. Bookended by volumes titled "Some Atlantic Jazz" and "Some More Atlantic Jazz," *Hommage* simmers like an overnight radio slot from the early

1970s – appropriate considering Dorn's deejay background. Blowing apart on newly departed Texan David "Fathead" Newman's "Hard Times" and sealed 60 tracks later on

Coltrane's "Equinox," this sampler drips crystalline Modern Jazz Quartet ("Summertime"), purrs Mose Allison ("Your Mind Is on Vacation"), and begs "Oh Lord Don't Let Them Drop That Atomic Bomb on Me" by Charles Mingus. Don't forget Max Roach's quintet spinning mortality on 12.5 minutes of "Nommo." Mo's illogical plait. ★★★

JOHN ANDERSON



live shot

BROKEN SOCIAL SCENE

Bass Concert Hall, Jan. 31

"You can't be 100 percent your whole life," a disheveled Kevin Drew admitted to the sold-out crowd. The Broken Social Scene father figure swayed blearily for 2½ hours, ravaged by flu, the reason for the previous night's Dallas cancellation. Austin/Brooklyn duo Lymbyc System opened with the brothers Bell setting an early tone for the evening with their lovely instrumental mix of Air and Postal Service. The bliss ended at BSS' second song, "KC Accidental." With original band members Andrew Whiteman (Apostle of Hustle), Charles Spearin (Do Make Say Think), and Justin Peroff joining Drew and co-father Brendan Canning, along with lackluster female sub Lisa Lobsinger, the Canadian sevenpiece rolled through oldies "7/4 (Shoreline)" and "Fire Eye'd Boy," Canning's solo material, and Spearin's new Happiness Project featuring saxophonist/percussionist Leon Kingstone, a spoken-word/avant-jazz experiment and the highlight of the evening. American Analog Set's Andrew Kenny afforded Drew a breather on AmAnSet's "Hard to Find," part cover, part reimagining, before the BSS frontman's solo take on "Lover's Spit" at the keys. Two songs stopped in their tracks; Lobsinger generalized crowd favorite "Anthems for a Seventeen Year-Old Girl," originally oozed by Metric's Emily Haines; and Drew repeatedly stepped offstage to vomit. It was a hot mess, but the crowd ate it up, rising to its feet after botched closer "It's All Gonna Break," rooting for Drew's heroics and his promise to return to Austin when the Dallas makeup show is scheduled. Everyone deserves a do-over. – Darcie Stevens

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



Saudi Arabia is host to several camel beauty pageants each year (condemned as religiously fatuous by Muslim clerics), but the country's first goat beauty pageant was held in September in Riyadh, with the distinctive Najdi breed, featuring high nose bridges and silky, shaggy hair, taking top prizes. In fact, most of the goats in the competition had the same father, Burgan, whose progeny typically fetch the equivalent of \$25,000 or more. Still, prize-winning show camels can bring 10 times that amount for the greater status they convey to their owners. Burgan himself did not appear at the pageant, according to a Reuters dispatch, because his owner feared that a jealous competitor would have an "evil eye" cast upon him.

CREME DE LA WEIRD

Among the medical oddities mentioned in a December *Wall Street Journal* roundup was "Jumping Frenchmen of Maine Disorder," in which a person, when startled, will "jump, twitch, flail their limbs and obey commands given suddenly, even if it means hurting themselves or a loved one." It was first observed in 1878 among lumberjacks in Maine but has been reported also among factory workers in Malaysia and Siberia. It is believed to result from a genetic mutation that blocks the calming of the central nervous system (but could be merely psychological from the stress of working in close quarters).

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

Not Ready for Prime Time: 1) In January, police in Cape Coral, Fla., were seeking LaKeitha Watson-Atkinson for shoplifting from a TJ Maxx. The thief escaped after running from store security, but not before she was knocked down twice by her getaway car. In the commotion, a check made out to Watson-Atkinson fell to the ground. 2) Luke Radick, 21, was charged with attempted robbery of the National Bank of Palmerton in Sciota, Pa., in January. Bank employees refused to buzz Radick in for the simple reason that he stood at the door, covering his face and holding a shotgun.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

The Rental Society: Among the services available by the clock in Japan (according to a January BBC dispatch) are 1) quality time with a pet (about \$10 an hour at the Ja La La Cafe in Toyko, usually with dogs or cats but with rabbits, ferrets, and beetles available), 2) no-sex quality time with a college coed (flattering conversation by the hour at the campus cafe, less expensive than the geisha-type houses), 3) actors from the I Want to Cheer Up agency in Tokyo to portray "relatives" for weddings and funerals when actual family members cannot attend or to portray fathers to help single women with their parenting duties or to portray husbands to help women practice for the routine of married life (except for sex).

In January, a federal judge dismissed the last lawsuit standing in the way of a new Indian casino for California's Amador County, where the federally recognized Me-Wuk tribe of the Buena Vista Rancheria has its 67-acre reservation. The tribe consists of Rhonda Morningstar Pope and her five children, none of whom live on the tribal land.

Parental Responsibility: 1) A father took his 20-year-old son to an Islamic court in Bauchi, Nigeria, in October, demanding that he be jailed for idleness, which he said has shamed the family. The court immediately

sentenced the son to 30 lashes and six months in prison. 2) In December, a court in Seoul, South Korea, fined the parents of a teenage rapist the equivalent of about \$60,000 for their negligence in raising the boy badly. The 18-year-old himself is serving a 10-year sentence for the crime.

Twenty million Chinese have their residences in caves, but that is often not a bad deal, according to a December McClatchy Newspapers dispatch from Miaogou Village. In addition to the obvious advantages (e.g., no mortgage), some caves have been in the family for generations and have electrical wiring, plumbing, and cable television, and some are part of communities of connected caves. Researchers said that earthen insulation keeps the inside temperature from dropping below about 55 degrees Fahrenheit even in the dead of winter.

QUESTIONABLE JUDGMENTS

Political Correctness Update: 1) In November, the student association at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario, voted to eliminate a cystic fibrosis organization from the list of charities it supports, explaining that since the condition almost exclusively afflicts white people, it was not "inclusive" enough to merit student funding. 2) In December, Britain's Oxford University Press announced the latest changes in its highly selective *Junior Dictionary*, finding room to add dozens of words, including "trapezium," alliteration," and "incisor," but eliminating, for example, "bishop," "chapel," "christen," "minister," "monk," "nun," "parish," "psalm," and "saint." The publisher said the changes reflect Britain's "multicultural, multifairth" society.

Photographer Yeon Lee's exhibit in a London gallery in December featured a burqa-clad model, fully robed from head to toe except for a tiny opening, but that opening was not the typical one, for the woman's eyes. Ms. Lee's openings exposed only the model's nipples, highlighting, she said, "the ways women are categorized in male-dominated societies."

Family Knows Best: 1) Evelyn Poynter, 86, had refused for months to leave her apartment in Pittsburgh and move in with her sister, Laura Stewart, 72, who had offered to take care of her. In December, according to police, a fed-up Stewart forcibly wrapped Poynter's arms, legs, neck, and body in duct tape, tossed her in the back seat, and drove her home to Shaker Heights, Ohio. "There was nothing sinister," said Stewart's daughter, but still, Stewart was arrested. 2) In October, police in Elgin, Ill., said they were investigating an accusation that after a 13-year-old boy and girl broke off their relationship, the girl's mother ordered the boy to reconcile with her daughter by threatening to release nude photos of him that her daughter had taken.

Read "News of the Weird" daily at www.weirduniverse.net. Send items to weirdnews@earthlink.net.

Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com.

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BACK TO CLASS WITH (CL)ASS Talk about your student bodies. Win, win, win in OCH's Student Body Strip Off doing what you do in the locker room every day. *Oilcan Harry's*, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING Speak now, and help determine Austin's funding priorities (housing, community development, economic development, etc.) for the 2009 fiscal year. Familiarize yourself with the current plan by visiting www.cityofaustin.org/housing/conplan_09-14.htm. 6:30pm. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 974-2220.

CONFERENCE ON LATIN AMERICA UT's Institute of Latin American Studies Student Association hosts this annual conference gathering scholars from around the world for three days of lectures, panel discussions, and events, with opening remarks by Jesuit priest and former Nicaraguan Minister of Education Fernando Cardenal and closing with a talk from Ecuadoran indigenous rights leader Luis Macas. *Thu.-Sat., Feb. 5-7. Thompson Conference Center, Red River & Dean Keeton, 471-2933. Free.* www.utexas.edu/cola/insts/llilas/conferences/llassa_09/index/.

FIRST THURSDAY Music, food, and shopping. *From the river, south on South Congress. Free.*

KATHERINE DUNHAM OLDMIXON BOOKSIGNING Ms. KDO is a fancy pants lit-and-writing professor at our own Huston-Tillotson. She's kind of a big deal. Go figure out why at the reading and signing of *Water Signs*, her new chapbook. 7pm. *BookWoman*, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 472-2785.

POLITICAL ACTION BOOK CLUB 6pm. *State Capitol Rotunda, 11th & Congress, 989-3188. Free.* www.wblibrary.org.

PRACTIQUEMOS ESPAÑOL Not Spanish language lessons but an opportunity to converse and fine-tune your conversational skills in a relaxed environment. *Thursdays, 4pm; Saturdays, 11am.* *Faulk Central Branch Library, 800 Guadalupe, 974-7400. Free.* www.cityofaustin.org/library.

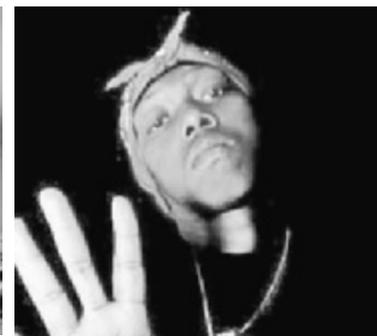
ST. DAVID'S CAPITOL HEALTH EXPO has flu shots, blood-pressure screenings, cardiac-risk assessments, body-fat testing, and more. If you need more fun with your health screenings, there will also be rehab demos on a Wii Fit. *Through Feb. 6, 8am-5pm. State Capitol Rotunda, 11th & Congress, 482-4199. Free.*

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.) **Scooter's Coffeehouse, the Hideout Coffeehouse, Yard Dog**

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) **The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience** @ IMAX Theatre, 7:30pm
The Spanish Prisoner @ Texas Union Theatre, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) **Kevin Costner & the Modern West** *Antone's*

ANANSI & THE MOSS COVERED ROCK tells the story of a mischievous trickster in the African jungle. Will Anansi get away with his latest prank or get his comeuppance? This



L - R: INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE FESTIVAL (SEE SATURDAY) | UT SOFTBALL (SPORTS, P.65) | 'BUILT LIKE NESTS' (ARTS, P.66) | OSCAR NOMINATED LIVE-ACTION SHORTS (FILM, P.72) | Z-RO (MUSIC, P.82)

THURSDAY, FEB 5 TO THURSDAY, FEB 12

calendar

BY JAMES RENOVITCH

shadow-puppet show is part of the library's Black History Month celebration. 10:15am. *Oak Springs Library, 3101 Oak Springs Dr., 974-7302. Free.* www.cityofaustin.org/library.

BFF LADIES NIGHT Half-off, ladies! Take that however you like it, but to kick off a month's worth of February sales, Birds is throwing a party with treats, massages, and goodie bags. Speaking of which, Rebecca Havemeyer hosts. 6-9pm. *Birds Barbershop, 6800 Burnet Rd., 454-1200. www.birdsbarbershop.com.*

BOARD GAME NIGHT AT Q You need only one letter to find Austin's HQ for guys 18-29: Q. Social support, coming-out support, health education, parties, discussion groups, and the occasional game night. Like tonight's. 6pm. *Q Center, 3408 West Ave., 420-8557. mp_austin@sbcglobal.net, www.qboyz.org.*

BOB MARLEY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION features live music, with the proceeds going to Texas NORML. Just like Bob would have wanted it. See Club Listings, p.86, for a complete lineup. 9:30pm-12mid. *Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. \$10. www.texasnorml.org.*

CELEBRATING OSCAR: ANIMATED MOVIES Some of the best animated movies from years past will be shown for the young ones, leading up to the Oscars. *Fridays through Feb. 20, 7pm. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr. Free. www.wblibrary.org/events/AcademyAwards/oscar.htm.*

CELTIC EARLY SPRING FESTIVAL Celebrate the dawn of spring with this festival, campout, communal-feast combo. Gardening and sustainability workshops fill the days, and drum circles, feasts, fire-spinning, and more await you at night. Bring a dish for the potluck and all the camping gear you might need. *Fri.-Sun., Feb. 6-8. Emma Long Park, 1706 City Park Rd., 919-6182. Free after entry fee to the park. www.dockunda.com.*

LABYRINTH WALK Get lost in this ancient form of meditation and prayer. Facilitators will be on hand to help you find your way. 6-8:30pm. *St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. Eighth, 472-1196.*

PEOPLE UNITED has a live conversation with activists Bob Libal and Luissana Santibañez about the 100 Actions in 100 Days Campaign to End Immigrant Family Detention. 1pm. *KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org.*

THANK GOODNESS I'M BI is the ambisexual happy hour that gathers on the first and third Fridays of every month. Look for room directly across from

the dartboards. 7pm. *Opal Divine's Freehouse, 700 W. Sixth, 370-9573. www.main.org/binetaustin.*

WEAR RED FOR WOMEN The American Heart Association encourages everyone to wear red and challenge women to know their risks for heart disease and live heart-healthy lives. www.goredforwomen.org.

CONFERENCE ON LATIN AMERICA (See Thursday, 2/5.)

ST. DAVID'S CAPITOL HEALTH EXPO (See Thursday, 2/5.)

COMEDY (See Arts Listings.)

Gnap! Theatre Improv: Lola Salvage Vanguard Theater

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.) **Austin Art Space**

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Beowulf: The IMAX 3D Experience

@ IMAX Theatre, 9:15pm

Kings of the Evening @ Boyd Vance Theatre at Carver, 10:30am, 2pm

The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience

@ IMAX Theatre, 6:30pm

The Legend of Fong Sai-Yuk @ Alamo Village, 12mid

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Shapes Have Fangs/Cavedweller 7-inch Release

Emo's Monotonix Red 7

Texas Eastside Kings *Central Market North*

The Gospel Truth *Scoot Inn & Bier Garten*

Au, Silver Pines/Hacienda *Mohawk*

AMOR MARKET Handcrafted gifts abound. Perfect for the people in your life who appreciate things with an ethnic flavor. 10am-3pm. *Plaza Juan Raul, 2306 E. Cesar Chavez, 767-3553. www.thingsheadores.com.*

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

AUSTIN LIARS CONTEST A panel of judges (journalists, lawyers, and a cop) and peers (the audience) hear out eight of Austin's best and biggest liars.

this week's
community
listings

If you're going to lie, you might as well go big, but who will spin the tallest tale? 2pm. *Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652. Free. jovirgil@gmail.com.*

CALVIN LITTLEJOHN EXHIBIT OPENING CEREMONY Guest speakers and praise dancers help trumpet the arrival of Calvin Littlejohn's photographs in honor of Black History Month. 10am. *Round Rock Public Library, 216 E. Main, Round Rock, 512/218-3283. Free. www.roundrocktexas.gov/library.*

CELEBRATING OSCAR: BEST OF THE BEST Best Picture winners from years past will be shown, with popcorn and drinks available to complete the cinematic experience. A discussion of what makes each movie great follows each screening. *Saturdays through Feb. 21, 7pm. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr., 989-3188. Free. www.wblibrary.org/events/AcademyAwards/oscar.htm.*

CHINESE NEW YEAR Learn about this festive event by watching the Texas Dragon/Lion Dance Team perform and making themed crafts. 1pm. *Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr., 989-3188. Free. www.wblibrary.org.*

CHOCOLATE SHOW The Texas Culinary Academy is gearing up for Valentine's Day with a cornucopia of cocoa creations. Demos, an exhibit, student competitions, and, of course, chocolate samples. *Noon-3pm. Texas Culinary Academy, 11400 Burnet, 339-2665.*

CLOTH DIAPERING 101 For those of us who find the idea of throwing away infant poo distasteful. *Saturdays, 10:30am. Austin Baby, 505 W. Mary, 448-0118. Free. www.austinbabyonline.com.*

EROTIC READINGS FOR VALENTINE'S DAY Women, love, eros, and belly dancing. Say what? 7pm. *BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar, 472-2785. Free.*

FORGOTTEN PATRIOTS WORKSHOP The library system's Black History Month events continue with this trip back to America's roots. Learn to follow your family tree back to the American Revolution with this hands-on workshop. 2-5pm. *University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.*

HAVE A HEART GREY-LA Get it? It rhymes with "gala." Mediocre punning aside, this evening of wine-and-dessert tasting, silent auction, and live music by Greg Whitfield benefits Greyhound Pets of America and its efforts to rescue the often-forgotten breed. 6-9pm. *Zilker Park Clubhouse, Zilker Clubhouse Rd., 474-9692. \$25 (\$40, couple) donation requested. www.gpacentraltexas.org/greyla09.html.*



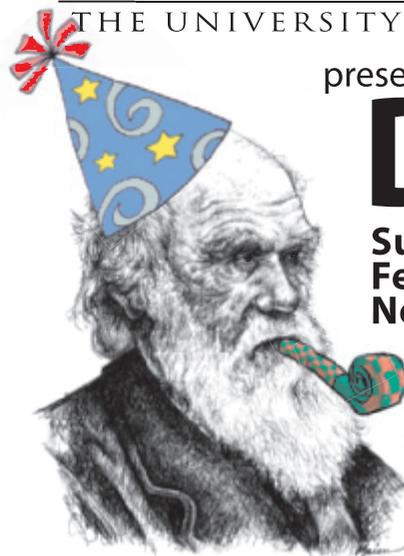
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BY GERALD E. MCLEOD **daytrips**

National Pie Day slipped past me this year like an old girlfriend's birthday. When I remember it, I always think of the day fondly, but I never write it down on a calendar.

Of all my culinary mistresses, pies are the ones that hold the fondest memories. Why should the healthy attributes of pecans, blueberries, and chocolate be diminished by a few cups of sugar and a flaky crust? If an apple a day will keep the doctor away, then an apple pie a week should be of some health benefit.

Love Creek Orchards makes a great apple pie because the fruit comes fresh from its trees. In downtown Medina, the orchard's Apple Store has a variety of apple-related products, and the cafe makes a good sandwich topped off with, you guessed it, a slice of apple pie. There are also whole pies to take home and share (830/589-2588, www.lovecreekorchards.com).

I'm not sure you have to share your pie if you're eating it for medicinal purposes. For instance, I like to keep a blueberry pie from **Texas Pie Co.** in Kyle around the house for the berries' nutrients and antioxidants. You can eat your dessert in Texas Pie Co.'s dining room or take a pie and a casserole home to enjoy later (512/268-5885, www.texaspiecompany.com).

It's nearly impossible for me to drive through Wimberley without picking up a pecan pie from the **Wimberley Pie Co.** Neal Mallard has been making a wide variety of delicious pies and cookies for nearly 20 years (512/847-9462, www.wimberleypie.com).

When I'm near Corsicana, I'm looking for the chocolate-pecan pies from **Collin Street Bakery**. Best known for its fruitcakes, the bakery now has two locations in its hometown and a third bakery to open soon off I-35 in Waco. Besides offering a cornucopia of baked goods, the bakery often has specials on its fruit pies (903/874-7477, www.collinstreet.com).

For some connoisseurs, a solid meringue is the measure of a good pie. I'll concede the melt-in-your-mouth goodness of whipped egg whites toasted to a golden brown. The **City Cafe** in Elgin has what it calls "mile-high" meringues – big 4-inch-thick mounds that complement the fillings. To go with your pie, try one of the cafe's entrées to round out your meal. It is best to order whole pies at least 24 hours in advance (512/281-3663).

At the **Bluebonnet Cafe** in Marble Falls, the meringues are respectable on the chocolate, lemon, and coconut pies, but the cafe excels at fruit pies. Some people actually go there to eat regular food. The rest of us stop by between 3 and 5pm, Monday through Friday, for Pie Happy Hour, when a slice and a drink only cost \$3. It even has a sugarless apple pie (830/693-2344, www.bluebonnetcafe.net).

The American Pie Council has selected Jan. 23 as National Pie Day. Mark it on your calendar. I'm sure your significant other won't mind.

918th in a series. Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of "Day Trips" 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

outoftown

CHINESE NEW YEAR FAMILY FESTIVAL revolves around the museum's large collection of Chinese art begun by the Nail family. The festival invites families to create artwork of their own inspired by Chinese culture and the lunar New Year traditions, play traditional games, eat customary Chinese foods, and listen to special tours of the Asian collection. Sat., Feb. 7. The Old Jail Art Center, Albany, 325/762-2269. Free. www.theoldjailartcenter.org.

EAGLE FEST offers tours to see the bald eagles that are winter residents at Lake Fork, plus enjoy educational programs, arts & crafts, and local food. Sat., Feb. 7, 8am-3:30pm. Rains High School, Emory, 903/473-3913. www.eaglefest.org.

CZECH MUSIC FESTIVAL Provides a day of oompah music featuring the Ennis Czech Boys and Jak Se Do along with plenty of refreshments. Sat., Feb. 7, 2-11:30pm. Ennis. www.visitennis.org.

TEXAS OIL: LANDSCAPE OF AN INDUSTRY explores the world of petrochemical industries from the ground up through video, photography, and maps in three galleries. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10am-5pm, through March 29. Blaffer Gallery, University of Houston, Houston, 713/743-9521. Free. www.class.uh.edu/blaffer/exhibit_clui.html.

GULF COAST MUSIC HALL OF FAME SHOW Formerly known as the Janis Joplin Birthday Bash, this event celebrates local music with a long list of talent including the Fabulous Boogie Kings, Jerry LaCroix, the Beat Daddys, and Amber Martin paying tribute to Janis. Sat., Feb. 7, 7pm. Robert A. Bowers Civic Center, Port Arthur, 800/235-7822. \$30. www.portarthur.com.

BOUNTIFUL BOWL POTTERY showcases the work of area artists with a sale to the public. Sat., Feb. 7, 10am-4pm. Rockport-Fulton High School, Rockport, 361/729-5352. www.rockportartcenter.com.

HEART O' TEXAS ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW Get all your orchid questions answered by the experts. Maybe surprise your valentine with an orchid instead of the usual rose. Sat.-Sun., Feb. 7-8, 10am-4pm. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 280-2271. Free. geoffreyfrost@yahoo.com, www.hotos.org.

HOME-BUYER SEMINAR Learn why this is being called the golden age for buying a home and the common mistakes first-time home-buyers make. 1pm. ACC Highland Business Center, 5930 Middle Fiskville, 997-7653. Free. www.livinginaustin.com.

HOUSE RABBIT ADOPTION DAY February is Adopt a Rescued Rabbit Month. Who knew? That explains why the House Rabbit Resource Network will be offering rabbits for adoption along with the facts every bunny-owner should have. Noon-4pm. Petco, 9828 Great Hills, 345-2355. www.rabbitresource.org.

INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE FESTIVAL Celebrate Black History Month with local vendors, products, music, performers, art, community awards, and enough family fun to keep your heart rate up. Good thing, because this year's theme is promoting health and wellness in the neighborhood. That means: Expect a walk/run, mini health festival, and more. All this in the spirit of *ujamaa* or cooperative economics. 10am-4pm. Greater Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1801 Pennsylvania, 478-7578. Free. www.ujamaa-austin.org.

LEE LEFFINGWELL CAMPAIGN KICKOFF Let's get the party started right. 2-4pm. 700 N. Lamar #100.

LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION The Texas Asian Chamber of Commerce rings in the Year of the Ox with emcee Les McGehee, honoree Mayor Will Wynn, a silent auction, dinner, cultural performances, and a live band and dancing. Party hard, because before you know it, it will be the Year of the Tiger. 6-11pm. Sheraton Hotel, 701 E. 11th. \$100 (\$85, members). www.txasianchamber.org.

NATIONAL BLACK HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY It's all about the testing and treatment, people. Folks of all stripes are invited to come mobilize and pro-activate at this health fair with all the fixin's: entertainment, food, and health info and services. 10am. Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon, 972-6115. Free. carole.barasch@ci.austin.tx.us.

NATURAL SOLUTIONS FOR DIGESTIVE DISBURBANCE 2:30pm. Austin Fitness Martial Arts, 4327 S. First, 892-3366. Free. www.naturalhealthaustin.com.

ONA 'KAN ADULAWO ANCESTRAL TRADITIONS WORKSHOPS People of African descent are invited to brush up on the languages, philosophies, cultures, and spiritual systems of their ancestors. E-mail or call to RSVP Every other Saturday, 1:30-3:30pm. 1300 Yorkshire, 552-6277. Free. sankofaasaf@gmail.com.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST You get all-you-can-eat pancakes, and the Austin Children's Shelter gets money to continue its good work. 8am. Applebee's, 3001 N. I-35, Round Rock. \$6. www.austinchildrenshelter.org.

PLANTING WORKSHOP Bring a container and some Valentine's-themed decorations, and learn to make a planter for your home. Soil and gravel are free, but the plants are gonna cost you. 3pm. Big Red Sun, 1102 E. Cesar Chavez, 480-0688. Free. www.bigredsun.com.

SAVANNA RESTORATION Bring gloves and cutting tools to help clean up brush and restore this property to beautiful savanna grassland. 9:30am-1pm. Brodie Wild, southwest corner of Slaughter & Brodie, 263-6443. kirstiharms@att.net, www.cityofaustin.org/water/wildland/onlineregistration/ecowebevents.cfm.

SPIRITUAL WISDOM ON HEALTH & HEALING 2pm. Austin Eckankar Center, 223 W. Anderson Ste. 206-B, 453-0331. Free. www.eckankar-texas.org.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION FORUM 11:45am. Yarbrough Library, 2200 Hancock Dr., 371-3853. Free.

STREAMS & SALAMANDERS First in the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve Hike & Lecture Series features aquatic ecologist Mateo Scoggins and biologist Nathan Bendik discussing stream ecology and other related issues. 10am. Austin Nature & Science Center, 301 Nature Center, 327-8180. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/water/wildland/onlineregistration/ecowebevents.cfm.

TOMA MI CORAZON In its 17th year, this silent art auction raises funds for the cultural and educational organization La Peña. Come to the preview party at 4:30pm featuring music, food, and drinks, but stick around for the auction at 6pm. La Peña Gallery, 227 Congress, 477-6007. \$10 (\$5, auction only). www.lapena-austin.org.

CELTIC EARLY SPRING FESTIVAL (See Friday.)

CONFERENCE ON LATIN AMERICA (See Thursday, 2/5.)

PRACTIQUENOS ESPAÑOL (See Thursday, 2/5.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Art on 5th, Birdhouse Gallery

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Beowulf: The IMAX 3D Experience @ IMAX Theatre, 9:15pm
Lawrence of Arabia @ Wells Branch Library, 7pm
The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience @ IMAX Theatre, 6:30pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show @ Alamo Village, 12mid

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Padena Napalm Division Room 710
Z-Ro Spiros
The Ugly Beats, Ariel Abshire Carousel Lounge
Joe Ely & Joel Guzman Cactus Cafe
James Hunter, Susan Tedeschi La Zona Rosa

SUNDAY 08

AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE CELEBRATION recognizes local students and educators of African descent for their performance and contributions to the Austin Independent School District. Honors will be handed out, exiting Superintendent Pat Forgione will say goodbye, and local student choirs and dance groups will keep things spirited. 3pm. Delco Center, 4601 Pecan Brook Dr., 414-0112. Free.

ARABIC VALENTINE'S DAY BAZAAR Music, belly dancing, complimentary coffee and dessert, and the bazaar's usual inventory of unique gifts. Maybe you'll find something worthy of that special someone. 11am-6pm. Arabic Bazaar, 5013 Duval St., 533-9227. Free admission. www.wmdproductions.com.

BABY-WEARING 101 Learn the latest in wearing your baby like an accessory. Mommies can be chic, too. Sundays, 3pm. Austin Baby, 505 W. Mary, 448-0118. Free. www.austinbabyonline.com.

BACKYARD FOOD PRODUCTION WORKSHOP E-mail for location details and to register for this workshop covering such topics as rainwater catchment, gray-water systems, mulching, home butchering, animal husbandry, agro-forestry, calorie crops, and more. Put the supermarket in your back yard. 9am-5pm. \$100. cindy@gvtc.com.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Feb. 20 issue is Monday, Feb. 9.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the Chronicle, PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail:

Kate X Messer or Ash Bell (Gay Place):
gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

Mark Fagan (Sports):
gameplans@austinchronicle.com.

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

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor, 454-5766 or brenner@austinchronicle.com.

BLAZER TAG'S ANNIVERSARY PARTY The largest laser-tag arena in Texas celebrates 10 years with 10-cent games all day. All you noobs should prepare to get pwned by the regulars though. 11am-10pm. Blazer Tag Adventure Center, 1701 W. Ben White #1, 462-0202. www.blazertag.com.

CANYONLAND HABITATS HIKE Experienced hikers will be led off the trail and through shrubland, grasslands, woods, and canyons. Go online to register, and lace up those hiking boots. 9:30am-1pm. 263-6443. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/water/wildland/online/registration/ecowebevents.cfm.

ETHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTIN This week, discuss the the Lucifer effect, or why good people engage in evil actions. 10am. Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 835-9008. Free. www.esoa.org.

FLYING THEATER MACHINE This interactive performance featuring games and stories provides kids ages 4 to 10 with an early introduction to improv comedy. Sundays, 2pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 971-3311. \$5 (free for babies). www.flyingtheatermachine.com.

HOPE FOOD PANTRY FUNDRAISER Participants are randomly divided into three "classes" and fed accordingly. Upper-classes receive a four-course meal, middle-classes get a barbecue dinner, and the bottom rung will have to settle for rice and beans. How about a little social commentary with your meal? 5pm. St. John's United Methodist Church, 2140 Allandale, 587-0714. \$15 (\$12, advance). www.tumc.org/hope.htm.

LEGISLATIVE POLICY FORUM Discuss the hot issues of the 81st legislative session in a nonpartisan environment. Guest experts and representatives get the ball rolling every Sunday. Sundays, 4pm. First United Methodist Church, 1201 Lavaca, 478-5684.

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION Learn the practices of mindful sitting, walking, tea drinking, and discussion. It's more than just lazy yoga. Sundays, 6-8pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar, 909/503-5296. Free. www.plumblossomsangha.org.

SCIENCE SUNDAY celebrates Black History Month with science and engineering challenges led by experts from the Texas Association of Minority Engineers. Noon-5pm. Austin Children's Museum, 201 Colorado, 472-2499. \$6.50-4.50 (free, 4-5pm). www.austinkids.org.

STRIP FOR YOUR PARTNER WORKSHOP This one is strictly for the ladies, but don't worry, all you lady lovers out there; you'll reap the rewards soon enough. 6pm. Forbidden Fruit, 108 E. North Loop, 453-8090. \$25 (\$20, advance). www.forbiddenfruit.com/workshops.htm.

WITH LOVE TO MOMS A handful of Austin's finest musicians (e.g., Dale Watson) join forces to help defray Elizabeth Parr's health costs as she battles cancer. See Club Listings, p.86, for a complete lineup. 7-11pm. Antone's, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424. \$15 (\$12, advance).

CELTIC EARLY SPRING FESTIVAL (See Friday.)

HEART O' TEXAS ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW (See Saturday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Office Space: 10-Year Reunion @ Paramount, 8pm

The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience

@ IMAX Theatre, 6:30pm

The Rock-afire Explosion @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Don Caballero Red 7

Devotchka, Crooked Fingers La Zona Rosa

MONDAY 09

BT LIVE Weekly live music at everybody's fave up-north gay bar. It's ... 'bout time. 'Bout Time, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339. www.fusenote.com.

DOCUMENTARY & DISCUSSION of a film about the great progressive activist, Abe Osheroff: *One Foot in the Grave, the Other Still Dancing*. Following the film, two of Osheroff's colleagues will lead a discussion about his life and work. 7pm. Thompson Conference Center, Red River & Dean Keeton, 471-2933. Free.

GAMING AT THE LIBRARY Play your favorite Wii, PlayStation2, and GameCube games at the palace of the written word. It might seem counterproductive, but at least the young ones are at the library for a change. 6pm. Windsor Park Library, 5833 Westminster, 974-7400. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

GLOBAL FINANCE UPDATE: EUROPE Discuss how the global economic crisis is affecting European-U.S. relations. 7pm. Ragsdale Center, Jones Auditorium, St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 233-1678. Free. www.stedwards.edu/kozmetzky/welcome.htm.

IMMIGRATION SPEAKER SERIES A panel of experts discusses the possibilities for detention reform and ending family incarceration. 6pm. TICE Community Space, 1009 E. 11th.

IMPROVING SALES IN TOUGH TIMES RSVP, and bring a lunch. Noon-1pm. Business Success Center, 7600 Burnet Rd. #130, 933-1983. Free. www.bscusa.com/Support.htm.

LEGAL CLINIC Free legal advice from Texas RioGrande Legal Aid. Most Mondays & Wednesdays, 6pm. Mondays, Martin Middle School, 1601 Haskell; Wednesdays, Webb Middle School, 601 E. St. John's, 374-2700. Free. www.trla.org.

MANTIE MONDAYS Get your undies in a wad for the Wet Underwear Contest. Kelly Kline hosts, and the Manwatch Dancers set the standard for the competition. Mondays. Charlie's Austin, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481.

MOVING ON - LOSS SUPPORT PROGRAM Call to RSVP, and discuss the issue of death and how it affects co-workers and business. Noon-1pm. Business Success Center, 7600 Burnet Rd. #130, 933-1983. Free. www.bscusa.com/Support.htm.

NATURAL REMEDIES TO REDUCE DEPRESSION 7pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 892-3366. Free. www.naturalhealthaustin.com.

ORGANIC GARDENERS MEETING Panel participants this week include reps from the Green Corn Project, Sustainable Food Center, Austin Area Permaculture Guild, and Urban Roots. 7pm. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 443-7187. Free. www.austinorganicgardeners.org.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Abe Osheroff: One Foot in the Grave, the Other Still Dancing @ Thompson Conference Center, 7pm

Bringing Up Baby @ Hampton Library, 6pm

Jimi and Otis: Live at Monterey @ Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm

The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience

@ IMAX Theatre, 7:30pm

The Rock-afire Explosion @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm

TUESDAY 10

ANANSI & THE MOSS COVERED ROCK See Friday for more information. 10:15am. Cepeda Public Library, 651 N. Pleasant Valley, 974-7302. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

BIRDING TUESDAYS mean two hours of trail-walking and bird-watching with Stan VanSandt of the Travis Audubon Society leading the way. Go online for specific directions to the meeting point, bring your binoculars, and don't forget your love of gawking at birds. 9am. Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory, 2210 FM 973 S., 300-BIRD. Free. www.travisaudubon.org.

BUS RIDERS UNION MEETING Add your 2 cents, and help improve the bus system. Second Tuesdays, 7pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 499-7480. Free. www.busatx.org.

BUSINESS STARTUP ORIENTATION RSVP to this city-sponsored event, and learn how to start your own small business. 9am. One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd., eighth floor conference room, 974-7800. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/sbdp.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING Speak now, and help determine Austin's funding priorities (this week centers around the HIV Planning Council) for the 2009 fiscal year. Familiarize yourself with the current plan by visiting www.cityofaustin.org/housing/conplan_09-14.htm. 6pm. 1520 Rutherford, Bldg. 1, first floor.

GIG FOR GOD Creative Spirit's God Investigating Group meets on the deck to discuss anything. We said "anything." Tuesdays, 6-7:30pm. Freddie's Place, 1703 S. First, 445-9197.

MANGO SOUFFLE AT ALLGO Watch and discuss Mahesh Dattani's *Mango Souffle*, India's first film with an openly gay male storyline. 6:30pm. ALLGO, 701 Tillery, 472-2001.

STEAK NIGHT & CHOCOLATES FOR CHARITY Come early for a \$6 steak (or chicken) with all the fixin's, plus the adventure in mouthfeel known as Chocolates for Charity, run by the United Court to benefit local nonprofits. Then stay late for Jame Perry's original amateur strip-off. Tuesdays, 6pm & 12mid. Charlie's Austin, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481. www.charliesaustin.com.

WEIGHT-LOSS SURGERY SEMINAR 6:30pm. Seton Medical Center, 1201 W. 38th, 324-4456. Free.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Carrie @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm

Fahrenheit 451 @ Milwood Library, 6:30pm

The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience @ IMAX Theatre, 7:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Prayer for Animals, the Archbalds,

the Sour Notes, the Bubbles Emo's

WEDNESDAY 11

ADULT BEGINNERS COMPUTER CLINIC features one-on-one help with everything from typing and mousing to using Microsoft Word, e-mail, and the Internet. No registration required. Wednesdays, 5:30pm; Thursdays, 9:30am. Austin Free-Net Computer Lab, DeWitty Center, 2209 Rosewood, 236-8225. Free. www.austinfreenet.net.

ANANSI & THE MOSS COVERED ROCK See Friday for more information. 4pm. St. John Branch Library, 7500 Blessing, 974-7302. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT LECTURE This month, learn how plants and animals adapt to one another. 7pm. Old Quarry Branch Library, 7051 Village Center Dr., 345-4435. Free. www.centerforinquiry.net/austin.

HUMANITIES IN MEDICINE Dr. Javier Kane of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital discusses how best to address the needs of suffering people in modern health care. 7:30pm. Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 471-2654. Free. www.humanitiesinstitute.utexas.edu.

MOSAIC LUNCHEON Proceeds from this benefit go to Austin United Jewish Community Campaign. Speakers, keynotes, and honorees keep the luncheon interesting. 10:30am. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 795-9937. \$45 admission and a commitment of \$180 to the United Jewish Community Campaign. www.shalomaustin.org/mosaic.

MOUNTAINEERS MONTHLY MEETING Come and see what the Central Texas Mountaineers are up to. 7pm. REI, 601 N. Lamar, 482-3357. Free.

Q'S COFFEE NIGHT Come meet the boys who love boys who love caffeine. Wednesdays, 7pm. Little City, 916 Congress, 420-8557. www.qboyz.org.

RAINFOREST PARTNERSHIP EVENT Food and music surround you while you help support Chipaota project's rainforest-saving efforts in Peru. 5:30pm. The Belmont, 305 W. Sixth, 420-0101. \$20-40 suggested donation. www.rainforestpartnership.org.

SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOODS MEETING Tom Terkel, the developer of the Triangle, discusses the benefit of open space in real estate. 6:30pm. Village Apartments activity room, 7925 Rockwood. www.snaustin.org.

TEX-ITALIA WINE CELEBRATION Every week, the proceeds from the evening's wine sales go to a charitable organization. Charitable winos rejoice. Wednesdays & Thursdays, 6-9pm. Cannoli Joe's, 4715 Hwy. 290 W., 892-4444. www.cannolijoes.com.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience

@ IMAX Theatre, 7:30pm

The Rock-afire Explosion @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm

WALL-E @ Pleasant Hill Branch Library, 6:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Ethan Azarian, Ryan Anderson Hole in the Wall

BY ASH BELL AND KATE X MESSER

gayplace

AS FAR AS WE KNOW, LOVE IS STILL LEGAL Despite the best efforts of some, we queerbots can still whip out the luv whammy like no other ... emm, marginalized population. And what better time than Valentine's to celebrate the degree to which we are allowed to participate in that emotion? Local groups, performers, and even the bars are going all out this week and next. ALLGO's Baile Amor, Kings N Things' My Bloody Valentine, Gretchen Phillips' Manlove ... all in the name of

Send gay bits to
gayplace@
austinchronicle.com.
Visit
austinchronicle.com/
gayplaceblog.

that four-letter mind*ck that is life's one undeniable quest, reducing so many a man to baboon, woman to slave, and we of the LGBT persuasion to emm, ourselves amidst hatred, bigotry, and the American way. Sure, we may not be deemed worthy enough to marry, but dang it, we can still get it on. So, let's, shall we? Advanced tickets for some of these public displays of affection are cheaper than at the door, so check these upcoming Community Listings, on p.64, and online (austinchronicle.com/gayplace) for even more!



FACE IT, you know exactly what you're going to get if all you give is a box of chocolates this Valentine's. Our recommendation? Start planning now with our continually updated online Valentine's Day guide at austinchronicle.com/valentine. Or you can risk it and wait for the print version of our Valentine's listings. Just don't blame us when the custody battle gets ugly.

now ...

HELPING HANDS CENTER needs strong, dependable males to help load/unload groceries twice monthly. *Helping Hands Center, 1151 San Bernard St., 472-2298.*

HOST A CREEK CLEANUP Is the creek you love filled with beer cans and six-pack rings? All you have to do is gather some friends to clean it up, and Keep Austin Beautiful and Watershed Protection and Development Review will give you all the guidance and materials you need. 391-0617. Free. www.keeppaustinbeautiful.org/creekcleanup.

CHARLIE'S GRILL RE-OPENS Austin's gay club right next to the Capitol dome is open for lunch and dinner every Monday through Friday (see new, extended hours). On Tuesdays, the hours extend even further (until 8:30pm) for one of the best steak nights around. Come have dinner with family! Mon.-Fri., noon-7pm. *Charlie's Austin, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481.*

COATS FOR CUBS is accepting real fur – be it a coat, trim, or other type of clothing – to be used as bedding for orphaned or injured wildlife. From now till Earth Day (April 22), you may drop off your furs at Buffalo Exchange (just tell them they're for Coats for Cubs). *Buffalo Exchange, 2904 Guadalupe, 480-9925. www.humanesociety.org/coatsforcubs.*

LETTERS TO SALA AT TEXAS HILLEL On display: a rare collection of Holocaust-era letters, postcards, photographs, and official documents that Sala Kirschner managed to save at great personal risk after surviving five years of Nazi work camps. *Topfer Center for Jewish Life, Texas Hillel, 2105 San Antonio St. www.texashillel.org.*

MDA CAMP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED The Muscular Dystrophy Association is looking for volunteer counselors to care for a young person between the ages of 6 and 17. You will become a companion to a child with a muscle disease for the duration of the weeklong camp sessions. Both counselors and kids benefit from the life-changing experience. 800/572-1717. www.mda.org/clinics/camp.

BIG IDEA BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION Do you have a big idea for a new business? Go online to submit your genius. The finalists present their business plans to people April 17, at the Big Idea Day, with the winner taking home \$10,000 in cash and prizes. Deadline for entries is Feb. 20. 928-8010. www.bigaustin.org/business_plan_competition.htm.

GIRLS' CHOIR AUDITIONS Call to schedule a weekend audition for this local treble choir. Tryouts are being scheduled on weekends through Feb. 8. 453-0884. www.austin.girlschoir.com.

COMMUNITY TAX PREPARATION Don't have the money for a professional tax service but still unsure about adding everything up correctly? If your income is less than \$25,000 for an individual or \$50,000 for a family of two to four people, then you're likely eligible. Call 211 or go to www.communitytaxcenters.org for a complete list of criteria, locations, and hours, as well as information about which forms to bring.

DTV CONVERTER BOX COUPONS NEEDED Confused by the switch to digital television? Imagine what it's like for home-bound individuals on a very fixed income. Meals on Wheels and More is looking for unused DTV converter box coupons to share with its clients. Call to donate, and MOWAM reps will handle the installation process. 476-6325. www.mealsonwheelsandmore.org.

HEALTHY HEART MONTH Through the month of February, get a chiropractic exam, consultation, and x-rays of a problem area for a donation of \$25 to the American Heart Association. *Central Chiropractic Clinic, 3001 N. Lamar #201, 477-1020. www.central-chiropractic.com.*

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP NOMINATIONS are for those who keep Austin's growth from becoming a disservice to the community it should be benefiting. But your favorite non-profit and community organizations, businesses, developers, designers, and neighborhood groups can't win unless they are nominated first. Download the nomination form now; the deadline is Feb. 20. www.envisioncentraltexas.org.

THURSDAY 12

AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY SUPPORT CONFERENCE The majority of this conference aims to help parents and health professionals utilize the health-care tools around them. However, there is a youth panel and other events for the whole family. Go online for a complete list of keynotes, workshops, and exhibits. *Thu.-Fri., Feb. 12-13. Omni Hotel Southpark, 4140 Governor's Row, 488-2222. Free. www.ctaafsc.org.*

ANANSI & THE MOSS COVERED ROCK See Friday for more information. 3:30pm. *Yarborough Branch Library, 2200 Hancock Dr., 974-7302. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.*

ART+HEART+FASHION The ArtSeen Alliance brings eco-fashions by Ren  Geneva Design to the runway and more eye candy from local visual artists. Megan Molly Whittam's jewelry ups the chic factor even more. 6pm. *IF+D, 208 Colorado. Free. www.ecochicclothing.com.*

BUILD THE LOVE Call or go online to RSVP for food-and-wine pairings, live music from Durham Alexander, and an opportunity to win an Austin staycation at the Stephen F. Austin. 6pm. *Moonshine Patio Bar & Grill, 303 Red River, 799-0929. \$35 (\$60, couple). www.austinhabitat.org.*

ELMO'S GREEN THUMB Like you need a reason to see Elmo. Rest assured, he will be embarking on an adventure in cuteness. Songs both old and new are waiting for your vocal accompaniment, including "Ladybug Picnic" and "I Love Trash." *Feb. 12-15. Thu., 7pm; Fri., 10am & 7pm; Sat., 10:30am, 2 & 5:30pm; Sun., 1 & 4:30pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 471-7744. \$13-27.*

HIKING THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL Learn all about what it takes to conquer this mother of all trails. 7pm. *REI, 601 N. Lamar, 482-3357. Free.*

TECHNOLOGY FOR DYSLEXICS Parents of dyslexic children are invited to join this information session and support group. 7pm. *Scottish Rite Learning Center, 12871 Research, 471-1231. Free. www.scottishritelearningcenter.org.*

TOTALLY COOL, TOTALLY ART is a juried art show featuring works by at-risk teens, made for teens. Various media are represented including dance, film, and photography. A fashion show of student designs begins at 7pm. Come and support the future art scene of Austin. *Reception: Feb. 12, 6-8pm; exhibition: Feb. 12-26. Mexic-Arte Museum, 419 Congress, 480-9373. Free. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.*

TRANSGENERATION SCREENING College is trying enough for the cisgendered. See the college experience through the trans lens at this screening with panel discussion. 7pm. *Women & Their Work, 1710 Lavaca, 471-5765. Free. newert@mail.utexas.edu, www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cwgs/.*

ADULT BEGINNERS COMPUTER CLINIC (See Wednesday.)

PRACTIQUEMOS ESPA OL (See Thursday, 2/5.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience @ IMAX Theatre, 7:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Mad Professor *Flamingo Cantina*

Amy Anelle, Conjunto Los Pinkys *Stubb's*



TOTALLY COOL, TOTALLY ART
(See Thursday, 2/12)

YOUTH SPIN SPRING TRAINING Area high schoolers are invited to get some broadcast training for this youth-produced radio show on KOOP. The program consists of commentaries, interviews, music, and more, and you can be a part of it. Classes start *Tue., Feb. 10 at the Griffin School*. Call or e-mail for more info. 454-5797. adam@griffinschool.org.

AQUIFER DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS Hays County and Austin area high school students are encouraged to enter the groundwater essay contest for a \$1,500 scholarship to an institution of the student's choosing. Applications must be received by *March 6*. 282-8441. www.bseacd.org/scholarship_program.htm.

WORD UP, OBAMA Love him? Hate him? Don't yet know the guy? Regardless, Atticus Circle wants you to let President Obama know LGBTers and allies are looking for him to keep his promises. Find the form letter online, or better yet, write your own. www.atticuscircle.org/dearobama.

PUBLIC INPUT ON ZERO WASTE Austin wants to reduce the amount of landfill bound waste by 90% by 2040. The city will need your help. Go to www.austinrecycles.com, and give your two cents on the city's attempts to curb garbage.

TALK TIME features conversation practice for English-language learners hoping to fine-tune their skills in a non-threatening atmosphere. Call or go online for a schedule of times and locations. 974-7529. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

& later

CHRONICLE VALENTINE'S LISTINGS In case you forgot, V-day is on the way. No plans yet? We've got you covered. Just go to austinchronicle.com/valentine for our continually updated listings. What's not to love?

BAILE AMOR Everyone knows ALLGO throws the hottest joints around: rump-shakin', knees-quakin', soul-achin' good times. Presales for Valentine's sauciest gig are cheaper, and you can get 'em at all the regular suspects: BookWoman, Lobo, and the ALLGO offices. *Fri., Feb. 13, 8pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St., 478-6222. \$40 (\$30, advance). www.allgo.org.*

GRETCHEN PHILLIPS' MANLOVE Who doesn't need a li'l man love every now and again? Gretchen explores man, love, and manlove. Great big, hairy manlove. *Fri., Feb. 13, 8pm. The Independent at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 485-3000. \$10. www.gretchen-phillips.com.*

IT'S GETTING HOT IN HERRR Attention Goody Two-shoes, slutty types, churchgoers, and history buffs: BookWoman's BookGroup just might be calling your name. *Sin in Second City: Madams, Ministers, Playboys, and the Battle for America's Soul* by Karen Abbott is the current reading, so you can only imagine where the hot and heavy conversation might take you. *Wed., Feb. 25, 7pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 472-2785.*

IT'S MY PARK DAY Get in on this day of park appreciation by joining or leading a park cleanup project. Go online for a list of current cleanup sites or register to start your own with a group of friends or neighbors. *Sat., March 7. 477-1566. www.austinparks.org/itsmypark.html.*

MY BLOODY VALENTINE Hearts and flowers and glitter kisses, oh my! Kings N Things brings you their annual Valentine's Day Spectacular with all your favorite kings and queens wearing their hearts on their sleeves. Maybe you can bring a date? Or at least bring one home. *Fri., Feb. 13, 9pm. Elysium, 705 Red River, 478-2979. www.kingsnthings.org.*

VIVA LAS VEGAS Bust out your sequin dresses and muton chops for some fake gambling, fancy entertainment, and fabulous auctions all to benefit AIDS Services of Austin and the Capital Area AIDS Legal Project. *Sat., Feb. 21, 8pm. Austin Music Hall, 208 Nueces, 406-6115. \$60 (\$50, advance). betty.mitchell@asaustin.org, www.asaustin.org.*

sports

BY MARK FAGAN listings

playing through

BY THOMAS HACKETT

Mind you, I have zero interest in performing a *lâché*, a *passé muraille*, or a *saut de chat*. Yet I gather that, in my own sedentary way, I am what is called a traceur – a practitioner of parkour, i.e., the French art of movement. For I do move. I walk up stairs. I open doors. I work the remote. All this, it turns out, is an art, which makes me an artist.

Fortunately, according to parkour philosophy, I'll never be judged an inferior movement artist to **David Belle**, the founder of the discipline and the star of that 2004 kickass French action film *District B13*. That's because pure parkour disdains competition, rules, and value judgments. Its agenda is mystically simple: efficient movement for its own sake.

Of course, in developing their abilities, devoted traceurs and traceuses (female parkour practitioners) look to move through more difficult obstacles than most people do. There's not a building they're not figuring out how to scale, a wall they're not looking to vault. "We're training in techniques that involve ultimate efficiency, proficiency, and consistency," explained **Randal Setzler**, an Austin traceur. "It's not about acrobatics. It's about going from point A to point B in the swiftest, most efficient way possible."

I met up with Setzler and his friend **Chris Hartwell** on the University of Texas campus – an excellent parkour playground. To illustrate his point, Setzler pointed to the bell tower, blocked from view by a 12-foot wall. Let's say somebody is chasing you, Setzler said, and you have to get to the tower for safety. (Teaching and taking classes at UT, I can attest this happens often.) "The fastest way to get there is going over the wall."

"Seriously? Why not just run around it?"

"Because going over it is faster, more efficient."



SANDY CARSON

I wasn't buying it, so I challenged Setzler to race his friend. He'd somehow get over this looming wall. Hartwell would just race around it.

Now, a race is decidedly not in the spirit of parkour, but Setzler obliged me – scaling the wall in all of a second, smoking Hartwell's ass, and showing me a thing or two.

"It's all about forward movement, about not breaking that rhythm and flow," he said. "You want to be silky smooth, your body in harmony with your environment."

As a life metaphor, parkour has obvious appeal – the whole idea of overcoming obstacles, of never stopping, of always moving forward with maximum grace. But I had thought that parkour was a devil-may-care, spur-of-the-moment swashbuckling pursuit. With all their fancy terminology, training regimens, and touchy scruples about competition, I wonder if Setzler and other traceurs aren't taking this rather too seriously. "It's not just aimless monkeyshine shenanigans," Setzler insisted. But it is. Of course it is. That's the whole point. The traceur's lofty fantasies of escaping hot pursuit through postapocalyptic settings are just that – fantasies. Why pretend otherwise?

As much as I admire the grace and derring-do of parkour traceurs, I'm thinking the first obstacle they need to get over is themselves.

Please write Mr. Hackett at playingthrough@austinchronicle.com.

THE MAIN EVENT

★ **SPECIAL OLYMPICS TEXAS WINTER GAMES** Volunteer to support Special Olympics Texas athletes at the 2009 Winter Games in Austin. Check the schedule on the website, pick a slot/event, and sign up. All events are free and open to the public. *Fri.-Sun., Feb. 6-8. Various locations in Austin including Highland Lanes, the Norris Convention Center, and Austin Sports Center, 835-9873. Free. akelly@sotx.org, www.sotx.org.*

★ **O'REILLY LONESTAR SHOOT-OUT ARENACROSS & EXTREME FREESTYLE CHAMPIONSHIPS** Get your fill of arena-cross motorcycle racing, extreme freestyle, quad racing, and more. *Fri.-Sat., Feb. 6-7, 7:30pm. Travis Co. Expo Center, 7311 Decker, 948-9922. Adults \$19 (\$20 day of show); kids \$5 (\$10 day of show). Tickets on sale at O'Reilly Auto Parts stores. www.mapmotorsports.com.*

SPORTSWRITING PANEL Aspiring sportswriters learn from the pros. Brian Davis (UT associate athletic director), Tom Buckley (UT professor of rhetoric and writing), Lesley Suppes (*Runners World Magazine*), Kirk Bohls (*Austin American-Statesman*), and Alan Trubow (*Statesman*) will be featured. *Fri., Feb. 6, 6pm. UT campus, Moncrief-Neuhaus Athletics Center, Louis M. Pearce Conference Room (MNC 1.210), 921-3630. Free. lisasleit@juno.com, www.uwc.utexas.edu.*

THE HOME TEAMS

TEXAS STATE Women's Tennis Maroon-and-gold play day: *Sat., Feb. 7, 10am. Vs. St. Edward's: Thu., Feb. 12, 3pm. Bobcat Tennis Complex, San Marcos. Women's Basketball Vs. McNeese State: Sat., Feb. 7, 2pm. Strahan Coliseum, San Marcos. Men's Basketball Vs. Texas A&M Corpus Christi: Wed., Feb. 11, 7pm. Strahan Coliseum, San Marcos. www.txstatebobcats.com.*

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Baseball Vs. Schreiner (doubleheader Saturday): *Sat., Feb. 7, 2pm; Sun., Feb. 8, 1pm. Vs. Howard Payne: Tue., Feb. 10, 5pm. Tennis Vs. Texas: Dallas: Fri., Feb. 6, 3pm. www.southwesternpirates.com.*

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. St. Mary's: *Sat., Feb. 7, 4:30pm. Vs. Texas-Permian Basin: Thu., Feb. 12, 8pm. Women's Basketball Vs. St. Mary's: Sat., Feb. 7, 2pm. Vs. Texas-Permian Basin: Thu., Feb. 12, 5:30pm. Baseball Vs. Newman: Fri-Sat., Feb. 6-7, noon (both doubleheaders). www.stedwards.edu/athletics.*

UT HOCKEY The Longhorns hockey team is here to fill your local hockey void now that the Ice Bats are gone and the Texas Stars won't drop the puck till late 2009. Vs. Texas A&M: *Fri., Feb. 6, 8pm. Chaparral Ice, 14200 N. I-35, 252-8500. \$5 (\$2, students; kids under 6 free). www.texasicehockey.com.*

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Softball Vs. Florida State: *Fri., Feb. 6, 5pm. Vs. Stephen F. Austin: Fri., Feb. 6, 7:30pm. Vs. Iowa: Sat., Feb. 7, 1:30pm. Vs. Texas State: Wed., Feb. 11, 5pm. McCombs Field, 2001 Comal. Men's Swimming Vs. Texas A&M: Fri., Feb. 6, 6pm. Vs. SMU: Sat., Feb. 7, TBA. Texas Swimming Center, 1900 E. Campus Dr. Women's Swimming Vs. SMU: Sat., Feb. 7, 1pm. Texas Swimming Center. Women's Basketball Vs. Texas Tech: Sun., Feb. 8, 2pm. Vs. Kansas: Wed., Feb. 11, 7pm. Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. Men's Basketball Vs. Oklahoma State: Tue., Feb. 10, 7pm. Erwin Center. www.texasports.com.*

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Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail: Mark Fagan (Sports): gameplans@austinchronicle.com. Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor: brenner@austinchronicle.com.

RECREATION & FITNESS

WAYA SPRING SPORTS REGISTRATION The West Austin Youth Association is now registering for: coed basketball, coed soccer, developmental volleyball, lacrosse, softball, and more. *Through Feb. 20. www.waya.org.*

BLACK-TIE BOXING FUNDRAISER Hosted by the Real Estate Council of Austin and featuring San Antonio's own S'Kati Katz (4-0) vs. Crystal Davis (3-2). Table registration online, black-tie attire. *Thu., Feb. 5, 6:30pm. Hilton Austin Hotel, 500 E. Fourth. If you have to ask, it's too much. www.recaonline.com.*

★ **HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS** The legendary Globetrotters are back to thrill kids and parents alike with their athletic antics. *Thu., Feb. 5, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center, 477-6060. \$15-\$115 (magic circle). www.uterwincenter.com.*

BEACH VOLLEYBALL LEAGUES in East Austin, Manor, Elgin, and Bastrop. Austin Beach (and its seven lighted sand courts) is now pre-registering for spring 2009 coed leagues. *Austin Beach Volleyball Club, 20420 Lockwood, Manor, 512/484-4444. See website for pricing. www.austinbeach.com.*

FIRST SATURDAY AT HARVEY PENICK GOLF COURSE "Try before you buy" new and used golf equipment. Also putting and closest-to-the-pin contests, and free 30-minute lessons. *Sat., Feb. 7, 8am. Penick Golf Campus, 5501 Ed Bluestein Blvd., 926-1100.*

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

★ **LIL' LONGHORN 5K FUN RUN** Childhood obesity in Texas is a serious problem. The Healthy Families Initiative at UT Elementary School is hosting this fun run to help educate families on how to live a healthier lifestyle. Bring the brood out for a full day of activity, food, and fun. *Sat., Feb. 7. Festival Beach Park, Lady Bird Lake, 2101 Bergman, 495-9705. \$20, \$30 per couple, \$40 for families. dauenhauer@mail.utexas.edu, www.active.com/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1676070.*

Got a sporting event you'd like to see listed in *The Austin Chronicle*? Submit your sporty happening at austinchronicle.com/commform.

BY NICK BARBARO **soccer watch**

Austin Aztex final tryouts are this weekend, *Feb. 7-8, at St. Edward's University: Saturday, 9:30am & 1:30pm; Sunday, 9:30am*. The public is welcome; come on out to see if you can spot some talent that might make one of the 2009 rosters (United Soccer Leagues-1 pro or Premier Development League amateur). The **Chantico's Army** supporters group will hold an organizational meeting after the Saturday practice: *4:30pm at Opal Divine's Penn Field, 3601 S. Congress*. Another group, **Lone Star Delinquents**, is getting together at the *Flying Saucer, in the Triangle, tonight (Thursday) around 5:30pm*. The Aztex have signed four more players for its USL-1 squad: winger **Jarius Holmes** from the PDL St. Louis Lions, English midfielder **Alex Tapp** from third division Milton Keynes Dons, and two local products, both veterans of last year's PDL Aztex: striker **A.J. Godbolt** and (special congrats) defender **Wes Allen**, an Anderson High grad and the first player profiled last year in Thomas Hackett's "Playing Through" (April 4, 2008).

The final round of **World Cup qualifying** starts this week, as the **U.S. hosts archrival Mexico**, *6pm on Wednesday, Feb. 11, in Columbus, Ohio (live on ESPN2)*. Also in the group: Costa Rica, Trinidad and Tobago, El Salvador, and Honduras; the top three qualify for South Africa 2010.

The **L.A. Galaxy** and **MLS** appear to have suffered a one-two punch, as both **Landon Donovan** and **David Beckham** – on off-season loan to European clubs – seem set to make their moves permanent. Donovan is settling in well at Bayern Munich; time will tell. But it's Beckham, so ordinary in his two years with the Galaxy, who is a revelation at AC Milan, with two goals and three assists in his first five games, to lead the team into second place in Serie A. Unlikely we'll see him again in the MLS.

arts listings

FronteraFest Short Fringe, Week Three



Hyde Park Theatre
Jan. 31

MAGGIE GALLANT'S
EXCERPT OF 'OUR
ANGLE IN HEAVEN'

Absent the boisterous improv or spoken word often associated with the Short Fringe, the Best of Week Three was a quiet, reflective evening of experiments and excerpts.

There were moments of honest laughter and provoked thoughts, but in general you left the theatre wanting a bit more.

The night began with the most complete work, "Lascivious Lunches and Decadent Dinners," by Priscilla Sample. We moved backward and forward in time as we learned that a man had suffocated to death and his baker wife may have leveraged her knowledge of his whey allergy to commit murder. Paula E. Brooks was a compelling heroine. The story, though not exactly gripping, was enough to keep you interested in whodunit.

Next, Maggie Gallant presented an excerpt from her Long Fringe solo show, *Our Angle in Heaven*. She treated the audience to three Brits offering various responses to Princess Di's untimely demise: Jane, a Diana impersonator who felt very close to the woman she pretends to be; Catherine, a young girl who longs to be a boy and doesn't give a shit about the death of some fluffy princess; and – best of the three – Barry, a conspiracy theorist who believes the royal family is a race of reptilian humanoids. Gallant has a charismatic quirkiness and lovingly inhabits her characters.

"Folding House," a work in progress written and performed by Sheila Gordon, held the most theatrical promise of the evening. Gordon is doing interesting work with transitions and settings and character. Her voice is a great gift and was spot-on whether she was evoking a planetarium, running an auction, or playing an old man who has suffered a stroke and is relearning speech. In a particularly moving scene, her old man sorts

through a box of medicine, trying to remember which he has taken and which need taking. A really exciting start to a piece I look forward to seeing in full.

In "TBA," an experiment by Stephen Pruitt, each audience member received a radio and headphones. A lullaby began. We sat in the dark and listened via radio to Pruitt stream consciousness on the meaning of the words "to be announced." He reflected on how life is full of things that are TBA, but often they never are announced; they just happen. He talked about how the deejay's personality used to matter, but now the only freedom to be found on the radio comes during the programs aired around 4am. Radio waves became a metaphor for human existence. When the lights came back on, we were almost reluctant to relinquish our radios, so pleasant was the experience.

The night ended with another short play, the raucous and almost awesome "Nine Hundred Pound Goose," written and directed by Walter Miranda. This piece had a lot going for it – a funny cast, push-up bras, wacky humor – but in the end, this exploration of guardian angels and guardian demons couldn't quite figure out how to seal the deal.

So whether we were made to think back on a sad event from 1997 or the freedom of radio deejays of old, to ponder conspiracy theories and deadly allergies and fate, or to wonder what a play might look like once it's fully realized, the atmosphere at Hyde Park Theatre was thoughtful. Best of Week Three provided a passably enjoyable night and a quiet car ride home. – Hannah Kenah

theatre

OPENING

THE SHADOW BOX Michael Christofer's Pulitzer winner about making sense of death is presented by NXNW Theatre Company. Feb. 6-22. Fri.-Sun., 8pm (no show on Feb. 14). City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D, 524-2870. \$20 (\$18, students, seniors, military). www.citytheatreAustin.org.

NO SHAME THEATRE RETURNS! Yes, it does! On the first Friday of each month, Gnap! Theater Projects presents Austin's pre-eminent open-mic performance forum. Script-in-hand or memorized, funny, musical, dramatic, dance-based, bad, weird, or just what-the-hell, all styles of performance are welcome. Fri., Feb. 6, 10pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$3. www.gnaptheater.org.

THE SECRET LIVES OF THE INBETWEENERS Aaron Brown's newest show, being produced by the Vortex under the direction of Bonnie Cullum, is, unusually for them, a traditional sort of musical comedy. There's no nudity, no foul language, but plenty of toe-tapping tunes in this world premiere from the celebrated playwright of *The M.O. of M.I.* Feb. 6-March 7. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$10-30 (two-for-one tickets on Thursday, with two nonperishable food items for SafePlace). www.vortexrep.org.

AN IDEAL HUSBAND Momentarily ditching the Immortal Bard for the Divine Oscar, Austin Shakespeare presents Mr. Wilde's classic social comedy, directed by Ann Ciccolella and featuring a score of fresh period-specific music by Michael McKelvey. Feb. 12-March 1. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 482-0800. \$10-32. www.austinshakespeare.org.

CYRANO DE BERGERAC Edmond Rostand's big-nose classic of humor, intrigue, and derring-do, as adapted and translated by Anthony Burgess, is presented at St. Ed's under the (highly capable, we dare say) direction of Michelle S. Polgar. Feb. 12-22. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Extra show: Wed., Feb. 18, 7:30pm. Mary Moody Northern Theatre at St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8484. \$18 (\$15, in advance; \$12, students, seniors). www.stedwards.edu.

LIDLESS This new play by Michener fellow Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig, directed by Halena Kays, features a former Guantánamo detainee who journeys to the home of his interrogator 15 years after their time together, demanding half her liver for the damage she wreaked on his body and soul. Feb. 12-15. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. UT's Lab Theatre, 24th & San Jacinto, 471-5793. Free. www.finearts.utexas.edu.

CLOSING

LEGALLY BLONDE The touring Broadway show of the musical based on the Hollywood movie comes to the newly refurbished Austin venue known as Bass Concert Hall. Song, dance, and xanthic spunkiness-a-go-go with an energetic cast. Through Feb. 8. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 2 & 7:30pm. Bass Concert Hall, UT campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 477-6060. \$19.50-68.50. www.broadwayacrossamerica.com.

ONGOING

FRONTERAFEST 2009 IS COMING TO A CLOSE! The 16th annual five-week juggernaut of theatre and performance art – based at Hyde Park Theatre but extending itself all over town – enters its final week. The Long Fringe is over; only the Short Fringe and Mi Casa Es Su Teatro remain. (See our review of Short Fringe, Week Three, at left.) And we defend the exclamation point added to this listing's title with this note: The final Short Fringe week is where most of the chaff has been eighty-sixed, and there's little left but the finest wheat; the theatrical joint has been smoked down to a roach so potent with concentrated THC that it'll get you high in a heartbeat; the – well, you get the idea, yes? It's the best of the best, which is why it's usually all sold out. See the website for details now: www.fronterafest.com.

Short Fringe at Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY.
Thu., Feb. 5, 8pm: "The Walls Are Alive (with the sound of)" by Jennifer Margulies. "Damned Avalanche" by Patrick Knisely and Jenny Carlson. "Oh, Daddy!" by Rhonda Kulhanek. "Lulu's Charms in the Dark" by Candyce Rusk. TBA by Katherine Catmull.

Fri., Feb. 6, 8pm: "By a Quiet Sea" by Wura-Natasha Ogunji. "57 Boyfriends" by Stephanie Denson, Kirk German, and Heather Huggins. "You're Killing Me Here" by Sheila Rinear. "Travel Mugs Are Following Me" by Natalie George. "Whoom" by Emily Fordyce and Donna.

Sat., Feb. 7, 8pm: Best of Week Four

Tue.-Sat., Feb. 10-14, 8pm: Best of the Fest

Mi Casa Es Su Teatro The Travelling Von Creepling-burger Brothers and Family – an eccentric, vaguely Eastern European family of vaudeville performers – bring their circus shenanigans to various venues all day long, as curated by your friends at Popworks, until the evening arrives with a big party. Each show of the day (Sat., Feb. 7) will set you back \$3. Here's when and where: **1pm:** 2218 College Ave. **2:30pm:** 719 W. Monroe. **3:30pm:** 913 W. Mary. **4:30pm:** It's party time at 719 W. Monroe.

HAMLET Japhy Fernandes and the Austin Drama Club offer a modernized version of Shakespeare's classic, presenting the Bard's work as only a troupe of intensely unrich nonmanhateres could ever hope to. E-mail for location. Through Feb. 14. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. ceasarbnice@yahoo.com.

DANCING AT LUGHNASA Don Toner directs an outstanding cast in this bittersweet, life-affirming Brian Friel play about an Irish bastard's childhood. Through March 1. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$26-28 (half price for students). www.austinplayhouse.com.

THE TEXCENTRIC SHOW The madcap jesters of Esther's Follies branch out with this send-up of old-time radio shows: sketches, skits, live music, and so on, like a sort of locally warped version of *A Prairie Home Companion* to enhance your dining pleasure. With Sand Sheff, Ellana Kelter, and Ted Meredith, directed by Doug Ewart. Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Patsy's Cowgirl Cafe, 5001 E. Ben White, 444-2020. Free (through Feb. 25). www.patsycowgirlcafe.com.

PICASSO AT THE LAPIN AGILE The delightful Steve Martin play (in which the padre of cubism meets Albert Einstein at a cafe in Paris) gets a staging in Round Rock under the direction of Christina Gardner. Through Feb. 21. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Sam Bass Community Theatre, 600 N. Lee, Round Rock, 512/244-0440. \$15 (\$13, seniors, students, teachers, military). www.sambasstheatre.org.

BEEHIVE Larry Gallagher's original big-hair Sixties girl group musical is back for a Motowned month of roof-raising, dance-stepping farewell performances under the direction of, yes, Dave "Hard Workin'" Steakley. Through Feb. 22. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. www.zachtheatre.org.

WANDA'S WORLD Zach Theatre's youth performing troupe, Showstoppers, presents this off-Broadway hit as adapted for it by the show's composer, Beth Falcone, and directed by Jaclyn Loewenstein. Through Feb. 21. Sat., 1 & 4pm; Sun., Feb. 8-22, 6:30pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. \$14 (\$12, kids). www.zachtheatre.org.

DINNER THEATRE

DEADLY HOUSEWIVES is an interactive murder-mystery from Gary Payne's Capital City Mystery Players. It's also a parody of everybody's favorite sexy suburban TV series. Feast all Italian-style as you help the comedic cast figure out who committed murder in the ever-so-desperate neighborhood. Sat., Feb. 7, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$33.50. www.meatballs.com.

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Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy, brenner@austinchronicle.com.

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Benné Rockett, visual arts, art@austinchronicle.com.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor, brenner@austinchronicle.com.

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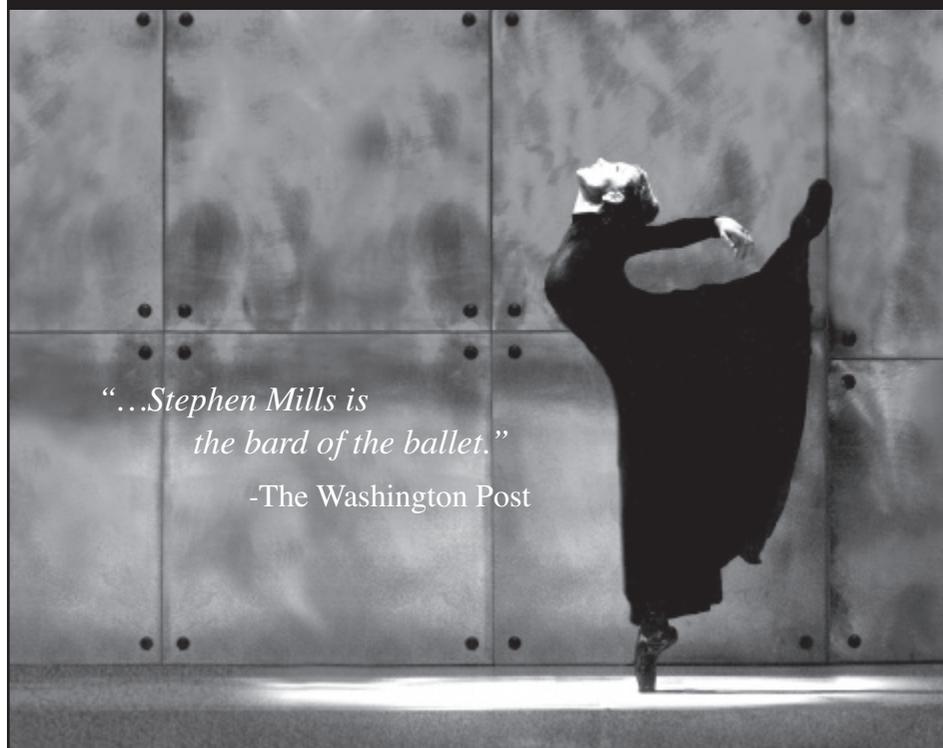
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This project is funded and supported in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts and an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

VALENTINE'S DAY WEEKEND



"...Stephen Mills is
the bard of the ballet."
-The Washington Post

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Spiritual Wisdom

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- Connecting with Divine Love Sat, Feb 14
- Spiritual Wisdom on Dream Interpretation Sat, Feb 21
- Spiritual Wisdom on Spiritual Dreaming Sat, Feb 28

Free Workshops: Saturdays 2:00-3:30pm
ECKANKAR Center of Austin
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Hwy 183 Access Road at Northcrest, between Lamar and IH-35,
behind the Red Lobster. Call for Directions.

Hamlet

8pm | Feb 13, 14 // 3pm | Feb 15
The Long Center

Choreography by: Stephen Mills | Music by: Philip Glass

Stephen Mills' contemporary ballet, *Hamlet*, was first staged for Ballet Austin in 2000. Since then, it has been performed by numerous other companies around the country. The score is a compilation of Philip Glass symphonic and film music. The story of Hamlet, Ophelia and Claudius brilliantly adapts to Mills' exquisite staging.

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Rigoletto

Dell Hall at the Long Center, through Feb. 8
Running time: 2 hr, 40 min

The hunchback wanders among the courtiers, briefly frozen in the midst of their bacchanalian revels, and with every halting step, his bitterness salts the ground beneath him. The heavy tread, the surly look, the disgruntled way he dons his jester's cap speak volumes about what he thinks of this debauched rabble and his role as their fool.

The figures in tableau eventually break into raucous celebration, lightening the atmosphere, but it can't erase the sense of dread established earlier. Even if you didn't already know this story, you'd know that it will not end well.

Still, as is often the case with classic tales, knowing the destination doesn't make the journey any less pleasurable. When a great story is told with skill and passion, what the heart feels trumps what the head knows, and you find yourself caught up in it all over again, leaning forward with anticipation, pulse racing, as if hearing the story for the first time. So it is with Austin Lyric Opera's latest revival of *Rigoletto*, which has been crafted with a wealth of passion and skill that expertly balances the needs of the music and the drama; that conveys, even to a novice, why composer Giuseppe Verdi was a master of his chosen art form; that sweeps you into its tempest of indulgence, deception, romance, and revenge.

It's a straightforward retelling, eschewing the kind of conceptual design flourishes or interpretive readings so often seen with classics of the stage in recent years and seeming all the stronger for it. Allen Charles Klein's scenery and Gail Bakkom's costumes ground us solidly in the Italian Renaissance and do so with a style and a grandeur that underpin the story rather than overwhelm it, giving director Kay Walker Castaldo space to drive the narrative forward in simple, smartly staged scenes – scenes awash in moodiness, thanks to the ominous gloom provided by lighting designer David Nancarrow and by the ALO Orchestra under Richard Buckley's sublime command. The maestro controls the score with the firmness of a hand gripping a knife, using it to maintain a tension throughout that's like a blade poised to strike.

Through this charged environment limps Todd Thomas' Rigoletto, seething with resentment. The ill will roiling within the jester doesn't appear to spring from his deformity – we don't feel the weight of that hump on his back – but from his mind, from somewhere just behind the brow that looks perpetually creased and the pinched gaze below it. Thomas releases that pent-up disdain through a forceful baritone dark with scorn, seemingly for the whole of humanity. But we come to see that there is one person for whom Rigoletto feels tenderness, one ray of light in his black world: his daughter, Gilda, whom he keeps secreted at home, sheltered from the corruption of the court. Lyubov Petrova wears the sequestered ingenue's innocence well, her face sweetly open with trust, her soprano as pure and light as snowfall or the milk-white shawl she clutches to her heart. Listening to her sing "Caro nome" is like reclining into a bed of silk pillows: elegant, smooth, luxurious. Alas, the lover she sings of so gorgeously does not remain as true to her as he vows; he is the notoriously licentious Duke of Mantua, whose signature aria, "La donna é mobile," muses on the fickleness of women. (Pot. Kettle. Black.) Tenor Chad Shelton brings a kind of Texas frat-boy sensibility to the duke; he possesses a native charm that's genuinely appealing, but it's rooted in a palpable sense of privilege and unapologetic self-gratification – he's born to party and doesn't care if anyone gets hurt by it.

Of course, someone will get hurt before the curtain falls, and the third act brings it to bear with particular potency beneath an impressively intimidating thunderstorm that, thanks to Nancarrow, seems to stretch throughout Dell Hall. The story ends as you knew it must, in tragedy, but by the time the vengeful jester sees his daughter's life slip away, you will have felt that thrill of the tale told well, taken a journey that's involving, enthralling, fresh.

– Robert Faires

AUDITIONS

UNTITLED FELLINI/AUDREY HEPBURN PROJECT

Someone biting off more than they can chew? No, this is from Tutto Theatre Company, who recently brought us that remarkable Shakespearean rearrangement called *Ophelia*, so we reckon it's something you might wanna get hooked up with. Also, actors will be compensated. Dustin Wills will direct the circuslike production, and he's looking for these types: Catholic schoolboys (ages 16-24), Mediterranean-looking men and women (ages 20-40), a female American tourist (age 20-40), an older woman (age 50-100), a world-famous actress (age 20-50). Prepare two minutes of any combination of monologue, song, dance, circus act; pieces you wrote yourself are especially desired. E-mail for appointment. Tue.-Wed., Feb. 17-18, 6-9pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. dustin@theatreactionproject.org.

HUMAN SKETCHES is the recent winner of Sam Bass Community Theatre's So You Think You're a Playwright contest. The drama (scripted by Trey Deason) explores "the meeting of artist and subject, the healing power of art, and the truth of communication." Seeking: men and women (ages 20-50). Because of the mature subject matter, actors younger than 18 will not be considered for any roles. E-mail for appointment. Tue.-Wed., Feb. 10-11. Sam Bass Community Theatre, 600 N. Lee, Round Rock, 512/244-0440. auditions@sambasstheatre.org.

comedy

IN THE CLUBS

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

Cap City Open Mic Hey, it could be you up there slaying your friends and neighbors as they've slain you. Sundays, 8pm. Free with college ID.

Ryan Hamilton Here he is, ladies and gentlemen, with **Dustin Ybarra** opening. Feb. 5-7. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.

Leanne Morgan Originally out of Appalachia and into the clubs, now hailing from nearby San Antonio, the popular but rarely touring comic makes a stop in Austin with **Chip Chantry** opening. Feb. 10-14. Tue.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803-B Airport, 524-2807. www.coldtownetheater.com.

This week: The energetic **Parallelogramphonograph** puts another notch in its lipstick case with **Level 5**. Thu., 8pm. **UpTowne** is the Coldies' version of a sketch-comedy showcase. Thu., 10pm. Hey, it's that **Proctor** show again, now with the **Faculty** and **Ratliff & Jackson**. Fri., 8pm. **Residencies** The improv showcase starts with **Northshore Local** and **Murphy**. Fri., 9pm.

Punchline The weekly collection of stand-up goodness continues! Fri., 10pm. **Stool Pigeon** features an Austin celebrity jump-starting the improv with a thrice-told tale. This week it's **Southpaw Jones** and (therefore) highly recommended. Sat., 8pm. **Cage Match** Two teams wage unholy war and heathen mayhem upon each other, improv-style. Sat., 9pm. **Cold, Cold Improv** The ColdTowne house troupe dishes up a comedy conflagration for your entertainment, along with the **Frank Mills**. Sat., 10pm.

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

Esther's Follies The most popular troupe in town says, "Yes, we can ... entertain the hell out of you!" with its riotous musical comedy and sketches, now with the **Unleaded Supremes** singing "The Big Three Bailout," **Espie Randolph as Barack Obama** with some special words for our beleaguered nation, and a **new illusion** (it's called "Wet!") from master magician **Ray Anderson**. Thrills! Chills! Ripped-from-the-headlines events turned into comedy gold! *Reservations highly recommended.* Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.

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

Thursday: It's **Threefer Madness** time, in which three different troupes, drawn from the best in town, battle for improv supremacy. 8pm. \$10.

Friday: Double Barrel has two teams of improvisers competing for your laughter and applause. 8pm. \$10. Next comes the eminently topical **This Week Tonight** show, working its wild improv off the news (of the weird, of the wonderful, of the just plain newsworthy) of the past seven days. Holy current events, anchorman! 10pm. \$10.

Saturday: After School Improv Here's some fresh improv based on audience suggestions and performed in the style of those old-school teenage cautionary tales. Marijuana! Gangs! Sexual predators! Oh noes! 8pm. \$10. **Maestro** is a fierce, multipartite battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by you, the audience. *Highly recommended.* 10pm. \$10.

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

Open Mic Night These are your would-be comedic neighbors, three minutes at a time: Love them; fear them. This week's host: **Lynette Lamonica**. Thursdays, 10pm.

Jonathan Pace This smart feller's press alludes to H.L. Mencken. Really, what more does one need? Just in case, though, **Howard Beecher** and **Lynette Lamonica** open. Fri.-Sat., Feb. 6-7, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.

BUT WAIT - THERE'S MORE!

THE AUSTIN COMEDY TRAINWRECK features the best comics in Austin, so they suggest – right there in the Hole, on the Drag, in the heart of collegiate Texas. Tuesdays, 10pm. *Hole in the Wall*, 2538 Guadalupe. \$5. www.myspace.com/austincomedytrainwreck.

KICK BUTT COMEDY ComedySportz Reunion Shows Les McGehee and his coterie of seasoned comedy cutups return to the stage with this series of tomfoolery. *Lesfoolery*, actually. Saturdays, 6pm. **Monday Night Mash: Improv Mondays**, 8pm. **Open Mic Comedy Wednesdays**, 8pm. *Kick Butt Coffee*, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425.

LAST GAS COMEDY Stand-up comedy every Saturday. Sat., Feb. 7, 9pm. *Homer's Bar & Grill*, 1779 Wells Branch Pkwy. #114. Free. www.lastgascomedy.com.

GNAP! THEATER PROJECTS IMPROV: LOLA A talented supergroup of Austin improvisers renders the same narrative three times, inspired by the structure of the film *Run Lola Run*, with three radically different outcomes based on the slightest changes in causal incidents. We reckon Heisenberg can't spin in his grave fast enough to drown out your amazed laughter. Recommended. Fri.-Sat., Feb. 6-March 14, 8pm. *Salvage Vanguard Theater*, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$10. www.gnaptheater.org.

SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL Gnap! Theater Projects opens February like a can of well-shaken malt liquor with Improv for Evil's runaway hit format, **Cochise!**, and the musical and estrogenifying antics of **Girls Girls Girls**. Sat., Feb. 7, 10pm. *Salvage Vanguard Theater*, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$10. www.salvagevanguard.org.

dance

DESERT DANCE THEATRE: SISTER MOSES: THE STORY OF HARRIET TUBMAN

In celebration of Black History Month, the dance drama of this American heroine is revived with local dancer/choreographer Renee Davis reprising the role she's danced for 17 years. Featuring the Huston-Tillotson University Concert Choir, directed by Dr. Gloria Quinlan, and presenting a company of dancers. (See "Sister Moses," p.29, for more.) Fri., Feb. 6, 7:30pm. *Shoreline Center*, 15201 Burnet Rd. www.austitx.com.

KATHY DUNN HAMRICK DANCE COMPANY: PROGRAM B Continuing its season of highlights from the first 10 years, KDHDHC reprises the best of the best from "Blurred," "Slammed," "Spin," and "Woman Smiling." Dunn Hamrick introduces each work with a talk about its genesis. (See "Retracing Their Steps," p.30, for more.) *Through Feb. 21.* Saturdays, 6 & 8pm. *Cafe Dance*, 3307-B Hancock, 934-1082. \$10. www.khdhdance.com.

TWO LEFT FEET

DANCE CLASSES FOR BIGGER BODIES A plus-sized professional dancer leads classes based on having fun moving your body, exploring jazz, ballet, ballroom, hip-hop, and other types of dancing. Open

to anyone who is size-positive regardless of size!
Saturdays: beginners, 2pm; intermediate, 3pm; performance team, 4:30-6:30pm. E-mail for location.
danceswithfat@yahoo.com, www.danceswithfat.org.

BELLY DANCE WITH FINGER CYMBALS Stacey Lizette teaches all levels of dancers, using different cymbal rhythms with a focus on fluidity of hand and arm movements. (Finger cymbals are available for purchase or loan.) Mondays, 7:30-8:30pm. Tapestry Dance Co., 2302 Western Trails. www.staceylizette.net.

DANCE INTERNATIONAL Each night features a variety of ballroom and Latin dances; each month sees the start of a new course. No partner necessary. Sundays, 6-8pm. Dancers Workshop, 183 & Balcones Woods. Weeknights, times vary. Hills Fitness Center, 4615 Bee Caves Rd., 32-DANCE. Fees vary. www.dancein.org.

DANCE ASSOCIATES AND AUSTIN PARD: DANCE CLASSES Kids (ages 24 months and older) can participate in dance, gymnastics, and movement classes all over town, courtesy of Dance Associates and the city's Parks & Recreation Department. See the website for details. 323-6838. www.danceassociatesaustin.com.

EGYPTIAN BELLY-DANCE CLASSES WITH DRAGON Beginners to advanced dancers are invited to learn from one of Austin's favorite belly dancers. Various locations, 295-2036, 750-7037. \$15 per class or six for \$75. www.desertpassion.com.

THE DANCE ZONE: ADULT DANCE & FITNESS CLASSES Unique twists on standard favorites. See the website for details. The Dance Zone, 2323 San Antonio. 236-9328. www.inthedancezone.com.

SCOTTISH BALLROOM DANCING Learn the ballroom dances of Scotland: lively jigs and reels and elegant strathspeys. No partner needed, but couples welcome. Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm. Quicksilver Dance Center, 8711 Burnet Rd., 327-2869. First class free.

ZUMBA DANCE The Latin-inspired international music and dance steps are designed for everyone. Tuesdays, 5:45am; Thursdays, 7pm. Brushy Creek Community Center. E-mail for details. zumbaustin@yahoo.com.

BELLY-DANCE CLASSES WITH TWYLA GRACE Twyla of Twyla & the Twilight Star Ensemble teaches ongoing classes in belly dance. Call or write for details. Mon. & Wed., 8:30-9:30pm, 12687 Research at Oak Knoll, 971-0188. www.twylabellydance.com.

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS ABD sponsors ballroom dancing with DJ'd music weekly, year-round. Saturdays, 7:30-11pm. Austin Uptown Dance, 8868 Research, 989-3939. www.austinballroomdancers.org.

FIRST FRIDAY CONTRA DANCING Live music by Josephine's Secret (Roy and friends); dances called by Big Daddy Marc Airhart. Fri., Feb. 6, 7:30pm (beginner lessons); 8-11pm (main dance). Carpenter's Hall, 400 Josephine. 970-4919. \$8 (discount for Austin Friends of Traditional Music members and first-timers). www.austincontradance.org.

ARGENTINE TANGO CLASSES Laura Pellegrino offers ongoing classes for beginners, experts, and you in-betweeners in her country's sexy dance of record. Khabele Studio, 701 W. Seventh. www.tangointexas.com.

LUCILA DANCE PRODUCTIONS: CLASSES FORMING Belly dancing (all levels), flamenco, salsa/merengue, hip-hop, creative movement for ages 5-10, and tai chi. Lucila Dance Studio, 1700 S. Lamar, 416-8800. www.luciladance.com.

CONTACT IMPROVISATION DANCE JAMS Participants move in and out of contact with one or more people through a common center of gravity. All are welcome. Tuesdays, 8-10pm; Sundays, 4:30-6pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. \$5.

UT BLUES Sun., Feb. 8. \$20 preregistered students/\$30 nonstudents. www.utblues.com.

ARIEL DANCE THEATRE: NEW MODERN CLASSES Andrea Ariel teaches modern dance to students of all levels. Please call for more information. Thursdays, 6:30-8:30pm. Khabele Studio, 701 W. Seventh, 458-4258. \$12 drop-in/\$10 class card.

MODERN DANCE CLASSES Ellen Bartel of Spank Dance Company leads a series of classes in modern dance (all levels). Times and prices vary. See the website for details. Tapestry Dance Company studios, 2302 Western Trails. www.tapestry.org.

AUSTIN BODYCHOIR: FREESTYLE DANCE Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 7:45pm; Sundays, 10am. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. www.bodychoir.org.

FLAMENCO CLASSES Intermediate classes at the Khabele Studio Downtown. Call Chloe for details. 923-3270.

ESTUDIO FLAMENCO Flamenco dance classes, centrally located. Saturdays, noon-1pm (beginner), 1-2:30pm (intermediate), 2801 W. 45th, 382-1366. Fees vary. www.estudioflamenco.com.

CONTEMPORARY DANCE WORKSHOP Yellow Tape Construction Co.'s Amanda Butterfield leads a four-week workshop of high-energy contemporary dance. All levels are welcome. Through March 1. Sundays, 7pm. Cafe Dance, 3307-B Hancock, 466-5225. \$7 per class (\$20 for entire workshop).

SCANDINAVIAN DANCING Turning and improvised couple dancing for beginning to advanced dancers. No partners needed; wear slick-soled shoes. Thursdays, 7:30-9:45pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0598. \$3. www.austinscandi.org.

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE Traditional social dances to live music every week. You don't need a partner, and every dance will be taught before you stride out on your own. Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. \$3 donation. www.cityofaustin.org/parks/hancock.htm.

NIA CLASSES The Nia technique is an energizing workout inspired by dance, martial arts, and healing arts. First class is free. Mon. & Fri., 9:30-10:30am; Mon. & Thu., 6-7pm; Sat., 10:30am. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 922-1581. \$10 each class. www.cityofaustin.org/parks/hancock.htm.

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Learn a variety of couples and line dances from around the world. All levels of experience welcome. No partner required. Saturdays, 7:30pm (lessons); 8:15-11pm (open dance). Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. \$5. www.aifd.cc.

KICK BUTT BLUES DANCE Ass-kickin' blues for you to shake your booty to! Food and beverages available. Fridays (except third Friday each month), 9pm-1am. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 736-2662. \$5. www.kickbuttoffee.com.

FOUR ON THE FLOOR: CLASSES Ongoing classes for various levels of expertise in swing and Lindy Hop culminate in a weekly dance. New classes usually start the first Tuesday of the new month. Tuesdays, 7pm (classes), 9:30pm (open dance). Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 453-3889. Prices vary. www.fouronthefloor.com.

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners' lesson starts the evening. Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$5 (\$2, members). www.austinswingsyndicate.org.

classical music

OPENING

JUPITER STRING QUARTET Austinite Daniel McDonough returns with the Jupiters, winners of the prestigious Cleveland Quartet Award. Fri., Feb. 6, 8pm. McCullough Theatre, UT campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 477-6060. www.utpac.org.

UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC A Black History Month Concert: Celebrating Black Composers and Arrangers This third annual collaboration between UT's School of Music and the Huston-Tillotson University Music Department features traditionally underperformed works of classical, jazz, and gospel music. Sat., Feb. 7, 7pm. Bates Recital Hall. Free. **Classical Eclectic** Faculty performance of works by Mendelssohn, Rienecke, and Muczynski. Sun., Feb. 8, 2pm. Blanton Museum. 471-5401. www.music.utexas.edu.

TEXAS EARLY MUSIC PROJECT: SONGS OF THE SEPHARDIM Another round of the beautiful and the bittersweet as TEMP performs works from the Iberian Peninsula and the Middle East. German recorder virtuoso and Asian music specialist Annette Bauer returns as special guest artist, as does local oud and santur player Kamran Hooshmand. Also performing: Therese Honey (medieval harp), Kit Robberson (vielle), and singers Stephanie Prewitt, Gitanjali Mathur, Larisa Montanaro, and Daniel Johnson. Sat., Feb. 7, 8pm. First English Lutheran Church, 3001 Whitis, 371-0099. \$20 (\$15, seniors 55 and older, students). www.early-music.org.

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- ANNE HARRIS

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'Business in the Front, Party in the Back'



Art Palace
Through March 11

Heyd Fontenot has a stunning show of his new portrait paintings up at Art Palace. Featuring groupings of large oils on canvas and montages of small watercolors on paper, the exhibit

shows a deep dramatic tension between the characters. This is established with plenty of direct eye contact and couples posing together. *Big Dan With Nigel* features a man who stares off to the left, ignoring a woman on his lap who stares at his face, her attentive gaze going unreturned. In *Dave & Ellen Embracing*, it's the woman who won't stare back at the man. In all of the large works, the situations are similarly loaded emotionally and point to complicated relationships, partially requited love, and a variety of longings. Are they tragic? No more so than real life.

For a show full of naked people, it's quite serious. The subjects include men and women, donkeys and goats, as well as Asians, beards, doe-eyed brunettes, and sturdy Polish builds. In his statement about the show, Fontenot writes: "Coitus/conquest is not the focus. Sexual expression is a metaphor for communication. What attracts me most are social politics, personalities, and relationships, either actual or fictionalized."

Fontenot has also incorporated expressionism in loose backgrounds. A virtuosic talent, he leaps from realism to a Frankenthaler-styled abstract expressionism. The contrast and tension between the tight rendering of the figures and the loose color fields is a unique effect. Fontenot's controlled ability to render takes the back seat, and we see a more emotional side, with bleeding and wild colors that add to the dramatic narrative aspects of the work. These backgrounds feel

vulnerable, spontaneous, like he's finally letting us see a sloppy side of him. Fontenot said, "I will expose my personal vulnerabilities just as the models have."

His past backgrounds were tidy, hard-edged, like geometric pinstripes. The new pieces such as *Double Amy* shatter this pattern; the paint is applied in great washes, with swishy brushwork, pours, drips, and splatters. It feels energetic, unburdened, raw, and honest. His good composition and sophisticated palette remain intact while he uses the negative spaces to complement the drama and interpersonal relationships.

So as not to be one-sidedly serious, Fontenot calls the show "Business in the Front, Party in the Back." As a Michigander, I came to know a mullet as a "hockey haircut," meaning one that didn't interfere with your vision on the ice and blocked the wind on the back of your neck. It was omnipresent and no big deal unless the mullet's owner flirted and said, "Business in the front, party in the back." This was often interpreted as a sexual proposition – back seats of cars being well-documented hotbeds of fornication. Fontenot is from Louisiana, where the mullet had nothing to do with hockey, but in his artist's statement, he makes reference to the haircut, wisely noting that "it tried to accommodate a professional façade while giving a glimpse into the wearer's wilder, rebellious side. ... Seeking legitimacy has its complications and its awkward results."

– Rachel Koper

visual arts

EVENTS

WEST END GALLERY NIGHT: FIRST THURSDAY

Nine galleries within walking distance (and with ample parking) are bedecked with new works and awaiting your visit on this particular day each month. Venues include Art on 5th, F8 Gallery, Haven Gallery, Lotus Gallery, Russell Collection, Stephen L. Clark Gallery, Sterling Images, Wally Workman Gallery. See website for gallery map. *Thu., Feb. 5, 6-8pm. 478-4440. www.artaustin.org/westend.htm.*

AMOA: I CAN SEE FOR MILES AND MILES Prize-winning documentary photographers Dennis Darling, Donna DeCesare, and Eli Reed discuss what photographs reveal about society, conflict, and change. *Thu., Feb. 5, 7pm. 823 Congress, 495-9224. www.amoa.org.*

BLANTON EVENTS "Gods and Goddesses" highlights works of art related to Greek and Roman mythology and culture. *Fri., Feb. 6, 6pm. Butler Virtuosi* An eclectic concert of music by Mendelssohn, Rienecke, and Muczynski. *Sun., Feb. 8, 2pm. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. \$10 (\$5, members). www.blantonmuseum.org.*

SYNCHRONICITY OF COLOR is Margo Sawyer's site-specific work for the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center. Reception: *Thu., Feb. 5, 4-6pm. Exhibition: Through May 9. 5004 Burnet Rd., 371-1292.*

DOMY BOOKS: NICOLE ERIKO SMITH New drawings by the talented Smith, whose work is heavily influenced by Mardi Gras, animated films from the Eighties, Japanese ghost stories and *shibari* techniques, poultry exhibitions, and BDSM porn. *Sat., Feb. 7, 7-9pm. 913 E. Cesar Chavez, 476-3669. www.domystore.com.*

OPENING

YARD DOG FOLK ART: SCOTT GRIFFIN Highly expressive figures in encaustic on salvaged wood and blowtorch on salvaged metal. *Through Feb. 20. 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613. www.yarddog.com.*

AUSTIN ART SPACE: FOR THE LOVE OF ART Reception: *Fri., Feb. 6, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 21. 7739 Northcross Ste. Q, 970-1700.*

WALLY WORKMAN: ROB HARRELL The artist's newest paintings. Reception: *Sat., Feb. 7, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 28. 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com.*

MASS GALLERY: NO NATIONAL MONUMENT This new work by Carlos Rosales-Silva is an attempt to reconnect and refigure a personal, cultural, and historical heritage. Reception: *Sat., Feb. 7, 8-10pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 21. 916 Springdale. www.massgallery.org.*

BIRDHOUSE GALLERY: BUILT LIKE NESTS An exploration through the layers of image and experience that construct our modern aesthetic. Reception: *Sat., Feb. 7, 7-11pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 28. 1304 E. Cesar Chavez, 789-9242. www.birdhousegallery.com.*

ART ON 5TH: ART & WHIMSY A capricious group of artists presents fanciful paintings and other creations. Reception: *Fri., Feb. 20, 6:30-8:30pm. Exhibition: Feb. 7-28. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.*

ARC OF THE ARTS GALLERY: VALENTINE'S SHOW Mixed media, pottery, paintings, and jewelry created by artists with developmental disabilities. *Thu., Feb. 12, 5-7:30pm. 6717 Burnet Rd., 524-2371. www.arcofthecapitalarea.org.*

ACCESS GALLERY: VSA OPEN HOUSE VSA is dedicated to promoting the creative in people with disabilities. "First Impressions" features work by 10 artists from across Texas. Reception: *Sat., Feb. 14, 1-6pm. 3701 Guadalupe #103, 454-9912. www.vsatx.org.*

CLOSING

AUSTIN GREEN ART: FREE PAPER Annette Lawrence's exhibition addresses issues of excess and consumerism, with daily junk mail both the inspiration and material used for the creations on display. *Through Feb. 6. 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328. www.austingreenart.org.*

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY: FACULTY ART *Through Feb. 5. 3001 S. Congress, 448-8400. www.stedwards.edu.*



THE INTRICATE DRAWINGS OF NICOLE ERIKO SMITH FAIRLY SIZZLE THE WALLS OF DOMY BOOKS.

CREATIVE RESEARCH LAB: A STRANGE LAND features works by Beili Liu, Lynn Richardson, Cauleen Smith, Chris Taylor, and Mapping Exchange artist-in-residence (from Argentina) Erica Bohm. Closing reception: *Sat., Feb. 7, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 7. 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328. uts.cc.utexas.edu/~crlab.*

ONGOING

DIBONA STUDIO Oil paintings and "sculptural tattoos" by Joyce DiBona. 404 W. Milton, 851-2646.

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. 12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577. www.eyeccontactart.com.

AUSTIN GALLERIES: 20TH CENTURY MASTERS Original lithographs, etchings, intaglios, and screen prints by Marc Chagall, Salvador Dalí, Pablo Picasso, and more. 1219 W. Sixth.

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a nonprofit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. 6601 Felix, 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.

STUDIO C GALLERY: PONIES & PENGUINS New works by Holly Bronko and Alexandra Valenti. 2309 Thornton.

ART PALACE: BUSINESS IN THE FRONT, PARTY IN THE BACK In response to an art historical tradition of depicting the unclothed body in art and an equally complicated cultural tradition of modesty, Heyd Fontenot paints "naked people." (See review, at left.) *Through March 11. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. www.artpalacegallery.com.*

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. 78 San Marcos, 457-0171. www.pablotaboadastudio.com.

ARTSPOKEN GALLERY: FROM A TO Z Photographs by Bill Oakey and Jack Marshall, glasswork by Kim Brill. 1507 W. Koenig, 589-2905. www.artspoken.com.

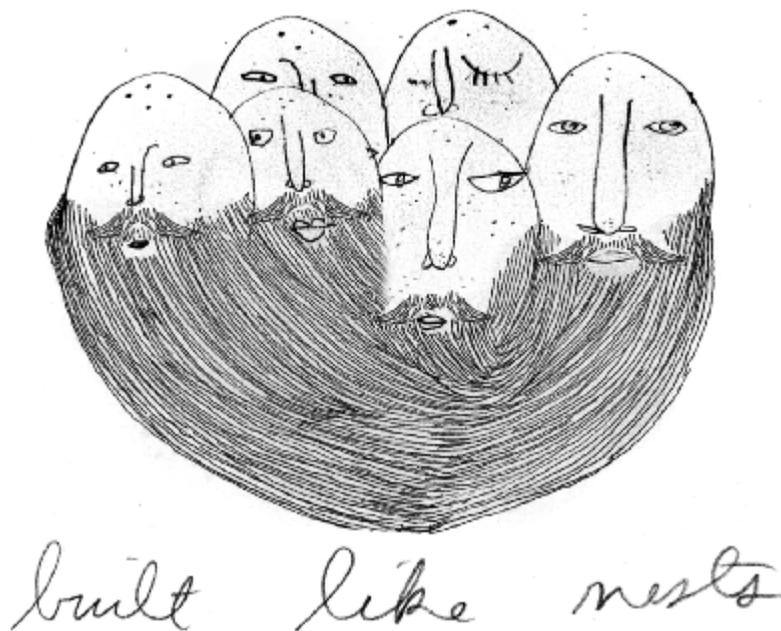
AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. 1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinartglass.com.

AUSTIN GALLERIES: TEXAS HILL COUNTRY LANDSCAPES Original paintings of Central Texas vistas by Hermon Adams, Manuel Garcia, Cal Gaspard, Sally Minter, Rick Morris Patterson, Jim Rodgers, Don Ward, and many others. *Through Feb. 28. 1219 W. Sixth, 495-9363.*

BIG RED SUN Revitalized vintage furniture by Veronica Koltuniak, photography by Denise Prince, and the new line of Arkivos by MINIMIS Design. *Through Feb. 28. 1102 E. Cesar Chavez, 480-0688. www.bigredsun.com.*

BLANTON MUSEUM: ALTERNATE WORLDS The work of self-taught artists often reflects a unique perspective framed by complex personal experiences. See how here. *Through March 8. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry. 108 W. 43rd, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.



BIRDHOUSE GALLERY'S NEWEST EXHIBITION OPENS THIS WEEKEND.

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of a South Austin home. Hours: *Saturdays and Sundays, noon-9pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. www.keeperpaustinweird.com.*

BUTRIDGE GALLERY: LAURA LATIMER "Sideshow of Relics and Revelations" is the artist's newest set of mixed-media installations, this one exploring "the intersection of landscape with narrative." Reception: *Tue., Feb. 10, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 25. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. www.lauralalimer.com.*

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE ABSTRACT Curated by New York-based Maureen Mahony. *Through Feb. 28. 300 West Ave. #1318, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.*

MEXIC-ARTE: CREADO FUERZA: CAMBIO Y PERMANENCIA A collective portfolio by members of Consejo Grafico explores the center's diverse origins and dimensions and cultural resonance within a broader community of printmaking. *Through March 1. 419 Congress, 480-9373. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.*

CITY OF AUSTIN EMPLOYEES ART EXHIBITION *Through Feb. 14. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St., 454-9912. Free. www.vsatx.org.*

MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART presents an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork. *6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.*

MUSEUM OF NATURAL & ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA: WONDEROUS INSTRUMENTS Take a curator-led tour, and see homemade, odd, or rare musical instruments, exotic tools, miraculous and magical objects, and more. *Tours: Saturdays, 1-4pm, through May 30. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566. www.mnae.org.*

DIVERSEARTS: THE ROAD TO HOPE New East Gallery presents "A Photographic Glimpse of African-American Life, 1850-1960," including a number of rarely seen images from some of the 20th century's most celebrated documentary photographers. *Through Feb. 28. 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. www.diversearts.org.*

OKAY MOUNTAIN: WARREN OATES IN THE ECONOMIC CRISIS OF 2008 This multiartist show is themed loosely around deceased character-actor Warren Oates. *Through Feb. 21. 1312 E. Cesar Chavez Ste. B, 293-5177. www.okaymountain.com.*

REAL GALLERY: MULTICULTURAL ARTISTS PARTNERSHIP Members' holiday art exhibition. *2824 Real, 775-0458. www.artworksbykathiherrin.com.*

IMAGINE ART: 12 X 12 *Through March 25. 1314 W. 45th, 323-9390. www.rfdtexas.org.*

STUDIO2GALLERY: LOVE'S WRIT New works from a diversity of artists juried by Jacqueline May. *Through Feb. 14. 1700 S. Lamar #318, 386-9233. www.studio2gallery.com.*

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: LESLEE FRASER Suburban malls, the Bible, scientific theory, and domestic tallsmans provide fodder for Fraser's miniature parables as she assembles familiar tokens into vignettes both tender and thoroughly skewed. *Through Feb. 21. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.*

SPACES

SPIDER HOUSE Sculptured word art by Austin artist Joseph Santandrea. *Through Feb. 14. www.travelzealot.com.*

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY Stained and leaded glass and mosaics. *701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.*

CAFFE MEDICI: LANCE ROSENFELD New photography. *1101 West Lynn, 569-0432. www.rosenfieldphotography.com.*

THE HIDEOUT: DAVID DE LARA Reception: *Thu., Feb. 12, 7pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 28. 617 Congress, 476-0473. www.thehideout.org.*

LBJ WILDFLOWER CENTER The found-object art of Barbara Irwin is displayed with watercolor paintings of wildflowers and other works in mixed media by artist Keith Steber. *4801 La Crosse, 232-0100. www.wildflower.org.*

ROADHOUSE RELICS Vintage neon, carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture by Todd Sanders. *1720 S. First, 442-6366. www.roadhouserelics.com.*

SCOOTER'S COFFEEHOUSE: EMY MCGRAW *Through March 31. 3241 Bee Caves Rd., 892-0021.*

TEXAS FRENCH BREAD Ruth Lauer's paintings. *Through Feb. 21. 3213 Red River, 478-8794. www.texasfrenchbread.com.*

WESTS Artwork by Dan-Ramone Vivan Chavez, Raquel Reyes, and others. *408 Josephine.*

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

THE AUSTIN POLYMER CLAY GUILD meets on the first Saturday of each month. Visitors welcome. See website for details. *Sat., Feb. 7, 2-4:30pm. Yarborough Branch Library, 2200 Hancock. www.austinpolymerclay.com.*

GLASSTIRE: CALL FOR VIDEO AUDITIONS See the website for details. *Deadline: Feb. 20. www.glasstire.com.*

STUDIO2GALLERY: MODELS AND ARTISTS, THE MUSE IN HISTORY Juror Rick Fink invites you to explore the creative collaboration between models and artists. This show will feature artists working in different mediums to record nude and seminude images. See website for applications and more. *Deadline: Feb. 10. 1700 S. Lamar #318, 386-9233. www.studio2gallery.com.*

litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

KATHERINE DURHAM OLDMIXON reads from her new chapbook of interlocking sonnets, *Water Signs*, a finalist for the New Women's Voices Chapbook award. Highly recommended. *Thu., Feb. 5, 7pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar, 472-2785. www.ebookwoman.com.*

DANA CANEDY is the Pulitzer Prize-winning editor of *The New York Times*. Her husband, Charles, was deployed to Iraq and started to write a journal for his 5-month-old son. When he died in Iraq two months later, Dana decided to pick up the task; the result is her memoir, *Journal for Jordan*. *Thu., Feb. 5, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

DAVID MAMET Playwright, writer, and film director Mamet joins UT President William Powers Jr. for a conversation about *The Spanish Prisoner* and a screening of the eponymous film. Highly recommended. *Thu., Feb. 5, 7pm. Texas Union Theatre, UT campus, 476-6666. Free. www.hrc.utexas.edu/webcast.*

POET LI-YOUNG LEE The poet's great-grandfather was China's first Republican president, and his father was physician to Mao Tse-Tung. His *Behind My Eyes* won the William Carlos Williams award in 2002. Highly recommended. *Thu., Feb. 5, 3:30pm. Alkek Library, Texas State University.*

BRYAN BURROUGH chronicles the lives of the stereotypical Texas oil man in *The Big Rich: Roy Cullen, H.L. Hunt, Clint Murchison, and Sid Richardson*. *Fri., Feb. 6, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.*

AUSTIN LIARS CONTEST Eight mighty fine liars compete for the title of Austin's Biggest Liar at this ninth annual event. Judges include John Kelso, Bob Lively, two lawyers, and a police officer: folks who definitely have experience in the art of lying. *Sat., Feb. 7, 2pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

TOM MCGARITY presents his case against *The Preemption War*, the story of the battles over state common-law claims. *Sat., Feb. 7, 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

A PRE-VALENTINE POETRY FEAT Marvin G. Kimbrough invites you to bring original works or those that speak to the heart. *Sat., Feb. 7, 3-5pm. St. James' Episcopal Church, 1941 Webberville Rd.*

MIKE COX presents his *Historic Photos of Texas Lawmen*, a look at the lawmen who have shaped Texas. *Sun., Feb. 8, 2pm. Barnes & Noble South, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493.*

TOBY BARLOW versifies in his brilliant werewolf tale, *Sharp Teeth*. Highly recommended. *Tue., Feb. 10, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.*

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

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

LOIS GIBSON The world's most successful forensic artist is the guest speaker at the upcoming Sisters in Crime meeting; she'll talk about her true-crime book, *Faces of Evil*, co-authored by Deanie Francis Mills. *Sun., Feb. 8, 2pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652. www.hotxsinc.org.*

THE MYSTERY GROUP meets for its annual Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down event to decide which new mysteries will be part of future discussion. *Wed., Feb. 11, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.*

AAIM BOOK CLUB *Coming to Our Senses* by Jon Kabat-Zinn. *Mon., Feb. 9, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

HOWSON CLUB *The White Tiger* by Aravind Adiga. *Tue., Feb. 10, 7pm. Howson Library, 2500 Exposition, 472-3584.*

OLD QUARRY CLUB *Slaughterhouse-Five* by Kurt Vonnegut. *Tue., Feb. 10, 7-8:30pm. Old Quarry Branch Library, 7051 Village Center Dr., 345-4435.*

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

WRITING YOUR LIFE WORKSHOP Storytelling techniques that give your memories focus and make them interesting to your readers. *Sat., Feb. 7, 10am-2pm. Morgan Printing, 900 Old Koenig Ln. #135, 459-5194. \$45.*

VSA ARTS: FUN WITH FICTION: A SHORT STORY WRITING ADVENTURE is a workshop led by Chris Strickling. *Feb. 12-March 19. Thursdays, 6-8pm. Access Gallery, 3701 Guadalupe #103, 454-9912. \$75. www.vsatx.org.*

JUMP-START YOUR CREATIVE ENGINES: REDUX Poet and editor Scott Wiggerman leads a workshop on surefire writing techniques and exercises. You'll have the opportunity to draft several pieces that will be shared and discussed in class. *Sat., Feb. 7 & 21, March 7, 10am-noon. 499-8914. \$159 (\$99, members). www.writersleague.org.*

OPEN MICS

LOVE AT EXPRESSIONS features poems by David Jewell, Donna Jean, Element 615, Kathleen Romana, and more. Music by Dana McBride. Round robin after features. All-ages reading. *Sat., Feb. 7, 7pm. Austin Bahá'í Center, 2215 E.M. Franklin, 926-8880. Plate of food for potluck; cans for Poets Pantry. www.austinbahai.org.*

GENUINE JOE All acts welcome. No cover songs. *Thursdays, 7:30-10pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. www.genuinejoe.com.*

THE HIDEOUT Hosted by Thom the World Poet. Danny Strack brings comedy with depth from Austin's Slam community. Bring canned food for the Poets Pantry. *Mondays, 7-10pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry). www.hideouttheatre.com.*

HOT MAMA'S OPEN MIC Food, beer, wine, and caffeine available. *Tuesdays, 7:30-9pm. Hot Mama's Espresso Bar, 2401 E. Sixth, 476-6262.*

ACC: STUDENT LITERARY GATHERING The remarkable Carrie Fountain, a poet who also writes book reviews for the *Austin American-Statesman*, is featured. Open mic follows. *Mon., Feb. 9, 7pm. Java Lounge at Austin Java, 1206 Parkway, 828-9368. www.austinjava.com.*

SPOKEN AND HEARD is co-hosted by Stacey Shea and Element 615. Uncensored round robin. *Sundays, 7-9pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425. www.kickbuttcffee.com.*

RUTA MAYA POETRY is one of the longest-running weekly open mics in Texas. No cover. Uncensored. Hosted by David Bates. *Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress, 707-9637. www.rmpoetryaustin.com.*

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry and a rotating group of slam ninjas captain the crew that has all the best of stand-up, pmo theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one cosmic-heat blast of an evening. Open sign-up, 12 poets per week. \$100 cash prizes. *Wednesdays, 8pm. Scoot Inn & Bier Garten, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200. www.austinslam.com.*

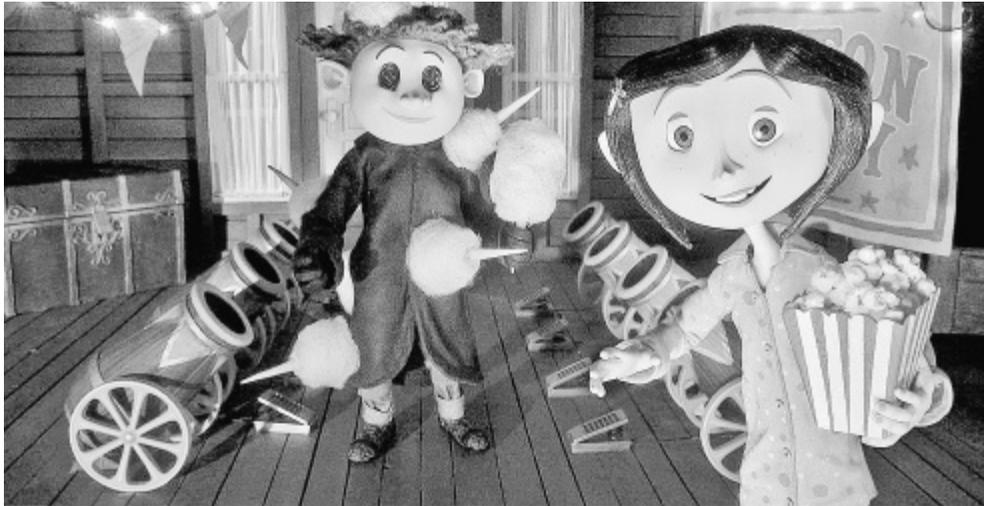
MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! *he tires of words wants hammer & iron & fire some thing meaning clings to. what does it mean to want the flesh of steel & star the tang of a roaring hard & close? ghost of iron smoke & black grit or call a bird to nest in a song. leave the seams the welds & bumps the deletions & mistakes ignore exactness for impression; have your hands ready for river & feather the strings of a life pulled apart - a red vapor floating some sooty-faced man pushing back his shield - the steam rising. Namaste. Vaya con dios.*

POEM OF THE ISSUE

there is nothing i can say
there is no world record for
the lack of being able to say
what needs to be said
i'm not the person who holds
the record drinking the most
bottles of guinness
i don't have the loneliest heart
but i'm still working on it
- Yalmot, from "the guinness world record"

film listings



Coraline

D: Henry Selick; with the voices of Dakota Fanning, Teri Hatcher, Dawn French, Jennifer Saunders, Ian McShane, John Hodgman, Robert Bailey Jr., Keith David. (PG, 100 min.)

Just as 3-D is heralded as the newest old trick in the cinema showman's grab bag, along comes *Coraline* – the first animated stop-motion feature to be created in 3-D – to remind us that there

can be more than mere gimmickry in the souped-up imagery. It's not so much that *Coraline's* 3-D effects are vividly realistic or eye-catching, but instead, they appear integral to the visual design and enhance rather than overwhelm the images. Writer-director Selick, with his past experience helming *James and the Giant Peach* and *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas*, again demonstrates his unparalleled mastery of the phantasmagoric image. Selick adapted *Coraline* for stop-motion screen puppets from versatile author Neil Gaiman's prize-winning young-adult novel. The storyline is a classic "grass is always greener" fable that perfectly reflects a child's provenance of whims and fears. Through a hidden door in a wall of the Pink Palace, her new home, young Coraline (voiced by Fanning) escapes into an alternate universe that looks almost exactly like her real one except that she's met there by her "other mother and father," who cook and write music and dote on her every desire, unlike her real parents (both parental units voiced by Hatcher and Hodgman), who are too absorbed in their own work to lavish much attention on their daughter and new home. Coraline returns frequently to the enchanting world of her other mother and father, loving everything about this inexplicable place except for the black buttons that are sewn in place of where their eyes ought to be. "Soon, you'll see things our way," says her other mother, a promise that does not exactly comfort Coraline. Characters from the Pink Palace also show up in Coraline's alternate universe and perform great vaudevillian acts: Miss Forcible (French) and Miss Spink

(Saunders), the actresses from downstairs, and the Russian circus performer Mr. Bobinsky (McShane) and his dancing mice. Selick makes a questionable decision to add a character named Wybie (Bailey Jr.) to the story. He's a strange boy but potential playmate for Coraline. It makes little sense to insert such a character since Coraline's escape to the alternate world is primarily driven by her loneliness. When Wybie again shows up at the story's climax, just as Coraline discovers she must become her own heroine and extricate herself (and the ghosts of a few other lost children whom she discovers) from this ersatz reality, it gives the appearance that he may have been invented solely to provide the film with some "boy content" – a hero to assist the capable damselette in distress. Perhaps fewer secondary characters would have helped the movie's overall flow. Particularly at the end, when the ghosts of missing children enter the picture, *Coraline* may prove unsuitably macabre for the youngest viewers. Yet your children and you are unlikely to see a film anytime soon that has more of a handmade feel – a value unto itself. *Coraline* (complemented beautifully by French composer Bruno Coulais' score) stays remarkably true to a kid's-eye perspective and dormant fears: The only buttoned-down eyeballs you see will remain on the screen. (See "The Slow Magic of Stop-Motion," p.47, for an interview with Henry Selick.)

– Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

new reviews

ACADEMY AWARD-NOMINATED ANIMATED SHORTS 2009

D: Various.

Not reviewed at press time. Five films from around the globe were nominated for this year's best animated short film, including "La Maison en Petits Cubes" (D: Kunio Katô), "Lavatory – Lovestory" (D: Konstantin Bronzit), and "Oktapodi" (D: Emud Mokhberi and Thierry Marchand). But really, this is a two-way race, between the macabre "This Way Up," from British adman team Smith & Foulkes, and Doug Sweetland's gigglingly inventive Pixar short, "Presto," about a wascally magician's assistant. Our money's on the rabbit.

– Kimberley Jones

Alamo Drafthouse South

ACADEMY AWARD-NOMINATED LIVE-ACTION SHORTS 2009

D: Various.

Here's the problem with talking about short films: They come in such small packages that to say too much is to spoil the surprise. Even a one-line logline can be too revealing; in fact, I'd wager the very title of one of the short films nominated for this year's Academy Award for a Short Film (Live Action) tips its hand too far. What can safely be said: I have seen all five nominated shorts, and they are good. Some of them are better than others. One of them I fully fell in love with and promptly watched three more times in a row. (Ah, but I'm a sucker for Frenchies and a well-placed Dylan cover.) Only one of the shorts is in English – "New Boy" by Steph Green, based on a Roddy Doyle short story. (Remarking on the lineage, I make a note: "surprisingly free of foul-mouthery and intravenous injection." And then I realize I'm thinking of Irvine Welsh. He wrote *Trainspotting*. Roddy Doyle did not. Doyle, in fact, wrote scrappy Irish feel-gooders such as *The Commitments* and *The Snapper*, which tonally makes more sense.) The other shorts hail from the likes of France, Germany, and Denmark, but don't worry: They're all subtitled. "Toyland" is both the title of Jochen Alexander Freydanck's film and an unfortunate euphemism for concentration camps. The short also includes a reference to Ionesco's *Rhinoceros*, which is distracting, since the Holocaust predates the play by 15 years. (I've said too much, haven't I? Now you're gonna be waiting around for the rhinoceros bit and missing out on the interesting ethical dilemmas posed by "Toyland" – although, it must be said, this was not one of my favorites.) The title of Dorthe Warnø Høgh's "The Pig" refers to a cheap painting of a swine with a *Mona Lisa* smile, which is amusing in and of itself, and on the whole, the piece is amusing (it's cute, really); its charm lies in its unassumingness, which can crumble under too much scrutiny, so we'll stop there. Speaking of stops, Reto Caffi's Swiss/German co-production "On the Line" refers to its subway setting

(and also, I assume, the moment at which our protagonist must decide if he'll accept a call to action, although I couldn't say for sure if the expression translates the same in Deutsch). Life-or-death decisions aside, the lead, Roeland Wiesnekker, has a face that vacillates between that of a saint and a thug. He's terrific. Also terrific: Elizabeth Marre and Olivier Pont's "Manon on the Asphalt." This one's unique in that it doesn't quite aim to have the same kind of three-act narrative arc of the other films: It isn't a big picture stuffed into miniature but rather – forgive the affectation – a tone poem (although its arc, I'd venture, is the most rewarding of the lot). No bells and whistles here, just a beautifully shot rumination on the fleetingness of our time earthbound. It's one of the shorter films nominated, and – to crib from the Dylan song it puts to such good use – I was a little bit lonesome when it was gone. And then I watched it three more times in a row.

– Kimberley Jones

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

FANBOYS

D: Kyle Newman; with Sam Huntington, Chris Marquette, Dan Fogler, Jay Baruchel, Kristen Bell, Christopher McDonald, Seth Rogen, Ethan Suplee, Danny Trejo. (PG-13, 90 min.)

"What if the movie sucks?" one *Star Wars* fanatic asks another in 1999, just as the lights go down on the opening night of *Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace*. *Fanboys* – bless its earnest, sweetly geeked heart – wisely waits till the end of the film to bring up the elephant in the room. We all know what happened next – that George Lucas' latter-era trilogy by and large sucked, the bitter taste of which still lingers – but *Fanboys* sets itself in the months leading up to the release, when hearts were still full of hope and geekboys everywhere told time by their *Episode I* countdown clock. (Austin scriptwriter Ernie Cline wrote the first draft prior to *The Phantom Menace's* release.) When one of their own, newly diagnosed with a terminal illness, stares down an expiration date prior to *Episode I's* release, the title's fanboys make it their holy crusade to drive cross-country to Lucas' Skywalker Ranch and break into the facility in order to watch a rough cut of the film. *Fanboys* is something of a slow starter; its leads, Huntington and Marquette, share a laconic acting style and poker-face resemblance, and their characters' rift isn't terribly interesting. But the supporting players – including Tony Award winner Fogler, *Tropic Thunder's* wiry Baruchel, and *Veronica Mars's* Bell as the gang's Girl Friday – give the film enough juice to coast to a second-act peyote trip (hosted by no less than Danny Trejo) that breaks the seal on gut-busting laughs. It comes as no surprise that the film is less about fandom as it is about the community fans create with one another – who else to turn to when the object of your affection, your enduring obsession, blows big chunks? – and *Fanboys*, a likable, shaggy picture, pays nice tribute to that community. (See "Fan Favorite," p.48, for an interview with screenwriter Ernie Cline.)

– Kimberley Jones

★★★ Alamo Ritz

HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU

D: Ken Kwapis; with Jennifer Aniston, Drew Barrymore, Ben Affleck, Ginnifer Goodwin, Jennifer Connelly, Scarlett Johansson, Justin Long, Bradley Cooper, Kevin Connolly. (PG-13, 129 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. It started as a catchphrase on *Sex and the City*, was turned into a bestselling self-helper by SATC scribes Greg Behrendt and Liz Tuccillo, and now arrives in theatres as a Baltimore-set romantic comedy roundelay produced by co-star Barrymore's Flower Films and directed by *The Office's* Kwapis.

— Kimberley Jones

Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

THE PINK PANTHER 2

D: Harald Zwart; with Steve Martin, Jean Elyly Mortimer, Andy Garcia, Alfred Molina, Yuki Matsuzaki, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan. (PG, 92 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Scandinavian filmmaker Zwart — who is attached to the 2010 reboot of *The Karate Kid* — appears to have cornered the market on pissing all over the favorite film franchises of our youth. Martin returns as the bumbling Inspector Clouseau, although I can't remember anyone clamoring for a sequel. And Beyoncé isn't even in this one.

— Kimberley Jones

Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

PUSH D: Paul McGuigan; with Chris Evans, Dakota Fanning, Camilla Belle, Djimon Hounsou. (PG-13, 111 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. In this sci-fi actioner, shadowy government agents and rogue clairvoyants do battle over — and with — their psychic powers. *Push* is one of two Fanning pictures opening this weekend (she voices the title character of *Coraline*); it also marks the first adolescent role for the once-ubiquitous child actress.

— Kimberley Jones

Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

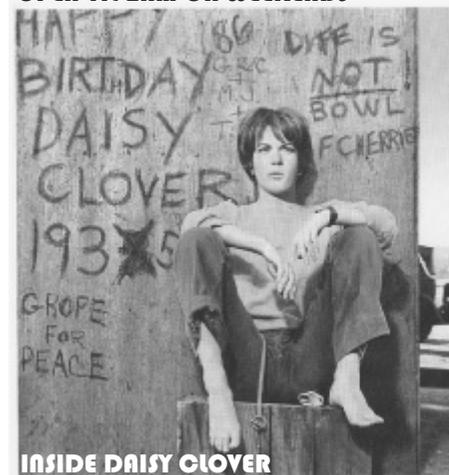
TAKEN D: Pierre Morel; with Liam Neeson, Maggie Grace, Famke Janssen, Holly Valance, Leland Orser, Jon Gries, David Warshofsky. (PG-13, 94 min.)

Taken begins with an act of violence against an American. Ninety minutes and dozens of fights, chases, and explosions later, it ends with a sheik assassinated, at least 50 people murdered, a couple of swarthy foreigners tortured, and France pretty well knocked about. Call it the last cinematic gasp of the Bush era, with a Hollywood hero even Bill O'Reilly could love. No wonder it's No.1 at the box office. With a new, less bellicose president in the White House, but all the same old fears lurking in our collective consciousness, Americans may be feeling nostalgic for a time when they could entertain the desire for swift justice meted out through violent means without feeling guilty about it. The embodiment of that desire is Bryan (Neeson), a former U.S. spy who goes on a vigilante rampage when his daughter (Grace) is kidnapped by a gang of Albanian sex traffickers after she goes to Paris to attend a U2 concert (which should be a lesson to teenagers everywhere: Be careful which bands you fall in love with; choose wrong, and you could end up a heroin-addicted prostitute ... or having to listen to "Vertigo" all the time). It's a brilliantly devious setup: Co-writers Luc Besson (*The Professional*) and Robert Mark Kamen know that moviegoers will give a wide ethical berth to any father fighting to save his daughter's life, and they know they can drive a righteous, raging, unapologetic, knife-wielding, CIA-trained Mack truck straight through that berth and get away with it, kicking feeble notions such as plausibility and morality out the window as they go. Which they do, with glee and relish, resulting in the kind of adrenaline-fueled amoral thrill ride you almost — almost — feel guilty for enjoying, the same way our ancestors might have felt guilty seeing Mussolini strung upside down in the public square or Jezebel thrown to the dogs. So what if Bryan electrocutes people from time to time in order to get information; so what if he occasionally shoots his friends' wives when they get in his way; so what if he'd probably blow up the Louvre with every orphan in Paris trapped inside if it meant getting what he wanted? *Taken* moves so fast and with such single-minded, vindictive energy, there's no time for moral ambivalence. There's only time to bask in the reflected glow of a hero willing to use every means at his disposal to get revenge, a hero who may be tormented, miserable, and driven by desperation but who's also not above getting off on the thrill of a good car chase.

— Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

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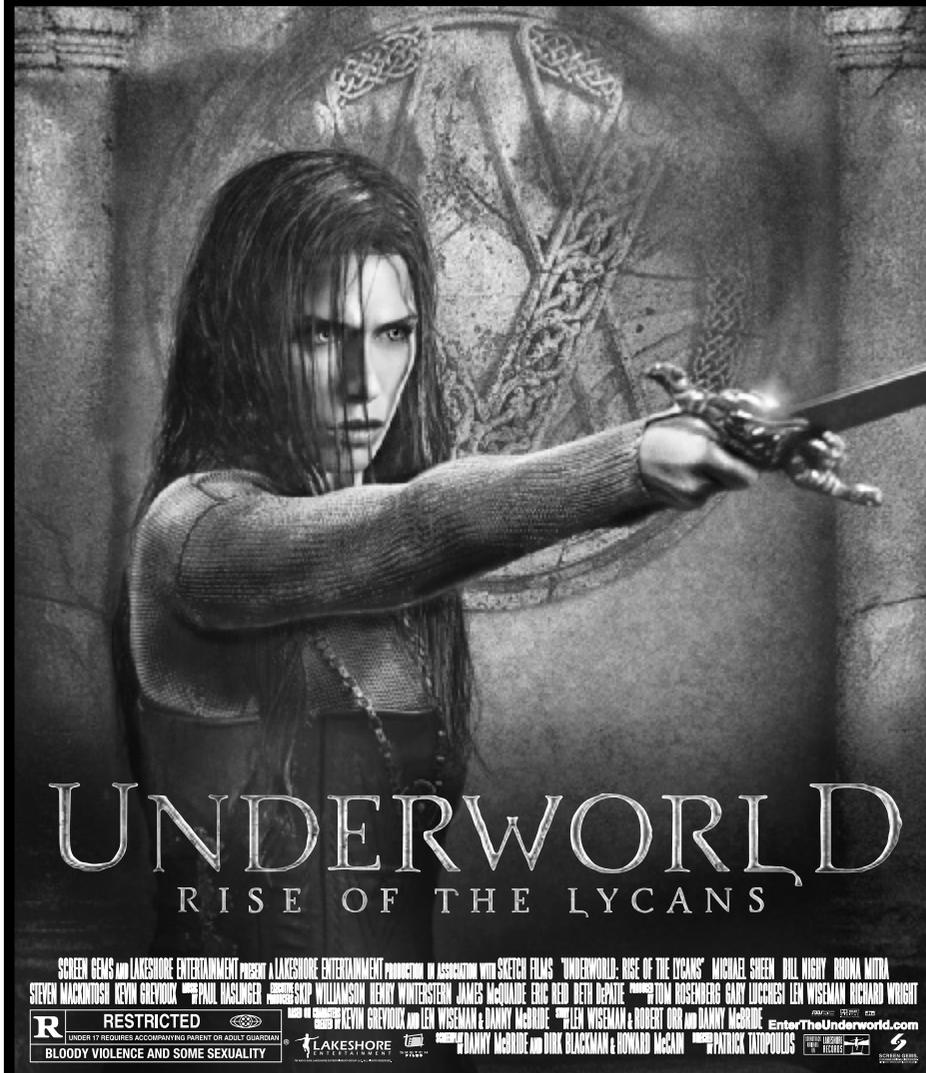
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openings & ratings

Academy Award-Nominated Animated Shorts 2009 (NR)

Coraline (PG)

The Pink Panther 2 (PG)

Fanboys (PG-13)

Push (PG-13)

Academy Award-Nominated Live-Action Shorts 2009 (NR)

He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13)

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★ Poor, without any saving graces

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

🍌 La bomba

showtimes

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6 - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320.
Girlie Night: *Bridget Jones's Diary*: Tue, 7:00pm
Tue Tuesday: *Devil Times Five*: Tue, 10:00pm
Fanboys: Fri, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15, 5:15, 6:45, 9:45, 11:55; Sat, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15, 5:15, 7:00, 9:25, 11:35; Sun, 12:45, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15, 5:15, 8:00, 10:15; Mon-Thu (2/12), 4:30, 5:30, 7:55, 10:15
Music Monday: Jimi and Otis: Live at Monterey: Mon, 9:30pm
Love Bites: The Power Ballad Sing-Along: Sun, 9:45pm; Wed, 9:15pm; Thu (2/12), 10:30pm
Masters Fancake: *The Hitlist*: Fri-Sat, 7:40, 10:35
Moulin Rouge Sing-Along: Thu (2/12), 7:00pm
The Rock-Aff Explosion: Sun-Mon, 7:00pm; Wed, 7:00pm
Saturday Morning Cartoon Cereal Party: Sat, 11:30am
Wed Wednesday: Sometimes Aunt Martha Does Dreadful Things: Wed, 12mid

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK 13729 Research, 219-5408.
Feast: *Bram Stoker's Dracula*: Thu (2/12), 7:30pm
Gran Torino: Fri-Tue, 12:00, 3:20, 6:50, 10:10; Wed-Thu (2/12), 12:00, 3:20, 10:10
He's Just Not That Into You: 12:20, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15
TV @ the Alamo: *Lost*: Wed, 8:00pm
The Pink Panther 2: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 9:45pm;
* Mon-Thu (2/12), 12:15, 3:05, 6:45, 9:45
Slumdog Millionaire: 12:05, 3:10, 7:30, 10:35
***Taken**: 12:10, 3:00, 7:15, 10:00
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans: Fri, 7:20, 10:25;
Sat-Thu (2/12), 12:45, 3:25, 7:20, 10:25
The Wrestler: Fri-Wed, 12:00, 3:15, 7:25, 10:20; Thu (2/12), 12:00, 3:15

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262.
Academy Award-Nominated Animated Shorts 2009: Fri-Sun, 1:20, 6:00, 10:30; Mon, 6:00, 10:30; Tue, 1:20, 6:00, 10:30; Wed-Thu (2/12), 6:00, 10:30
Academy Award-Nominated Live-Action Shorts 2009: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 3:35, 8:15pm; Mon, 3:35, 8:15; Tue, 11:00am, 3:35, 8:15pm; Wed-Thu (2/12), 3:35, 8:15
AFS: *Carrie*: Tue, 7:00pm
Che: *Part One*: 3:40pm
Che: *Part Two*: Fri-Sun, 12:30, 10:35; Mon, 10:35pm; Tue, 12:30, 9:55; Wed-Thu (2/12), 10:35pm
Chocotaco: Sat, 11:55pm
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: Fri-Mon, 7:05pm;
Wed-Thu (2/12), 7:05pm
Friday the 13th: *Part 3*: Thu (2/12), 10:05pm
Gran Torino: Fri-Sun, 1:55, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25; Mon, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25; Tue, 1:55, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25; Wed, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25; Thu (2/12), 7:35, 10:25
Revolutionary Road: Fri, 11:05am, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm; Sat, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20; Sun, 11:05am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm;
Mon, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20; Tue, 11:05am, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm;
Wed, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20; Thu (2/12), 7:30pm
Revolutionary Road (open captioned): Sat, 11:05am
Slumdog Millionaire: Fri, 11:00am, 4:50, 1:15, 7:10, 10:00pm;
Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00pm; Mon, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00; Tue, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:15, 7:10, 10:00pm;
Wed-Thu (2/12), 4:10, 7:10, 10:00
The Wrestler: Fri, 11:00am, 7:00, 9:35pm; Sat, 11:10am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35pm; Sun, 11:10am, 1:45, 4:20, 9:35pm; Mon, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35; Tue, 11:10am, 1:45, 7:00, 9:35pm; Wed, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35; Thu (2/12), 4:20, 10:05

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 459-7090. Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old.
TV @ the Alamo: *Battlestar Galactica*: Fri, 12mid
TV @ the Alamo: *Gossip Girl*: Mon, 7:15pm
Gran Torino: Fri-Sun, 12:45, 4:10, 7:25, 10:20; Mon, 4:10, 10:20; Tue, 12:45, 4:10, 7:25, 10:20; Wed-Thu (2/12), 4:10, 7:25, 10:20
TV @ the Alamo: *Heroes*: Mon, 9:30pm
He's Just Not That Into You: Fri-Sun, 12:15, 3:30, 7:00, 10:10; Mon, 3:30, 7:00, 10:10; Tue, 12:15, 3:30, 7:00, 10:10; Wed-Thu (2/12), 3:30, 7:00, 10:10
Kung Fu Theatre: *The Legend of Fong Sai-Yuk*: Fri, 12mid
Let the Right One In: Sat, 11:55pm
TV @ the Alamo: *Lost*: Wed, 9:30pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
Sat-Sun: Fri, 1:45, 4:25, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:25, 7:20, 9:50pm; Mon, 4:25, 7:20, 9:50pm; Tue, 1:45, 4:25, 7:20, 9:50; Wed-Thu (2/12), 4:25, 7:20, 9:50
The Wrestler: Fri-Sun, 1:15, 4:00, 7:05, 9:45; Mon, 4:00, 7:05; Tue, 1:15, 4:00, 7:05, 9:45; Wed-Thu (2/12), 4:00, 7:05

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm, all day Wednesdays.
IMAX: 11:50am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25pm
Frost/Nixon: 12:40, 4:00, 6:50, 9:50
Milk: 12:00, 2:50, 7:00, 10:05
Rachel Getting Married: 10:0, 10:15
The Reader: 12:10, 3:00, 6:30, 9:40
Revolutionary Road: 12:50, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00
Slumdog Millionaire: 12:30, 3:20, 4:20, 6:40, 7:30, 9:45
The Wrestler: 11:40am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20pm

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall, MoPac & Highway 360, 888/AMC-4FUN. Matinee discounts available before 6pm on weekdays and before 4pm Friday through Sunday and holidays.
Bride Wars: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 2:50pm; Sun-Tue, 2:50pm; Wed, 2:00pm; Thu (2/12), 2:25pm
***Coraline (3-D)**: Fri-Sun, 10:05am, 12:20, 2:55, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:55, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: 1:00, 7:20
Defiance: Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 4:20, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 4:30pm
Gran Torino: Fri-Sun, 11:35am, 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:20
He's Just Not That Into You: Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 1:15, 4:15, 7:45, 10:45pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:00, 3:55, 7:00, 10:00
Hotel for Dogs: Fri-Sun, 11:45am, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25
***New in Town**: Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 12:35, 2:55, 5:15, 7:40, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:55, 5:15, 7:40, 10:00
Paul Blart: Mall Cop: Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:30, 2:45, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35pm; Mon-Wed, 2:45, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35; Thu (2/12), 2:45, 5:05, 7:20
The Pink Panther 2: Fri-Sun, 9:55am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30
***Push**: Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 12:35, 3:10, 5:45, 8:30, 11:00pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25
Revolutionary Road: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 5:00, 10:35; Sun, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35; Mon-Tue, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10; Wed, 4:15pm; Thu (2/12), 4:40, 7:25, 10:10
Slumdog Millionaire (closed captioned): Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:55, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15
***Taken**: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:30, 3:45, 6:05, 8:20, 10:30
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans: Fri-Sat, 11:05am, 1:35, 3:55, 6:15, 8:35, 10:55pm; Sun, 1:35, 3:55, 6:15, 8:35, 10:55; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:05, 3:25, 5:45, 8:05, 10:25
***The Uninvited**: Fri-Sat, 11:05am, 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:05, 10:50pm; Sun, 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:05, 10:50; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:05, 10:20

BOYD VANCE THEATRE AT CARVER 1165 Angelina, 974-4926.
Kings of the Evening: Fri, 10:30am, 2:00pm

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 E. Whitestone, 800/FANDANGO.
***Coraline**: Fri, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: 9:15pm
Gran Torino: Fri, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30
He's Just Not That Into You: Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 12:50, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; Mon-Thu (2/12), 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
Hotel for Dogs: Fri, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:40, 4:10, 6:40
Inkheart: Fri, 2:30, 5:10; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:10; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:30, 5:10
Metropolitan Opera: *Lucia di Lammermoor*: Sat, 12:00pm
***New in Town**: Fri, 2:00, 4:20, 7:05, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:20, 7:05, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:00, 4:20, 7:05, 9:30
Paul Blart: Mall Cop: Fri, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 12:10, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:10; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:10
***The Pink Panther 2**: Fri, 2:05, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:05, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:05, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35
***Push**: Fri, 1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 10:15
Slumdog Millionaire: Fri, 3:30, 6:50, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 12:20, 3:30, 6:50, 9:45; Mon-Thu (2/12), 3:30, 6:50, 9:45
***Taken**: Fri, 3:00, 5:30, 8:10, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:10, 10:35; Mon-Thu (2/12), 3:00, 5:30, 8:10, 10:35
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans: 7:45, 10:25
***The Uninvited**: Fri, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20; Sat, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20; Sun, 12:40, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20; Mon-Thu (2/12), 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 14 12812 Hill Country Blvd., 800/FANDANGO.
Bride Wars: Fri-Sun, 1:20, 2:25, 4:45, 7:25; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:25, 4:45, 7:25
***Coraline**: Fri-Sun, 11:25am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
Defiance: 9:45pm
Gran Torino: Fri-Sun, 12:55, 3:55, 7:00, 10:00; Mon-Thu (2/12), 3:55, 7:00, 10:00
He's Just Not That Into You: Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 1:00, 2:35, 4:05, 5:40, 7:10, 8:45, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:35, 4:05, 5:40, 7:10, 8:45, 10:15
Hotel for Dogs: Fri-Sun, 11:35am, 2:10, 4:45, 7:15pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:10, 4:45, 7:15
Inkheart: Fri, 11:25am, 2:05, 4:40pm; Sat, 4:40pm; Sun, 11:25am, 2:05, 4:40pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:05, 4:40
Metropolitan Opera: *Lucia di Lammermoor*: Sat, 12:00pm
***New in Town**: Fri-Sun, 11:55am, 2:40, 5:15, 7:55, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:40, 5:15, 7:55, 10:30
Paul Blart: Mall Cop: Fri-Sun, 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25
***The Pink Panther 2**: Fri-Sun, 11:50am, 2:30, 5:25, 8:00, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:30, 5:25, 8:00, 10:30
***Push**: Fri-Sun, 12:45, 3:45, 6:55, 9:50; Mon-Thu (2/12), 3:45, 6:55, 9:50
Revolutionary Road: 7:20, 10:05
Slumdog Millionaire: Fri-Sun, 12:30, 3:35, 6:45, 9:40; Mon-Thu (2/12), 3:35, 6:45, 9:40
***Taken**: Fri-Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans: 9:55pm
***The Uninvited**: Fri-Sun, 11:45am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:05, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:00, 4:30, 7:05, 9:30

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK 2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.
Gran Torino: Fri, 6:30pm; Sat-Sun, 12:20, 6:30; Mon-Thu (2/12), 6:30pm
Beverly Hills Chihuahua: Fri, 2:05, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:05, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:05, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10
The Day the Earth Stood Still: Fri, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 12:10, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00
Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa: Fri, 2:15, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 12:05, 2:15, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:15, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30
Marley & Me: Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 12:45, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40; Mon-Thu (2/12), 4:00, 7:00, 9:40
Punisher: War Zone: 2:00, 4:45, 7:20, 9:50
The Tale of Despereaux: Fri, 2:50, 5:15, 8:00, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 2:50, 5:15, 8:00, 10:15; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:50, 5:15, 8:00, 10:15
Transporter 3: 4:05, 10:10
Yes Man: Fri, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:05; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:05

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 4401 N. J-35, 800/FANDANGO. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a \$2.50 premium.
Bride Wars: Fri, 1:10, 3:20, 6:20, 9:00; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:10, 3:20, 6:20, 9:00pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:10, 3:20, 6:20, 9:00
***Coraline (3-D)**: Fri, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: 9:10pm
Gran Torino: Fri, 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05
He's Just Not That Into You: Fri, 1:00, 4:10, 7:30, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 1:00, 4:10, 7:30, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:00, 4:10, 7:30, 10:30
Hotel for Dogs: Fri, 12:45, 3:30, 6:30; Sat-Sun, 9:50am, 12:45, 3:30, 6:30pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 12:45, 3:30, 6:30
Inkheart: Fri, 12:40pm; Sat-Sun, 10:10am; Mon-Thu (2/12), 12:40pm
***New in Town**: Fri, 1:40, 4:40, 7:45, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:45, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:40, 4:40, 7:45, 10:10
Paul Blart: Mall Cop: Fri, 2:20, 4:50, 7:40, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:40, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:20, 4:50, 7:40, 10:00
***The Pink Panther 2**: Fri, 1:20, 3:50, 7:00, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 1:20, 3:50, 7:00, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 1:20, 3:50, 7:00, 9:20
***Push**: Fri, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35
Slumdog Millionaire: Fri, 12:50, 4:00, 6:45, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 9:45am, 12:50, 4:00, 6:45, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 12:50, 4:00, 6:45, 9:40
***Taken**: Fri, 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:20; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:20
Twilight: Fri, 3:40, 6:40, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:30; Mon-Thu (2/12), 3:40, 6:40, 9:30
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans: Fri, 2:00, 4:45, 8:10, 10:40; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 2:00, 4:45, 8:10, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:00, 4:45, 8:10, 10:40
The Uninvited: Fri, 2:30, 5:10, 8:05, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:30, 5:10, 8:05, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (2/12), 2:30, 5:10, 8:05, 10:25

CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS 900 S. J-35, 800/FANDANGO. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a \$2.50 premium.
Bride Wars: 4:25, 10:20
***Coraline (3-D)**: 12:45, 3:30, 6:40, 9:30
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: 9:15pm
Gran Torino: 12:50, 5:00, 6:45, 9:50
***He's Just Not That Into You**: 1:15, 2:30, 4:15, 5:30, 7:15, 8:30, 10:15
Hotel for Dogs: 1:05, 3:45, 6:30
Metropolitan Opera: *Lucia di Lammermoor*: Sat, 12:00pm
***New in Town**: 1:20, 4:05, 6:55, 9:25
Paul Blart: Mall Cop: 1:40, 4:10, 6:50, 10:00
***The Pink Panther 2**: 12:55, 3:35, 6:35, 9:10
***Push**: 1:25, 4:35, 7:25, 10:25
***The Reader**: Fri, 1:10, 7:10; Sat, 7:10pm; Sun-Thu (2/12), 1:10, 7:10
Slumdog Millionaire: 1:00, 4:00, 7:05, 10:05
***Taken**: 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans: 1:30, 4:50, 7:35, 10:10
***The Uninvited**: 1:35, 4:20, 7:00, 9:20

DOBIE THEATRE 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.
Che: *Part One*: Fri, 7:00pm; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 7:00; Mon-Thu (2/12), 7:00pm
Che: *Part Two*: Fri-Sun, 4:00, 9:35; Mon-Thu (2/12), 9:35pm
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: Fri, 6:45pm; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 6:45; Mon-Thu (2/12), 6:45pm
Rachel Getting Married: Fri, 5:00, 7:30, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 2:15, 5:00, 7:30, 10:20; Mon-Thu (2/12), 7:30, 10:20
Slumdog Millionaire: Fri, 4:45, 7:15, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:50, 4:45, 7:15, 9:50; Mon-Thu (2/12), 7:15, 9:50
Synecdoche, New York: Fri-Sun, 4:15, 10:05; Mon-Thu (2/12), 10:05pm

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305. No one under 18 will be allowed in the theatre on Friday and Saturday after 7pm without an adult.
Coraline: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25, 11:45; Sun-Thu (2/12), 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25
He's Just Not That Into You: Fri-Sat, 1:15, 3:55, 7:00, 9:35, 12mid; Sun-Thu (2/12), 1:15, 3:55, 7:00, 9:35
My Bloody Valentine 3D: Fri-Sat, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45, 12mid; Sun-Thu (2/12), 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
New in Town: Fri-Sat, 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:20, 9:30, 12mid; Sun-Thu (2/12), 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:20, 9:30
Paul Blart: Mall Cop: Fri-Sat, 1:00, 3:05, 5:10, 7:15, 9:20, 11:40; Sun-Thu (2/12), 1:00, 3:05, 5:10, 7:15, 9:20
The Pink Panther 2: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 2:35, 4:45, 7:05, 9:20, 11:45; Sun-Thu (2/12), 2:15, 4:35, 6:45, 9:05, 9:20
Push: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:50, 12mid; Sun-Thu (2/12), 12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:50
Taken: Fri-Sat, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10, 11:35; Sun-Thu (2/12), 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans: Fri-Sat, 12:50, 2:55, 5:00, 7:05, 9:10, 11:35; Sun-Thu (2/12), 12:50, 2:55, 5:00, 7:05, 9:10
The Uninvited: Fri, 12:00, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20, 11:25; Sun-Thu (2/12), 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20

GATEWAY THEATRE 9700 Stonelake, between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a \$2.50 premium.
Bride Wars: 11:55am, 2:25, 4:40pm
***Coraline (3-D)**: 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: 11:35am, 3:00, 6:25, 9:50pm
Defiance: Fri-Sat, 6:50, 9:55; Sun, 6:50pm; Mon, 9:55pm; Tue-Thu (2/12), 6:50, 9:55
Gran Torino: 11:30am, 2:15, 4:55, 7:45, 10:25pm
He's Just Not That Into You: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:15
Hotel for Dogs: 11:50am, 2:10, 4:45, 7:05, 9:35pm
Inkheart: 11:25am

first runs

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

BEDTIME STORIES D: Adam Shankman; with Adam Sandler, Keri Russell, Guy Pearce, Russell Brand, Lucy Lawless, Courteney Cox. (PG, 99 min.)

Adam Sandler has finally found his audience: 3-year-olds. It makes perfect sense, really. From setting bags of dog feces on fire in *Billy Madison* to urinating on buildings in *Big Daddy* to ogling bouncing breasts in *Click*, Sandler has always prided himself on being the poster boy for American male regression, so it was only a matter of time before he gave up the pretense of being an adult and just started making kids movies. In his latest, Sandler plays a goofy hotel handyman with a passion for the simpler things in life – gum balls, sports cars, laughing at little people – who is suddenly thrust into the world of adult responsibility. But unlike previous films in which Sandler's infantile irrepressibility played like an act of rebellion against the square world, in *Bedtime Stories*, the actor's childishness, when in such close contact with the childishness of real children, comes off merely weird, if not borderline mentally challenged. (12/26/2008) – *Josh Rosenblatt*

★ Tinseltown South

BRIDE WARS D: Gary Winick; with Kate Hudson, Anne Hathaway, Candice Bergen, Kristen Johnston. (PG, 87 min.)

One wonders what could have possibly recommended the mean-spirited, laughless *Bride Wars*

to Hathaway. Surely not Hudson, whose effect on critics (and increasingly the box office) is not unlike that of a roach motel on its six-legged guests. Actually, I suppose some credit should be given to Hudson for playing against type here; putting aside her usual squishy bunny-rabbit roles, she plays the alpha dog Liv, a Manhattan lawyer who has subtly bullied her best friend, Emma (Hathaway), for years. Both women have harbored since childhood the desire to marry at the Plaza Hotel in June, which is exactly the plan, until a scheduling snafu places their two weddings on the same day. The situation quickly escalates from awkward fumbling to passive-aggressiveness, and then on to all-out guerrilla tactics. If you've seen the trailer, you already know the wages of war – the blue-hair sabotage, the tanning-salon incident, the wedding-aisle throwdown. (01/16/2009) – *Kimberley Jones*

CHE: PART ONE D: Steven Soderbergh; with Benicio Del Toro, Demián Bichir, Santiago Cabrera, Jorge Perugorria, Édgar Ramírez, Víctor Rasuk, Armando Riesco, Catalina Sandino Moreno. (R, 129 min., subtitled)

Soderbergh's legacy is his aesthetic daring, and his latest – as massive and imperfect as it is – just might be his most daring work to date. The first half of his epic about Ernesto "Che" Guevara focuses on the adventures in Cuba in the mid-1950s of the Argentine doctor-turned-revolutionary-turned-martyr-turned-god-turned-hipster-icon. (*Part Two*, released separately, is about Che's less successful efforts in Bolivia.) Soderbergh ignores typical biopic trappings to concentrate on the minutiae of life during those three years

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in the jungle. The result is an epic in miniature, an anthropologist's look at the thousand and one things one does in service of grand ideology – some thrilling, most mundane. And though lefty partisans might complain that Soderbergh's film doesn't show Che as the hero they say he was, and drama devotees will probably argue that it doesn't pay enough attention to the inner life of the man he must have been, in the end Che isn't really about a hero or a man; it's about the mechanics of guerrilla warfare, the day-to-day workings of an insurgency. (01/23/2009) – Josh Rosenblatt
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Dobie

CHE: PART TWO D: Steven Soderbergh; with Benicio Del Toro, Demián Bichir, Santiago Cabrera, Franka Potente, Jorge Perugorria, Edgar Ramirez, Víctor Rasuk, Joaquim de Almeida, Lou Diamond Phillips. (R, 131 min., subtitled)

In the second half of Soderbergh's bold, bloated, rambling, tiring, yet strangely brilliant two-part epic about the life of South American revolutionary, guerrilla soldier, and T-shirt iron-on Ernesto Guevara, all the confidence of the first film has been shoved out of frame and replaced by a sense of impending doom. Bolivia was Guevara's Waterloo, his last stand against imperialism. Luckily for us, Soderbergh is one of those rare directors who's able to make uninterrupted misery engaging. Sure, it helps that he's got the beauty of the Bolivian countryside in his corner and one of the greatest actors in movie history subsuming himself in a legendary and controversial character, but it's his own aesthetic conviction that life's insignificant moments are the ones to keep a camera on that allows him to spin history into art and find a little meaning in all the hopelessness. (01/30/2009) – Josh Rosenblatt
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Dobie

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON D: David Fincher; with Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett, Julia Ormond, Taraji P. Henson, Tilda Swinton, Jason Flemyng, Jared Harris. (PG-13, 159 min.)

It's quite a feat, really, to have stretched F. Scott Fitzgerald's slender, unsentimental curio into a three-hour-long – very long – motion picture about Benjamin (Pitt), who is born with the arthritic crack of an old man and proceeds to age in reverse. Everything that was sharp in the original text has been rounded and buffed; Fitzgerald's cynical eye toward humans' fleeting attractions, and attractiveness, has been junked for a love story – you know the kind – that spans decades of rising hemlines and missed opportunities. Screenwriter Eric Roth transposes the action from antebellum Baltimore to Armistice Day in New Orleans (which accommodates an ineffective framing story involving Hurricane Katrina). The problem with this kind of episodic (un)coming-of-age tale – as with Roth's previous Oscar bait, *Forrest Gump* – is that too often, transitions, major life decisions, feel unmotivated. Fincher is a master craftsman, to be sure, but I didn't buy this story for a second. (12/26/2008) – Kimberley Jones
★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Gateway, Lakeline

DEFIANCE D: Edward Zwick; with Daniel Craig, Liev Schreiber, Jamie Bell, Alexa Davalos, Allan Corduner, Mark Feuerstein, Tomas Arana, Jodhi May. (R, 137 min.)

Defiance is the true story of the Bielski family, three Jewish brothers who, in 1941, escaped into the forest of their native Belarus to elude capture by the Nazis, set up a small ad hoc village, and ended up saving more than 1,200 Jewish lives through daring rescue raids and armed resistance. The story, in other words, is pure Hollywood gold, full of opportunities for stirring speeches, ethical quandaries, lessons about tolerance and humanity, and violence against Nazis. Zwick (*Glory, Blood Diamond*) has spent his entire career struggling to find the balance between opposing impulses – the sentimentalist's desire for emotional-historical heft and the artist's fascination with conflicted humanity – a struggle

Office Space: 10-Year Reunion

Office Space: 10-Year Reunion (1999)
 D: Mike Judge; with Ron Livingston, Jennifer Aniston, Gary Cole, Stephen Root, Ajay Naidu, David Herman, Diedrich Bader, John C. McGinley, Paul Willson. (R, 89 min.) **South by Southwest Film Festival and Fantastic Fest.** The brilliant office comedy celebrates a decade of fun with guest appearances by Judge and others, plus giveaways and special activities. For more info, see www.sxsw.com or www.fantasticfest.com. @Paramount, Sunday, 8pm; tickets available at the Paramount box office and www.gettix.net.



that's all over *Defiance*. Standing in for the first impulse is composer James Newton Howard, who never met a tender moment he didn't want to choke to death, but representing the second, thankfully, are Craig and Schreiber, who are more interested in psychological ambivalence than unblemished heroism. (01/16/2009) – Josh Rosenblatt
★★★ Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, Gateway, Metropolitan

DOUBT D: John Patrick Shanley; with Meryl Streep, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Amy Adams, Viola Davis, Joseph Foster II. (PG-13, 104 min.)

Shanley adapted his Pulitzer- and Tony Award-winning play, *Doubt*, for the movies and also chose to direct the film. The cast he gathered is peerless, but unfortunately, the actors don't all behave as though they're performing in the same movie. A collection of acting styles, from the broad to the contained and the exacting to the unrestrained, creates an unevenness of tone and interpretation. Streep plays Sister Aloysius, the unwavering principal of the St. Nicholas school, into whose dominion comes the new young priest, Father Flynn (Hoffman). The ensuing struggle between the two over morality and power carries with it all the baggage of Catholic tradition and hierarchy, as well as the period's secular strife between men and women. It's a cerebral tug-of-war for the viewer, a struggle that's made only more opaque with the film's closing line of dialogue. Meanwhile, storms suddenly stir up outside, and lightbulbs repeatedly burst in Shanley's effort to cinematically underline the pent-up emotions within. (12/26/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★ Arbor, Tinseltown South

FROST/NIXON D: Ron Howard; with Frank Langella, Michael Sheen, Sam Rockwell, Oliver Platt, Kevin Bacon, Matthew Macfadyen, Rebecca Hall. (R, 122 min.)

Frost/Nixon is a behind-the-scenes account of the momentous interviews with Richard Nixon conducted by British TV personality David Frost in 1977, three years after the former president had resigned from office in disgrace. The film is adapted for the screen by Peter Morgan from his play and stars the play's two leads: Langella (who also won a Tony for this role) as Nixon and Sheen as Frost. Almost by definition, *Frost/Nixon* is a two-handed work, a psychological boxing match between the two protagonists, and Langella and Sheen, the actors, are evenly matched. Each man also counts a few coaches and assistants in his corner, making the taped interviews seem all the more like a prizefight. *Frost/Nixon*, like Morgan's *The Queen*, is at its best when it's examining the fragile intersection of media and politics. On its own, however, I'm not sure that this story of Frost's chutzpah and Nixon's intractability is inherently that gripping. (12/26/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Arbor

GRAN TORINO D: Clint Eastwood; with Eastwood, Bee Vang, Ahney Her, Christopher Carley, John Carroll Lynch. (R, 116 min.)

Nick Schenk's *Gran Torino* screenplay wasn't written with Eastwood in mind as the film's star and director, but you'd never guess that was the case, so comfortably does the film fit the lauded filmmaker and icon's public persona and body of work. Eastwood's performance as Walt Kowalski perfectly caps his long career as an actor. As director, Eastwood's usual economical yet efficacious style marks the film, but it is his performance that

is really the heart of this show. Still lithe and taut in his movement, Eastwood nevertheless allows his aging body to sag in places and fail him on occasion. Eastwood also finds the humorous aspects of the character – heard often in the instinctive growl the character directs toward all annoyances, be they his own money-grubbing family members, gangbangers, or the neighborhood priest. Eastwood plans to go on making more movies, but it's doubtful any will be as satisfying a career culmination as *Gran Torino*. (01/09/2009) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

HOTEL FOR DOGS D: Thor Freudenthal; with Emma Roberts, Jake T. Austin, Lisa Kudrow, Kevin Dillon, Don Cheadle, Johnny Simmons, Troy Gentile, Robinne Lee. (PG, 100 min.)

Hotel for Dogs is a family-friendly operation. A couple of kids – orphans, no less – covertly maintain their family dog, Friday, as they move from one uncaring foster home to the next after “losing” their parents. Currently, Andi (*Nancy Drew's* Roberts) and Bruce (Austin of *Wizards of Waverly Place*) reside with the untalented rock musicians Lois (Kudrow) and Carl (Dillon), who've taken in the kids only for the support checks that come with them. Cheadle plays the well-meaning social worker tasked with the near-impossible job of placing the brother and sister, who are unwilling to be separated. Apart from the portrait of the evil rock & rollers, *Hotel for Dogs* is a decent family film, sure to please animal-loving kids and their parents alike. Well-acted, the movie also looks good and is stocked with lots of goofy gadgetry. Bruce is a kid inventor who outfits their dog hotel with all sorts of mechanical contrivances worthy of *Pee-wee's Playhouse*. (01/23/2009) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

INKHEART D: Iain Softley; with Brendan Fraser, Eliza Bennett, Paul Bettany, Helen Mirren, Andy Serkis, Jim Broadbent, Sienna Guillory. (PG, 106 min.)

Softley has delivered a rollicking, overstuffed, but enormously entertaining adaptation of German author Cornelia Funke's fantasy adventure *Inkheart*. The story revolves around a family of humans who unknowingly have the power to bring to life the characters in the books they read aloud. This brings inadvertent disaster to the Folchart family when antiquarian book doctor Mo (Fraser) reads the titular novel to his wife, Resa (Guillory), and baby daughter (Bennett). For every character that is read into our world, a human being is sucked into the world of the book, and thus Resa vanishes, replaced by the grinningly evil Capricorn (Serkis) and his thuggish, illiterate minions. Along the way, Helen Mirren, a unicorn, L. Frank Baum's flying monkeys, and a minotaur arrive, vying for viewer attention. Softley imbues the world of *Inkheart* with just the right amount of fantastic detail, but the most resonant and, frankly, wonderful aspect of the film is its unabashed love for books and the wonders to be found within. (01/23/2009) – Marc Savlov
★★★ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

LAST CHANCE HARVEY

D: Joel Hopkins; with Dustin Hoffman, Emma Thompson, Eileen Atkins, Kathy Baker, Liane Balaban, James Brolin, Richard Schiff. (PG-13, 99 min.)

There's about a 20-year age difference between Harvey (Hoffman) and Kate (Thompson), and he's a Yank, and she's a Brit, but otherwise, they are solidly middle-aged characters who meet and enjoy each other's company over the course of a day and then mutually grab on to what seems to each like a last chance for love. With its thin plot and its title character an American abroad in London, *Last Chance Harvey* comes across as something like a *Before Sunrise* for the less-than-nubile set. Were that writer/director Hopkins' dialogue and visualization as scintillating as Richard Linklater's is in his *Sunrise/Sunset* romances. Of course, the combined acting brilliance of Hoffman and Thompson could elevate the hoariest of clichés and turn almost anything they touch golden – and that is most often the case with *Last Chance Harvey*. These two prove a pleasure to watch in tandem, and their work is complemented by an outstanding supporting cast. (01/16/2009) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★ Gateway, Metropolitan

LUCK BY CHANCE D: Zoya Akhtar; with Farhan Akhtar, Juhi Chawla, Dimple Kapadia, Rishi Kapoor, Sanjay Kapoor. (NR, 156 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. Zoya Akhtar, daughter of an Indian filmmaking family, debuts here with this exposé of the Mumbai-based film industry. Some of Bollywood's greats, including Shahrukh Khan and Aamir Khan, appear as themselves; Akhtar's brother Farhan, also a director (*Dil Chahta Hai*), stars. (01/30/2009) – Kimberley Jones
 Tinseltown South

MARLEY & ME D: David Frankel; with Owen Wilson, Jennifer Aniston, Eric Dane, Kathleen Turner, Alan Arkin, Haley Bennett. (PG, 111 min.)

Be you a dog or cat person, you'll likely enjoy Frankel's adaptation of journalist John Grogan's bestselling account of life, love, deadlines, and death with the “world's worst dog,” a yellow Labrador retriever named Marley. Never mind the frisky CGI superheroics of *Bolt* or the teary mawkishness of *Old Yeller* – Marley is into extinction-level household devastation, scandalous fecal shenanigans, and the terrorization of Turner, all of which sound like great fun and indeed are. Wilson, seemingly fully recovered from whatever personal demons were tormenting him last year, plays Grogan with his usual battered charm, and Aniston, as his wife, Jennifer, is, well, Jennifer Aniston. Ostensibly a story about a mad, bad, dangerous-to-walk dog, *Marley & Me* has far more to say about the bonds that make up the modern American family. And Marley, the dog from hell, (wouldn't you know it) turns out to be nothing shy of a gift from heaven. (12/26/2008) – Marc Savlov
★★★ Movies 8

MILK D: Gus Van Sant; with Sean Penn, Emile Hirsch, Josh Brolin, Diego Luna, James Franco, Alison Pill, Victor Garber, Denis O'Hare. (R, 127 min.)

Van Sant's very fine biopic restricts itself to the last decade of Harvey Milk's life, when the semi-closeted insurance man living in New York moved to San Francisco's Castro district and embarked upon a historic campaign (four, in fact) to become the first openly gay man elected to public office. Technically, *Milk* is a knockout, and the film is terrifically acted, top to bottom. Still, when the focus of the script (by first-timer Dustin Lance Black) turns almost exclusively to the Proposition 6 fight and Milk's last days, the film loses much of its loose-limbedness. *Milk* is a more conventionally satisfying picture than Van Sant's previous Aughties output, which consisted of aggressively experimental films that didn't always work but got under the skin something fierce. The deeply heartfelt *Milk* is more of a surface skim: a fairly standard biopic – if a very fine one, indeed – but never the transcendent work we hoped for. (12/05/2008) – Kimberley Jones
★★★ Arbor, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

**Abe Osheroff:
One Foot in
the Grave,
the Other
Still Dancing**



Abe Osheroff: One Foot in the Grave, the Other Still Dancing (2008) D: Nadeem Uddin. (NR, 72 min.) **Senior Fellows Honors Program of the UT College of Communication.** Chronicle of the life of the legendary social activist. Post-film, there will be a discussion with University of Texas professors Miguel Ferguson and Robert Jensen. @Thompson Conference Center, Monday, 7pm; free.

MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D

D: Patrick Lussier; with Jensen Ackles, Jaime King, Kerr Smith, Betsy Rue, Tom Atkins, Kevin Tighe, Megan Boone. (R, 101 min.)

If you've ever wanted to see a tiny motel owner smashed through her mandible and impaled on a ceiling by a miner's pickax, this is the movie for you. It's also the movie for you if you're just dying to watch a sexy blonde's head sliced in two – slooowly, oh so slooowly – by a razor-edged shovel. Did I mention the wealth of anatomically correct eyeball trauma? No? Well, this is a way-above-average remake of George Mihalka's plodding 1981 splatter film. As one retro slasher fan to another, I kid you not: *My Bloody Valentine 3D* earns every bloody drop of its hard "R" rating and does so with an eye – heh, heh – toward resurrecting the moribund Eighties-style slash 'n' splash teen slaughter picture with precious little irony or *Scream*-esque, self-effacing commentary. It's just guts, guts, guts (and attendant blunt trauma) from the get-goo to the final shot, all of it presented in fully immersive, well-choreographed 3-D. (01/23/2009) – Marc Savlov
★★★ Highland

NEW IN TOWN D: Jonas Elmer; with Renée Zellweger, Harry Connick Jr., Siobhan Fallon, J.K. Simmons, Mike O'Brien, Frances Conroy. (PG-13, 96 min.)

If Zellweger is going to make a case for her continued relevance in Hollywood, a place that regularly tosses its former sweethearts to the dustbin by age 40, then she'll have to pick smarter projects than this fish-out-of-water comedy about a bitchy exec in 4-inch heels who arrives in small-town Minnesota to shake up its underproducing factory. *New in Town* might have better played on the less demanding stage of, say, a Lifetime made-for-TV movie, where the muzzy direction and script pockmarked with implausibilities would feel slightly less consequential. Still, forgettable films make it to the big screen all the time; what is more rare is a forgettable film about a character written and portrayed so stridently as to be both an irritant and a bore. That character's name, by the way, is Lucy, a fact only recalled after consulting the studio's press notes. Which is telling and may well be *New in Town's* only real distinction: to have the ability to verily disappear before one's eyes. (01/30/2009) – Kimberley Jones
★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

NOT EASILY BROKEN D: Bill Duke; with Morris Chestnut, Taraji P. Henson, Maeve Quinlan, Kevin Hart, Wood Harris, Eddie Cibrian, Jenifer Lewis, Niecy Nash. (PG-13, 99 min.)

In its opening scene, *Not Easily Broken*, based on a novel by megachurch pastor T.D. Jakes, threatens to be a message film, with the overtly religious theme spoken by the minister at the wedding of Dave (Chestnut) and Clarice (Henson): God, says the clergyman, must be the third partner in a marriage. Struggling contractor Dave and high-end real estate agent Clarice's marriage grows increasingly troubled, which is demonstrated by Clarice's grow-

ing unpleasantness. With thin plotting and events pulled from everyday fare, the film feels like an acquaintance taking a little too long to tell you about the problems in his life. When the film gets past these tiresome scenes, it loosens up into something pleasant. Sweet humor permeates the camaraderie between Dave and his buddies (Cibrian and Hart), and Clarice becomes human when gabbing with her friend Michelle (Nash). The mostly black cast rises above the script's clunky passages. (01/16/2009) – Theresa Everline
★ Millennium

NOTORIOUS D: George Tillman Jr.; with Jamal Woolard, Angela Bassett, Derek Luke, Anthony Mackie, Antonique Smith, Natori Naughton, Kevin Phillips, Dennis L.A. White, Marc John Jefferies, Julia Pace Mitchell. (R, 123 min.)

In *Notorious*, the life of hip-hop artist Christopher Wallace, aka Notorious B.I.G. or Biggie Smalls, assumes the shape of the standard biopic formula. The well-known hallmarks of this rapper's life are all here: his attentive upbringing in Brooklyn by his single mom, the lure of the streets and the fast cash of the drug trade, the stint in jail, the women, the fresh sound of his rhymes, the transformative hookup with producer Sean Combs (aka Puff Daddy, P. Diddy, et al.), and the friendship and falling out with West Coast hip-hop icon Tupac Shakur (who was murdered six months prior to Wallace). Director Tillman is unable to tease out much more nuance or shading from this highlight reel, whose events are already well-known to the public. Still, the performances are vibrant and capture a sense of the individuals behind them. As Wallace, Woolard proves an excellent study. (01/16/2009) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

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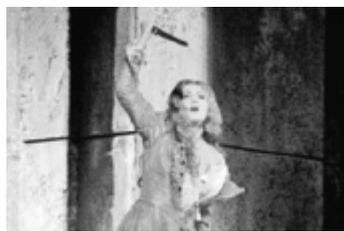
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STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6: Check local listings for theaters and showtimes.

Lucia di Lammermoor

Lucia di Lammermoor (2009) (NR, 200 min.) Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD. Anna Netrebko sings the title role of Donizetti's fragile heroine for the first time at the Met, with tenor Rolando Villazón in the part of her lover, Edgardo, and Marco Armiliato conducts. Baritone Mariusz Kwiecien is her tyrannical brother. Mary Zimmerman's hit production is staged as a Victorian ghost story. Two intermissions. @Southpark Meadows, CM Cedar Park, Tinseltown North, Metropolitan, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Southpark Meadows, Saturday, noon.



PAUL BLART: MALL COP D: Steve Carr; with Kevin James, Jayma Mays, Shirley Knight, Raini Rodriguez, Keir O'Donnell, Stephen Rannazzisi, Bobby Cannavale, Peter Gerety, Adam Ferrara. (PG, 87 min.)

With this film comedian James graduates from second banana to leading man. From the premise onward, *Paul Blart: Mall Cop* revels in fat jokes and the gunless impotency of mall security guards. The movie presumes the image of a fat mall cop patrolling his cathedral of commerce on a little Segway to be endlessly hilarious. Give the character a goofy name like Blart and a dopey-looking mustache, and what more does a movie need to do to hit a home run? The film provides James with ample opportunity for knockabout physical humor, at which the comedian appears reasonably adept yet hardly capable of the surprising gracefulness of a fat comic master such as Jackie Gleason. The plot has Blart proving his mettle when robbers hijack the mall and he becomes the city cops' eyes and ears on the inside. Director Carr adds nothing to the overall mix with his rudimentary point-and-shoot visual strategy. (01/23/2009) – Marjorie Baumgarten

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

THE READER D: Stephen Daldry; with Ralph Fiennes, Kate Winslet, David Kross, Bruno Ganz, Lena Olin. (R, 123 min.)

The question at the heart of *The Reader* is what have we learned (and forgotten) from history's bloody backwash? Luckily for *The Reader*, the angelic Ganz, as a sage professor of law, is on hand to nudge the question of wartime culpability to the fore. But that's not what's most remarkable about *The Reader*, it's just what's most intellectually chewy. The real red meat of Daldry's film is the May-December romance between a weary-looking, sexually rapacious streetcar ticket-taker (Winslet, shockingly good throughout) in postwar Berlin and the sickly young schoolboy (an enthusiastic, excellent Kross) on whom she initially

takes pity and then seduces, ravenously and to his great delight. One day she's gone, with no explanation, and the boy grows into a promising young law student and, later, into a sorrowful-seeming Fiennes. Daldry, working from a superior script by David Hare, has crafted a film about guilt, love, and history and how the three skeins create human beings or, alternately, human monsters. (12/26/2008) – Marc Savlov

★★★ Arbor, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown South

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD D: Sam Mendes; with Kate Winslet, Leonardo DiCaprio, Kathy Bates, Michael Shannon, Kathryn Hahn, David Harbour, Dylan Baker, Zoe Kazan, Richard Easton. (R, 119 min.)

I suppose you could call *Revolutionary Road* a movie about the killing effects of the suburbs – something director Mendes previously explored in his debut film, *American Beauty* – but that would be a facile reduction of a film that aims, far more cuttlingly, to sandblast the myth of “specialness” – that very American idea that we are all destined for greatness. A seductive opening scene introduces Frank (DiCaprio) and April (Winslet), before they've married and moved to Revolutionary Road. The film then cuts to a half-decade later: The Wheelers are expert brawlers by now, both of them chafing at the expectations of their gender roles. There's an airlessness to Mendes' picture that doesn't leave much room for error. One slight bobble from the (admittedly very good) leads, and the illusion crumbles. Not a bobble in sight, though, from bit player Shannon, who steals the whole picture in two short, shattering scenes. (01/09/2009) – Kimberley Jones

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE D: Danny Boyle, Loveleen Tandan; with Dev Patel, Anil Kapoor, Freida Pinto, Madhur Mittal, Irrfan Khan, Ankur Vikal. (R, 120 min.)

Slumdog Millionaire is a mad, thrilling, and perversely luminous film. It may be drenched in the

Kings of the Evening

Kings of the Evening (2008) D: Andrew P. Jones; with Tyson Beckford, Lynn Whitfield, Reginald T. Dorsey, Linara Washington, Bruce McGill. (NR, 100 min.) **Black History Month.** Filmed in Austin and set during the Depression, the film tells the story of a black man who returns home after the chain gang only to find that life in the ghetto may harbor worse injustices. @Boyd Vance Theatre at Carver, Friday, 10:30am & 2pm; free.



saffron and violet palettes of its Mumbai setting, but it plays like a classic Hollywood rags-to-riches love story, albeit one with Bollywood roots and a fully globalized desire to survive, succeed, live, and love within the teeming megalopolis formerly known as Bombay. It's a natural fit for Boyle and director of photography Anthony Dod Mantle. Mumbai is nothing if not giddy chaos incarnate. Patel, in his feature debut, is the “slumdog” of the title, a reed-thin young striver named Jamal Malik. Jamal has managed to survive the crushing poverty and daily tragedies of his birthplace and has somehow landed himself on the Hindi version of *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?*. It's a doozy of a story that piles on the traditional Holly- and Bollywood melodrama but never shies away or strays too far from the Ganges and the ghetto. (12/12/2008) – Marc Savlov

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX

D: Sam Fell, Rob Stevenhagen; with the voices of Matthew Broderick, Dustin Hoffman, Emma Watson, Tracey Ullman, Sigourney Weaver, Kevin Kline, William H. Macy, Stanley Tucci, Ciarán Hinds, Robbie Coltrane, Tony Hale, Frances Conroy, Frank Langella, Richard Jenkins, Christopher Lloyd, Bronson Pinchot. (G, 93 min.)

The lesson learned from *The Tale of Despereaux* is that an overabundance of vocal talent does not a good cartoon make. Adapted for the screen by *Pleasantville* and *Seabiscuit* director Gary Ross from the 2004 Newberry Medal-winning novel by Kate DiCamillo, *The Tale of Despereaux* adds up to much less than the sum of its parts. The animation looks decent enough, but the narrative is a choppy story that bobs among human characters in the human kingdom of Dor, where soup seems to be its inhabitants' main preoccupation, and the rodent residents of the separate municipalities of Mouseworld and Ratworld. The movie becomes so intent on introducing characters and revealing the dark chambers of the Ratworld dungeon (enough so that the “G” rating should be called into question) that it loses many of the book's messages about individuality and valor. Most crippling is the narration by Weaver, which ladles out platitudes by the heaping spoonful. (12/19/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★ Movies 8

THE UNBORN D: David S. Goyer; with Odette Yustman, Gary Oldman, Cam Gigandet, Idris Elba, Meagan Good, Jane Alexander, Atticus Shaffer, James Remar, Carla Gugino. (PG-13, 88 min.)

Nearly all the dread in this otherwise dreadfully dull film stems from visual effects – some CGI but some better ones, including something ghastly with way too many teeth that comes courtesy of the always-alarming effects creator Greg Nicotero. Goyer, who's better liked for his screenplays (*Batman Begins*, *Blade II*) than his directorial forays (*Blade: Trinity*, *The Invisible*), has the seed of a great horror film lodged somewhere in here, but it never makes it past the fetal stage. *The Unborn* ends with Oldman, as a rabbi, performing an exorcism of such stupefying ridiculousness that it qualifies, two weeks into the new year, as the best extended comedy bit of 2009. Prior to this conclusion, the film tells the story of Yustman's Casey Beldon, a willowy college student haunted by the suicide of her mother and the specter of a hollow-eyed little boy who turns up, uninvited, in her dreams, her mirrors, and, strangely, her medicine cabinet. (01/16/2009) – Marc Savlov

★ Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS

D: Patrick Tatopoulos; with Michael Sheen, Bill Nighy, Rhona Mitra, Kevin Grevioux, Steven Mackintosh. (R, 92 min.)

It's a testament to Bill Nighy's cadaverous panache that this third entry in the ongoing exsanguinators vs. lycanthropes franchise (that's vampires and werewolves to anyone not weaned on *Famous Monsters*) is as tolerable as it is, which is barely. In this, the *Underworld* franchise's shark-jumping origin story-cum-sequel, Nighy returns as Viktor, the vampire king, a deliriously hammy role that the actor has been only too happy to, um, sink his teeth into, with a creepy charm that borders on the absurd. But fans expecting to drool over series mainstay Kate Beckinsale, who previously engaged Nighy tooth and nail as the black-patent-leather-clad Selene, are in for a sad day at the bloodfest. Not only is Beckinsale's character absent, but she's been replaced as the series' female lead by *Boston Legal*'s Mitra, who is cast here as Viktor's daughter Sonja, which frankly does no one, fanged or furry, any good at all. (01/30/2009) – Marc Savlov

★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

THE WRESTLER D: Darren Aronofsky; with Mickey Rourke, Marisa Tomei, Evan Rachel Wood, Mark Margolis, Todd Barry, Wass Stevens. (R, 109 min.)

In the latest from Aronofsky, Rourke rips his tattered name out from the dustbin of history with his portrayal of Randy “the Ram” Robinson, an aging professional wrestler (and fellow dustbin inhabitant). Those looking for a grand discourse on the suffering nobility of the aging pseudo-athlete in modern, youth-obsessed America will probably go away disappointed. Aronofsky and screenwriter Robert Siegel are less interested in tragedy than they are the intimacy that develops between men engaged in close-contact battle and the contrivances needed to make that contact look as “real” as possible. Together they create innumerable fascinating moments that have the air of documentary truth. But let's be honest: The story of the waning athlete, the stripper he loves, and the daughter he left behind is an old one, and if *The Wrestler* is ever in danger of slipping into sentimentality, it's here. Thankfully, whenever the risk of cliché arises, Aronofsky takes us back into the ring. (01/09/2009) – Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Arbor, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

YES MAN D: Peyton Reed; with Jim Carrey, Zoey Deschanel, Bradley Cooper, John Michael Higgins, Rhys Darby, Danny Masterson, Terence Stamp. (PG-13, 104 min.)

Carl (Carrey) is in a funk. Then he discovers a life-changing mantra: Say “yes” to every opportunity that presents itself. This plot gimmick veers suspiciously close to the 1997 Carrey vehicle *Liar Liar*, in which his character compulsively tells the truth, even though supernatural intervention is the cause. In contrast, *Yes Man* believes in free will, with Carl at first struggling to agree to requests small and large, whether it be friends getting him to pick up the bar tab or a homeless person asking for a ride. But soon he's showered with rewards, including a pretty new girlfriend played by actor/singer Deschanel, who's wide-eyed and good-hearted but without a lot of range – a fair description of the film itself. As the good results roll in and Carl starts uttering “yes” without hesitation, *Yes Man* becomes less a story and more a collection of set-pieces. (12/19/2008) – Theresa Everline

★★ Movies 8



Academy Award-Nominated Live-Action Shorts 2009: “On the Line”

also playing

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

AUSTRALIA ★★★ Movies 8

BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
★★ Movies 8

THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD
STILL ★ Movies 8

LET THE RIGHT ONE IN
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE
2 AFRICA ★★★ Movies 8

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE ★★ Movies 8

RACHEL GETTING MARRIED
★★★★ Arbor, Dobie

SYNECDOCHE, NEW YORK
★★★★★ Dobie

TRANSPORTER 3 ★★★ Movies 8

TWILIGHT ★★ CM Round Rock, Metropolitan

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special screenings

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The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.



Bringing Up Baby

THURSDAY 05

Moulin Rouge Sing-Along (2001)

D: Baz Luhrmann; with Nicole Kidman, Ewan McGregor. (PG-13, 127 min.) If Nicole can do it, so can you. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Pop Princess Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 10:25pm.

The Spanish Prisoner (1997) D: David Mamet; with Campbell Scott, Rebecca Pidgeon, Steve Martin, Ben Gazzara, Ricky Jay, Felicity Huffman. (PG, 112 min.) **Harry Ransom Lectures.** Director, playwright, and writer David Mamet joins UT President William Powers Jr. for a screening and conversation about the film. (*) @Texas Union Theatre, 7pm; free.

Sword of the Stranger (2007) D: Masahiro Andô; with the voices of Yûki Chinen, Tomoya Nagase, Akio Ôtsuka. (NR, 125 min.) **NCM Fathom.** In this animated epic, a samurai with no name befriends a boy and his dog, who are hunted by the Mings of China. @Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, 7:30pm; \$12.50.

FRIDAY 06

Battlestar Galactica TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

Chocolate (2008) D: Prachya Pinkaew; with Yanin Wismitanant, Hiroshi Abe, Ammara Siripong, Taphon Phopwandee, Pongpat Wachirabunjong, Sirimongkol Sakveerakul. A new stunner from the director of the equally hyperkinetic *Ong Bak*, *Chocolate* is about an autistic girl with a vendetta – or, as the film's stateside tagline so eloquently puts it, "a special-needs girl with a special need to kick some ass." @Alamo Drafthouse South, 11:55pm.

Kings of the Evening (2008) See p.78.

The Legend of Fong Sai-Yuk (1993)

D: Corey Yuen; with Jet Li, Josephine Siao, Sibelle Hu, Michele Reis. (R, 100 min.) **Kung Fu Theatre.** This Jet Li action film about the legendary Chinese folk hero dazzles with breathtakingly choreographed fight scenes. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid; free.

The Matrix (1999) D: Andy Wachowski and Larry Wachowski; with Keanu Reeves, Laurence Fishburne, Carrie-Anne Moss, Hugo Weaving, Joe Pantoliano. (R, 139 min.) **Master Pancake Theater.** The Pancake funders should have plenty to mock in this movie's blend of pop psychology, cyberpunk lore, and eye-popping visuals. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7:40, 10:35pm.

SPACES

The Bridge on the River Kwai (1957)

D: David Lean; with William Holden, Alec Guinness, Jack Hawkins, Sessue Hayakawa. (NR, 161 min.) **Celebrating Oscar: The Best of the Best Pictures of the Year.** Award-winning epic about British soldiers interned in a Japanese prison camp, who build the titular bridge as

a morale-boosting exercise. Discussion will follow. @Wells Branch Community Library, 7pm; free.

Suzuka Howson Anime Club. Japanese anime TV series. @Howson Library, 4:30pm; free.

SATURDAY 07

Chocolate (2008) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 11:55pm. (See Fri., 2/6.)

Lucia di Lammermoor (2009) See p.78.

The Matrix (1999) @Alamo Ritz, 7:40, 10:35pm. (See Fri., 2/6.)

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.) Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for more than 30 years straight. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

Saturday Morning Cartoon Cereal Party Two-and-a-half hours of fine nutrition. Pajamas and stuffed animals encouraged. @Alamo Ritz, 11:30am.

SPACES

Lawrence of Arabia (1962) D: David Lean; with Peter O'Toole, Omar Sharif, Alec Guinness, Anthony Quinn. (PG, 216 min.) **Celebrating Oscar: The Best of the Best Pictures of the Year.** This desert epic won seven Academy Awards and is the biography of adventurer T.E. Lawrence, played by O'Toole in his first starring role. Discussion will follow. (*) @Wells Branch Community Library, 7pm; free.

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Network Austin Mixer invites film and entertainment-biz people to celebrate by schmoozing, networking, and doing what they do best: entertaining one another in a movie-happy crowd. This week's featured speakers are **Marco Perella**, **CK McFarland**, **Sheila Steele**, and **Amanda C. Hall-Summers** from the Alliance's Rally Committee. *Wed., Feb. 11, 6:30pm. Mother Egan's Irish Pub, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747. Free.* www.networkaustinmixer.com.

Texas Film Commission: P.A. Workshop Production assistants are entry-level crew members on a film production who provide support and assistance to almost all areas and departments. For those wanting to pursue working on films in Texas, this two-day intensive program will teach you the ins and outs of being a successful PA. See website for details. *Sat.-Sun., Feb. 28-March 1, 9am-4pm. \$75 (\$55, AFS members).*

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SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Feb. 20 issue is Monday, Feb. 9.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail. Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

SUNDAY 08

Love Bites: The Power Ballad Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm.

Office Space: 10-Year Reunion (1999) See p.76.

The Rock-afire Explosion (2008) D: Brett Whitcomb. (NR, 70 min.) The animatronic band from the defunct Showbiz Pizza restaurants is the subject of this devotée documentary of its career. Director Whitcomb and writer Bradford Thomason will be in attendance at the special Monday pizza-party screening only. See "Old Dog, New Tricks," p.47, for more. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

MONDAY 09

Gossip Girl TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 7:15pm.

Heroes TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:30pm.

Jimi and Otis: Live at Monterey D: D.A. Pennebaker and Chris Hegedus. (NR, 70 min.) **Music Monday.** A double feature straight from the Pennebaker archives of "Shake! Otis at Monterey" (1989, 20 min.), featuring Otis Redding playing with Booker T. & the MGs, and "Jimi Plays Monterey" (1986, 50 min.), which documents Hendrix's combustible entry into the rock annals. @Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm.

The Rock-afire Explosion (2008) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Sun., 2/8.)

SPACES

Abe Osheroff: One Foot in the Grave, the Other Still Dancing (2008) See p.77.

Bringing Up Baby (1938) D: Howard Hawks; with Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant, Charlie Ruggles, May Robson. (NR, 102 min.) **Tough Guys and Fesisty Femmes.** "Baby" is a pet leopard, Hepburn an heiress, and Grant a paleontologist in this breakneck screwball film that's rife with physical comedy and romantic mayhem. One of the best. See www.cityofaustin.org/library for more info. @Hampton Library, 6pm; free.

True Romance (1993) D: Tony Scott; with Christian Slater, Patricia Arquette, Dennis Hopper, Val Kilmer, Gary Oldman, Brad Pitt, Christopher Walken, Bronson Pinchot, Michael Rapaport, Chris Penn. (R, 118 min.) Free. (*) @Cafe Mundi, 8pm.

offscreen

TUESDAY 10

Bridget Jones's Diary (2001)

D: Sharon Maguire; with Renée Zellweger, Hugh Grant, Colin Firth. (R, 95 min.) **Girlie Night.** Romantic fantasy mixes with social satire. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Devil Times Five (1975) D: Sean MacGregor; with Sorrell Booke, Gene Evans. (R, 88 min.) **Terror Tuesday.** Psycho children run amok. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

SPACES

Diary of a Mad Black Woman (2005)

D: Darren Grant; with Kimberly Elise, Steve Harris, Shemar Moore, Tyler Perry. (PG-13, 116 min.) **Black Heritage Month: Heritage Through Art.** There are suds and laughs in this story of how one black woman gets her groove back. Auteur Perry plays three roles. (*) @Oak Springs Library, 8:30pm; free.

Fahrenheit 451 (1966) D: François Truffaut; with Julie Christie, Oskar Werner, Cyril Cusack, Anton Diffring. (NR, 111 min.) **Books to Movies.** Truffaut's only film in English is an adaptation of Ray Bradbury's science-fiction novel about a future in which books are banned. See www.cityofaustin.org/library for more info. (*) @Milwood Branch Library, 6:30pm; free.

Carrie (1976) D: Brian De Palma; with Sissy Spacek, Piper Laurie. (R, 97 min.) **Austin Film Society: First Blood – The Early Films of Brian De Palma.** De Palma's classic creep show has dark undertones about the nastiness of teen spirit, emergent female sexuality, and rabid Christianity. Needless to say, *Carrie* is our favorite prom queen. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm; \$4, AFS members free; reserve tickets online at www.austinfilm.org.

WEDNESDAY 11

Lost TV @ the Alamo. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 8pm; Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:30pm.

Love Bites: The Power Ballad Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 9:15pm. (See Sun., 2/8.)

The Rock-afire Explosion (2008) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Sun., 2/8.)

Sometimes Aunt Martha Does Dreadful Things (1971) D: Thomas Casey; with Abe Zwick, Scott Lawrence, Don Craig. (R, 95 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** If you have to ask, you don't want to know. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid.

SPACES

WALL-E (2008) D: Andrew Stanton; with Fred Willard; with the voices of Ben Burtt, Elissa Knight, Jeff Garlin, John Ratzenberger. (G, 97 min.) **Family Movie Night.** By turns sad, hilarious, exciting, and ultimately hopeful, this is a film of great truths masquerading as child's play. See www.cityofaustin.org/library for more info. (*) @Pleasant Hill Branch Library, 6:30pm; free.

THURSDAY 12

Bram Stoker's Dracula Feast (1992) D: Francis Ford Coppola; with Gary Oldman, Winona Ryder, Anthony Hopkins, Keanu Reeves, Sadie Frost, Tom Waits. (R, 128 min.) See www.drafthouse.com for menu. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm.

Friday the 13th: Part 3 (1982) D: Steve Miner; with Dana Kimmell, Paul Kratka. (R, 96 min.) Dredge up this 3-D chestnut on the eve of the new latest offering from the triskaidekaphobia franchise. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 10:05pm.

Love Bites: The Power Ballad Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 10:30pm. (See Sun., 2/8.)

Moulin Rouge Sing-Along (2001) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Thu., 2/5.)

imax

See Showtimes for dates and times
or see austinchronicle.com.

Across the Sea of Time 3D (1995)

D: Stephen Low; with Peter Reznick. (G, 51 min.) An 11-year-old Russian stowaway arrives in New York hoping to meet up with a branch of his family that came to America decades earlier. Armed with a stereopticon (a primitive precursor to today's 3-D) and a handful of old family photographs, he suddenly encounters the sights and sounds of modern New York.

All Access: Front Row. Backstage. Live! (2001) D: Martyn Atkins. (NR, 65 min.) This behind-the-scenes look at the inner workings of putting on a megaconcert combines candid moments backstage with musical performances by multi-Grammy-winning rock stars such as Santana, Sting, Sheryl Crow, the Dave Matthews Band, and appearances by Al Green, George Clinton, B.B. King, Moby, Rob Thomas, Mary J. Blige, Kid Rock, Macy Gray, the Roots, Trey Anastasio, and Cheb Mami.

Beowulf: The IMAX 3D Experience (2007) D: Robert Zemeckis; with Ray Winstone, Anthony Hopkins, Robin Wright Penn, Brendan Gleeson, Angelina Jolie, John Malkovich. (PG-13, 115 min.) The irony inherent in using 21st century motion-control technology to tell a tale approximately 1,400 years old is just one of many bizarrely entertaining aspects of *Beowulf*.

Grand Canyon Adventure 3D: River at Risk (2008) D: Greg MacGillivray; narrated by Robert Redford. (NR, 40 min.) The river at risk is the Colorado. Water-conservation advocate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. joins ethnobotanist and author Wade Davis and their 18-year-old daughters for a rafting trip down the river to the parched Colorado delta.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.) Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as the state is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips.

The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience (2008) D: Christopher Nolan; with Christian Bale, Heath Ledger, Gary Oldman, Aaron Eckhardt, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Michael Caine, Morgan Freeman. (PG-13, 152 min.) Batman soars back onto the big screen, no doubt hoping to catch a tailwind to the Oscars.

Wild Ocean 3D (2008) D: Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas. (NR, 40 min.) Filmed off the coast of South Africa, this film examines the food chain, starting with the sardine runs, which are followed by dolphins, sharks, birds, humans, and other fish that opportunistically follow the migration.

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music

EDITED BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

listings



Monotonix

Red 7, Friday 6

The Strange Boys and Total Abuse open.

By Ami Shalev's estimate, Monotonix played between 250 and 300 dates in the States in 2008. "We get a lot of homesickness when we

are touring the United States," relates the Israeli trio's singer. "A long break for us is something like three or four weeks."

Monotonix's rigorous schedule, along with its athletic, unpredictable live presence, has given the band a reputation as a vital and powerful act. Despite their immutably positive intentions ("We are coming in peace," insists Shalev), they've been banished from several venues around the country, which only bolsters them as a band whose art is focused less on musical craft than on creation of an event. Through all its intensive touring, the trio has drawn from a set of riff-heavy, 1970s-inspired jams written not long after starting the band in 2005.

"Because we toured a lot of the last three years, we didn't have a lot of time to write songs," Shalev explains. "I think the shows in Austin and Houston are going to be kind of exciting, because we're going to mix new songs and old songs. It will be a totally different show."

The band goes into the studio in April to follow up last year's *Body Language* EP and though the challenge posed by the notoriety of the live show is significant, Shalev is optimistic. "There are no rules right now in our songs. We're trying to do whatever we've got in our minds. For this record to be as free as our live show – that's what we're trying to do."

"It's hard," he admits. "I agree, it's hard." – Daniel Mee

SHAPES HAVE FANGS/ CAVEDWELLER 7-INCH RELEASE

Emo's, Friday 6

It's better than peanut butter and chocolate: Shapes Have Fangs wax down the poppier side of 1960s psych, and Cavedweller mines its trippier crevices. Local tastemaker Business Deal Records has paired two new delicious songs from both ATX acts on a split 7-inch. Diagonals and Pillow Queens open with some more sweet and salty. – Audra Schroeder

AU, SILVER PINES/ HACIENDA

Mohawk, Friday 6

Portland, Ore.'s Au is technically Luke Wyland, but latest album *Verbs* adds vowels to orchestral folk, throwing hand claps, saw, banjo, piano, melodica, and accordion into the wood chipper. The arsenic and lace of San Marcos' Silver Pines warm up the inside. Outside, San Antone boys Hacienda headline Fashion Freakout 2, the convening of local shops and designers on a psychedelic catwalk back to 1968. – Audra Schroeder

PASADENA NAPALM DIVISION

Room 710, Saturday 7

Dirty Rotten Imbeciles rejoice! DRI's Kurt Brecht comes loaded for metallic hardcore with the remnants of fellow Houston headbangers Dead Horse, one of Austin's favorite grunge-era grinders. Greg Martin and Scott Sevall's twin axe demolition, combined with fellow Horse head Ron Guyote on drums and Mike Lucas on bass, gives Brecht something to vocally immolate. Whorehound, Condemned Unit, and Doom Siren wait first. – Raoul Hernandez

JOE ELY & JOEL GUZMAN

Cactus Cafe, Saturday 7

Flatlander Joe Ely and his accordion-playing compadre, Joel Guzman, return to the scene of their 2008 *Live Cactus!* for more exquisitely drawn stories of dusty border towns and life in West Texas. With a new Flatlanders album due in March, some fresh tunes may be on the set list as well. Rosie Flores opens with her own brand of Texas-inspired roots rock. – Jim Caligiuri

DEVOTCHKA, CROOKED FINGERS

La Zona Rosa, Sunday 8

The Grammy-nominated score to *Little Miss Sunshine* put Devotchka on the map, but with last year's wildly eclectic *A Mad & Faithful Telling*, the Denver-based gypsy romantics established their own cultural currency. Borrowing from Eastern European folk idioms, Morricone Westerns, and Spanish boleros, Devotchka's Anti-debut kicked up more dust than a Texas tornado. Eric Bachmann's Crooked Fingers set the tone with latest *Forfeit/Fortune*. – Austin Powell

ETHAN AZARIAN, RYAN ANDERSON

Hole in the Wall, Wednesday 11

Like a more lucid Daniel Johnston, Eastside painter Ethan Azarian has been transfixed local audiences with his odd tales of wonderment and woe since fronting the Orange Mothers through the 1980s and 1990s. He's been relatively quiet since 2005's stark, existential *Cross'n Over*. Local singer-songwriter Ryan Anderson previews his forthcoming sophomore LP *Keep at Hand*, while lovable C-Side Records collective the Channel touches up its pet sounds. – Austin Powell

MAD PROFESSOR

Flamingo Cantina, Thursday 12

Neil Fraser, aka Mad Professor, has long been at the forefront of influential reggae producers not only in his adopted UK home but also internationally. Over the decades, he's worked with Lee "Scratch" Perry, U-Roy, Pato Banton, and countless others. One of his most fruitful partnerships has been with the verbally rambunctious and socially conscious Macka B, perhaps the most important of the British rasta dancehall DJs, who opens along with Dr. Dubbist. – Jay Trachtenberg

BY AUDRA SCHROEDER *soundcheck*

TEXAS EASTSIDE KINGS

Central Market North, Friday 6

Old-school R&B for TGIF.

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Scoot Inn, Friday 6

Think the Bad Seeds with a bigger organ. Serious Tracers and Love Collector open.

THE UGLY BEATS, ARIEL ABSHIRE

Carousel Lounge, Saturday 7

1960s swagger alongside Austin's newest old soul. The Transgressors crack the whip.

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La Zona Rosa, Saturday 7

Oxford soul, with the six-string blues.

Z-RO

Spiros, Saturday 7

Houston, stand up.

WITH LOVE TO MOMS

Antone's, Sunday 8

Dale Watson, Van Wilks, and more help Elizabeth Parr.

DON CABALLERO

Red 7, Sunday 8

Damon Che finally has a *Punkgasm*. DD/MM/YYYY and My Education follow suit.

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Emo's, Tuesday 10

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STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
THUNDERBIRD COFFEE HOUSE, 1401 W. Koenig, 420-8660
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL, 2201 College Ave., 443-4200
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 360, 6203 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 418-9700
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 38TH STREET, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE AT THE GROVE, 9600 S. I-35 Ste. D-100 (Southpark Meadows), 292-7900
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE DOWNTOWN, 600 N. Lamar, 472-5400
WATERLOO RECORDS, 600-A N. Lamar, 474-2500
Z'TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355
ZILKER PARK CLUBHOUSE, 200 Zilker Clubhouse Rd., 474-9692

Transmission Entertainment - Transmit Socially

912 Red River

Mohawk
AUSTIN, TEXAS

WED 2/4 - **WHITE RHINO**, Smoke and Feathers, Sex Dragon, and Old Coyote - 10pm
 THU 2/5 - **WILL JOHNSON** (centro-matic), Monahans, Cory Branan - 10pm
 FRI 2/6 - **FASHION FREAKOUT** w/ Hacienda & DJ's Tweedy, McNeely & Bigface - 9pm [OUT] // **AU**, Silver Pines - 12am [IN]
 SAT 2/7 - **APPLESEED CAST**, True Widow, The Calm Blue Sea - 9pm [OUT] // **MOTEL AVIV**, Rescue Mission - 12am [IN]
 TUE 2/10 - **MUSIC TAPES** (members of Neutral Milk Hotel), Nana Grizol, Brian Dewan - 8pm
 WED 2/11 - 101X HOMEGROWN LIVE WITH **THE ALWAYS ALREADY**, Transmography, Neiliyo - 10pm
 THU 2/12 - **CONSIDER THE SOURCE**, The Canvas Waiting, Mechanical Boy, Cobretti - 10pm
 FRI 2/13 - **DJ SPOOKY**, Golden Hornet Project - 9pm [OUT] // **CLOUDS ARE GHOSTS** - 12am [IN]
 SAT 2/14 - **WHITE GHOST SHIVERS VALENTINE'S DAY MASSACRE**, The Strange Attractors, PJ & The Bear - 9pm [OUT] // **LAX**, Yadiira Brown, Gal Pal and DJ Jaunty - 12am [IN]
 MON 2/16 - **BROKEN SPINDLES** (members of the Faint), Loxsly - 10pm

611 E. 7th

RED7

FRI 2/6 - **MONOTONIX**, Strange Boys, Total Abuse - 9pm
 SAT 2/7 - **THE VANDALS**, Complete Control, Bulemics - 9pm
 SUN 2/8 - **DON CABALLERO**, dd/mm/yyyy, My Education, Shitty Carwash - 9pm
 TUE 2/10 - **RED DAWN** - 9pm
 WED 2/11 - **AFROFREQUE**, One Step Program - 9pm
 THU 2/12 - **DROPDEAD**, Word Burns to Death, Bastard Sons of the Apocalypse, Iron Age - 9pm
 FRI 2/13 - **AGNOSTIC FRONT**, Mongoloids, Bitter End, You People - 9pm
 SAT 2/14 - **SPEW GAY PUNK PARTY** - 9pm
 MON 2/16 - **FATBACK CIRCUS**, Greg Ginn (SST) and the Texas Corrugators, Jambang!, A Crack In the Wall
 TUE 2/17 - **MY AMERICA** (Pluto Records), tba
 WED 2/18 - **BENEFIT FOR ADRIAN MUNOZ' FAM:** Grenadier, Pride Like Lions, Screaming at the Sky, TBA
 THU 2/19 - **SUPERLITE BIKE**, La Guerilla, tba
 FRI 2/20 - **DYNAMITE BOY**, Born to Lose, Buzzkiller, Say Hello To the Angels, Say When, 30 Yard Stare

ALSO CHECK OUT OUR NEW LOUNGE! LISTINGS BELOW.

401 W. 2nd

LAMBERTS

THU 2/5 - ***LOW CASH THURSDAYS*** w/ DJ MEL - 10:30PM
 FRI 2/6 - **KAT'S MEOW** - 7PM, JAMES KINNEY, Adrian Hibbs, DJ Causeone - 10:30PM
 SAT 2/7 - **MARSHALL FORD SWING BAND** - 7PM, AFROFREQUE, Chicken Strut, DJ Manolo Black - 10:30PM
 SUN 2/8 - **JAZZ NIGHT** with Ephraim Owens, Brannen Temple, & Red Young - 7PM
 TUE 2/10 - **JITTERBUG VIPERS**
 THU 2/12 - **LEE MORK** - 7PM, ***LOW CASH THURSDAYS*** w/ DJ MEL - 10:30PM
 FRI 2/13 - **ZOOKEEPER**, The Sad Accordions, Monarchs - 10:30PM
 SAT 2/14 - **GUY FORSYTH'S ST. VALENTINE LOVE & LUST REVUE**, *DJ set to follow by Trey Lopez, \$12 Advance, \$15 Door, Buy tickets online at www.frontgate.com, or call 494-1500

611 E. 7th

RED7 LOUNGE

FREE ALL THE TIME!
 POOL, SKEE BALL, GAMES, ETC

WED 2/4 - **FREE IN THE LOUNGE:** DJ'S MIKE WEIBE & JEREMY - 10pm
 THU 2/5 - **FREE IN THE LOUNGE:** DJ'S BEN BLACKOUT & STEVIE SPARKS - 10pm
 SAT 2/7 - **FREE IN THE LOUNGE:** DJ MIKE HOOKER - 10pm
 WED 2/11 - **FREE IN THE LOUNGE:** DJ'S MIKE WEIBE & JEREMY
 THU 2/12 - **FREE IN THE LOUNGE:** DJ TIMMY HEFNER
 FRI 2/13 - **FREE IN THE LOUNGE:** DJ JAMES BRADFORD
 SAT 2/14 - **FREE IN THE LOUNGE:** TXRD DJ NIGHT w/ DJ's Radioactive & Dilla

2/20 - **MISPRINT BEARD & MOUSTACHE COMPETITION** (MOHAWK), 2/21 - **POP UNKNOWN REUNION** (MOHAWK), 2/27 - **WEDNESDAY 13** (RED 7), 3/1 - **BRIGHT BLACK MORNING LIGHT** (MOHAWK), 3/3 - **ARMS AND SLEEPERS** (RED 7), 3/3 - **THANK YOU** (MOHAWK), 3/5 - **KOOL KEITH** (MOHAWK), 3/6 - **PLANTS AND ANIMALS** (MOHAWK), 3/13 - **AMODA** (MOHAWK), 3/14 - **ATX EMERGE** (MOHAWK), 3/15-20 - **SXSW** (ALL VENUES), 4/4 - **CLEM SNIDE/BROKEN WEST** (MOHAWK), 4/10 - **ARIEL PINK'S HAUNTED GRAFFITI/ VIVIAN GIRLS** (MOHAWK), 4/17 - **DENGUE FEVER** (MOHAWK), 4/17 - **DAN DEACON** (LONGHORN CAVERNS)

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Antone's



EY

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 05

KEVIN COSTNER
& MODERN WEST



WITH
PAULA NELSON

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FRIDAY FEBRUARY 06

STATE RADIO
& REBELUTION



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SATURDAY FEB 07 EARLY

ASLEEP
at the wheel

AND THE LARGE BAND
WITH A VERY SPECIAL GUEST



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SATURDAY FEB 07 • 10PM

BOB SCHNEIDER



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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5

PATRICE PIKE & JOY DAVIS 8:00 \$8
DIME STORE POETS 10:00 \$8
DERRICK DAVIS 12:30 \$5
No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 **JAMES HAND**

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 6

MICKY AND THE MOTORCARS
9:00 SHOW \$10 COVER
GOLDCURE 11:00 \$10
SHURMAN 12:30 \$10
No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 **THE REGULARS**

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7

FLASHBACK
WITH BRUCE BOWLAND 10:30 \$10
VAN WILKS 12:00 \$10
porter davis 8:00 \$10
BEAUTIFUL MISTAKES 3-5 pm No Cover

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8

JOEL GUZMAN & SARAH FOX 8:00 \$5
BOBBY WHITLOCK & COCO CARMEL 10:15 \$10
THE SALINGERS / UNCLE LUCIUS 12:00 \$5 / 5:00 NO COVER

MONDAY FEBRUARY 9

BOB SCHNEIDER'S LONELYLAND 8:30 \$10
MATT THE ELECTRICIAN 7:00 \$10
JEFF PLANKENHORN 11:00 \$5
DEL ROSSI 12:30 \$5

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 10

SHURMAN 10:00 \$5
AUSTIN COLLINS & THE RAINBIRDS 12:00 \$5
JONNY BURKE 8:00 \$5
5:30 No Cover Happy Hour **ROBBIE & THE ROGUES**

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11

JAMES HYLAND
FROM THE JUG BAND - 10:00 \$7
LARRY WILSON 8:00 \$5
STEWART MANN & THE STATESBORO REVUE 12:00 \$5
No Cover Happy Hour 6:00 **BO PORTER**

FEB 27 - RODNEY CROWELL & MICHAEL MARTIN MURPHEY

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 08

With Love to Moms
A BENEFIT FOR ELIZABETH PARR
DALE WATSON
ALPHA REV'S **CASEY McPHERSON**
LUCKY TUBB
& THE MODERN DAY THOUSANDS
VAN WILKS
MINGO FISHTRAP
DOORS 5 SHOW 6
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

MONDAY FEB 09 | DOORS 7 - SHOW 8

COME DANCE TO FUNK & BLUES
W/ MIKE FLANIGAN • DEREK O'BRIEN
KAZ • FROSTY • RONNIE JAMES
WITH **SPENCER THOMAS BAND**
ERIN JAIMES BAND

WEDNESDAY FEB 11 | 10PM SHOW

girl guitar

TUESDAY FEB 10

COREY SMITH
with Shane Hines & the Trance
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 12 • EARLY

PINETOP PERKINS
& AN ALL STAR BAND
DERK O'BRIEN • GARY CLARK JR
CHRIS LAYTON • SCOTT NELSON
WELCOME HOME FROM THE GRAMMYS
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THU 12 FEB LATER **nelo**

SUNDAY FEB 15

MARCIA BALL'S BIG BIRTHDAY BASH
WITH THE SUNSET VALLEY BOYS
& LOTS OF REALLY SPECIAL GUESTS
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THURSDAY FEB 19

GORILLA VS. BEAR PRESENTS
LYKKE LI
with SARAH JAFFE
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FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20 *with 94*

MISSY HIGGINS AND **JUSTIN NOZUKA**
WITH SPECIAL GUEST **LENKA**
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SATURDAY FEBRUARY 21

GARY CLARK JR
BAVU BLAKES
& THE EXTRA FLAIRS
with DJ BABY G
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WEDNESDAY FEB 18

KALU JAMES
ROBIN SMITH
JAMES MORAN

WED FEBRUARY 25 • KCSA PRESENTS

SON VOLT
WITH DOUG BURR
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SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28

ROGER CLYNE & THE PEACEMAKERS
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FRIDAY APRIL 3RD

ROBYN HITCHCOCK & THE VENUS 3
ON SALE SAT FEB 7 • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRIDAY APRIL 10

Railroad Earth
SPRING 2009
W/ SPLIT LIP RAYFIELD
ON SALE SAT JAN 31 • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 27

KELLER WILLIAMS
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRI 06 MAR

DEL CASTILLO
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SAT 07 MAR

JUNIOR BROWN
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WEDNESDAY
& THURSDAY
6:30 - 9 PM
SUNDAY
12:30 - 3 PM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6
TEXAS EASTSIDE KINGS
texas blues legends

Art opening by Inonge Khabele-Stevens & Carla "Nade" Nickerson:
African American art display in honor of Black History month

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7
**FLYING BALALAIKA
BROTHERS**
russian bluegrass

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8
MANO SECRETA
world music, jazz

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13
LETICIA RODRIGUEZ
mexican boleros

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5
LUCKY STRIKES
swing

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8
**DAVID WEBB &
TONY CAMPISE** *jazz*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11
**MARSHALL FORD
SWING BAND**
swing

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12
**RIDGETOP
SYNCOPTERS**
western swing

upcoming at central park:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14
6:30 - 9pm

Central Market &
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present a romantic
Valentine's Day Show

SPACE IS LIMITED. TO RESERVE YOUR SEATS, FOR MENU AND OTHER INFORMATION,
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includes a special four-course Valentine's Day menu made just for this occasion!
Wine & Food pairings by Executive Chef Larry Guilbeau and Wine Expert Seth Pollard.

club listings

THU 05

311 CLUB Joe Valentine (9:30)

ACES LOUNGE Pleasure Fest

THE AMSTERDAM Jackie Bristow, Noelle Hampton (9:00)

ANTONE'S Paula Nelson, Kevin Costner & Modern West

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Lone Star Swing

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Espantapajaros, the Ramifications

AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Eric Hutchison, O.A.R. (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Tessmer

BEERLAND Hex Dispensers, Jail, the Golden Boys

THE BELMONT Jeff Lofton Quartet (9:00), DJ Veg (10:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Shawn Nelson

BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton

THE BROWN BAR DJ Gmau

CACTUS CAFE Jimmy LaFave (8:30)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Lucky Strikes (6:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Honeybrowne

CONTINENTAL CLUB Woodsboss (6:30), Leo Rondeau, the Lonesome Heroes, Clay Nightingale (10:00)

COOL RIVER CAFE Newsboyz

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND PRINTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. Acts are listed chronologically. Schedules are subject to change, so call clubs to confirm lineups. Start times are provided where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: Music listings deadline is Monday mornings, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Please indicate roadshows and residencies. Send venue name, address, phone, acts, and start times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; phone, 454-5766 x159; e-mail, clubs@austinchronicle.com.

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.

roadshows

february

THU 5

Kevin Costner & Modern West, Antone's

Espantapajaros, Austin Moose Lodge No. 1735

O.A.R., Eric Hutchison, Austin Music Hall

Las Brujas, Emo's

Fresh Air Show, Stro, Flamingo Cantina

Cory Branan, Mohawk

Fulton Read, Triple Crown

Ashes of Babylon, Flamingo Cantina

Chris Knight, Gruene Hall

The Hangouts, Hole in the Wall

Brave Combo, Jovita's

Susan Tedeschi, James Hunter, La Zona Rosa

The Applesed Cast, True Widow, Mohawk

Larry Butler, Poodie's Hilltop Bar & Grill

The Vandals, Red 7

Pasadena Napalm Division, Whorehound, Room 710

Focus Group, Scoot Inn & Bier Garten

Cleric, Pools, Snake Eyes Vinyl

Z-Ro, Spiros

The Bridge, Stubb's

SUN 8

Cody Canada, Cheatham Street Warehouse

Straight Line Stitch, Occam's Razor, Emo's

Bexar County Bastards, Dirty Callahans, Headhunters

Devotchka, Crooked Fingers, La Zona Rosa

Don Caballero, DD/MM/YYYY, Red 7

Dave Barnes, the Orbans, Drew Holcomb, Stubb's

MON 9

Andy McKee, Cactus Cafe

The Whiskey Priest, Carousel Lounge

Battle Rifle, Branch Davidian, Emo's

TUE 10

Opia, Headhunters

The Music Tapes, Nana Grizol, Brian Dewan, Mohawk

Shurman, Saxon Pub

WED 11

Corey Smith, Antone's

Ouachita, the Belmont

Fred Eaglesmith, Cactus Cafe

Maps of Asia, Voluptuous Tusk, Carousel Lounge

Streetlight Manifesto, the Swellers, the Stitch Up, Valencia, Houston Calls, Artist vs. Poet, Chandeliers, Emo's

Triggermen, Flamingo Cantina

Matt Wilson, Key Bar

Duncan Shiek, One World Theatre

Sean McConnell, Stubb's

Andrew Bird, Waterloo Records

THU 12

Smiling Knights, Austin Moose Lodge No. 1735

Dead Space, Beerland

Ryan Malot, Noah Sugerman, Carousel Lounge

Geno Delafosse & the French Rockin' Boogie, Continental Club

Mad Professor, Macka B, Flamingo Cantina

Physics of Meaning, Hole in the Wall

Canvas Waiting, Mohawk

Smile Smile, Momo's

Andrew Bird, Loney Dear, Paramount Theatre

Whiskey Folk Ramblers, Triple Crown

for your benefit

THU 05

Children of Israel and Gaza Benefit w/ Sara Hickman, Jenny Reynolds, Barbara K, **Ruta Maya**

FRI 06

NORML Benefit, Bob Marley Birthday w/ McPulich, Contrabandits, the Raspas, Tribal Nation, **Ruta Maya**

SAT 07

Greyhound Pets of America Benefit w/ Greg Whitfield, **Zilker Park Clubhouse**

SUN 08

Elizabeth Parr Benefit w/ Van Wilks, Lucky Tubb & the Modern Day Troubadours, Casey McPherson, Dale Watson, Mingo Fishtrap, **Antone's**

Cheatham Street Music Foundation Benefit w/ Cody Canada, Tom Gilliam, John Artur Martinez, Terri Hendrix, **Cheatham Street Warehouse**

MON 09

Cheatham Street Music Foundation Benefit w/ WaitWilkins, Brandon Rhyder, Big John Mills, Gurf Morlix, **Cheatham Street Warehouse**

WED 11

Chipaota Project Benefit w/ Ouachita, **the Belmont**

See austinchronicle.com
for complete listings.

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SUN MAR 1

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PRETENDERS
RE-ARRANGE - GEN CRITIC

WITH AMERICAN BANG
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FRI MAR 6

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IN THE CLUB

THU FEB 5 — DOORS 9PM
MAGNETSCHOOL
WITH **NAKED EMPIRE** AND **LANGUAGEROOM**

FRI FEB 6 — DOORS 11:30PM
JOHNNY GOUDIE
CD RELEASE PARTY WITH **SUZANNA CHOFFEL**

SAT FEB 7 — DOORS 9PM
THE BRIDGE

SAT FEB 8 — DOORS 9PM
DAVE BARNES
WITH **DREW HOLCOMB** AND **THE ORBANS**

WED FEB 11 — DOORS 9PM
SEAN MCCONNELL

THU FEB 12 — DOORS 9PM
AMY ANNELLE
WITH **CONJUTOLOSPINKYS** AND **OLIVER RAJAMANI**

FRI FEB 13 — DOORS 9PM
ANTI-VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY
HOUSEHOLD NAMES
WITH **DRAWING BOARD** AND **WIRE TREE**

SAT FEB 14 — DOORS 11:30PM
THE BLUE HIT
FREE WITH WRISTBAND FROM CITIZEN COPE

WED FEB 18 — DOORS 9PM
JONATHAN TYLER & THE NORTHERN LIGHTS
WITH **THE STEPS**

THU FEB 19 — DOORS 9PM
FRANK SMITH
WITH **MOONLIGHT TOWERS** AND **THE GEORGIAN COMPANY**

FRI FEB 20 — DOORS 9PM
10TH ANNIVERSARY TEXAS ROCKFEST KICKOFF PARTY FEATURING
DREM N'THE END
WITH **MONTE MONTGOMERY**, **EMBER AND VINYL DHARMA** WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

SAT FEB 21 — DOORS 9PM
SOUNDS UNDER RADIO
WITH **FLAWLESSESCAPE** AND **LIVE OAK DECLINE**

WED FEB 25 — DOORS 9PM
ODIS
WITH **THE CAMPAIGN** AND **THE CUTOFF**

WED MAR 4

MODEST MOUSE
PLUS SPECIAL GUEST **MIMICKING BIRDS**

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SAT MAR 7

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TUE MAR 31

NEKO CASE
MIDDLE Cyclone
WITH **SHEARWATER**

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FRI APR 3

YONDER MOUNTAIN STRING BAND
SPRING TOUR 2009

TIX ON SALE SAT 2/7 STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

SAT APR 4

SLIGHTLY DISOBD

TIX ON SALE NOW THRU STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

TUE APR 7

RATATA!

TIX ON SALE SAT 2/7 STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRI APR 10 & SAT APR 11

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MON 2/9 **BETH LEE**

TUE 2/10 **JACK HIGGINBOTHAM**

WED 2/11 **ERIC HISAW**

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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM THURSDAY

COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)

CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Scary Mondelos

DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet

ELEPHANT ROOM Silvie Rider (6:00), Justin Vasquez Project (9:30)

ELYSIUM Stockholm Syndrome

EMO'S Outside: 30-Yard Stare, Al Shire & the Henchmen, Sunglasses & Mushrooms; Inside: Las Brujas, Loxsly, Corto Maltese, Oh No Oh My

EVANGELINE CAFE Liz Morphis (7:00)

THE FIFTH GALLERY DJ John Gomi & Beatimprint (9:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Automatic Friends, Stro, Notes Floats, Fresh Air Show (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (8:00)

HEADHUNTERS Funk G., Below the Salt, Wino Vino, Electric Mountain Rotten Apple Gang

HOLE IN THE WALL Time Out

JOVITA'S The Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)

LA PALAPA Jonas Alvarez

LAMBERTS DJ Mel (10:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Eagle Pritchard Murray, MC Overlord (10:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Phil Brown (6:00)

MOHAWK Cory Branan, Monahans, Will Johnson (10:00)

MOMO'S Adopted Highway, Nakia & His Southern Cousins, Shimli (8:00)

MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)

NORTH BY NORTHWEST RESTAURANT & BREWERY Jim Bryant

THE OLD COUPLAND INN & DANCEHALL Steve Power (8:00)

PANGAEA LIVE Grupo Fantasma Grammy Send-Off

THE PARLOR Twangzilla (9:00)

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Nathan Hamilton (8:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Sol Surfers, Mark Allen Atwood (6:00)

RAINBOW CATTLE CO. Dad's Happy Hour w/ DJ Bobbie & Mary (3:00)

RED FEZ DJ Rapid Ric, Mike Maven & the Good Life (8:30)

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Doug Warriner & His Only Band

RUTA MAYA Children of Israel and Gaza Benefit w/ Sara Hickman, Jenny Reynolds, Barbara K (8:00)

SAXON PUB James Hand (6:00)

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN JWW & the Prospectors, Dave Insley's Careless Smokers (9:00)

SEGOVIA SPANISH RESTAURANT Zee Rock, Dale Spaulding (7:30)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL 11th Hour

STUBB'S Language Room, Naked Empire, Magnet School

TRIPLE CROWN Ricky Stein, Fulton Read, Kallisti Gold

TROPHY'S Two Hoots & a Holler, Dave Sprauer Power Hour

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE DOWNTOWN The Hudsons (7:00)

ZTEJAS Kat's Meow

ACES LOUNGE PK Trio, Southern Sirens

THE AMSTERDAM Suede (9:00)

ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Fabulous Chelvelles

ANTONE'S Rebelution, State Radio (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE George Enslé

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Joe Richardson

BEERLAND Izzy Cox, Reverend Glasseye, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5, the Dirty Hearts

THE BELMONT DJ Veg (10:00)

BOTTICELLI'S The Just Desserts

'BOUT TIME DJ Element

BROKEN SPOKE The Derailers

CACTUS CAFE Tom Russell (8:30)

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Mad Cowboys (7:00), New Found Glory Hole, Russell Beach, Gracias Holmes (9:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Texas Eastside Kings (6:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Texas Renegade

CONTINENTAL CLUB The Blues Specialists (6:30), the Jungle Rockers, Jade Idol, Barfield (10:00)

COOL RIVER CAFE The Sophisticates

COTTON CLUB People's Choice

DARWIN'S PUB Trent Turner & the Mootowers (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet

ELEPHANT ROOM T. Jarrod Bonta, the Brew

EMO'S Inside: Pillow Queens, Diagonals, Cavedweller 7-inch Release, Shapes Have Fangs; Outside: Pretty Things Peep Show

LAMBERTS Kat's Meow (7:00), James Kinney, Adrian Hibbs, DJ Causeone (10:30)

LOUIE'S 106 Kenny Luna (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Alex Henley, DJ Diamond Tip (9:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (6:00)

MOHAWK Fashion Freakout 2 w/ DJ Bigface, DJ Tweedy, Jason McNeely, Hacienda (8:00), Silver Pines, AU (10:00)

MOMO'S Kalu James

MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Bri Bagwell (5:00)

MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)

NORTH BY NORTHWEST RESTAURANT & BREWERY Rick Hornyak

ONE WORLD THEATRE The Sax Pak (7:30, 9:30)

THE PARLOR The Wrong Ones, the Lash Outs, Flash Boys (9:00)

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Texana Dames

PLUSH Hump! w/ Reverend Pain & El Cocinero (10:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Doug Kent, Jamie Richards

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

RED 7 Total Abuse, the Strange Boys, Monotonix

RED EYED FLY Item 84, the Mansfields, Base, Rude Rachel, Oak Is Keeping

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Welson Henson & the Hired Guns

ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Rob Greenfield, Ephraim Owens

RUTA MAYA NORML Benefit w/ McPulich, Contrabandits, the Raspas, Tribal Nation (9:30)

SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:00)

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Love Collector, Serious Tracers, the Gospel Truth (9:00)

SEGOVIA SPANISH RESTAURANT Philip's Songwriter Roundtable (8:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Radiostar

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Third Steele (9:00)

STARDUST CLUB Bud Robbins

STUBB'S Outside: Disco Biscuits, Gov't Mule; Inside Later: Suzanna Choffel, Johnny Goudie CD Release

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Bitu Blue

THUNDERBIRD COFFEE HOUSE Rich & the Obits (9:30)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)

THE Parish

EMBER DEE JER CRIMSON ENVY FRI 06 FEB

RING THE ALARM "THE CARRIBEAN BASHMENT" JAH MIGHTY DJ BABY G & JR. VIBES ON THE MIC SAT 07 FEB & EVERY 1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH!

WED TEXAS' FASTEST 11 BARTENDER CONTEST! FEB \$700 FOR 1ST PLACE, \$300 FOR 2ND EMAIL: DJAYPORT@VAHDO.COM 4 ENTRY

WED 11 FEB THE BLUE HIT SNARKY PUPPY OSO CLOSO

THU BERNARD/MARTIN ENT. 12 ANNIVERSARY PARTY FEB KALU JAMES, KARI K, ELR

FRI 13 FEB 101X NEXT BIG THING PRESENTS: ANNUALS JESSICA LEA MAYFIELD WHAT LAURA SAYS

SAT 14 FEB D-MADNESS CD RELEASE BRANNEN TEMPLE QUARTET, DJ RAPID RIC, FEAT. BAVU BLAKES

JOSHUA RADIN LIVE IN CONCERT MON 09 FEB

MEIKO MON 09 FEB

JESSE HARRIS

UPCOMING SHOWS:
2/17: Link Austin 2/18: 101X Home Grown Chill w/ Govinda, OHN, & Shuttle Debris 2/19: WILD LIFE w/ Richard Gear, Joshua Distance, & King Louie 2/20: Matt Wertz w/ The Alternate Routes 2/21: Rock the Casbah w/ DJ MEL 2/26: Illusionist Electric Orchestra w/ DJ Manny 2/27: Moving Matter w/ Toast, Funkotron, & Fatty Lumpkin 2/28: Pnuma Trio Live PA Set w/ Big Gigantic 3/5: EOTO 3/6: Bluetech w/ OTT 3/7: Ring The Alarm 3/12: William Stidham Art Show/HAMM Benefit 3/13: Papa Mali Trio 3/14: Eliot Lipp w/ Michna 3/16: 20x2 3/17: The Egg w/ 20:20 Soundsystem & Kraak and Smaak 3/18-22: SXSW! 3/28: Jacob Fred Jazz Oddessey

FRI 06

ACES LOUNGE PK Trio, Southern Sirens

THE AMSTERDAM Suede (9:00)

ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Fabulous Chelvelles

ANTONE'S Rebelution, State Radio (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE George Enslé

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Joe Richardson

BEERLAND Izzy Cox, Reverend Glasseye, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5, the Dirty Hearts

THE BELMONT DJ Veg (10:00)

BOTTICELLI'S The Just Desserts

'BOUT TIME DJ Element

BROKEN SPOKE The Derailers

CACTUS CAFE Tom Russell (8:30)

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole

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CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Texas Eastside Kings (6:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Texas Renegade

CONTINENTAL CLUB The Blues Specialists (6:30), the Jungle Rockers, Jade Idol, Barfield (10:00)

COOL RIVER CAFE The Sophisticates

COTTON CLUB People's Choice

DARWIN'S PUB Trent Turner & the Mootowers (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet

ELEPHANT ROOM T. Jarrod Bonta, the Brew

EMO'S Inside: Pillow Queens, Diagonals, Cavedweller 7-inch Release, Shapes Have Fangs; Outside: Pretty Things Peep Show

EVANGELINE CAFE Larry Lange & the Lonely Knights (10:00)

SAT 07

THE AMSTERDAM Farmer Tan Funk Band (9:00)

ANTONE'S Asleep at the Wheel, Bob Schneider

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Central Texas Bluegrass Association

Cactus 23RD & GUADALUPE
475-6515

Celebrating 30 Cactus Years!

THUR • FEB 5 • 8:30PM
CACTUS LA FAVORITE
JIMMY LAFAVE
\$10.00

FRI • FEB 6 • 9PM
THE JUAREZ MATADOR
TOM RUSSELL

SAT • FEB 7 • 8:30PM
ONE SHOW ONLY!
JOE ELY
WITH **JOEL GUZMAN**
GUEST STAR • **ROSIE FLORES**
ADV TIX @ HEBs AND ERWIN CENTER BOX OFFICE
477-6060 OR TEXASBOXOFFICE.COM

MON • FEB 9 • 8:30PM
GUITAR WONDER • YOU TUBE SENSATION
ANDY MCKEE

TUE • FEB 10 • 7:30PM • FREE SHOW!
CACTUS NEW BLOOD
GRAHAM WEBER • DANA FALCONBERRY
BETTY SOO • LEATHERBAG
SOUTHPAW JONES
FREE SHOW!

WED • FEB 11 • 8:30PM
AN EVENING WITH
FRED EAGLESMITH & HIS BAND
GUEST STAR • SOUTHPAW JONES

THUR & FRI • FEB 12 & 13
THE CACTUS RETURN OF
ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO
ADV TIX @ HEBs AND ERWIN CENTER BOX OFFICE
477-6060 OR TEXASBOXOFFICE.COM

SAT • FEB 14 • 8:30PM
VALENTINE'S SOIREE • COME LOVE & COME ALL
TERRI HENDRIX
ADV TIX @ HEBs AND ERWIN CENTER BOX OFFICE
477-6060 OR TEXASBOXOFFICE.COM

WED • FEB 17 • 8:30PM
MONTE MONTGOMERY

WED • FEB 18 • 8:30PM
IAN MOORE
cactus.union.utexas.edu

2.18	ELYZA GILKYSON SLAID CLEAVES BRUCE ROBISON	2.24	MARY GAUTHIER 2.26-27 GUY CLARK ADV TIX @ TEXASBOXOFFICE.COM
2.20	CHRIS SMITHER	2.28	STEVE FORBERT
2.21	AUSTIN LOUNGE LIZARDS	3.1-2	RICHARD THOMPSON
2.22	PETER ROWAN		

23rd & Guadalupe • 475-6515

The Cactus is located inside the Texas Union. Happy Hour is 4-7pm, Monday-Friday. Tickets @ the door & all shows @ 9pm unless otherwise noted.
23rd & Guadalupe • 475-6515.

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alternative lounging
505-8541
603 RED RIVER

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5
INSIDE: **FREE SHOW**
JOEL'S B-DAY CELEBRATION
OH NO OH MY • CORTO MALTESE
LOXSLY • LAS BRUJAS
OUTFLOOR:
SUNGLASSES & MUSHROOMS
AL SHIRE & THE HENCHMEN • THIRTY YARD STARE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6
INSIDE: **SHAPES HAVE FANGS**
CAVEDWELLER (SPLIT 7" RELEASE PARTY)
DIAGONALS • PILLOW QUEENS
OUTSIDE:
THE PRETTY THINGS
PEEPSHOW
A VINTAGE BURLESQUE SIDESHOW
7PM & 10:30PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7
OUTSIDE:
THE Z-RO KING OF THE GHETTO SHOW HAS
MOVED TO SPIRO'S (ADV. TIX STILL AVAILABLE
AT EMOSAUSTIN.COM)
INSIDE:
NEILIYO • DJ JAUNTY & GAL PAL
HYPE HEADZ DJ MARKUS IN BETWEEN SETS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8
INSIDE:
STRAIGHT LINE STITCH • OCCAM'S RAZOR

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9
BOTH STAGES: (NO COVER)
TERRY SNOW'S PUNK ROCK BINGO SHOW
(NOW WITH BANDS!) **BATTLE RIFLE**
SODOMMERHA • BRANCH DAVIDIAN
CHEST PAIN

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10
INSIDE: **PRAYER FOR ANIMALS**
THE ARCHIBALDS
THE SOUR NOTES • THE BUBBLES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11
OUTSIDE:
STREETLIGHT MANIFESTO
AWS • THE SWELLERS • THE STITCH UP
INSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM:
VALENCIA • HOUSTON CALLS
ARTIST VS. POET • CHANDELIERS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12
INSIDE:
HILLGRASS BLUEBILLY PRESENTS
REVEREND PEYTON'S BIG DAMN BAND
POSSESSED BY PAUL JAMES
TOM VANDENAVOND
OUTFLOOR:
SILVER PINES • JC & CO
DIJ REMY MAC (RAMESH FROM VOXTROT)
INTERNATIONAL WATERS
DANS LA LUNE • WINE & REVOLUTION

BUY TICKETS IN ADVANCE* SHOWS ARE SELLING OUT!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13
INSIDE:
(THE BLACK ANGELS SIDE PROJECTS NIGHT)
THE VIET MINH • CHRISTIAN BLAND
& THE REVELATORS • THE SHINE BROTHERS
THE TUNNELS
OUTFLOOR:
HIGH TENSION WIRES
THE GOLDEN BOYS
CAUSE FOR APPLAUSE • THE GOSPEL TRUTH

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14
INSIDE: 1 COVER, 2 STAGES
SPEEDEALER • BUZZCRUSHER
(CD RELEASE)
SHIT CITY HIGH • BLOWER
OUTFLOOR:
TOTAL FAGGOTS • BABY DICK
THE FLOOD • THE DIKINS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15
INSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM:
MILLIONAIRES
CASH CASH • I SET MY FRIENDS ON FIRE
WATCH OUT! THERE'S GHOSTS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16
INSIDE, DOORS AT 6PM: **MYCHILDREN MYBRIDE**
THE GHOST INSIDE • FOR TODAY
BROADCAST THE NIGHTMARE • NEWLYWED

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17
INSIDE, DOORS @ 6PM:
FIGHT FAIR (TRIPLE CROWN)
SCHOOL BOY HUMOR • THE FACTORY PARTY
THE DIVING CAPTAIN • HEY, ZEUS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18
OUTSIDE:
HANK III & ASSJACK
THOSE POOR BASTARDS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19
INSIDE: **ALL THE SAINTS**
W/ MANY BIRTHDAYS & PILLOW QUEENS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20
INSIDE:
GIL MANTERA'S PARTY DREAM
W/ THE LAUGHING & NEILIYO
OUTFLOOR:
DISTANT SECONDS • MIDGETMEN
DEAF EARS • SAD ACCORDIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21
INSIDE:
A.A. BONDY
BOOHER & THE TURKEYZ
JESSE WOODS
OUTFLOOR:
THE SECRET HANDSHAKE • THE
CHAIN GANG OF 1974 • THE ALWAYS READY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25
INSIDE:
BUILT BY SNOW WITH THE AUTHORS
THE DIVING CAPTAIN
OUTFLOOR:
RINGO DEATHSTARR
TOUR KICK-OFF SHOW
CRY BLOOD APACHE
RED LEAVES • THE DEAD SPACE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26
INSIDE: **ATX ELLE ACOUSTIQUE**
KRISTY LEE (MOBILE, ALA.) AND MORE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27
INSIDE: **FUJIYA & MIYAGI**
PROJECT JENNY, PROJECT JAN
OUTFLOOR:
CRUISERWEIGHT • SCHATZI

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28
INSIDE: **101X PRESENTS:**
DELTA SPIRIT • OTHER LIVES • DAWES
OUTSIDE:
INVISIBLE CHILDREN BENEFIT
CORTO MALTESE • THE DIVING CAPTAIN
ZLAM DUNK • THE BLOWING TREES

SUNDAY, MARCH 1
OUTFLOOR EARLY: **THE FACELESS**
ARSIS • MISERY INDEX
TONY DANZA TAPDANCE EXTRAVAGANZA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4
INSIDE: **PEOPLE FOOD** CD RELEASE

THURSDAY, MARCH 5
INSIDE: **KISS FM PRESENTS**
THE WHITE TIE AFFAIR
W/ FURTHEST FROM THE STAR
GO ACTION TEAM

FRIDAY, MARCH 6
INSIDE:
WHEN DINOSAURS RULED THE EARTH
WOODGRAIN • FOLLOW THAT BIRD
AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS

SATURDAY, MARCH 7
fye
TAKEACTION
YOUR TOUR
CUTE IS WHAT WE AIM FOR
meg & dia
BREATHE
EVERY
INSIDE: **HIGH WATT CRUCIFIXERS**
IGNITOR • YEAR OF THE KID • BAT CASTLE

*3/8 LUDO, SING IT LOUD, THIS PROVIDENCE, THE MORNING LIGHT (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 3/10 TIM BARRY, AUSTIN LUCAS, JOSH SMALL, BROKEN GOLD (ACOUSTIC SET) (INSIDE) • 3/11 THE BUZZKILLERS, PRIDE LIKE LIONS, DUN BIN HAD, HEAD PANIC (INSIDE) • 3/28 STICK TO YOUR GUNS, SHAI HULLUD, IN FEAR & FAITH, STRAY FROM THE PATH, KATSUMOTO, NO BRAGGING RIGHTS (EARLY, OUTFLOOR - SHOW, DOORS @ 3PM) • 4/7 101X PRESENTS NEW FOUND GLORY W/ BAYSIDE (OUTSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 4/10 STEREO TOTAL AND LESLIE AND THE LY'S (OUTSIDE, ONSALE SAT 2/7) • 4/12 A SKYLIT DRIVE, DANCE GAVIN DANCE, ATTACK ATTACK!, IN FEAR AND FAITH AND LOWER DEFINITION (ON SALE NOW) • 4/14 101X PRESENTS BRIAN JONESTOWN MASSACRE (OUTSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 4/17 THAT 1 GUY (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 4/24 THE KILLS W/THE HORRORS AND MAGIC WANDS (OUTSIDE, ONSALE SAT 2/7) • 4/25 ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE W/ SONIC SUICIDE SQUAD (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW)

*ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT emosoastin.com, Waterloo Records, End of an Ear records & Sound on Sound records

The Continental Club

THUR FEB 5
HAPPY HOUR
WOODSBOSS
12:30AM
CLAY NIGHTINGALE
11PM
LONESOME HEROES
Leo Rondeau
10PM
FRIDAY FEB 6
H. H. THE LEGENDARY
BLUES SPECIALISTS

MONDAY FEB 9
HAPPY HOUR
Oliver Giraud's Continental Graffiti
DALE WATSON 10PM
AND HIS LONESTARS
TUESDAY FEB 10
H. H. 6:30
ELECTRIC PLANET
WITH EARL B., GLENN F. & JOHN H.
10PM
FROGLEG WITH
GARY CLARK JR., ANTHONY FARRELL,
SCOTT NELSON, & CHRIS "WHISPER" LAUTON
WEDNESDAY FEB 11
H. H. 12:30AM
GUY FORSYTH
JAMES MCMURTRY 11:15PM

THUR FEB 12
HAPPY HOUR
WOODSBOSS
11:30PM
THE JADE IDOL
10PM
JUNGLE ROCKERS
SATURDAY FEB 7
MATINEE 3-7PM
CONTINENTAL GRAFFITI
12AM
MARIO MATTEOLI
12AM
FRIDAY FEB 13
HAPPY HOUR
THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS
Wayne Hancock
12AM
WOODSBOSS
10PM
SATURDAY FEB 14
MATINEE 3-7PM
REDD VOLKAERT
12AM
LOS FABULOCOS GO RELEASE PARTY
10PM
KID ROMAS
SETH WALKER

BARFIELD
12:30AM
TIRANT OF TX FUNK

COMING SOON
2/15 **pat mAdonald** AND **2/19 BAND OF HEATHENS** AND **2/24 FAT TUESDAY w/ TONI PRICE**
8PM 7PM

HEYBALE 10PM
W/ REDD VOLKAERT AND EARL POOLE BALL

CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

- CLUB LISTINGS FROM SATURDAY**
- AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET**
DOWNTOWN Austin Family Jewels (10:00am)
- B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Hosea Hargrove
- BEAUTY BAR** Handbrake, Bridges & Blinking Lights
- BEERLAND** Sean Reefer & the Resin Valley Boys, Flametrick Subs
- THE BELMONT** DJ Veg (10:00)
- BOTTICELLI'S** Condiment Sandwich
- 'BOUT TIME** DJ Element (9:00)
- BROKEN SPOKE** Bruce Robison
- THE BROWN BAR** DJ Gmau
- CACTUS CAFE** Rosie Flores, Joel Guzman, Joe Ely (8:30)
- THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke w/ Nicole
- CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Transgressors, Ariel Abshire, the Ugly Beats
- CENTRAL MARKET NORTH** Flying Balalaika Brothers (6:30)
- CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Micky & the Motorcars (9:00)
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** Olivier Giraud's Continental Graffiti (3:00), Mother Truckers, Mario Matteoli (10:00)
- COOL RIVER CAFE** Sprung
- COTTON CLUB** Kenny Orts
- DONN'S DEPOT** Nash Hernandez Orchestra
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Kat Edmonson
- ELEPHANT ROOM** Blaze (9:30)
- EMO'S** Hype Headz, DJ Jaunty & Gal Pal, Neiliyo
- END OF AN EAR** Mistress Stephanie & Her Melodic Cat (5:30)
- EVANGELINE CAFE** Sunset Valley Boys (3:00)
- FADÓ** The Blaggards (10:00)
- FLAMINGO CANTINA** Ashes of Babylon, Judge, Dubkids (9:00)
- GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Johnny Falstaff (9:00)
- GRUENE HALL** Cary Swinney (1:00), Chris Knight (9:00)
- HEADHUNTERS** Wolf Dog, Trash Rockets, the Earthtone Players, the Little Morts
- HOLE IN THE WALL** Head Panic, Sunglasses & Mushrooms, the Hangouts
- JOVITA'S** John, Brave Combo (6:00)
- LA FUENTES RESTAURANT & TEXAS BEER GARDEN** Funky Old Soul (7:00)
- LA ZONA ROSA** James Hunter, Susan Tedeschi (9:00)
- LAMBERTS** Marshall Ford Swing Band (7:00), Afrofreque, Chicken Strut, DJ Manolo Black (10:30)
- LOUIE'S 106** Kenny Luna (6:30)
- LUCKY LOUNGE** Uncle Bruno, DJ Protege (9:00)
- MOHAWK** Calm Blue Sea, True Widow, the Appleeed Cast (9:00), Rescue Mission, Motel Aviv (11:30)
- MOMO'S** Eleisha Eagle CD Release, Warren Hood, Tiny Tin Hearts, Marmalakes (8:00)
- MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN** Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (11:30am)
- NORTH BY NORTHWEST RESTAURANT & BREWERY** Stephen Doster & Bill Carter
- THE OFFICE LOUNGE** Lixbox
- ONE WORLD THEATRE** Shawn Colvin (7:30, 9:30)
- THE PARLOR** Blank Generation, the Homicides, A.P. (9:00)
- PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE** Roger Marin (8:00)
- POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Brooks Alan Brannon, Larry Butler
- RED 7** The Vandals
- RED FEZ** DJ Kurv (10:00)
- RENAISSANCE HOTEL** Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)
- RILEY'S TAVERN** Turbo 350
- ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN** Chris Bell Trio
- ROOM 710** Doom Siren, Condemned Unit, Whorehound, Pasadena Napalm Division
- RUTA MAYA** Paul Green School of Rock Music All-Stars (6:00), Walter Marciglio & Jose Jorge (9:30)
- SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR** Miss Bree & Rusty (7:30)
- SAXON PUB** Beautiful Mistakes (3:00), Bruce Bowland, Flashback, Van Wilks (8:00)

AIDS SERVICES OF AUSTIN PRESENTS

VIVA VEGAS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21
8PM - MIDNIGHT
AUSTIN MUSIC HALL

Fashion Show • Faux Gambling
Live and Silent Auctions • Fabulous Entertainment
Hors d'Oeuvres from Austin's Top Restaurants

Tickets \$50 in advance; \$60 at the door



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FEBRUARY 13



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PRESENTS

Etta James

AND THE ROOTS BAND

FRIDAY
APRIL 24TH
2009



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LIP SERVICE FRIDAY 9:30

SUEDE THURSDAY & SATURDAY 9:30

	HAPPY HOUR 6-8	HEADLINERS 9:30
THU 5	BRYAN ANDREW LEE	suede
FRI 6	TRENT DURHAM BAND	LIP SERVICE
SAT 7		suede
SUN 8		RIVAL CITY
MON 9	IN THESE SHOES	mike maven & the good life
TUE 10	GRAND HOTEL	THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION
WED 11	JOSH & JASON	SPAZMATICS



209 W. 4th St. * Warehouse District * 495.9669

CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM SATURDAY

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Butcher Bear, Focus Group, Fresh Millions (9:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL LC Rocks

SNAKE EYES VINYL Grackle, Pools, Cleric (7:00)

SPIROS Z-Ro

STARDUST CLUB Rip Lorick

STUBB'S The Bridge

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Mirage Jazz Ensemble (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN The Word Association (9:00)

ZILKER PARK CLUBHOUSE Greyhound Pets of America Benefit w/ Greg Whitfield (6:00)

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ A.J. Kline (8:00)

CAFE CAFFEINE Steelbeam (5:00)

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Brian

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Mano Secreta (12:30)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Tony Campise & David Webb (12:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Cheatham Street Music Foundation Benefit w/ Cody Canada, Tom Gilliam, John Arthur Martinez, Terri Hendrix

CONTINENTAL CLUB Heybale! (10:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Red Young (9:30)

ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice

EMO'S Occam's Razor, Straight Line Stitch

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Jackie Bristow (8:00)

FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam (8:00)

GARRISON PARK HARBOR Patterson Barrett, Jimi Lee

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (4:00)

GREEN PASTURES Jacques Vilmain (11:00am)

GRUENE HALL Bret Graham (noon), Erik Hanke, Sarah Pierce (4:00)

HEADHUNTERS The Original Mexican Bob, Oklahomos, Dirty Callahans, Bexar County Bastards

HOLE IN THE WALL Electric Mountain Rotten Apple Gang, Wino Vino, Below the Salt (9:00)

JOVITA'S The Brew (7:00)

LA ZONA ROSA Crooked Fingers, Devotchka (9:00)

LAMBERTS Ephraim Owens, Brannen Temple, Red Young (7:00)

LATITUDE 30 Luke Jackson (9:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE OJ & the Broncos (10:00)

MANUELS Son y No Son (11:30am)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Jon Emery (10:30am), Rockin' Gospel Project (noon)

MOMO'S Milkdrive, Warren Hood, Jo Hell & the Red Roosters (8:00)

MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Open Mic w/ Chris Davis (4:00)

NUEVO LEÓN Mariachi Relampago (1:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00am)

THE PARLOR Fat Man & Little Boy (8:00)

THE PIER ON LAKE TRAVIS Open Mic (4:00)

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

RED 7 My Education, DD/MM/YYYY, Don Caballero

SUN 08

THE AMSTERDAM Austin Guitar School Student Showcase (2:00)

ANTONE'S Elizabeth Parr Benefit w/ Van Wilks, Lucky Tubb & the Modern Day Troubadours, Casey McPherson, Dale Watson, Mingo Fishtrap (7:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Out of the Blue, Friends of Traditional Music Records Nite (2:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tunes Session (8:00)

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 8-9PM **DANCE LESSONS**
 9PM **DALE WATSON**

THU, FEB 5 8-9PM **DANCE LESSONS**
 9PM **JESSE DAYTON**

FRI, FEB 6 **DERAILERS**

SAT, FEB 7 8-9PM **DANCE LESSONS**
 9PM **BRUCE ROBISON**

TUE, FEB 10 **BILLY GARZA** NO COVER

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SATURDAY, FEB. 7 **LES & THE FUNK MOB**

MONDAY, FEB. 9 **S.I.N. JONATHAN TERRELL**

TUESDAY, FEB. 10 **JACK VALEN**

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11 **LATIN WEDNESDAY THE BREW**
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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM SUNDAY

RED FEZ DJ Kurupt (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen

ROADHOUSE RAGS Milkdrive, Wisebird, La Tampiquena (6:00)

RUTA MAYA Ritmo 3 (7:00)

SAXON PUB The Resentments, Bobby Whitlock & CoCo Carmel, the Salingers (7:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D

STUBB'S The Durdens (11:00am), Drew Holcomb, the Orbans, Dave Barnes (10:00)

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Brunch w/ Danny Brooks & Joe Forlini (11:00am), Austin Friends of Traditional Music (2:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 360 Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE AT THE GROVE Jukebox Heroes

ZTEJAS Señor Gato

BOTTICELLI'S Jackie Bristow

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ A.J. Kline (9:00)

CACTUS CAFE Andy McKee (8:30)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Whiskey Priest

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Cheatham Street Music Foundation Benefit w/ Walt Wilkins, Brandon Rhyder, Big John Mills, Gurf Morlix

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Olivier Giraud's Continental Graffiti (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)

CORK & CO. Open Mic w/ Rocking G. (7:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Milkdrive (6:00), Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)

EMO'S Chest Pain, Branch Davidian, Sodommerha, Battle Rifle, Terry Snow's Punk Rock Bingo

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux (6:30)

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE T. Jarrod Bonta (8:00)

GRUENE HALL Bret Graham (6:00)

GUERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano (6:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Leo Rondeau, Mario Matteoli, Cayce Rose & the Mind Games, Dave Inasley, Brennen Leigh (8:00)

HYDE PARK THEATRE Eddy Hobizal (7:30)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LUCKY LOUNGE The Other Dudes, the Spoiled (10:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Robbie's Open Mic (9:00)

MOMO'S Jesse Sublett, Freedy Johnston, No Show Ponies, Andy McIntyre & the Primal Groove (7:00)

MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Bri Bagwell, Matt Powell (7:30)

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson & Joley Flowers

MUGSHOTS Open Mic w/ Acoustic Odyssey (8:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Ru Coleman & Texas Boogie

RED FEZ Komson (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Beth Lee

ROOM 710 Heart & Soul Sound System (8:00)

RUTA MAYA Dub Transistor w/ Dreadbeard & Gypsyzen (7:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Stormy Monday Open Blues Jam w/ Breck (8:00)

SAXON PUB Matt the Electrician, Bob Schneider, Jeff Plankenhorn (7:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Brent Wood

SPEAKEASY Jonathan Terrell

TRIPLE CROWN Robbie Doyen, Doomsday Device

MON 09

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Heard Showcase

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UPCOMING SHOWS
02.12: MAD PROFESSOR WITH MACKA B & DR. DUBBIST
02.13: LEROY SHAKESPEARE & SHIP OF VIBES, IRIE JANE
02.14: DORK FEST WITH MUCHOS BACKFLIPS, TORNADO EL PASO HEIST & CONDIMENT SANDWICH
02.18: MOONTICCA, ADRIAN & THE SICKNESS
02.19: FUGA!
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FRI 2/6 **BOB MARLEY'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!** TX NORMAL BENEFIT W/MCPULLISH, THE CONTRABANDITS, THE RASPAS & TRIBAL NATION 9:30PM-2AM

SAT 2/7 **SCHOOL "BEST OF SEASON" OF ROCK** 8PM-11PM **LATIN GRAMMY NOMINEE WALTER MARCIGLIO & JOSE JORGE!!!** 9:30PM-2AM

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MON 2/9 No Cover! 7 PM Dub Transistor
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TUE 2/10 TUESDAY OPEN MIKE - NO COVER!
6 PM Poetry - 9 PM Music
Happy Hour All Night Long!

WED 2/11 CUBAN DANCE NIGHT
FREE Salsa Lesson 7:30 PM
Live Salsa 9 PM with CIENFUEGOS

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THURSDAY, FEB. 5, 7PM
THE HUDSONS
FRIDAY, FEB. 6, 7PM
GERON HOY
SATURDAY, FEB. 7, 7PM
THE SLACKERY FAMILY BAND

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TUESDAY, FEB. 5, 7PM **SARAH PIERCE**
FRIDAY, FEB. 6, 7PM **POOR YORICK**
SATURDAY, FEB. 7, 7PM **WYNN TAYLOR**
SUNDAY, FEB. 8, JAZZ BRUNCH WITH
THE JEFF LOFTON QUARTET 11AM
JIMS COUNTRY JAM 7PM
TUESDAY, FEB. 10, 7PM **WILL DUNLAP**
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11, 7PM **PTARMIGAN**

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THURSDAY, FEB. 5, 7PM
GERON HOY
FRIDAY, FEB. 6, 7PM
JAMES ROBERT MURRAY

☆ **SOUTHPARK MEADOWS**
FRIDAY, FEB. 6, 10PM **WYNN TAYLOR**
SATURDAY, FEB. 7, 10PM **BOBBY KENNEDY**
SUNDAY, FEB. 8, 10PM
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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5

WENDY COLONNA⁸

NAKIA

& HIS SOUTHERN COUSINS 10

THE UPPER ECHELON 11:45

SHMU 12:45

ADOPTED HIGHWAY 9:15

PAUL WESLEY 7

NO COVER HAPPY HR SEADAR ROSE 5:15

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 6

RYAN MONTBLEAU BAND

9:15 // TIX AT WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

KALU JAMES 11:30

JOSH GRIDER TRIO 8

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7

WARREN HOOD 

TINY TIN HEARTS 11:45

MARMALAKES 1

ELEISHA EAGLE

CD RELEASE PARTY 8

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8

WARREN HOOD

& HIS HOODLUMS 9:30

MILKDRIVE 8

JOHELL & THE RED ROOSTERS 12:30

MONDAY FEBRUARY 9

FREEDY JOHNSTON 

ANDY MACINTYRE & PRIMAL GROOVE 12

NO SHOW PONIES 10:30

JESSE SUBLETT 7

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 10

THE VINCENTS 12

JARROD DICKENSON 10:30

GOLDCURE 9:30

DAVID NEWBOULD 8:15

DAVID SHEHANE 7

NO COVER HAPPY HR AUSTIN MAYSE 5:15

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11

 **DAN DYER** 10

ASYLUM STREET SPANKERS 8

ALLEN DANIELL 1

ANGEL FERRER 11:45

UPCOMING SHOWS

ASYLUM STREET SPANKERS

EVERY WEDNESDAY!!

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FRI 2/6

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PHILLIP'S SONGWRITER ROUNDTABLE 8P

SAT 2/7

PROF. GHULAM FARID NIZAMI - SITAR 8P

THE NEMATODES - SURF ROCK 10P

TUE 2/10 7P

GYPZEE HEART

W/ LEANNE ATHERTON & ZEE

WED 2/11 7:30P

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Thursday, Feb. 5
SOL SURFERS 6PM

MARK ALLEN ATWOOD 8PM

Friday, Feb. 6

JAMES RICHARDS BAND

DOUG KENT OPENER

Saturday, Feb. 7

LARRY BUTLER FEAT. KEITH MCCOY

BROOKS OPENER

Thursday, Feb. 12

MICHAEL WREN W/ LESTER MICKEN & DOUBLE TROUBLE 6PM

YELLOW LADY SLIPPER 10PM

Friday, Feb. 13

REID WILSON & HIS SO CALLED FRIENDS

WYNN TAYLOR OPENER

Saturday, Feb. 14

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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

TUE 10

ACES LOUNGE Cory
Morrow

ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday w/ Derek
O'Brien (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time
Fiddlers Jam (7:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne
Smith

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The
Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

BEERLAND Canary

THE BELMONT Dale Watson & His
Lone Stars (7:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Joe Faulhaber

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ A.J. Kline
(9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Billy Garza

CACTUS CAFE Graham Weber,
Dana Falconberry, Southpaw
Jones, Leatherbag, BettySoo
(7:30)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Alex Dupree &
the Trapdoor Band, Cocker
Spaniels (9:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE
Jordan Minor, Midnight River
Choir

CONTINENTAL CLUB Planet Casper
(6:30), Frogleg (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the
Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark
Goodwin Trio (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith
w/ Jon Doyle (6:00), Jon
Blondell Quartet (9:30)

ELYSIUM '90s Night w/ DJ Boba
Fett, DJ Minimus

EMO'S The Bubbles, the Sour
Notes, the Archibalds, Prayer
for Animals

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh
(6:00), Kevin Gallagher,
Greg Anderson (8:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik
Hokkanen's Laboratory (9:00)

FRIENDS Erin Jaimes Band (9:00)

GIDDY UPS Gregg Duffy

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON
Jim Stringer (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Roger Marin &
Mark Jungers (6:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano
(6:30)

HEADHUNTERS Rooster & the Kid,
Opia, the Steed

HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter
Night w/ Bill Rice

HOLE IN THE WALL The Bread

JOVITA'S Geron Hoy, Marshall
Ford Swing Band (6:30)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LAMBERTS The Jitterbug Vipers
(7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE DJ Rapid Ric,
Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa
(10:00)

MOHAWK Brian Dewan, Nana
Grizol, the Music Tapes

MOMO'S David Shehane,
Goldcure, Jarrod Dickenson,
the Vincents (7:00)

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Chicken
Dog (6:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL
Troubadillos

RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny
(10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Jack
Higginbotham

RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic,
Music Open Mic (6:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/
Erin & Michael (9:00)

SAXON PUB Robbie & the
Rogues (5:00), Jonny Burke,
Shurman, Austin Collins
(8:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae
Rae

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL
Five Ways From Sunday

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/
Paul

TRIPLE CROWN R.C. Banks, Paul
Benoit, Chris Chandler

TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Night
w/ Sunny Fairly

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 38TH STREET
Will Dunlap (7:00)

WATERLOO RECORDS Johnny
Goudie & the Little
Champions (5:00)

WED 11

THE AMSTERDAM Rick
Busby's Songwriter
Stage (6:00)

ANTONE'S Corey Smith (10:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Susan Gibson,
Elizabeth Wills (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735
Lonesome Dave Fisher (9:00)

AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz
Trio (8:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne
Smith

THE BELMONT Chipaota Project
Benefit w/ Ouachita (7:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Aimee Bobruk

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison,
Dale Watson

CACTUS CAFE Fred Eaglesmith
(8:30)

CANNOLI JOE'S Alex Coke (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Voluptuous
Tusk, Maps of Asia, Castro's
Beard

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Marshall
Ford Swing Band (6:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE
Kent Finlay's Songwriters
Circle (9:00)

CHEZ ZEE Jacinta (7:00)

THE COCKPIT Club Inclusive w/
Julie Nolan (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Guy Forsyth
(6:30), Jon Dee Graham,
James McMurtry (10:30)

CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/
the Cadaques (8:00)

DARWIN'S PUB Johnny Austin
(8:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the
Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kat
Edmonson (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs
(6:00), Jon Dee Graham,
James McMurtry (10:30)

ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ
Pumpkin Spice, DJ Edminister

EMO'S Inside: Chandeliers,
Artist vs. Poet, Houston
Calls, Valencia; Outside: The
Stitch Up, the Swellers, AWS,
Streetlight Manifesto

EVANGELINE CAFE Miranda Dawn
(7:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Automusik,
Triggermen (9:00)

GIDDY UPS Jane Bond & Will
Knaak, Open Blues Jam w/
Nick Kantar (5:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON
Roger Wallace (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Zack Walther & the
Cronkites (7:00)

HANOVER'S Open Mic (8:00)

HEADHUNTERS Fireball Show,
Adam Rodgers, Illfino

HOLE IN THE WALL Ethan Azarian,
Ryan Anderson, the Channel
(10:00)

JOVITA'S M.J. Torrance, the
Gunhands (6:00)

KEY BAR Matt Wilson (8:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro,
Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art
Kidd (6:30)

LOUIE'S 106 Red Young (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Lucky Jam w/
Both Feet, the Lefties, Grant
Ewing (10:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric
Mayhem (9:00)

MOHAWK Camp X-Ray (5:00),
Neiliyo, Transmography, the
Always Already (10:00)

MOMO'S Angel Ferrer, Allen
Daniels Band

MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy
(9:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR 80H Project
(10:00)

ONE WORLD THEATRE Duncan
Shiek (7:30, 9:30)

THE PARLOR Plutonium Farmers,
Ralph White (9:00)

what if every musician you knew put their music first for 28 days?

This is the challenge: record an album in 28 days, just because you can. That's 10 songs or 35 minutes of original material recorded during the month of February. Go ahead... put it to tape.

Don't wait for inspiration—taking action puts you in a position to get inspired. You'll stumble across ideas you would have never come up with otherwise, and maybe only because you were trying to meet a day's quota of songwriting. Show up and get something done, and invest in yourself and each other.

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LIZ MORPHIS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6 • 10PM • \$5

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LANGE'S
LONELY
KNIGHTS**



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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7 • 3PM

SUNSET VALLEY BOYS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9 • 6:30PM

CHARLES THIBODEAUX

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM

KEVIN GALLAUGHER

& GREG ANDERSON 8PM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 • 7PM

MIRANDA DAWN

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Mon-Fri 5pm * Sat-Sun 4pm
HH til 9pm & All night Thr

CREEKSIDE LIVE

THR FEB 5
10PM Scary Mondellos
Trashy & the Kid, Copper Pocket, Barongrod

FRI FEB 6
10PM Van Buren Boys
Clyde & Clems Whiskey Business
The Bread, Bridge Farmers

SAT FEB 7
10PM Karaoke Apocalypse
The Lost Soul Revue

MON FEB 9
10PM Furthest From the Star
The Rad, Fullon Read, First Class, Mike Wood

WED FEB 11
10PM The Urgencies
Exeter, Monument to NoOne

UPCOMING SHOWS
2/12 "The Great Roommate Manny" Benefit
2/13 Stripper Benefit, 2/14 Yellow Bike Project Valentines

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Saturday, February 7th

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2/6 **PRINCE KLASSEN**
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2/7 **WEIRD WEEDS W/
BRIDGES+BLINKING LIGHTS
& HANDBRAKE + DJ MEL**

2/11 **MISTRESS STEPHANIE
& HER MELODIC CAT CD RELEASE
W/ TAKE THAT PARTY**

2/14 **VALENTINES DAY PARTY
W/ CAR STEREO (wars)
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2/5(T): 12:30-ELECTRIC ROOTTN APPLE GANG, 11:30-WINO VINO, 10:30-BELOW-THE-SALT, 9:30-FUNK G
2/6(F): 12:30-PEYTON GIN, 11:30-MANIFESTO, 10:30-SCRAPS OF LIFE, 8PM-WOLFDG
2/7(S): 12:30-THE LITTLE MORTS, 11:30-EARTHTONE PLAYERS, 10:30-TRASH ROCKETS, 8PM-WOLFDG
2/8(S): 12-BEXAR COUNTY BASTARDS, 11-DIRTY CALLAHANS (Norway), 10-OKLAHOMOS, 9-THE ORIGINAL MEXICAN BOB
2/9(M): MELLOW MONDAY SIN LOUNGE 2/10(T): 12-THE STEED, 11-OMIA, 10-ROOSTER AND THE KID
2/11(W): 12-ILLFINO, 11-ADAM RODGERS, 10-FIREBALL SHO

CANNIBAL CLUB STAGE 2/5(T): KALEIDOSCOPE IMPROV JAZZ SESSIONS w/ GEORGE MACK
2/6(F): MATT BEGLEY BAND 2/7(S): GHOST MOUNTAIN, THE SCOTLAND YARD, THE EXECUTIVE LIFE
2/8(S): NFL PRO BOWL-4PM 2/10(T): BILL DAVIS SINGER/SONGWRITERS-9PM 2/11(W): MATTS OPEN MIC-9PM

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QUARTERSHACKLE
ACCORD OF DISSONANCE
MOUSE ABOUT

FRI 2.6
PLEASANT VALLEY
WORLD BURNS TO DEATH
HIGH WATT CRUCIFIXERS
BLOOD ROYALE
YOU PEOPLE

SAT 2.7
PASADENA NAPALM DIVISION
WHOREHOUND
CONDEMNED UNIT
DOOM SIREN

SUN 2.8
HANK of the DESTRUCTION MOOSE
ME VS. EVERYBODY
SOUTHERN FRONT

MON 2.9
HEART & SOUL
SOUND SYSTEM

TUE 2.10
DUMB
THE WHITE KNUCKLE DRIVERS

WED 2.11
DEAD EARTH POLITICS
PREY FOR SLEEP
HEAD CRUSHER
BROTHERHOOD

UPCOMING SHOWS
2.12 That Damned Band, The Fuckin' A Rodeo Clowns 2.13 New Dbaztec
The Heretics 2.14 One Eyed Doll VJ Show 2.17 Gigan (ex-Hate Eternal!)

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Hex Dispensers, Tempo Tantrums

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5, Reverend Glass Eye, Izzy Cox

sa 7 Flametrick Subs, Sean Reefer &
the Resin Valley Boys

su 8 Church of the Up All Night
screening PAYDAY(1973)

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BEYOND GODS & EMPIRES
DEAD EARTH POLITICS
KAOS CALLING

FRIDAY-FEBRUARY 6
OAK IS KEEPING
RUDE RACHEL
BASE
MANSFIELD
ITEM 84
OFF & THE HUNTERS

SATURDAY-FEBRUARY 7
DEREK'S BIRTHDAY BASH
SAD WINGS
BOUND
SABATH CROW
MARSHALL DYLAN
BENEFIT FOR MIKE TEMPLE
FRONTMAN KAMRILE
DUKE
MATT READ

SUNDAY-FEBRUARY 8
MUSIC LAB
BATTLE OF THE BANDS
FIRST ROUND - DAY TWO
GOLGOTHA
WE THE GRANADA
WHITE SAILS
KITTINGER
SPACE THIEF

MONDAY-FEBRUARY 9
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PURE LUCK MONDAYS
MUSIC STARTS AT 9PM
\$7 LONG STIR \$3 HIM BEAM

TUESDAY-FEBRUARY 10
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WEDNESDAY-FEBRUARY 11
40 OZ TO FREEDOM
THE DABBY DRIVERS
CLAYTON SENNE
THE BIG NATURAL
MATTHEWS IPOD NIGHT

THURSDAY-FEBRUARY 12
WESTBOUND DEPARTURE
SQUIDBUCKET
A GIANT DOG
BURNING WITCHES
THE 12TH PLANET

FRIDAY-FEBRUARY 13
FULTON READ
DRIVER F
ZLAM DUNK
THE EASTERN SEA
OLD COYOTE

SATURDAY-FEBRUARY 14
SCRAPS OF LIFE
FOR THE MOST PART
CRITICAL ASSEMBLY
KILLING IN APATHY

UPCOMING SHOWS
02/20 - HONKY, BIG BALLS, 10-10, SHAKESHA PRISON
02-21 - 2ND ANNUAL MATTHEW CHAMPINE BIRTHDAY BASH
02-27 - DAWN OVER ZERO, DEEJER, CURDCHECK
02-28 - HAMMER, TRASHY & THE KID, PEYTON GIN, EL CHABCO
03-26 - SCOTT & BIRAM
04-10 - HUBBARDHEED REUNION SHOW

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Saturday • Feb 7 HAVEN
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HAVEN WITH DJs VOID & THE GOTHFATHER
w/ SPECIAL GUEST DJ PROPHET

Sunday • Feb 8 REGRESSION
RETRO 80's RETRO 80's RETRO 80's
REGRESSION WITH DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

Tuesday • Feb 10 90'S NIGHT
So LAST CENTURY... 90's Night
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Wednesday Feb 11 MID-WAVE
UNDERGROUND retro & OLD SCHOOL goth
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Thu. Feb 12 • DUB YA BASS NIGHT
DJs Cal Cutta & Siracha & MC Willy Wobble

Fri. Feb 13 • KINGS N THINGS -
Austin's Premier Drag King Troupe
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Sat. Feb 14 • Haven presents a special
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courageous use of corsets encouraged

Thu. Feb 19 • Live! Book of Shadows 12 AM
A Crack in the Wall 11 PM, The Carnys 10 PM

Fri. Feb 27 • Live! subNatural 12 AM
The Razorblade Dolls 11 PM, Chant 10 PM

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RYAN MORRIS 6-7pm
THE HUDSONS 7:30-9pm
BLUES MAFIA 9:30-11:30pm

SATURDAY, 2/7 \$10 COVER
JOHN JOHNSTON 6-7pm
BRAVE COMBO 8-9:30pm

EVERY SUNDAY!
\$5 COVER
THE BREW 7-10pm

MONDAY, 2/9 CLOSED

EVERY TUESDAY! NO COVER!
GERON HOY 6:30-7:30pm
MARSHALL FORD SWING BAND 8-10pm

WEDNESDAY, 2/11 NO COVER!
MJ TORRANCE 6-7:30p
THE GUNHANDS 8-10PM

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...THURSDAY february 5...
Time Out 10pm
Happy Hour: Brother Machine 6:30
Outside: Bob Taylor's Latest Review 8:00 pm
NEEDLES and PINS Record Party hosted by Angel Von Ripper 11pm

...FRIDAY february 6...
Moonlight Towers the Service \$3 cover
Industry Daylight Titans 10pm
Happy Hour: the Spooly Show 6pm
Outside: Slowtrain's Friday Waltz 8pm

...SATURDAY february 7...
Head Panic \$3 cover
Sunglasses and Mushrooms the Hangouts 10 pm

...SUNDAY february 8...
Electric Mountain Rotten Apple Gang
Wind Vino
Below the Salt 10pm
Happy Hour: Sweet Chariot 7pm

...MONDAY february 9...
Leo Rondeau
Mario Matteoli
Cayce Rose and the Mind Games 9pm
Happy Hour: the McKay Brothers 6pm
Outside: Dave Insley 7:30

...TUESDAY february 10...
The Bread
Missy Beth and the Morning Afters
Keith Gary 9pm
Happy Hour: Mystic Knights of the Sea, Tom Vandenvond 6pm

...WEDNESDAY february 11...
Ryan Anderson and the Anchors
the Channel Ethan Azarian 9pm
happy hour: Brother Machine
outside: Rob Jewett Trio
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- CLUB LISTINGS FROM WEDNESDAY**
- PARMER LANE TAVERN** Pete Benz (9:00)
- PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE** Texcentric Radio Hour (7:30)
- REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE** "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
- RENAISSANCE HOTEL** Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)
- RILEY'S TAVERN** Eric Hisaw
- ROADHOUSE** Karaoke w/ Billy D.
- RUTA MAYA** Salsa Lessons, Cienfuegos (7:30)
- SAXON PUB** Bo Porter (6:00), Larry Wilson, James Hyland, Stewart Mann (8:00)
- SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN** Austin Poetry Slam (8:00)
- SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL** Radiostar
- SHINER'S SALOON** Jeremy Steding (10:30)
- STUBB'S** Sean McConnell
- TRIPLE CROWN** Molly Hayes, Ransom Jack
- WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 38TH STREET** Ptarmigan (7:00)
- WATERLOO RECORDS** Andrew Bird (5:00)
- Z'TEJAS** Will Sexton, Stephen Doster, Bill Carter (6:00)
- BEERLAND** Western Ghost House, All Eyes, Dead Space, Cry Blood Apache
- THE BELMONT** Jeff Lofton Quartet (9:00), DJ Veg (10:00)
- BOTTICELLI'S** Gina Lee & the Brisket Boys
- BROKEN SPOKE** Jesse Dayton
- THE BROWN BAR** DJ Gmau
- CACTUS CAFE** Alejandro Escovedo (8:30)
- CANNOLI JOE'S** Alex Coke (6:00)
- CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Noah Sugerman, Todd Deatherage, Ryan Malot
- CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** Mark Rubin's Ridgetop Syncopators (6:30)
- CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Brett Crenshaw
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** Woodsboss (6:30), Geno Delafosse & the French Rockin' Boogie (10:00)
- COPA BAR & GRILL** Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)
- DONN'S DEPOT** Murphy's Inlaws
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Kat Edmonson
- ELEPHANT ROOM** Tony Airoldi, Thomas Heflin (6:00)
- THE FIFTH GALLERY** DJ John Gomi & Beatimprint (9:00)
- FLAMINGO CANTINA** Dr. Dubbist, Macka B, Mad Professor
- FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE** Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)
- GRUENE HALL** Stewart Mann (6:00)
- HOLE IN THE WALL** Prayer for Animals, Watching the Moon, Physics of Meaning
- JOVITA'S** The Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
- LA PALAPA** The News
- LAMBERTS** Rick Hornyak (6:30), Lee Mork (7:00), DJ Mel (10:30)
- LUCKY LOUNGE** Eagle Pritchard Murray, MC Overlord (10:00)
- MARIA'S TACO XPRESS** Phil Brown (6:00)
- MOHAWK** Cobretti, Mechanical Boy, Canvas Waiting, Consider the Source
- MOMO'S** The Reliques, Havilah, Nakia & His Southern Cousins, Smile Smile
- MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN** Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)
- PANGAEA LIVE** Vallejo
- PARAMOUNT THEATRE** Loney Dear, Andrew Bird
- THE PARLOR** Rainbow Dragon (9:00)
- PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE** Danny Santos
- RAINBOW CATTLE CO.** Dad's Happy Hour w/ DJ Bobbie & Mary (3:00)
- RED FEZ** DJ Rapid Ric, Mike Maven & the Good Life (8:30)
- RENAISSANCE HOTEL** Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)
- RILEY'S TAVERN** Mike Ethan Messick
- RUTA MAYA** Chris Chandler & Paul Benoit w/ the Kerrville Underground Camp Fire Old School (8:00)
- SAXON PUB** James Hand (6:00), Patrice Pike & Joy Davis, Nathan Hubble, Derrick Davis (8:00)
- SEGOVIA SPANISH RESTAURANT** Zee Rock, Dale Spaulding (7:30)
- SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL** Chris Boss
- STUBB'S** Oliver Rajamani, Conjunto Los Pinkys, Amy Annelle
- TRIPLE CROWN** Joel Hofmann Band, Whiskey Folk Ramblers, River Hymn
- TROPHY'S** Two Hoots & a Holler
- WATERLOO ICE HOUSE DOWNTOWN** The Hudsons (7:00)
- Z'TEJAS** Liz Morphis (6:00)

THU 12

- 311 CLUB** Joe Valentine (9:30)
- THE AMSTERDAM** Girl Guitar, Jodi Adair, Jane Bond (9:00)
- ANTONE'S** Pinetop Perkins, Nelo (8:00)
- ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Tony Maserati (7:30)
- AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735** Mermaid Blonde, Smiling Knights, Steve Arceri CD Release
- B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Jimi Lee

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Hanovers

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KARAOKE

SUNDAY
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FRIDAY Live Music (2/6) NO COVER
RELENTLESS JONES

SATURDAY Live Music (2/7)
NO COVER **OMG**
COMMONWEALTH

FRIDAY Live Music (2/13) NO COVER
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SATURDAY Live Music (2/14)
NO COVER **VALENTINE DJ**
PARTY – Naughty or Nice
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FRIDAY Live Music (2/20) \$5 COVER
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SATURDAY Live Music (2/21)
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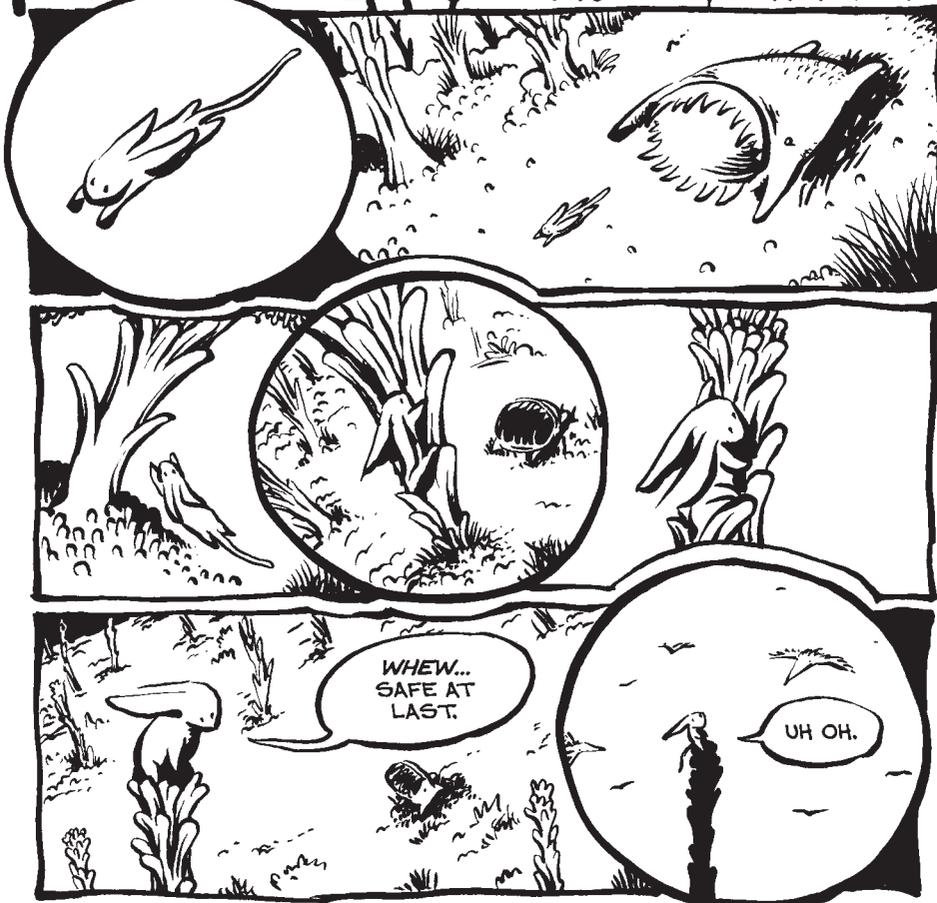
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MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS



H.G. Wells predicted the invention of the atomic bomb in 1911.

The Senegalese, who mostly speak Wolof but play Scrabble in French, celebrate their Scrabble champions as national heroes.

Manila folders are so named because of Manila hemp, or abaca, from which they were originally made. The plant is native to the Philippines and is named after its capital city.

Swiss researchers at Firmenich have found that women's sweat smells like grapefruit or onions and men's sweat smells like cheese.

The highest permanent settlement in the world currently is La Rinconada, a village in Peru at 5,100 meters, or about 16,700 feet.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail mrpant@austinchronicle.com.

jobs

art/design

MODELS The Art Institute of Austin, is seeking models to pose for Anatomy & Drawing courses this quarter. Classes meet on Wed & Thurs from 2-5pm. Must be comfortable posing in a swimsuit/nude; pass a criminal background check; & not be a current student of The Art Institute. If interested, send resume to aiaustaffing@edmc.edu



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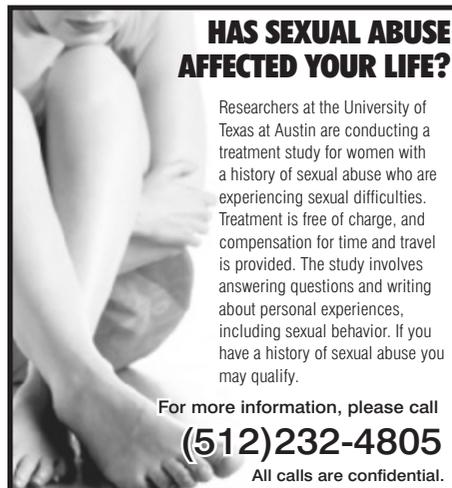
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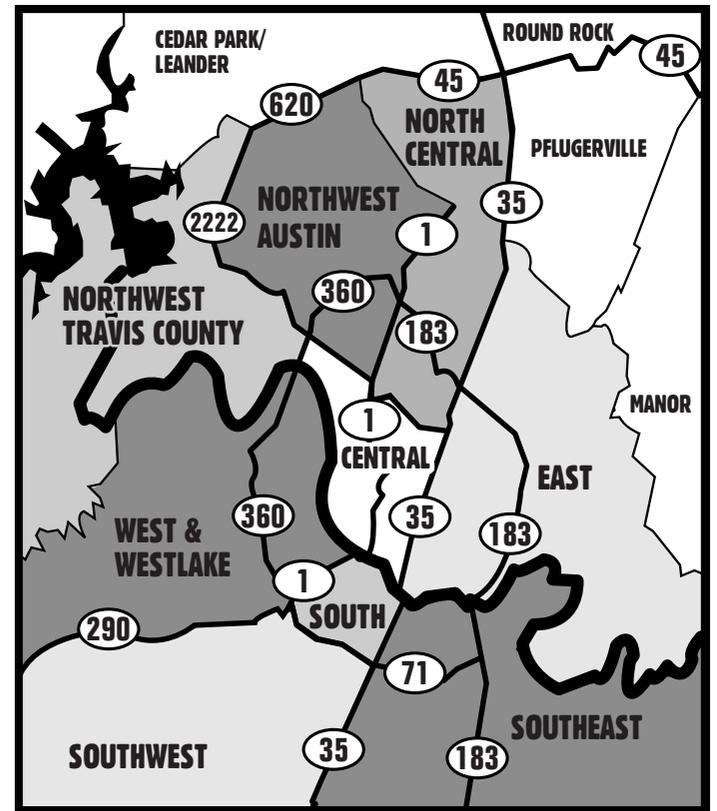
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CENTRAL Brykerwoods house, 2-1 w/ bonus, gorgeous renovation, formal dining, hardwoods, tile, large fenced backyard, skylights, w/d conn. \$1,750. 3100 Oakmont. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, matthewsproperties@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Tarrytown - gigantic 1/1's in 4-plex, hardwoods, large common yard area for gardens or just relaxing under the trees, windows everywhere, large kitchen, NO W/D connections, window a/c's. Cats welcome - NO dogs! \$810 w/ \$100 move in special. 2304 Enfield, Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, matthewsproperties@yahoo.com

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CENTRAL MALE ME JUNIOR to share very nice condo, walking distance from UT. Fully furnished, full bath, washer/dryer, kitchen has all appliances, internet. Gated parking and bike space. available immediately. If interested, please contact Chris 713-299 3806.

LAKEWAY Quiet house w/ room for rent on 5 acres. Pets ok. \$250 dep, \$250 rent, 1/3 Util. 512-266-9553

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NORTH Room in 3/1, AC/WD, bus lines. Prefer mature female. Kitchen Privileges, smoker ok. \$400.ABP Call 490-6635

UT CAMPUS AREA roommate wanted to share awesome luxury condo, three blocks from UT. Less than 2 years old, fully furnished, bedroom has walk-in closet, full bath, granite countertops throughout, washer/dryer, kitchen has all appliances, internet, cable TV and phone already set up. Gated parking, surrounded by great restaurants. \$800 per mo available to mid August. If interested, please contact Jill 703-638-5742 to schedule interview.

home gallery

OPEN HOUSE SAT & SUN FROM 1:00 TO 5:00



\$469,000

Brand New Contemporary House - located off Bee Caves in Eanes ISD. 3bd 2.5 baths, screened in deck and open patio, bamboo floors, energy efficient windows throughout, gated street, also available for rent at \$2,000/mth.

Call Agent / Owner at 422-8044 or 658-3719



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1309 Bentwood Rd. 3/1/1. Walk to new Mueller development via greenbelt access. Updated to today's standards. Granite counters, matching GE stainless appliance package, slate flooring in kitchen, recessed lighting in kitchen and updated cabinets. New hardwood flooring (9/08) in living area. Fireplace, neutral paint colors throughout. Upper end ceiling fans and fixtures. New (9/08) landscaping package in front yard. Nice recent large deck in private backyard with storage bldg. **Call Broker Brad.com @ 512-750-4099. Asking \$279,750.**

Think of this ad as an **OPEN HOUSE** for **294,000** readers.

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908 JUANITA AREA 6 -- \$230,000

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6907 VILLITA AVENIDA

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8406 Bowling Green

Central Austin charming 1940's fixer-upper for less than \$5K down! Hardwoods, CACH, fenced yard and an oversized, detached two-car garage/workshop that is perfect for all your tools and toys. Closing costs paid + fix up money. Call Patricia, Broker, 453-MOVE.

\$135,000

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OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 3:30-5pm 1601 Miriam

HOT east side with a COOL Austin vibe!! Charming 3/2.5 bungalow just minutes from downtown! This detached home, built-in 2007, boasts wood floors, granite counter tops, stainless appliances, fenced yard, Zen-inspired landscaping, community fire pit, all yards and exterior maintenance are maintained by the HOA. Just a short stroll to the commuter rail line at MLK. Call today for more details! Patricia, Broker, 453-MOVE.

\$268,500

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5406 Roosevelt

For "Tuscan" go to Italy. For central Austin charm, come here!! Beautiful 3/2 home, open floor plan, completely remodeled, tons of storage, hardwoods throughout. Quiet street. Walk or bike to shops, eats, yoga and Amy's!! Come see it today! Owner/agent. Patricia, 453-MOVE.

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DUPLEX FOR SALE

CENTRAL 8406 Bowling Green, 2/1 Charming Central Austin Fixer! Handy man Special, \$135,000, hardwood floors, pier-and-beam, 2-car garage, CACH, fenced yard. Possible owner finance available, Call 698-4609. SPACES Real Estate

CENTRAL \$335,000 3/2 Mid Century jewel in beautiful Wilshire Woods. Original, refinished hardwoods throughout and tile in bath, new custom cabinets, stainless appliances, open floor plan, light & bright! Just a short walk or bike to Mueller and only minutes from UT! The detached garage/workshop needs TLC but would make a perfect studio or home office. This is a great opportunity to get a remodeled home that is move-in ready today! Owner/agent, Patricia, Broker, SPACES Real Estate Services, 453-MOVE.

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CENTRAL Central Austin opportunity 1.3 acres on quiet street just north of Hyde Park. Ripe for development. What can you envision? 975K owner/agent Patricia, SPACES Real Estate Services, 453-MOVE

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CENTRAL Central Austin fixer-upper for less than 5K down!! This small but charming 1940's original needs your love. Hardwood floors, CACH, fenced yard and an oversized, detached two-car garage/workshop that is perfect for all your tools and toys. Owner will pay all closing costs and lender will wrap in fix up money. Looking for a project? This is it!! Call today for more details. Patricia, Broker, SPACES Real Estate Services, 453-MOVE.

CENTRAL 2 blocks from Capitol. Newly listed 1 bedroom at \$127,700. 3rd floor view to north. Also 2/2 on 5th w/view to south for \$249,700. Both wood floors, secure entrance. Call Condo Joe for access 203-4100 or CondoJoe@re-al.com for flyer.

CENTRAL Old house charm for only \$185,000! Cozy 2/1 walking distance to light rail station and bus line. Detached one-car garage, fenced yard, original hardwood floors throughout CACH. Purchase today with only \$6,500 down and take advantage of historically low interest rates. \$7,500 first-time home buyer incentive makes this one a no-brainer. buy a house, get \$1000 back!! Call for today for details. Owner/agent, Patricia, Broker, SPACES Real Estate Services, 453-MOVE

CENTRAL Delwood Delight! 1309 Bentwood Rd. 3/1/1. Walk to new Mueller development. Updated to today's standards. Hardwood flooring in living area. Fireplace, neutral paint colors throughout. New landscaping package. Call BrokerBrad.com @ 512-750-4099. Asking \$279,750.

CENTRAL Near Congress & Oltorf. 12 remodeled 2/2's available at \$179,700. Granite, stainless. 3% FHA financing available. Hip gated community right off the SoCo action. Call Condo Joe for access 203-4100 or CondoJoe@re-al.com for flyer.

Home Source Real Estate

404 Hammack - 2/1, Brick house with fruit trees and native plants, near DPS HQ and Highland Mall. \$185,000

10612 Topperwein - Investor's Delight! Duplex 3/2 each unit, near IBM/ACC Northridge, Fully Leased. \$159,900

2808 Crownover - 4/2.5/2 house, Qualifies for USDA Zero Down Program. \$115,000

4414 Magin Meadow - 4/2.5, recent carpet downstairs, Near Elementary School. REDUCED TO \$93,900

141 Turkey Ridge Cove - 3.38 acre lot, use any builder, clean lot with large oak trees. \$50,000

FOR LEASE - 2307 Rachael Court #D - 2/1 washer/dryer connection, recent flooring, recent fridge- \$600/month

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472-HOME

CENTRAL 5406 Roosevelt Ave. For "Tuscan" go to Italy. For central Austin charm, come here!! Beautiful 3/2 home, 1857sqft., open floor plan, completely remodeled, tons of storage hardwood floors throughout. Quiet street between Lamar and Burnet Road, south of Koenig Lane. Walk or bike to shops, eats, yoga and Amy's!! Come see it today! Owner/agent, Patricia, SPACES Real Estate Services, 453-MOVE

CENTRAL NOT YET LISTED!! \$325,000 3/2 Charming remodeled home in Crestview! HUGE lot, room to expand! Original, refinished hardwoods throughout and tile in bath, granite counters, stainless appliances, bonus second living/media room. Just a short walk or bike from the new light rail station which makes getting to and from downtown easy, fast, cheap and best of all eco-friendly! Sitting on a double lot, there is room plenty of room to add on or add a second structure. This is a great opportunity to get a remodeled home that is move-in ready today! Patricia, Broker, SPACES Real Estate Services, MOVE

EAST Remodeled 4BR, 2 Bath single level home with double garage. New carpet, fresh paint, new kitchen cabinets with SS appliances, tiled baths and large patio. Will show by appointment. 512.462-2336

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EAST HOT east side with a COOL Austin vibe!! 275K Charming 3/2.5 bungalow located in a community of new homes, just minutes from downtown, in hot, hot, east Austin. This detached home, built-in 2007, boasts wood floors, granite counter tops, stainless appliances, small fenced yard, 3 bedrooms plus study/bonus room, 2.5 baths, and 1452 sqft. of maintenance-free living! Zen-inspired landscaping with arbors and fountains, community fire pit, all yards and exterior maintenance are maintained by the HOA. Just a short stroll to the new MLK station and the commuter rail line at MLK. Leave your car at home! Call today for more details! Patricia, Broker, SPACES Real Estate Services, 453-MOVE

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 Investors Delight! Duplex
 3/2 each unit, near IBM/ACC Northridge, Fully Leased. \$159,900

2808 Crownover
 4/2.5/2 house, qualifies for USDA Zero Down Program. \$115,000

4414 Magin Meadow
 4/2.5, Recent Carpet downstairs, near elementary school, reduced to \$93,900

141 Turkey Ridge Cove
 3.38 acre lot, use any builder, clean lot with large oak trees. \$50,000

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buy/sell/trade

baby/kids stuff

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home/garden

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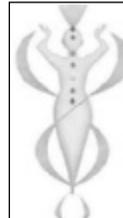
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424356
**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF
SALE**

**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 16th
day of January, 2009 in a
certain cause numbered
424356, wherein Travis
County, Lago Vista

Independent School District,
Travis County Emergency
Services District No. 1, City
of Lago Vista and County
Education District are
plaintiffs, and Courtney D.
Cartright are defendant(s), in
favor of said plaintiffs, for
the following sums: **Billing #
64082 = \$3,048.57 and
Billing # 64083 = \$2,105.07**
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 February
14, 2001.

I, on the 26th day of January,
2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M.,
have levied upon, and will,
on the 3rd day of March,
2009 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M.,
at 1000 Guadalupe 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 4157, Bar-K Ranches
Plat 4, Plat No. 56/89 as de-
scribed in Volume 8216,
Page 673 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: **Bil-
ling # 64082 = \$3,048.57 and
Billing # 64083 = \$2,105.07**
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 February
14, 2001.

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 # 64082
**Lot 4240, Bar-K Ranches
Plat 4, Plat No. 56/89 as
described in Volume 8327,
Page 229 of the deed
records of Travis County,
Texas**

Billing # 64083
**Lot 4241, Bar-K Ranches
Plat 4, Plat No. 56/89 as
described in Volume 8327,
Page 229 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 # 64082 = \$3,048.57
and Billing # 64083 =
\$2,105.07** Dollars in favor of
plaintiffs, together with the
costs of said suit, and the
proceeds applied to the
satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th
day of January, 2009.
BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD,
THERE ARE NO WARRANT-
IES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED,
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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.

91-9187

**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF
SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY DELIN-
QUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order
Of Sale issued by the clerk of
the 299th District Court of
Travis County, on the 16th
day of January, 2009 in a
certain cause numbered 91-
9187, wherein City of Lago
Vista, Lago Vista Independ-
ent School District, Travis
County Emergency Services
District No. 1 and County
Education District are plaintiffs,
and Fred O. Duron and Rosa
M. Duron are defendant(s), in
favor of said plaintiffs, for
the sum of **\$5,308.79** Dollars,
together with all costs of suit,
that being the amount of
judgment recovered by the
said plaintiffs, in the 299th
District Court of Travis
County, Texas, on April 27,
1999.

I, on the 26th day of January,
2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M.,
have levied upon, and will,
on the 3rd day of March,
2009 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M.,
at 1000 Guadalupe 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 12399, Bar-K Ranches
Plat 12, Plat No. 61/84 as
described in Volume 10085,
Page 87 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: **Bil-
ling # 67644 = \$4,222.80 and
Billing # 67645 = \$5,337.80**
Dollars in favor of plaintiffs,
together with the costs of
said suit, and the proceeds
applied to the satisfaction
thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th
day of January, 2009.
BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD,
THERE ARE NO WARRANT-
IES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED,
INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED
TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANT-
IES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND
FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR
PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY
"AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-
THER ADVISED THAT PUR-
CHASE OF THE PROPERTY
AT THIS EXECUTION SALE
MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY
LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-
ESTS ON THE PROPERTY.
YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-
CHASING WHATEVER
INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS
IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU
HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU
NEED TO CONSULT COUN-
SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

93-09500

**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF
SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY DELIN-
QUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order
Of Sale issued by the clerk of
the 331ST District Court of
Travis County, on the 20th
day of January, 2009 in a
certain cause numbered 93-
09500, wherein Travis
County, Lago Vista Indep-
endent School District, Tra-
vis County Emergency Ser-
vices District No. 1, County
Education District and City of
Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and
Donald E. Seybold, if alive
and if deceased, the un-
known owners, heirs, assigns
and successors of the Estate
of Donald E. Seybold and
Amelia Seybold, if alive and
if deceased, the unknown
owners, heirs, assigns and
successors of the Estate of
Amelia Seybold are
defendant(s), in favor of said
plaintiffs, for the following
sums: **Billing # 67644 =
\$4,222.80 and Billing #
67645 = \$5,337.80** Dollars,
together with all costs of suit,
that being the amount of
judgment recovered by the
said plaintiffs, in the 331ST
District Court of Travis
County, Texas, on July 17,
2001.

I, on the 26th day of January,
2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M.,
have levied upon, and will,
on the 3rd day of March,
2009 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M.,
at 1000 Guadalupe 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 # 67644
**Lot 12399, Bar-K Ranches
Plat 12, Plat No. 61/84 as
described in Volume 10085,
Page 87 of the deed records
of Travis County, Texas**

Billing # 67645
**Lot 12398, Bar-K Ranches
Plat 12, Plat No. 61/84 as
described in Volume 10085,
Page 85 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: **Bil-
ling # 67644 = \$4,222.80 and
Billing # 67645 = \$5,337.80**
Dollars in favor of plaintiffs,
together with the costs of
said suit, and the proceeds
applied to the satisfaction
thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th
day of January, 2009.
BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD,
THERE ARE NO WARRANT-
IES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED,
INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED
TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANT-
IES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND
FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR
PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY
"AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-
THER ADVISED THAT PUR-
CHASE OF THE PROPERTY
AT THIS EXECUTION SALE
MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY
LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-
ESTS ON THE PROPERTY.
YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-
CHASING WHATEVER
INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS
IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU
HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU
NEED TO CONSULT COUN-
SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**Application is be-
ing made with the
Texas Alcoholic
Beverage Com-
mission for a
Mixed Beverage,
Mixed Beverage
Late Hours Permit,
and Beverage Cart-
age Permit by
Roaring Fork Aus-
tin Stonelake, LLC
d/b/a Roaring Fork
to be located at
10850 Stonelake
Blvd, Austin, Tra-
vis County, Texas.
Roaring Fork Res-
taurants, LLC -
Manager; by its
Manager Eddie V's
Restaurants, Inc.;
James Stephen
VanDercook - Pres-
ident, Kristina Kay
Herbig - CFO &
Sec, Guy Martin
Villavaso - CEO,
Larry Edward Foles
- VP**

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-08-
001546** TO: JOHNNY
GUTIERREZ and to all who it
may concern, Respondent(s);
GREETINGS: YOU HAVE
BEEN SUED. You may em-
ploy 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 peti-
tion, a default judgment may
be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-
MANDED to appear and an-
swer before the Honorable
District Court, 98TH JUDI-
CIAL DISTRICT COURT, Tra-
vis 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 ORIGI-
NAL PETITION FOR ADOPT-
TION OF A CHILD OF SU-
ZANNE RAMIREZ ALEMAN
Petitioner(s), filed in said
court on MARCH 24, 2008,
against JOHNNY GUTIERREZ
Respondent(s), and said suit
being entitled "IN THE INTER-
EST OF NATALIE IRENE ALE-
MAN, A CHILD", the nature of
which suit is a request to ter-
minate the parent-child rela-
tionship and for adoption.

The Name, Birth date, and
Place of Birth of said is as
follows:
NATALIE IRENE ALEMAN
MAY 5, 2001
AUSTIN, TX

The Court has authority in
this suit to enter any judg-
ment or decree in the child's
interest which will be binding
on you, including the termi-
nation of the parent-child
relationship, the determination
of paternity and the appoint-
ment 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, Janu-
ary 16, 2009.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MEN-
DOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box
679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By: /s/SCOTT WOODWARD,
Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
RICHARD I MICHAEL
1714 FORTVIEW ROAD,
SUITE 106
AUSTIN, TX 78704
BUSINESS PHONE: (512)
442-4151
FAX: (512) 442-4308

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS**

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF JAMES
EDWARD WEHMAN, De-
ceased, No. 89979 in Pro-
bate Court Number One of
Travis County, Texas.
GUY BOB WEHMAN alleged
heir(s) at law in the above
numbered and entitled es-
tate, filed on the 27th day of

JANUARY, 2009, an Appli-
cation to Determine Heirship
and for Letters of Independ-
ent Administration in the said
estate and request(s) that the
said Court determine who are
the heirs and only heirs of
the said JAMES EDWARD
WEHMAN, 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 ci-
tation, at the County Court-
house in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in
such estate are hereby cited
to appear before said Honora-
ble Court at said above
mentioned time and place by
filing a written answer con-
testing 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 re-
turned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND
AND THE SEAL OF SAID
COURT at office in Travis
County, Texas, this 28th
day of January, 2009.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325,
Austin, Texas 78714
By Deputy: /s/ Monica Limon

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-08-
001546** TO: JOHNNY
GUTIERREZ and to all who it
may concern, Respondent(s);
GREETINGS: YOU HAVE
BEEN SUED. You may em-
ploy 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 peti-
tion, a default judgment may
be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-
MANDED to appear and an-
swer before the Honorable
District Court, 98TH JUDI-
CIAL DISTRICT COURT, Tra-
vis 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 ORIGI-
NAL PETITION FOR ADOPT-
TION OF A CHILD OF SU-
ZANNE RAMIREZ ALEMAN
Petitioner(s), filed in said
court on MARCH 24, 2008,
against JOHNNY GUTIERREZ
Respondent(s), and said suit
being entitled "IN THE INTER-
EST OF NATALIE IRENE ALE-
MAN, A CHILD", the nature of
which suit is a request to ter-
minate the parent-child rela-
tionship and for adoption.

The Name, Birth date, and
Place of Birth of said is as
follows:
NATALIE IRENE ALEMAN
MAY 5, 2001
AUSTIN, TX

The Court has authority in
this suit to enter any judg-
ment or decree in the child's
interest which will be binding
on you, including the termi-
nation of the parent-child
relationship, the determination
of paternity and the appoint-
ment 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, Janu-
ary 16, 2009.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MEN-
DOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box
679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By: /s/SCOTT WOODWARD,
Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
RICHARD I MICHAEL
1714 FORTVIEW ROAD,
SUITE 106
AUSTIN, TX 78704
BUSINESS PHONE: (512)
442-4151
FAX: (512) 442-4308

D-1-GV-06-001660

**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF
SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY DELIN-
QUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order
Of Sale issued by the clerk of
the 201ST District Court of
Travis County, on the 21st
day of January, 2009 in a
certain cause numbered D-1-
GV-06-001660, wherein Aus-
tin Community College, Aus-
tin Independent School Dis-
trict, City of Austin, Travis
County and Travis County
Healthcare District are plain-
tiffs, and Zorida Mohammed,
Rashid Mohammed and Ar-
gent Mortgage Company,
LLC (In Rem Only) are
defendant(s), in favor of said
plaintiffs, for the sum of
\$3,185.59 Dollars, together
with all costs of suit, that
being the amount of judgment
recovered by the said plain-
tiffs, in the 201ST District
Court of Travis County, Tex-
as, on March 30, 2007.

I, on the 26th day of January,
2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M.,
have levied upon, and will,
on the 3rd day of March,
2009 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M.,
at 1000 Guadalupe 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:

D-1-GV-06-000453

**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF
SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY DELIN-
QUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order
Of Sale issued by the clerk of
the 53RD District Court of
Travis County, on the 23rd
day of January, 2009 in a
certain cause numbered D-1-
GV-06-000453, wherein Plain-
tiff is Round Rock Independ-
ent School District and Inter-
ventor is Travis County, and
Charisse Simpson a/k/a Lyn-
da Charisse Simpson (In
Rem Only) are defendant(s),
in favor of said plaintiff and
intervenor, for the sum of
\$2,258.61 Dollars, together
with all costs of suit, that be-
ing the amount of judgment
recovered by the said plain-
tiff and intervenor, in the
53RD District Court of Travis
County, Texas, on April 3, 2007.

I, on the 26th day of January,
2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M.,
have levied upon, and will,
on the 3rd day of March,
2009 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M.,
at 1000 Guadalupe 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 1-A, Block A, Canyon
Creek, Section 18, Travis
County, Texas, according to
the map or plat thereof, Re-
corded in Volume 89, Page
73, map records of Travis
County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be
made by me to satisfy the
above described judgment
for **\$2,258.61** Dollars in favor
of plaintiff and intervenor, to-
gether with the costs of said
suit, and the proceeds ap-
plied to the satisfaction there-
of.

Witness my hand this 30th
day of January, 2009.
BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD,
THERE ARE NO WARRANT-
IES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED,
INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED
TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANT-
IES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND
FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR
PUR

The center 26' of the East 61' of Lot 4 and the center 26' of the West 16' of Lot 5, Block 9, James O'Reilly Subdivision (Olt. 38, Div. B), Plat No. 1/39 as described in document number 2005147402 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,185.59** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of January, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd 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-07-001658

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 16th day of January, 2009 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-07-001658, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Vassilla Corporation, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc. (In Rem Only) and United States of America (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiff(s), for the sum of **\$14,576.73** 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 March 25, 2008.

I, on the 26th day of January, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of March, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe 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 8, Block 16, Silverton Heights, Section 2, Plat No. 4/181 as described in document number 2003127128 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$14,576.73** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of January, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd 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 PUR-

CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-000568

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345TH District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of January, 2009 in a certain cause numbered GV-000568, wherein Plaintiff is Leander Independent School District and Intervenor are Travis County and Austin Community College, and The United States of America through its agency and instrumentality The Department of Housing and Urban Development are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiff and intervenors, for the sum of **\$7,854.30** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiff and intervenors, in the 345TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 19, 2004.

I, on the 26th day of January, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of March, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe 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:

1.827 acres being Lot 11 a/k/a part of Lot 1, Section 2, Red Wagon Ranchettes Subdivision, Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described on Exhibit B to a deed recorded in Volume 11505, Page 193 of the Deed Records, Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$7,854.30** Dollars in favor of plaintiff and intervenors, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of January, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd 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.

Lot 8, Block 16, Silverton Heights, Section 2, Plat No. 4/181 as described in document number 2003127128 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$14,576.73** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

GV-001298

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 16th day of January, 2009 in a certain cause numbered GV-001298, wherein City of Austin, Northwest Austin Municipal Utilities District No. 1 and Travis County are plaintiffs, and Federal Deposit Insurance corporation as Receiver of Texas American Bank/Team Bank (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiff(s), for the sum of **\$5,771.11** 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 November 1, 2002.

I, on the 26th day of January, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of March, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe 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 1, Block G, Save and Except that portion as described in Volume 11552, Page 1, Lot 9, Block A, Lot 25, Block B, Lot 1, Block C, Lot 32, Block E, and Lot 25, Block F, Canyon Creek, Section 1, Plat No. 85/150B, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as being a portion as described in Volume 10851, Page 881 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$5,771.11** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of January, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd 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-502332

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 16th day of January, 2009 in a certain cause numbered GV-502332, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, Travis County, City of Austin, Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and MARGOT C. KRAUS A/K/A MARGOT GONZALES are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiff(s), for the sum of **\$4,762.76** 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 April 27, 2006.

I, on the 26th day of January, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of March, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M.,

at 1000 Guadalupe 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:

Unit 8, Building A, The Pointe Condominiums, Condo. Decl. 7629/643 as described in Volume 13340, Page 247 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$4,762.76** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of January, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd 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-502359

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 21st day of January, 2009 in a certain cause numbered GV-502359, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Merle Francis Wilson Clarke, Sheila White, Averil Dion White, Claude Robert White, III, Veda Denice White Coco Shanell (Chanel) White and James Robert Harper and Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County, Travis County Education District and Austin Community College (in rem only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$6,969.04** 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 4, 2008.

I, on the 26th day of January, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of March, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe 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 21, Block 3, Lincoln Gardens, Plat No. 3/4 as desc. in Vol. 5490, Pg. 1824, Doc. No. 2004107004, Doc. No. 2004107005, Doc. No. 2004164231 and Doc. No. 2004164232 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$6,969.04** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of January, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd 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-504933

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 January, 2009 in a certain cause numbered GV-504933, wherein are Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County, Travis County Hospital District n/k/a Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Jackleon Hansborough (Hansborough) a/k/a Jacqueline Williams, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the estate of Jackleon Hansborough (Hansborough) a/k/a Jacqueline Williams and Travis county, et al (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$4,135.09** 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 February 6, 2007.

I, on the 26th day of January, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of March, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe 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 1 and 2, Block 7, Henry Ulit Second Subdivision (Olt. 31, Div. B), Plat No. 3/108 as described in Volume 1138, Page 316 and Volume 1952, Page 563 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$4,135.09** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of January, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd 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.

NO. 88,803 IN THE ESTATE OF JAMES HOWARD REYNOLDS, DECEASED

IN THE PROBATE COURT NUMBER ONE (1) OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE OF LETTERS OF DEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENT OF DEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of January, 2009, Letter of Dependent Administration upon the Estate of James Howard Reynolds, Deceased, were granted to the Dependent Administrator, Keith Morris, by the Honorable Probate Court Number One (1) of Travis County, Texas, in Cause No. 88,803 pending upon the Docket of said Court.

All persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time prescribed by law to Keith Morris at the post office address for the said Dependent Administrator being as shown below:

Estate of James Howard Reynolds, Deceased

Barron, Newburger, Sinsley & Wier, PLLC

c/o Keith Morris,

5718 Westheimer, Suite 1755
Houston, Texas 77057

/s/ Keith Morris

Barron, Newburger, Sinsley & Wier, PLLC

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned motor vehicle act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off by Customz Wrecker Services, 16400 Terrace Drive, Austin, TX 78728 unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1996 Ford

VIN# 2FMDA5148TB44715

1995 Chevy

VIN# 1GCCE14ZXS2115330

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicle(s) will be sold at Public Auction if not claimed within 30 days.

Garagekeeper: Pinkies American Towing Inc

8917 Circle Dr

Austin TX, 78736

512-233-4869

07 honda civic california

plates 5zn027

vin # 2hgfg12617h545550



The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S OATH MISHAP

In an effort to make you the most knowledgeable person at your next cocktail party, this week's column sets out the basic framework for President Barack Obama's oath mishap.

How did the oath get screwed up the first time?
Article II, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution requires that a president take the following oath: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." Chief Justice John Roberts recited the oath to Obama incorrectly by putting "faithfully" in the wrong place. Roberts said, "execute the Office of the President faithfully," and Obama repeated the line in the same, incorrect way that Roberts stated it.

Is the oath really important?
It depends on whom you ask. Article II of the Constitution requires that the president must take the oath "before he enter on the Execution of his Office." But the 20th Amendment to the Constitution, passed in 1933, expressly states that the terms of the president and vice president shall end at noon on Jan. 20 and "the terms of their successors shall then begin." Some lawyers argue that the 20th Amendment supersedes the oath requirement set out in Article II. Others argue that while the transfer of power happens on Jan. 20, the president must first take the oath before wielding his presidential powers. All presidents who have assumed office since the adoption of the 20th Amendment have continued to take the oath, so until the Obama-Roberts miscue, this debate had little relevance.

Why did Obama take the oath a second time?
Gregory Craig, White House legal counsel, summed it up best, stating: "But the oath appears in the Constitution itself. And out of an abundance of caution, because there was one word out of sequence, Chief Justice Roberts administered the oath a second time." Most speculate that the oath was readministered to avoid dealing with a series of costly, frivolous lawsuits challenging the validity of executive orders on the grounds that Obama lacked authority to issue the orders because he never took the proper oath of office.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.

AV0219 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY. THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE. I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

FEBRUARY 19, 2009 @ 10:00 AM @ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 4308 TERRY-O LANE, AUSTIN, TX 78745

090220892	1983	DODG	PK	31DF58	TX	1B7FD14M4D5402602
095001618	1991	FORD	2DR	C80CLN	TX	1FAPP1289WMM142455
095003600	1984	VOLV	4DR	R57PJB	TX	YV1AX8849E2008691
095004195	1988	CADI	4DR	KZP403	TX	1G6KD54Y5WU719047
095004199	1994	FORD	2DR	R18TNC	TX	1FALP624XRH152352
095004200	1992	TOYT	4DR	DHY756	TX	JT25K1E27N0020229
095004202	1990	TOYT	4DR	W50MMT	TX	JT25V24E4L3400456
095004203	1994	CHEV	4DR	R39TNF	TX	1G1LD55M6R210166
095004205	1985	LINC	4DR	WYG67R	TX	1LNBP96F1FY747245
095004207	1997	HOND	4DR	MRK6935	NC	1HGCE6677VA016656
095004209	1996	PONT	2DR	Z21MPY	TX	1G2NE52MXTCT713418
095004210	1985	CHEV	2DR	K72SG5	TX	1G1G237Z0FR122638
095004839	1997	NISS	4DR	758WVG	TX	JN1CA21D1VT814660
095004847	1996	PONT	2DR	543DXM	TX	1G2NW12T0TC7917424
095004849	1995	PONT	2DR	969CRJ	TX	1G2JB1244S7529941
095004850	1993	NISS	4DR	KDX584	TX	JN1HJ01F7PT078841
095004852	1994	DODG	VN	X04YLT	TX	2B6HB21X2RK114473
095004855	1994	GE0	4DR	T68SMG	TX	1Y1SK5382R2050792
095004859	1996	DODG	4DR	112WFY	TX	1B3HD4611TF143672
095005372	1985	MERC	4DR	FNR485	TX	2MEBP95F4FX688714

car talk

by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

THE CASE OF THE DISAPPEARING OIL

Dear Tom and Ray:

I have a 1998 Ford Expedition with 150,000 miles on it. My wife takes the truck in every three months to get the oil changed. During the past two oil changes, she was told that there was no oil on the dipstick. They then removed what oil was remaining in the engine and replaced it with five new quarts. She had the oil changed about six weeks ago, and I just checked it myself before we went on a trip. The dipstick had no oil on it, and it took four quarts to get it full again. I have checked the ground where the truck is parked, and there is no oil. Additionally, there is no oil, smell, or smoke from the exhaust pipe. Where is the oil going, and what should I do? — Sherd

TOM: It's going out the tailpipe, Sherd. What should you do? See if you can get the Exxon Valdez to follow you around.

RAY: Your engine's worn out, Sherd. If there's no oil under the truck, then you're burning it. If you stand near the tailpipe when your wife starts it up in the morning, you'll almost certainly see a puff of bluish smoke. It may be harder to see once you actually start driving, but it's there. Trust us.

TOM: So, you have a couple of choices. One is to install a rebuilt or used engine. If the truck is otherwise in extraordinarily good shape, and you want to keep it for another 50,000 miles, that may be a good option.

RAY: But before you do that, be sure to have your mechanic check it out from stem to stern, as if you were buying it as a used car today. You don't want to spend \$3,000 on a rebuilt engine and then have the transmission fall out the next day. And with 150K on the odometer, that's a distinct possibility.

TOM: The other option is to just trade it in. With gas prices certain to trend upward as soon as the economy gets out of the pits, this may be a good time to reconsider whether your wife really needs a car as big as a cabin cruiser for her everyday needs. If not, this might be a golden opportunity to downsize. Good luck, Sherd.

In their pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Tom and Ray break down the strategies for buying a car so you can make the most of your money. Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Next Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk website, www.cartalk.com.

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on

kut 90.5
AUSTIN TEXAS

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continued

legal notices

630 Pedro Alvarez: household goods, furniture, boxes

803 Terrie Alexander: furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip

805 Conley Penn: household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip

813 Mark Nitkin: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools

814 Verlisa Bryant: household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, TV's or stereo equip

825 Chris Sanchez: household goods, boxes, sporting goods, tools, appliances

6609 Dorothy Burton: furniture, boxes, clothing

8814 Verda Robinson: household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip

Uncle Bob's #231
8227 North Lamar
Austin, TX 78753
(512) 833-0855

Tuesday, February 17, 2009
@ 10:00 AM

1020 Justin Harrison: household goods, tv or stereo equip, furniture, boxes, appliances, sporting goods, tools, office equip., office machines, construction equip

704 Romon Smith: household goods, boxes, tools, account records

7734 Timothy Patrick: furn., household goods

961 Danielle Dadani: household goods, furn., boxes, tools

745 Rose Brown: household goods, furn., boxes

742 Rondrick White: boxes, household goods, tv or stereo equip., office equip., other, tires and rims

730 Chris Brumbaek: household goods, boxes, appliances

1208 Charell Lemuel: household goods, appliances

1010 Samuel J. Jones Jr.: household goods, boxes, tools, tv or stereo equip.

812 Paul Ruiz: household goods, furn., boxes, appliances, tv or stereo equip

1414 Melinda Castillo: household goods, furn., boxes, appliances, tv or stereo equip., account records

718 Eliseo Lee Flores: household goods, tools

1510 Pamela Cager: household goods

901 Dianna Potter: household goods and furn.

1111 Herbert John Boleyn: household goods, boxes, tools, landscaping equip.

Uncle Bob's #276
2830 South A.W. Grimes Blvd
Round Rock, TX 78664
(512)310-0279

Tuesday, February 17, 2009
@ 11:00 AM

224 Tarin Marshall: household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., office machines

520 Jeremiah Cargill: furniture, boxes, landscaping equip.

2234 Ruben Hernandez: household goods

2324 Chris Zurwetz: household goods, sporting goods, tools

3124 Greater Austin Moving: household goods

3126 Greater Austin Moving: household goods

3136 Arthur Johnson: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, TV's or stereo equip., office furniture, account records

3426 Sandra Saucedo: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances

4122 Eric Jackson: household goods, furniture, TV's or stereo equip.

4217 Leighann Eckard: household goods, furniture, boxes

4311 Joyce Thompson: household goods

5111 Robert Cleaver: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., office equip.

5114 Marcus Nickerson: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., landscaping equip.

5127 Pam Jones (Zenos): household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip., office furniture, office machines/equip.

6208 Janice Davis: household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, TV's or stereo equip.

6209 Patrick Daly, Sr.: household goods, boxes, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

6210 Tom Blodgett: household goods, furniture, boxes

6334 Gail Watson: household goods, furniture, boxes

7417 Venita Williams: household goods, furniture, TV's or stereo equip.

9125 Maria Andrade: household goods, furniture, boxes

9616 Ansley Judie: household goods, boxes, sporting goods, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., account records

Uncle Bob's #197
5547 McNeil Dr.
Austin, TX 78729
(512)336-8390

Tuesday, February 17, 2009
@ 12 noon

205 La Toya West: hshld goods, furn., boxes

206 Austin Watson: hshld goods

211 Mary Cunningham: hshld goods

402 Kim Temple: hshld goods, furn., boxes, sporting goods, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., office equip., office machines, construction equip., acct. records, sales samples

424 Holly Garrison: hshld goods, furn., boxes, TV's or stereo equip.

504 Daniel Crouser: hshld goods, furn., boxes, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., office equip., office machines, acct. records, sales samples, contracts

1503 Wendy Johnson: hshld goods, furn., boxes, sporting goods

1707 Jason Franklin: furn., boxes, TV's or stereo equip.

1738 Shannon Lucio: hshld goods, furn., boxes, sporting goods, toys

1907 Tamara Stephens: hshld goods, furn., boxes, appliances

Uncle Bob's #287
6509 South First Street
Austin, TX 78745
(512)326-9696

Tuesday, February 17, 2009
@ 1:30 PM

104 Galvan April: household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip.

125 Samuel Ybarra: household goods, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

256 Melissa Rosales: furniture

339 Tiffany Sharp: household goods, furniture, boxes

360 Paul Gonzalez: furniture, tools, TV's or stereo equip., landscaping equip.

3113 Pamela Beck: household goods, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., boxes

3338 Aaron Pace: furniture, boxes

3424 Deborah Ervin: furniture, boxes, appliances

3417 Tara Roberson: household goods, furniture, boxes

3502 Rosa Castelan: household goods

3520 Kirsten Collins: household goods, boxes

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation:

SET MAXIMUM PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMITS ON CRUMLY RANCH ROAD IN PRECINCT THREE. 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, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATIONS Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation:

SET MAXIMUM PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMIT

ON HUDSON BEND ROAD IN PRECINCT THREE.

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposed action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, P.O. Box 1767, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, BEN WHITE MINI STORAGE located at 405 E. BEN WHITE BLVD, AUSTIN, TX 78704.

POND SPRINGS MINI STORAGE located at 13444 POND SPRINGS ROAD, AUSTIN, TX 78729 and MOPAC SELF STORAGE located at 12900 N. MOPAC, AUSTIN, TX 78727 will hold a public auction of property to satisfy a landlord's lien. Auction to be held on **10:00 A.M., Wednesday, Feb 25th, 2009 at BEN WHITE to be followed by an auction at 11:00 A.M., Feb 25th, 2009 at POND SPRINGS and concluded by an auction at 11:30 A.M. Feb 25th 2009 at MOPAC.** Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Deposit for clean up and removal is required from successful bidder. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property in each space may be sold item by item, in batches, or by the space. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following:

Ben White: Stella Carrillo, Mike Funke, Kenneth Williams, Pedro Lopez, Joseph Moreno, Jose Calvillo, David Kirby, Nancy Brown, Scott Conner, Mayra Garcia, William Truitt, James Stallworth, Chris Del Toro, Marshall Pedersen, Joshua Tristan, Wardell Keeling, Andrea Flores, James Laplante, Travis Meeke, Sylvia Jacquez, Todd Johnson, Aaron Gandy, Steve Cazares, Jose Luera, Rosario Espinoza, **Pond Springs:** Carol Burkhardt, Samuel Strader, Dion Rowry, Beatrice Escalante, Jessica E. Cohen **Mopac:** Robert Haluzan, Edward & Mary Smith, Robert Leatherwood, Elisa Peak.

Sale items to include: **Ben White:** Sofas, books, coffee table, TVs, tables, fishing poles, bedroom sets, ping pong table, dresser, swords, bar accessories, tools, ladder, lamps, chairs, tool boxes, organs, sewing machine table, misc electronics, jack stands, speakers, bike, drums, lawn mower, toys, small appliances, golf clubs, toddler bed, desks, scooter, vacuums, boxes, misc furniture/household items. **Pond Springs:** bags, TV, stereo, chairs, futon, dresser, bed, couches, cedar chest.

Mopac: Couch, sign, chairs, dresser, coffee table, plant boxes, table, tubs, boxes, bed frame, Christmas tree, stool, antique, dresser, mirror, car seat, laundry basket, lamps, chest of drawers, night stand, lots of misc.

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

State of Texas
County of Travis

Cause: C1CV08010026-1 By virtue of an Writ of Execution issued by the clerk of the County Court 2 Court of TRAVIS County, Texas, December 16, 2008, in cause number C1CV08010026-1 styled Lori L. Fritz versus **Melvin L. Kirk** on a judgment rendered against **Melvin L. Kirk**; I did on January 12,

2009, at 2:00 p.m., levy upon as the property of **Melvin L. Kirk** the following described real property:

Lots Twenty-Seven (27) and Twenty-Eight (28) of the Pecan Hollow Ranches, a subdivision in Travis County, Texas, According to the map or plat thereof recorded in Volume 78, Page 107..of the map or plat records of Travis County, Texas.

On March 03, 2009, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Travis County Court-house, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of **Melvin L. Kirk** in and to the real property described above.

Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, January 21, 2009

Bruce Elfant,
Constable Precinct 5
Travis County, Texas

/s/ Alan Redd, Deputy
Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately.

Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015, Tax Code, showing that the Travis County Assessor-Collector has determined that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addition, an individual may not bid on or purchase property in the name of any other individual.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF EDWARD JERRY KRENEK, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Temporary Administration for the Estate of Edward Jerry Krensek were issued to Walker A. Arentson, on January 27, 2009, in Cause No. 89.687 now pending in Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Texas, Sitting in Matters Probate.

The residence of the Temporary Administrator is P.O. Box 160580, Austin, Texas 78716. 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 January 27, 2009.

WALKER ARENSEN, Attorney for Temporary Administrator
512.327.4422

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JEANELL C. MORGAN, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. 89857, styled Estate of Jeanelle C. Morgan, Deceased, (the "Estate") pending in the County Court of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on January 22, 2009, to James Dane Morgan.

Claims may be presented and addressed to the independent executor of the estate in care of Patricia A. Campbell at the following address:

c/o GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY
A Professional Corporation
Attn: Patricia A. Campbell
Post Office Box 98
Austin, Texas 78767

All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 28th day of January, 2009.

DAVID HUGHES,
Attorney for the Estate

DATED the 28th day of January, 2009.

GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY,
A Professional Corporation

By: /s/ Patricia A. Campbell
State Bar No. 03714100
(512) 480-5625
(512) 480-5825 (fax)

ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF VICTORIA ANN SMYTHE, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of VICTORIA ANN SMYTHE, Deceased, were issued on January 29, 2009, in Cause No. 89.572, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: TERRY SMITH, Dependent Executor. The residence of the Dependent Executor is Austin, Travis County, Texas. The post office address is:

Estate of VICTORIA ANN SMYTHE
Law Office of Diane Hebner
507 West 7th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED January 29, 2009.

Law Office of Diane Hebner
507 West 7th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2831
(512)477-4158 Telephone
(512)477-2126 Fax

By: /s/ Diane Hebner
Attorney for Dependent Executor

State Bar No. 09367300

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARY VIRGINIA WILLIAMS, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MARY VIRGINIA WILLIAMS, Deceased, were issued on January 27, 2009, in Cause No. 89.748, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: MARY NELL MATHIS, Independent Executor. The residence of the Independent Executor is Austin, Travis County, Texas. The post office address is:

Estate of MARY VIRGINIA WILLIAMS
Law Office of Diane Hebner
507 West 7th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 28th day of January, 2009.

Law Office of Diane Hebner
507 West 7th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2831
(512)477-4158 Telephone
(512)477-2126 Fax

By: /s/ Diane Hebner
Attorney for Dependent Executor

State Bar No. 09367300

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARY VIRGINIA WILLIAMS, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MARY VIRGINIA WILLIAMS, Deceased, were issued on January 27, 2009, in Cause No. 89.748, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: MARY NELL MATHIS, Independent Executor. The residence of the Independent Executor is Austin, Travis County, Texas. The post office address is:

Estate of MARY VIRGINIA WILLIAMS
Law Office of Diane Hebner
507 West 7th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 28th day of January, 2009.

Law Office of Diane Hebner
507 West 7th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2831
(512)477-4158 Telephone
(512)477-2126 Fax

By: /s/ Diane Hebner
Attorney for Independent Executor

State Bar No. 09367300

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Gerald Dennis Slavens, Deceased, were issued on January 22, 2009, in Cause No. 89633 pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Sandra Owen.

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 28th day of January, 2009.

Law Office of Diane Hebner
507 West 7th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2831
(512)477-4158 Telephone
(512)477-2126 Fax

By: /s/ Diane Hebner
Attorney for Independent Executor

State Bar No. 09367300

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Thomas E. Hughes, Deceased, were issued on January 15, 2009, in Cause No. 89820, pending in the Probate Court No. ONE, Travis County, Texas, to: David Hughes.

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 28th day of January, 2009.

Law Office of Diane Hebner
507 West 7th Street
Austin, Texas 78701
(512)477-4158 Telephone
(512)477-2126 Fax

By: /s/ Diane Hebner
Attorney for Independent Executor

State Bar No. 09367300

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Bertha Lucille Shallert Muhrage Wagner, Deceased, were issued on July 15, 2008, in Cause No. 88924, pending in Travis County Probate Court No. 1, Travis

/s/ Thomas J. O'Meara, Jr., Attorney for David Hughes

State Bar No.: 15279500
919 Congress Ave.,
Suite 1150
Austin, TX 78701
Telephone: (512)441-1411
Facsimile: (512)441-1410

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of CHARLES CARR CLELAND, Deceased, were issued on January 13, 2009, in Cause No. 89804, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: PENNY DEAR, Independent Executor.

The mailing address of the Independent Executor is in Travis County, Texas; the post office address is:

Penny Dear
c/o Joseph S. Babb
Law Office of Joseph S. Babb
P.O. Drawer 50231
Austin, Texas 78763

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 28th day of January, 2009.

Law Office of Joseph S. Babb
State Bar Number 01478700

ATTORNEYS FOR THE ESTATE OF CHARLES CARR CLELAND, DECEASED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mary Virginia Williams Helton, Deceased, were issued on January 27, 2009, in Docket No. 89794, pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Virginia Garry Knight, Independent Executor, whose residence is 6820 Cypress Point North, Unit 8, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78746.

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to address them to the Independent Executor at her aforesaid address within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 3rd day of February, 2009.

By: Sal Levatino, attorney for the estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Gerald Dennis Slavens, Deceased, were issued on January 22, 2009, in Cause No. 89633 pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Sandra Owen.

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 28th day of January, 2009.

Law Office of Diane Hebner
507 West 7th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2831
(512)477-4158 Telephone
(512)477-2126 Fax

By: /s/ Diane Hebner
Attorney for Independent Executor

State Bar No

County, Texas to Dennis Earl Steelhammer and James Edward Steelhammer, independent co-executors. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present the claims within the time and in the manner prescribed by law addressed in care of James Edward Steelhammer 2692 FM 222 Loop North, Coldspring, Texas 77331 and Dennis Earl Steelhammer 2690 FM 222 Loop North, Coldspring, Texas 77331.

Dated the 29th day of January, 2009.

/s/ Vivian E. Ross-Bennett
Attorney for the Independent Co-Executors

State Bar No. 24049665
Telephone: (512)330-4099
Facsimile: (512)331-0872

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Martha P. Crowther, a/k/a Martha Pierce Crowther, a/k/a Martha Crowther Wisenbaker, Deceased, were issued on February 3, 2009, in Cause No. 89906, pending in the Probate Court

No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Robert Reese Crowther.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Brad Wiewel

Attorney at Law
1601 Rio Grande St., Ste. 550
Austin, TX 78701

DATED the 6th day of February, 2009.

/s/ Candice H. Bocock,
Attorney for Robert Reese Crowther

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Ada F. McCulloch, Deceased, were

issued on January 27, 2009, under Docket No. 89877, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to Linda Jenks Holder.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate, addressed as follows:

Linda Jenks Holder
Estate of Ada F. McCulloch,
Deceased

c/o Lawrence J. Morgan
500 West 16th St., Suite 120
Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated the 29th day of January, 2009.

LAWRENCE J. MORGAN

Attorney for Estate of Ada F. McCulloch, Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

On February 3, 2008, Armando Villa Flores was issued letters testamentary for the Estate of Maria Luisa Flores, Deceased, in Cause No. 89859, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the independent executor is c/o Craig Hopper, Hopper & Associates, P.C., 400 W. 15th St.,

Suite 408, Austin, Texas, 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.

Armando Villa Flores, Independent Executor of the Estate of Maria Luisa Flores, Deceased

By: /s/ Craig Hopper, Attorney for the Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

On February 3, 2008, Armando Villa Flores was issued letters testamentary for the Estate of Armando Diaz Flores, Deceased, in Cause No. 89318, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the inde-

pendent executor is c/o Craig Hopper, Hopper & Associates, P.C., 400 W. 15th St., Suite 408, Austin, Texas, 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.

Armando Villa Flores, Independent Executor of the Estate of Armando Diaz Flores, Deceased

By: /s/ Craig Hopper, Attorney for the Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of James Edward Morris, Deceased, were issued on January 29, 2009, in Cause No. 89874, pending in the Probate Court Number One, Travis County, Texas, to Herbert E. Noack.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows: Representative, Estate of James Edward Morris, Deceased

c/o Walter C. Guebert
Walter C. Guebert, P.C.
5900 Balcones Drive,
Suite 190
Austin, Texas 78731

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them

within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 30th day of January, 2009.

WALTER C. GUEBERT, P.C.

By: /s/ Walter C. Guebert

NOTICES OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

County of Travis, Texas
Policy of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicapped Status

The County of Travis, Texas does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status

in the admission or access to, or employment in, its programs or activities. J. Gandolf Burrus, Grant Development Services, Inc. has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR Part 8, dated June 2, 1988).

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

The County of Travis, Texas does not discriminate on the basis of color, national origin, sex, religion, age and handicapped status in employment or the provision of services.

The County of Travis, Texas has adopted complaint and grievance procedures regarding its Texas Community Development Programs. These procedures outline the steps for a citizen to follow if s/he wishes to file a written complaint about proposed TCDP activities. The County will make every effort to respond fully to such complaints within ten (10) working days. Citizens may obtain a copy of these written procedures from Mr. Burrus by contacting him between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at (512)707-0455.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Medical Gases, B090155-RG Opens: February 17, 2009 @ 2:00 p.m.
2. Asphalt Based Pavement Crack Sealant, B090163-LD Opens: February 17, 2009 @ 2:00 p.m.

Bids should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Bidders should

use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

ORDINANCE NO. 090127 AN ORDINANCE REGULATING NON-CONSENT TOWNS OF VEHICLES INVOLVED IN COLLISIONS IN THE CITY; ESTABLISHING A TOW ROTATION LIST AND REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR PARTICIPANTS IN SUCH TOW ROTATION LIST; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS FOR VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERANCE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE 080624 NO STRUCTURE OR LAND SHALL HEREAFTER BE CONSTRUCTED, LOCATED, EXTENDED, CONVERTED, OR ALTERED WITHOUT FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THIS COURT ORDER AND OTHER APPLICABLE REGULATIONS. VIOLATION OF THIS COURT ORDER BY FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF ITS REQUIREMENTS (INCLUDING VIOLATIONS OF CONDITIONS AND SAFEGUARDS ESTABLISHED IN CONNECTION WITH CONDITIONS) SHALL CONSTITUTE A MISDEMEANOR. ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS COURT ORDER OR FAILS TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF ITS REQUIREMENTS SHALL

UPON CONVICTION THEREOF BE FINED NOT MORE THAN \$500 FOR EACH VIOLATION, AND IN ADDITION SHALL PAY ALL COSTS AND EXPENSES INVOLVED IN THE CASE. NOTHING HEREIN CONTAINED SHALL PREVENT THE CITY OF SUNSET VALLEY FROM TAKING SUCH OTHER LAWFUL ACTION AS IS NECESSARY TO PREVENT OR REMEDY ANY VIOLATION.

SUMMONS

Name: Shuyi Gao Ward

Address: 2240 East 3300 South #18

Salt Lake City, UT 84109

Phone: (512) 769-6762

Pro Se

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH 450 S. State St., Salt Lake City, UT 84114

SUMMONS

SHUYI GAO WARD, Petitioner, vs. JAMES V. WARD, Respondent.

Case No. 084903780

Commissioner: Casey

Judge: Trease

THE STATE OF UTAH TO THE ABOVE-NAMED PETITIONER/RESPONDENT: You are hereby summoned and required to file an Answer in writing to the attached Petition with the Clerk of: The Third Judicial District Court of Salt Lake County, State of Utah a copy of said answer, within 20 days if you are served in the State of Utah, or within 30 days if you are served outside the State of Utah, after service of this Summons upon you. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in said Petition, which has been filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court. You can obtain a copy of the Verified Petition by writing to the clerk of the court at 450 S. State St., Salt Lake City, UT 84114. READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY These papers mean that you are being sued for Divorce.

DATED the 2nd day of January, 2009.

/s/ Shuyi Gao Ward
Petitioner Signature

motor

CARS

1998 CIVIC Four door, auto, 150k., in process of 65 point check. Auto., \$4450. Auto Depot 9009 Prairie Trail 836-9767.
www.autodepotAustin.com

2002 CIVIC four-door, auto 87k., one year warranty. Clean, nice, \$7750. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767.
www.autodepotAustin.com

2002 COROLLA Very clean, nic, one year warranty. 66k. \$7650. Auto Depot 9009 Prairie Trail 836-9767.
www.autodepotAustin.com

2003 COROLLA Four door, with auto, all power, leather! \$8250. Can trade, one year warranty. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767.
www.autodepotAustin.com

2004 HONDA Civic 2dr., EX Coupe, 5 speed, clean as a pin. Warranty. Can trade. \$8950. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767.
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AUTOS Wanted 1995 or newer cars, trucks, vans, or SUVs. Wrecked, running or not. Mike 796-4081

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1994 CAMRY Unbelievably clean, new motor. Full warranty. \$3950. Auto Depot 9009 Prairie Trail 836-9767.
www.autodepotAustin.com

1995 MERCEDES SL-320, two seater roadster, in process of complete, professional paint job. This car will be a '10', and we can take your car in a trade. Auto Depot 9009 Prairie Trail. 836-9767.
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1996 CAMRY V-6 wagon. Had minor cosmetic issues, but runs like a champ. 97k. Clean with a full warranty. \$4500 Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail. 836-9767.
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NEW!!! 1995 Mercedes SL-320, \$14,500. two seater roadster, in process of complete, professional paint job. This car will be a "10", and we can take your car in a trade.

NEW!!! 1997 Honda Accord, \$4450. Four door, AT, only 66,000 miles. Nice, clean, one year warranty.

NEW!!! 1998 Civic four door, \$4450. Auto, 150k., in process of 65 point check. Auto.

NEW!!! 2002 Toyota Solara convertible, \$8950. This car has 65,000 miles, and we need to put a rear fender and hood on it. It drives as new. This rare car is in the throes of completion.

NEW!!! 2004 Honda Civic 2dr \$7950. EX Coupe, 5 speed, clean as a pin. Ready soon....Warranty. Can trade.

NEW!!! 2008 Honda Civic, \$13950. Four door, only 4000 miles. Can trade. Full factory warranty.

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continued

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1997 FORD Ranger. Only 75,000 miles. Runs great. \$4250.

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2006 FORD F-150 Quad door, 35,000 miles, very very clean. Can trade. \$13950. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767, www.autodepotatx.com

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1998 TOYOTA 4Runner, 4 cylinder. Clean, nice, warranty, \$5500. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767, www.autodepotatx.com

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U MAN ENOUGH

I've played rebound, Cougar, I've been on my own. I am happy and content with myself and my life. Open to a LTR if the right guy comes along. **Ms-Spontaneous**, 37,  #128825

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Mistress seeking submissives, pain sluts, sissyboys, and such. Think you can handle it? **crystalrose**, 37,  #128824

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We are a married couple that is looking to play with others. We like to spice it up a bit. **green**, 38,  #128660

COUPLE SEEKS WOMEN

I would like to find a woman that would join us in our bedroom. I would love to find someone that could be a fwb thing, if not that's ok. **Bunnyt1604**, 23,  #128851

OUR FIRST THREESOME

We've never had a threesome before but dying to have one, any girls wanna show us the ropes? NO GUYS. **EndZoneDance304**, 24,  #128614

HOT MARRIED CHICK

Hi! We're a couple looking for hot guys, pretty women and good looking couples to have fun and games with. roleplay, domination, submission, "cheating" and more. No strings allowed, thanx. **anya**, 33,  #128804

HOT CPL4LADY

Depending on the chemistry we are open to anything from friends with benefits to serious relationship. In special instances would we be open to one-time casual encounters. **jezebella83**, 25,  #128442

CLASSY COUPLE FOREPLAY

Attractive couple in 30s looking for Woman/Couple. Attracted to you & you to us. For fun drama free erotic pleasure. Should be Open-minded, discreet, playful not pushy. I'm bi, he's straight. **TexasSugar**, 34,  #128373

BROADENING HORIZONS

We are a couple looking to spice up our love life. We have decided to try a threesome with another woman to see if it is something we're interested in. **gandf**, 27,  #128323

CUTE COUPLE DATEING

Hi! poly couple seeking third. cute and curvy /lean and muscular seeking fun energetic girl to date. **CultLeader**, 21,  #128309

FUN NIGHT

Black couple seeking interested female for a night of fun! M y first time so seeking a female who is interested in making this experience one i will not forget! **muffinberries**, 24,  #128156

DIRTY DADDY'S GURL

We are a hot, young, lustfull couple looking to play. We are adventurous, uninhibited, and occasionally a little dirty. Both enjoy games of the mind and body. **srcn4fun**, 32,  #128004

NAUGHTY FUN WANTED!

Hello, we're a fun, professional, laid-back Austin couple. We're looking for single bi or bi-curious females, and couples, to join us in our naughty adventures. Bring on the fun!!! **ATX-Couple4you**, 32,  #127995

DISCREET COUPLE SEEKING...

Couple of 7 yrs seeking female for the hubby. **pandp**, 33,  #127831

BI-CURIOS FEMALE

I am a very sexy, very fit female looking to explore my bi-sexual fantasies with another woman/women in front of my boyfriend. He is fit, hung, & fun. **looking4fun**, 30,  #127762

B OUR PLAYMATE

Couple looking for playmates to play and enjoy one another. Just friends with benefits, no attachments. Just sex, and more sex. **newbies**, 36,  #127079

SEXY ADVENTUROUS COUPLE

We're a couple in love but looking for erotic experiences with beautiful women. We're relatively new to this, but are up for a delicious sexual experience if you are interested... **foxyloxyn-grizzlybear**, 22,  #127025

NEW TO AUSTIN

Couple interesting in having a female companion to help spice things up in the bedroom. We are pretty easygoing people and willing to try anything! **Usagistar182**, 24,  #126862

NAUGHTY GIRLY-GIRLS?

Like shame and humiliation? Want to be walked on a leash? We are your couple... **goodgirlkitty**, 27,  #126722

AWESOME COUPLE LOOKING

We are a happy couple that have been together 8 years. We are looking for female playmates. You won't be disappointed. **delvallefun**, 38,  #126459

BEAUTIFUL DOMINATE REDHEAD

Dominate red head, who is bi, attractive and LOTS of fun. I'm 5'4", 130 lbs, blue eyes, perky boobs, nice ass and VERY KINKY. I have male partner to join. **MistressDarlan**, 37,  #127653

SEEKING SWITCH PARTNER

You-looking for fun above all with no pre-conceived expectations. US: Average people looking for an above average fun ;) Prefer bi-sf, couples ok. Inexperienced welcomed. Honesty refreshing. **Bifemaustincpl**, 32,  #121712

GIRL PLAYMATES

Experienced sexy bi hottie looking for other femme hotties to play with. **Catwalk**, 31,  #119900

GOOD KARMA GIRL

I'm an amateur photographer looking to be a fly on the wall for any and all unusual situations that people will allow me to witness and make art from. **vron**, 42,  #128575

FUN KINKY DISCREET

I need to be spoiled I'm into all kinds of play. No lovemaking and can be difficult to keep interested. So if you think you can, let the games begin. **sugar_baby_69_lover**, 23, #128304

RAINMAKING TRUTHSEEKER

I am an attractive nineteen-year-old bisexual female. I consider creativity, health, and honesty to be the most relevant traits in a person. I'm looking to be friends first. Be real. **sweet-eighteen**, 19,  #128243

SUBMISSIVE FOR MASTER

My master will control and teach me. He should be successful caring and giving yet firm. I will give my loyalty and treat him as my king. **Jean-42DDD**, 37,  #127400

LUSTING

Maybe for you? **bikebroad**, 43,  #127105

SHAVED STILETTO STUD

W/M, shaved in stockings and stilettoes seeks 3 similar males for 4-some who crave studs in erotic feminine attire while empowering true inner femininity and enjoying our exotic & erotic experiences. **SexyStillettoStud**, 51,  #128746

EXPERIMENTAL OLDER MAN

I am a 61 year old 6' 200 lb man work out regularly. Like to meet a man or woman for discrete sexual encounters/email. I think I am bi-sexual. **Old**, 61,  #128430

IN ABILENE, TEXAS:

SWM, 46, 6'2", 190, 34w, br/gr, handsome, masculine and honest. Seeking a tall, white, handsome, masculine, honest man 35-50 to hang out and see where it goes. **iamluckyru**, 47,  #125068

HOTGUY LOOKING FOR

Hispanic Bottom, looking for a discreet encounter and a relationship with a Top guy. I am discreet Open to new things with guys around my age or younger. 46yrs. **antonio_3638**, 44,  #118402

LOOKING FOR GUY?

Are you an older bi or gay guy, 45+, looking for a discreet guy? Attractive professional, WM, 54, wants to meet one funloving guy. Safe sex, nonsmoking. **115704**, 55,  #115704

BUDDY WITH BENEFITS

Looking for a good-looking, masculine, white guy, around 25-45, average to stocky. You'll host. Send face pics. Stats in online ad. **speedy246**, 30,  #115688

NEED STRAPON LOVER

normal man on the outside, but on the inside, whew...i like dressing up and getting the strap on done to me. nice looking and in good shape as well. **firecrackerkid**, 48, #125963

SOMETIMES A SISSY

5'10", long blonde, babyblues, love lingerie, makeup and heels. Looking to explore my feminine feelings and desires with one caring woman, must respect limits. Help me be me, pretty, please. **billypilgrim4montana**, 43,  #127369

HOT, CLOSET CD

looking for a good looking, 30 to 40's y.o. woman who would like to dominate me sexually, be (snuggle after sex!) friends. i'm reasonably intelligent, sensitive, artistic person. **shelley**, 55,  #124543

▼ KULCPL

HOT, HORNY, FUN

We are an experienced couple that loves to play with a variety of healthy and adventurous couples. We will consider select single males, females or groups. We both love to watch each other in action. The more action the better!!!

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THE LUV DOC

'Office Space' 10 Year Anniversary Reunion!
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One of the great ironies of American society is our notion of freedom. We're free to do just about anything we want as long as it doesn't seriously impinge on someone else's freedom. And yet, even though Americans have this tremendous gift, paid for by the blood and toil of preceding generations, we choose largely to ignore it. Instead, we willingly shackle ourselves, in the name of materialism, for 40-plus hours a week. No shame in that game, but it does involve a humbling amount of compromise. For instance, back when you were in college mastering the intricacies of calculus, chemistry, physics, biology, and binge drinking, you never imagined that after graduating, eight hours of your day would be spent at the whim of a pudgy, nerdy college dropout with a black hole of an ego. You were going to work in a really cool office, remember? And your boss was going to be really cool, too. That might actually be the case ... especially if you have to wear layered clothing in July because the office thermostat is set on 50 and your boss is an evil bitch. Cool and cooler. Check. In college you were much too cool to compromise your integrity by doing the type of job you're doing now. You would have rather whored yourself for real, except that whoring, like Forrest Gump's life, is like a box of chocolates. Work is pretty much the same, except that all the good chocolates have been eaten: Aspen, Colo., has more ski instructors than it can use. Matthew McConaughey already has a personal assistant. The H.O.R.D.E. tour isn't hiring. Hef doesn't need pool boys. Like many people, an endless, soul-crushing search for employment finally led you to the conclusion that you are OK with spending eight hours a day in a fluorescent-lit corporate cubicle. You're no different than most Americans. You do an honest day's work for an honest dollar. So what if you're just a tiny cog in a huge machine ... or maybe just a spare cog ... or maybe the tiny drop of lubricant on the spare cog ... it's hard to say from your perspective. The important thing is that you're free. You have all that time after the whistle blows to do just what you want, minus the 45-minute commute home, the hour you burn at the gym trying to work off those desk-jockey mud flaps, and the 30 minutes you spend trying to scrape together something to eat that's not utterly repulsive. No problem, that still leaves you four hours (nearly 17% of your day) to just chill and do the things you really want to do ... unless you have kids or dogs or an AA meeting. Don't worry. You'll find some down time somewhere ... probably right before you fall asleep watching a *Seinfeld* rerun. At least America is still home of the brave, right? How else could we face this kind of existence? Here's how: We make fun of it, and no one does that better than Austin's own Mike Judge, creator of *Beavis and Butt-Head*, *King of the Hill*, and the cult classic movie *Office Space*, which is celebrating its 10 year reunion this Sunday at the Paramount. Join *Office Space* mastermind Mike Judge himself, along with cast members and crew as they relive a story so real, we only wish it were unreal. Get your tickets quick. You're not the only desk jockey in town, you know.

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women SEEKING men

FUN AND OPEN

It says to describe how delightful I am. I am not sure I can express into words how utterly delightful I am. (Sarcasm is one of my things). **Kthrob**, 24,  #129211

FUN LOVIN GIRL

Just moved here, thought I would give this a go. Love outdoors, sports, traveling, good conversation, a great book, fresh coffee, enjoying a good wine or beer! **laylaj83**, 25,  #129213

MUSIC JUNKY

Looking for someone to go to shows with and great conversation! **franny333**, 35,  #123598

HERE FOR LOVE

I am an easy going girl that love to live life to the fullest, I am loving caring and very romantic. **Tgirl**, 23,  #129186

STRAIGHT EDGE ME

I'm straight edge, true story. I color like no other and love to bake. I just moved here and would love to meet some rad folks. **nicoleedge**, 21,  #129157

COOKY REDHEAD

vegetarian that fully embraces the goofy Austin lifestyle. love to dance, time with family & friends, enjoying the live music scene around Austin. **SarahKM**, 27,  #129129

TEXAS VERVE

Funny, extroverted, pretty, intelligent female who likes to be outside seeks friend to get to know and see where it goes... Let's walk town lake! **Chanel5**, 46,  #129147

LITERATURE, MUSIC, OUTDOORS

I am free spirited, optimistic, passionate and ambitious. Devoted to writing, family, free time. Want to meet man who is passionate, ambitious, witty, honest and can teach me something. **AynVedder**, 29,  #129132

HONEST,SWEAT BLK FEMALE

Austinite 27yr. five-three 120 long black hair mid-way my back brown eyes looking for intelligent,fun,drama free male Love to stay active and enjoy life with someone a cup of passion. **London4u**, 27,  #129127

HONEST, SWEET, REAL

I'm divorced and would like to find someone special to spend time with - someone who is honest and who approaches life with integrity and truth. **swtpeaintx**, 37,  #129068

COUNT ME IN

I have an interesting sense of humor.i love to dance. I just love to have fun, very outdoorsy, camping, fishing, hiking. Love the Longhorns! **justasweetiepie**, 50,  #116439

LOOKING FOR REAL-MAN

I'm an Austin born videogame playing girl who loves to try new things. I'm looking for a man who can handle all of my quirks and spontaneous outbursts. **blondegamerchick**, 20,  #129048

CLASSY, INTELLIGENT, ENGAGING

Attractive,intelligent, down to earth woman ready for fun, adventure, romance. I'm open-minded, uninhibited and flexible. Seeking a truly good guy with sense of humor, smarts,financial security, accomplished, loyal and compassionate. **CharmingOneWon**, 56,  #129098

CREATIVEPLAYFULBOHEMI-ANCRITTER

I'm an entertaining, dog loving, smart, attractive woman. You: hiding in the cracks of Jo's, the dust of the Continental, maybe behind a tree on my own street? Call me! **creative1**, 49,  #129053

STRANGER HERE, MYSELF.

Just moved here 2 months ago. adventurous, creative, and love a good sense of humor. Musiclover, artist and a good person to be with. Looking for someone to explore with. **polaroid**, 23,  #129000

CLASSICAL, NATIVE AUSTINITE

Classical musician and teacher. Looking for friend for classical/jazz/swing concerts, operas, symphonies. Homebody. Native Austinite. Amateur cook, gardener, try to dress well, clean, somewhat Kosher. Moral support? **classicalmind**, 25,  #126030

ONLY THREE WORDS???

im a mellow, laid back guy from east texas. just looking for the girl of my dreams. my partner in crime who knows me inside and out. **j82turner**, 26,  #129207

EXCITABLE BOY/WEREWOLF

Lookin for someone to hit shows with,hit up some shows at the Alamo. Beatles for the alone-times; Stones for parties. Interest in photography; proper use of semicolons is a plus. **WISH-WASaTENENBAUM**, 25,  #125837

DONNEY

My name is Donney and I am from North Austin. I am really out going and I have been told by many people I have a great sense of humor. **DoN-NEyBoY**, 18,  #129187

NATURAL-BORN WORLD-SHAKER

I "movie", I think, I cook, I read, and I share. Well, some things. Love adventure. Love someone who can oscillate between dinner parties, bikeriding, & naturewalks, and couchpotato week-ends. **jonclas**, 25,  #129177

ADVENTUROUS, INTELLIGENT, STUBBORN

Looking for girl to share some time, adventures, drinks, and emotions with. Me: Organized, Physical, Intelligent, Happy You: Happy, Active, Educated. **mace486**, 22,  #129181

WOW..

hey. music lover... like to go jogging, and dream....enjoys working and living in austin.been here 2 years. looking to do cool stuff with cool people. **rejoy**, 24,  #129178

STRANGE, FUNNY, SHYISH

there's not enough room in 30 words to do this. look online if you wanna know. **catslothloaf**, 22,  #129167

GET OUTSIDE!

I am an active Austinite who enjoys the great weather and outdoor activities. I spend most of my free time biking, hiking, and staying in shape. Wanna join? **penguinswim**, 23,  #129165

I'MA LOSER BABY

Looking for responsible people to grow with. I prefer an outdoorsy type person, whom cycles perhaps. I am fairly open minded. **CJHolmes**, 40,  #124107

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CREATE A PROFILE AND BROWSE MORE ADS ONLINE!

BETTER THAN YESTERDAY

24-year-old aspiring filmmaker whose sense of self has finally started to form. Want someone in the same boat. Someone who will sometimes steer, sometimes sit, but always tolerate bad metaphors. **antirick**, 24,  #129153

I'M READY..ARE YOU??

I'm a successful, fun loving, honest, generous, upscale guy. You: Tall, thin, sexy, intelligent, upscale, spontaneous, who can take me places I didn't think my mind could go. **steelstrings**, 55,  #115528

ADORABLE, DREADLOCKED, SEXINESS

i'm all about meeting new people and having fun.i like to dance, jog, bike rides, watch movies, travel, go to concerts, and check out new restaurants.let's hang out! **E137071**, 27,  #128500

SMARTASSCHICK

Laid-back, 33 year-old professional,soft-butth (whatever the hell that means?!?!). I would like to meet an attractive, chill woman who has a brain and can have a stimulating convo, good kisser. **cooshrockets**, 33,  #128395

SWEET, LAIDBACK, FUN

Traditional good girl looking for friends and/or lovers. Love the outdoors and country life although I can party with the best. Very open minded and non-judgemental. No gossip or drama. **katieb**, 35,  #128206

women SEEKING women

SSSEXICAN

i live my life one day at a time. love morning coffee, watching movies, live music, cooking, sports, mt. bonnell, & people with a sense of humor. call me :). **posdata**, 28,  #129223

SHY, ENERGETIC, VIVACIOUS

I just moved from out of state. Need to meet outgoing people curb my shyness. I love brilliant exchanges of ideas, and someone who makes me think. **errrrrca**, 30,  #129118

MOUSE/KEYS

Austinite 24yr. looking for attractive, intelligent lady to spend time with around town. No butchies need respond. **July3**, 24,  #129016

DELICIOUS JAMS OHYEAH

I love tattoos, reggae, live music, boardshorts, outdoorsyness, lips, mr. chen, adventure, laughing, reading, writing, biology, random trivia, and rockband. I want your body. **Natisfaction**, 22,  #128909

SARCASM GALORE

I'm new to the Austin area, and looking to meet some cool new people to show me around this lovely place.I love traveling, cooking, dancing, electronic music, & watching movies. **erinlagrif**, 26,  #128758

BROWN BUTCH SEEKS

Hello, my name is Chris. I'm 30 years old. I would like to find some cool people with whom I can break bread, exchange music and ideas, thoughts, vibes....saliva eventually. **chrisg2369**, 30,  #128732

MANY MORE ADS ONLINE!
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ALLITERATION'S ALWAYS AWFUL

Me: twentysomething writer, academic and comedian. Kinda hip, kinda nerdy. Wanting more than just a good time. You: well traveled, accomplished, tall. Funny. Not old enough to be my father. **diffuseglow**, 25,  #129131

FUN SIMPLE GIRL

I'm a simple girl looking for fun. I'm into great food, company and music. Cooking, watching a movie or playing a game of phase 10 is always a fun night. **ForLoveofCAKE1**, 23,  #129124

JUST LOVE ME

I love life, love to laugh and make people laugh. Partying is fun but so is staying in and watching a movie. But I take drunk pictures like nobody's business. **yovzas321**, 19,  #129123

LOOKING FOR ...

I'm open-minded, tolerant and somewhat eclectic liberal leaning child of the 70's. Looking for a friend to laugh, talk, and snuggle with, 5'10" or taller,educated casual drinker and non-smoker. **TerriRedux**, 49,  #124937

LETS GO EXPLORE!

We could drive up to the lake, explore a small town festival or winery then watch a movie at home with the wine and goodies we found along the way. **siena**, 56,  #128985

PAINTBALL? POOL? ROCKBAND???

I'm a down to earth, out to space, Austin native whose looking for a movie freak whose just as crazy as I am to do spontaneous things with. Sound fun? **albinoredhead**, 19,  #129045

GOOFY, TATTOOED ROCKER

I'm funny, cute, love music, friendly, clumsy and me. I like comics, movies, and little skateboarding/bmxing boys. Want to meet someone to hang out with and more. **rockingtgal**, 28,  #123040

men SEEKING women

LIVE, LOVE, LAUGH

Like someone will type: "I am a real asshole, rude, fat and smoke three packs a day, and don't have a job." I dont think so. I'm Totally AWESOME, really. **gricha07**, 32,  #129236

NEW, BORED, CLUELESS.

Just moved here recently, I drink a varying on the situation, nerd and gearhead if that makes sense, just too shy to meet people on the street. **Zargosa**, 19,  #129237

KIND, SYMPATHETIC, GENTLEMANLY

I have lived and worked in 8 countries in my adult life. Small criminal and family law practice downtown where I also live and have a partnership in a restaurant/bar. **tominaustin**, 65,  #129234

katiepaige

NO SENSE IN NONSENSE!

I like stinky dogs, sunny days, eskimo hut, egg rolls, the river, days off/vacations, laughing at friends, mostly anything with fun...no, funny people. I crack myself up, sometimes I'm the only one laughing, but clearly it's hilarious! My nights mostly consist of hanging out with friends and drinking too much. I'm looking for a guy who is simply honest & fun to be around.

read the rest of **KATIEPAIGE's** profile or enter your own profile for **FREE** online at austinchronicle.com/loverslane

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsny for Feb 6-12

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "What is a weed?" asked Ralph Waldo Emerson. "A plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered." Your assignment, Aquarius, is to identify a weedlike thing in your life whose rich possibilities have not yet been fully realized. Bear in mind, as you ruminate, that there are some weedlike things that would not be particularly valuable even if you did ultimately tease out their full potential. Your task is to find a weed whose transformation into a plant will be especially useful to your unique needs.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Many Americans believe China is a society that puts an abnormally high emphasis on keeping its citizens in line through punishment. But the truth is that only 1.2% of China's 1.3 billion people are in the slammer, whereas the U.S. has jailed 7.7% of its population of 300 million. In other words, my home country has a much higher percentage of people behind bars than they do. I bring this to your attention, Pisces, as a prod to free some of the parts of yourself that you've imprisoned. Declare amnesty for the miscast captives and repressed workers within you. Bring the level down from the U.S. rate of incarceration to the Chinese level.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): I was watching a martial-arts competition on ESPN. It featured a fierce macho dance-off, in which rivals took turns brandishing their high-octane warrior choreography. At one point the announcer waxed poetic as the eventual winner pulled off a seemingly impossible move: "And that was a corkscrew illusion twist rodeo spin!" In the coming week, Aries, I urge you to do something like that yourself - maybe even a few times. As you seek to take your game to a higher level, unveil your personal version of the corkscrew illusion twist rodeo spin.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): There's one supreme standard by which your progress in the coming weeks should be ultimately measured: Will you understand yourself better at the end of the adventures than you did at the beginning? A new privilege may come your way or an honor that will perk up your resumé and maybe even a breakthrough that will help dissolve your phobia of success. But they will only manifest a fraction of their potential unless you heed my updated version of Socrates' best sound bite: Know thyself - or else.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Scientists say that 90% of your brain is composed of fat. My own investigations have revealed, on the other hand, that less than 20% of your soul is made of fat. So the two balance each other out pretty well. In the coming days, however, I expect that both your brain and soul will be adding the equivalent of more lean, highly toned muscle. As a result, your mental acuity should increase as well as your spiritual insight. You're likely to be getting smarter and wiser. I hope you will bring these growing abilities to bear on every important decision. Alone, neither is enough.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Born in 1822, my great-great-great-grandfather Edward Dembowski was a bohemian philosopher and columnist who led a revolutionary struggle to liberate Poland from plutocrats and foreign occupation. A feminist long before most European men entertained the issue of women's liberation, he edited a journal that was the main organ of the "Enthusiasts," who fought for women's rights. He's one of my heroes! I invite you, Cancerian, to delve into your own ancestry to see if there are inspirational role models like Dembowski. According to my reading of the astrological omens, it's an excellent time to activate more of your dormant genetic potential. One good way to do that: Use your imagination to establish psychic and spiritual links to your admirable forebears.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Dating your first cousin? I don't recommend it anytime soon. Likewise, I'm here to talk you out of surrounding yourself with people who always agree with you, and I hope you won't try to milk an old resource for the same help it has provided countless times. In the foreseeable future, Leo, please downplay and de-emphasize the kinds of unions that result from like attracting like. Instead, think cross-fertilization. Catalyze exotic blends, unexpected combinations, and mergers of elements that have never been mixed.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): As Barack Obama's Inauguration Day approached, some astrologers were aghast that he would be taking the oath of office when the moon was void-of-course. In their eyes, this aspect is a bad portent for any new enterprise. If Obama would only postpone the oath for 35 minutes, they said, everything would be fine. He didn't, of course. But then the improbable happened. Chief Justice John Roberts, who was administering the oath, got the wording wrong, and Obama went along with it. Scholars then speculated that the oath wasn't fully official. The next day, when the moon was no longer void-of-course, Roberts and Obama redid the ritual, making things right. And that's how an apparent mistake allowed Obama to elude the curse of superstitious astrologers. A seemingly inconvenient delay in your own process, Virgo, will bring an equally beneficent loophole for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "Everything has been figured out, except how to live," sneered the existentialist philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre. That's not completely true, of course, which he might have discovered had he not closed his dogmatically cynical mind to the countless humans (many unknown to history) whose lives have been great works of art. Starting from these thoughts, Libra, you are hereby invited to regard the next 11 months as a time when you will make your own life a masterpiece - a labor of love that is ingeniously imagined and lyrically wrought. Unseen forces and unexpected allies will come to your assistance if you do.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): I've got three questions for you, Scorpio. First, where will you go next to satisfy that special need of yours - you know, the need that demands ever-fresh varieties of fuel? Second, who will you enlist in your ongoing efforts to change your environment so that it's more compatible with your drives? And third, what helpful influences will you seek to attract into your sphere as you upgrade and refine your ambitions? The coming weeks will be a good time to cultivate your web of alliances as you address these questions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A substantial fraction of the world's scientists are funded by the military. This saddens me. I wish we lived on a planet where most scientists were in service to peace and plenty, working to solve social and environmental problems. But corrupt exploitations of the scientific method are no excuse for me to banish it from my repertoire. I use it frequently. Likewise, I draw tremendous inspiration from the life and teachings of Christ, even though I don't belong to a Christian church and am distraught about the devastation wrought by the fundamentalist mindset. Would you consider applying this approach to your personal life, Sagittarius? For example, maybe you could come to a new appreciation of your parents' gifts without losing sight of the ways they messed you up. Or perhaps you could forgive your heroes for their slight lack of integrity or borrow good ideas from a way of looking at the world that partly offends you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may find it hard to believe that imprecise language could undermine your ability to merge with your heart's desire. But it's true. Your biggest wish may never be fully granted as long as you're lazy or sloppy about how you articulate it. Try this: Write down a brief statement that crisply sums up the one experience you want more than anything else in life. Preface it with this assertion: "I am doing everything possible to accomplish the following goal." Memorize this magic formula and repeat it twice a day until your wish is fulfilled, even if that takes 10 years. p.s. It will work best if you don't include anything about how certain people need to change in order for your longing to be fulfilled.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsny's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

AUSTIN BORN

I'm emotional & moody at times, passive, vers/btm and feminine mannered. I'm looking for white or hispanic men vers/tops. No Closet Cases!! Be Proud of who you are, I am. jmnzptrck, 41, #127798

HOPE DIES LAST

haha, i am many things, but ordinary is not one of them! Lets be random together !! And find new ways to be crazy ! Blue, 23, #101322

LOOK HERE, PLEASE!

Looking for friendship, dating. Interests include camping, biking, theater, movies, reading, canoeing, traveling. Politically progressive, romantic, passionate, humorous, and do community work Am 5'9, 163#, 62yo, trim gray beard, masculine. AsuAbogado, 62, #124933

YOUR SENSUAL SPARTAN

I'm a man with a passion for good looking women, high quality dining, and watching animals. I enjoy watching the 300, Rambo, and Conan. Could you be my Salma/Heidi Klum? inuyasha86, 22, #125037

HELLO

I'm a good listener and enjoy conversations that go beyond superficial small talk. I enjoy talking about politics, scientific and spiritual philosophy, and film. IzuLove, 24, #129163

GO DEAR HUNTER

Im max Im straight forward, truthful, and typically quiet I solve problems, I think too much, possibly read too much on top of that. shapie08, 25, #128961

LOVE TO LIVE

I've been in Austin for two yrs&half. working&studying.couldnt have chance to meet people find friends. now Im taking break from studying. trying to find someone who can take me out show me austin. nana, 31, #128817

JUST friends

ALWAYS SMILING

Love meeting new people, eating out, enjoying the city and live music! Did anyone else have as much fun as I did at Carnival? Let's grab coffee and reminisce! PhoenixsPistole, 20, #129221

PRE-FAREWELL@BESO

Mel~my thoughts were all tied up like my hair. You are a gorgeous light! Farewells to your bud styling to NYC. I will dance with you soon! **When: Saturday, January 31. Where: Beso Cantina. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903806**

CARNIVALE BRAZIL SISTERS

We danced so much! You both are great dancers! My yellow shirt became my towel haha but the fesival was fun! Want to follow it up with Copa? **When: Saturday, January 31. Where: Carnivale Brazil. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903805**

JENNA @RWH

You: Looking Sxc in your black dress & dark hair Me: drunk & falling out the door and all over you. asked your name & said You were hot bytheladiesbathroom **When: Friday, January 23. Where: Saxon Pub Ray Wiley Concert. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903804**

219 WEST 1/30/09

You (tall and thin) at a table with 3 guys. Me (petite and thin) sitting on the couch with 5 girls. I like your smile. We should hang out! **When: Friday, January 30. Where: 219 West. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903803**

FUNKY ART CAFÉ

A year ago in Varkala, you easily the most beautiful, fantastic girl in India. I'm shy, but please be with me, make me laugh, make love, make our life ... **When: Thursday, February 14, 2008. Where: Funky Art Café. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903802**

ASIAN MARKET CAFE

At the market on Spicewood Springs. You: short black hair, very attractive. Glasses. We exchanged looks over a late lunch. More meals, more looks? **When: Monday, January 26. Where: Asian Market Spicewood Springs. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903800**

GEORGIA AT PACHA

Georgia- I met you at Pacha on Sunday, Jan. 25 by asking you about Facebook I'd like to get to know you. J **When: Sunday, January 25. Where: Cafe Pacha. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903785**

VULCAN SOUTH

You were still in your motorcycle gloves. How did you like Wall-E? **When: Sunday, January 25. Where: Vulcan South. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903786**

BLONDE AT PARLOR

You were the cute blonde with glasses, drinking beer with a friend. I was sitting next table over. We both seemed to notice each other. Care to grab a beer? **When: Sunday, January 25. Where: The Parlor. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903797**

"SWEET WAGON" MONDAY

You: Adorable rock chick in w/ blonde/pink curls in blue Volvo. Caught me off-guard when you asked if I needed a jump. Should have lied and said "damn right, I do." **When: Monday, January 26. Where: outside Wells Fargo S. Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903796**

UTCOOPARTSTORE

Me ,short, sleepy head, brunette looking for woodcutting tools, and Kitikata paper. You,adorable, helpful employee who pointed me in the right direction.We both were wearing plaid.Let's chat. **When: Monday, January 26. Where: UT Art Co-op. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903795**

CLUMSY SERVER DOMAIN

You:the "clumsy server" at a restaurant in The Domain.Me:watching the Tech game.You were dropping stuff all over.I didnt want to be one to ask a girl out at work.Let's meet. **When: Friday, January 2. Where: Restaurant at the Domain. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #903794**

PRONTO- HYDE PARK

You: blonde hair, white car, bought wine and some other goodies. Parked by me and stood behind me. Me: silver truck, brown hair, glasses, pea coat. Happy hour sometime? **When: Tuesday, January 27. Where: Pronto- Hyde Park. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903793**

LONG-HAIRED MAN, MAUDIE'S

I couldn't stop looking at you. You were sitting diagonally from us and wearing blue & khaki and were with another long-haired gentleman. Couldn't talk then but can now. **When: Saturday, January 17. Where: Maudie's Restaurant/ S. Lamar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903792**

GIRL/FRI/NIGHT IHOP SOUTH

We were both leaving. Me , man in longhorn shirt -you/said your/name, but/your friend didn't give us time, to give numbers. U asked me to try this. **When: Friday, January 23. Where: IHOP You: Woman. Me: Man. #903789**

THE APPLE EATER

just see me in action at work and you will see my true nature. i am a giver and a nurturer. i am realistic, proud, joyous, adventurous, outgoing.. brookerhymeswith, 24, #128765

WHY GOD WHY

Just got a feeling that life might not matter without friends, anyone feeling wretched like me? Well lets be pals and play games or do sports or cause trouble together. sludgebrain, 29, #128493

messages

HEY CHEERLEADER in your skinny jeans. I sure do like your pom poms! -LJ

LUMPS AT SUGARS

you 25 y/o artist with amazing profile. Me, drunk on you. You gave me lip hickies and gave my email. I would cherish an email. Let me be your muse. **When: Friday, January 23. Where: Sugars. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903799**

HEB BURNET, SUNDAY

You: tall, dark-haired, behind me in line. After chit-chatting some, we exchanged looks in the parking lot. My facebook status is single, nobody has murdered me yet. Wanna meet up? **When: Sunday, January 25. Where: HEB on Burnet. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903788**

WHOLE FOODS CUTIE

You were working in the express lane wearing a great pair of Rayban eyeglasses. I'm a shy, tattooed black girl that bought jello just to talk to you. Lunch sometime? **When: Sunday, January 25. Where: Whole Foods on N. Lamar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903787**

KM/ AZUL TEQUILA

I saw you Thursday night. Do you remember what we talked about? Give me a chance. I don't want to waste any more time being afraid of something so beautiful. **When: Thursday, January 22. Where: Azul Tequila. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903784**

MATTHEW LILLARD LOOK-ALIKE

You:Matthew Lillard lookalike (Joe) Me:Short brunette Where:H-E-B Village Center Dr. You're a total cutie, you look especially cute with your glasses on. **When: Thursday, January 22. Where: H-E-B @ Village Center Dr. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903783**

SHAKEDOWN AT NASTY'S

You, cute barkeep at Nastys's who threatened to knock out my teeth if we played anymore 90's alt on the jukebox. Let's knock teeth sometime. Wait, what? **When: Sunday, January 4. Where: Nasty's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903782**

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STRIKING BLOND-UTPAC

World of Sound- Friday. Striking blond woman with red fuzzy jacket. Me- pin stripe blazer, overly big pink collar, glasses. A passing smile and furtive glance leaving the ticket line. **When: Friday, January 30. Where: UTPAC-World of Sound. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903813**

MT. BONNELL REDHEADS

Mt. Bonnell Sunday-You: red hair (dyedmaybe?) and white headband and sunglasses. me: fedora-type hat and radiohead shirt. I'd like to see you again and actually talk to you this time! **When: Sunday, February 1. Where: Mt. Bonnell. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903812**

AUDITORIUM SHORES FEB1

You: pink shirt, jean shorts playing with "Louie" Me: black/white dog swam with "Louie", would not stop barking. Wish asked your name. Want to take dogs out on "date" **When: Sunday, February 1. Where: Auditorium Shores. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903811**

BLONDE AT PARLOR

You were the cute blonde photography grad student with glasses. I was sitting next table over. We said hi and smiled a couple of times. Care to grab a beer? **When: Sunday, January 25. Where: The Parlor. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903810**

JESSICA@CARNAVAL

You: Turquoise corset, labret piercing, white mask, beautiful. Me: Dark Blue vest, brown hair,bandanna. We danced, we kissed, I forgot to get your number! Let's dance again. **When: Saturday, January 31. Where: Carnival@ Palmer events center. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903809**

SATURDAY AUSTIN CARNAVAL

We danced together at the Carnival, remember me? Heather...your beautiful eyes and sweet smile were just hypnotic!!! I had a wonderful time. Can I take you out sometime, Heather? **When: Saturday, January 31. Where: Austin Carnival @ Palmer Event Center. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903808**

OFF TO NYC--FAREWELL@RAIN

I'm not sure what happened...but you should be here this gorgeous morning and not just in my dread-head :) You are a beautiful light! Let's dance! **When: Saturday, January 31. Where: Beso Cantina. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903807**

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