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THE AUSTIN

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FREE
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CHRONICLE

Celebrate Oktoberfest Like a Prince

Koko's Bavarian gets a visit from its royal namesake, Konstantin "Koko" Prinz von Bayern ... and other Oktoberfestivities in our fair city

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER • P.38



ALSO: PEERING INTO TEXAS' HAZY FUTURE AT TRIBFEST P.16 SMILE, THE FALL'S FIRST BIG HORROR SMASH P.22 MEET OUR NEW MUSIC EDITOR, RACHEL RASCOE P.44

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Signs of the Season Changing

When I let the dog out first thing in the morning, I've started sniffing the air just like Thizz does; if I had a tail, I'd wag it, too. Fall is my favorite season, and it's well and truly on its way now. OK, technically, fall started last Thursday. We topped out at an unfestive 96 degrees that day. But the telltale signs are here. You can smell it in the air, catch it in how the evening light has changed, and anticipate it in the onslaught of activities Austin coughs up for our entertainment every autumn – the festivals and football games and happy return to al fresco dining.

For instance: This week's cover package – a collaboration between Food Editor Melanie Haupt and Food Lieutenant Wayne Alan Brenner – dives into Oktoberfest, that annual, international celebration of German beer that actually kicked off locally last week and runs all through October. That story starts on p.38.

Another "Oktoberfestivity" in this issue: the return of our Halloween Costume and Display Contest. We first started running this contest in 2020, back when we were

still in hardcore lockdown, and it was such a bright spot, seeing our readers' amazing creativity in doing up their yards and front porches and balconies, not to mention their crazy-inventive costumes. We've kept the contest going, upping the goody bags for winners, and this year, Culture Editor/Extreme Halloween Enthusiast Richard Whittaker is going to be personally curating a prize pack in the display category. More details about that on p.39.

Fall also means we're barreling toward the midterm election. I don't need to tell you how important this one is. If you haven't registered to vote yet, you'll find a form printed on p.11; make sure you get it in the mail well before the Oct. 11 dead-

line. You can also register to vote online at traviscountyelections.org. Want to know who and what is on the ballot? Follow our ongoing coverage at austinchronicle.com/elections. Our endorsements for the Nov. 8 election will run in the Oct. 21 issue.

See you here next week. Maybe we'll all be in sweaters by then. ■

WE HAVE AN ISSUE

BY KIMBERLEY JONES

ONLINE THIS WEEK

POLITICOS, SAY CHEESE Staff photographer Jana Birchum snaps the bold-faced names in politics and policy at last weekend's Texas Tribune Festival, including former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, California Governor Gavin Newsom, and MSNBC anchor Katy Tur.

ACTUALLY FUNNY Trans comedy duo Girl God discuss their origins and their unique queer comedic perspective ahead of their Austin Sketch Fest show.

THE HEALING ARTS Whatsinthemirror Executive Director Tarik Daniels talks about combining mental health awareness, HIV prevention, and art for the Art Heals Festival.



JANA BIRCHUM



Harry Styles

PHOTO BY LLOYD WAKEFIELD

LIKE BEATLEMANIA BUT WITH MORE FEATHERS Abby Johnston reviews the first of Harry Styles' six-night run of shows at the Moody Center, a riot of colors, feathers, and near-constant screaming from the heartthrob's devoted fan base.

ROXY MUSIC AT THE MOODY Hall-of-Famers Roxy Music reunite with less stamina but pleasant sounds and vibes, writes Mike Clark-Madison.

BLOOM & FADE David Beck shares the stories behind his new album, track by track.

RIP NAU'S ENFIELD DRUG It's another end of an era, as the iconic Clarksville spot announces its imminent closure.

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LOCALLY DIVORCED

Dear Editor,

While reviewing your best of Breakfast and Late-Nite Dining, you laud Kerby Lane Cafe for locally sourcing their ingredients [Best of Austin: Restaurants, Dining Out, Sept. 23]. For at least the last 10 years they have NOT purchased anything from local purveyors. Nothing they serve is "often locally sourced." Nothing.

In fact they ended all relationships with local purveyors about 10 years ago. Sounds good, but its simply not true. At all.

John Lash

LADYBIRD LAMENTS

Dear Editor,

Twenty-eight thousand colored bulbs covering 16 acres of rough and rocky land dedicated to the conservation of native plants? It was good to read Soll Sussman's strong opinion piece calling out the Lady Bird Wildflower Center for presenting the Field of Light. ["Opinion: Wildflower Center Fails Its Conservation Mission by Lighting Up Its Landscape," Sept. 23] Sussman is right to educate people about all the ways this exhibition counters the dark skies movement,

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OOOPS! In "Election Ticker: They Ban, We Plan" (News, September 23), the article incorrectly stated that Celia Israel spoke at the UT Students for Planned Parenthood and Planned Parenthood Texas Votes panel; she planned to be on the panel but did not attend due to day-of miscommunication, per her campaign. The *Chronicle* regrets the error.

but there are plenty of other reasons to oppose it. I thought of the roadrunner we regularly encounter on the trails, the big owls that swoop down from oaks at twilight, even the nocturnal moths. The hordes of people coming at night won't even be able to see or learn about those inhabitants and the natural landscape that Ladybird sought to protect. She can't be resting easy.

Diana Claitor

OPINION VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

VERDE, BLACK, AND RAINBOWS: HOW LOS VERDES HELPED ME FIND A COMMUNITY IN THE SPORT I LOVE

Soccer was my first true love and, honestly, it has been the only lifelong love that I've known. It hasn't always been the healthiest of relationships. I had to quit playing at 16 after a doctor told me that I would be facing a full knee replacement in my 20s if I didn't stop. When I coached a U4 team, I had fun until I dealt with parents that didn't understand why I wouldn't force their crying 4-year-old to play. As a fan, I frequently encountered toxic masculinity and homophobia freely displayed by the most vocal of the fan base. That left me a fan with no team to truly call my own and feeling like there was no longer a place for me in the sport I loved.

I resigned myself to watching World Cup and Premier League broadcasts, reading about how the Aztex (and then Bold) matches went, and occasionally making the trip to Dallas or Houston for a match. When I first heard rumblings about an MLS team in Austin, I was worried. Our city climate isn't always as welcoming as people perceive, especially after the 2016 election. I feared that having a local team would also mean seeing the worst fan behaviors from people in my own town. For someone who has experienced overt homophobia in Austin, I didn't want more proof that being who I am isn't always welcome. I kept an eye on what was going on from a distance. I just waited and hoped that by some sort of gift from the universe, things would be different. From the messy nature of Precourt trying (and thankfully failing) to move the Crew from Columbus to the supporters' group implosion that was observable in bits and pieces on the internet, it felt like proof that I should keep my distance.

In an unexpected twist, I felt welcome at every home match I attended that first season. I spent the last home game in the supporters' section for the first time and was welcomed like a friend into the sea of verde and black. I still wasn't sold on joining a supporters' group until January of 2022. Los Verdes posted a scarf collaboration with the Fighting Lesbians that proceeds went to The Other Ones

[Foundation] and a supply drive to support the local unhoused population, then they posted a photo of a group volunteering for Meals on Wheels, and then they released their fundraiser shirt for the Laundry Project. The group wasn't being performative; it was backing up their statement of "Futbol y Comunidad" with action. I joined Los Verdes on February 14, 2022, which feels fitting since soccer has been my love for so long.

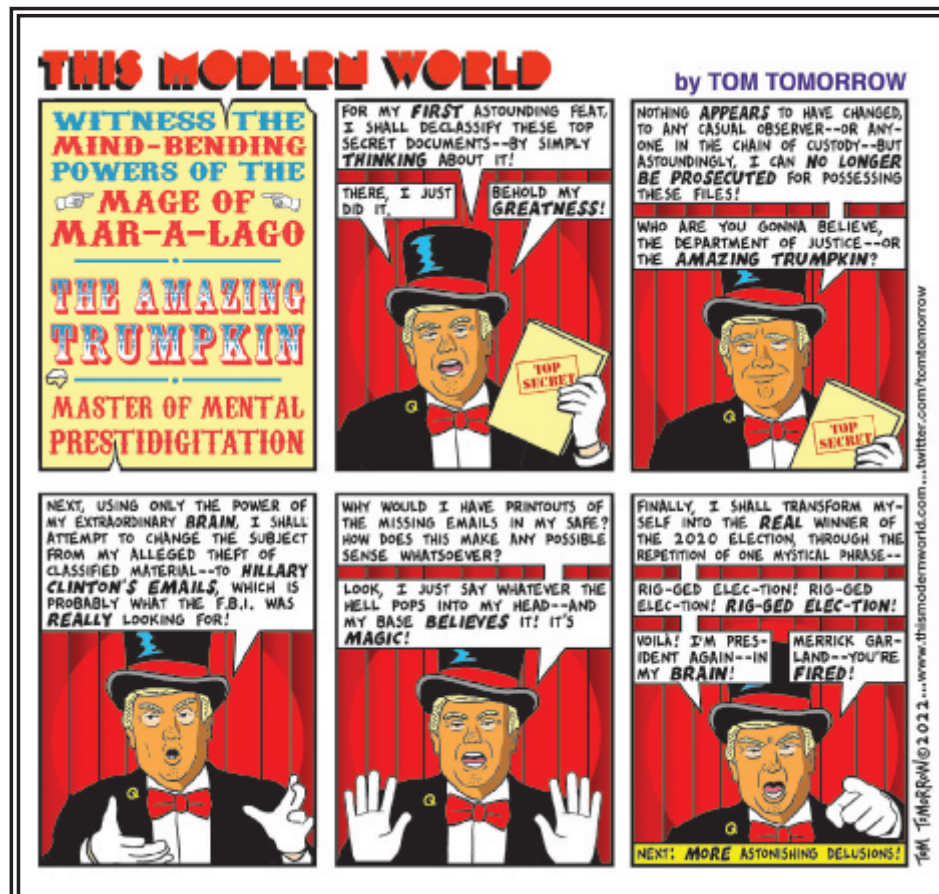
In the short seven months I have been a member, a lot has happened both within the organization and in the world. Since February, Los Verdes has been directly involved in fundraising for organizations supporting trans kids, domestic violence survivors, abortion access, and most visibly Uvalde after the tragedy at Robb Elementary. We raised nearly \$270,000 that was donated to the Uvalde Together We Rise Fund. Through this group I have been able to see true support for causes that are so important to me.

I was able to give lived experience and insight into drafting the statement against domestic violence, I was able to help paint a banner to support the Workers Defense Project, I walked in the Pride parade with fellow supporters and my girlfriend, I created art for a fundraising jersey, and I have watched this group actively choose to create a space that embodies "Y'all Means All."

In the 24 years that I have been a soccer fan, I never felt like I found a home within the sport. I never found a group [where] I could be authentically myself. For the first time I can openly be a polyamorous, queer, nonbinary fan and not only find acceptance but find found family that chooses me the same way I choose them. Verde Hasta la Muerte. ■

Harley Hightower is a typical queer millennial that enjoys iced coffee, speaking up for social justice, and challenging the societal expectations of gender. When not arguing with internet trolls, they are an avid Austin FC fan, ride motorcycles, travel, wander bookstores, and enjoy visiting Austin's green spaces. Harley is a native to Central Texas and calls Austin home. Their goal above all else is to provide the best life possible for their dogs and find adventure when possible.

BY HARLEY HIGHTOWER



The *Chronicle* welcomes submissions of opinion pieces on any topic from the community. Find guidelines and tips at austinchronicle.com/opinion.



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“Run, Ken, run!”

– Rochelle Garza, Democratic nominee for Texas attorney general, after GOP incumbent Ken Paxton reportedly ran away from a man serving him a subpoena this week



JOHN ANDERSON



Meryl Streep visited Austin Sunday to honor Robert De Niro, her friend of 40 years, at the University of Texas. De Niro has donated his complete acting archive – including his Oscars, *Godfather* scripts, and notes – to UT's Harry Ransom Center.

SCREENSHOT VIA ROSENFIELD MEDIA GROUP

Texas: Still Broken, Still Sad

Abbott stays one step ahead of the mob amid Lone Star and Uvalde fallout

Some filmmaker – David O. Russell, Adam McKay, one of our local guys – should already be thinking about how to tell the story of Operation Lone Star, Gov. Greg Abbott's MAGA megastunt to ensure his reelection by fomenting chaos, uncertainty, and fear along the Texas-Mexico border. The panel of solid pros from The Texas Tribune, ProPublica, and *Military Times* who laid out the Lone Star story so far at last weekend's Texas Tribune Festival could not themselves break character and the fourth wall and say, “Can you believe this sh*t?” or draw too many underlines under the clear evidence that Abbott is running a huge scam and lying about it,

**AUSTIN
AT LARGE**
BY MIKE CLARK-
MADISON

and that Texas' state-level militarization of the border is not making anything better, and that the only reason for any of it is Abbott pandering to Fox News Nation and poking at his frenemy Ron DeSantis (whose life is about to change dramatically thanks to Hurricane Ian, so hold your tickets, please). If real people were not being immiserated and oppressed, it would be darkly comic.

The goods, in summary, as presented by journalists Perla Trevizo, Lomi Kriel, Jolie McCullough, James Barragán, and Davis Winkie: Yes, there is a major ongoing surge in migration across the U.S. southern border. This is primarily a

humanitarian crisis, but the high-voltage racism of the Fox News voter and the GOP's 60-year embrace of the neofascist conspiracist right mean that Abbott must pretend that it is a *security* crisis, and that it's Joe Biden's fault even though it began before his election, and that Texas can solve it. So he whipped up a scheme with the Dept. of Public Safety, the Texas National and State Guard, and local sheriffs in desolate rural counties, just in time to show his steel in the March primary against wing nuts Don Huffines and Allen West. Lots of big numbers and milestones have been quoted since, most of them inaccurate (e.g., reported fentanyl seizures are statewide, not just at unauthorized points

CONTINUED ON P.8

HEADLINES

GOD SAVE THE SENATOR Sen. **Ted Cruz** broke from his party in a Senate Rules Committee decision this week, voting against the bipartisan **Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act**, which is designed to prevent another Jan. 6-style insurrection. It would also bar Cruz from singlehandedly objecting to presidential election results. Both parties' Senate leaders voted for it and it will advance to the full Senate, where it's expected to find broad support.

TEHRAN CALLING Fiery anti-veil protests have erupted in dozens of **Iranian cities** after the death of 22-year-old **Mahsa Amini**, who morality police in Iran reportedly detained for violating dress code. Local protesters raised signs outside the **Texas Capitol** Monday in solidarity.

YOUR KIDS WANNA BE SEDATED The newest frontier of drug panic is **rainbow fentanyl**, candy-colored pills turning up in the marketplace for illicit meds popular with young people. The Texas health department urged parents to talk about drugs with their kids; the Facebook fearful contorted this into tall tales of evil people giving away fentanyl on Halloween, and now **Fox News** is telling parents to keep their kids home.

NOW I WANNA BE YOUR GOV **Beto O'Rourke**, off the heels of his 49-day **Drive for Texas** tour, on Monday launched his “college tour” across Texas at UT-Austin. “Young people, students like those who are here right now, are literally going to decide the outcome of this election,” he said at the event.

ONE WAY OR ANOTHER (THEY'LL BE REPORTING) The *Denton Record-Chronicle* announced this week it's in talks to be acquired by Dallas public broadcaster **KERA**, thus becoming a nonprofit. The *DRC* is winding down its print edition but will keep covering Denton as a digital outlet. The deal, aided by the **National Trust for Local News**, mirrors the recent acquisition of the *Chicago Sun-Times* by WBEZ.

I HATE THE RICH **Grimes** took to Twitter this week to inform Texans that rent is expensive. (No!! Really??) She then promoted a petition that lays out some seemingly palatable (if developer-friendly) asks for state leadership, like freeing property owners to build casitas. The petition is from **Texans for Reasonable Solutions**, whose board includes Grimes herself, former congressional campaign manager **Nicole Nosek**, and Nicole's husband, billionaire co-founder of **PayPal Luke Nosek**.

URBAN HOME The **American Rescue Plan** allocated \$5 billion to assist people who are homeless or at risk – up to \$11.4 million could go to Austin. The city wants community members to review the city's proposal at this link, bit.ly/3SkAGDL, then comment virtually or IRL at the Oct. 11 public hearing with the **Community Development Commission**.

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At the “What Happened in Uvalde” panel at TribFest Sept. 22: (l-r) Eva Guzman, former Justice of the Texas Supreme Court; Rep. Dustin Burrows, R-Lubbock; and Rep. Joe Moody, D-El Paso

JANA BIRCHUM

AUSTIN AT LARGE CONTINUED FROM P. 6

of entry). Achieving big round-number targets – like deploying “10,000 troops to the border” (in reality no more than 6,500) – became its own reward.

This has all gone pear-shaped in multiple ways. The bright idea to prosecute unauthorized border crossers for criminal trespass has completely overwhelmed small-town courts and jails with thousands of (misdemeanor) cases for defendants who often were deported months ago, or who are now being detained in state prisons that had to be completely emptied of inmates to house border crossers. The National Guard deployment was so mishandled as to get West and Beto O’Rourke on the same page reading Abbott for filth, and to get media-shy soldiers running to fill in reporters about the failures of their chains of command. (Winkie, of *Military Times*, noted that the entire leadership of the Texas Military Department has been quietly replaced since the stories of starving, suicidal Guard members trapped at the border got out.) Once Abbott realized he could get Fox News’ attention just by putting folks on buses to New York, he lost interest in Lone Star, and it’s trying to quietly wind itself down, which is difficult since it has cost the state close to \$5 billion.

ACUTE AND CHRONIC DISEASES

Everything in Texas is broken and nothing works, and for some reason this has not prevented Abbott from solidifying an above-50% lead over O’Rourke in multiple polls. The failures of Lone Star are par for the course around here now, all reflections of

the endemic and systemic decay that’s rotting state government down to the foundations. For a while, it looked like the Uvalde catastrophe was the exception that proved the rule – people obviously disagree about the underlying events on principle but they’re united in seeking accountability and meaningful change. Right? Maybe.

The TribFest session with the three-member Texas House panel investigating the massacre – Reps. Dustin Burrows, R-Lubbock, and Joe Moody, D-El Paso, and former Texas Supreme Court Justice Eva Guzman – did not bring much sunshine. The 78-minute wait between the first and last shots fired at Robb Elementary, during which hundreds of cops were caught on tape doing squat while dismembered children died in front of them, needs to be replayed every time cops start popping off about how essential they are and how unsafe we’d be without them. But all the victims would likely still be dead. Raising the legal age to own an AR-15 to 21 is the instant response desired by Dems and Uvalde families, but the courts just told Texas it couldn’t deny its new permitless carry rights (“constitutional carry”) to 18-year-olds, so any age limit may be on shaky ground. The biggest and most useful fix would have been to have a way people could report concerns about troubled young men who’ve embraced violence to mental health authorities; even if we can’t have red-flag laws that get their guns lifted, they could be, you know, given the help they need. But Texas ranks 51st out of 50 in providing mental health care access to young people. ■

Mobility for All

Three visions for our transportation future

As **Project Connect** wends its way from being a transit plan to being a transit network, it’s becoming increasingly clear that, by itself, its reach is limited: Unless you live, and work, and shop within a few blocks of a station, it’s not going to do much for you, until someone fixes the “last mile” problems. And even then, as the city grows, if we get half the people out of their cars, but the population doubles, don’t we still have just as many gas guzzlers on the road? It’s hard to get ahead of the curve, but various people are trying. Here are three different visions that have been released in the past week or so, ranging from fairly conventional to one that calls for disruptive change.

Austin Climate Equity Plan

When City Council got its quarterly update on the equity plan this week, the focus was on **Transportation Electrification**, one of the initiative’s five goal areas (along with consumption of goods, transportation & land use, natural systems, and sustainable buildings). The report highlights some successes, and lays out three goals to achieve by 2030:

- 40% of Austin vehicle miles should be electric, with EV “ownership culturally, geographically, economically diverse.”
- We should have enough charging capacity – again, “equitably distributed” around town – to accommodate all that travel.
- Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos area leads in transportation electrification, in policy and technology, “supporting industry growth.”

So the emphasis here is primarily on encouraging EV ownership. As one presentation slide puts it: “Not driving a car is the best option for climate change, but cars are currently somewhat necessary in Austin.” For their part, the Austin Transportation Department notes that it’s adding 330 electric vehicles to the city fleet by the end of this year, and “due to higher gas prices, cost savings to date are ahead of initial forecasts.” Capital Metro is also electrifying (see p.12) and will be 100% electric by 2035. As for individuals, the report touts the city’s **EV Buyer’s Guide**, the developing charging network, and e-bikes, and notes that the market is trending toward EVs. See the report at austintexas.gov/page/austin-climate-equity-plan.

ATX Walk Bike Roll

This cross-departmental city project is intended to update the city’s official **Urban Trail, Sidewalk, and Bicycle Plans**. And after a year of community input, Public Works and ATD are presenting three scenarios for the future (see illustrations below), asking for further feedback on these and other policy questions in a virtual open house and a 15-minute survey through Oct. 23. These include the **Shared Streets** concept – which already piloted successfully a year ago, so what are we waiting for? How about asking every neighborhood association to designate a likely prospect or three? – but also a few striking concepts, such as a **“Guaranteed Basic Mobility”** program for low-income residents and other ideas to subsidize transit – which is taken here to include e-bikes, scooters, and the like. See it at austintexas.gov/department/atx-walk-bike-roll.

PUBLIC NOTICE
BY NICK BARBARO

LEAN Mobility

If you read that last paragraph thinking, “Why are we still talking about this instead of doing it?” then perhaps the Institute for Community MicroMobility is for you. It has a new report out as well, and while the mix of transportation options in their **Low Emission Alternative Network** frankly doesn’t seem much different from the city’s (they do feature low-speed EVs, or street-legal golf carts), their sense of urgency is at a different level: We need to do this shit **now**, and notably, we need to start collecting land and funding for it **now**. Their new product is “a white paper written for Austin’s next mayor,” whoever that may be, describing the vision: “What if we took this massive building boom and used it to incorporate a protected infrastructure for low-cost, low-speed **Tiny Transit** into our transportation system?” They would dedicate, for instance, “light trails” along all the new rail and rapid bus lines as well as some existing routes (Loop 360, the Red Line) and require the same sort of commitment of land and money from new developments, public and private. See all about it at micromobilityinstitute.org. ■



Scenario 1: Connecting to Neighborhood Destinations

Scenario 2: Connecting to Nature

Scenario 3: Connecting to Citywide Destinations

ATX WALK BIKE ROLL

STAND UP *to Your* SCIATIC PAIN

Are you seeking relief from crippling BACK PAIN or SCIATICA?

Sciatica is used to describe nerve pain that originates in the lower back, radiates deep into the buttock, and travels down the leg – better known as, a literal “PAIN IN THE BUTT.” All jokes aside, we understand how painful and debilitating sciatic pain can be.

- The burning sensation is unbearable.
- The shooting pain makes staying active almost impossible.
- Long car rides are out of the question.
- Standing for extended periods of time, forget it.
- You spend your entire day trying to get comfortable only to find that it's nearly impossible.

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We skillfully use non-invasive therapies like ATP Resonance Biotherapy™ and other nonpharmaceutical, non-opioid, non-steroid, for amplified and lasting results to relieve you of your sciatica and back pain.

Joey M. said this about her sciatica, “My sciatica pain was a 10 out of 10. Nothing was comfortable. I couldn't lay flat. I couldn't sit or stand for more than 10 minutes. Walking was the worst, my pain was so bad I couldn't even stand up straight. I like to walk and hike for exercise, this was impossible.”

“I was on the brink of surgery.”

“This had been going on for months and I had tried EVERYTHING. I came to Dr. Brown at Rosedale Acupuncture desperate for relief. He put me on an intensive treatment plan and within a few weeks my pain was cut in half and I was walking much better. By the end of our time together, I was hiking and walking without

pain, standing up straight, and back to my exercise routine. Lucas is a lifesaver!”

Dr. Brown is now accepting a limited amount of new patients. In an effort to protect his patients, both current and future, he has made the difficult decision to limit the number of patients seen in his clinic. **Only TEN New Low Back Pain/Sciatica patients will be accepted before the end of October 2022.**

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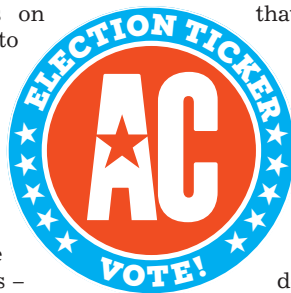
Partisan All the Time

Southwest Council races illuminate dual political divides

BY THE NEWS TEAM

At the Sept. 22 League of Women Voters forums for City Council Districts 5 and 8, the citywide divides over how, or even whether, to create more housing were further framed by partisan divides up and down the Nov. 8 ballot.

In D5, the contest to replace **Ann Kitchen**, the forum kicked off with a query on the role of neighborhood associations in city planning and thoughts on allowing each council district to choose its own zoning. **Bill Welch**, the Republican in this race, was all for this, while also fretting over rising property taxes; he endorsed loosening site standards on properties within transit corridors to encourage infill. The three leading non-Republicans – **Ryan Alter**, **Stephanie Bazan**, and **Ken Craig** – took the opposite view, with Bazan stressing that zoning shouldn't be piecemeal and Alter noting that the current land use code “purely incentiviz[es] scraping lots and building large mansions that a sliver of the population can afford.” When LoWV asked what “neighborhood



character” means to each candidate, the discussion pivoted on D5's anemic share of Austin's affordable housing (only 13% of the way toward its 2028 goal of 60,000 new units). Craig and Alter both pointed to the city's own permitting and review process as an obstacle that could be removed, while Welch said that “every neighborhood in Austin is diverse” and rejected the idea that Austin zoning is exclusionary.

In D8, incumbent CM **Paige Ellis** faces three challengers, the obvious Republican being **Richard Smith**, who answered the same “neighborhood character” question with a full-throated endorsement of neighbors' right to protest and block things they don't like: “People don't want an apartment complex right next to their neighborhood.” The far Southwest district is even further behind its housing goals – only 2% of its envisioned 7,000 new units – but Ellis pointed out there isn't much open land that can be developed (due to Austin's environmental ordinances) without redeveloping existing corridors and



Mayor candidate Cella Israel speaks at a shared event with Kirk Watson at Texas Tribune Festival Sept. 24

JANA BIRCHUM

nodes like the Y at Oak Hill, which neighbors tend to dislike.

Ellis has been a leader on Council on mobility, especially active transportation and the new **ATX Walk Bike Roll** initiative (made possible by the bond package she championed in 2020), which includes a plan to extend a shared-use path along Texas 45 Southwest, which neighbors and all

candidates supported – though Smith had a caveat that neighborhoods must want projects like this and be notified beforehand. Ellis pointed out that “D8 routinely doesn't fall at the top of the list when the city is funding projects like this; we've been finding private funds, other governmental partners to help with safe mobility actions.”

– *Lina Fisher*



Is HealthSouth Ready to Roll?

What will become of **HealthSouth**, the former medical rehabilitation hospital connected to the old **Brackenridge Hospital** campus, has been an open question since the city reclaimed control of the property at 1215 Red River in 2016. After cycling through some ideas for how to use it, which included turning it into a short-term shelter or selling it, in February 2021 Council voted to start negotiations with developers **Aspen Heights Partners** to build a mixed-use project that would include lots of affordable housing.

As recently as the July 28 Council meeting, when Aspen Heights presented its latest proposal, Council Member **Kathie Tovo**, who has pushed here as in other places for maximum community benefits from city-owned land, seemed ready to end negotiations with the developer and look to its traditional housing partners instead, to maximize the number of affordable units. Council punted a decision to today's (Sept. 29) meeting, and Tovo is calling the newest iteration of Aspen Heights' often-revised proposal “a marked improvement.” In fact, she took to the **Council message board** Monday to say that voting yes to move forward with a master development agreement with Aspen Heights would equate to “a declaration: Downtown is for everyone.”

Aspen Heights has proposed two towers with close to 921 units, with 232 (or 25%) being affordable. Those would all be in the south tower, along with a \$200,000 mural and an affordable child care center to serve 75 kids; Tovo says workers Downtown desperately need such child care. The north tower will include 573 market-rate units, a music venue, commercial spaces, and a plaza. Tovo said there's still “room for improvement,” such as a commitment to adhere to the city's living wage (\$20 per hour) in the commercial spaces and child care facility.

In other items, Council will take another pass at moving **Statesman PUD** plans along. CM **Chito Vela** reiterated in a message board post this week that the motion he will offer for Council consideration is a substitute for what is posted on the agenda for second reading, and not an end point for negotiations for this enormous project at 305 S. Congress. Council will also take on an eminent domain case on Elroy Road to buy out land for the **Kellam Road Water Pipeline Renewal Project**, vote on accepting state **grant funding for police**, and look at allowing a fee-in-lieu of affordable housing for projects at 1100, 1108, and **1110 E. Fifth**, among dozens of other items on the agenda.

– *Maggie Q. Thompson*

Hays County Commish Brings His Own Drama

If Hays County Commissioner **Walt Smith** wants to drive anywhere for the next five months, he first must prove he is not drunk. Earlier this month, activist news outlet *Caldwell/Hays Examiner* reported that the Dripping Springs-area Republican, running for reelection in November, was **busted for DWI** by Austin police in 2021 after he ran a red light and rear-ended a box truck on Lake Austin Boulevard. In response, Smith's attorney told KSAT News that "Walt has taken responsibility for his actions and is looking forward to putting this behind him."

Just two weeks later, the commissioner's responsibility-taking came to a halt. "This matter has been fairly concluded and my innocence confirmed," Smith declared Sept. 19. This is not exactly true; he pleaded to a different class B charge and got nine months' probation, mandated alcohol education, and an ignition lock on his Dodge Ram. Smith also marveled, "I was informed that I was under arrest for DWI, even though no blood was drawn, no Breathalyzer given, and officers at the scene expressed no suspicion of impairment." This last part is also not exactly true, as Smith flatly failed his field sobriety test and refused to allow either a blood or breath test – and got his license suspended for the latter. – *Jordan Buckley*

The Rest of the Ticker

Face-to-Face Combat: Gov. **Greg Abbott** and former U.S. Rep. **Beto O'Rourke** meet for the one sure-thing debate of the election cycle this Friday, Sept. 30, at UT-Rio Grande Valley in Edinburg. The last time the two met face-to-face is when O'Rourke crashed Abbott's ill-fated first feel-your-pain press conference in **Uvalde** – where Abbott first relayed the outright lies he'd been told about the police response to the Robb Elementary massacre – and told the gov, "This is on you." Probably won't be so dramatic this time; Abbott will talk about the border, O'Rourke about abortion and guns and foster care, no minds will be changed... **Endorsement Watch:** Jolt Action for Celia Israel, Real Estate Council of Austin for Kirk Watson; D1 Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison for Stephanie Bazan, and a list of 25 endorsers for Paige Ellis, ranging from U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett to the Austin Board of Realtors to the Sierra Club. ■

**Got a news tip?
Fill us in.**

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Voter Registration Deadline Is October 11

FILLING OUT THE APPLICATION

- Review the application carefully, fill it out, sign and date it, and mail it to the voter registrar in your county or drop it by the voter registrar's office.
- All voters who register to vote in Texas must provide a Texas driver's license number or personal identification number issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety. If you don't have such a number, simply provide the last four digits of your social security number. If you don't have a social security number, you need to state that fact.

- Your voter registration will become effective 30 days after it is received, or on your 18th birthday, whichever is later. Your registration must be effective on or before an election day in order to vote in that election.
- If you move to another county, you must re-register in the county of your new residence.

Please visit the Texas Secretary of State website, sos.state.tx.us, and for additional election information, visit votetexas.gov.

Este formulario está disponible en español. Favor de llamar a su registrador de votantes local para conseguir una versión en español.

1 THESE QUESTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE PROCEEDING (Check one)			
<input type="checkbox"/> New Application <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Address, Name, or Other Information <input type="checkbox"/> Request for a Replacement Card			
Are you a United States Citizen? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
If you checked 'No' in response to either of the above, do not complete this form.			
Are you interested in serving as an election worker? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
2	Last Name Include Suffix if any (Jr, Sr, III)	First Name	Middle Name (if any)
3	Residence Address: Street Address and Apartment Number. If none, describe where you live. (Do not include P.O. Box, Rural Rt. or Business Address)	City	TEXAS
		County	Zip Code
4	Mailing Address: Street Address and Apartment Number. (If mail cannot be delivered to your residence address.)	City	State
			Zip Code
5	City and County of Former Residence in Texas		
6	Date of Birth: (mm/dd/yyyy)	7 Gender (Optional)	8 Telephone Number (Optional) Include Area Code
	□□/□□/□□□□	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	(□□□)□□□-□□□□
9	Texas Driver's License No. or Texas Personal I.D. No. (Issued by the Department of Public Safety)	If no Texas Driver's License or Personal Identification, give last 4 digits of your Social Security Number	
	□□□□□□□□	XXX-XX-□□□□	
	<input type="checkbox"/> I have not been issued a Texas Driver's License/Personal Identification Number or Social Security Number.		
10	I understand that giving false information to procure a voter registration is perjury, and a crime under state and federal law. Conviction of this crime may result in imprisonment up to one year in jail, a fine up to \$4,000, or both. Please read all <u>three</u> statements to affirm before signing.		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am a resident of this county and a U.S. citizen; • I have not been finally convicted of a felony, or if a felon, I have completed all of my punishment including any term of incarceration, parole, supervision, period of probation, or I have been pardoned; and • I have not been determined by a final judgment of a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote. 		
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">X</div>		Date: _____
	Signature of Applicant or Agent and Relationship to Applicant or Printed Name of Applicant if Signed by Witness and Date.		

QUALIFICATIONS

- You must register to vote in the county in which you reside.
- You must be a citizen of the United States.
- You must be at least 17 years and 10 months old to register, and you must be 18 years of age by Election Day.

- You must not be finally convicted of a felony, or if you are a felon, you must have completed all of your punishment, including any term of incarceration, parole, supervision, period of probation, or you must have received a pardon.
- You must not have been determined by a final judgment of a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote.

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Travis County Registrar
PO Box 149327
Austin, TX 78714-9327

Electric Avenues

Capital Metro's zero-emission buses pass first tests

BY BENTON GRAHAM

Following its record-setting \$255 million purchase of 197 **electric buses** last year, the **Capital Metro** Board of Directors committed at its Sept. 26 meeting to spend \$299.5 million on 157 more vehicles and their charging infrastructure over five years. The early returns on the agency's electric bus investment have been positive. "They're operating well, under the hot conditions," said **Rob Borowski**, Cap Metro's sustainability officer, during the board meeting. "They seem to be exceeding our performance right now. We were looking at 150-mile range and they seem to be averaging more than that, but there's still a lot of work to do as we get the new buses coming in."

Of Cap Metro's first dozen electric buses on the road now, six were made by **Proterra** (based in California) and the other six by **New Flyer** (based in Manitoba). Representatives from both suppliers, which will produce the nearly 200 vehicles approved last year, touted the quietness of electric buses compared to their diesel counterparts in the fleet, which includes about 400 vehicles. A Cap Metro spokesperson added that the buses do not produce as much heat.

But the primary push toward electrifying the fleet is the potential environmental benefit, as the electric buses won't produce

any tailpipe emissions. According to the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**, transportation is responsible for 27% of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. "As we transition to a fully electric fleet, we can expect an annual savings of approximately 230,000 pounds of greenhouse gases, and a reduction in air pollution," a Cap Metro spokesperson said in an email.

Beyond the buses themselves, the electrification of the fleet has required significant investment in **charging infrastructure**. Cap Metro uses both plug-in chargers and overhead chargers, which use pantographs on the buses' roofs, at its garages. The agency also will install chargers at park-and-ride locations, where the buses will be able to get some extra juice to stay on the road for longer stretches.

The Proterra electric buses currently in the Cap Metro fleet have a range of 160 miles, while the New Flyer buses' charge lasts 120 miles. But the vehicles on order and in production will vastly surpass those figures, with both reaching near 250 miles. A Cap Metro spokesperson said 66 new buses should join the fleet in coming months, and the new buses will feature prominently in **Project Connect**, which includes two additional **MetroRapid** lines



CapMetro bus at Lavaca and Seventh

JOHN ANDERSON

planned to be all-electric. The east-west **Expo** line between Downtown and the Travis County Expo Center in East Austin, and the north-south **Pleasant Valley** line between Mueller and Goodnight Ranch, should both be running by the end of 2023.

The rising prices, materials and labor shortages, and supply-chain issues that have vexed all infrastructure projects have slowed progress to some extent on fully electrifying Capital Metro's fleet. Both suppliers

acknowledged that inflation in the price of components has driven up costs. A representative with New Flyer said supply-chain issues for electric components have decreased production to "lower levels than those seen prior to the pandemic," even as demand for the vehicles continues to climb. New Flyer, which also makes conventional buses, says zero-emission vehicles will likely account for 20% to 25% of total deliveries this year, and closer to 40% by 2025. ■

Conveyor Belt to Lethal Injection Keeps Rolling

The Texas death penalty is often likened to a machine, an impersonal device conducting individuals along a conveyor belt to death. The machine is composed of a surprisingly large number of judges and prosecutors and the rules they write to make it run. Six sets of judges – three from the state and three more at the federal level – must deny the appeals of the condemned before an execution can proceed. There's also the Attorney General's Office, whose assistant attorneys general and their staffs argue for death.

And, as we see in the case of **John Henry Ramirez**, district attorneys are important parts of the machine. Once an inmate's appeals have been exhausted, the D.A.'s office of the county that prosecuted him must ask a judge to set an execution date, called a death warrant, to initiate an execution. In other words, **district attorneys** have the power to spare certain inmates from death. Some, particularly in larger cities, have done so in recent years, refusing to seek death warrants for condemned people in their jurisdictions out of an abhorrence for the death penalty.



Which brings us to Ramirez's case. He was scheduled to be put to death on Sept. 8 of last year for the murder of **Pablo Castro** in Corpus Christi in 2004. But the Supreme Court called off the execution at the last minute (actually, three hours *after* the last minute) to consider Ramirez's request that prison officials allow his pastor to touch him and pray out loud as he died by lethal injection. The court subsequently ruled that Texas had denied Ramirez the free exercise of his religion by refusing to grant his request. Texas authorities were ordered to change their execution protocol.

So it seemed that Ramirez was safe from execution, at least for a while. When executions are canceled it often takes the state years to reschedule. But in Ramirez's case the district attorney's office asked for a new death warrant just after the Supreme Court's ruling – or, it did initially. Within two days of making the request, and having it accepted, Nueces County District Attorney **Mark Gonzalez** asked District Judge **Bobby Galvan** to withdraw

the order, saying it had been requested by mistake. In a hearing before Judge Galvan, Gonzalez said he hadn't realized he wasn't required to ask for the death warrant. By the time he did, an assistant D.A. had already requested it. Gonzalez explained that he never would have asked for the warrant if he'd known he didn't have to because "the death penalty is unethical and should not be imposed on Mr. Ramirez or any other person while I occupy this office."

According to Ramirez's attorney, **Seth Kretzer**, judges almost always grant prosecutors' requests to withdraw death warrants. But Galvan refused to do so in this case, expressing doubts about his authority and suggesting Gonzalez appeal to the **Texas Court of Criminal Appeals**. Gonzalez did. On Sept. 22, the TCCA denied his appeal.

So the Texas death machine lurches forward, past mistakes and misgivings. Meanwhile, Ramirez is, by all accounts, a changed man. He's active in prison ministry and at the prison radio station, and has become a gifted artist working in pen and ink. Kretzer is asking the **Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles** to commute his client's sentence to life without parole but told *The New York Times* last week that "the chances are not exactly good." If Ramirez's execution proceeds as scheduled on Oct. 5, he'll have his pastor, **Dana Moore**, praying aloud beside him as he dies.

– Brant Bingamon

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Three Propositions

-  **Proposition A:** General Purpose
-  **Proposition B:** Technology
-  **Proposition C:** Stadiums and Athletic Complexes

Austin ISD has called for a bond for the Nov. 8, 2022 election that would fund critical repairs across the district, upgrades to safety and security, 25 school modernizations and additional upgrades to technology, transportation and athletics.



**Early voting starts
October 24**



**Election Day is
November 8**

AISDFuture.com

Newly Unionized: Seton Nurses

They want more housekeepers, higher wages and more

BY LINA FISHER

Workers at a facility in Texas' largest private hospital network successfully unionized Sept. 21, with 72% of nurses at **Ascension Seton Medical Center** in Central Austin voting in favor. **Kellen Gildersleeve**, a registered nurse on the labor and delivery floor in the maternal transport team, has been in the job since she finished nursing school in 2014. She was one of two nurses to reach out to **National Nurses United** last year in hopes of unionizing, unbeknownst to each other: "It's a pretty big hospital.

"I had been talking about unionizing for a long time, and for many years, I was met with a lot of either indifference or fear," says Gildersleeve. "But around the beginning of the pandemic, nurses started to say that they thought a union could be the solution to the problems we were seeing." Those problems included chronic understaffing and high turnover that has spiraled "out of control ... over the last three to four years," even before it was exacerbated by the COVID pandemic. This has led to "trouble retaining experienced nurses who are invaluable to good patient care," Gildersleeve explains. "When I started working at Seton, there would be an occasional shift going without a lunch break. But that became more and more common" — a definite safety concern in her profession: "You want your health care professionals to be fed and well rested."

Understaffing of housekeepers results in longer wait times for patients, "which can be really scary. Because if someone comes to the door [with an] emergency and you have nowhere to put them, that's potentially unsafe ... for a patient who is in a really vulnerable position." Shortages of surgical technicians, patient care technicians, and lab staff like phlebotomists foist extra work on RNs, which forces things like patient follow-ups by the wayside. "We're concerned about readmission rates, because we aren't able to take time to help patients understand their health processes." And like most professions in a booming Austin, nurses require cost-of-living wage adjustments "so we don't have to live all the way out in Hutto and Pflugerville and Leander and then drive 30-45 minutes in [for] a 2½ hour shift."

Gildersleeve reached out to NNU because of their "proven track record here in Texas," with prior victories at hospitals in El Paso and Corpus Christi. "Some of my co-workers thought it was literally illegal to unionize in Texas, because of 'right-to-work' laws. So essentially, we were just doing education; most of the time, whenever they realize the protections that a union can provide, that's all the convincing they need."

The next step will be a survey of all Seton Medical Center nurses to find out their priorities before they go to the bargaining table, along



Greg Casar, candidate for Congressional House District 35, poses with newly unionized Ascension Seton nurses

COURTESY OF GREG CASAR CAMPAIGN

with nominating and electing nurses to a Facility Bargaining Committee. "We're all absolutely thrilled, and so heartened by this supermajority of nurses at a hospital in Texas saying that we want to make change," Gildersleeve said. "And I think that that's such a hopeful and inspiring thing [for] other nurses and other workers in Texas to know that this is possible, and that we can make really positive change for our

companies if we just work together."

Ascension Seton issued this statement in response to the union drive: "Consistent with the **Ethical and Religious Directives** for Catholic Health Care Services, we respect our nurses' right to organize themselves through union representation. We are united in our commitment to care for our community and those that we are privileged to serve." ■



Austin Energy's Sand Hill Energy Center power plant

PHOTO BY LARRY D. MOORE / CC BY-SA 4.0

Oh, This \$20 Electric Bill Hike? It's on Top of the Other One

At its meeting today, Sept. 29, City Council will consider increasing **Austin Energy** electric bills by about \$20 per month for the average residential customer. That's on top of the controversial hike the ratepayer-owned utility has proposed to its **base rate**, which won't be voted on until mid-November. This week's recalibration of **pass-through charges**, though not very well timed, is an annual occurrence each fall as the city begins its new fiscal year on Oct. 1, and in the utility's own words is intended to "collect only what the utility pays for certain expenses." In other words, there's no markup for Austin Energy.

The largest component of the charges, the **Power Supply Adjustment**, funds the cost of fuel for AE's contributing power plants, and of electricity purchased from the grid managed by the **Electric Reliability Council of Texas**, or ERCOT. Another pass-through, the **Regulatory Charge**, covers payments made to ERCOT for the fees it collects to do its job and is established by the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

As with its proposed base rate increase, AE says the utility's "existing deficit and ... rising costs" are driving higher bills for ratepayers. The pass-throughs include an "extraordinary rise" in ERCOT market costs over the summer, when **natural gas prices** were at their highest levels since 2008. In a memo to Council last week, AE explains that the cost of

natural gas power in the ERCOT market has doubled over the summer-peak prices in the last two years. Unlike other utilities, AE says, it has experienced higher "congestion" costs in transporting power as its generation sources (including massive West Texas solar and wind farms) move farther away from its customers: "Increased load surrounding [AE]'s load zone, decreased local generation, and increased generation in less populated areas have led to an increased potential for significant congestion." Also, AE has become more "conservative in its operations" in the wake of its breakdown during **Winter Storm Uri**, which has led to **\$1.5 billion** in unanticipated costs from October 2021 to June 2022. Last year, Council intentionally set the Power Supply Adjustment charge below its formula-determined level, to account for the unexpected revenues AE earned during Uri. That windfall is gone now, and the PSA is going up 71%, while the Regulatory Charge will go up 24%. (There's no change to a third pass-through line item on the electric bill, the **Community Benefit Charge**.) While residential customers will see a \$20 impact on top of the \$15 hike planned for the base rate, commercial and industrial customers could see up to a 50% increase in what they pay monthly. These pass-through changes, if approved this week, will take effect on Nov. 1.

— Lina Fisher

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UP FOR WHATEVER

TribFest participants peer into Texas' hazy near future

BY THE NEWS STAFF

After two virtual years, the Texas Tribune Festival went back to the streets of Downtown Austin Sept. 22-24 with the mix that's come to define the 12-year-old event – detailed deep dives into the political issues and personnel of the Great State, leavened with sessions featuring the buzziest names on the idea-festival circuit and the Sunday shows. We attended the weekend with an eye on those conversations that could tell us something about the uncertain near future – regardless of who wins the November elections, things will be different in D.C., and they probably already are different in Texas. From the Texas Capitol to its D.C. counterpart, and from water and roads to abortion and guns, here's the news you can use.

Going Out Hard

Liz Cheney learns firsthand the limits of 21st-century politics **BY MIKE CLARK-MADISON**

Liz Cheney has, or had, a political career because her father had one, but she didn't get elected to office until she was nearly 50, and that was just six years ago. Now that she's been rejected by the new leaders of her Grand Old Party, and defeated in her home-state primary by MAGAuffin Harriet Hageman, she might go back to her three-decade career as a diplomat and international lawyer (she didn't even live in Wyoming until 2012). No matter what Donald Trump and his minions and cultists think of her, she's neither a failure nor a martyr.

What really has hurt her are not the depredations of former President Apesh*t, but her dashed expectations that her fellow GOP luminaries would spinefully stand up for what she thinks are conservative things, like having faith in the system that allocates power within the American state, and accepting that its preservation is more important than any one person's prerogatives within it. The Cheneys – Liz, but also her father and her mother, the former chair of the National Endowment of the

Humanities under Reagan – are masters of the dark arts because they mastered that system, one where two nobodies from Southern Wyoming can climb all the way to the top, get one kid started off as a fit dynastic scion, and also protect the other one when her sexuality became other people's business. They are eagles (that is to say, noble-looking but ravenous predators) and Trump is a tree toad, even if, as Liz acknowledged in her Tribune Festival closing keynote interview with Evan Smith on Saturday, she'd voted for his legislative priorities 93% of the time. "But you can't even begin to have those debates about tax policy and military spending," she said, "if you let the republic unravel."

As we go to press on Sept. 28, the Jan. 6 select committee had opted to postpone its scheduled hearing due to Hurricane Ian (not its last, she told Smith, though other committee members who spoke at TribFest suggested as much). Cheney previewed a "significant document production from the U.S. Secret Service," whose now-notorious texts are



Liz Cheney at TribFest 2022

JANA BIRCHUM

gone, but there are other paper trails, she hinted, that the agency finally coughed up only in response to a subpoena. That fact "is very troubling," she conceded. (Since the last Jan. 6 hearing in late July, the committee and other investigators have also obtained the contents of Alex Jones' cellphone, but Smith didn't ask Cheney about that.)

As compelling as the hearings have been, they still haven't confirmed that Trump knew specifically about what the Oath Keepers and Proud Boys and other Nazi scum were planning to do at the Capitol, although Cheney told Smith she was surprised at "how sophisticated the plan was and how involved he was personally and directly." While the committee can make criminal referrals as well as propose legislation (its reforms to the Electoral Count Act passed the U.S. House last week), it's probably not going to be the sole mechanism through which Cheney can do "whatever it takes" to keep Trump away from the White House. That might include running for president herself, she allowed, without getting more specific; she didn't sound particularly convinced a campaign of her own would get the job done, but "I need to do whatever I can do to make sure our politics rights itself."

More immediately, we can expect Cheney to bring the heat on behalf of whomever,

including the Democrats, can take out the MAGA trash in the next election. "There are many people around this country who are making claims that they know not to be true," she said, calling out Hageman specifically, "and I don't think anybody should vote for any of them. ... The independent voters and moderate Dems and Republicans around the country want sanity, and they want responsibility. They want to know that their elected officials are competent and serious people. They need to realize how much power people like [Reps.] Marjorie Taylor Greene and Lauren Boebert and Jim Jordan will have under a Republican majority, and that would not be good for the country."

She has no more faith in the invertebrate GOP House leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., who she noted will be second in the federal line of succession should he become speaker. "Somebody who's going to be that close to the presidency needs to be somebody who's faithful to our Constitution. ... People need to consider what it means that the Republicans don't want Jan. 6 investigated. There have been several moments when the GOP could have done the true and right and honorable thing" after the 2020 election chaos, "and it did not. We have to have leaders who understand that this isn't a game." ■



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SCAN ME

Out, Damn SPOT

Oil terminal protests enliven Buttigieg's opening-night keynote **BY LINA FISHER AND MIKE CLARK-MADISON**

Near the end of The Texas Tribune Festival's opening-night keynote with U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg, a murmur rolled through the Paramount Theatre and heads craned to house left. From the balcony, a bright yellow banner unfurled that read, "Please Pete, Stop S.P.O.T. No Fossil Fuel Exports." Someone yelled "Secretary Pete!" the murmur rose, phone cameras snapped, and Buttigieg went on speaking. But during the audience Q&A section that followed, he shouted-out the protesters approvingly as "calling attention to a problem ... as these folks have done here tonight exercising their First Amendment rights."

That "problem" is the Sea Port Oil Terminal (SPOT), an export terminal proposed for the Gulf Coast outside Houston. Residents of Harris and Brazoria counties, which include some of the most polluted communities in the nation, have provided 50,000 comments along with the backing of 30 environmental advocacy groups, including Earthworks and Citizens for Clean Air and Water, urging the U.S. Maritime Administration, part of Buttigieg's department, to reject the terminal application, which is set to be decided this November.

A proposed pipeline would transport "2 million barrels of domestic crude oil per day for global export via Very Large Crude Carriers" from Houston to Surfside Beach, Melanie Oldham's town. She says, "We're one of those sacrifice communities everybody keeps talking about. We have all kinds of health problems, cancer clusters in Brazoria County where we're from. We have high rates of respiratory heart problems, and we're overburdened already."



Surfside Beach resident Melanie Oldham speaks outside the Paramount Theatre before Buttigieg's appearance

PHOTO BY LINA FISHER

We're surrounded by Dow Chemical, BASF ... Freeport LNG [liquefied natural gas terminal] is five minutes from where I live."

SPOT is just one of six pending applications for new pipelines on the Gulf Coast. "We have so many pipelines," Oldham said, "and people like my congressman" – U.S. Rep. Randy Weber, R-Friendswood – "say, 'Well, what's one more pipeline for you guys? What's one more tank? We're in severe nonattainment [of federal air quality standards] for ozone; it can't get any worse.'"

During the Q&A portion of his keynote one-on-one with Texas Tribune CEO Evan Smith, Buttigieg responded to a question on SPOT: "Under public comment [as part of the project's environmental review], we received thousands of comments on that. Now we're in a stage where I can't comment much because of where it sits in the legal process. But what I will say is that we're going to take all that input very seriously. And that any outcome is going to be one that upholds the law and is responsive to things that are requirements [of USDOT] as a department." Texas Campaign for the Environment tweeted that it's still waiting on a firm answer.

Buttigieg was also a keynote speaker at South by Southwest earlier this year, when the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (the "bipartisan infrastructure bill") was still fresh and top-of-mind; as Smith dryly noted, it's been "infrastructure week" for nearly a year now. So they talked about other stuff, too: What's it like being the only queer member of the Cabinet? How does it feel to be told your marriage is invalid? How's Joe Biden doing? Remember when you trounced him in the Iowa caucus? That was wild! And so on. (The questions submitted by the audience, on the other hand, were all about his day job, not just SPOT but also the controversial Texas Dept. of Transportation rebuilds of I-35 in Austin and I-45 in Houston; the latter project got put on hold by Buttigieg's department over concerns its review process ignored and/or violated impacted communities' civil rights.)

Buttigieg fielded the more personal questions with aplomb, if haltingly – one can tell that he has become used to being on display, his every move watched and commented on, for a while, and it's not his favorite part of the job – and noted that he couldn't imagine a circumstance where he would feel fit to weigh in on the validity of Ted Cruz's marriage, so he just doesn't get why the reverse isn't true. Do you? ■

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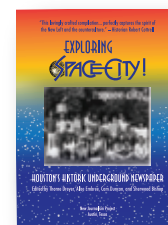
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Previewing the 88th

Finding common ground in both chambers and parties

BY MAGGIE Q. THOMPSON

The **88th Texas Legislature**, to be elected Nov. 8 and to convene on Jan. 10, faces the herculean task of lawmaking in a sharply divided country and state with rapidly developing life-or-death issues on the agenda. At four consecutive panels at The Texas Tribune Festival on Friday, Sept. 23, Democratic and Republican members and candidates in both chambers said they hope the 88th will be a session remembered for bipartisan compromises and solutions to “kitchen table” problems. All seemed to agree on the most urgent issues at hand.

THE GRID AND PROPERTY TAXES

State Sen. César Blanco, D-El Paso, said voters want the Legislature to address “bread and butter” issues; Republicans did, too, but took aim at renewable energy. Rep. Phil King, R-Weatherford – expected to replace Sen. Beverly Powell, D-Burleson, in November – said subsidizing renewables “skewed the market,” while Sen. Robert Nichols, R-Jacksonville, said, “We want renewables ... But in the meantime, we have to be practical to realize, it doesn’t always blow. When it’s blowing and it’s shining, we should take advantage of that. But when it’s not, we’ve got to have dispatchable power because everyone expects to walk in and flip a switch ... Right now natural gas would be that power.”

On property taxes, Democrats and Republicans all agreed that their constituents are hurting. Former Sen. Pete Flores, R-Pleasanton – expected to return to the chamber in November – said appraisal districts should make their appraisals in a more uniform way across counties. Sen. Carol Alvarado, D-Houston, said, “Some on the other side like sound bites when it comes to property tax relief and so far what I’ve seen delivered ... doesn’t really put anything on the table for the taxpayer.” Instead, she said the state can increase its share in education funding to lower local property tax rates.

GUN VIOLENCE

Nichols, who chairs the Texas Senate’s Uvalde investigation committee, said he was open to the possibility of raising the age to buy semi-automatic weapons from 18 to 21, an idea also considered by the House’s Uvalde panel. “There’s a lot that changes in a person’s life in those three years. All of the school shooters are between the age of 13 and 19; they’re all males,” Nichols said. “When you’re somewhere between 13 and 19, your life revolves around school. You go to classes, you’ve got friends, you’ve got bullies, you’ve got it all. ... By the time you’re 21, you’re either in college, you’ve found another

job, you’ve gone to work, and there’s separation.” Gun violence in Texas extends far beyond schools; Sen. Sarah Eckhardt, D-Austin, pointed out that hundreds more Texans die each year at the hands of intimate partners with guns. She also emphasized the need for compromise, as opposed to “the winner-take-all aspect of current leadership.”

THE BORDER

While the Republican and Democratic panels took on entirely different tones while discussing Gov. Greg Abbott’s expensive Operation Lone Star, which has brought thousands of law enforcement officers and Texas National Guard troops to the border, both parties acknowledged issues with it. Kevin Sparks, the Midland Republican expected to succeed Sen. Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, said while state troopers are intent on doing their part to serve, many are saying, “This is not what I signed up for.”

Meanwhile, Morgan LaMantia, the Democrat expected to succeed retiring Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr., D-Brownsville, called Operation Lone Star “political theatre. ... We need the governor to come down, talk to our local entities, talk to our local communities, our cities, our counties, and our nonprofits who are really taking on the brunt of the efforts to help everyone who’s coming over,” LaMantia said. “What’s happening when you don’t have border voices involved in those conversations is you’ve got one side saying, ‘We’re safe and secure and there is no problem,’ and ignoring it altogether, and we get the other side talking about how we live in a Third World area and it’s the middle of a war zone. Neither one of those are true.”

Eckhardt jumped in to say that immigration, which is not under the state’s control, is a distraction from the real problems Texas leaders do have the power to solve, like a foster care system that’s in shambles, with kids dying in the state’s custody. “If the state persists in blaming the feds, and blaming the locals, and then diverting our attention to



Texas House Speaker Dade McPhelan, R-Beaumont

JANA BIRCHUM

stuff that the state doesn’t actually have authority in, we won’t ever get to a solution.” But Flores, echoing LaMantia, noted that real migrants are having a real impact in real places in Texas. “When you’re overwhelmed, your community doesn’t have the resources – they barely have enough money in some of these towns for their own selves, much less thousands [of migrants]. Where the federal government will not do its job, Texas must.”

TEACHERS AND VOUCHERS

Texas teachers are fleeing for the exits, and both parties agree “school choice” proposals touted by Abbott and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, built on vouchers to transfer state funding to private schools, won’t fix that problem. Sparks said that without improving their work conditions, “we’re going to continue to lose teachers.”

Nichols took a strong stance against the “school choice” framing, saying private schools can be selective while public charter schools use lotteries if they have too many prospective students. “That’s not a choice, that’s a chance.” In rural areas, he said, reducing student populations reduces funding for all the things that still need to be done in a small classroom – keeping the lights on, busing kids to school, paying a janitor, and other basic costs.

“It doesn’t work for rural Texas,” Nichols said. “I don’t know why they – I love my governor, and I’m gonna vote for him and I encourage everybody else to vote for him, and same thing with my lieutenant governor, and I

know the lieutenant governor is campaigning for him, but I think they’re just wrong. The governor’s wrong on this issue and I’d love an opportunity to talk to him about it.”

POST-ROE TEXAS

Nichols also said he’d support a bill to create an exception to Texas’ abortion bans in cases of rape. How rape is defined could become a sticking point, as Democrats discussed later; Eckhardt was firm that a conviction for rape or incest not be a prerequisite to the survivor’s seeking abortion (getting a conviction can take longer than the course of a pregnancy).

Extension of Medicaid coverage to women for 12 months postpartum is less likely to snag in the Legislature; both Republicans and Democrats have expressed support, as did House Speaker Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont, in his one-on-one earlier in the day at TribFest. Along similar lines, Nichols pointed to a bill he’ll file to give at least four weeks of paid maternity leave to state employees, with two weeks for fathers. Democrats highlighted the need for updated language on abortions to treat risky situations such as ectopic pregnancies, but King’s comments emphasized how difficult such changes may be: “The far left side of the Democratic Party, which dominates that party nationally today – they are not wanting minor exceptions. It is a very radical push that wants abortion up unto literally the day the child is born.” ■

Wish It Would Rain

Can Texas plan properly for both droughts and floods?

BY LINA FISHER

“Is this the new normal?” That was the first question from Kiah Collier, reporter for The Texas Tribune and ProPublica, and moderator of the “Parched” panel on Texas’ water woes at The Texas Tribune Festival. The panelists – Robert Mace of the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University, Jeff Walker of the Texas Water Development Board, and Suzanne Scott of the Nature Conservancy – mostly agreed that it was.

When Collier asked why TWDB’s new state water plan (which it publishes every five years) does not include the term “climate change,” and in fact says there’s no scientific consensus, Walker replied: “Do you agree? I mean, what’s the consensus? Can you say definitively what’s gonna happen in 20, 30 years?” Mace, a scientist, shot back to affirm there is in fact consensus, to audience chuckles, but went on that “it’s not really a scientific question [but] a policy question of how the world responds to climate change ... It would be suicide for the Water Development Board to come out and decide unilaterally, ‘Hey, y’all are going to do climate change.’ In my opinion, it’s really something that has to come from the [Texas] Legislature.”

Mace was referring to TWDB’s regional water planning group regulations, which only require planning for a “drought of record,” which Scott pointed out is “using what happened in the past,” which doesn’t really work for unprecedented times. Walker added that 90% of Texas was under a severe drought

this summer; in 2011, the peak of the last drought cycle, it reached 96%. “The difference is, there’s 4 million more Texans now” – all of whom need new housing and are working at new jobs that encroach on Texas ecosystems and strain water supplies. Walker said TWDB expects to ask the Legislature in January for “quite a few exceptional items,” including 5% raises for employees, additional staff, and a \$15 million cash deposit to the Agricultural Water Conservation Fund.

Texas is one of only 14 states that doesn’t have a dedicated state land and water conservation fund, which Scott said will be essential to augment existing funding such as the sporting goods sales tax. As 94% of Texas land is privately owned, much of the responsibility for water conservation lies with those owners and occupants, particularly agricultural operations that use 60% of Texas’ fresh water supply. Mace, who serves on Austin’s Water Forward Task Force, noted that “in 100 years, they’re looking at 50% less water available from the Highland Lakes” for all users – both Central Texas taps and big farms (especially rice) downstream from Austin.

Scott hammered on “trying to be more efficient with the water that we have. I mean, we’re not creating any new water. It’s all just moving it around.” The Nature Conservancy is creating incentives and rewards for “using nature as infrastructure” with techniques like rain gardens and bioswales: “I think what’s happened is nature is being looked at as an amenity, like ‘nature’s really nice and it improves our quality of life.’ It does, but it’s also part of the functioning of how our watersheds operate, how we can be much more efficient and sustainable. We have been strongly encouraging the use of nature-based solutions that get people to move from just strictly gray infrastructure to either all green or some hybrid green infrastructure.”

Noting that all the water in Texas has to serve not only people but nature, “I just don’t know if we are really thinking as preciously about water as we can,” said Scott. “We can’t use all water just for people, when you still have bays and estuaries, you’ve got rivers, you have ecosystems that are spring-driven. That, and all these people coming to Texas, they’re not bringing water with them. They’re expecting us to be able to provide water for 50 million [residents] by 2070. Looking at this holistically, I’m just wondering if we’re confident that we are pushing conservation to the extent that we can in our planning.” ■



Lake Buchanan in 1999, at the end of a five-year drought cycle, as the water receded more than a half mile from the normal shoreline

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29 THURSDAY



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See more arts events on p.24.

30 FRIDAY



AUSTIN RECORD CONVENTION

Palmer Events Center, Friday-Sunday

Dealers, collectors, and aficionados gather to share vinyl, CDs, cassettes, posters, shirts, and other music memorabilia from hundreds of vendors. Early-bird shoppers get a day of early access Friday as well as early admission on Saturday and Sunday.

See more music recommendations on p.48.

1 SATURDAY



TEXAS CRAFT BREWERS FESTIVAL

Fiesta Gardens, 2-6:30pm

This festival features more than 80 Texas craft breweries and nigh on 200 handcrafted beers available for sampling - with food trucks, live music, and more, making for one mighty delightful Austin afternoon. Yes, it's the largest celebration of small and independent Texas craft brewers anywhere.

See more community events on p.28.

2 SUNDAY



MAIL ART POSTCARD EXHIBIT

Northern-Southern, 2-6pm

Yes, this is also where the current Brad Tucker x Transmountain show is on display. But this pop-up special is a whole separate thing: an exhibition of hundreds of art postcards sent to indefatigable mail artist and musician Josh Ronsen over the pandemic - from 26 countries, and with many from Texas artists.

See more arts events on p.24.

3 MONDAY



JOHN ANDERSON

THE BLK REVOLUTION TOUR

Antone's

The unforgettable debut of dense soul, funk, hip-hop, and R&B production carries echoes of Kendrick Lamar and Anderson .Paak. Motifs of light and dark plus sky-aimed falsetto matched with vocals so low you'll see them in hell ultimately highlight tragedy, hope, love, and loss on *BLK VINTAGE*.

See more music recommendations on p.48.

4 TUESDAY



KAROL G

Moody Center

The Colombian international superstar, who enchanted ACL Festgoers last year with two stunning reggaeton performances at Zilker Park, returns with support from her DJ, Agudelo888.

See more music recommendations on p.48.

5 WEDNESDAY



LGBTQIA BOOK CLUB

Twin Oaks Branch Library, 7pm

Join Austin Public Library's queer book club in discussing the lesbian vampire classic *Carmilla* by Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu both in-person and online.

See more LGBTQ+ events on p.25.

6 THURSDAY



A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Round Rock Amphitheater, 7:30pm

Here comes the 10th year of Penfold in the Park, as the indefatigable theatre company brings Shakespeare's beloved comedy to life, with all 21 characters galvanized by just four performers in a whirlwind of love and lore-spawned lulz among the fae.

See more arts events on p.24.

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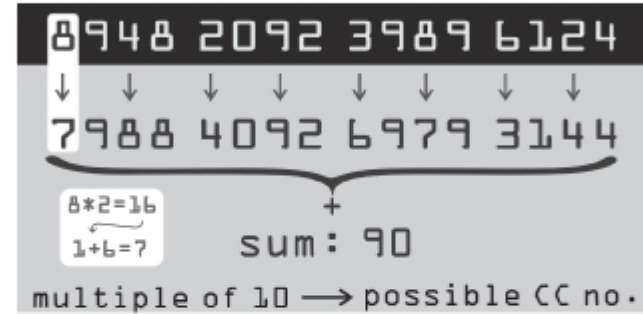
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Culture

Smile, and the World Screams With You

Director Parker Finn and star Sosie Bacon talk terror and trauma in new horror *Smile* **BY RICHARD WHITTAKER**

In the background of an apartment in *Smile*, the new horror film from Paramount Pictures opening this week, there's a movie poster. It's for *Gli Spericolati* – the Italian name for Robert Redford's 1969 skiing drama, *Downhill Racer* – and it's an in-joke between writer/director Parker Finn and the film's production designer, Lester Cohen, about the mental state of their lead character, psychiatrist Dr. Rose Cotter (Sosie Bacon). "The film is about this woman who feels like her mind is turning against her," said Finn. "We loved the idea that [she] is racing downhill the entire film, but we didn't want to be too obvious with it, so we went with the Italian poster."

That sense of accelerating collapse created a specific problem for Bacon on set, as the filming schedule hopscotched around between scenes, breaking up that linear plummet. She explained, "Wardrobe, hair, and makeup really helped in that area, because depending on what I was wearing and how fucked up I looked, I could tell where she was."

The cause of Cotter's decline is the omen that precedes a curse: an eerie smile that she sees upon the faces of strangers and loved ones, a smile that presages supernatural torture and death. Finn described it as "a very specific smile" that each actor brought something new to, but still had an immediately identifiable consistency: "Too-wide grins that are really showing off the teeth, and it's about that frozen, very uncomfortable feeling of not letting go of that smile and pairing that with these dead eyes that are piercing right into you."

Finn described the story as really a character study, close to those Seventies horrors that "really place the audience with the characters and mak[e] them feel what the character is feeling. It's that tightening and tightening and tightening."

Of course, the inherent fear of a creepy smile has been enhanced by the fact that, for the last two years, most people have been masked – especially anyone on a film set. "I've joked with Sosie that she barely saw the bottom half of my face the entire



Sosie Bacon in *Smile*

PARAMOUNT PICTURES

time she was making this movie," said Finn. "I developed it, wrote it, and shot it during this pandemic, and I think all of those things that everyone was feeling – that sense of isolation, the sense of transmission – all of that crept into this story."

Before *Smile*'s world premiere last weekend in Austin at Fantastic Fest, Bacon had recently wrapped her first film since the pandemic began on a maskless set. She said, "It really is a relief, because there is something so odd about doing something so intimate with people and you don't get to see their face. ... Even if they pulled it down for a moment, you don't see their real face. So I was gleaned a lot from people's eyes because you can't tell if they're smiling. 'Is that good?' 'Is that OK?'"

Underlying the story of *Smile* is the idea of trauma reigniting trauma. Finn said, "I never set out to create a film that's, 'Oh, it's an external monster that you can just beat.' For me, it felt more apropos to the themes and the motif that it's something that's so internal. It is a part of you. These things, we all walk around, carrying this stuff inside that informs us and shapes us our entire lives, for better or worse."

If anything, Bacon said, acknowledging one's own trauma is a positive – and makes Rose more identifiable. "If I have a therapist, I want to know that they have gotten through some shit. There is something about being there for people that is about having a level of understanding, and not judging."

Smile is out now in cinemas. See our review on p.34.



FIVE BIZARRO FILMS AT FF@HOME

The strangest and most fearless of the streaming selection at this year's Fantastic Fest **BY RICHARD WHITTAKER**

Fantastic Fest 2022 may have flown into the cinematic night, taking the Oscar-ready big titles like *Triangle of Sadness* and *The Banshees of Inisherin* with it. But Fantastic Fest is not over, merely morphing into FF@Home, the shadow twin streaming into your home via the Drafthouse's Alamo on Demand platform. Buckle up, because this is where the fest gets really strange, a selection of faves from the in-person fest and new additions – some under the Burnt Ends flag of truly transgressive and experimental indies.

FF@Home, Thu.-Tue., Sept. 29-Oct. 4, fantasticfest.com/ff@home

MIKE MIGNOLA: DRAWING MONSTERS

After Marvel and DC, the biggest comic universe is the Mignolaverse, the gothic tales created by minimalist gothic artist Mike Mignola. In their Kickstarter-funded documentary, filmmakers Jim Demonakos and Kevin Konrad Hanna explore the mind of the man that created Hellboy.

QUANTUM COWBOYS

Austin animation innovator Geoff Marslett deconstructs the current cinematic fascination with multiverses for something closer to the scientific theories and yet even wilder. Horse opera meets superstring theory in a stylistic patchwork that features David Arquette, film-making anarchist Alex Cox, and Neko Case in her first acting role. (Read our interview with Marslett, "Moseying Out Into the Multiverse With the *Quantum Cowboys*," Sept. 23.)

SHIN ULTRAMAN

Director Shinji Higuchi already dragged Godzilla into the 21st century with *Shin Gojira*. Now he takes another of Japan's most beloved cultural icons, the giant superhero Ultraman. But just as he made the whale-lizard truly terrifying again, now the alien savior of the world becomes more human than ever.

COUNTRY GOLD

Mickey Reece's idiosyncratic, thoughtful, and microbudgeted tales of strangeness in the profoundly normal are always deceptively fascinating. This time the Oklahoma native sends fictional version of country legend George "No Show" Jones on a one-night bender with a thinly disguised Garth Brooks before the "He Stopped Loving Her Today" musician gets his head frozen, Walt Disney-style.

BIRDEMIC 3: SEA EAGLE

Yeah, the *Sharknado* movies, y'know, jumped the shark, and *The Room* always seemed like weirdly calculated hipster bait, but James Nguyen's deranged riff on Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds* remains the height of "what did I just watch?" negative-budget home movies.

SEPTEMBER 22-OCTOBER 2, 2022

THE MISER

BY MOLIÈRE

ADAPTED BY THE COMPANY

DIRECTED BY

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ARTIST TO ARTIST: NJIDEKA AKUNYILI CROSBY WITH TEMITAYO OGUNBIYI

Nigerian-born, Los Angeles-based artist Njideka Akunyili Crosby evokes her home country through imagery including plants, fashion magazines, and 1970s architecture. Her experience as an immigrant negotiating two cultures is shared by U.S. artist Temitayo Ogunbiyi, who has been based in Lagos for over a decade. Together, the two artists will talk about dual ideas of home and merging cultural references in their art. Join the online conversation **Wednesday, October 5 at 12 noon CT**. Details and registration at blantonmuseum.org/ACCrosbyTalk.

Funding for this program is provided by the Carolyn Harris Hynson Centennial Endowment at the Blanton Museum of Art. / Images: (left) Njideka Akunyili Crosby, Courtesy the artist, Victoria Miro, and David Zwirner. Photo: Shaughn and John; (right) Temitayo Ogunbiyi



Five Perfect Scenes at Austin Sketch Fest

Because the best comedy always has a story to it

BY JAMES SCOTT

First things first: a skit? Is not a sketch, m'kay. Nowhere will you learn this better than Austin Sketch Fest, put on by alt-comedy bastion ColdTowne Theatre this weekend at the Scottish Rite Theater (207 W. 18th). For three full days, you'll be treated to a feast of scripted hilarity for the (nice) price of \$69 for a full-fest badge (or grab the VIP very nice, *Borat voice* my wife badge package for \$420.69.) But what should you see on your tour of comic sketch talent? If only there was an alt-weekly who provided a numbered list of recommendations easily accessible in their free print issue ...

ColdTowne Theatre presents Austin Sketch Fest Thu.-Sat., Sept. 29-Oct. 1, Scottish Rite Theater, 207 W. 18th, atxsketchfest.com.

GIRL GOD

They've been called the best transgender comedy duo of all time and now Grace Freud and Alice Clark bring their surreal, interactive sketch comedy to Austin, tinged with a queer perspective that is, in their words, "actually funny and not just looking for applause." Need another reason to see 'em? Both Eric Andre and Joe Pera are big fans. Also on tap is the gender- and genre-bending comedy of Strong Male Leads, aka Brett VerVoot and Franny Harold. **Fri., Sept. 30, 8:30pm**

THE LESBIAN AGENDA

Look, if you don't have Sophie Santos' "very serious show" on your sapphic schedule, how is she supposed to enforce her new world order? You know, the one with all the best lesbian, bisexual, and queer comics ever? To sweeten the deal, this show'll also feature sketch comedy duo Eli Cash, aka Katherine Hutchins and Roy Lazowitz, and L.A.-based pop-culture ensemble Friendo. **Sat., Oct. 1, 7pm**

GUTTER, BONELESS

One is a team from L.A. who puts on a new show every month at their home Park Theatre with sketch topics ranging from adult male friendships to childbirth and beyond. The other, a Chicago group whose sketches "are grounded in absurdism and take things way beyond what little normality they had established in the beginning of their bits." Combined, they have the power of one absolutely outrageous sketch show that can't be missed. **Thu., Sept. 29, 8:30pm**

MO COLLINS

Ever seen *Mad TV*? *Fear the Walking Dead*? How about a little show called *Parks and Recreation*? Then you've enjoyed the incredible work of Mo Collins, who'll be reprising a few of her most iconic characters during an hour of stand-up comedy. Plus: George Lucas' forgotten sci-fi salute to Labor Day called "Star Work: The Star Wars Employment Day Special," with comedians John Sartori, Nick Ramirez, and a host of other stellar UCB New York alums. **Sat., Oct. 1, 8:30pm**

JOAN AND RAFT

Hot trans best friends Cait Raft and Joan Haley Ford have got a lotta achievements to their names, like writing for Comedy Central, Netflix, and Quibi, performing all around L.A., and moving a really heavy mattress from one apartment to another. Complementing them is another dynamic duo: Mark Vigeant and Sam Reece in *Internet Explorers*, a deep dive showing the wild side of the World Wide Web. **Sat., Oct. 1, 10pm**



THEATRE

OPENING

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM Here comes the 10th year of Penfold in the Park, as the indefatigable theatre company brings Shakespeare's beloved comedy to life up there in Round Rock, with all 21 characters galvanized by just four performers in a whirlwind of love and lore-spawned lulz among the fae. Adapted and directed by Rosalind Faires, featuring the talents of Yunina Barbour-Payne, Kevin Percival, Taylor Flanagan, and Dane Parker. **Sept. 29-Oct 16. Thu.-Sun., 7:30pm. Note: No performance on Sun., Oct. 9. Round Rock Amphitheater, 301 W. Bagdad, 512/850-4849. Free. penfoldtheatre.org.**

THE ELABORATE ENTRANCE OF CHAD DEITY Kristoffer Diaz's dramatic comedy follows the life of wrestler Macedonio Guerra, a "jobber" who's paid to lose to bigger-name stars in the ring. Macedonio meets a young Indian man from Brooklyn, who he wants to team up with, and promotional antics ensue. Unspoken racism, politics, and courage are woven through this play that leaves it all on the mat. Directed by Jerry Ruiz for Zach Theatre. **Sept. 29-Oct. 23. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zach Theatre, 202 S. Lamar. \$25 and up. zachtheatre.org.**

THE PACT This world premiere - the inaugural show in Jarrott Productions' first full live main stage season in three years

- is Max Langert's play about family, pizza, climate change, dating apps, and fringe religious sects. Featuring Natalie D. Garcia, David R. Jarrott, Jennifer Jennings, Lisa Schepps, and Hannah Schochler, as directed by Will Gibson Douglas. **Sept. 29-Oct. 15. Wed.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 6pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 512/478-5282. \$18-35. jarrottproductions.com.**

DAME DYNAMITE PRESENTS: HORRORSCOPES CABARET A mystical, magical variety show featuring fire, drag, aerial, sideshow, and burlesque performances - each artist representing a sign of the zodiac. "Feast your eyes on our brightest celestial bodies and experience the wheel of the year like never before as we dance along the dark side of the moon." **Sat., Oct. 1, 8pm. Highbrow Lowbrow Austin, 207 Chalmers. \$45; \$10, GA. damedynamite.com.**

THE OUTSIDER In this new show from Beyond August Productions, Paul Slade Smith's satire of the often-confounding system of modern American politics features a bumbling lieutenant governor (with a paralyzing fear of public speaking) who suddenly finds himself thrust into the governor's chair. Starring Michael Stuart, Tim Blackwood, Patrick Wheeler, Shannon Embry, Robyn Conner, Jill Klopp Turner, and Darren Scharf. **Oct. 1-16. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. The Rosette Theater, 3908 Avenue B. \$25-35. beyondaugustproductions.org.**

SCRATCH CHAPEL Here's an open mic situation every first Monday of the month, basically, where the Sahara Lounge "converts into a sanctuary (with a bar) for performative

creatives," as hosted by Purdy Mischief. Show up to sign up. **Mon., Oct. 3, 9pm. Sahara Lounge, 1413 Webberville Rd., 512/927-0700. Donations accepted. saharalounge.com.**

CLOSING

THE MISER Social commentary meets boisterous comic antics in this Wild West version of one of Molière's most famous plays, here adapted and directed by Robert Tolaro. **Through Oct. 2. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Mary Moody Northern Theatre at St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 512/448-8484. \$25 (\$10, students). stedwards.edu/mary-moody-northern-theatre.**

ONGOING

I LOVE HPT This show's a fundraiser for Hyde Park Theatre, written and performed by HPT Artistic Director Ken Webster, and it's about Hyde Park Theatre - the highs and lows of the company's long history, the ins and the outs, the day-to-day humdrum, and (until we see this show we can only imagine) the *truly fucking weird*. Fascinating from a local perspective, even if you've never been (how?) to HPT, and - as manifested by Webster, live on stage - well worth seeing. He's fierce, funny, obsessive, a true powerhouse of professional passion. **Through Oct. 8. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 512/479-7529. \$25. hydeparktheatre.org.**

COMEDY

THE HIDEOUT The diverse lineup of sometimes hilarious, always surprising improv shows has returned, with Pgraph and Maestro and more, for the most unexpected delights of in-person entertainment. For instance, this weekend: the improvised *Stranger Things* fanfic called *Weirder Stuff*. See the website for details. **Hideout Theatre & Coffeehouse, 617 Congress, 512/476-1313. hideouttheatre.com.**

COLDTOWNE "Set your dial to CTTV for at-home entertainment on ColdTowne's Twitch channel, featuring experimental improv, live podcasts, scripted readings, guest characters, and more." And they've got in-person shows popping up around town, too - Violet Crown Clubhouse, anyone? - so see that website for details. **coldtownetheatre.com.**

ESTHER'S FOLLIES Esther's Follies - the comedy gem that still dazzles this growing urban hub - brings the best to the weekly live and in-person stage of their club on Dirty Sixth, the whole troupe rocking the old favorites and debuting new programs of hilarity with topical, ripped-from-the-headlines sketches and musical numbers. Also: the mind-boggling illusions presented by magician Ray Anderson. **Thu., 7pm; Fri.-Sat., 7 & 9pm. Esther's Follies, 525 E. Sixth, 512/320-0198. \$30-40. esthersfollies.com.**

CONTINUED ON P.26

COMMUNITY

BY JAMES SCOTT

IN A SEQUEL, THE STAKES ARE ALWAYS HIGHER. Think of *Freddy's Revenge* aka the gay *Nightmare on Elm Street*, or *Psycho II*, the gay "Norman Bates tries to make a cheese sandwich" movie. (Very intense!) That means this second round of homosopes is even wilder than the last. Maybe that's because we're going through a seasonal change from **back-to-school** into **spooky-ooky**. Everyone's in the scary spirit, which is my favorite kind of spirit. Anyway: You know the drill, babes. Check your sun, moon, and rising sign for a full schedule courtesy of the stars. ■



Dame Dynamite of Horrorscopes

PHOTO BY TYLER WHITMAN

~ HOMOSCOPIES ~

AQUARIUS

LGBTQIA BOOK CLUB Join Austin Public Library's queer book club in discussing lesbian vampire classic *Carmilla* by Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu both in person and online. *Wed., Oct. 5, 7pm. Twin Oaks Branch Library, 1800 S. Fifth. Free but RSVP: library.austintexas.gov/twin-oaks-branch.*

LIBRA

THE BIG GAY TURNABOUT Six of Halcyon's staff don drag and battle it out for bragging rights and a booked spot. Adrienne Park, Maxine LaQueene, and Gothess Jasmine offer judgment and mentorship. *Thu., Oct. 6, 8pm. Halcyon, 218 W. Fourth. instagram.com/halcyon.austin.*

GEMINI

CLINKS Eva Inez hosts a drag show you can clink glasses over, with this week's special guests Louisiana Purchase, Brigitte Bandit, Arinna Dior Heys, and Champagne Killer. *Sat., Oct. 1, 9pm. Little Drinks Lounge, 3801 S. Congress #116. littledrinksloounge.com.*

PISCES

THE LITTLE GAY SHOP OF HORRORS Any hunger for horror will surely be sated by this haunting event, with local artists and makers, a dog costume contest, spooky drag, delicious food and drinks, and Gays With Clay. *Sun., Oct. 2, noon-4pm. The Little Gay Shop, 828 Airport. instagram.com/thelittlegayshop.*

CANCER

ART HEALS FESTIVAL 2022 A multimedia art festival presented by Whatsinthemirror, centered on the mental health and HIV stigma impacting communities of color. *Sept. 30-Oct. 2. Fri., 7-9pm; Sat., 4-8pm; Sun., 4-6pm. Atelier 1205, 1205 E. Cesar Chavez. whatsinthemirror.org.*

LEO

SIDE SHOW Enjoy the strange and unusual with Evah Destruction, Gothess Jasmine, Noodles, and special guests. *Every other Wednesday, 9pm. Oilcan's, 211 W. Fourth. fb.com/oilcanharrys.*

SCORPIO

HORRORSCOPES CABARET Dame Dynamite presents a mystical, magical variety show featuring fire, drag, aerial, sideshow, and burlesque performances – each artist representing a sign of the zodiac. *Sat., Oct. 1, 8pm. Highbrow Lowbrow Austin, 207 Chalmers. \$45, GA; \$10, livestream. damedynamite.com.*

ARIES

A FORMAL FETISH AFFAIR AND DOG SHOW A night of leather, gear, and gorgeous looks, all brought to you by ASHwell Sexual Health + Wellness as well as pup play group Boop Society of Texas. *Sat., Oct. 1, 6:30-11:30pm. The Belmont, 305 W. Sixth. fb.com/ashwellatx.*

SAGITTARIUS

QUEER PICNIC Bring food, bevies, a blanket, and yer queer self to this fun & friendly picnic. *Sat., Oct. 1, 5pm. Festival Beach, 2101 Jesse E. Segovia. instagram.com/queerfriendsatx.*

TAURUS

CHUNK AUSTIN Chunk is back with a party at Coco boasting DJ sets from NOLA duo Babygirl (Bouffant Bouffant, Five), Chunk's resident DJ Thckrtanker, local musical M.D. Dr. Beard, and Malika. *Sat., Oct. 1, 9pm. Coconut Club, 310-B Colorado. \$20. chunk-party.com.*

VIRGO

REPLAY Lucy Fur hosts a *Renaissance* album drag tribute, with performances from Leia Sakura Dior, Joselyn Breezy, Sha'Nyia Ellis Narcisse, and Gothess Jasmine. Plus: DJ Scam Likely spins. *Thu., Sept. 29, 10pm. Cheer Up Charlies, 900 Red River. instagram.com/cheerupcharlies.*

CAPRICORN

JEFA BRUNCH Frida Friday ATX brings queer and BIPOC business powerhouses to this brunch provided and sponsored by the Brunch Club ATX for a panel on their "creative entrepreneurial lives." *Sun., Oct. 2, noon-6pm. Lustre Pearl South, 10400 Menchaca Rd. \$40. fb.com/fridafridayatx.*

THE ELABORATE ENTRANCE OF CHAD DEITY

Written By Kristoffer Diaz | Directed By Jerry Ruiz



A hilarious, high-octane new play that leaves it all on the mat!

Begins September 28 | The Topfer at ZACH Theatre

ZACH
THEATRE

tickets.zachtheatre.org

Photo: Suzanne Cordiero

For more Qmmunity listings see austinchronicle.com/qmmunity and send yer queer events to jscott@austinchronicle.com.



Bettye Nowlin

Carolyn and Marc Seriff



This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Texas Commission on the Arts, and the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin Economic Development Department.

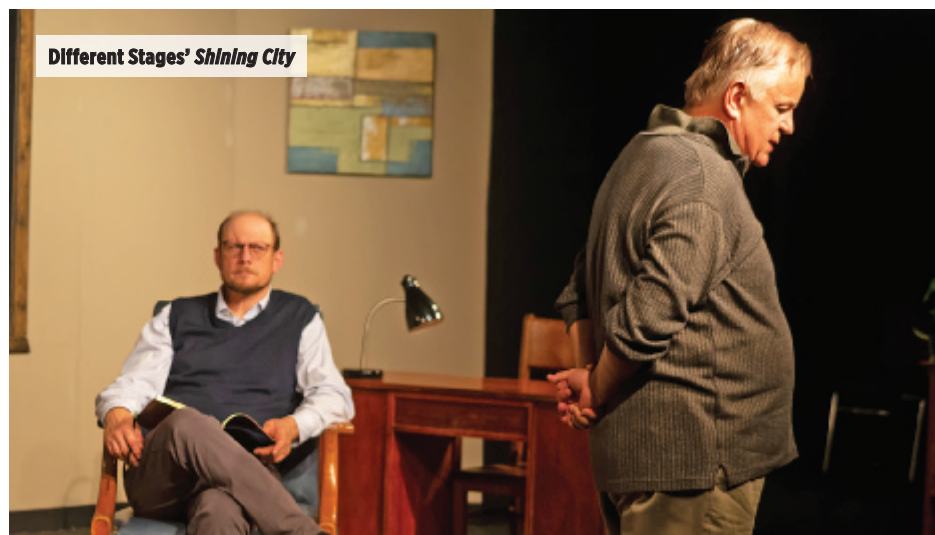
Different Stages' *Shining City*

PHOTO BY STEVE ROGERS

Review: Different Stages' *Shining City*

AS WITH ALL CONOR MCPHERSON PLAYS, THE DEVIL IS IN THE DETAILS

BY BOB ABELMAN

Irish playwright Conor McPherson is a master storyteller. His tall tales are as powerful as they are poetic, and though each is a unique and well-crafted creation, they share signature tropes that make them immediately recognizable as his. They tend to take place over a short period of time, which generates a strong sense of immediacy and urgency in their telling. The person telling the story does so with extended monologues that are more confessional than theatrical. And there is always a quirky, otherworldly element – vampires in *St. Nicholas* and the Devil himself in *The Seafarer*, for instance – that bites at the heels of the play's otherwise stark and quite dramatic realism.

But the devil is in the details when staging his plays, which is a lesson being learned the hard way by Different Stages in its current production of *Shining City*.

At the center of this play, first produced in the Emerald Isle in 2004, is a middle-aged middleman for a catering supply company named John (Rick Felkins), who we meet during his therapy sessions with Ian (Sam Grimes). John is, in fact, one of the first patients of Ian's, who has recently left the priesthood and hung up his shingle in a rundown office building in downtown Dublin (rendered, it seems, on a tight budget by scenic designer Elaine Jacobs). John is a recent widower and keeps seeing his wife, Mari, who died in a car crash. Her visitations to their home so frighten him that he is living in a local bed-and-breakfast and too incapacitated to go to work.

It is not just John's wife that haunts him. He is also stalked by suffocating loneliness due to his inability to connect and communicate with others, as well as a debilitating sense of guilt over keeping his wife at a distance and longing for the company of other women. Loneliness and guilt are traits that define all the characters in this play, which include Ian's estranged girlfriend and baby mama, Neasa (Adrienne Gilg), and Laurence (Weston Smith), a young man working the streets of Dublin who makes his way to

Ian's office. In short, *Shining City* is an intriguing character study masquerading as a one-act play.

As if to reinforce everyone's isolation and social dysfunction, none of the characters in this play have a home to call their own, all of them have sought out unsatisfying and shameful sexual encounters, and no more than two of them are on stage at any given time. And everyone speaks, to varying degrees, with fragmented, frequently self-interrupted half-thoughts laced with Harold Pinteresque pauses and David Mamet-like profanity. And like the actors in a Mamet or Pinter production, the ones assembled here must find the rhythms in the words, which, in turn, set the pace for this play.

Felkins nicely captures the immense weight of the sorrow his character bears, but the delivery of his sustained monologues, which are peppered with lamenting utterances of "you know," has no sense of immediacy, urgency, or musicality. Grimes, too, does a fine job of playing the anguished Ian and he pretty much nails the execution of those excruciating hesitations in his speech. But his fellow actors do him no favors by being late with their next line, which leaves Grimes hanging and the audience waiting.

Under Norman Blumensaadt's direction, everything during the opening night production was played a beat too slow, including the scene changes. These too-lengthy breaks in the action give patrons time to gather themselves between staged bouts of anguish, so the intended emotional distress we experience during one scene fails to carry over to the next or build by the time we reach the play's dramatic conclusion. As a result, *Shining City* comes across as a lesser work, which is not what McPherson had in mind. ■

Different Stages Theatre's *Shining City*
Trinity Street Playhouse, 901 Trinity, 512/926-6747, differentstages theatre.org
Through Oct. 9
Running time: 1 hr., 45 min.

COMEDY CONTINUED FROM P.24

FALLOUT COMEDY This hotbed of local performance is carrying on even more than usual, with an eclectic mix of live, mind-rocking comedy from some of Austin's best, all week long. Pro tip: The Sure Thing showcase on Friday night is, as ever, a don't-miss event. And, srsly, who would ever disagree with the sentiment of Monday night's Fuck This Week show? Check the website for details. *Fallout Theater*, 616 Lavaca, 616/676-7209. falloutcomedy.com.

THE CREEK AND THE CAVE This snazzy spot for local and national stand-up acts has shows almost every night of the week. But you knew that already, right? Let's Get Quizzical, Out in Tech, the *Pendejo Time* podcast, Your Mom's Favorite Comedian – ah, the onslaught of levity is nigh on relentless. This weekend, Nick Guerra's your best bet. See website for details. *The Creek and the Cave*, 611 E. Seventh, 737/222-0852. creekandcave.com.

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB: READY FOR LAUGHS That's right: The cornerstone of Austin's comedy scene has returned – at a new venue in the Domain – with an ongoing showcase of the country's top comics gracing the main stage each week. For instance, this weekend, Michael Ian Black and Kevin James Thornton will rock the joint. And top talents from the local scene are featured in the Red Room. *Cap City Comedy Club*, 11506 Century Oaks Ste. B-100, 512/467-2333. \$30-40. capcitycomedy.com.

EAST AUSTIN COMEDY CLUB Founded by comedians Raza Jafri and Andre Ricks, this club that operates out of Tiger Den on the Eastside is the city's only BIPOC-owned comedy venue. *Tiger Den*, 1303 E. Fourth. eastaustincorcomedy.com.

BUZZ MILL COMEDY This newest Buzz Mill (right there on Seventh) has a full slate of funny supercharging their sweet and welcoming lounge, night after night after night. Check their website, see what's on, and (serving suggestion) treat yourself to some mighty tasty noms while you're there. *Buzz Mill Eastside*, 1209 E. Seventh. buzzmillcoffee.com.

CRAIG FERGUSON: THE FANCY RASCAL TOUR *The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson* ran on CBS for 10 years and remains a cult favorite on YouTube, racking up millions of views every year on fan-posted bootleg clips. Here's the man himself, live, on your favorite Downtown stage. *Tue.*, Oct. 4, 7pm. *Paramount Theatre*, 713 Congress, 512/472-5470. \$39.50 and up. austintheatre.org.

DANCE

✦ **FORKLIFT FANTASIA: THE SHAPE OF WATER** Spend an evening immersed in aquamarine along the banks of Waller Creek while celebrating boundless imagination, the art in everyday life, and the launch of Forklift's *The Way of Water* – a traveling multiyear project featuring local, national, and international stewards of this vital resource. This fundraising party features delicious noms, beverages, a short preview of *The Way of Water: Waller Creek*, and – of course! – a rockin' dance party under the stars. *Thu.*, Sept. 29, 7-11pm. *Symphony Square*, 1101 Red River, 512/222-5287. \$125. forkliftdanceworks.org.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

OPENING

ACMC: TOUR DE FORCE Witness the evolution of fame, notoriety, and acknowledgment through these tour-de-force pieces by powerhouse composers: quartets and quintets by Joseph Bologne, Johannes Brahms, and Florence Price, as performed by Carpe Diem String Quartet and pianist Michelle Schumann. *Fri.-Sat.*, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, 7:30pm. *First Unitarian Universalist Church*, 4700 Grover, 512/454-0026. \$12-45. austinchambermusic.org.

✦ **BEERTHOVEN: THE WILD ROVER** Celebrate the legendary composer's wild ways with this first concert of Beethoven's ninth season, featuring a quartet first performed at a tavern known as the Wild Man: Beethoven's *Op. 132 String Quartet in A minor* – performed live by the Ritus Quartet. Music from other wild men on the program includes

Hugo Wolf's *Italian Serenade* and Debussy's only string quartet. And you know this classical delight comes with complimentary beer from Lazarus Brewing, right? *Sept. 30 & Oct. 2. Fri.*, 7:30pm; *Sun.*, 3pm. *Saengerunde Hall*, 1607 San Jacinto, 541/261-9839. \$10-30. beerthoven.com.

ACO: PARTS OF THE WHOLE This Austin Civic Orchestra concert includes music by Alfieri, Barber, Berlioz, Dvořák, Grainger, and Mozart. *Sat.*, Oct. 1, 7:30pm. *Long Center for the Performing Arts*, 701 W. Riverside, 512/970-4882. \$31. austincivorchestra.org.

ASO: A TRIBUTE TO JUDY GARLAND Your Austin Symphony Orchestra, along with vocalist Natasha Drena, will celebrate the 100-year anniversary of Judy's life. Come hear some of your favorite songs, including "Over the Rainbow," "You Made Me Love You," "Stormy Weather," "Come Rain or Come Shine," "When You're Smiling," and more. *Sat.*, Oct. 1, 8pm. *Long Center for the Performing Arts*, 701 W. Riverside, 512/476-6064. \$19-100. austinsymphony.org.

ACMC: IVALAS QUARTET The Austin Chamber Music Center presents these grand prizewinners of the most recent Coltman Competition's Senior Division; they'll perform Eleanor Alberga's *String Quartet No. 1*, Osvaldo Golijov's *Tenebrae*, and Beethoven's *String Quartet No. 13, Op. 130*. *Thu.*, Oct. 6, 7:30pm. *King-Seabrook Chapel at Huston-Tillotson College*, 900 Chicon, 512/505-3139. \$25. austinchambermusic.org.

VISUAL ARTS

EVENTS

THE CATS+: ARE UXPERIENCED? The experiment is to push back on technology. The experience is the Collaborative Art + Technology Situation (CATS+), a new program at the Museum of Human Achievement that pairs artists and tech wizards to collaborate on projects and share their processes. CATS+ 1.0 is composed of three pairs of artists who spent the summer glitching consensus reality by creating their own user experiences. Now you, citizen, you come see them. *Sat.*, Oct. 1, 1-4pm. *Museum of Human Achievement, Springdale & Lyons*, 262/880-6982. themuseumofhumanachievement.com.

THE CATHEDRAL OPEN HOUSE: MARCELLA COLAVECCHIO Join the ATXgals for their September open house at the Cathedral, for a night filled with shopping for art, dancing to tunes, enjoying free drinks, and supporting all things local. *Fri.*, Sept. 30, 7-10pm. *The Cathedral*, 2403 E. 16th, 512/220-4108. \$15-35. thecathedralab.com.

SCOTT MCLLOUD'S 24-HOUR COMICS CHALLENGE People who love to draw, and especially those who are into sequential art, have been tackling Scott McCloud's challenge since 1990. This year, Dear Diary Coffee – that caffeine-forward emporium of vegan noms and art – is staying open all night, so you and your friends can attempt to write, draw, and color a complete comic book in 24 hours. RSVP to reserve your spot. *Sat.*, Oct. 1. *Dear Diary Coffeehouse*, 1212 Chicon #103, 512/489-6757. Free with RSVP. deardiary.coffee.

OPEN CANOPY This is a monthly celebration in which artists welcome you into their studio spaces for a look into their creative processes. The Canopy complex has 57 studio spaces with more than 72 artists. And it's not like the Ivester and ICOSA and Modern Rocks and Yard Dog and other galleries aren't right there, too, get it? Perfect day for visiting – and grabbing an Ohayo at Sa-Tén. *Sat.*, Oct. 1, 1-4pm. *Canopy*, 916 Springdale. canopyaustin.com.

STEVE PARKER'S FOREIGN BODY Ivester Contemporary's Project Room is supercharged this weekend by the latest sonic wonderment from one of Austin's favorite acoustical provocateurs, featuring an interactive, 8-foot head made from cardboard, brass, and electronics. Citizens are invited to activate the piece by wearing the mask and playing it like an oversized wearable instrument – and Parker himself will perform at this night's opening reception. *Sat.*, Oct. 1, 7-9pm. *Ivester Contemporary*, 916 Springdale #107. ivestercontemporary.com.

UMLAUF AFTER DARK This soiree at the popular sculpture garden features live music, beer from Austin Beerworks, and cocktails from Tito's, with the night's festivities highlighting local Hispanic and Latino performers, artists, and small businesses. *Tue.*, Oct. 4, 6-8pm. *Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum*, 605 Azie Morton, 512/445-5582. \$12. umlaufsculpture.org.

ARTAUSTIN

& Their Work • The MAW Gallery • The George Washington
 Carver Museum and Genealogy Center • Yard Dog Gallery
 • Elisabet Ney Museum • Stephen L. Clark Gallery • ICOSA



Davis Gallery and Framing • The Contemporary Austin, Jones
 Center • Dougherty Arts Center • Yard Dog Gallery • Wally
 Workman Gallery • Big Medium • Modern Rocks Gallery • Link &
 Pin Gallery • Landmarks • A&S Gallery • Cloud Tree • grayDUCK

Your year-round guide to Austin art.

Gallery • West Chelsea Contemporary • Flatbed Center for
 Contemporary Printmaking • Dimension: Gallery & Sculpture Park
 • Central Library Gallery • Artworks Gallery • CAMIBA Gallery
 Austin Art Garage • Mexis-Arie Museum • Emma S. Barrientos
 Mexican American Cultural Center • Ivester Contemporary

Northern-Southern: Mail Art Postcard Exhibit

Yes, this is also where the current Brad Tucker x Transmountain show, "Outer Middle," is on display. But this day's **pop-up special** is a whole 'nother separate thing: an exhibition of **hundreds of art postcards** sent to indefatigable mail artist and musician **Josh Ronsen** over the pandemic – from 26 countries, and with many from Texas artists. *Sun., Oct. 2, 2-6pm. Northern-Southern, on Fifth, between Brazos & San Jacinto. Free. northern-southern.com.*



SOUND & VISION: THE SPIRIT OF AUSTIN ArtUs Co presents this blend of the visual arts and music, with each artist represented featuring a song by a local musician who inspired and informed their creativity. See the time-lapsed video of the artists' processes along with the music at the indoor reception – followed by live music (by Shawn Pander and Mandy Rowden) on the lawn outdoors at 7pm. *Thu., Oct. 6, 6-10pm. ArtUs Co, 10000 Research #141. \$5. artusco.com.*

OPENING

WEST CHELSEA CONTEMPORARY: AUSTIN DIRECTOR'S CHOICE This new show at WCC features works from renowned artists such as Slim Aarons, Ash Almonte, Salvador Dalí, Mari Kim, Alex Katz, and more. *Sept. 29-Oct. 23. West Chelsea Contemporary, 1009 W. Sixth, 512/826-8224. wcc.art.*

ICOSA: AS IT WAS Here are new works by Jonas Criscoe and B Shawn Cox that explore "the transformative power of quilting." Through the use of traditional patterns, manipulated surfaces, and found materials, each artist employs a patina of touch to transform the familiar and nostalgic into a palimpsestic rendition of itself. *Opening reception: Fri., Sept. 30, 7-10pm. ICOSA, 916 Springdale #102, 512/920-2062. icosacollective.com.*

STRANGE BEASTS VII: GUZU VS. THE KING The King of the Monsters is back, and this time he – Gajiraaaaaaa! – will be vividly rendered by 23 bone-crushingly talented and ferocious artists from Austin. Printed and original artwork will be available for purchase, in person and

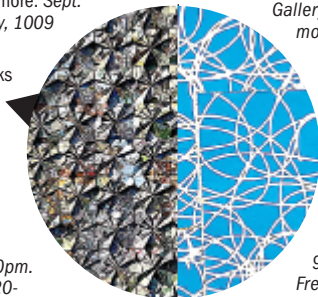
online, from the lizard-limning likes of Kyle Armstrong, Chet Phillips, Half-Human, Tessa Morrison, Matt Frank, Daddy Otis, and more. *Opening reception: Fri., Sept. 30, 7-10pm. Guzu Gallery, 5000 N. Lamar, 512/454-4898. guzugallery.com.*

MODERN ROCKS GALLERY: EYES THAT SEE IN THE DARK As a photographer and art director, Ed Caraeff has worked with, photographed, designed, or art-directed hundreds of album covers; his work has appeared on four covers of *Rolling Stone*. This new solo show features images captured by Caraeff when he was a 15-year-old attending high school in Southern California, marking the start of his career as a rock & roll photographer. *Opening reception: Thu., Oct. 6, 7-10pm. Modern Rocks Gallery, 916 Springdale #103, 512/524-1488. modernrocksgallery.com.*

CLOSING

MODERN ROCKS GALLERY: FIFTY YEARS IN EXILE This new exhibition reveals a collection of rare, previously unseen, and vintage photographs from the Rolling Stones' 1972 session with legendary photographer Norman Seeff. *Through Sept. 30. Modern Rocks Gallery, 916 Springdale #103, 512/524-1488. Free. modernrocksgallery.com.*

LINK & PIN GALLERY: BEYOND This exhibition comprises new works by Rama Tiru and features digital, mostly surreal paintings, both full-color and monochrome, with augmented reality elements added to some of the images. *Through Oct. 1. Link & Pin, 2235 E. Sixth #102, 512/900-8952. linkpinart.com.*



PRIZER ARTS & LETTERS: WILHELMINA WEBER FURLONG Witness now the works of **Wilhelmina Weber Furlong** (1878-1962), a German American artist and teacher, the forerunner of **modern impressionistic and expressionistic still-life painting**. *Closing reception: Sat., Oct. 1, 6-9pm. Prizer Gallery, 2023 E. Cesar Chavez. prizerartsandletters.org.*

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: JOYCE HOWELL The artist's new solo show at the excellent Workman gallery discretely floods the walls with evocative color. *Through Oct. 1. Wally Workman Gallery, 1202 W. Sixth, 512/472-7428. wallyworkmangallery.com.*

ONGOING

CLOUD TREE: PINNACLES This new series of paintings by John Mulvany weaves together events – remembered, recounted, or directly experienced – into an allegorical narrative documenting a singular imagined event set over a 24-hour period in the desert and mountains along the border of Texas and Mexico. *Through Oct. 9. Cloud Tree, 3411 E. Fifth, 512/797-8852. cloudtrestudiosandgallery.com.*

THE CONTEMPORARY AUSTIN: IN A DREAM YOU SAW A WAY TO SURVIVE AND YOU WERE FULL OF JOY Explore the works of eight female artists – Danielle Brathwaite-Shirley, Adriana Corral, Ellie Ga, Juliana Huxtable, Tala Madani, Danielle McKinney, Wendy Red Star, and Clare Rojas – in this new exhibition that explores how narrative and storytelling shape our senses of self, community, history, and identity. *The Contemporary Austin, 700 Congress, 512/453-5312. thecontemporaryaustin.org.*

BOOKS

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

LAURA WARRELL: SWEET, SOFT, PLENTY RHYTHM The author presents her debut novel – about "passion and risk, fathers and daughters, wives and single women, jazz and soul" – in conversation with Dalia Azim. *Sat., Oct. 1, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 512/472-5050. Free. bookpeople.com.*

MIKE DUNCAN: THE STORIES OF HISTORY Mike Duncan is one of the most popular history podcasters in the world. *YKYK. Mon., Oct. 3, 8pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 512/472-5470. \$35-45. austintheatre.org.*

Wait – there's more! See austinchronicle.com/events for a complete list of Arts events.

Fall Metaphysical and Holistic Expo

SATURDAY, OCT. 8 10AM-6PM

SUNDAY, OCT. 9 11AM-6PM

Norris Conference Center

2525 W. ANDERSON LANE #365 ATX 78757

ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE
 AT EVENTBRITE.COM

spirituallifeproductions.org 512-657-5223

A Tribute to Judy Garland

Saturday, October 1, 2022 @ 8 PM
 Long Center's Dell Hall

Your Austin Symphony Orchestra, along with vocalist **Nahasha Drena**, and Conductor **Peter Bay**, will celebrate the 100-year anniversary of Judy Garland's life.

Come hear some of your favorite songs including:
 "Over the Rainbow," "You Made Me Love You,"
 "Stormy Weather," "Come Rain or Come Shine,"
 "When You're Smiling," and more.

Purchase tickets at
austinsymphony.org
 OR
 Scan the QR code



All artists, dates, and repertoire subject to change without notice.

Concert Sponsor:



Women's Symphony League
 of Austin

Media Sponsor:



This project is supported in part by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.

Download the app:



Connect:





Austin Record Convention

Dealers, collectors, and aficionados gather to share vinyl, CDs, cassettes, posters, shirts, and other **music memorabilia from hundreds of vendors**. Early-bird shoppers get a day of early access Friday as well as early admission on Saturday and Sunday. *Oct. 1-2. Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 10am-5pm. See early shop schedule online. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. \$5; \$30 for early shop. austinrecords.com.*

🐾 **VENARDOS CIRCUS** Former Ringling Bros. ringmaster Kevin Venardos blends world-class animal-free circus acts with a Broadway musical-style format for this big-top show ideal for the whole family. Get tickets now; shows for its last weekend are selling out. *Through Oct. 2. Thu.-Fri., 7pm; Sat., 1, 4 & 7pm; Sun., 1 & 4pm. Moontower Saloon, 10212 Menchaca Rd. venardoscircus.com.*

🐾 **DRIPPING SPRINGS PUMPKIN FESTIVAL** A family-friendly, kid-focused event on a beautifully shaded farmstead, with tons of activities beyond the pumpkin patch. *Through Oct. 31, 10am-7pm (closed Tuesdays). Dr. Pound Historical Farmstead, 419 Founders Park Rd., Dripping Springs. dripping Springspumpkinfestival.com.*

🍺 **BEER RELEASE & DONATION DRIVE** Meanwhile Brewing teams up with Val Verde Border Humanitarian Coalition for a donation drive tied to the release of Val Verde, a green tea lager. They're seeking donations of clothing and new, travel-size toiletries; get details online for what you should bring when you go to try the new brew. *Through Oct. 3. Meanwhile Brewing Co., 3901 Promontory Point. meanwhilebeer.com.*

🌿 **ROOTS & WINGS FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** Join Keep Austin Beautiful to assemble activity kits for the fall festival. *Through Oct. 7. Permitting & Development Center, 6310 Wilhelmina Delco. keepaustinbeautiful.org.*

🍺 **OKTOBERFEST AT JESTER KING** JK pulls out all the stops, with live music, Bavarian food, and of course, plenty of beer, plus trivia on Thursday, Drag Bingo on Friday, and keg-rolling and stein-holding contests on Sunday. *Through Oct. 2. Jester King Brewery, 13187 Fitzhugh. jesterkingbrewery.com.*

🥁 **STOMP YOUR FEET FOR SIMS** An all-star lineup pays musical tribute to Gary Primich, benefiting nonprofit SIMS Foundation. *Thu., Sept. 29, 7pm. The Austin Beer Garden Brewing Co., 1305 W. Oltorf. \$75. theabgb.com.*

🎵 **CONCERT IN THE PARK** Cedar Park Parks & Rec presents a free honky-tonk concert by Weldon Henson, starting with dance lessons from Allyson Lipkin to get into the "Texas swing" of things. *Fri., Sept. 30, 6:30pm. Elizabeth Milburn Park, 1901 Sunchase Blvd., Cedar Park. cedarparktexas.gov.*

🎸 **FREE CONCERT: THE WRECKS** Also featuring streetside pop-up bars, yard games, and photo ops. Find it near Restoration Hardware. *Fri., Sept. 30, 7pm. Domain NORTHSIDE, 11821 Rock Rose Ave. domainnorthside.com.*

🇺🇸 **AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE DAY** Join the Bullock Museum and Great Promise for American Indians in a celebration with activities for school groups and visitors, 10am-2:30pm, and a free public program, 6-8pm. *Fri., Sept. 30. Bullock Museum, 1800 Congress. thestoryoftexas.com.*

🇬🇷 **ST. ELIAS MEDITERRANEAN FESTIVAL** A celebration of Mediterranean cuisine and culture with a variety of food and wine, cocktails by Aperol and Absolut, a bazaar, and music. *Sept. 30-Oct. 1. Fri., 6-11pm; Sat., noon-11pm. St. Elias Orthodox Church, 408 E. 11th. \$5 donation; free before 4pm Oct. 1. sainteliaschurch.org/medfest.*

🌿 **WORKDAY WITH APF** Register with Austin Parks Foundation to volunteer by adding mulch to the playground, picking up litter, and creating a path. *Sat., Oct. 1, 9am-noon. Wooldridge Park, 1306 Colony Creek. austinparks.org.*

🏺 **ARCHAEOLOGY DAY** To celebrate Archaeology Month, the historic farm will have activities and learning stations set up at the Tonkawa Encampment near where prehistoric discoveries have been made. *Sat., Oct. 1, 10am-3pm. Pioneer Farms, 10621 Pioneer Farms Dr. pioneerfarms.org.*

🐷 **ENCHANTED PIG FOREST FIRST ANNIVERSARY** Celebrate one year since Central Texas Pig Rescue brought their beloved babes to a fantastic new home. You'll get to tour the property and learn about the org and these lovely creatures. *Sat., Oct. 1, 10am. Address provided with registration. centraltexaspigs.org.*

🕌 **AUSTIN MUSLIM CULTURE FEST** Celebrate the rich diversity of the Austin Muslim community through delicious authentic food, stunning Islamic artwork, kids activities, and live educational workshops and performances. They'll also be highlighting Hispanic Heritage Month with food and featured presentation "Islamic Roots in the Latino Culture." *Sat., Oct. 1, 11am-8pm. Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St. Free. cairtx.org.*

☕ **MEAN THING DAY PARTY** For International Coffee Day, Superthing and Meanwhile joined forces for a limited-edition coffee beer. Get you a taste and shop a ceramics and plant market, try some coffee-complementary food specials, and enjoy live music. *Sat., Oct. 1, 11am-5pm. Meanwhile Brewing Co., 3901 Promontory Point. Free. meanwhilebeer.com.*

🍷 **VINTAGE MARKET** Shop, eat, drink, and vibe at a market presented by Decades in Retro. *Sat., Oct. 1, noon-6pm. Kinda Tropical, 3501 E. Seventh. Free. kindatropical.com.*

🐾 **RAISE THE RUFF** The Austin Humane Society benefit presented by Q2 is back with tons of family fun. A pack of vendors will be on hand with pet-themed items and services, and you can win big with door prizes and the pet costume contest. Guests are encouraged to embrace the Back to the Eighties theme, with the party being soundtracked by Eighties cover band Freeze Frame. *Sat., Oct. 1, noon-3pm. Celis Brewery, 10001 Metric. \$30. austinhumanesociety.org.*

🍷 **DEAF ARTISAN MARKET DAY** DAMD hosts its first market, complemented by Wanderlust's wide variety of wines on tap. *Sat., Oct. 1, 1-4pm. Wanderlust Wine Co., 702 Shady. fb.com/deafartisanmarketday.*

👩 **FIRST SATURDAYS AT FUTURE FRONT** The nonprofit org focused on women and LGBTQ+ creatives opens its headquarters for curated pop-ups, workshops, and more, and all are welcome, including four-legged friends. *Sat., Oct. 1, 1-4pm. Canopy, 916 Springdale. Free. futurefronttexas.org.*

🗣️ **"TO EMANCIPATE" TALK** Hear from author and artist Dennis Berry, a fifth-generation descendant of important Austin historical figure Rev. Jacob Fontaine. *Sat., Oct. 1, 2-4pm. Oakwood Cemetery, 1601 Navasota. auintexas.gov.*

🎵 **THE AFGHAN HEART'S VOICE** Musician Wahab Rasooli will lift the hearts of the Afghan community and introduce the community to the beauty of the music of his native land. *Sat., Oct. 1, 8pm. AISD Performing Arts Center, 1500 Barbara Jordan Blvd. \$20-100. austinisd.org/fine-arts/pac.*

🎧 **SILENT PARTY ATX** You control the party by choosing your fave station on headphones, choosing between hip-hop and R&B. *Sat., Oct. 1, 9:30pm. Down South Cajun Eats, 15630 Vision Dr., Pflugerville. \$20-120. encoreatx.eventbrite.com.*

🐶 **BULLY RANCH DOG SHOW** Think Westminster, but sillier and with a circus theme. Doggos will compete in nine categories including "Freshest Trick" and "Derpiest" and you can enter your pupper in one or all nine for \$10 each. There'll also be a small course to run, and one canine will be crowned Best in Show. All proceeds benefit dog rescue Bully Ranch. *Sat., Oct. 1. Sagebrush, 5500 S. Congress. \$10 donation. bullyranch.org.*

🏠 **H-E-B FREE FIRST SUNDAY** Explore the story of Texas through three floors of exhibits showcasing artifacts from around the state. *First Sundays, 10am-5pm. Bullock Museum, 1800 Congress. thestoryoftexas.com.*

📖 **POETRY ON TEA LEAVES** A workshop and open mic bringing BIPOC and the LGBTQIA+ community together for reading, writing, discussing, and performing prose. Hosted by Ayishane and Raphaella the Swan, and complemented by tasty teas. *First Sundays, 6-8pm. West China Tea House, 4706 N. I-35. By donation. westchinaatea.com.*

📖 **MODERN TIMES LECTURE SERIES** Dr. Karen Pope speaks on "Celebrating and Creating History: America's Centennial Exposition," and the connection between the 1876 World's Fair in Philadelphia and the young state of Texas. *Sun., Oct. 2, 2-4pm. Neill-Cochran House Museum, 2310 San Gabriel. nchmuseum.org.*

🐶 **BARKING BEAUTY PAGEANT** Cute canines compete in designer duds at this puppy pageant, all to benefit Austin Pets Alive! and Dream Beauty Academy. *Sun., Oct. 2, 3pm. Academy of Hair Design/BeVelle Barber School, 2015 E. Riverside. barkingbeautypageant.org.*

🎵 **TAILGATE TO TACKLE POVERTY FUNDRAISER** Enjoy a live concert featuring talented Austin musician Jackie Venson, local food and beverages, tailgate games for all ages, prizes, and a silent auction. Proceeds benefit the Dream Come True Foundation, which creates pathways for families to break the cycle of poverty. *Sun., Oct. 2, 4-7pm. Vuka, 5504 N. Lamar. \$10-75. thedreamcometruefoundation.org.*

🎵 **KARAOKE UNDERGROUND** A punk and indie rock karaoke with songs from the likes of Bikini Kill, Black Flag, Modest Mouse, and more. *Tue., Oct. 4, 9:30pm. Hotel Vegas, 1502 E. Sixth. Free. texashotelvegas.com.*

🎓 **ADULT EDUCATION AT CARVER** Austin Parks & Rec is offering some very cool six-week courses for your enrichment: homeopathic herb and veggie gardening, digital photography, and DJ 101, taught by some of our best local experts. *Starting Oct. 4-6. Carver Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina. auintexas.gov/carvermuseum.*

📞 **LEGALLINE** Call 512/472-8303 for LegalLine, a free hotline sponsored by Austin Lawyer Referral Service. Attorney volunteers can answer questions and give brief legal advice concerning many areas of law. *First Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30pm. Free. austinlrs.com.*

👥 **AJC GENERAL BODY MEETING** Learn about the work Austin Justice Coalition is doing and how you can get involved. *First Tuesdays, 6:30pm. austinjustice.org.*

👥 **AISD JOB FAIR** Learn about jobs at the school district in the food service, maintenance, transportation, and custodial departments. *Wed., Oct. 5, 9am-noon. AISD Performing Arts Center, 1500 Barbara Jordan Blvd. austinisd.org/careers.*

🧘 **EFFECTIVE TECHNIQUES FOR PROCESSING STRONG EMOTIONS** Hop online for a seminar, Q&A, and meditation. *Wed., Oct. 5, 7pm. Virtual. \$30. mschalin.com.*

💃 **CUMBIA WEDNESDAYS** Get a dance class from Cumbia Austin then practice those moves to music from El Combo Oscuro and special guests. *Wednesdays in October, 9pm. Hotel Vegas, 1502 E. Sixth. texashotelvegas.com.*

🧠 **LEARNING CIRCLE: THE SCIENCE OF WELL-BEING** Join the library for a four-week course about what psychological research says about happiness and how to put strategies into practice. *Oct. 5-26. Wednesdays, 2:30-4pm. Central Library, 710 W. Cesar Chavez. Free. library.auintexas.gov.*

🐾 **CATS, DOGS & BULLS(EYES) FUNDRAISER** A night of axe-throwing and fundraising for Friends of Austin Animal Center. Via 313 brings pizza as a tasty bonus. *Thu., Oct. 6, 7pm. Urban Axes, 812 Airport. \$50. urbanaxes.com.*

📰 **KNOW YOUR NEWS** Overwhelmed by misinformation and fake news? Learn how to fight back in this hourlong workshop. *First Thursdays through Dec., 2-3pm. Central Library, 710 W. Cesar Chavez. Free. library.auintexas.gov.*



Paws & Pours for AHS

If you'll be out and about in October and you love animals, here's a chance to maximize your fun and support **Austin Humane Society**. Simply buy a passport and all month you'll get **free glasses of wine, free flights**, and other paw-some specials at **more than two dozen spots**, along with a beverage and koozie from **Mighty Swell**. Buy online or at a kickoff party at Hank's (5811 Berkman, Oct. 4, 4-6pm); Easy Tiger (1501 E. Seventh, Oct. 5, 5-7pm); or Jo's Coffee (1000 E. 41st, Oct. 7, 9-11am). *Oct. 1-31. Passes available now. Multiple locations. \$40. austinhumanesociety.org.*



Sacred Springs Powwow

Indigenous people return to **Spring Lake** for a day of dancing, craft vendors, food, and music. *Sat.-Sun., Oct. 1-2. San Marcos. \$5-8. sspowwow.com.*

CIVICS 101

AIISD Board of Trustees Meeting See agenda for details. *Thu., Sept. 29, 6pm. Broadcast on aisd.tv.* **AIISD Bond Community Conversations** AIISD presents in English and Spanish and welcomes questions about the 2022 bond for the school district. *Mon., Oct. 3, 6-8pm: Crockett High School, 5601 Manchaca Rd. Thu., Oct. 6, 6-8pm: Navarro ECHS, 1201 Payton Gin. Equity Advisory Committee Meeting Join online or in person to hear about the EAC's equity recommendations for the district. Public comment welcome; sign up online. *Thu., Oct. 6, 5:30pm. Oak Springs Elementary, 3601 Webberville. austinisd.org.**

ALL-CHAMBER COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUM The city's chambers of commerce host a forum for candidates running for City Council in November. *District 9: Fri., Sept. 30, 5:30pm. ACC Rio Grande, 1212 Rio Grande. District 1: Thu., Oct. 6, 6:30-8:30pm. ACC Eastview, 3401 Webberville Rd. keepaustinvoting.com.*

AUSTIN MONITOR CITY SUMMIT The Monitor brings together recognized and emerging city leaders, inspired community members, and dedicated organizations for informative panels, a mayoral candidate forum, networking, and more. *Wed., Oct. 5, noon-7pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside. \$20-100. austinmonitor.com.*

CITY COUNCIL Regular Meeting See agenda for details, and follow along on ATXN. *Thu., Sept. 29, 10am. Public Health Committee Meeting* The committee will hear a briefing from Central Health on the Health Equity plan. *Thu., Oct. 6, 9:30am. Mobility Committee Meeting* The committee will be updated on airport expansion, wildfire evacuation, and more. *Thu., Oct. 6, 1pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second. austintexas.gov/council.*

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: 64 RAINEY STREET PLÁTICA Austin Parks & Rec is planning the development of 64 Rainey as a park that tells the story of the Rainey Street Historic District. Join to review the plans and share feedback. *Thu., Sept. 29, 6pm. Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St. austintexas.gov/esbmacc.*

COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUM: DISTRICT 3 Learn about your D3 City Council candidates at a forum that can also be heard on KAZI 88.7FM and viewed live on atxn.tv, cable Channel 6, or AT&T U-Verse Channel 99. *Thu., Oct. 6, 6pm. Conley-Guerrero Sr. Activity Center, 808 Nile. austintexas.gov.*

DEMOCRACY DAY Join Austin Area Urban League and a host of other local orgs to engage directly with policymakers and discuss local, state, and federal policies. *Sat., Oct. 1, 10am-5pm. Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon. aaul.org.*

DACC ADVISORY BOARD At a special called meeting, the Downtown Austin Community Court Board will hear firsthand accounts from people who've been through Austin's homelessness system and discuss the status of the court, among other business. *Fri., Sept. 30, 8am. One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd. austintexas.gov.*

HOMEOWNER SAVINGS WORKSHOP Keeping up with home costs can be hard, so the city offers programs that may help, especially for older adults. Learn more at this seminar. *Tue., Oct. 4, 9:30am. Montopolis Recreation Center, 1200 Montopolis. austintexas.gov/austinismyhome.*

PARTY FOR THE PEOPLE Join GoodPolitics, the League of Women Voters, Austin Monitor, KUT, and MOVE Texas for a chance to hang with candidates for the Nov. 8 election, from Travis County commissioner to U.S. Congress. *Thu., Oct. 6, 6-8pm. Native Hostel, 807 E. Fourth. ourgoodpolitics.org.*

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT VOTING SESSION See agenda for details, and watch the meeting live on TCTV. *Tuesdays, 9am. Commissioners Court, 700 Lavaca. traviscountytx.gov.*

SPORTS

THE HOME TEAMS

VIOLET CROWN ROLLER DERBY TRYOUTS Join an open practice and tryouts if you're interested in playing the 2023 season. *Fri., Sept. 30, 7pm. Rock Sports Arena, 3918 Gattis School Rd. #102, Round Rock. fb.com/violetcrownrollerderby.*

UT Softball Vs. St. Mary's. *Fri., Sept. 30, 6pm. Red & Charline McCombs Field, Comal & MLK. Volleyball Vs. TCU. *Wed., Oct. 5, 7pm. Gregory Gym, 2101 Speedway. Soccer* Vs. Baylor. *Fri., Sept. 30, 7pm. Vs. Kansas State, Thu., Oct. 6, 7pm. Free admission. Mike A. Myers Stadium, 707 Clyde Littlefield Dr. Football* Vs. West Virginia. Nelly plays a free pregame concert on the LBJ Lawn. *Sat., Oct. 1, 6:30pm. Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium, 2100 San Jacinto. texasports.com.**

AUSTIN FC WATCH PARTIES Cheer on Austin FC to a victory over Vancouver with supporters' group Los Verdes. *Sat., Oct. 1, 9pm. Hi Sign Brewing, 730 Shady. losverdesatx.org. Watch the game with supporters' group Austin Anthem. *Sat., Oct. 1, 9pm. Circle Brewing, 2340-B W. Braker. austinthem.org.**

RECREATION & FITNESS

FREE GROUNDED DANCE CARDIO & YOGA Enjoy an upbeat, high-energy dance cardio session (Saturdays, 10am) or an outdoor yoga class on the plaza (Sundays, 10am). *Fareground, 111 Congress. Free. swiftfitevents.com.*

LEARN THE ROPES WORKSHOP An hourlong workshop to learn the basics of jumping rope, which is a fun, low-impact conditioning workout. *Sat., Oct. 1, 1:30pm. Castle Hill Fitness, 1112-B N. Lamar. \$35. castlehillfitness.com.*

VINO VINYASA Learn fun wine facts through creative yoga poses, then enjoy snacks and a comparative tasting of two wines. *Sun., Oct. 2, noon. Summer Revival Wine Co., 665 U.S. Hwy. 290 W., Dripping Springs. \$40. vinovinyasayoga.com.*

INTRO TO PILATES Join a small group class exploring the fundamentals of Pilates. *Oct. 4-25; Oct. 6-27; Nov. 1-29. Castle Hill Fitness, 1112-B N. Lamar. \$124 for four weeks. castlehillfitness.com.*

UA FREE LEAGUE OPEN HOUSE Urban Axes hosts axe-throwing leagues starting Oct. 9, and opens its doors to anyone interested in joining. *Tue., Oct. 4, 6-9pm. Urban Axes, 812 Airport. urbanaxes.com/austin.*

CONTINUED ON P.30

GABRIEL "FLUFFY" IGLESIAS

BACK ON TOUR

OCTOBER 7
MOODY CENTER
AUSTIN, TX

FLUFFYGUY.COM FOR TICKETS



BARTON HILL FARMS FALL FESTIVAL, PUMPKIN PATCH, & CORN MAZE

WEEKENDS
OCT. 1 - NOV. 6 &
COLUMBUS DAY

Get in the Autumn Mood
at Barton Hill Farms!

Alright, Alright, Alright...
Solve our 5 acre Mazed
and Confused Corn Maze

Reserve your tickets at:
BartonHillFarms.com

30 minutes E. of Austin
1115 FM 969
Bastrop, TX 78602

Barton Hill
FARMS



The Boat

Crawfish & Seafood



22 TVs FOR BIG 10, ACC, SEC COLLEGE FOOTBALL, ALL UT GAMES + NFL GAMES

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DAY TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

Three rooftop bars in San Antonio offer a view of the city from above street level. Each has its own unique character and charm.

Thompson San Antonio Riverwalk Hotel, 115 Lexington, 210/942-6032, themoonsdaughters.com. Sun., 11am-9pm; Mon.-Thu., 4pm-12mid; Fri.-Sat., 2pm-2am.

Soaring 20 stories above the Riverwalk on the northern edge of downtown, the **Moon's Daughters** is an adults-only indoor/outdoor bar and restaurant. There is an outdoor patio and a narrow ledge with tables facing southwest from the luxury hotel that is the 12th-tallest building in the **Alamo City**. View: 5; menu: 5; ambience: 5; \$\$\$.

Fairmount Hotel, 401 S. Alamo St., 210/224-8800, fairmount-sa.com/dining/fairmount-hotel-rooftop-bar. Sat.-Sun., 11am-close; weekdays, 3pm-close.

The Fairmount made history in 1985 when the three-story, then-79-year-old brick hotel was moved six blocks to its present location next to the **La Villita Historic Arts Village**. The boutique hotel boasts three world-class eateries, including the **Rooftop Oyster Bar**. At first the al fresco dining area didn't seem to offer much of a view except for the **Tower of the Americas** (San Antonio's ultimate bar-with-a-view). But a cozy platform with couches behind the bar has a more panoramic view of downtown. The menu specializes in American seafood and a narrow range of other delectable items. View: 3; menu: 4; ambience: 5; \$\$\$.



Moon's Daughters

GERALD E. MCLEOD

Bar America, 723 S. Alamo St., 210/223-1285, fb.com/baramericasatx. Wed.-Thu., 5pm-12mid; Fri.-Sat., 5pm-2am; Sun., noon-7pm; Mon.-Tue., closed.

This San Antonio drinking institution since 1942 is wedged between downtown and the **King William District**. Bar America doesn't really have a "rooftop bar." What this very cool neighborhood saloon has is an elevated covered patio smaller than a one-car garage with a view of the Tower of the Americas. The pool table, big-screen TVs, and kitchen are downstairs. View: 1; menu: 2; ambience: 2; \$.

1,620th in a series. Everywhere is a day trip from somewhere: Follow "Day Trips & Beyond," a travel blog, at austinchronicle.com/daily/travel.

SPORTS CONTINUED FROM P.29

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

RIDE BIKES AUSTIN Join RBA for a socially paced group ride starting and ending at Parque Zaragoza and visiting a different park each week. *Thursdays, 7:30pm; most Saturdays, 2:15pm. Parque Zaragoza, 2608 Gonzales. Free. ridebikesaustin@gmail.com, fb.com/ridebikesaustin.*

CRITICAL MASS Join a massive bike ride at a slow pace through the city. *Fri., Sept. 30, 6pm. Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge, Lamar & Riverside. Free. fb.com/groups/austintxmass. All wheels are welcome for a group ride celebrating infrastructure improvements and ending with a roller disco afterparty with free-to-borrow skates. Fri., Sept. 30, 7:30pm. 15 Chicon. Free. fb.com/criticalmassaustin/events.*

KIDS

FREE BASKETBALL SKILLS CLINIC Tavarus Blanchard Foundation offers free sessions to spark kids' interest in basketball and build their skills. Register and get details online. *Sun., Oct. 2 & Nov. 6. Pflugerville Rec Center, 400 Immanuel Rd. Free. tavarus-blanchard.org/event.*

COCOMELON LIVE: JJ'S JOURNEY A unique and interactive musical adventure with magical special effects in an unforgettable live stage show. *Sun., Oct. 2, 3pm. Bass Concert Hall, 2350 Robert Dedman. cocomelonlive.com.*

SCIENCE THURSDAY Students can drop in and explore the museum, see demos, and participate in hands-on activities with STEM experts from Central Texas Discover Engineering. *Thu., Oct. 6, 10am-1:30pm. Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 Congress. thestoryoftexas.com.*

STARRY NIGHTS Back for fall, Girlstart provides a star show in the mini planetarium along with a related hands-on activity. *First Thursdays, 5:30-7pm. Girlstart STEM Center, 1400 W. Anderson. girlstart.org.*

OUT OF TOWN

LONE STAR GOURD FESTIVAL & ART SHOW The Texas Gourd Society presents a fest with gourd-geous art, a gift shop, raffle, giveaways, and more. *Thu.-Sun., Sept. 29-Oct. 2. Fredericksburg. Free. texasgourdsociety.org.*

BOERNE BOOK & ARTS FESTIVAL Author Sarah Bird headlines a day of panel discussions, book readings for kids and adults, and more. *Sat., Oct. 1, 10am-4:30pm. Boerne. Free. boernebookfest.com.*

CREOLE HERITAGE FESTIVAL Let the good times roll in Midtown Park around good music and lots of food. *Sat., Oct. 1, 11am-10pm. Houston. houstoncreolefest.com.*

OKTOBERFEST ON THE SQUARE The family-friendly party includes something for everybody, from craft beers to homemade schnitzel and German noodles. *Sat., Oct. 1, 3-7pm. La Grange. \$5-40. cityoflg.com.*

GUY FORSYTH IN CONCERT The powerhouse singer-songwriter who's given us so many wonderful songs takes the stage at a laid-back venue a conversation away from Austin. *Sat., Oct. 1, 7pm. La Grange. thebugleboy.org.*

SANDCASTLE DAYS See magical sand sculptures and celebrate the island with games, food, music, and "Sandcamp," where you can try your hand at sand art. *Oct. 6-9. South Padre Island. Free. sandcastledays.com.*

HALLOWEEN/DAY OF THE DEAD

HOUSE OF TORMENT The ultimate haunted house offers elaborate sets, iconic characters, towering animatronic monsters, and terrifying scenarios. *Through Nov. 5. Open daily Oct. 12-31 and select weekend days otherwise. House of Torment, 2632 Ridgpoint Dr. houseoftorment.com.*

PUMPKIN NIGHTS Venture along a half-mile walking path to discover fantastical lands built using over 5,000 hand-carved real and artificial pumpkins. Fun continues with games and more in the Village festival area. *Through Oct. 30. Pioneer Farms, 10621 Pioneer Farms Dr. pumpkinnights.com.*

ROSITA Y CONCHITA A charming bilingual play based on the award-winning children's book about two sisters trying to reunite on the Day of the Dead. *Oct. 2-30. Scottish Rite Theater, 207 W. 18th. \$15-20. scottishritetheater.org.*

LITTLE GAY SHOP OF HORRORS Shop a Halloween market with dozens of local artists and makers, enjoy drag performances, and enter your dog in the costume contest to win some cash for treats! *Sun., Oct. 2, noon-4pm. The Little Gay Shop, 828 Airport. littlegayshopofhorrorssii.splashthat.com.*

CAVERN FALL FEST Just a short jaunt from town, this family-friendly fest features lotsa free fall activities, including a hay maze, music, seasonal food, and more, with trick-or-treat times on Halloween weekend. *Weekends in October. Natural Bridge Caverns, New Braunfels. naturalbridgecaverns.com.*

DESSERT IN THE DESERT Pre-party for ACL with treats, music, raffles, and more from the Museum of Ice Cream and Desert Door Sotol. Check out the "Museum of I-Scream" Halloween experience for spooktacular fun. *Thu., Oct. 6, 5-8pm. Museum of Ice Cream, 11506 Century Oaks Terr. #128. Free. museumoficecream.com.*

See austinchronicle.com/events for a complete list of Community events.

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U.S. NATIONAL TEAM LIMPING TOWARD QATAR WORLD CUP

With **Major League Soccer** on international break and the **2022 FIFA World Cup** just around the corner, “The Verde Report” comes to you as “The Red, White & Blue Report” this week. Stay tuned to *The Austin Chronicle* through the winter for coverage and analysis of the World Cup you won’t get anywhere else.

Hey, at least they qualified?

That’s pretty much where we’re at with the **United States men’s national soccer team** headed toward the World Cup, set for kickoff Nov. 20 in Qatar. At the absolute bare minimum, and unlike four years ago, the stars and stripes won’t be watching the world’s most-celebrated sporting event from their couches at home. They’ll be in the mix ... it just doesn’t look like they’ll make much noise when they get there.

The U.S. team this past week picked essentially the worst possible time – apart from the World Cup itself – to put together arguably its worst 180 minutes of soccer of the current four-year cycle. Two complete and utter no-shows: first a 2-0 loss to **Japan** last Friday in which the Americans registered zero shots on goal, then on Tuesday a listless 0-0 draw against **Saudi Arabia** inside a practically empty stadium in Murcia, Spain. Head coach **Gregg Berhalter** certainly wasn’t pleased.

“I think, if we’re going to evaluate everybody, what I’d say in general, there’s not many players that performed up to their normal levels in this camp. And that’s just how it is,” Berhalter said. “So you can ask me about center backs, the fullbacks, forwards, the midfield – anyone you want to ask, I’d say we’re below our normal levels.”

So ... nobody was good. Super. These were friendlies, yes, but they were also the last 180 minutes of game action the U.S. will get before landing in Doha in November. Not that it felt like anything of the sort. In a typical World Cup year, U.S. Soccer usually schedules three high-profile “send-off” friendlies on home soil in the weeks just prior to the start of the tournament. They’re massive occasions, typically in NFL stadiums, creating big-buzz atmosphere more akin to a World Cup environment than you’d ever get in some European neutral site.



But this is no typical World Cup year. Players must return to their club teams for matches as soon as this weekend before the Winter Mundial interrupts domestic leagues across the world. The majority of the U.S. roster is based in Europe, which demanded that the matches be played across the pond for convenience’s sake.

Theoretically, it’s a good problem to have in that more talented Americans are involved in top-tier European leagues than ever. But that talent has not translated into inspiring results since a 2-0 win over **Mexico** in World Cup Qualifying more than a year before the start of the actual tournament. There are problems in central defense; notably, Berhalter has been unable to identify a suitable replacement for **Miles Robinson**, who suffered a torn Achilles in May. There are problems in attack, with the U.S. apparently no closer to identifying a starting striker than when the cycle began four years ago. These issues aren’t works in progress anymore. They’re incomplete assignments, and they don’t bode well for a long stay beside the Persian Gulf.

For some optimism, fans can look to the current U.S. injury report and see key names like **Tim Weah** and **Yunus Musah**, two difference-makers that figure to be healthy by the start of the tournament. There’s also the – for lack of a better word – magic of the World Cup, where unexpected things just happen every four years. Right now, the U.S. needs all the magic it can get. ■

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Breaking the Waves

Chilling Irish drama *God's Creatures* finds tension in stillness **BY KIMBERLEY JONES**

In a close-knit community in Ireland's County Donegal, the men fish the waters, and the women work at the fishery. The town is small enough that, when the women are on a smoke break at the factory and an ambulance arrives at the water's edge, the women run straight for the shoreline. There's been another drowning – a regular enough occurrence in these rough waters, it would seem. But what's startling is the admission that it's considered bad luck to teach children how to swim. The current is so strong, they don't want to encourage anyone to risk drowning by aiding someone else actively drowning. The smart play is to choose not to take action.

And in *God's Creatures*, inaction is a choice in itself, as when fishery foreman Aileen O'Hara (Emily Watson, quietly towering) chooses not to

ask too many questions of her twentysomething son Brian (*Normal People* breakout Paul Mescal) – where he disappeared to for years on end, and why he's suddenly returned home, eager to start back up the family oyster farm. Aileen and Brian have a special connection – he's all wide smiles, she's tender and indulgent – but when an accusation is made against Brian, Aileen makes a choice and must live with its rippling effects.

The effects are not good. But you already knew that from the under-the-skin score by Danny Bensi and Saundra Jurriaans, dominated by percussion that mimics the clacketing of oyster

shells on the factory line and halting strings that recall foghorns and a bone-deep feeling of unease. The sound design ups the ante, making palpable the wind and rushing water.

For all the fierceness of the elements, co-directors Anna Rose Holmer and Saela Davis, who previously collaborated on the well-regarded 2015 indie film *The Fits*, are in no rush here. They'll spend minutes on Aileen in her kitchen, alone, smoking a cigarette and fretting; that commitment

GOD'S CREATURES

D: Saela Davis, Anna Rose Holmer; with Emily Watson, Paul Mescal, Aisling Franciosi, Declan Conlon. (R, 100 min.)

★★★★

to stillness pays off in dividends during the film's few moments of violence – startlements that work like a jolt of adrenaline until the film returns to its natural resting state of stillness, alertness, unease. Beautifully acted and stubbornly resistant to easy catharsis, *God's Creatures* drifts to an end in a final, minutes-long shot. It's an ellipsis, not a full stop, and feels true to what's passed and to what keeps these people going: that life is just something you learn to live with.

ALAMO S. LAMAR

OPENINGS

Bros (R)
God's Creatures (R)
The Good House (R)
The Greatest Beer Run Ever (R)
Smile (R)
Vesper (NR)

RATINGS

- ★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be
- ★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless
- ★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points
- ★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots
- ★ Poor, without any saving graces
- 🍌 La bomba
- 🍌🌟 Recommended

NEW REVIEWS

🌟 BROS

D: Nicholas Stoller; with Billy Eichner, Luke Macfarlane, Dot-Marie Jones, Harvey Fierstein, Jim Rash, Debra Messing, Bowen Yang. (R, 115 min.)

Bobby Leiber (Eichner) is at that age. He's at the point where he still goes to shirts-optional clubs and has swiped right on Grindr a lot. Yet even though he stays in good enough shape to impress if he needed, he's most comfortable chatting with the older guys about how these young hookups probably don't have a thought in their heads. So of course he's not going to try to fall in love with the corn-fed abs and small-town conversations of Aaron Shepard (Macfarlane), but can he resist this "gay Tom Brady"?

Rom-coms, gay or straight, are about the will they/won't they. *Bros* may not be the first gay rom-com, but it is (as the producers have made it known) the first gay romantic comedy from a major studio featuring an entirely LGBTQ principal cast. Moreover, it's a deliberate effort by director, co-writer, and rom-com veteran Nicholas Stoller (*The Five-Year Engagement*, *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*) to get inside modern gay relationships – or, more especially, affluent, white, middle-class, cis gay male relationships in New York.

Like all modern R-rated rom-coms, *Bros* has an element of sex comedy about it, mostly about the awkwardness of one-night stands or of asking and receiving. It's arguably less explicit than something like another Stoller project, *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, but with a lot more exposed skin than *When Harry Met Sally...* Those scenes really show how often Hollywood in the past has otherved any kind of queer sexual contact, and find a different kind of humor:

CONTINUED ON P.34

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CIDER RELEASE 12PM



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MON 10/3: CLOSED

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NEW REVIEWS CONTINUED FROM P.32

the gay perspective on the ridiculousness of gay sex, just as any scene with some suitor thrutching obliviously on a bored Sandra Bullock shows the ridiculousness of straight sex. (Three's company, four is just awkward, as one of the best cringe sequences shows.) Most importantly – and it's stupid that we still have to say this – it's gay sex in a mainstream, multiplex-ready movie that's not about AIDS or pushing aside closeted shame. It's about love and passion and fun, and occasionally an awkward sense of obligation.

And, of course, what really matters is the relationship. Eichner and Macfarlane have a fresh and unique energy when it comes to rom-coms – and it's not just because they're two guys. As Leiber, Eichner tones down his early histrionic and playfully acerbic comedy style for something a little more bitter. There's a delicious edge of frustration to Bobby's self-pitying yelp whenever Aaron just disappears (a habit of his) midway through a conversation, while Aaron melts into the floor every time Bobby devolves into the kind of self-righteous cliché that he clearly never wants to be. Eichner and Stoller have written a script that, in some ways, echoes Matthew Lopez's epic Tony-winning drama *The Inheritance* in its themes of honoring without emulating gay history, even if it's done through the slightly heavy-handed mechanism of Bobby working on the advisory board of a new LGBTQ museum (although this does allow for Jim Rash to fume about bi erasure).

Now, as a cis heterosexual man not living in New York, I can't honestly say how accurate this all is – but that's not the point. Eichner and Stoller have done something important in making a comedy about modern gay love that says it's just like modern straight love – well, no, scratch that. Their whole film is about showing how modern gay relationships aren't quite the same as modern straight relationships, but the differences aren't important. Well, they are, but not in the ways that bigots and morons

want them to be. They're not bothered about explaining, but they are quite happy to show audiences their experience, and let them play catch-up. And, yes, when you get to the end, you'll get that happy ending. It's a rom-com, after all.

★★★ – Richard Whittaker

ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO MUELLER, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ALAMO S. LAMAR, ALAMO VILLAGE, AMC DINE-IN TECH RIDGE 10, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CINEMARK 20, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, EVO CINEMAS BELTERRA, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, METROPOLITAN, MOVIEHOUSE, LAKE CREEK 7, WESTGATE, VIOLET CROWN

THE GOOD HOUSE

D: Maya Forbes, Wallace Wolodarsky; with Sigourney Weaver, Kevin Kline, Morena Baccarin, Rob Delaney, David Rasche, Kathryn Erbe, Paul Guilfoyle. (R, 114 min.)

Addiction dramas tend to run the gamut between unrepentant (say, *Leaving Las Vegas*) and redemptive (everything else). It's a tricky task for stories of the latter variety to engagingly follow the well-worn formula – revelry, realization, resistance, reckoning, recovery – while avoiding the trap of heavy-handedness. It's helpful to have a lead who's up to the task, and it's a good thing that *The Good House* has the very good Sigourney Weaver navigating the road to sobriety. But she's not quite enough to evade the morass of moralizing.

The screenplay is a crisp one, taken as it is from the novel by Ann Leary – author, columnist, NPR host, and, along with her spouse Denis, ex-wino – and brought to the screen by *Larry Sanders Show* royalty Maya Forbes and *Simpsons* royalty Wally Wolodarsky. When Weaver, playing Hildy Good, a real estate agent in the scenic New England town of Wendover (Nova Scotia, actually), turns away from the young couple she is shepherding around a property to break the fourth wall, there's hope the film is heading for slightly edgier territory. This conceit, viewer as confidant (or sponsor, perhaps), works up to a point – Hildy's asides of comic contradiction and rationalization are dead-on – but ultimately they are a crutch to the film, opportunities to insert verbatim monologues

from Leary's novel. And as adept as Weaver is at this two-faced performance, even she seems to grow weary of it, as Hildy performs all manner of emotional gymnastics. To wit: She must hide her drinking from her family, who held an intervention for her resulting in a stint at rehab that didn't take. She's financially overextended, and her once assistant/protégé (Erbe) is stealing all of her clients. Not to mention her husband of 20 years (Rasche) left her for another man, and her new drinking buddy/neighbor (Baccarin) is becoming concerned about Hildy's frequent blackouts. And let's not forget the death of Hildy's mother, a specter of generational trauma hanging over it all. At least she has old flame Kevin Kline, an unflappable fellow townie who steps in as her knight errant.

The Good House has some great qualities. It's a familiar, cathartic mirror for those who have dealt with, or have loved ones who have dealt with, addiction. There is an insider knowledge that infuses the film with authenticity. But it also has some not-so-great qualities. For every subversive feint in the narrative, there're a few swerves into maudlin Lifetime-movie country. A subplot involving an unstable boy with autism is a tacked-on plot device to add some tension, while Hildy's breakthrough reconciling her mother's death is resolved in a clipped, offhanded montage oddly removed of any emotional weight. It's a mixed bag for sure, but *The Good House* ultimately displays enough self-assurance to overshadow its contrivances.

★★★ – Josh Kupecki
BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CINEMARK 20, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, WESTGATE

THE GREATEST BEER RUN EVER

D: Peter Farrelly; with Zac Efron, Russell Crowe, Bill Murray, Kyle Allen, Jake Picking. (R, 126 min.)

Wow, talk about a movie where the title is a complete misnomer to the film. Going in blind, with a name like *The Greatest Beer Run Ever*, this promised to be a misadventure by some frat boy trying to score some beer for his buddies. Which, okay, this is a movie about a pro-war idiot wanting to bring his friends from the neighborhood some beer, but throw in the fact that his friends are in Vietnam in 1967/68 and, well ... misadventure indeed.

Based on 2017 book *The Greatest Beer Run Ever: A Memoir of Friendship, Loyalty, and War* from John "Chick" Donohue and J.T. Molloy, the film is about Chickie (Efron), a former Marine, now Merchant Marine, who spends his time back home drinking and skipping out on tabs. Many of his buddies from the neighborhood (Manhattan, apparently) are over in Vietnam fighting, and Chickie is gung-ho even after they start coming home in body bags. He gets into a fight with some war protesters one night and, spurred on by his local bar's owner (Murray), Chickie decides to go to Vietnam in order to take several cases of Pabst Blue Ribbon (a war crime itself) to his buddies. He literally packs a duffel bag full of cans. Once he eventually gets

there, he sets about carrying that bag all over the country trying to deliver warm wishes, along with the warm beer, from back home.

There aren't many positives about this movie so it's easiest to start there. Efron, despite the accent, does a fairly good job as the completely moronic and reckless Chickie. Russell Crowe plays a grizzled war correspondent (he even says so in case there is a question) who seems like he's in another movie ... a movie I would've much rather watched. I do question Bill Murray's choices as The Colonel, though. Like, all of them.

Most of all, I'm really struggling with why this movie was even made. Yes, it's based on a true story, but is it one that needed telling on screen? The movie sells us on the idea there are two sides to the story when it comes to Vietnam and, I'm sorry, what? Chickie risks the lives of everyone he meets and thinks the journalists in Vietnam should lie so the people back home can feel better. Again, what?

★★ – Sarah Jane
BLUE STARLITE MUELLER II, CINEMARK 20, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, LAKE CREEK 7

SMILE

D: Parker Finn; with Sosie Bacon, Jessie T. Usher, Kyle Gallner, Kai Penn, Judy Reyes. (R, 115 min.)

The premise of *Smile* is one that comes with baggage at this point in the modern horror cycle. This story about therapist Rose (Bacon) being cursed by an entity that wields the smiling faces of those familiar to the accursed is yet another trauma-horror allegory, a metaphor that has become so overused it's begun to become a bit of a joke. However, the debut feature of writer/director Parker Finn looks to upend some of your potential assumptions about what this kind of movie – from a mainstream studio, no less – can actually be.

Indeed, *Smile*, at its best, is a bit weirder and more left-field than you may expect. Following the recent release of *Barbarian*, it's continuing this year's trend of seemingly well-polished, potentially anonymous studio horrors having much more inspired, hidden ambitions than other high-profile contemporaries. This is slickly assembled, sure, but is crafted with inventive camera work, off-kilter audio cues, and its fair share of no-bullshit jump scares and unnerving imagery. There's a uniquely morose tone that intuitively allows your brain to prepare for the worst – like our characters are living before an inevitable end of the world. It's led by an all-in performance from Bacon, who grounds the story within her slow, deteriorating state of mind and escalating madness.

As strong as Finn's atmospheric sensibilities are, his script isn't always able to keep up. Following a strong first act that makes you believe you may just be in the hands of a new genre craftsman who really knows what he's doing, *Smile* unfortunately sags in its middle section as Rose embarks on her investigative quest with cop/ex Joel (Gallner) to find the truth. There are highlights scattered throughout – a



tense scene that involves confronting a previous owner of the mysterious curse comes to mind – but there are stretches that will make you antsy for reasons other than a potential scare. The scares themselves (even the legitimately great ones) typically lack a follow-through, too, usually featuring our lead coming face to face with the monster only to regularly cut to the next scene where we're left to assume everything went over all right. Rinse and repeat.

The ultimate destination is both surprising and frustrating, as the film suddenly again morphs into something much stranger and exciting than you would expect based on initial impressions of what this should be, but also ultimately does fold into becoming another overwrought allegory for its trauma through line. To its credit, this gets pretty close to riding the ideal line between jumpy spookfest and self-serious highbrow horror, and its streak of genuinely great built-for-a-crowd moments and gnarly imagery helps hoist this into positive territory. If nothing else, *Smile* is another signal that there could be a slow shift happening in studio horror for a potential new wave of idiosyncratic voices and ideas being ushered into the mainstream.

★★★

– Trace Sauveur

ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO S. LAMAR, AMC DINE-IN TECH RIDGE 10, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CINEMARK 20, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, EVO CINEMAS BELTERRA, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, METROPOLITAN, LAKE CREEK 7, WESTGATE

☛ VESPER

D: Kristina Buožytė, Bruno Samper; with Raffiella Chapman, Eddie Marsan, Rosy McEwen, Richard Brake. (NR, 114 min.)

In the future of eco-fable *Vesper*, much like our own present, there is the edible and the inedible. The control of that which is edible is the ultimate source of power, and the ability to let the nature grow freely is the ultimate act of rebellion. In the latest film from Kristina Buožytė and Bruno Samper (the duo behind *Fantastic Fest* 2012 multi-award winner *Vanishing Waves*) the world is beset with corrupted growth: or rather, it has seemingly outgrown humanity, and is sending it back to the soil. In a not-so-subtle dig at how agribusiness now can “turn off” seeds,

starving the farming community, the distant Citadels have created an economic system of genetically modified seeds and blood – literally exsanguinating the youth of the countryside.

Unlike most eco-horrors, this is not an arid, baked future; it is green and verdant, but utterly inhospitable, and this is the world in which *Vesper* (Chapman) has found herself. A 13-year-old with a flair for biosciences, she sits in a collapsing house with the mummified body of her mother and her paralyzed father (Brake, a frozen mass of keening desperation), who has been gifted a limited mobility by the Citadel that used him up in the war: a floating drone that he can control, psionically, on which *Vesper* has painted a happy face. The environment has gone wild with dangerous plants and aggressive fungi: Sleep against the wrong log and you'll be mulch by morning, and that's something else *Vesper* must navigate.

Of course, there's a hiccup in the disorder of things – or rather, two. First, *Vesper* finds lost seeds upon which she can experiment; second, a ship from the Citadel crashes, and an impossibly pallid woman, *Camellia* (McEwen), is the sole survivor. Over her father's protestations, *Vesper* takes her in, and these two catalyzing opportunities are enough to set her on an inevitable path to changing the world.

But she is a quiet revolutionary. There's no *Hunger Games* spectacle here: Instead, *Vesper* and *Camellia* quietly inhabit this fantastical land. There is a fairy-tale aspect, of the dangerous forest that the plucky young heroine must overcome to slay the beast; but, more importantly, fairy tales are metaphors. *Vesper* herself is not some pristine princess, but the scientist who is convinced that their idea can overcome a system that has corrupted the environment. The changed world – seductively, brutally, dangerously entrancing as it is – is the result of the Citadel's meddling, and her task is to undo the incorrect. She's less Snow White than a grimy teenage Galileo, seeing the patterns that others deny. Under the muck and mire, *Vesper* is a reminder that both life and hope can be surprisingly durable, flexible, and morphable.

★★★

– Richard Whittaker

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SPECIAL SCREENINGS

BY KAT McNEVINS



BACK TO THE EIGHTIES

Beetlejuice (1988) D: Tim Burton; with Michael Keaton, Winona Ryder, Alec Baldwin, Geena Davis. (PG, 92 min.) @Doc's Drive In, Thu., Sept. 29, 8pm. @Blue Starlite Mueller II, Fri.-Sat., Sept. 30-Oct. 1, 8pm.

The Blob (1988) D: Chuck Russell; with Kevin Dillon, Shawnee Smith, Donovan Leitch. (R, 95 min.) Remake of the 1958 sci-fi starring Steve McQueen, with better effects and a tighter story. @Blue Starlite Mueller II, Sat., Oct. 1, 10:30pm.

Blow Out (1981) D: Brian De Palma; with John Travolta, Nancy Allen, John Lithgow. (R, 107 min.) Travolta turns in one of his finest performances as a sound man who thinks he's accidentally recorded an assassination. @Alamo S. Lamar, Sept. 30-Oct. 4; find showtimes online.

Castle in the Sky (1986) D: Hayao Miyazaki. (PG, 124 min., subtitled) The stunning animated quest is dubbed by Anna Paquin, James Van Der Beek, Cloris Leachman, Mark Hamill, Mandy Patinkin, and more. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, Village, through Oct. 5; find showtimes online.

Fright Night (1985) D: Tom Holland. (R, 106 min.) An Eighties vampire party from the director of the first *Child's Play*. @Alamo S. Lamar, Sept. 30-Oct. 5; find times online. @Alamo Village, Sat., Oct. 1, 10:15pm; Sun., Oct. 2, 6:30pm.

Ghostbusters (1984) D: Ivan Reitman; with Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, Harold Ramis, Sigourney Weaver. (PG, 107 min.) Several chances to revisit the classic this week, including a couple of movie parties with ghostly goodies. @Alamo Lakeline, Slaughter Lane, Village, Oct. 1-6; find showtimes online. Also @Blue Starlite Mueller II, Sat., Oct. 1, 8pm. @Doc's Drive In, Sat., Oct. 1, 7:50pm.

Hellbound: Hellraiser II (1988) D: Tony Randel; with Doug Bradley, Ashley Laurence, Clare Higgins. (R, 97 min.) **Terror Tuesday.** Pinhead is back for more in this imaginative sequel. @Alamo S. Lamar, Tue., Oct. 4, 9:30pm.

The Lost Boys (1987) D: Joel Schumacher; with Jason Patric, Corey Haim, Kiefer Sutherland. (R, 97 min.) Blue Starlite warms up for Halloween season with a 4K restoration. @Blue Starlite Downtown, Sat., Oct. 1, 8pm. @Blue Starlite Mueller II, Sat., Oct. 1, 10:30pm.

❖ **Pixote (1980)** D: Hector Babenco; with Fernando Ramos da Silva, Jorge Juliao, Gilberto Moura. (NR, 128 min., subtitled) **World Cinema Classics.** A 10-year-old runaway and his friends commit crimes to survive on the streets of São Paulo in this gripping masterpiece of social realism. @AFS Cinema, Thu., Sept. 29, 7pm.

Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981) D: Steven Spielberg; with Harrison Ford. (PG, 115 min.) **Presented in 4K.** @Alamo Slaughter Lane, Fri., Sept. 30, 10pm; Sat., Oct. 1, 9pm; Tue., Oct. 4, 3:50pm.

Rumble Fish (1983) D: Francis Ford Coppola; with Matt Dillon, Mickey Rourke, Diane Lane. (R, 94 min.) Coppola adapted another S.E. Hinton novel after *The Outsiders*, and this one's rumored to be one of his fave films. @Alamo S. Lamar, Sun., Oct. 2, 3pm.

The Shining (1980) D: Stanley Kubrick; with Jack Nicholson. (R, 142 min.) @Doc's Drive In, Fri., Sept. 30, 10:15pm.

Tucker: The Man and His Dream (1988) D: Francis Ford Coppola; with Jeff Bridges, Joan Allen, Martin Landau. (PG, 110 min.) A lesser-known gem from Coppola starring Bridges as maverick car designer Preston Tucker. @Alamo S. Lamar, Sat., Mon. & Wed., Oct. 1, 3 & 5, 3pm; Tue., Oct. 4, 3:30pm.

Who Framed Roger Rabbit? (1988) D: Roger Zemeckis; with Bob Hoskins, Christopher Lloyd, Joanna Cassidy; with the voices of Charles Fleischer, Kathleen Turner. (PG, 104 min.) The iconic live action/animation is presented by Hyperreal Film Club. @Blue Starlite Mueller II, Wed., Oct. 5, 8:30pm.

FEATURED SCREENINGS

B.A.P.S. (1997) D: Robert Townsend; with Halle Berry, Natalie Desselle. (PG-13, 90 min.) Hyperreal Film Club presents a screening in the forest of the cult classic buddy comedy. (*) @Blue Starlite Mueller II, Fri., Sept. 30, 10:30pm.

The Battle of Chile: Part I (1975) D: Patricio Guzmán. (NR, 96 min.) **Essential Cinema.** A political doc capturing the turmoil around the 1973 Chilean parliamentary elections. @AFS Cinema, Tue., Oct. 4, 7:30pm.

Bros Baby's Day Out Bros and babes at a screening with sound down, lights up, and changing tables in the theatre. @Violet Crown, Tue., Oct. 4, 3:30pm.

❖ **Dementia 13 and Twixt** A double feature of two of Francis Ford Coppola's more gothic works: 1963's *Dementia 13*, a whodunit about a scheming widow trying to get her paws on an inheritance, and 2011's *Twixt*, a dark romance starring Val Kilmer and Elle Fanning. @Alamo S. Lamar, Sun., Oct. 2, 11am.

The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie (1972) D: Luis Buñuel; with Fernando Rey, Delphine Seyrig, Stéphane Audran. (PG, 100 min., subtitled) **Newly Restored.** A witty and whimsical class satire from the master of surrealism. @AFS Cinema, Mon., Oct. 3, 7pm; Thu., Oct. 6, 6:10pm.

❖ **Double Indemnity (1944)** D: Billy Wilder; with Fred MacMurray, Barbara Stanwyck, Edward G. Robinson. (NR, 106 min.) Wilder's breakout noir about an insurance scheme features masterful work by Stanwyck. @Alamo S. Lamar, Sept. 30-Oct. 5; find times online.

The Exorcist (1973) D: William Friedkin; with Linda Blair, Ellen Burstyn. (R, 121 min.) @Moviehouse & Eatery Lantana Place, Wed., Oct. 5, 7pm. @Moviehouse, Wed., Oct. 5, 8pm.

Experiment in Terror (1962) D: Blake Edwards; with Glenn Ford, Lee Remick, Roy Poole, Stefanie Powers. (NR, 123 min.) **The Neo-Noir Canon: Part I.** A stylish and disturbing thriller about a criminal who coerces a pair of young women to help him pull off a difficult bank job. @AFS Cinema, Fri., Sept. 30, 7pm; Sun., Oct. 2, 4pm.

The Man Who Fell to Earth (1976) D: Nicolas Roeg; with David Bowie, Rip Torn, Candy Clark, Buck Henry. (R, 140 min.) **Big Screen Classics.** In an early film role, Bowie plays an alien on a mission in this sci-fi mindfuck. @AFS Cinema, Sat., Oct. 1, 7pm; Sun., Oct. 2, 1pm; Thu., Oct. 6, 8:30pm.

Mean Girls (2004) D: Mark Waters; with Lindsay Lohan, Rachel McAdams, Tina Fey. (PG-13, 97 min.) **All-Pink Party.** A special screening for *Mean Girls* Day that is so fetch, with free gifts and a specialty snack. (*) @Evo Cinemas Belterra, Evo Entertainment, Mon., Oct. 3, 7:30pm.

The Mummy and The Bride of Frankenstein Fathom Events. Start spooky season right with a double feature starring Boris Karloff as the mummy (1932) and Frankenstein's misunderstood monster (1935). @Metropolitan, Cinemark 20, CM Southpark Meadows, Sat., Oct. 1, 1pm.

Perfect Blue (1997) D: Satoshi Kon; with the voices of Junko Iwano, Rica Matsumoto, Shinpachi Tsuji. (NR, 80 min.) **World Cinema Classics.** This Japanese animation is not for kids! Rather, it's a mind-bending psychological thriller centered on a pop star being tormented by the mysterious deaths of those around her. (*) @AFS Cinema, Thu., Sept. 29, 9:45pm; Fri., Sept. 30, 5pm; Sat., Oct. 1, 2pm.

Trick 'r Treat (2007) D: Michael Dougherty; with Anna Paquin, Brian Cox, Dylan Baker. (82 min.) **Flashback Cinema.** @Highland, Sun. & Wed., Oct. 2 & 5, 1, 6pm. @Pic, Sun., Oct. 2, 3pm; Wed., Oct. 5, 6:45pm.

Trouble Every Day (2001) D: Claire Denis; with Alex Descas, Beatrice Dalle, Tricia Vessey, Vincent Gallo. (NR, 102 min.) **Lates.** This controversial French erotic thriller features a couple honeymooning in Paris. (*) @AFS Cinema, Fri., Sept. 30, 9:45pm; Sat., Oct. 1, 10pm; Sun., Oct. 2, 6:45pm.

Vertigo (1958) D: Alfred Hitchcock; with James Stewart, Kim Novak, Barbara Bel Geddes. (PG, 130 min.) **4K Restoration.** (*) @Alamo S. Lamar, Sept. 30-Oct. 5; find times online.

Violence Voyager (2018) D: Ujicha. (NR, 83 min., subtitled) **Weird Wednesday.** A dark and unique Japanese animation about a twisted amusement park and a mad scientist. @Alamo S. Lamar, Wed., Oct. 5, 9:30pm.

Young Frankenstein (1974) D: Mel Brooks; with Gene Wilder, Peter Boyle, Marty Feldman. (PG, 105 min.) @Blue Starlite Mueller II, Wed., Oct. 5, 8pm.

SPACES

Batman (1989) D: Tim Burton; with Michael Keaton, Jack Nicholson, Kim Basinger. (PG-13, 126 min.) **Waterfront Floating Cinema.** Drive-in cinema Blue Starlite now offers boat-in and floating screenings on Lady Bird Lake, with the city behind you and a 20-foot widescreen in front of you. @Capital Cruises, Thu., Sept. 29, 8:45pm.

❖ **The Science of Sleep (2006)** D: Michel Gondry; with Gael Garcia Bernal, Charlotte Gainsbourg. (R, 105 min., subtitled) Gondry adeptly captures the weirdness of dreams in this surreal love story. Outdoor screening presented by Rocket Cinema Texas and the Alliance Française. (*) @French Legation Museum, Thu., Sept. 29, 7:45pm.

The Motorcycle Diaries (2004) D: Walter Salles; with Gael Garcia Bernal. (R, 128 min.) **Read-Watch-Talk.** The Austin Public Library screens the film in advance of its virtual book/movie club discussing the merits of the book vs. the film. (*) @Central Library, Sat., Oct. 1, 1pm (screening); Tue., Oct. 4, 7pm (virtual meeting).

Brain Damage (1988) D: Frank Henenlotter; with Rick Hearst, Gordon MacDonald, Jennifer Lowry. (R, 84 min.) **Hyperreal Hotel.** Hyperreal Film Club screens the horror comedy along with a local short film. @Hotel Vegas, Mon., Oct. 3, 7pm.

Hocus Pocus (1993) D: Kenny Ortega; with Bette Midler, Sarah Jessica Parker, Kathy Najimy. (PG, 95 min.) **Waterfront Floating Cinema.** (*) @Capital Cruises, Thu., Oct. 6 & 13, 8:45pm.

FESTIVALS

FF@Home Genre film festival Fantastic Fest continues online after the in-person events conclude, with a selection of films from the fest, exclusive titles, and shorts. @fantasticfest.com/ff@home, Sept. 29-Oct. 4.

GTX Film Festival A full day of films, from youth shorts to full-length features – there's something for everyone. @Doug Smith Performance Center, Sat., Oct. 1, 10am-8:30pm.

Mexico Through the Lens of Women Filmmakers In collaboration with the Mexican Consulate in Austin, the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center, Women in Film and TV, and Malakita Productions present a series of four screenings from contemporary women filmmakers honored in international and national film festivals. @ESB-MACC, Fridays, Sept. 30-Oct. 21, 6pm.

OFFSCREEN

Farewell, Arbor Cinephiles got some bad news last weekend with the announcement of 33-year-old Arbor Cinema's closure. The arthouse theatre's shutter is likely related to recent bankruptcy filings.



Ghostbusters



Looking for showtimes?

To find up-to-date times searchable by movie title, theatre, and date, scan this QR code or go to austinchronicle.com/film.

THE SYMBOL (*) INDICATES FULL-LENGTH REVIEWS AVAILABLE ONLINE: AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/FILM

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 Oct. 14 issue is Monday, Oct. 3.** 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 4189, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 512/458-6910; or email. Contact Kat McNevins (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com.



Nope

FIRST RUNS

Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com/events/film.

Barbarian ★★★★★

D: Zach Cregger; with Georgina Campbell, Bill Skarsgård, Justin Long, Matthew Patrick Davis, Richard Brake. (R, 102 min.) Buried secrets make for the year's smartest, scarier horror.

ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO MUELLER, ALAMO VILLAGE, AMC DINE-IN TECH RIDGE 10, CINEMARK 20, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, GATEWAY, LAKELINE, METROPOLITAN, WESTGATE

Bullet Train ★★★

D: David Leitch; with Brad Pitt, Joey King, Aaron Taylor-Johnson, Brian Tyree Henry, Hiroyuki Sanada, Andrew Koji, Bad Bunny, Zazie Beetz. (R, 126 min.) Brad Pitt bumbles entertainingly through a hyperviolent slapstick comedy.

ALAMO LAKELINE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CINEMARK 20, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, GATEWAY, WESTGATE

Confess, Fletch ★★★

D: Greg Mottola; with Jon Hamm, Lorenza Izzo, Roy Wood Jr., Ayden Mayeri, Kyle MacLachlan, Marcia Gay Harden, John Slattery, Eugene Mirman. (R, 99 min.) Jon Hamm's laconic detective is too laid-back for his own good.

BLUE STARLITE DOWNTOWN, GATEWAY

Cuando Sea Joven

D: Raúl Martínez; with Verónica Castro, Natasha Dupeyrón, Daniel García, Manuel "Flaco" Ibáñez, Pierre Louis. (NR, 120 min., subtitled) Age-swap antics as a 70-year-old woman (Castro) becomes her younger self (Dupeyrón).

CINEMARK 20

DC League of Super-Pets ★★★

D: Jared Stern, Sam Levine; with the voices of Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart, Kate McKinnon, Natasha Lyonne, Vanessa Bayer, Diego Luna, Keanu Reeves, John Krasinski, Marc Maron. (PG, 106 min.) Fuzzy superhero antics are perfect summery kids' fare.

AMC DINE-IN TECH RIDGE 10, CINEMARK 20, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER

Don't Worry Darling ★★

D: Olivia Wilde; with Olivia Wilde, Harry Styles, Florence Pugh, Chris Pine, Gemma Chan, Nick Kroll, Kiki Layne. (R, 123 min.) Gorgeous midcentury modern design and Florence Pugh can't save this heavy-handed gender roles thriller.

ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO MUELLER, ALAMO S. LAMAR, ALAMO VILLAGE, AMC DINE-IN TECH RIDGE 10, CINEMARK 20, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, GATEWAY, LAKELINE, METROPOLITAN, WESTGATE

Dragon Ball Super: Super Hero ★★

D: Tetsuro Kodama; with the voices of Masako Nozawa, Volcano Ota, Miyu Irino, Toshio Furukawa, Yūko Minaguchi, Ryō Horikawa, Aya Hisakawa. (PG-13, 100 min., subtitled)

An old adversary spices up an otherwise very *Dragon Ball-y* flick. GATEWAY

See austinchronicle.com/film for the full reviews.

Jeepers Creepers: Reborn

D: Timo Vuorensola; with Sydney Craven, Jarreau Benjamin, Imran Adams, Dee Wallace. (R, 95 min.) The fourth in the creature feature/slasher franchise, forever tainted by the 1988 sexual assault conviction of series creator Victor Salva. CINEMARK 20

Luck ★★

D: Peggy Holmes; with the voices of Eva Noblezada, Simon Pegg, Jane Fonda, Whoopi Goldberg, Flula Borg, Lil Rel Howery, Colin O'Donoghue, John Ratzemberger. (G, 106 min.) Animated adventure is a bright if undemanding pleasure.

CINEMARK 20, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER

Minions: The Rise of Gru ★★★

D: Kyle Balda; with the voices of Steve Carell, Pierre Coffin, Alan Arkin, Michelle Yeoh. (PG, 87 min.) Kevin, Stuart, yee Bob nama bok, yee ba veela doegab tadtee de Otto!

CINEMARK 20, LAKELINE

Moonage Daydream ★★★★★

D: Brett Morgen. (PG-13, 135 min.) David Bowie, the transgressive and compassionate iconic artist in cosmic, intimate detail.

ALAMO LAKELINE, BLUE STARLITE MUELLER II, CINEMARK 20, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, VIOLET CROWN

Nope ★★★

D: Jordan Peele; with Daniel Kaluuya, Keke Palmer, Steven Yeun, Michael Wincott, Brandon Perea. (R, 131 min.) Jordan Peele's sci-fi horror/satire on minor celebrity is more of a "yeah." METROPOLITAN

Pearl ★★★★★

D: Ti West; with Mia Goth, Tandi Wright, Matthew Sunderland, David Corenswet, Emma Jenkins-Purro. (R, 102 min.) Mia Goth shines madly in the delicious period prequel to *X*.

ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO MUELLER, ALAMO S. LAMAR, AMC DINE-IN TECH RIDGE 10, BLUE STARLITE DOWNTOWN, BLUE STARLITE MUELLER II, CINEMARK 20, GATEWAY, LAKELINE, WESTGATE

See How They Run ★★★

D: Tom George; with Sam Rockwell, Saoirse Ronan, Adrien Brody, David Oyelowo, Reece Shearsmith, Ruth Wilson, Pearl Chanda, Harris Dickinson. (PG-13, 98 min.) Playful whodunit spoofs the greatest mystery in theatre.

ALAMO LAKELINE, CINEMARK 20, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, VIOLET CROWN

The Woman King ★★★★★

D: Gina Prince-Bythewood; with Viola Davis, Thuso Mbedu, Lashana Lynch, John Boyega, Sheila Atim. (PG-13, 134 min.) Historical epic of the legendary women warriors who inspired the Dora Milaje.

ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO MUELLER, AMC DINE-IN TECH RIDGE 10, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CINEMARK 20, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, GATEWAY, LAKELINE, METROPOLITAN, WESTGATE, VIOLET CROWN

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Food



Above: Konstantin “Koko” Prinz von Bayern (r) and brewmaster Katie Lowe at Koko’s Bavarian At left: The royal keg-tapping PHOTOS BY JANA BIRCHUM

Austin’s Oktoberfest GETS THE Royal Treatment

Partying with the Prince, per tradition, at Koko’s Bavarian Biergarten **BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER**

We’re celebrating Oktoberfest here in Austin again, of course, even though our money-maddened metropolis is – clap-clap-clap-clap! – deep in the heart of Texas and nowhere near Germany or Germany’s biggest state, Bavaria, in which the holiday originally occurred.

But then, hell, Oktoberfest is celebrated all over the planet at this point. Oktoberfest is celebrated wherever there’s a love of beer, whether that gregarious bastion of zythophiles is Austin or Toledo or Tokyo or Timbuktu. And, even though it’s called Oktoberfest and it tends to pop up throughout the year’s 10th month, the official Bavaria-based partying goes from mid- or late-September to around the first Sunday in October.

You may wonder, as you hoist your second or third stein of festbier at some down-home epicenter of brew-fueled mafficking, how this popular tradition started in the first place. You may wonder, as you adjust the rustic dirndl you’ve barely laced yourself into for the occasion, who the hell is this guy tapping the holiday’s first keg at Koko’s Bavarian Biergarten, Austin’s most recently debuted German-forward fortress of food and frolic? And why do people keep referring to the smiling fellow as “The Prince”?

Well, citizen, those mysteries are closely related – because Konstantin Prinz von Bayern, the affable thirtysomething royal they call Prince Koko, is the great-great-great-great-great-grandson of Bavaria’s King Ludwig I. And it was the celebration

of that same Ludwig’s marriage to Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen on October 12, 1810, that led directly to the revelry that’s bringing the sudsy elixir of John Barleycorn to your lips right now.

Yes, brewski hound, that’s one hell of a lineage.

It’s also what led to Prince Konstantin becoming a part-owner of this increasingly popular biergarten on Austin’s Eastside. “After first visiting Austin in 2017,” Koko tells us via email, “I fell in love with the city and its vibrant food scene. At my wedding in 2018, Charles [Attal, of ACL and C3 Presents fame], Jesse [Herman, the man behind La Condesa and Sway], and I started talking about possibly opening a Bavarian restaurant in Austin. At first, we were only

playing with the idea. But then they called me in 2020, saying they have a potential location, and things got a bit more serious. After spending lots of time brainstorming, coming up with German words for a name, they called me one day to say, ‘Why don’t we call it Koko’s?’ And I thought, why not!”

We’re sharing this story because it’s basically compelling and resonant with current beery merrymaking. But also because, as we reported in a recent blogpost, a months-ago visit revealed that “Koko’s Bavarian is, ach du lieber, a proper biergarten of many gastronomic delights. The array of beers – Pilsners, lagers, helles, hefeweizens, bocks, dunkels, IPAs – crafted on-site by head brewster Katie Lowe, the kitchen’s

CONTINUED ON P.40

HALL THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE WEEN

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Our Culture Editor, Richard Whittaker, is personally curating the display category prizepack with some *frighteningly festive swag* for the most creative display submission! But, don't fret! The costume category winner also receives an *Austin Chronicle* goodie bag featuring all the best local Austin treats.

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KOKO'S BAVARIAN CONTINUED FROM P.38

lip-smacking perfection of roast chickens and various wonderful wursts (mmmm, that rabbit-and-rattlesnake sausage), the casual and welcoming vibe of the well-designed place there off E. Cesar Chavez ... yeah, we're definitely fans." We wouldn't be telling you about this place if it wasn't worth your while, see?

It's certainly worth the prince's while. "I am very proud that my family is affiliated with such a historic event that still holds huge importance within Bavaria and beyond," says Konstantin. "I am equally proud and excited to bring Oktoberfest to Austin to represent my homeland." And so he did, in person, tapping that inaugural keg onstage at his namesake venue on Saturday, September 24, amid much German-inflected hooting and hollering.

And now the Oktoberfestivities continue at Koko's Bavarian, ranging over three more weekends (Sept. 30-Oct. 2; Oct. 21-23; Oct. 28-30) with a two-week pause to vend at ACL Fest, with a special beer for the season, live bands, games, food specials, and more. In addition to the regular lineup of quaffables,

sudsmeister Lowe will release Koko's Festbier (5.7% ABV), which boasts German hops and Texas malt from Ft. Worth. Live music and DJs will start at 3pm each day – including the Austin Polka Band, Off the Grid, Neon Bridges, and more – and will keep the place rocking as lively as an Ostrogoth on Adderall.

There are other such Oktoberfest events in town, of course, replete with more camaraderie and beer than a frat house on a Saturday night, and we've wrangled a few recommendations for you. But before we move on, since it's not every day one has the attention of the man whose direct ancestor started Oktoberfest, we had to ask the prince a final question: Beyond this annual celebration, what kind of beer do you most often prefer to drink?

"My favorites are Tegernseer Hell, Augustiner, König Ludwig Hell, Maxrainer Hell, and Arcobrau Mooser Liesl," Koko told us. "The word 'hell' means light. Therefore, you can easily spot that I am a big lager fan. Here and there I also enjoy a Radler (shandy), which is beer served with sparkling lemonade."

Prost, Your Highness!

Koko's Bavarian

4715 E. Fifth St.
kokosbavarian.com



Brats at Koko's Bavarian

COURTESY OF KOKO'S BAVARIAN

More Oktoberfestivities

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER



Oompah bands at Banger's Sausage House

JESTER KING BREWERY

The Hill Country-hugging Jester King rolls out all the possible barrels of fun, with live music, Bavarian food specials, and plenty of beer – plus, trivia on Thursday, drag bingo on Friday, and keg-rolling and stein-holding contests on Sunday. *Sept. 29-Oct. 2. Jester King, 13187 Fitzhugh. jesterkingbrewery.com.*

OASTOBERFEST

The Hajimaleki brothers and their acclaimed culinary crew host a family-friendly Oktoberfest that features German food, beer, live music, face-painting, costume contests, and more. Enjoy some freshly grilled brats on a pretzel bun with sauerkraut, pork shank with pickled red cabbage and beer mustard on slider rolls, giant-sized gingersnap cookies, and more – abetted by fine draughts from Independence Brewing Co., Friends & Allies, and Whitestone Brewery. Oh, and the Jägermeister folks'll be there to build you a few potent cocktails as well. Bonus: a pet adoption pop-up from Austin Dog Rescue. *Sat.-Sun., Oct. 1-2. Oasthouse, 5701 W. Slaughter. oasthouseaustin.com.*

CORKTOBERFEST

Sure an' the place is up in Round Rock (roll those arrrs, citizen!), but damned if this popular Irish pub isn't worth driving a little ways for. Especially at Cork & Barrel, where the Irish has gone briefly Germanic and there's a stein-holding competition and a Bavarian costume contest (there's one for your pets, too), and even a root beer tasting and lebkuchen-decorating station for the kiddos. Also, live music on Saturday – and pretzels and schnitzel and kartoffelsalat and homemade apple strudel and more on the menu all weekend long. *Oct. 1-2. Sat., 2-10pm; Sun., 2-9pm. Cork & Barrel, 4000 E. Palm Valley, Round Rock. \$38-65. corkandbarrelpub.com.*

BANGER'S SAUSAGE HOUSE

Gotta figure a place with such perfect sausages as this local gem serves up, they're gonna rock the Oktoberfestivities in a mighty big way. How about three days of oompah bands, schnitzel, lederhosen, dirndls, crispy potato cakes, weisswurst, and all manner of delightful, German-inflected pastimes for – oh! The beer? A palate-pleasing panoply of quaffs: Live Oak's Oaktoberfest, Austin Beerworks' Montecore, Zilker Wunderbier, Weihenstephan Festbier, Hacker-Pschorr Festbier, Whitestone Opa's Lederhosen, Paulaner Festbier, and more, more, more, 'til those steins runneth over. *Oct. 6-8. Thu., 4-11pm; Fri., noon-11pm; Sat., 11am-12mid. Banger's Sausage House, 79 Rainey. bangersaustin.com.*

INFAMOUS BREWING

It's time to don your lederhosen (or, jah, your prettiest dirndls) for a full afternoon and evening of das Deutschenshenanigans. Here you'll find firkin tappings, 20-ounce mugs, a stein-hoisting competition, a keg toss, and (natürlich!) plenty of German food and live music among the famous Infamous brews. *Fri., Oct. 7, 3-9pm. Infamous Brewing Company, 4602 Weletka. infamousbrewing.com.*

GERMAN TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Here's the day in which this Austin institution invites the general public – that's you, citizen – to their historical building and terraced gardens "to enjoy an afternoon of all things German and gemütlichkeit [a state of belonging, warmth, and friendliness]." *Sat., Oct. 8, 11am-7pm. The German Free School, 507 E. 10th. germantexans.org.*

MORE OKTOBERFEST ON P.42

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What Makes German Beer Unique?

Pilsners and lagers and helles, oh my! **BY MELANIE HAUPT**

From your local beer garden to the dozens of tents erected in Munich each year around this time, beer is the driving force behind Oktoberfest. Indeed, beer is a cornerstone of German culture for many reasons.

One reason is that prior to industrialization, Germans drank beer in the absence of clean drinking water, with the bonus of being a nutritional powerhouse. Says Chip McElroy, biochemist and founder of Live Oak Brewing Co., “It was traditionally a very nutritious food source. It’s got some calories, it’s got vitamins. A small amount of protein. And the most important part probably is that it was clean.” The combination of boiling and the antibacterial qualities of hops made beer a more sterile hydration choice.

And, for hundreds of years, the Reinheitsgebot, or beer purity law, imposed strict rules about the price and ingredients of beer. In 1516, Duke Wilhelm IV of Bavaria declared that only barley, hops, and water could be used to brew beer. This law was partly intended to reduce competition between bakers and brewers for ingredients like wheat and rye, the rationale being that this would keep prices of both bread

and beer low. Win-win. (What’s more, *The Oxford Companion to Beer* suggests that this law, coming into effect at the cusp of the Reformation, also served to exclude botanicals like juniper and rosemary, which were associated with pagan rituals.)

While some argue that the Reinheitsgebot held German beer back in terms of constraining experimentation, craftsmanship, and creativity, it does give brewers the appeal to tradition and cultural heritage to underscore their German bona fides, even though the purity law was expanded in 1993 to allow for yeast (already accepted as part of the brewing process rather than as an ingredient).

But according to McElroy, what really sets German beers apart is how easy they are to drink. “You can drink them and enjoy them over a long sitting,” he explains. “You can enjoy several of them. They don’t wear out your palate. You can sit around and argue politics with your friends for a long time.”

Just be sure that, regardless of whether you’re close to home or required a passport to drink a lot of beers over a long period of time, you’re drinking responsibly and leaving the driving to a sober friend. ■



GETTY IMAGES / ZEKE BARBARO



PHOTO BY MELANIE HAUPT

Easy Tiger's spln on *Lebkuchenherzen*

What's the Deal With Those Gingerbread Hearts?

And can I eat them?

Oktoberfest is about more than just drinking beer and eating sausage and roast chicken under a tent while listening to polka music. It's also a folk festival akin to a state fair. There are rides and artisan markets and competitions. There are also souvenirs; at Oktoberfest, among the most popular and visible souvenirs are *Lebkuchenherzen*, or gingerbread hearts.

The decorated hearts at Oktoberfest in Munich range in size from a slightly oversized standard cookie to dinner-plate-sized and are made with classic spices like nutmeg, allspice, cinnamon, ginger, and more. They are decorated with sayings like “*Ich liebe dich*” (“I love you”) and “*spatzl*” (“sweetheart”). Sweethearts buy them for each other as expressions of love, with the size of the *Lebkuchenherzen* being directly proportional to one's love. In this way, they are similar to Texans' high

school homecoming mums, when midcentury boys would give their dates an in-season chrysanthemum adorned with ribbons to wear to the big game and dance. (These, of course, have ballooned into 20-pound noisemaking, light-up monstrosities costing hundreds of dollars and functioning more as capitalistic flexing than as sweet expressions of love, but I digress.)

Lebkuchenherzen are edible, but are cooked to study hardness and, after being hand-decorated by highly trained *herzl* painters, are shrink-wrapped and strung with ribbon so that you can wear them around your neck and, later, hang them up as a sweet memento. In Austin, Easy Tiger offered a limited supply of *Lebkuchenherzen* for \$12 apiece during its Oktoberfest celebrations; Bake Austin is offering a Family Oktoberfest Heart class on Oct. 16 (bakeaustin.com).
— M.H.

FOOD EVENTS

BY WAYNE
ALAN BRENNER

AC

Food News Buffet

Here's some of what's happening in Austin's culinary scene, as wrangled from numerous PR releases, words on the digital street, and even the occasional (verified) IRL eavesdroppings.

There's still time to bolt some bodacious beef in support of local musicians, as **Jo's Coffee Downtown** (242 W. Second) continues its **HAAMBurgers** initiative through Sept. 30, with \$1 from every burger sold being donated to the **Health Alliance for Austin Musicians**. And what about the **Jo's at Red River**? That's where you can supercharge your game-day shenanigans with **Tailgate To-Go** packs (beers, tacos, frosé), pretty damn affordable and available **every Saturday through Nov. 25**. joscoffee.com

Of course **Texas Saké Co.** (440 E. St. Elmo) is celebrating **World Sake Day** at their elegant headquarters in the Yard – and **Justin Kizzart**, who doles out their rice wine when he's not busy designing graphics or kicking ass as a top-ranked sumo wrestler, will be glad to show you what's what with the company's latest brews – but we'd be remiss not to also mention local sushi apotheosis **Uchi's special omakase tastings** (Sept. 30-Oct. 2) in which sake sommelier **Peyton Walton** pays homage to the occasion with five rare pairings to complement dishes from their menu. And you know they're at 801 S. Lamar, right? txsake.com, uchiaustin.com

Meanwhile Brewing Co. – whose master mixologist **Trenten Relles** totally, deliciously, kicked our ass with his cocktail for this past Saturday's **Bourbon Battle** at **Fierce Whiskers** – yeah, **Meanwhile Brewing** (3901 Promontory Point) is teaming up with **Val Verde Border Humanitarian Coalition** for the release of **Val Verde**, a unique **green tea lager**, to support the **VVBHC's** donation drive. The refreshing lager's on tap *now*, and the brewery will be



Celebrate World Saké Day In the Yard with Texas Saké Co. and friends
COURTESY OF TEXAS SUSHIKO

accepting donations of clothing and unopened toiletries on behalf of **VVBHC** through Oct. 3. See website for details. meanwhilebeer.com

But although **Meanwhile's** whiskey wizard **Relles** might've won our *personal* heart and palate with his amazing coconut-inflected, charcoal-infused concoction, he wasn't the official champion at **Fierce Whiskers** (5333 Fleming) this weekend: The judges' top **Bourbon Battle** choice was **Cory Starr of Tiki Tatsu-Ya** and the hotly contested people's choice was a tie between **Kinfolk's Brian Bounds** and, yes, that same **Cory Starr**. More like **Cory Superstarr**, amirite? fiercwhiskers.com

Ah, who says we're too snobbish to shout-out big ol' chains? Listen: **Taco Cabana** marks **National Taco Day** on Tue., Oct. 4, with unlimited \$1 bean-and-cheese tacos and unlimited \$12 bean-and-cheese dozen-taco boxes for just that one day – at all **Texas Taco Cabana** locations while supplies last. tacocabana.com

Now eat as well as you can, tip like it's going out of style, and try to remember, however faintly, what democracy tastes like. ■

ST. ELIAS MEDITERRANEAN FESTIVAL Celebrate Mediterranean cuisine and culture with a pleasing plethora of food and wine, cocktails by Aperol and Absolut, a shopping bazaar, and music. **Sept. 30-Oct. 1. Fri., 6-11pm; Sat., noon-11pm. St. Elias Orthodox Church, 408 E. 11th, 512/476-2314. \$5. austinmedfest.com.**

WORLD SAKE DAY AT THE YARD That's the Yard at St. Elmo, of course, where the culinary power duo of **Texas Saké Co.** and **Texas Sushiko** will be bringing the rice wine wonderments and fancy fish foodery to full celebratory fruition for this special day. Bonus: the release of a Still Austin four-grain whiskey barrel-aged sake and a live performance by **Peelander-Yellow**. **Sat., Oct. 1, noon-10pm. Texas Saké Co., 440 E. St. Elmo. \$30. sakedayatx.eventbrite.com.**

AUSTIN COFFEE FESTIVAL Enjoy the wares of specially curated exhibitors, including many of Austin's top coffee roasters, as they share with you some of the best coffee (and teas, eats, and more) in the country, abetted by a soundtrack from some of the best bands in Austin. **Sat., Oct. 1, 9am-4:30pm. Fair Market, 1100 E. Fifth, 512/494-9093. \$29-69. austincoffeefestival.com.**

TEXAS CRAFT BREWERS FESTIVAL Organized by the **Texas Craft Brewers Guild**, this festival features more than 80 Texas craft breweries and nigh on 200 handcrafted beers available for sampling – with food trucks, live music, and more, making for one mighty delightful Austin afternoon. Yes, it's the largest celebration of small and independent Texas craft brewers anywhere. **Sat., Oct. 1, 2-6:30pm. Fiesta Gardens, 2101 Jesse E. Segovia, 512/480-8318. \$20-45. texascraftbrewersfestival.org.**

PASTA PAISANOS: COLLABORATIVE DINNERS FOR ABORTION RIGHTS

On the first Tuesday of each month, **L'Oca d'Oro's Fiore Tedesco** teams up with a guest chef to create a meal – an *astorishingly delicious meal* – in which 50% of the proceeds go to support the **Lilith Fund**. You already know how talented **Tedesco** is; you already know how important the **Lilith Fund** is; now treat yourself to a truly satisfying event of a dinner. This month's guest chef is **Sarah McIntosh of épicerie**. **Tue., Oct. 4. L'Oca d'Oro, 1900 Simond, 737/212-1876. \$100. locadoroatx.com.**

Central Market LIVE MUSIC CALENDAR

WESTGATE 4477 S. LAMAR

FRI. SEPT 30, 6:30-9 PM

JONAS ALVAREZ | Latin

SAT. OCT 1, 6:30-9 PM

THE MERLES

| Country

SUN. OCT 2, 12 - 2:30 PM

WILSON MARKS

| Jazz

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FRI. SEPT 30, 5:30-8 PM

REY

ARTEGA | Salsa/Latin

SAT. OCT. 1, 5:30-8 PM

EL COMBO

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CENTRALMARKET.COM

Music

A Belated Introduction

Daughter of a schoolteacher, I've always measured time in scholastic increments. Four years of high school to get really into music and drive from my hometown of San Antonio to Austin for shows as often as possible. Four years at **UT-Austin** to admit maybe I wanted to write about music and culture after starting off studying biomedical engineering, mostly because it's one of the hardest majors to get into. The end of this year will mark four years of writing **The Austin Chronicle's** longtime music news column – the best unorthodox journalism graduate program I could have asked for.

I estimate that's at least 200,000 words logged in the column, spurring my worst memory of engineering classes, when a quiz asked us to estimate how many jelly beans would fit inside a school bus. I picked the name "**Faster Than Sound**" after the 1967 song "Light Is Faster Than Sound" by **Big Brother & the Holding Company**, specifically from when Texas icon **Janis Joplin** was in the band. For my first column back in January 2019, I was too shy to introduce myself and got right to work covering the scene.

In the intervening years of countless interviews, I've expanded the bounds of my chatty mousiness (though certainly not to the snarky extent of some former *Chronicle* columnists) and tried singing and playing in bands instead of just writing about the practice. So in my first week as editor of these pages, I thought I'd give the intro another try.

San Antonio Girl

When I visualize myself in Austin music, I'm curled up under bright linoleum lights on a packed garage floor, age 16, waiting for my first-ever house show. Following our impactful junior year voyage to **Fun Fun Fun Fest**, my much cooler high school best friend had befriended a contingent of punk kids from Austin's **McCallum High**. Visiting from out of town, my velvet leopard tee, **Gap** skinny jeans, and loafers felt very goody-goody among the girls in black shorts and Dr. Martens.

My formative forms of cultural consumption at the time were as follows: **Blogspot** fashion bloggers, **Rookie magazine**, and DVDs rented from the library based on screengrabs from **Tumblr**, which I caught at its 2014 peak. Despite some venue ventures into the

independent music scene, I'd never seen anyone set up speakers in a driveway just to run in circles and play music of their own accord.

Who are these people, and why are they doing this? I still think like that a lot of the time. I was a neutrally tolerated visitor in a scene I'd never really be a part of, and I liked it.

Rascoe Résumé

I've technically held my new title before, first as the editor of **Alamo Heights High's** literary magazine, **The Jabberwocky**, where I happily blasted **Waxahatchee's** *Cerulean Salt* while putting the pages together after school in the empty computer lab, and second as music editor at UT's **Orange Magazine**. I begrudgingly attended my home state university after deflating dreams of **Yale** (alma mater of my generation's most important journalist, **Rory Gilmore**).

Entering with vague med school aspirations, I owe my journalistic pivot completely to **Sarah Jasmine Montgomery**, onetime editor at *Orange*, who invited me and my freshman roommate to join the mag on a chance encounter outside the **FAC** building. I hid out covering campus fashion until my tryout for **The Daily Texan** required my first-ever music story, which involved interviewing a long-haired musician in a suede jacket (who is no longer a psych rocker, but we're still dating). When asked to write his name down on a piece of paper, he just wrote "**Chad**" in tiny handwriting, unaware I meant for full spell-checking.

Sophomore year further opened up my musical world by dwelling at West Campus' **Pearl Street Co-op**, where great local bands played right outside our bedroom doors, and **Hinds** played by the pool during **South by Southwest**. The cooperative voted me in even though I nervously responded "lo-fi music" to a group icebreaker question, not realizing my frequent **Last.fm** tag could not be an actual favorite genre. My weekly chores were office work and making dessert once a week, usually cookies.

Goody two-shoes as ever, I partook in a number of undergrad internships, including filming performances in **KUTX's Studio 1A** and helping market the only year of



Consecutive *Chronicle* music editors Raoul Hernandez, Kevin Curtin, and Rachel Rascoe

JOHN ANDERSON

renaissance-themed **Sound on Sound Fest**. My semester at **Austin Woman magazine** led to my first-ever freelancing under former Editor **April Cumming**, who assigned me to feature a 27-year-old **Jackie Venson** and many other Austin ladies. My biggest vote of confidence wouldn't come until I entered the *Chronicle's* strange midcentury building off I-35, whose shiny blue and yellow bricks remind me of my similar-era high school classrooms.

In Front of the CD Shelves

Despite entering a blind panic and confoundingly calling **Violent Femmes** my favorite band on my first day as an intern (I should have said *Waxahatchee*), inquirer and then-Music Editor Raoul Hernandez still saw something in me. Maybe he suspected, as I do, that I come across better in writing. He promptly assigned a **Kay Odyssey** album for my first-ever review, a written format I'd carefully avoided thus far to avoid sharing any semblance of a musical opinion.

Under Hernandez's encouraging tutelage since 2017, I've baby-stepped through positions as an intern, freelancer, columnist, and staff writer. I unfortunately just missed meeting founding music columnist **Margaret Moser**, but hope to honor her memory as the first woman Music editor. And I'm writing this because the latest and most charismatic figure to ever hold the role, **Kevin Curtin**, stepped down, as announced earlier this month, to focus on his growing family (revisit "Have You Seen the Last of Kevin Curtin?" Fri., Sept. 9).

Last week, the *Chronicle* music crew surprised Curtin at **Sahara Lounge** with a city proclamation declaring Sept. 21, 2022, as **Kevin Curtin Day**. Writer **Chad Swiatecki** actually managed to get Curtin's affiliated band names, including **Cunto!**, on a document signed by the mayor. I'll miss being able to swivel toward his neighboring desk and ask, "Who is so-and-so again?" to receive not only said Austinite's cultural history, but also their phone number and latest goings-ons from a recent gig run-in.

Very few are as genuinely gregarious and generous as Curtin – who will luckily continue to apply his humor and insight to writing for the paper as a freelancer. I'm also happy to have club listings extraordinaire **Derek Udensi**, the desk on my other side, to deliberate on music gossip. Editors Curtin and Hernandez both saw something in me that I didn't yet, and I hope to extend that same courtesy to young writers. Expect some new bylines, as well as more writers chipping in on the news coverage.

I'm excited for what's coming in these pages. Earlier this month, while attending a festival in West Texas, I took it as encouragement from the universe when I found a green **Newport** cigarettes tank top on the rack of a vintage vendor. I'd been fretting that a custom basketball jersey, in **Michigan State Spartans** green, wasn't going to arrive in time for Curtin's planned going-away party. Another lucky sign, the honoree arrived in his own Newport rugby long-sleeve and happily swapped it out for the tank post-surprise.

Curtin contributions will no doubt continue in the musical realm. He butt-dialed me last weekend, on what was supposed to be the first day of his long-sought, free-from-work, cross-country vacation. I heard him asking someone: "Have you ever listened to **Pink Siifu**?" ■

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RASCOE

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THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE



Kingdom Nightclub Rises Again

Electronic venue reopens off Red River following abrupt 2018 shutter **BY CHRISTINA GARCIA**

With a new location in Downtown's Red River Cultural District, Kingdom Nightclub has risen from the ashes of an abrupt 2018 lockout. Previously established as a destination for high-profile EDM, house, and techno acts on East Fifth, Kingdom reopened last month at 505 E. Seventh. Doubling its past capacity, the club set up in the former site of event space and South by Southwest venue Ironwood Hall.

Opening night saw surprise sets from native Texas son Matthew Dear and Yoshitoshi label boss Sharam. The evening sold out on the strength of a few sincere and anti-cool promotional videos of venue owner Garrett Boyd petting his adopted chihuahua George, followed by a digital business card announcing the August 27 kickoff as "Night One." Fans texted a listed phone number to request a link to purchase tickets.

"People think they have to be cool to be into techno. No one is that cool. I wanted to show people that I don't have to wear a blouse and put on eyeliner. You don't have to sniff palo santo every morning to be into this," Boyd told the *Chronicle*, underplaying Kingdom's former status as a world-class nightclub.

Opened in 2011, Kingdom's original Fifth Street location closed alongside Ethics Music Lounge in a contentious 2018 lockout. Both music hubs found their locks changed by new landlord World Class Capital Group, owned by embattled real estate tycoon Nate Paul. When Kingdom shuttered, Boyd was down – recovering from a divorce and a health scare that he says nearly killed him. RealMusic

Events, the booking team he worked with for many years, departed to far East Austin to work on their own huge electronic club – the Concourse Project – which opened last year. Boyd fell off the radar, keeping his eye on a new space as far back as 2015. He now operates Kingdom with his brother Justin.

Promised as an until-5am celebration, the club's first night ended unexpectedly after a fantastic techno set from Dear around 3:30am, when police arrived regarding an issue with the setup at the door. Afterward, the DJ/producer posted a glowing review on Instagram: "There aren't very many clubs of passion left in this world, and especially in America. I felt that energy at the old Kingdom and could only imagine what the new venue would be ... Last night moved me." In a comment on the post, performer Sharam lamented the missed after-hours tag, or back-to-back DJ sets, he and Dear had planned.

The new spot utilizes the alley entrance between Neches and Red River, past the food trucks across the street from Chess Club and Barbarella, and near a few unexpectedly cheerful murals. A capacity of 600 roughly doubles that of the original Kingdom, made to appear even larger with four muscular lighting trusses shooting beams of color across the floor, rosettes onto the walls, and LED strips over the floor. During a tour of the space ahead of the opening, Boyd said the layer cake of visual effects was inspired by spaces as varied as the Amsterdam Dance Event festival, *Blade Runner*, and a cool women's clothing boutique in Atlanta.



The audience for Super Flu at Kingdom Nightclub on Sept. 16

JOHN ANDERSON

"I opened the first Kingdom with two weeks of lead time, and then I had to live with it that way for 10 years," said Boyd, a onetime doorman at Sixth Street's shuttered Barcelona Nightclub.

A curved roof of wooden pieces will remind fans of the undulating ceiling at the old club, though nothing was salvaged from the space Paul so unceremoniously took over – save for the grills of a few speakers, now mounted above the DJ booth, which fans can peer down on from the terrace above. Beneath, Boyd showed off the green room, snapping his fingers to prove the space is acoustically dead, or perfect for someone preparing a set. Over the bar, a giant, creamy-hued stone slab, which Boyd specified as honey onyx, glowed like a salt lamp. The owner described a sunrise effect when the room is pitch-dark and the lights are brought up slowly. About that palo santo, Boyd said he prefers a bottle of Le Labo's popular Santal to scent the club.

He's already been the opening act a few nights at Kingdom, fulfilling a years-held dream to play his own club again. On the musical front, Boyd's personal tastes grew from a love of the Global Underground series of live DJ mixes, especially from artists like John Digweed, Sasha, and Nick Warren. The Kingdom calendar thus far has been full of international headliners: Germany's Super Flu and Italy's Undercatt representing melodic techno, fellow Germans Frankey & Sandrino with heady tech house, and Corrupt UK with bass house from, naturally, the UK. Australian drum 'n' bass outfit Pendulum (Oct. 14) and Detroit's Planet E boss Carl Craig (Nov. 4) fill out the growing calendar.

There's still no place to sit while you club on the main floor at Kingdom, short of buying a bottle or hiking up to the over-booth terrace. You'll have to wait until the liquor-free after-hours to get free run of the sectioned-off benches lining the club – à la the original Kingdom – so come prepared to dance or die. ■

CROSSTALK EDITED BY RACHEL RASCOE

NUCLEAR WAR NOW! PRODUCTIONS, a notable cult metal marque founded in 2001, has relocated to Austin from its longtime Bay Area home. A sizable record label and distribution operation, NWN!'s black metal brand also includes traditional heavy metal, doom, and death metal in an expansive international catalog. Owner Yosuke Konishi announced the company's relocation in July 2021, setting up a warehouse at 3607 San Antonio St., 78734, near Lake Travis. Public-facing vinyl and music shop Eastern Front Records is now open daily. The label has faced controversy for working with artists accused of using Nazi-related imagery/ideology, particularly regarding NWN!'s co-presentation of the 2019 Never Surrender Fest in Oakland. Amidst protest of the event, Konishi permanently took down an underground metal chat forum on his label's website. Prior, in a 2017 interview with Swedish publication *Bardo Methodology*, the owner said: "I'm not advocating any particular political view [...] one can appreciate the music whether or not one agrees with the ideas expressed within it. We should not be silencing artists, but rather leave it up to the listeners to choose what they want to hear – even music with extreme ideas." Konishi declined an interview request from the *Chronicle*. The imprint's promotions include an upcoming sixth NWN! Fest in Tijuana, following past festivals in Europe. After hosting a local merchants market and concert in April, NWN! brings Japanese black metal veterans Abigail to Hotel Vegas on Oct. 21. — Robert Penson & Rachel Rascoe

WHAT'S NEW AT MOODY CENTER, our Erwin Center replacement? The 5-month-old venue is nominated for Arena of the Year by the International Entertainment Buyers Association trade group, alongside names like Madison Square Garden. On last week's calendar, Roxy Music notably undersold, with plentiful tickets thrown on resale sites for as low as \$6. Opposite on the sales spectrum, Harry Styles' sold-out six-night residency posted rules prohibiting camping and starting the line at 7am. Find reviews of both Roxy and Styles on our Daily Music blog. — R.R.

HAAM DAY earlier this month raised over \$800,000 to continue health care services for Austin musicians. While slightly under the organization's goal of \$845,000, a press release noted it's the largest sum ever raised in the organization's history. HAAM celebrated last week with their first-ever pop-up health care services event at the snazzy KMFA Studios. — R.R.

AUSTIN RECORD CONVENTION WEEKEND!

Saturday-Sunday
OCT. 1-2

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Saturday/Sunday October 1-2

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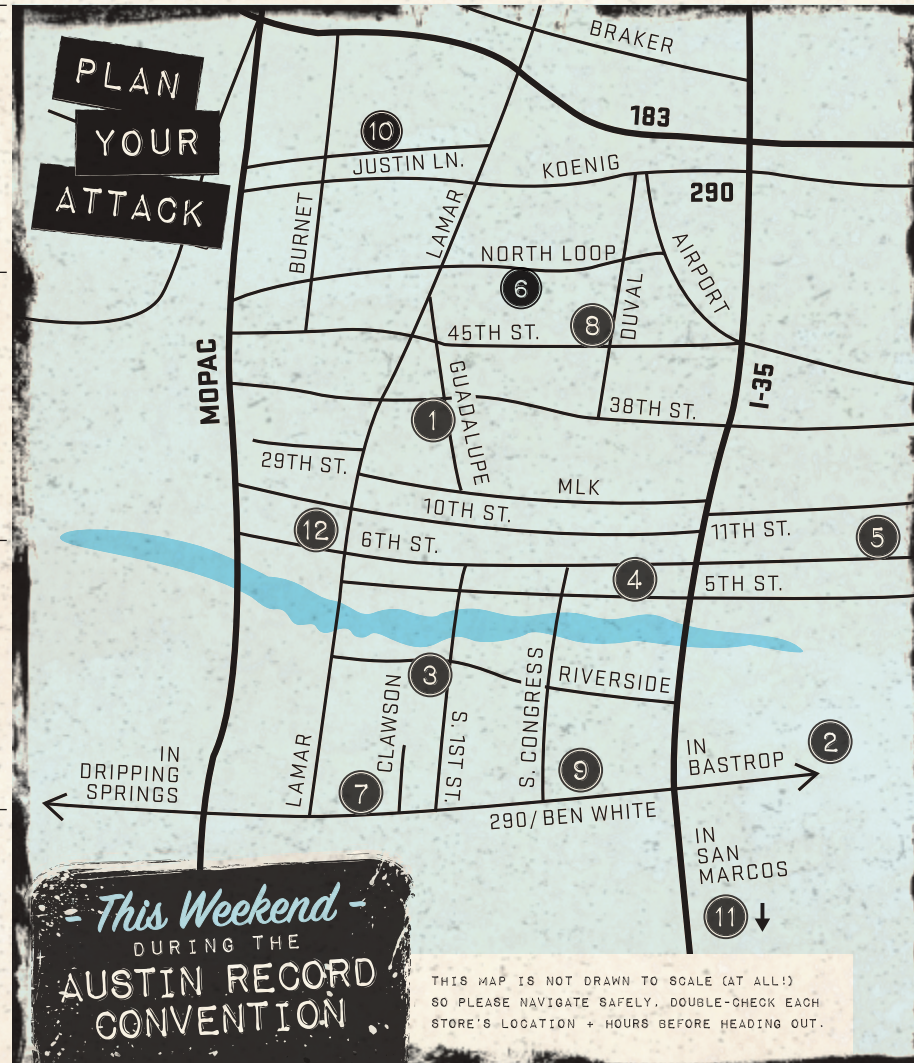


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THE PINKY RINGS

S/T

Thrashing, fierce, and bristling with razor-sharp hooks, the Pinky Rings' self-titled debut achieves what mosh pit dreams are made of. Born in 2019 during a house party jam sesh and bonded by skateboard culture, this local five-girl punk act displays fan favorites and compositional chops in 18 minutes. Opener "Banged Up" scores scraped-up knees and broken hearts with chugging fuzz against singer Bella Borbon's trademark killer scream, ditching the synth and slower rhythm from an earlier 2020 recording. Set list staples "Potential Spam" and "Bodega Babies" materialize as catchy condemnations of annoying 3am calls and overpriced bar drinks, respectively. The record softens with the dampened vocals of "Ur So Small," as Borbon reaches her breaking point and reduces an unnamed character into microscopic inexistence - complete with a snazzy walking bass riff and surprise guitar solo. The group briefly veers into hardcore territory with two-minute shredder "Hint." A multi-use fuck-off anthem for any angry playlist, Borbon snarls about unwanted company before unleashing her gnarliest shrieks. "Girl Creep" turns the tables on predatory behavior from the opposite sex, with taunting verses and dirty riffs. The singer draws, "You can't tell me you're not having fun." As far as this listening experience, she's absolutely right. - *Kriss Conklin*



MOBLEY

Cry Havoc! (Last Gang Records)

To paraphrase Paul Newman in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* - which means sublimating at the office slippers of screenwriter and literary outlaw William Goldman (*The Princess Bride*) - Mobley's got vision, and the rest of the world wears bifocals. Branded by the author as "a sci-fi concept record about [...] a dissident in an alternate past Eighties NYC," *Cry Havoc!* transmits a full narrative in the blink of an eye. Templated same as last year's equally immersive EP *Young & Dying in the Occident Supreme*, starring BLM pandemic anthem "James Crow," seven songs in 19 minutes flesh out on vinyl with versions (instrumentals) of the same tracklist on the flipside, Xeroxing a precious page from reggae toasters and hip-hop DJs. Digital soul-pop slick and sure, analog at heart but numeric in precision and pulse, *Cry Havoc!* beats and blips and bursts like a dissident Prince. Chill-bump single "Stay Volk" déjà vus an electro chant, whose cyber vocal flips circuitry like an overnight software upgrade. "Lord" commands a banger uptick, while Asian-influenced "Body English" lays a percussive clearing. Closer "Worstway" skitters a prog-pop suite repeating: "The same dreams always haunt me/ Down the same streets always walking/ The same beat always knocking/ Won't you save me?" Absolutely. Hand me my bifocals. - *Raoul Hernandez*



MOODY BANKS

FEELING COLORS

"It's time to level up," proclaims Austin's Moody Bank\$ on the penultimate track of *FEELING COLORS*. Following 2020's *Full Blunts & Full Moons*, the California native's sophomore EP does just that. Taking full advantage of the R&B up-and-comer's throaty alto voice, "Easy Bake" rests on croons as sweet as the titular toy oven, while harmonies build a dreamscape on closer "Awe of You." Alternatively, the singer slides into a Doja Cat-adjacent warble with "Joy Ride" to act as the responsible angel on her shoulder ("Time to pick your shit up now/ Get the rent up now"). If not evident in the EP's stylized capitalization, the influence of BLK ODYSSEY principal Juwan Elcock, alongside co-producer Noah Fendz (Jurnt Entertainment), clarifies in slinky basslines and orchestral flourishes. With "Red Lights," fellow locally affiliated track-crafter Charles Moon (Thank You for Sweating) smothers the song in honey, trudging Bank\$'s alluring, deepened vocals through Dillon Randolph's thick bass. Cementing Moody Bank\$'s prominence as a talent to watch, *FEELING COLORS* equally spotlights the production heavyweights flowing from Central Texas' watering hole. - *Laiken Neumann*



THE BLK REVOLUTION TOUR

Antone's, Monday 3 (w/ BLK ODYSSEY and Eimara Sol)

Plunged into the pandemic, Austin's Juwan Elcock - formerly Sam Houston - let his Americana act wash away. Immersed in funk as a youth, the singer took his hard-rocking musical partner, Alejandro Rios, back home to Plainfield, N.J., for a baptism into the genre. He emerged with a new musical direction, which in hindsight seems preordained, if not consecrated. The unforgettable debut of dense soul, funk, hip-hop, and R&B production carries echoes of Kendrick Lamar and Anderson .Paak. Motifs of light and dark, dance and unease, plus sky-aimed falsetto matched with vocals so low you'll see them in hell, ultimately highlight tragedy, hope, love, and loss on *BLK VINTAGE*. As if foretold, the 2021 record, whose guiding influence was Plainfield native George Clinton, would end up with a feature from the Parliament-Funkadelic leader himself on this year's deluxe edition. "Benny's Got a Gun" matches the godfather of psychedelic funk with the Austin breakout, wrapping his multicity BLK REVOLUTION Tour in Austin. - *Christina Garcia*



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CHANNEL TRES

Emo's, Friday 30

Following opening R&B from Toronto's Rochelle Jordan, the untz starts early with self-described "Compton house" creator Channel Tres, who leans deep and funky. The producer warms up his first headlining international tour and works out debut full-length *Real Cultural Shit*, trying a more enclosed setting relative to the festivals he's been cruising lately. With big name collaborations in the bag from Tyler, the Creator; Disclosure; Toro y Moi; and the late Mac Miller, Californian Tres arrives with cachet. - *Christina Garcia*

MR. LEWIS & THE FUNERAL 5, DESPLANTES

Valhalla, Friday 30

Bandleading Mr. Greg Lewis and his noted Funeral 5 always deliver the perfect eulogy for a slow-death lifestyle. Dark melodies, in a range of rhythms, hold your soul and gently guide it to the other side, while simultaneously comforting your relatives with a good story and great toast. The punk-positive, skank-inducing Desplantes from Chihuahua, Mexico, also cross Friday's marquee, rounded out by Austin's raw, jangly post-punk quintet Die Hard Habits. - *Gary Lindsey*

AUSTIN RECORD CONVENTION

Palmer Events Center, Friday 30 - Sunday 2

Begun in 1981, the ARC syncs up hundreds of sellers - records, CDs, posters, T-shirts, books - with thousands of live music capitalists twice annually. Homegrown institution? Consider that vinyl-friendly storage purveyor IKEA here co-signs two lounge areas, free music totes, and demos their new turntable. ARC scribe Nathan Hanners emails: "My favorite compliment is, 'I used to come to this with my mom/dad as a kid, and now I'm able to bring my own kid and continue the tradition.'" Enter for \$5 Saturday (10am-6pm) and Sunday (10am-5pm), plus \$30 for early Friday shoppers, at austinrecords.com. - *Raoul Hernandez*

CARSON MCHONE

3ten ACL Live, Saturday 1

The delayed homecoming of Carson McHone finally arrives. The Austin native, who decamped for Canada during the pandemic, pushed back an intended March kickoff to make her reentry into touring "the right way" after a two-year COVID hiatus. The expansive Americana artist returns seasoned from recent time on the road supporting new Kinks-esque album *Still Life*, drawing heavily on playful Sixties guitar pop and Southern bayou soundscapes. McHone's husband/bandmate, Canadian musician Daniel Romano, and revelatory Austin singer-songwriter Ben Ballinger join the bill. - *Abby Johnstone*

MARGARET SLOVAK TRIO CD RELEASE

Draylen Mason Studio, Sunday 2

Ballad for Brad - Margaret Slovak's new album - includes compositions written in support of her husband, the journalist Brad Buchholz. Penned during his battle with cancer, a prior *Chronicle* review noted the record "pulls beauty out of tragedy." The Austin-based jazz guitarist finally brings those tunes to life on stage at classical station KMFA's Eastside Draylen Mason Music Studio. Accompanied by Ft. Worth's Paul Unger on bass and Austin's own Masumi Jones on drums, Slovak will weave a potent spell with shimmering melodies and impressive technique. The trio follows *Ballad for Brad*'s live debut with a Waterloo Records in-store, Monday at 5pm. - *Michael Toland*

SMASHING PUMPKINS, JANE'S ADDICTION

Moody Center, Wednesday 5

Grain, roll your eyes, bitterly list your *Adore* (Super Deluxe) boxset on eBay - these reactions are fair. The decade-plus deluge of nu Pumpkins material has been exhausting. But 2022 is not the year we start questioning the glorious, try-hard purity of Billy Corgan's artistic impulses. Thirty-three-song rock operas simply aren't the domain of bands in "as long as there's some money" mode, so Moody audiences should have no reason to anticipate anything less from this Nineties-sandwiching arena run with Jane's Addiction. Still, don't be shocked if the Alt-Rock Overachiever of the Night Trophy goes to the opener: endlessly prolific concept-rocker Poppy. - *Julian Towers*

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The ABGB Stomp Your Feet for SIMS Foundation (Gary Primich tribute) w/ Harmonica All-Stars ft. Steve Doerr, Bubba McCoy, Walter Daniels, Guy Forsyth, Ted Roddy, George Carver, & Michael Rubin; Guitar Heroes ft. Willie Pipkin, Mike Keller, Dave Biller, Andrew Nafziger, Mike Morgan, Chris Ruest, & Marvin Dykhuis; Rhythm Aces ft. Randy Glines, Dave Wesselowski, & Eric Przygocki; Beat Masters ft. Mike Buck, Jim Starboard, Mark Hays, Jeff Minnick, & Damien Llanes (7:00) **★**

Ah Sing Den Secret Garden w/ Dylan Reece, Brett Johnson, Brother Pate (9:00)

Antone's Hilary York, JeTexas (9:00)

Armadillo Den Tylor Brandon (7:00) **★**

Baker Street Texas Live Band Karaoke (9:00)

The Ballroom Red Rum Club, Holdfast. (8:00) **★**

The Boat Wampus Cats (6:00)

Broken Spoke Tylor Brandon (9:00), Tracie Lynn (6:00)

Buddy's Place Glen Collins open mic/jam (7:00)

C-Boy's John Branch, Gypsy Mitchell (10:00) **★**, Mel & James [jade room] (10:00), Robert A. Kraft (6:30)

Carousel Lounge Casino Band (11:00), Straight Stitch (10:00), Piemid (9:00), Bad Cacti, the Albums (7:00)

Cheatham St. Jake Worthington (8:00) **★**

Cherrywood Coffeehouse Phil Greer (8:00) **★**

Chess Club Pelvis Wrestley, Tearjerk (single release), Redbud (10:00)

Come & Take It Live The Screamalongs (7:00)

Continental Club Jonathan Tyler, Calder Allen (10:00), Casper Rawls (6:30)

Continental Club Gallery Western Union Man (10:30), Bonnie Whitmore (8:30)

Copper Shot Distillery House of Dogz (6:00)

Copperhead Club Nether Hour (7:00)

Devil May Care Eli Arbor (8:00)

Donn's Depot Murphy's Inlaws (9:00)

Driskill Bar Anthony Garcia (8:00)

Elephant Room B-Side Quartet (9:00)

Emo's The Knocks, Cannons, Juliana Madrid (8:00) **★**

Empire Control Room I'd Really Like to See You Again, God Shell, Palefade [control room] (9:30), Russian Circle, Rezn [garage] (7:00) **★**

The Far Out KindKeith, Grand Maximum, Valice (8:00), DJ Tropicana Joe (inside aftershow)

Feels So Good Brandon Luedtke & the West Texas Hexes, the Naps, Nick Garza (7:00)

Friends Darius Jackson (11:00), Sonny Wolf (7:30), Jac Carson (11:30am)

Geraldine's Birds, Bubbles, & Blues w/ Mrs. Glass (9:00)

Giddy Ups Open mic w/ Dewey Lyon (7:00)

Gruene Hall Johnny Falstaff Band (6:00) **★**

Guero's Easy Trouble (6:00)

Half Step Rey Arteaga (9:30)

Hays City Store Chuck Shaw (6:00)

Hole in the Wall Allepakcok, Irregulars, Large Brush Collection (9:00)

Hotel Vegas Mask of the Phantasm ft. Kelen Capener, Capture Phase, Female Demand, Rocking Chair Reality Room (9:30) **★**

Hudson's on Mercer All Star Jam w/ Natasha Hudson, Chad Hudson, Joey Resendis (8:00)

Kick Butt Coffee 13th Victim, the Meanhearts, the Brothels, Half As Bad (9:15) **★**

King Bee Blue Mist (8:30)

Las Palomas S7VEN (6:00) **★**

Little Longhorn Trash disco w/ Eleven (9:00), Warmicorn (6:00)

Lone Star Court Tyler Cannon (7:00)

Long Play Lounge East Restos, Pat Byrne (9:00)

The Lost Well The Obsessed, Bridge Farmers, Holy Death Trio (8:00) **★**

The Lucky Rabbit Neon Bridges (6:00)

Maggie Mae's Leander Justin Neal (7:00)

Mavericks Dance Hall Carson Jeffrey, Parker Ryan (9:00) **★**

Mohawk Drip-Fed, Heavy Branches, the Khost [inside] (9:00) **★**

Monks Jazz Club Zack Varner Quartet (7:30)

Moody Center Harry Styles, Gabriels (8:00) **★**

Mozart's Erica Michelle (6:00) **★**

NeWorDeli Patterson Barrett & Bill Browder (7:00)

Opal Divine's Austin Grill Matt Giles (8:00)

Parish Flipturn (9:00) **★**

Parker Jazz Club Ryan Davis Trio w/ Andre Hayward (7:30)

Parmer Lane Tavern Paul Betts (9:00)

Poodies Alan Haynes (8:00), Jimmie Dreams (6:00)

The Porch Victor Green (10:00)

The Railhouse Jamie Krueger & Friends blues jam (7:00)

Riley's Tavern Jeremy Parsons (7:00) **★**

Rock House Bar 80H Project (8:00)

Round Rock Tavern Bron Burbank [Escobar patio bar] (7:00)

Sagebrush Dickie Lee Erwin, Jenny & the Corn Ponies (8:00)

Sahara Lounge Highrise Nomad, Black Sheep Optimists, Personality Contest (8:00)

Sam's Town Point JD3 (10:00), Western Fidelity (Ernest Tubb & Loretta Lynn tribute) (8:00), two-step dance lessons w/ Double or Nothing (7:00)

San Jac Saloon James Delgado (5:00)

Saxon Pub The Hipocrats (10:00), Patrice Pike (8:00), PAACK (6:00)

Seareinas Banda La Mas Querida (tributo a Grupo Firme) (8:00)

Shore Raw Bar Honeybee Jazz Quartet (6:30)

Soundspace at Captain Quack's Guma, Adam Ostrat (8:00) **★**

Speakeasy Rhinosaur (9:30)

Spinners Bar & Grill D-Soul Davis (8:00)

Stateside at the Paramount Who Said You Could Do That? w/ Darden Smith, Kelly Willis (8:00)

Valhalla Moon Medallion, Tim Kile & the Vines of Love, Great Deep Waves (10:00)

The Venue ATX Jason Ross, Gem & Tauri (10:00) **★**

Vincent's on the Lake Honey Punch (7:00)

Vulcan Gas Co. The Knocks (DJ set) (10:00) **★**

Waterloo Records Carson McHone, Daniel Romano's Outfit (record signings) (5:00) **★**

The White Horse Jordan Matthew Young, Croy & the Boys, Saddle Sores (8:00)

FRIDAY 9/30

04 Center Andrea Magee (album release), Dave Scher (extended play release) (8:00)

12 Fox Beer Meagan Tubb (5:00)

3ten ACL Live Carbon Leaf (6:30) **★**

The ABGB Afrofreque (9:00)

ACL Live Metric (8:00) **★**

Angel's Icehouse American Gypsy Band (8:00), Shawn Mathews (6:00) **★**

Antone's Lizzy McAlpine, Carol Ades (9:00) **★**

Armadillo Den Arkansas Dave (8:00)

Baker Street The Weak Knights (9:00)

The Ballroom Gel, Muggler, the U.N.I.T., User Unauthorized (7:00) **★**

Banger's Shadow Band (7:00)

Beerburg Brewing Sophia's Lonesome Gypsy Lager release party w/ Sophia Johnson (6:00)

Black Sparrow Open mic (8:00)

The Boat Jazz Daddies (8:00)

Brauntex Theatre The Quebe Sisters (7:30) **★**

Brentwood Social House Michael Gailinas (9:00am)

Broken Spoke Wagoners w/ Monte Warden (9:00), Ian Stewart (6:00)

Buck's Backyard Mason Lively (8:00)

Buddy's Place Mudlark (8:00)

Bugle Boy Walt Wilkins (9:00)

Butterfly Bar C'est la Vida (9:00)

C-Boy's Money Chicha (10:30), Adam Johnson (6:30)

Cactus Cafe Nichole Wagner (7:30) **★**

Carousel Lounge Dissembled (11:15), Ouiness (10:15), Iron Uncle (9:15), MC Terroristic (8:15), Aurora Plastics Company (7:15)

The Cathedral September Open House w/ Moody Bank\$ (7:00) **★**

Celis Brewery Garrett J. Brown (6:00)

Central Market North Rey Arteaga (5:30) **★**

Central Market South Jonas Alvarez (6:30) **★**

Cheatham St. Ian Tonroy & the Twice Shy (8:00)

CONTINUED ON P.52

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METRIC

FRI
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OCT 30

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NOV 2

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WITH SPECIAL GUEST MARC COHN

FRI OCT 14
ACL FEST NIGHTS

SPOON

FRI OCT 28

JOSH ABBOTT BAND

WITH HAILEY WHITTERS

NOV 3

Lewis Black

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NOV 2

THIS WEEKEND

CARBON LEAF
FALL TOUR 2022
WITH ELSA CROSS

FRI
SEP 30

SLICK PRESENTS
Carson McHone ALBUQUERQUE & Daniel Romano's Outfit
WITH DON BALLINGER

SAT
OCT 1

COMING SOON

OCT 9

THE 32ND ANNUAL JOHN LENNON BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE
FEAT. THE #9 ORCHESTRA AND SPECIAL GUESTS

OCT 12

SKIP MARLEY
CHANGE TOUR

All dates, acts, & ticket prices subject to change without notice. All tickets subject to applicable service charges.



FROM FRIDAY

Cheer Up Charlies Billy Bonka, Die Spitz, Dmitri (8:00)

Cherrywood Coffeehouse Middle Sattre (7:00) ➊

Chess Club John Wesley Coleman, Narrow Haunts, Blair Brown & the Western Hearts (10:00)

Coliseum Seto Vargas y Sus Calentanos, Hnos. Santamaria de Tierra Caliente, La Flama de Tierra Caliente (9:00) ➋

Come & Take It Live Locals Only pop punk & metal showcase w/ Hazard of the Industry, Big Time, Slow Pulse, Fortune Hearts, Heavy Thoughts, Grey Feather, Mega Negative, B-Side Vandals (6:00)

Continental Club The Mellows, the Jerrells (10:00), The Blues Specialists (6:30)

Continental Club Gallery Josh Perdue (10:30), The Last Jimenez (8:30)

Copper Shot Distillery Dom Cours & Company (7:00)

Coupland Dancehall The Wilder Blue (8:30)

Devil May Care Robert Talking (9:00)

The Domain Shawn Pander [Century Oaks Park stage] (6:00)

Donn's Depot Donn & the Station Masters (8:30)

Driskill Bar Dave Inslay (8:00)

El Mercado Ernie Sky & the K-Tels (6:00) ➊

Elephant Room Benny Benack III Quartet (9:00), Tomás Ramirez (6:00) ➋

Elysium Male Tears, Haunt Me, Black Magic Cyborg (9:40) ➋

Emo's Channel Tres, Rochelle Jordan (8:00) ➋ ➌

Empire Control Room Foxy Shazam, Shamoni Cassette [garage] (9:00) ➋, Westside Boogie, Grip, Bobby Sessions, Dappa [control room] (8:00) ➋ ➌

The Far Out Kyle Nix & the 38s, RC & the Ambers (8:00) ➋

Fareground Amanda Bellitto (6:30)

Flamingo Cantina Marvin Louis & Blue Tongue (9:00)

Friends Bercy (noon)

Geraldine's Brian Scartocci (10:00)

Ghost Note Brewing Hipocrats (6:00)

Giddy Ups Cornell Hurd Band (8:30)

The Grapevine Colton's Kin (5:00)

Gruene Hall Carson Jeffrey, the Lowdown Drifters (8:00) ➋ ➌

Guero's Ange K Band (6:00)

Hanovers Neel Cole & Southern St., Safe Haven, the Genders, Pure (8:30)

The Happy Cow Dustin Toliver Band (8:30)

Hole in the Wall The Dead Houseplants, Ash & the Endings, Good. (9:00)

Hotel Vegas Osees, Bronze (9:00), Osees afterparty w/ Otis the Destroyer, Strange Lot (11:30) ➋

Kenny Dorham's Backyard Monk is King, Glossolalia Online (8:00) ➋ ➌

Kick Butt Coffee Rhyme Schemes open mic w/ Ative Evita, ReadyRockDee, D.Dot Elles & Pro Zay, 100GrandRoyce, Young Malk, Big Oz (8:00) ➋ ➌ ➍

Lake Austin Spa Resort Mike Gonzalez (7:30)

Little Longhorn Jake Penrod (9:00), Tom Ben Lindley (6:00)

The Local Outpost Tex Offenders (10:00)

Lone Star Court Sunny Nights (8:00)

Long Play Lounge East Abram Shook (9:30), Rent Party (7:00)

The Lost Well Knoll, Noisy Neighbors, God Shell, Wiltng (9:00) ➋

The Lucky Rabbit Southern Angels (9:30), Eddie Estler (6:00) ➋

Madrone Coffee The Medlers (7:00)

Maggie Mae's Leander Craig Marshall (8:00)

Mala Santa Festival de Tierra Caliente w/ La Clave de Mexico, Arkangel Musical de Tierra Caliente, Los Potros de Tierra Caliente, Los Cochos de Tierra Caliente (9:00) ➋

Mercer Dancehall The Memphis Strange (8:00)

Meridian at Zoi Market Billy Bright, Trevor Smith, & Jesse Dalton (8:00)

Metcalfe BBQ Kings Lovely (6:00)

The Mill Brodie Lane (8:00)

Mohawk Momma, Teethe [inside] (8:00) ➋ ➌

Moody Center Gorillaz, Earthgang (7:30) ➋ ➌

Moontower Saloon Sonny Wolf (9:00)

Mozart's Matt MacDonald (5:00) ➋

Neighbor's Monte Good (7:30)

NeWorldeli Cordy Lavery, Larry Seaman, Kim Longacre, & Julie Lowery w/ Mike McCoy (7:00)

Oakwood BBQ Blues, Brews, & BBQ w/ the Larry Harris Band (7:00)

Oasis Brewing John Taylor (6:00)

OK Corral Los Palominos (8:00) ➋

Oskar Blues Brewery Clint Manning (5:30)

Parish Bright Light Social Hour, Riders Against the Storm (8:00)

Parker Jazz Club Great American Songbook Selections (9:30, 7:30)

Parmer Lane Tavern Honey Punch (9:00)

The Pershing Soul Man Sam Evans (9:00)

Plaza Colombian Coffee Ritmo y Clave (8:00)

Poodies Bakersfield TX (10:30), TJ Wicks Band (8:00)

The Railroadhouse Joe Bob's Bar & Grill Band (8:00)

Red Horn Coffee Nate Gelabert (6:30)

Riley's Tavern Matt Hillier (8:00) ➋

Rock House Bar Paul Val (8:00)

Round Rock Amp Cole Swindell, Ashley Cooke, Dylan Marlowe (6:00) ➋

Round Rock Tavern Dysfunkshun Junkshun (9:00), Bron Burbank [Escobar patio bar] (7:00)

Sagebrush Colt Wayne Keeney (music video release), Rattlesnake Milk, Bear Ryan (9:00)

Sahara Lounge The Sidepiece Collective, Atash, Abou & the Crew, Retail Giant (7:00)

Sam's Town Point Leo Rondeau (10:00)

Saxon Pub Beatnik Bandits (10:00), Charlie Mars (8:00), TG BAD (6:00) ➋

The Scoot Inn Poguetry (the Pogues tribute) ft. Spider Stacy, Cait O'Riordan, & Lost Bayou Ramblers (8:00) ➋

Shooters Cedar Park Them That Know (9:00)

Shooters North Tex-Zep (9:30)

Shore Raw Bar Van Wilks (7:30)

Sidecar Tasting Room Joseph Jay (5:30)

Skylark Lounge Keesha Pratt (9:00), Curtis Lee & the Sugar Trio (6:00)

Slackers Sarah Burton (6:00)

Smokin Beauty Alexi 8bit (EP release), Modern Sophia, Maddy Hatchett (8:30)

Soundspace at Captain Quack's The Aluminum Group, Last Visible Dog (8:00) ➋

Speakeasy Chandler & the Bings (9:30)

Swan Dive Exotic Fruits, Glasshealer, Ladyfang (single release), Blank Hellscapes (9:30)

Three Legged Goat Auburn McCormick, Isabel Suarez (6:00)

Trace at the W Hotel Alesia Lani (6:00)

Treaty Oak Distilling The New Essentials (6:00)

Valhalla Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5, Desplantes, Die Hard Habits (10:00) ➋ ➌

Veracruz All Natural Latin Dukes (8:00)

Vincent's on the Lake Uptown Drive (9:00)

Vista Brewing Beth//James (6:00) ➋

Water Tank Angelyn (6:00)

Waterloo Records Metric (record signing) (5:00) ➋ ➌

The White Horse Weldon Henson, Roger Wallace, Missy Beth & the Morning Afters (8:00), Candler Wilkinson (5:30)

SATURDAY 10/1

04 Center Sunny Sweeney (8:00)

12 Fox Beer Foxtoberfest w/ Reid Meisters Polka Band (1:00)

3ten ACL Live RESCHEDULED FROM 3/4: Carson McHone (album release), Daniel Romano's Outfit, Ben Ballinger (9:00) ➋

The ABGB Henry Invisible (8:00)

Angel's Icehouse Ruby Dice & Calloway Ritch (8:00) ➋

Antone's Slothrust, Weakened Friends (8:00) ➋

Armadillo Den Andrea & Mud (8:00) ➋

Austin Eastciders Barton Springs Austin Eastciders Cherry Lime launch party w/ Jonny Gray (5:00), Andrea Young (1:00)

Austin Eastciders Austin Eastciders Cherry Lime launch party w/ Erica Michelle (5:00), Luke Bellet (1:00)

Baker Street The Weak Knights (9:00)

Banger's Hogan Sullivan (7:00), Michael Milligan & Texiana Bluez (3:00)

Beeburg Brewing Musician Treatment Foundation concert series w/ Jenifer Jackson & Jon Norththomas, Nicolas Dominguez w/ Foam Star (5:00)

The Boat Meetwood Flac (8:00)

Broken Spoke Alvin Crow (9:00), Paula Russell (6:00)

Buck's Backyard Reckless Kelly, the Lowdown Drifters (9:30) ➋

Bugle Boy Guy Forsyth (8:00)

C-Boy's Barfield the Tyrant (10:00), Johnny Nicholas & the Hidden Charms (8:00)

Carousel Lounge Puppy Snoot (11:00), Root Noise (9:00), Dive Bomb Jupiter (7:00)

Carver Museum Texas Music Museum's International Music Festival day one w/ Bramaya (4:00), Javier Jara (3:00), Grupo Massa (2:00)

Central Machine Works Arkansas Dave, David Thacker Band (7:00)

Chess Club Ziembra, Optic Sink, Holy Wire (10:00) ➋, Grasshopper Lies Heavy, Bat Lips, God Shell (3:00) ➋

Come & Take It Live Batushka, Hate, Hideous Divinity, Necrofier, Brūka (6:00) ➋

The Concourse Project Tritonal, Cosmic Gate, Gabriel & Dresden, Matt Fax, Farius (8:00) ➋

Continental Club Magnifico (10:30), Earl Poole Ball (3:30)

Continental Club Gallery Josh Perdue (10:30), Nathan Harlan & Friends (8:30)

Copper Shot Distillery Rochelle & the Sidewinders (7:00), Hannah Wright & the Midnight Revelry (1:30)

Coupland Dancehall Ransom Brothers (8:30)

Devil May Care Gamma (9:00)

Donn's Depot Frank Cavitt (9:00)

Driskill Bar Mrs. Glass (8:00)

Elephant Room Fresh2Def Horns (9:00)

Emo's Yung Bae (8:00) ➋ ➌

Empire Control Room Sammy Rae & the Friends, the Collection [garage] (9:00) ➋, Bigfoot & the Gregs, Golden Days, Goblitz [control room] (8:30)

Esquina Tango Hora Once (8:30)

The Far Out KOOP membership drive wrap party w/ DJ Vonne, Marry Cherry, the Burrito Seagull, Chase Weinacht (noon)

Flamingo Cantina Ries Brothers, Honey Hounds (8:00) ➋

Geraldine's Brandon Padier (10:00) ➋

Ghost Note Brewing Gabe Lee (5:00) ➋

Giddy Ups The Pearl Snaps (8:30)

The Grapevine Chris Ruest Trio (4:00), Sylvia & Matt Kirk (noon)

Gruene Hall William Beckmann, Graycie York (9:00) ➋ ➌, Rye Mountain Revelry (1:00) ➋, The Waters (5:00), Tom Gillam & the Cosmic Messengers (12:30) ➋

Guero's Rochelle & the Sidewinders, Trent Turner, Will Owen Gage (2:30)

Hanovers The Battle of ATX, Learn to Swim (9:00)

The Happy Cow Dirty River Boys (8:00)

Hays City Store Judy Booth (7:00)

Hill Country Galleria Graham Wilkinson (7:00)

Hole in the Wall Zach Kursman, KindKeith, Body Pillow (9:00)

Hotel Vegas The KVB (10:00) ➋, Hidden Ritual, Psychic Seatbelt w/ Thor Harris & Jake Lauterstein (single release) (7:30)

Hudson's on Mercer Michael & Ty Myers (9:00)

Independence Brewing Thunderhorse, Realm Drifter (8:00) ➋

Infamous Brewing Glen Collins & the Leanderthals (6:00)

Iron Wolf Ranch Garrett J. Brown (2:00)

Kick Butt Coffee Umman Manda, Stone Nomads, Direlands (10:00) ➋

Knomad Bar Satellite Fest w/ Jay Satellite, Telekhines, Jason L. Clark (9:00)

Lake Austin Spa Resort Josee & Alex Heroux (7:30)

Lamberts Willy McGee (8:00)

LBJ Lawn Longhorn City Limits w/ Nelly (5:00) ➋

Little Longhorn Shotguns Ready (9:00), ATX Pearl (6:00)

Lone Star Court Ella Reid (8:00)

Long Center Judy Garland tribute w/ Natasha Drena (8:00)

Long Play Lounge East Being Dead, Batty Jr., Juniper Berries (9:00)

The Lost Well Yatra, Black Horse of Famine, Death File Red (9:00) ➋, Gary Lindsey & the Pleasure Tide (5:00)

The Lucky Rabbit 3rd Party Check (9:30), Luke Daniel (6:00), Zach Day (2:00) ➋

Madrone Coffee Winston Cook (10:00am)

Maggie Mae's Leander Alex Hensley (8:00)

Mala Santa Batalla de Campeones w/ Aczino, Chuty, Skone, Kaiser, Nico B, DJ Sonicko, RC, Boss, Ghetto, Serko Fu, Lobo Estepario, Yoiker (9:00) ➋

Meanwhile Brewing Co. Ne'er-do-well, Ramzel (9:00)

Mercer Dancehall Departure ATX (8:00)

Metcalfe BBQ The Way Down (6:00)

Mohawk Lagwagon, Strung Out, Sack [outside] (8:00) ➋ ➌, Megafauna, the Dead Coats, North by North, Pinky Rings [inside] (8:00) ➋ ➌

Moontower Saloon Brodie Lane (9:00)

Mozart's Andrew Stone (5:00), Brandon Hughes (1:30), Flat Tire Shuffle Jazz Trio (10:00am) ➋

Neighbor's Ben Zuniga Band (7:30)

NeWorldeli David Hamburger (7:00)

Oasis Brewing Pendulum Hearts (4:00)

Parish Porridge Radio, Sean Henry (9:00) ➋

Parker Jazz Club Great American Songbook Selections (9:30, 7:30)

Parmer Lane Tavern The Genders (9:00)

Plaza Colombian Coffee Grupo SambaAustin (8:00)

Plaza Mexico Los Avila (4:00) ➋

Poodies Barnyard Stompers (8:00) ➋

The Porch (e)ats brunch w/ Chief & the Doodsday Device (noon)

Radio Coffee & Beer Nori, Mamahawk (8:00) ➋

Red Horn Coffee Lagerfest w/ the Dick Beldings (noon)

Riley's Tavern Tina Jackson Band (9:00), the Georges (4:00)

Rock House Bar Suede Austin (8:00)

Rollins Theatre Austin Civic Orchestra (7:30)

Round Rock Tavern The High Road (9:00)

Sagebrush Jonathan Terrell, Ryan Quiet, Sentimental Family Band, Two Hoots & a Holler, Bakersfield TX (5:00)

Sahara Lounge Zoumounchi, Crucial Prophet, Afro Jazz (7:30)

Sam's Town Point Ramsay Midwood (11:00), Beaver Nelson (9:00)

San Jac Saloon Kassi Gilbert [upstairs] (10:00), Aaron Navarro Band (10:00), Bron Burbank (6:00)

Saxon Pub Charlie Mars (8:00), Denim (6:00), Deann René (3:00)

Scholz Garten UT football watch party w/ the Reminders (4:00), DJ Island Time (1:00) ➋

Shooters Cedar Park Chris Max Band (9:00)

Shore Raw Bar Acoustic Grooves (7:30)

Skylark Lounge Soul Man Sam & the SMS (10:00), Arctic Blues Band ft. J Fresch (6:00)

Slackers Casey Anderson (6:00)

Smokin Beauty Lonestar Debonaires (7:30)

Soundspace at Captain Quack's Matt Kivel, Daphne Tunes, Herdscene (8:00) ➋

Speakeasy Lonestar Souvenirs (9:30)

Stubb's Andrew Bird, Iron & Wine (8:00) ➋

Summit rooftop Fedde Le Grand, Lamar (10:00) ➋, Vibes: ATX w/ Mark Farina b2b J.Philip, JT Donaldson, G. Martinez (5:00) ➋

Swan Dive Slurp the World, Marry Cherry, Kenny Normal, Willy Steg (9:30)

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ALL AGES VENUE



ROADSHOW



RECOMMENDED

THE Luv Doc



"JUST ANSWERS"

Incredibly enough, there were no Luv Doc questions this week! I've been expecting this to happen at some point. I've always believed that *Chronicle* readers are a secretly mentally healthy lot: Quietly confident, ambitious, hypercompetitive overachievers with a viselike grip on reality. They need advice about as much as I need another nipple. Two is plenty, thank you. Even still, rather than sitting here twiddling my thumbs – or worse yet, looking up TikToks on how to twiddle my thumbs because, TBH, I am not fully sure I know how to thumb-twiddle – I have instead decided to be an ambitious busybody myself and crank out a column that no one asked for and even fewer people deserve, but at least it's about something that everyone is stressing about right now, even though they might not admit it.

No, it's not global warming – especially given the insane number of huge, expensive pickups with mud tires, brush guards, and a high-gloss wax sheen being driven around Austin by soft-handed dudes with office jobs. It's not nuclear armageddon, even though Putin is definitely crazy enough to lob a few our way just to prove he's actually 5'8" and not 5'7". No one seems particularly concerned that Trump might have sold all our nuclear secrets to the Saudis, and we have been assured by all the people we don't really listen to on CNBC and Fox News that there will be a devastating recession in the upcoming months, but I don't see anyone stockpiling gold bullion. And lastly, there is surely a tropical depression forming somewhere in the Atlantic Basin that is likely to turn into an earth-ravaging, Category 7 sharknado, but no one's losing sleep over that except maybe Jim Spencer, because even in semiretirement you know he is 100% on top of his weather game. No, the real anxiety time bomb that no one is talking about right now is that Christmas is just around the corner. We have less than 90 days to empty our bank accounts and ravage our credit ratings buying useless shit for people that don't need it in order to celebrate our Lord and Savior and, of course, to save the American economy from ruin. No presh.

Now, I know we still have to get through two weekends of ACL, Halloween, Beto O'Rourke's November surprise, Thanksgiving, Black Friday, Cyber Monday, and another brutally disappointing bowl selection for the Longhorn football team, but trust me when I say that yet again, inexplicably, the American capitalist system is hanging by a very thin thread, and if we fuck around and blow our money like a bunch of goddamn millennials on intangible life-changing experiences like foreign travel, bespoke cocktails, ayahuasca retreats, yoga lessons, music festivals, and vintage school bus restorations, we are not going to be able to afford all the consumer products that will glorify Jesus and save America.

Think about that when you're surfing the dark web buying edibles as party favors for your Hannah Montana-themed backyard rager. Instead of funding some Northern California hippie commune, you could easily have purchased a 65-inch 4K UHD TV, a 4K drone, or at the very least a stand-alone VR headset that would have made an awesome gift for just about anyone, myself included, as long as they don't mind looking like a total idiot. Instead, you're sitting in your tepid, half-filled, backyard Walmart kiddie pool getting bitten by mosquitoes and freaking out about the size of your hands.

Look, I'm not trying to tell you how to spend your money, I'm just telling you that you need to spend it soon. If you do like I do and wait until the Saturday before Christmas – which this year is also called "Christmas Eve" – you're probably not going to have a lot to choose from in the H-E-B holiday aisle. People are going to be disappointed – not just Jesus and Joe Biden but also that little bald-headed dude with the penis rocket who runs Amazon. You don't think he has bills? So, get with the program. Start buying shit now – even if you have to miss a payment on your new Tesla or take a second mortgage on your \$800,000 2-1 in upper Crestview. Time is running out. Act now.

NEED SOME ADVICE FROM THE LUV DOC? Send your questions to luvdoc@austinchronicle.com.



Mr. Smarty Pants Knows

Ten countries in the world have more sheep than people. New Zealand has 7.7 sheep per person.

MC Hammer is an ordained minister and wedding officiant.

The word "cockamamie" originally meant a paper strip with an image that could be transferred to the skin when moistened. Cockamamie is now more closely associated with "cock-and-bull story" which dates back to the 1600s to mean a fable or rambling story.

The first car show in the U.S., which was held in 1899 in New York City, included electric cars, as well as those fueled by steam and gasoline.

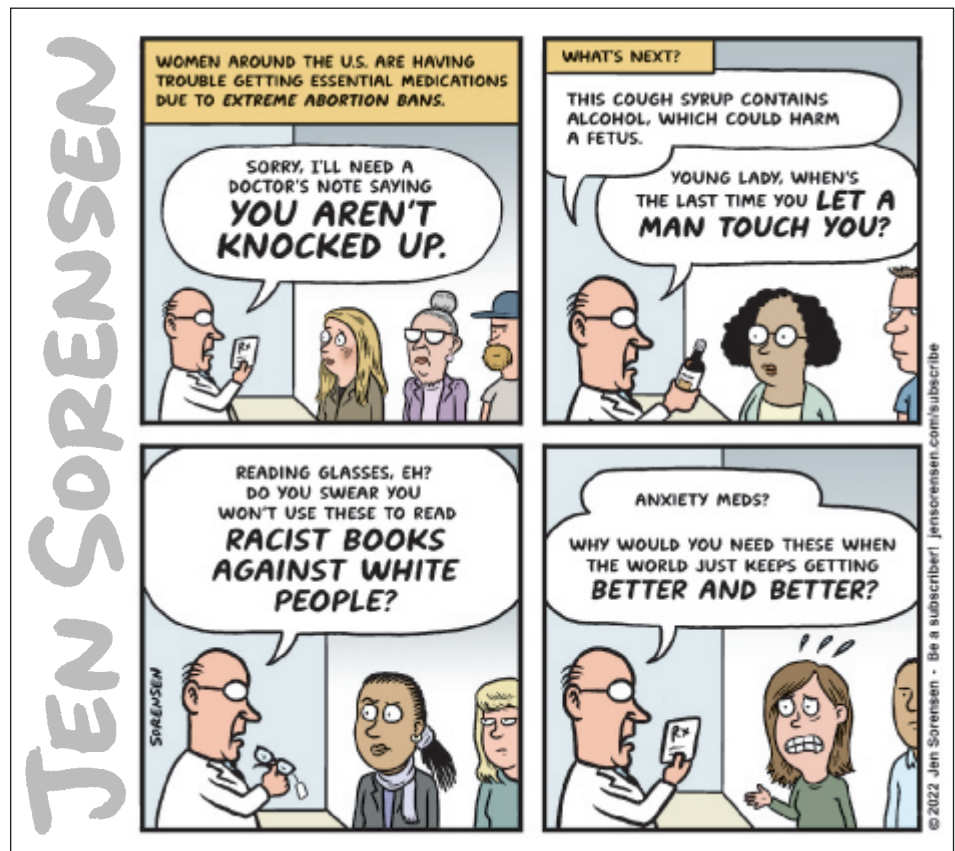
In addition to being aviation pioneers with their hot air balloon invention, the Montgolfier brothers were born into a papermaking company and invented a way to make transparent paper that looked like vellum. The company was eventually renamed Canson, and they still make paper.

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 email mrpants@austinchronicle.com.

COMICS

EYEBEAM

by Sam Hurt



COMPUTER/TECHNICAL

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL
Demand Automation Motion SME, IBM Corporation, Austin, TX: Bring integrated strategy to life with geographies and channel marketing teams, in addition to supporting the performance strategist on nurture and lead routing. Support Go-to-Market motions of brand building, account leading, and technology demand. Enable geography teams, digital sales and channel to execute programs correctly and sell offering successfully. Act as Subject Matter Expert across all elements of the Marketo program. Advocate for operational efficiencies needed to enhance client marketing abilities and reduce time to market. Review metrics, work with performance strategist and channel marketing teams to determine priority business partner need areas. Coordinate with enablement teams to ensure communication to partner channel and support any additional partner product enablement needs. Partner with the Demand Strategist and ensure that they are leveraging the full capabilities of the Marketo engine. Provide feedback from the Demand Strategist and Experience Engine team based on the Infinity loop and Marketo engine for future consideration on enhancements. Contribute to digital sales program training and enablement materials and distribute to Worldwide and Geography stakeholders. Package up campaign assets created by the squad & enable geographic and channel marketing teams on how to execute the program. Submit assets to performance strategists, content strategists and channels team ID for translation. Make recommendations on content localization as applicable. Coordinate with translation manager to track progress through process. Deliver completed localized assets to geographic campaigns and business partner teams for

use. Coordinate with Campaign Specialist to translate email strategies into live campaigns, submit copy requests, review and suggest edits. Manage integration between marketing automation and motions. Drive implementation of best-in-class Marketo program. Utilize: Agile, Six Sigma, Marketing Campaign skills (budget, procurement, brand and advertising), Product Launch Marketing skills, and Reporting Tools. Required: Bachelor's degree or equivalent in Organizational Communication, Business Administration or related (employer will accept five (5) years of IT experience in lieu of a Bachelor's degree) and two (2) years of experience as a Marketing Automation Specialist or related. Two (2) years of experience must include utilizing Agile, Six Sigma, Marketing Campaign skills (budget, procurement, brand and advertising), Product Launch Marketing skills, and Reporting Tools. Send resumes to recruited@us.ibm.com. Applicants must reference Y474.

DATA SCIENTIST
(DS13) at Whole Foods Market Services, Inc. in Austin, TX to oversee analysis of customer data to provide insights for business intelligence strategy. Interested candidates should send resumes to Human Resources - GM, Whole Foods Market Services, Inc., 550 Bowie St, Austin, TX 78703. Ref. encode DS13 in response.

ENGINEER MANAGER, DATA INTEGRATION
Foreflight LLC located in Austin, TX is seeking a Engineer Manager, Data Integration. Design data models for aeronautical data. This position allows for telecommuting 4 days a week. To apply, submit your CV to jen@foreflight.com, with the subject title "Engineer Manager, Data Integration".

MULTIPLE OPENINGS
CyberSource Corporation, a Visa Inc. company, currently has openings for Sr. SW Test Engineer (multiple openings)

(REF52735E) in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Write test plans, test cases, and execute the test cases. Design and implement test solutions and take them to production with high quality completion of all testing phases, following an agile methodology. Position reports to the employer's Austin, TX office and may allow for partial telecommuting.; Senior Manager, Software Engineering (multiple openings) (REF52796I) in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Deliver features for CyberSource's strategic clients (merchants, acquirers and technology partners). Lead design, enhancements and piloting of solutions across payment acceptance, payment security, payment analytics, fraud management and reporting. Position requires up to 15% domestic travel. Position reports to the employer's Austin, TX office and may allow for partial telecommuting.; Director (multiple openings) (REF50311X) in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Accountable for the end-to-end planning and execution of one or more projects, programs, and/or Agile teams. Lead and negotiate, scope, schedule, budget, risks, deployments, and communications for projects, programs, and initiatives. Position reports to the CyberSource Austin, Texas office and may allow for partial telecommuting. Qualified applicants should apply by emailing resume to uscareers@visa.com. Must reference job code.

MULTIPLE OPENINGS
Visa Technology & Operations LLC, a Visa Inc. company, currently has openings for Sr. Consultant, Software Engineering (multiple openings) (REF52825P) in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Architect, maintain, and streamline continuous Delivery solutions for end to end CI/CD pipeline setup of one click build deployments. Automate testing and deploying releases to multiple environments. Position reports to the employer's Austin, TX office and may allow for partial telecommuting.; Sr. SW Engineer (multiple openings) (REF49439K) in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Architect, design, build, develop, test, and/or implement software applications. Conduct business and technical analysis, code reviews, and unit testing. Position

reports to the employer's Austin, TX office and may allow for partial telecommuting.; Sr. SW Test Engineer (multiple openings) (REF52801P) in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Architect, design, build, develop, test, and implement software systems and applications. Conduct business and technical analysis, code reviews and unit testing, and implement and produce technical documentation of solutions for new development, system enhancements, and production support. Position reports to the Employer's Austin, TX office and may allow for partial telecommuting.; Systems Analyst (multiple openings) (REF52910Y) in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Analyze business requirement, identify risks, and collaborate with development team and business users, to deliver flexible, innovative, cost effective solutions while meeting business needs. Research and troubleshoot production systems issues and defects, develop fix or work with software vendor to obtain patches for issue resolution. Position reports to the Employer's Austin, TX office and may allow for partial telecommuting.; Sr. Data Engineer (multiple openings) (REF53054B) in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Work on emerging technologies, building distributed applications. Collaborate with project team members (Product Managers, Architects, Analysts, Software Engineers, Project Managers, etc.) to ensure development and implementation of new data driven business solutions. Position reports to the Employer's Austin, TX office and may allow for partial telecommuting.; Technical Product Manager (multiple openings)

(REF52808H) in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Develop products' vision, determine product development approaches, and advance the development of private cloud capabilities. Define and maintain roadmaps for the cloud platform, and ensure that the technical and operational requirements are achievable and being satisfied with the proposed technologies. Position reports to the Employer's Austin, TX office and may allow for partial telecommuting. Qualified applicants should apply by emailing resume to uscareers@visa.com. Must reference job code.

MULTIPLE OPENINGS
Visa U.S.A. Inc., a Visa Inc. company, currently has openings for Staff Design Engineer (multiple openings) (REF52800U) in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Build engaging, usable, and accessible UI applications/components/code libraries for mobile using Flutter/Dart. Analyze existing software for Usability and Accessibility issues and provide recommendations for improvement. Position reports to the Visa Austin, TX office and may allow for partial telecommuting.; Staff SW Test Engineer (multiple opening) (REF52907B) in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Work on the development of software solutions. Execute software test plans, track test results on a regular basis, and implement improvements. Position reports to the Visa Austin, TX office and may allow for partial telecommuting. Qualified applicants should apply by emailing resume to uscareers@visa.com. Must reference job code

MULTIPLE POSITIONS
Cirrus Logic International Semiconductor Ltd. is recruiting for the following positions in Austin, TX:
Full Stack Software Developer (Req # 5658). Deliver robust, scalable, and reliable software web apps to meet critical design objectives; drive new innovative software applications and components; develop, test, and support product features.
Full Stack Software Developer (Req # 5640). Develop software tools using various languages and frameworks (JavaScript/React/Redux, Python3/Django, HTML/Sass/SCSS, SQL, and others) to optimize processes, create tests, and build solutions; participate as part of a software team practicing Agile.
Design Engineer (Analog) (Req #5639). Design complementary metal-oxide-semiconductor (CMOS) and bipolar-complementary metal-oxide-semiconductor (BiCMOS) analog and mixed-signal blocks for analog-to-digital converters, amplifiers, oscillators, phase-locked-loops (PLLs), references and pulse-width modulation (PWM) circuits for industrial, audio, power and embedded applications.
Design Engineer (Digital) (Req #5644). Design digital logic circuits and digital filters for applications including Mixed Signal Audio converters and amplifiers, Embedded SoC, Power/Energy Management, high precision Industrial/Data

Acquisition products.
Physical Design Engineer (Req #5619). Responsible for all aspects of physical implementation from RTL to GDS, including RTL synthesis, scan stitching, timing constraints creation, Power analysis, chip floor plan, clock distribution, full chip assembly, Timing driven Placement & Route, Static Timing Analysis, timing closure, ECO and tapeout.
Mixed Signal Modeling & Verification Engineer (Req #5662). Perform verification planning and AMS simulation on full custom ASICs for audio processing applications; develop behavioral models using SystemVerilog real number modeling (sv-rnm), user-defined types(sv-udt), & Verilog AMS; develop test plans, test benches, and verification methodologies to verify the microarchitecture and design.
Software Test Engineer (Req #5602). Craft and develop test plans for new features and products by translating requirements into test cases and incorporating customer feedback into test plans. Execute tests during pre-silicon and post-silicon phases of the product.

Product Test Engineer (Req #5665). Design and implement high-performance hardware and software to test leading-edge mixed-signal products including audio codecs, haptics/sensing, and portable amplifiers
Design Verification Engineer (Req #5618). Responsible for functional verification of audio CODECs and other mixed signal products. Detailed responsibilities include but are not limited to: verification planning, testbench development, failure analysis and resolution, coverage analysis and population, digital/mixed-signal modeling, directed/constraint-random test generation, formal verification analysis with execution, proficient knowledge of scripting languages and flow development.

To apply for this position, visit <https://cirrus.com/careers/> and search for the Req# above in the Search Career Opportunities field.
Cirrus Logic International Semiconductor Ltd is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. We strive to select the best qualified applicant for any opening and to reward employees based on their skills, experience and performance. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, pregnancy status, marital status, gender, age, religion, physical or mental disability, medical condition, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic information or any other characteristic protected by law.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES II (CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE ARCHITECT)
Amazon Web Services, Inc. has multiple openings for Professional Services II (Cloud Infrastructure Architect) in Austin, TX. Job Description includes: Develop a commodity technology roadmap aligning business requirements with supplier capabilities. Apply at: <https://www.amazon.jobs/en/JobID:2239644>

SENIOR BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE ANALYST
Natera seeks Senior Business Intelligence Analyst for Austin, TX office to identify, analyze, and interpret trends or patterns in complex data sets. Position based in our Austin TX but role holder can work fully remotely from any place in the USA with manager approval. Req'd: MS in IT and Management. MIS or rel field +3 yrs of exp. Send resumes to: K. Warner, Natera, Inc., 201 Industrial Road, Suite 410, San Carlos, CA 94070. Ref. code: 6206273/No calls/emails/faxes EOE.

SENIOR DATA ENGINEER
VMware, Inc. has multiple openings in Austin, TX for **Senior Data Engineer (#R2218731)** to build a Mkg Data Hub to analyze & meet the data reqs of VMware's Mktg team. Telecommuting permitted; work may be performed w/ in normal commuting distance from the VMware office in Austin, TX. Req's rel deg &/ or exp &/or skills. To apply: email resume to resumeshr@vmware.com. Incl job title & R# in subject line.

SENIOR MANAGER, PRODUCT OFFER MANAGEMENT
Dell Products LP is seeking a Senior Manager, Product Offer Management at our Round Rock, TX facility and can work remotely. Manage a team of offer managers responsible for deploying, maintaining, and managing Product Data (PD) utilizing workflow management tools. Establish work priorities for the team and prepare summary presentations including forward thinking, executive level presentations. Req: 0019655. To be considered for the opening, please send resume with requisition number to: jobs_dell@dell.com. No phone calls please. Workforce diversity is an essential part of Dell's commitment to quality and to the future. We encourage you to apply, whatever your race, gender, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation or veteran status.

SENIOR SQL DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR
(job code 2251) position with uShip, Inc. in Austin, TX. Duties include: Manage SQL Server databases, configure and maintain database servers and processes to ensure site stability. To apply for this position, please send resume to hr@uship.com, and reference job title and code 2251. uShip, Inc. is an EOE.

SOFTWARE
Roku, Inc. in Austin TX seeks: **Senior Software Engineer, Android (multiple openings).** Dev, create & mod. comp. apps. SW. Analyze user needs & des. SW. To meet those needs & create delightful user experiences using native Android frameworks & app. programming interfaces (APIs). Up to 2 days/wk telecomm'g may be permitted. BS or fgn equiv in CS, CE, Electronics Engg., or rel + 5 yrs prog rel exp., or MS + 3, or PhD + 1. Email resume to resumes@roku.com. Must reference job code 88987 in subject line to be considered.

THE ALABAMA-COUSHATTA TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING PROGRAM

Looking for Native American Indians, Alaskan Natives or Native Hawaiians needing assistance finding employment or vocational training

Must be a member of a US Federally recognized tribe with a supporting document from a US Federally recognized Tribe's Tribal Rolls and Records office and reside within our designated service area in Texas.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Section 166, 20 CFR 684.300(a) (1) An Indian, as determined by a policy of the INA program grantee; or (2) An Alaska Native; or (3) A Native Hawaiian.

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or apply online at www.acwia.org



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TECHNOLOGY

Oracle America, Inc. has openings for Applications Developer positions in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Analyze, design, develop, troubleshoot and debug software programs for commercial or end-user applications. May telecommute from home. Apply by e-mailing resume to sri.tunuguntla@oracle.com, referencing 385.28693. Oracle supports workforce diversity.

TECHNOLOGY

Oracle America, Inc. has openings for System Administrator positions in Austin, TX. Job duties include: Define, design, and implement network communications and solutions within a fast-paced, leading edge database/applications company. May telecommute from home. Apply by e-mailing resume to chris.babiyak@oracle.com, referencing 385.28921. Oracle supports workforce diversity.

TECHNOLOGY

Slalom's Austin, TX office has multiple openings for Technology Consultants (various types/levels): Analyze, design, develop, program, debug & modify computer apps software/specialized utility programs. Must be available to work on projects at various, unanticipated sites w/n commuting distance of Slalom office. TO APPLY: Go to www.jobpostingtoday.com, search for job ID 24156 & submit resume.

EDUCATION

MAINTENANCE
TECHNICIAN

Assists in the daily operations of the Facilities, maintenance, and repair work. jobs@concordia.edu

2ND NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLE:

Pursuant of Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act (<http://www.tdlr.texas.gov>), the following vehicle was towed on 9/2/2022 at 112401 Brushy Creek Loop, Cedar Park, TX 78613, USA, and will be sold at public auction unless charges are paid in full: 2014 Dodge Avenger (White), RXK054A MX, 1C3ADZ-ABXEM175707 Tow charges are \$175 and storage fees are calculated daily until the vehicle is claimed. Garagekeeper: Leander Towing, (0652879VSF) 350 Bagdad, Leander Tx, 78641 Please call 512-663-6833 for more details.

2ND NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLE:

Pursuant of Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act (<http://www.tdlr.texas.gov>), the following vehicle was towed on 9/2/2022 at East Whitestone Boulevard & Ouest Parkway, Cedar Park, TX, 78613 and will be sold at public auction unless charges are paid in full: 2016 Buick Enclave, 5GAKVCKD2GJ104099 Tow charges are \$175 and storage fees are calculated daily until the vehicle is claimed. Garagekeeper: Leander Towing, (0652879VSF) 350 Bagdad,

PROFESSIONAL

CHIEF PRODUCT OFFICER
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RESTAURANT/
RETAIL

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PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD for accuracy the first time it runs. The Austin Chronicle is not responsible for copy errors after the first week of publication. The Austin Chronicle's liability for errors is limited to the cost of the space occupied by the error, with a maximum liability of republication. Corrections must be submitted by Tuesday, 3pm.

Leander Tx, 78641 Please call 512-663-6833 for more details.

Application has been made with The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit By 1300 United LLC dba The Craft Bar to be located at 1300 W Pflugerville Pkwy, Ste 300, Pflugerville, Travis Co., Texas. Member of said LLC is Aly Sinan

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a MIXED BEVERAGE (MB)

LICENSE AND A FOOD AND BEVERAGE (FB) CERTIFICATE by RICKYE HENDERSON dba as SINBAD HOOKAH LOUNGE LLC to be located at 1115 Old Bastrop Highway Austin, Texas 78742. Officers of said corporation RICKYE HENDERSON.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit and Late Hours Certificate by Sign Bar LP d/b/a Sign Bar, to be located at 9909 FM 969 Austin TX 78724 in Travis County. The General Partner of Applicant is Sign Bar GP LLC. The Managing Member of Sign Bar GP LLC is Matt Luckie.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit by Catrina's Tacos & Margaritas, LLC dba Catrina's Tacos & Margaritas, 6507 Jester Blvd., Suite 105, Austin, Travis County, Texas. Santiago Palomino, Managing Member.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit with Food and Beverage Certificate, by Sapsaustex, LLC. dba Super Sap's to be located at 12160 W Parmer Ln. Suite #190, Cedar Park, Williamson County, TX, 78613. Officers are Saphachai Apisaksiri- Chief

Executive Officer(CEO), Vara Suksawad-Chief Financial Officer(CFO)/Manager, ZnookerWorld - Chief Experience Officer(CXO)/Manager.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a new Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's Permit (BG) for ANTRST Concessions LLC, located at 4525 S. I-35 Frontage Road, Austin, Travis County, TX, 78744, d/b/a Fairfield Inn & Suites Austin South. Officers of said company are Elie Khoury, President/Manager; Robert Smith, Vice President; Gregory Moundas, Manager/VP/Secretary; and Karen Kovach, Vice President.

Application has been made with The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for A Package Store Permit by 1300 Liquor LLC dba Craft Liquor to be located at 1300 W Pflugerville Pkwy, Ste 340, Pflugerville, Travis Co., Texas. Member of said LLC is Sayed A. Maredia - Member

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Off Premises (BQ) permit by 1625 Creedmore Market LLC dba La Tienda Creedmoor, to be located at 12510 FM 1625, Creedmoor, Travis County, Texas 78610. Officers of said

Corporation are SEVILLA ANTONIA MARTINEZ - Managing Member

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Off-Premise Permit by Menchaca Ventures, LLC d/b/a Cork & Brew Market, to be located at 4410 Menchaca Road, Austin, Travis County, Texas 788745. The Manager of Applicant is Mohammad Walid.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's Permit by Mama Bear Hospitality LLC dba Underdog ATX, 1600 S. 1st Street, Suite 100, Austin, Travis County, Texas. Claudia Lee, Managing Member; Richard Hargreave, Managing Member.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage On Premise Permit by Wilbro Holdings LLC dba Altas Cafe, to be located at 74 Trinity Street, Austin (Travis County) Texas. Officers of said corporation are Samuel A Kohler and Kent A Kohler.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for Mixed Beverage Permit with Food and Beverage Certificate by AUSBW Spirits LLC d/b/a Atwell Suites Austin Airport located at

4601 E Ben White Blvd., Austin, Travis County, TX 78741. Managing Member of said limited liability company is Hiren Patel.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for Mixed Beverage Permit with Late Hours Certificate by Premier Hospitality Inc. d/b/a Premier Hospitality Inc. located at 707 Clyde Littlefield Dr., Austin, Travis County, TX 78712. Officers of said corporation Sarosh D. Mistry, President and Thomas R. Morse, VP

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for Wine and Malt Beverage Retail Dealer's On-Premise Permit by Premier Hospitality Inc. located at 3600 Presidential Blvd., #4711, Austin, Travis County, TX 78719. Officers of said corporation Sarosh D. Mistry, President and Thomas R. Morse, VP

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for Wine and Malt Beverage Retail Dealer's On-Premise Permit by Premier Hospitality Inc. d/b/a Premier Hospitality Inc. at McCombs located at 2001 Comal Street, Austin, Travis County, TX 78712. Officers of said corporation Sarosh D. Mistry, President and Thomas R. Morse, VP

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-14-001120 To: ISRAEL CARDOSO REYNA

1709 HWY 71 TRL 42 AUSTIN TX 78742 and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s): GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org. YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 200th District Court, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the **THIRD AMENDED ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE**, filed by PETITIONER filed in said court of Travis County, on **September 21, 2022**, against, **ISRAEL CARDOSO REYNA** and said suit being number **D-1-FM-14-001120** on the docket of said court, and entitled "**IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF ANERIDA ARELLANO VS. ISRAEL REYNA AND IN THE INTEREST OF D. A., A CHILD**". The nature of said suit is a request to **DIVORCE** of the parties, appoint managing and possessory conservators, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right. The date and place of birth of the child (children) who is (are) the subject of the suit: **DANIELA CARDOSO ARELLANO, MARCH 29, 2010**

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, September 26, 2022. VELVA L. PRICE Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 Austin, Texas 78767 REQUESTED BY: **VACEK, JOSEPH MICHAEL 5601 EXECUTIVE DR STE 400 IRVING, TX 75038-2508** Prepared by: Adrian Rodriguez

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-GN-22-002891 To: DARRELL ROAN

Defendant(s), in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the October 24, 2022, and answer the **PLAINTIFFS ORIGINAL PETITION OF Plaintiff(s)**, filed in the **201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 24, 2022**, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with

the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org. Said suit being number **D-1-GN-22-002891**, in which **NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC Plaintiff(s), vs.**

JEAN LUC GAMBLE; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF GRETA R. ROAN DECEASED; DARRELL ROAN Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows: Plaintiff Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, its successors in interest or assigns, by and through its attorney of record Joseph M. Vacek of Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 5601 Executive Dr., Suite 400, Irving, Texas 75038, brought suit against Darrell Roan, Jean Luc Gamble and The Unknown Heirs of Greta R. Roan, deceased and any other person claiming any subordinate right, title and/or interest in 10413 Cayuse Cove, Austin, Texas 78748 ("Property"), and legally described as:

THE LAND, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO IS SITUATED IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, COUNTY OF TRAVIS, STATE OF TX, AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: LOT FOUR (4), BLOCK "HH", TEXAS OAKS SIX, A SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN VOLUME 91, PAGES 60-61, IN RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS PARCEL ID : 347827

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, September 08, 2022. VELVA L. PRICE Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003

Austin, Texas 78767 REQUESTED BY: **VACEK, JOSEPH MICHAEL 5601 EXECUTIVE DR STE 400 IRVING, TX 75038-2508**

Prepared by: Adrian Rodriguez

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO UNKNOWN HEIRS OF AZUWIKE WAOBIANYI EMUCHAY, DECEASED IN PROBATE COURT NUMBER 1, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS. CAUSE NO. C-1-PB-22-002213 **NDUWISI EMUCHAY** filed an **APPLICATION TO DECLARE HEIRSHIP AND APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION WITHOUT BOND PURSUANT TO SECTION 401.003 OF THE TEXAS ESTATES CODE** in the above-numbered and -entitled estate on **September 22, 2022**, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **Azuwike Waoibiany Emuchay, Deceased**, and their respective shares and interests in such estate. All unknown heirs and any other persons interested in this estate are cited to appear before this Court by filing a written contest or answer to this application if they want to do so. The Court may act on this application at any time at the Probate Court #1, Probate Courthouse, 200 West 8th Street, Austin, Texas 78701, on or after 10:00 a.m. on the first

CONTINUED
ON P.58

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsky for September 30 - October 6

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh was born under the sign of Libra. He said, "The root-word 'Buddha' means to wake up, to know, to understand; and he or she who wakes up and understands is called a Buddha." So according to him, the spiritual teacher Siddhartha Gautama who lived in ancient India was just one of many Buddhas. And by my astrological reckoning, you will have a much higher chance than usual to be like one of these Buddhas yourself in the coming weeks. Waking up will be your specialty. You will have an extraordinary capacity to burst free of dreamy illusions and murky misapprehensions. I hope you take full advantage. Deeper understandings are nigh.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): I invite you to be the sexiest, most intriguing, most mysterious Scorpio you can be in the coming weeks. Here are ideas to get you started. 1. Sprinkle the phrase "in accordance with prophecy" into your conversations. 2. Find an image that symbolizes rebirth and revitalization arising out of disruption. Meditate on it daily until you actually experience rebirth and revitalization arising out of disruption. 3. Be kind and merciful to the young souls you know who are living their first lifetimes. 4. Collect deep, dark secrets from the interesting people you know. Employ this information to plan how you will avoid the trouble they endured. 5. Buy two deluxe squirt guns and two knives made of foam rubber. Use them to wage playful fights with those you love.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): There's an ancient Greek saying, "I seek the truth, by which no one ever was truly harmed." I regard that as a fine motto for you Sagittarians. When you are at your best and brightest, you are in quest of the truth. And while your quests may sometimes disturb the status quo, they often bring healthy transformations. The truths you discover may rattle routines and disturb habits, but they ultimately lead to greater clarity and authenticity. Now is an excellent time to emphasize this aspect of your nature.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Let's imagine you are in your office or on the job or sitting at your kitchen table. With focused diligence, you're working on solving a problem or improving a situation that involves a number of people. You think to yourself, "No one seems to be aware that I am quietly toiling here behind the scenes to make the magic happen." A few days or a few weeks later, your efforts have been successful. The problem is resolved or the situation has improved. But then you hear the people involved say, "Wow, I wonder what happened? It's like things got fixed all by themselves." If a scenario like this happens, Capricorn, I urge you to speak up and tell everyone what actually transpired.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): To honor your entrance into the most expansive phase of your astrological cycle, I'm calling on the counsel of an intuitive guide named Nensi the Mercury Priestess. She offers the following advice. 1. Cultivate a mindset where you expect something unexpected to happen. 2. Fantasize about the possibility of a surprising blessing or unplanned-for miracle. 3. Imagine that a beguiling breakthrough will erupt into your rhythm. 4. Shed a few preconceptions about how your life story will unfold in the next two years. 5. Boost your trust in your deep self's innate wisdom. 6. Open yourself more to receiving help and gifts.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Author Colin Wilson describes sex as "a craving for the mingling of consciousness, whose symbol is the mingling of bodies. Every time partners slake their thirst in the strange waters of the other's identity, they glimpse the immensity of their freedom." I love this way of understanding the erotic urge, and recommend you try it out for a while. You're entering a phase when you will have extra power to refine and expand the way you experience blending and merging. If you're fuzzy about the meaning of the words "synergy" and "symbiosis," I suggest you look them up in the dictionary. They should be featured themes for you in the coming weeks.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Poet Susan Howe describes poetry as an "amorous search under the sign of love for a remembered time at the pitch-dark fringes of evening when we gathered together to bless and believe." I'd like to use that lyrical assessment to describe your life in the coming days - or at least what I *hope* will be your life. In my astrological opinion, it's a favorable time to intensify your quest for interesting adventures in intimacy; to seek out new ways to imagine and create togetherness; to collaborate with allies in creating brave excursions into synergy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Social reformer Frederick Douglass (1817-1895) had a "growlery." It was a one-room stone cabin where he escaped to think deep thoughts, work on his books, and literally growl. As a genius who escaped enslavement and spent the rest of his life fighting for the rights of his fellow Black people, he had lots of reasons to snarl, howl, and bellow as well as growl. The coming weeks would be an excellent time for you to find or create your own growlery, Taurus. The anger you feel will be especially likely to lead to constructive changes. The same is true about the deep thoughts you summon in your growlery: They will be extra potent in helping you reach wise practical decisions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): "Conduct your blooming in the noise and whip of the whirlwind," wrote Gemini poet Gwendolyn Brooks. I love that advice! The whirlwind is her metaphor for the chaos of everyday life. She was telling us that we shouldn't wait to ripen ourselves until the daily rhythm is calm and smooth. Live wild and free right now! That's always good advice, in my opinion, but it will be especially apropos for you in the coming weeks. Now is your time to "endorse the splendor splashes" and "sway in wicked grace," as Brooks would say.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "Don't look away," advised novelist Henry Miller in a letter to his lover. "Look straight at everything. Look it all in the eye, good and bad." While that advice is appealing, I don't endorse it unconditionally. I'm a Cancerian, and I sometimes find value in gazing at things sideways, or catching reflections in mirrors, or even turning my attention away for a while. In my view, we Crabs have a special need to be self-protective and self-nurturing. And to accomplish that, we may need to be evasive and elusive. In my astrological opinion, the next two weeks will be one of these times. I urge you to gaze directly and engage point-blank only with what's good for you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Tips to get the most out of the next three weeks: 1. Play at least as hard as you work. 2. Give yourself permission to do anything that has integrity and is fueled by compassion. 3. Assume there is no limit to how much generous joie de vivre you can summon and express. 4. Fondle and nuzzle with eager partners as much as possible. And tell them EXACTLY where and how it feels good. 5. Be magnanimous in every gesture, no matter how large or small. 6. Even if you don't regard yourself as a skillful singer, use singing to transform yourself out of any mood you don't want to stay in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In the coming weeks, you should refrain from wrestling with problems that resist your solutions. Be discerning about how you use your superior analytical abilities. Devote yourself solely to manageable dilemmas that are truly responsive to your intelligent probing. P.S.: I feel sorry for people who aren't receptive to your input, but you can't force them to give up their ignorance or suffering. Go where you're wanted. Take power where it's offered. Meditate on the wisdom of Anais Nin: "You cannot save people. You can only love them."

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsky'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.

PARK & HOMER
puzzles

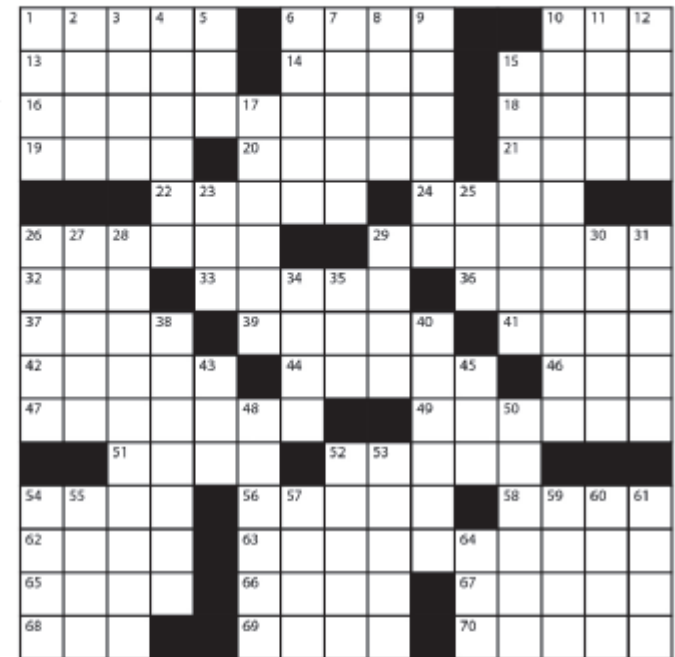
Smiles, etc.

Puzzle by J. Reynolds

No. 759

Across

1. Tara's Scarlett
6. Biblical brother
10. Dashboard abbr.
13. "___ Without a Cause"
14. Knee/ankle connector
15. Dried up
16. Coliseum combatants
18. LBJ or RMN, e.g.
19. Faults
20. ___ good example
21. Pound sounds
22. Lets up
24. Wrath
26. ___ party: sleeper
29. Extended, in a way
32. Actor Tognazzi
33. Yes or no follower
36. ___ acid
37. ___-mell
39. Large-eyed lemur
41. 2007 Steve Carell title role
42. Dock site
44. Kidney-related
46. Pilot's announcement, briefly
47. Purchasing option
49. Rents
51. Some TV's
52. Put up with
54. "Here comes trouble!"
56. Not our



58. Nutritional info
62. Leaf unit
63. McDonald's treats
65. Mining finds
66. Dr.'s orders
67. Whistle-blower
68. "Fresh Air" airtel
69. "An apple ___"
70. Forebodings

9. Risky
10. The ___ of Windsor
11. Foreword: Abbr.
12. Big name in oil
15. "Oh, please!"
17. Lay siege to
23. Morning hrs.
25. Spanish article
26. Trainee
27. Rocket stage
28. Hook's flag
29. Bridle part
30. Related maternally
31. Ladies of Spain
34. Actor Calhoun
35. Before, in poetry
38. Percolates, as water
40. Pay
43. Airport inits.

45. Spy novelist Deighton
48. Allergy problem
50. In reverie
52. Old photo color
53. Midway between sober and drunk
54. "Once ___ a time..."
55. Angel's instrument
57. Difficult
59. Notre ___
60. Architect William Van ___
61. Cold war grp.
64. 6 on a phone

SEE THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTION AT WWW.AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/CROSSWORD

LEGAL NOTICES CONTINUED FROM P.61

original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Lee Allen Powers, Deceased, were issued on September 20, 2022, in C-1-PB-22-001079, pending in Probate Court No. One (1), Travis County, Texas, to: Myra Lynette Powers
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: Myra Lynette Powers
143 N Tumbleweed Trail
Austin, Texas 78733
DATED September 30, 2022.
MIKE MASSEY LAW, PLLC
Glenda C. Clausell
State Bar No.: 24065051

418 Grace Lane
Austin, TX 78746
Telephone: (888) 407-3021
Facsimile: (512) 729-7819
E-mail: glenda@mybxwills.com
ATTORNEY FOR MYRA LYNETTE POWERS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary

for the Estate of Lewis Lanier Williams, Deceased, were issued on 22nd day of September, 2022, in Cause No. C-1-PB-22-001891, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: John Norwood Williams
The notice to the Independent Executor may be delivered at the following address:

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