

OCTOBER 20, 2023

THE AUSTIN

VOL. 43 • NO. 8

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CHRONICLE



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Whittaker*
STORY BY

THE BEAUTY OF THE BIZARRE

999 Eyes Freakshow & Surreal Sideshow invites you to step inside an American tradition

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22
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PHOTO BY JANA BIRCHUM
/ DESIGN BY ZEKE BARBARO

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

SEND US YOUR SPOOKIEST HOME DECORATIONS.

Have you festooned your front yard with spiderwebs? Turned your balcony into a staging ground for ghouls and gremlins? Made your picture window a picture of absolute terror? Then you are our people! Send us a hi-res photo of your home Halloween display along with a sentence explaining your concept to halloween@austinchronicle.com. Culture Editor Richard Whittaker – our high priest of Halloween – will select his favorites for a prize pack lovingly curated by him.



Gretchen Phillips on guitar during a Meat Joy show

COURTESY OF MEAT JOY

ONLINE THIS WEEK

AUSTIN PUNK NEVER DIES Gender/genre-bending Eighties punk band Meat Joy chats about being back in Austin for a series of reunion shows this week.

FIGHTING FOOD INSECURITY Rising inflation, cost of food, and supply chain disruptions are bringing the need for food bank services back to pandemic levels, reports Jencie Tomasek.

WELCOME HOME, FAM Genevieve Wood reports from last weekend's Welcome Home Fest – sibling to the Kerrville Folk Fest – featuring Adrienne Lenker and Daniel Fears.

HALLOWEEN AT THE MOVIES We round up scary movie screening opportunities, including the classic *Cat People* (right) at AFS Cinema.

PAST V. PRESENT San Marcos tries to preserve its African American heritage by saving the First Baptist church. Will red tape be its ultimate demise?

AUSTIN JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS NOV. 2 The 23rd annual fest opens with the local premiere of documentary *Remembering Gene Wilder*.

NEW TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD Ascension Seton Williamson, the branch of the nonprofit health care giant that serves Williamson County, is announcing a \$230 million expansion in Round Rock.



Everywhere you want to be in Austin: AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/EVENTS



BEEN THERE 2

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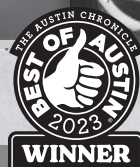
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BLAISE ROBERT PHOTO BY RICARDO ACEVEDO



Feedback

LETTERS + COMMENTS

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Dear Editor,

I recently came across a newsletter from a local neighborhood association that described proposed zoning changes to allow greater density in our neighborhoods as "gutting our quality of life."

This struck me as odd, as I am a homeowner in a part of town that has seen lots of new infill development (such as multiple homes being built on a single lot) directly adjacent to my property, and massive new construction of apartment buildings within two blocks away, including a 100% affordable housing development for low-income people.

Given this, I would expect that my quality of life would have cratered based on the fears expressed in that newsletter. In fact, the opposite has occurred. I can now walk to a great coffee shop and salon, and have made close friends with new residents who bring vibrance and vitality to our neighborhood. Traffic and crime has not noticeably increased. My property value (and taxes) remain stubbornly high.

Please don't listen to the irrational fears of those who see every new building as the apocalypse. Call your Council member to voice your support for the HOME initiative and bring the benefits of greater density to all of Austin, not just my lucky neighborhood.

Mike Wainwright

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

General email address: mail@austinchronicle.com

Letters online: austinchronicle.com/feedback

Mailing address: *The Austin Chronicle*,
4000 N. I-35, Austin, TX 78751

NOT RENEWING ON RENEWABLES

Dear Editor,

Following the recent hailstorm we decided not to replace our solar roof due to a reduction in reimbursement rates applied to energy contributed to the grid which thereby reduces the benefit of going solar. Electric providers with renewable rewards programs are no longer including the delivery charge (approx. 5 cents [per kilowatt-hour] in the case of Oncor) portion of the per kWh charges in calculating what the customer will get paid for their contribution to the grid. The TX grid can do without our help if there's no rule in place requiring that contributions to the grid and withdrawals from the grid be calculated at the same rate. The incentive is no longer adequate to offset the hassles with removal and replacement after hailstorms, higher home insurance rates, etc. And there is no guarantee of whether the reimbursement rate will be even lower in the future.

Sondra Kamper

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

AS YOU KNOW, HAMAS MILITANTS LAUNCHED A HORRIFIC SURPRISE ATTACK ON ISRAEL LAST WEEK.

CALLING IT THEIR 9/11, THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT VOWED TO RETALIATE WITH OVERWHELMING DEVASTATION.

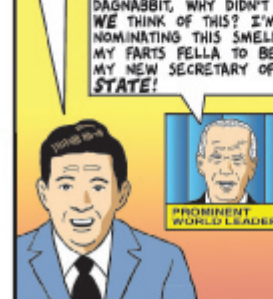
AT ANY RATE--THE LONG CYCLE OF OPPRESSION, VIOLENCE, AND RETRIBUTION SEEMED INTRACTABLE--



WORLD LEADERS WERE STUNNED BY THE PROFOUND SIMPLICITY OF IT.

ALL SIDES QUICKLY AGREED TO THE IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HOT TAKE, PROMPTLY ENDING HOSTILITIES!

COMING UP NEXT: FIGHTING IN UKRAINE DRAGS ON--



TOM TOMORROW © 2023-10-16 ... JOIN SPARKY'S LIST: thismodernworld.com/subscribe



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Your guide to Austin art.





BE A SWING VOTER

For better Travis County
parks, trails and open space

Early voting starts Monday!

VOTE FOR PROPOSITIONS

A and B

Propositions A and B are proudly endorsed by:

- ✓ Rep. Greg Casar
- ✓ Rep. Lloyd Doggett
- ✓ Sen. Sarah Eckhardt
- ✓ Judge Andy Brown
- ✓ Mayor Kirk Watson
- ✓ Comm. Margaret Gomez
- ✓ Comm. Ann Howard
- ✓ Comm. Brigid Shea
- ✓ Comm. Jeff Travillion
- ✓ and many more!

For the first time in six years, Travis County voters have the opportunity this November to support critical investments in our community's transportation infrastructure and systems of parks, trails and open space.

PROP. A: ROADS, SIDEWALKS AND BIKE LANES

The transportation projects funded by Proposition A address mobility and safety challenges created by Travis County's dramatic population growth. Every road project includes sidewalks and bike lanes or shared use paths.

PROP. B: PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE

In response to rapid private land development all across Travis County, Proposition B funds new and better parks, trails and open space protection, and land conservation to help protect our local air and water quality.

Pol. ad. pd. by Travis Two-Step PAC

TravisTwoStep.com

Armadillo Christmas Bazaar December 15–23, 2023

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OPINION // VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

WHAT'S REALLY WRONG AT AUSTIN ANIMAL SERVICES

For over a decade Austin Animal Services, located in one of the first and largest no-kill cities in the nation, has been a beacon of hope and shining example for the animal services profession as it continues to evolve to a discipline centered on community engagement for lifesaving policies and programs for pets and their people.

As a former chief of animal services at the city of Austin, Texas, the city auditor's presentation on September 27 regarding the audit and recommendations was painful to witness. Painful because it was preventable with appropriate leadership at the helm of Austin Animal Services.

For the past three years the Animal Advisory Commission has been tracking the decline of Austin Animal Services' performance and calling for action. Given what we already knew, none of what we saw in the recommendations came as a surprise.

What was surprising were the recommendations from the Auditor's Office.

Council Member Leslie Pool astutely pointed out that the auditor's recommendation to the city manager reads like a job description for the chief of animal services.

The auditors would have been well served to look at the performance data going back in time, rather than starting in 2020, which was during the pandemic that disrupted service delivery everywhere.

The intake of animals is down 4,880 or 30% from 2019 and intake is even down from the prior 2022 time period. While intake is at a historic low looking at a nine-year period, the budget and full-time staff levels are at the highest they have been in the history of Austin Animal Services.

Beginning in 2020 forward when the current chief was appointed, vital lifesaving programs and relationships began to decline with the consequence of a backlog of animals in the shelter system. Adoptions, return to home, pets in foster

care, and transfer to rescues and especially with Austin Pets Alive! have fallen off dramatically. This means that animals stay in the shelter longer because they don't have lifesaving outcomes, which creates care issues that the report details.

No-kill animal sheltering is achieved through programming and policies created to keep pets moving either back home or into new homes. No-kill isn't achieved at the expense of humane care of animals coming in Austin's care, and positing that the city must make a choice between humane care and lifesaving is a faulty dichotomy.

The percent of U.S. shelters that are no-kill has doubled in the past seven years, from 24% to 57% in 2022.

Approximately 43% of counties in the U.S. are no-kill, and that number is growing, as more municipalities realize the brand equity and return on investment that comes with being known as a humane city devoted to a good quality of life for their residents.

According to a study conducted by the University of Denver in 2017, the city of Austin realized an economic impact of more than \$157 million over six years because of the implementation of the no-kill resolution.

Increasing the budget won't fix what's wrong.

But capable and visionary leadership will. The city needs an animal services chief who holds themselves accountable and responsible for implementing the City Council's No-Kill resolution and mandate without compromising the humane care of animals in the shelter.

The nation is watching Austin, a city that prides itself on being one of the best places to live and work. A city that until now was a shining example of animal services excellence. ■

Tawny Hammond is currently the director of No-Kill Advancement for Best Friends Animal Society and was the chief of animal services in Austin from 2015 to 2017.

BY TAWNY
HAMMOND

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Got something to get off your chest?

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November 7, 2023, Constitutional Amendment and County Proposition Election

STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

We've got a slew of constitutional amendments on the ballot this year coming out of the 88th legislative session. It's funky that our state does this, and for many years the *Chronicle* recommended voting against all such amendments in protest of cluttering the state constitution. But this is part of how our state functions, so we've done some digging through the clutter so you don't have to.

1) Protecting Bad Neighbor Farmers: **NO**

Texas already has a broad Right to Farm statute, which was further broadened in the last legislative session anyway. Adding a constitutional amendment on top of that is not only unnecessary, it also gives an unprecedented level of protection for agricultural businesses that are bad neighbors, creating unreasonably high standards for cities to sue over threats to public health like overuse of pesticides. Texas Farm Bureau, which represents larger agribusiness, lobbied hard for this, and organizations representing smaller farmers like the Farm and Ranch Freedom Alliance have come out against.

2) Property Tax Exemption for Child Care Centers: **YES**

Part of the reason younger generations are not having kids is because child care is too damn expensive. We should do everything we can to reduce that cost – allowing owners of child care centers to access tax exemptions for properties used to operate those facilities could help do that.

3) Blocking a Net Worth Tax: **NO**

Republican legislators would like to amend the Texas Constitution to prohibit a hypothetical wealth tax, or “net worth” tax, which shifts tax burden to wealthier Texans; they argue that it penalizes business owners and people who may have significant assets but low cash flow. The Legislature isn't currently considering a net worth tax, but this would eliminate the option of ever doing so.

4) Big Three Property Tax Compromise: **NO**

Property tax relief and increasing school funding were two of very few priorities that Democratic and Republican legislators agreed on going into the 88th legislative session. They failed to address the dire state of school funding in any meaningful way, but a big package of tax breaks for property owners – with a pittance offered to public schools – did reach Gov. Greg Abbott's desk after a second special session. Texas voters are now being asked to amend the state constitution to allow the package to take effect. This proposal devised by the state's Top Three Republicans would not add any new funding into the state's beleaguered public school system, but it would temporarily reduce the amount of revenue districts need to generate through property taxes by giving schools a one-time injection of funds from the state's budget surplus. We encourage Austin voters to reject this premise; the state should simply increase the basic allotment for schools in the state budget. This relief proposal also leaves renters out of the equation, though they indirectly pay a quarter of state school property taxes. Democrats pushed to include direct relief for renters because there's no guarantee homeowners will use tax savings to reduce or stabilize rents. That didn't make it into the proposal, and that's another good reason to vote this prop down.

5) Adding University Funding: **YES**

In the past, the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University have received most of the state's available research grants. Proposition 5 would create two new funds that would provide money for research grants to some of Texas' other large universities, including Texas State University, Texas Tech University, the University of Houston, and the University of North Texas. This will strengthen these universities, benefiting regional and state economic development.

6) State Water Fund: **YES**

A \$1 billion investment in Texas' broken water infrastructure is needed, and will address the roughly 50 gallons of water a day lost per home through leaky pipes. Part of the fund is also appropriated toward new supply projects, including marine desalination and treated fracking wastewater, as well as education programs about water loss. Sierra Club has not taken a position on Prop 6, as there are concerns about low-income rural communities not being prioritized for infrastructure investments and about the environmental and health impacts of possible supply projects, but the *Chronicle* feels an urgent investment in water is necessary, and we'll be watching the Texas Water Development Board for a transparent rulemaking process.

7) Incentives for New Gas Plants: **NO**

Though the ballot language is vague enough to seem positive, Prop 7 would actually just give low-interest loans and grants to encourage the construction of new gas plants – benefits that they already get from the private market – and literally stipulates that new battery construction projects need not apply. Yes, we need more energy sources, but this would essentially create a taxpayer-backed subsidy for gas plants alone, creating an unfair disadvantage for renewables and their backups.

8) Expanding Broadband: **YES**

Broadband access is not equitable in Texas, and Prop 8 would create a broadband infrastructure fund to expand high-speed internet to Texans statewide, including where private companies don't operate. This has broad bipartisan support, and the Legislature has already appropriated \$1.5 billion to the proposed fund, contingent on voters approving this amendment.

NOVEMBER 2023 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION

EARLY VOTING OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 3

TRAVIS COUNTY VOTERS may vote at any “vote center” (where you see a “Vote Here/Aqui” sign).

VOTER ID: Texas law requires registered voters to show one of seven forms of photo ID (current or expired within four years) issued by the Texas Dept. of Public Safety or U.S. government. Voters without photo ID may vote after signing a Reasonable Impediment Declaration and providing supporting documentation. Visit countyclerk.traviscountytx.gov/departments/elections for a list of acceptable forms of ID and supporting documentation. No photo ID is required when voting by mail, except for first-time voters who did not include ID information when registering. You will receive a notice with your ballot if ID is required.

ADDITIONAL ELECTION INFO:

Travis County: elections.traviscountytx.gov/current-election-information/current-election or 512/238-VOTE (8683)
Williamson County: wilco.org/departments/elections or 512/943-1630
Hays County: hayscountytx.com/departments/elections/current-year-election or 512/393-7779

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS:

Scan the QR code at right to see Travis County's interactive map with the wait times at all early voting locations. Open Mon.-Sat., 7am-7pm; Sun., noon-6pm.



9) Raising Teacher Retirement: **YES**

Retired teachers in Texas do not have a cost of living adjustment built into their retirement plans, so some retirees have trouble keeping up with their bills. This year, legislators approved such an adjustment, proposing to transfer \$5 billion from the current budget surplus to the Teacher Retirement System in order to keep it solvent. The transfer must be approved by voters, however. The Texas AFL-CIO, Raise Your Hand Texas, Texas Association of School Administrators, Texas Association of School Boards, and many other groups support this proposition, and we do too.

10) Corporate Tax Break on Medical Devices: **YES**

We're generally against tax breaks for corporations, but at least this one would go to manufacturers of medical devices and biomedical products. Let's just hope that the executives at those manufacturing companies will pass their tax savings on to hospitals and patients who need those devices.

11) Adding El Paso Parks: **YES**

Currently, most large counties in Texas are allowed to issue bonds to create parks and improve those they already have. El Paso County is not one of these, however, which has hampered its ability to develop a network of recreational facilities. Prop 11 would allow it to join the other counties. We support El Paso in voting to invest more in their parks.

12) Eliminating Galveston Treasurer: **NO ENDORSEMENT**

Proposition 12 would eliminate the office of the county treasurer of Galveston County effective January 1, 2024, which would mean assigning the duties of the treasurer's office to people in other county offices. There's some history in Galveston driving this proposed amendment, but the *Chronicle* News team is not well-positioned to report on it, so we're staying out of this one.

13) Older Judges Allowed: **YES**

Proposition 13 would raise the age at which state judges are required to retire from 75 to 79. As 84-year-old federal Judge David Hittner recently demonstrated in placing a temporary restraining order on the state's anti-drag bill, older judges can do a lot of good.

14) Historic Investment in State Parks: **YES**

This \$1 billion fund coming out of the surplus would support the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department in buying land to establish and develop new state parks, something sorely needed to conserve natural areas and to keep up with the demand of 10 million (and counting) Texans a year trying to access our current parks.

COUNTY PROPOSITIONS

Travis County will hold a bond election in conjunction with the scheduled Texas constitutional amendment election, and it's the first time in six years Travis County residents will vote on major investments in transportation infrastructure and parks. If both proposals pass, the monthly property tax impact for the owner of a median-value Travis County home will be about \$4.

Proposition A - Transportation Projects: **YES**

This \$233 million investment in transportation projects is geared toward safety and capacity. The focus will be on several substandard roads across Austin, which share features like missing shoulders and narrow lanes. Each project also includes sidewalks and bike lanes or shared-use paths. For most homeowners, the monthly property tax impact would be a little under \$2.

Proposition B - More Parkland: **YES**

With a little more than \$276 million, the county promises to acquire more land for parks and water conservation along existing greenway corridors in Lake Travis, Onion Creek, and Colorado River areas, among many others. The funds will also cover the creation of new community trails, buildings, and amenities. With rapid development in the county, if we want these areas preserved as parkland, now is the time to act. The median monthly property tax impact would be about \$2.



Fluorite Fluorescent Calcite Aquamarine
photos by Dr. Paul Bordovsky

Austin Gem And Mineral Society's 61st Annual Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Show

Palmer Events Ctr, 900 Barton Springs Rd, Austin, Texas

October 20, 21 & 22, 2023
Fri & Sat: 9am - 6pm Sun: 10am - 5pm

The Austin Gem and Mineral club is a 501c3 that has a great clubhouse in Austin, TX where the whole family can participate and learn about gems, minerals and fossils. We have monthly educational presentations, a library, gem cutting lessons, and much more. Come to a club meeting as our guest and check us out. agms-tx.org

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“I ache for him.”

– Joe Biden, responding sarcastically to a reporter asking if he had a response to Jim Jordan’s failure to be chosen as House speaker



IMAGE VIA WHITE HOUSE

HEADLINES //

THE WEEK’S BIGGEST NEWS IN BRIEF

ANOTHER PRIVATE DAM, DAMN! Texas’ year of water battles continue as **Mason County** residents say construction of an illegal dam there will seriously jeopardize **Austin’s water supply**. KXAN reports the dam owners never applied for a permit and have since been issued a violation by the **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department**



Mike Siegel
JOHN ANDERSON

for failing to do so. An investigation is ongoing, but for now locals say that this dam is infringing on a natural resource, KXAN reported.

MIKE SIEGEL ANNOUNCES CITY COUNCIL

CAMPAIGN On Tuesday, **Mike Siegel**, who has previously served as assistant city attorney, announced his candidacy for Austin City Council **District 7**. In Siegel’s public announcement he says that his campaign is focused on “building a progressive, inclusive, and sustainable future.”

AND SO IT BEGINS The much-anticipated joint meeting of the Austin City Council and Planning Commission – to begin discussing the even-more-anticipated **Land Development Code Revision** – is at 2pm next Thursday, Oct. 26, at City Hall. On the table for now are three proposals: allow up to three units on all single-family lots; allow tiny homes and RVs there as well; eliminate occupancy limits for all housing units.

THE AIR IS THICK **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality** has decided they are totally comfortable with their current standards regarding air pollution, despite officials saying it is currently high in “cancer risk.” The agency’s decision to keep the 17-year-old standards contributes to public distrust, per **The Texas Tribune**.



Austin smog
GETTY IMAGES

CONTINUED ON P.12



Airlines and the federal government have more power over schedules than the city

PHOTO BY BRETT SPANGLER / CC BY-SA 2.0

Flying Blind

Near misses at Austin airport stem from nationwide issues with controller scheduling, staffing **BY LINA FISHER**

Last week, national media turned an eye to the preponderance of near misses not just at **Austin-Bergstrom International Airport** but at airports around the country, due to a nationwide air traffic controller staffing backlog leftover from the pandemic. People may be looking to City Council, which controls the **Aviation Department** that runs the airport, to do something – it is one of the fastest-growing airports in the nation, with its flight volume having increased 30% from pre-pandemic levels, and an 8% increase in departing flights since just last October. “Should we be allowing this level of air traffic, if we have not confirmed that the air and ground safety resources can operate reliably at this level?” asked **Eugene Sepulveda**, former chair of the **Airport Advisory Commission**,

last week. Unfortunately, the city has very little control over this situation.

When it comes to safety, the city controls only the infrastructure that supports ground operations – staff does daily inspections of the physical pavement, signage, and lighting systems to make sure pilots can see them, and clears snow and ice and any stray animals that wander into the flightpath. Airlines act as tenants to the city-owner airport landlord: They lease baggage claims, gates, and ticket counters. Most importantly, they control their own flight scheduling and make decisions based on market demand. Essentially, they have every incentive to schedule as many flights as possible.

In Europe, the Schipol Airport in Amsterdam has implemented a controversial policy of “slot control,”

capping flights as a noise reduction strategy, much to airlines’ chagrin. However, this policy has very little precedent in the very capitalist United States and can be easily manipulated – **United Airlines** once faced a **Department of Justice** antitrust investigation for monopolizing slot control at the Newark Airport. At the end of the day, the most significant thing our local airport can do to accommodate increasing flight traffic is expand the airport, which it broke ground on in August. In a statement, airport leadership told the *Chronicle*, “Only the federal government has the authority to adjust air traffic.” This summer, the **Federal Aviation Administration** did encourage airlines to surrender 10% of their slots to ease the burden on overworked controllers at Newark, LaGuardia, and JFK airports. Sometimes airlines do the right thing – last summer, United Airlines reduced its schedule due to congestion.

Nationwide, the FAA operates a joint government and industry command center in Washington, D.C., to balance air traffic capacity with demand: They coordinate

CONTINUED ON P.12

“HE SAVED MY LIFE”

Austin resident Linda S. had been experiencing the painful side effects of Peripheral Neuropathy. “My feet and legs were extremely painful and my doctor told me there was nothing they could do. That I would have to take Gabapentin for the rest of my life.” Then she met Dr. Brown.

Peripheral Neuropathy is the pain, discomfort and numbness caused by nerve damage of the peripheral nervous system. Linda explained that daily tasks like opening doors and using the bathroom were overwhelmingly painful. “How can you live for the next 30 years when you don’t even want to get out of bed to do simple things?”

Linda hasn’t worn socks in five years and was wearing shoes two sizes too big so that nothing would ‘touch’ her feet. She was experiencing the burning, numbness, tingling, and sharp pains that those suffering from neuropathy often describe. “The way that I would describe it, it’s equivalent to walking on glass.”

Unfortunately Linda’s story is all too familiar for the over 3 million people suffering from Peripheral Neuropathy.

If you are unfortunate enough to be facing the same disheartening prognosis, you’re not sleeping at night because of the burning in your feet. You have difficulty walking, shopping, or doing any activity for more than 30 minutes because of the pain. You’re struggling with balance and living in fear that you might fall. Your doctor told you to ‘just live with the pain’ and you’re taking medications that aren’t working or have terrible side effects.

Fortunately, four months ago Linda read an article about a new type of clinic in Austin that works with difficult to treat cases such as Peripheral Neuropathy suffers, without invasive surgeries and medications.

Dr. Lucas Brown DACM, L.Ac, founder of Rosedale Acupuncture & Wellness is using the time-tested science of Acupuncture and technology originally developed by NASA that assists in increasing the blood flow and expediting recovery and healing to treat this debilitating disease.

“Now when I go to bed at night I don’t have those shooting pains. I don’t have that burning sensation. I don’t have pain coming up my legs,” Linda enthusiastically describes life after receiving treatment with Lucas. “I can wear socks and shoes!”

Now Linda and her sister operate a successful dog walking business, sometimes covering up to 5 miles a day.

“It’s life altering. As far as I’m concerned, Lucas saved my life!”

Dr. Brown has been helping the senior community for over 10 years using cutting edge and innovative integrative medicine. Specializing in chronic pain cases, specifically those that have been deemed ‘hopeless’ or ‘untreatable’, he consistently generates unparalleled results.

What was once a missing link in senior healthcare is now easily accessible to the residents of Austin and the surrounding area. If you missed too many tee times because of pain or you’ve passed on a hike in the greenbelt because you’re afraid of falling, it is time to call Lucas and his staff at Rosedale Acupuncture & Wellness Center.

**It’s time you let your golden years
BE GOLDEN.**

Dr. Lucas Brown, DAOM at Rosedale Acupuncture & Wellness, will perform a Neuropathy Severity Examination to determine the extent of the nerve damage, which consists of detailed sensory and vascular testing along with an analysis of neurological findings.

We will be offering this \$40 examination from now until Oct. 31st, 2023. To ensure quality of care Dr. Brown will only accept 10 new Peripheral Neuropathy patients a month.

Call **512-623-1996** to find out if you are a candidate for our program and get your life back.



Visit www.rosedaleacuwell.com to learn more and to take advantage of their New Patient Offer

HEADLINES //

CONTINUED FROM P.10

LEADER OF THE PAC The conservative **Defend Texas Liberty PAC** has named a new president after The Texas Tribune reported that its former head, **Jonathan Strickland**, was friendly with white supremacist Nick Fuentes.

KIDNAPPING, CONTINUED An airline in San Marcos under investigation by the **California attorney general** for flying migrants to Sacramento as part of a stunt by Florida Gov.

Ron DeSantis hasn't faced consequences yet, though a protest this week demanded an apology. Read more online.



Ron DeSantis

PHOTO BY
GAGE SKIDMORE /
CC BY-SA 2.0

REVERSE, REVERSE! The **Texas Attorney General's Office** previously informed the

city of Austin that it must hand secret files on APD Officer **Christopher Taylor**, accused of on-duty murder, to the *Chronicle*. The A.G. reversed that opinion this week. Read more online.

MOURNING AT THE TEXAS CAPITOL

Hundreds came together at the Texas Capitol on Sunday in response to the **Israel-Palestine conflict**, the *Statesman* reported. Rallyers, some in support of Israel and some in support of Palestine, said they are mourning the total loss of life. Tuesday, a **Gaza hospital** was struck by a missile killing hundreds, with Israel and Palestine each blaming each other. Wednesday President **Joe Biden** met with Israel's prime minister, said he believes Israel isn't responsible for the attack, and announced \$100 million in aid for Gaza.



People flee fire in Gaza

SCREENSHOT VIA YOUTUBE / BBC



Austin City Council seated at the dais

JOHN ANDERSON

Selecting the Searchers

Council to hire city manager search firm

City Council's search for the firm responsible for finding Austin's next city manager has come to an end. Selection of the next manager will be a hugely consequential decision and selecting the best firm to identify those candidates is crucial.

Council is expected to authorize a **\$150,000 contract** with executive headhunter firm **Mosaic Public Partners** to search the nation for the person best qualified to serve as chief executive of city government in Austin. Once the contract is approved, Mosaic will meet with Mayor **Kirk Watson** and City Council members to determine a broad plan for the recruitment process.

Our city manager is more powerful than most in large cities, because we operate under the council-manager form of government, which is increasingly rare for big metros. (Among the 10 most populous cities in America, only four still use this form of government: Austin, Dallas, San Antonio, and Phoenix.) Under this form of government, the day-to-day affairs of running city government are led by the unelected city manager, who is hired and overseen by the elected City Council. Mayor and Council are the legislative branch voting on policy matters, while city staff, led by the manager, serve as the administrative branch carrying out those policy directives. Under the strong mayor system of government (which Austin voters declined to switch over to through a ballot measure in the May 2021 election), the mayor performs the work of the city manager.

Former Austin City Manager **Jesús Garza** has occupied the role on an interim basis since February, following Council ousting

Spencer Cronk after a tumultuous period that saw simmering tensions between Cronk and Council boil over in public. Since occupying the manager's office, Garza has made sweeping changes to the city bureaucracy, which has distressed some of the advocacy groups that lobby Council on policy matters but has generally been welcomed by Council members as an aggressive push for needed change to a flagging enterprise.

According to backup material posted for Council's Oct. 19 meeting agenda, Mosaic will engage in a variety of tasks relating to the search, including developing the candidate profile that will help Mosaic find the kinds of candidates Council thinks are best suited to lead Austin, probably for the next five years (about the length of time recent Austin city managers have lasted). Mosaic will use that profile to whittle down the list of applicants and then work with Council to determine who should be offered the job.

Selection of Mosaic as the lone finalist for the city manager search followed vetting of 12 other applicants, conducted by a Council committee consisting of Watson, Mayor Pro Tem **Paige Ellis**, and Council Members **Vanessa Fuentes**, **Chito Vela**, and **Leslie Pool**. The previous search, which led to the hiring of Cronk, was a calamitous affair shrouded in secrecy. In a Council message board post, Watson indicated that would not be the case this time.

"Among other factors the [Council] committee considered in making this recommendation," Watson wrote, "was Mosaic's commitment to an open, transparent process that involved a robust public process." — *Austin Sanders*

AIRPORT CONTINUED FROM P.10

up to 50,000 flights in the U.S. per day, over a quarter of the world's scheduled flights. But in these near-miss incidents, the communication broke down at a lower level: the FAA-owned controller tower at the Austin airport, where controllers clear pilots' requests for takeoff and landing. That tower only has 35 controllers currently — 40% below the target level set by the FAA and the controllers' union. More than 3 out of 5 shifts at the Austin airport are staffed with fewer people than FAA guidelines call for. The FAA told the *Chronicle* that "although the FAA generally staffs to traffic counts, it is not a one-to-one relationship." Throughout the day, they assess the number of controllers at each facility with traffic volume and workload. "When traffic volume is high, controllers will slow the flow of traffic to ensure safe separation between aircraft."

Still, though the FAA has awarded \$10 million in grants to fund aviation classes at high schools this year and plans to hire thousands more controllers next year, issues with scheduling have yet to be solved. A 2018 Department of Transportation investigation found that inefficient scheduling was leading to staffing issues and increased overtime costs and that the FAA was "years away from a standardized controller scheduling tool." It's unclear who has ultimate authority over that — the FAA told *The New York Times* last week that controllers' schedules are negotiated by their union.

Congress recently passed a bill to improve air travel, amid battles around how stringently the airline industry should be regulated. The bill mandates the FAA adopt a new staffing model to reflect controller workforce needs, but U.S. Rep. **Lloyd Doggett** urged more action from the FAA in a press release Monday: He wants to designate the Austin airport as a higher-traffic-level airport, which could bring more resources and better compensation for controllers, and mandate more training, and upgrade airspace levels to triple the amount of protected space around AUS, which would reduce the amount of air traffic close to the airport. "Multiple near-miss incidents at our airport are totally unacceptable," Doggett said in the release. "We need action before lives are lost in a costly disaster." ■

The median annual wage for air traffic controllers was \$132,250 in 2022, per the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The application process can take six months or longer, and training requires a few months in Oklahoma City. Learn more about a career in air traffic control at t.ly/aZTq4.



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Gov. Greg Abbott's voucher dream would divert public school money to pay for private tuition

MAGGIE THOMPSON / GETTY IMAGES

A Guv Can Dream, Can't He?

As Abbott assures that school vouchers are coming soon, rural Republicans don't seem convinced **BY BRANT BINGAMON**

Is **Greg Abbott** fantasizing or what? On Monday, the governor got himself in front of a friendly audience at the Capitol and once again promised that Texas lawmakers are close to approving vouchers in the current special session.

"I am here to tell you that, contrary to what you may be reading in the newspaper, we are closer than we've ever been on a deal that will deliver school choice for you, your families, and all Texans," Abbott said, using "school choice" as a synonym for "vouchers," a scheme that would take money from public schools and give it parents to use for private school expenses.

It was the second time in three days that Abbott had declared a breakthrough on vouchers, after saying on Friday that the initiative is "on the 1-yard line." But Austin Rep. **Donna Howard** has a different interpretation of how close Abbott is to his goal. "In this case, maybe Abbott is Charlie Brown at the 1-yard line and Lucy's getting ready to pull back that ball," Howard said. "That's what I hope."

It could well be the case. The governor has projected confidence for over a year as he's shopped vouchers to churches and others hostile to public ed, but the bluster didn't get him far. The proposal was soundly

rejected during the regular session, forcing Abbott to call the current special session, where he continues to insist that vouchers will help poor children get a good education and protect kids everywhere from dreaded wokeness. "Our schools are for education, not indoctrination," Abbott said Monday. "One more step is all it takes."

To take that last step, Abbott will need to peel off most of the 24 Republicans from rural districts who voted twice with Democrats this spring to kill vouchers. These Republicans opposed the measure because it would drain money from their schools, the cornerstones and main employers of their constituents' small towns. On Friday, Abbott claimed his office is working with the rural Republicans on a 180-page bill that could be made public by Friday. Speaker **Dade Phelan**, in remarks to reporters last week, also said the House is negotiating and expressed confidence that a bill will come to the floor.

The *Chronicle* has heard no evidence that the two sides are coming together. "I know there are efforts being made to find some kind of way to throw a bone to a variety of folks in the rural areas, to entice them to go ahead and do this," Howard said. "But I'm not hearing that that is being effective

at this point. Some of the Republicans I've spoken with have said they are holding firm on their opposition to vouchers, that it is not good for their constituents.

"And they're extremely offended by the governor's request that they not vote with their district," Howard continued. "After Paxton's impeachment and the governor's threats, I think a lot of people felt like the Republicans were going to cave. They've been put in a very difficult situation, there's no question about that. But what I'm hearing is they're not so much afraid as they are mad. And a lot of them talk like they're not having it."

Other sources confirm Howard's take. They note that coalitions form and dissolve quickly, but say the fact that we're in the second week of the special session, with no bill on legislators' desks, does not bode well for Abbott. They also point out that, unlike former Gov. **Rick**

Perry – a man Abbott is often unfavorably compared to – the current governor never served as a legislator and has a reputation for being disengaged from the rank and file. "His rhetoric doesn't match his abilities," is how one source put it.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the Capitol, the Senate has provided a template for what voucher opponents say the House should *not* do. On Oct. 12, Republicans passed **Senate Bill 1** over the objections of Democrats who pointed out that the bill includes no provisions to keep private schools from discriminating against students on the grounds of race, religion, disability, or anything else.

"If the votes are there to move this forward, would we not want to make sure that families would be protected on the basis of race, color, religion, that sort of thing?" Democratic Senator **José Menéndez** asked SB 1's author, Sen. **Brandon Creighton**, during a debate before the vote. "Sen. Menéndez, if that's important to you, I would encourage you to file that bill separately," Creighton responded.

Voucher opponents say SB 1 allows private schools to skirt many rules that provide structure and equity for public schools. Though it has been promoted as a way to improve education for children with special needs, the bill explicitly warns that private schools don't have to accept these kids. It requires private schools to place a statement on their websites reading: "A private school is not subject to federal and state laws regarding the provision of educational services to a child with a disability."

Voucher opponents also criticize SB 1's math. The bill would give parents \$8,000 for each kid they move to a private school and allocate \$500 million dollars to start

the program. Doing a little division (it can be challenging) reveals that only about **58,000 kids** would be eligible for the program. Since the state's public schools teach 5.5 million students, that means just 1% of Texas public school students would be able to access the program that Abbott believes is so important. To make it even

Rural Republicans opposing vouchers "have been put in a very difficult situation, there's no question about that. But what I'm hearing is they're not so much afraid as they are mad."

STATE REP. DONNA HOWARD,
D-AUSTIN

more ridiculous, SB 1 specifies that 90% of those who receive vouchers must come from low-income families or those who need special education. So, how many kids outside of these categories would be eligible for a voucher? One out of a thousand. ■



JANA BIRCHUM

COUNCIL SET TO ASK TXDOT TO PAUSE I-35 EXPANSION UNTIL REGIONAL CLIMATE PLANS DONE

Item 45 at the Oct. 19 **City Council** meeting, if approved, will be the strongest stance the city of Austin has taken on the **I-35 expansion** to date. The resolution, recommended by the **Mobility Committee** last week, essentially uses the **Texas Department of Transportation's** own self-approved **final environmental impact statement/record of decision** to prove that the project would increase **greenhouse gas emissions**. It then asserts that that is “unacceptable and out of step when the Central Texas region is pulling together to reduce those emissions” and asks TxDOT and the **Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization** to delay funding for construction until after CAMPO's and Austin's regional climate plans are done. Those plans are set to apply for federal funding that would help Austin cover the approximately \$700 million in caps, stitches, and other improvements to the highway expansion that TxDOT refuses to pay for but requires by December 2024.

Generally, if the expansion moves forward without caps, “that is an absolute worst-case scenario for Austin,” says Council Member **Chito Vela**. TxDOT's environmental impact statement – approved by TxDOT itself – explains that the I-35 expansion would increase emissions by more than **50,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide per year**. This is not surprising, since the project more than doubles the miles of existing highway – but TxDOT has also claimed that the expansion will only increase driving-related greenhouse gas emissions by 7%. Many have pointed out the flaws in TxDOT's logic – the Center for American Progress wrote last week that by approving its own plans, TxDOT is using “a loophole in federal law that allows the fox to guard the henhouse.” And Travis County and Council have both noted that TxDOT hasn't conducted requested studies on the public health and environmental effects of the project.

The city has already applied for a competitive federal grant for \$105 million to fund caps and stitches, but it's unclear where the rest of the \$700 million will come from. Another item that was pulled from the agenda this week exemplifies the kind of decisions Council will have to make without significant federal funding: whether to put a \$14 million chunk of the remaining 2020 Mobility Bond funds toward a 300-foot-wide bridge (or “stitch”) over the highway at Woodland Avenue south of the

river. Council Member **Paige Ellis** had concerns, saying, “I'd like to protect my \$460 million bond for city projects,” and noting that she's “never seen a voter-approved bond get promised to a project and then back-filled later.” Plus, Woodland Avenue might not be the best location for such an investment: “We absolutely have to have a 70- to 75-foot-wide pedestrian/bicycle crossing,” said Vela. “Do we need a 300-foot-wide mini pocket park on top of the highway there?”

If borrowing from another bond isn't the best idea, there are other options, like creating a **Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone** to collect property taxes from development on top of the caps and stitches or around them. But it's unclear how much funding would really come from a TIRZ – so another option is asking the voters to approve a new bond, which Vela said he would support in *The Austin Politics Newsletter* last week. “If, at the end of the day, we've gone through all those sources, and we're still short \$250 million, \$350 million,” he would support a new bond, he said; but it may not go over well, as a majority of Austinites have come out against the project as a whole. Ultimately, “it's absurd and deeply unfair that TxDOT is putting the city of Austin in this situation of having to clean up TxDOT's mess,” said **Rethink35's Adam Greenfield**.

Which is why these regional plans present a promising opportunity for the feds to help out. The **Austin Metropolitan Statistical Area Climate Plan**, which brings together CAMPO, Austin, Buda, Kyle, Round Rock, and more surrounding cities and counties in a regionwide climate action plan, is the first step to become eligible for \$4.3 billion in federal **Climate Pollution Reduction grants** in 2024. The plan must be finished by March of next year – when I-35 construction is set to begin – and applications submitted by April. CAMPO is also currently developing a **Regional Mobile Emission Reduction Plan**, funded by the Federal Highway Administration.

“City Council believes reconstruction of I-35 is a generational project, and its design should not be finalized until informed by the timely regional GHG-reduction planning initiatives,” reads the resolution. Council asks TxDOT to meet as soon as possible with the Office of Sustainability and any other interested Austin MSA Climate Plan partners to collaborate on greenhouse gas reduction strategies for the project. – *Lina Fisher*

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Brenda Ramos (at left) in 2020, in front of a mural memorializing her son, Michael Ramos (at right), who was shot and killed by Austin police Officer Christopher Taylor

ZEE BARBARO / BRENDA RAMOS PHOTO BY JOHN ANDERSON / MICHAEL RAMOS PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE RAMOS FAMILY

criminal use-of-force cases in the future. In Travis County alone, nearly two dozen officers are under indictment and awaiting trial for on-duty use of force (one of them is Taylor, who, along with another officer, was indicted on a separate murder charge for killing Mauris DeSilva in the line of duty in 2019; Taylor's defense counsel, Doug O'Connell and Ken Ervin, are also representing a number of the other officers under indictment). Attorneys in the Taylor trial will not just be weighing how their court maneuvers will impact the case in front of them, but how they may affect cases against law enforcement throughout the state as well.

And the trial could have national implications, too. Travis County District Attorney José Garza has his Civil Rights Unit prosecuting the case (led by Dexter Gillford with an assist from former Travis County prosecutor Gary Cobb, who is a legend among local attorneys). Garza is at the forefront of the progressive prosecutor movement, which has spread throughout the nation. Progressive prosecutors have campaigned – and, in cities like Philadelphia, Orlando, and Minneapolis, have won – on platforms that promise to use the broad discretion given to prosecutors in the American justice system to shift the paradigm on what crimes should be prioritized. They promote fewer prosecutions of minor drug offenses to reduce mass incarceration, for example, and more prosecutions of law enforcement officers accused of excessive violence to hold government actors accountable.

The Taylor trial will be watched closely by progressive prosecutors in other cities, who may have their own cases against law enforcement to consider. They'll pay attention to the legal maneuvers deployed by attorneys on either side, but also to how the jury responds.

And someone else will be watching: Ramos' mother, Brenda. "Mike was the sweetest person," Ramos said in a statement before jury selection in the trial began. "He made everyone laugh. And he was such a loving son. I miss him every day. His killing left a hole in my heart that I will always carry with me. I would like to express my deep gratitude and appreciation for the condolences and sympathy I've received from family, friends, and the community."

"I can have empathy in my heart for the loss their family is living with and, at the same time, understand, know, and believe why Officer Taylor took the actions he took. I stand firmly behind Officer Taylor and his decision to use force."

AUSTIN POLICE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT THOMAS VILLARREAL

DEADLY FORCE

The most politically important murder trial in Austin's history begins this week. Here's what it could mean for our city. **BY AUSTIN SANDERS**

One of the most consequential trials in Austin history began this week, as attorneys spent hours selecting the jurors that will decide the future of Christopher Taylor, an Austin police officer who stands accused of first-degree murder for fatally shooting, while on duty, Michael Ramos three years ago.

The trial is one that – regardless of the verdict – will make waves locally, statewide, and across the nation. Locally, because mere hours after Taylor fatally shot Ramos in the parking lot of the Rosemont Apartment complex located at 2601 S. Pleasant Valley, on April 24, 2020, cellphone footage of the incident recorded by bystanders began to spread on social media. Then, the demonstrations against police brutality began.

A month later, when Minneapolis cop Derek Chauvin killed George Floyd and protests against police violence swept the nation, outrage in Austin sparked by Ramos' death swelled into a broad movement for justice that resulted in some of the most substantive change to municipal policing seen in any city that experienced unrest that summer. Taylor's trial, whether it ends in a guilty verdict or acquittal, will shed light on the tragic episode that incited the largest, most concerted effort against police violence in Austin's history.

Because prosecutions of police officers for on-duty murder are so rare – there have been just a handful in Texas, and Taylor's appears to be the first in Austin's history

– the case law around these types of cases is relatively thin. As a result, motions filed by the state or the defense and decisions issued by District Judge Dayna Blazey could set new legal precedent for how law enforcement officers are prosecuted for alleged

Scott Hendler, one of the attorneys representing Ramos in the civil lawsuit against the city she filed over her son's killing, added that his client hopes Taylor is "held accountable" and that it will "prevent [Taylor] who shot and killed two people, from killing someone else's child."

THE TWELVE WHO WILL DECIDE

Jury selection is an incredibly important part of any trial, but it will play an outsized role in the Taylor trial. "Any experienced trial attorney will agree that voir dire is already the important part of the trial," Jorge Vela, a practicing criminal defense attorney in Austin who formerly served as a Travis County assistant district attorney and assistant U.S. attorney in the Southern District of Texas, told the *Chronicle*. "But it's going to be especially important in this trial because it is such a polarizing case and many people already have an opinion on it, especially after the events that led to the mistrial decision."

Vela is referring to the series of events in May, when the Taylor trial began for the first time, that resulted in Blazey declaring a mistrial. On the first day of jury selection, the courtroom doors were locked and members of the public (including this journalist) were improperly barred from entering – a potential violation of Taylor's constitutional right to an open trial. Later during jury selection, fliers about Ramos' death were placed on the vehicles of three jurors, prompting Taylor's defense attorneys to allege jury tampering (an investigation by the Travis County Sheriff's Office has been suspended because no suspect could be identified).



Booking photo of defendant Christopher Taylor

PROVIDED BY AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT /
DESIGN BY ZEKE BARBARO

Ultimately, because of these problems and other challenges (some of which are standard in criminal trials, like each side being able to "strike" 10 jurors they think will not be impartial in the trial), they were just two alternates short of a full jury, and Blazey called a mistrial in June. But jury selection resumed Monday, Oct. 16, with a new strategy in place. Three panels of 100 potential jurors each would be summoned across three days, with attorneys on both sides given two hours to question each panel.

As it turns out, only one panel and one day was needed to seat a jury. Close to 100 of the individuals responded to their jury summons Oct. 16. After a long day of questioning from Cobb, representing the state, and O'Connell and Ervin, representing Taylor, both parties agreed on 12 members of the jury and four alternates to serve as backups in case one of the full members has to drop out of the trial.

With a jury set, the evidence portion of the trial is set to begin with opening arguments on Monday, Oct. 23. From there, the trial will be held Monday-Friday, starting at 9am each day and ending at 5pm; members of the public interested in watching the proceedings will be able to do so, in person, at the Blackwell-Thurman Criminal Justice Center.

THE FACTS OF THE CASE

At around 6:30pm on April 24, 2020, a person called 911 to report that two people – Ramos and his girlfriend – were sitting in a Toyota Prius "smoking crack and cooking meth" and that, at one point, Ramos had a gun pointed at his girlfriend. From what we can tell, neither claim turned out to be true (officers found no gun in the vehicle), but because of what the caller reported, at least some of the eight officers who responded thought Ramos was armed.

A critical incident video produced by the Austin Police Department and the Office of Police Oversight, released three months after the shooting, shows what happened that April day. Before confronting Ramos, the officers strategize over their plan. When they finally do confront him, a familiar scene plays out. With guns drawn, the officers begin shouting orders at Ramos, who appears confused at what is happening but quickly complies. "What the fuck is going on?" the 42-year-old man, who was Black and Hispanic, says at one point, while raising his hands in the air and attempting to explain that he is unarmed. "I can't explain it right now, Michael," one officer responds, while others continue to shout orders.

After this back-and-forth plays out, an officer can be heard saying, "Impact him," which prompts another officer, Mitchell Pieper – who was still in the post-Academy

CONTINUED ON P.18

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Defense attorneys Doug O'Connell and Ken Ervin

PHOTO BY JANA BIRCHUM / DESIGN BY ZEKE BARBARO

TAYLOR TRIAL CONTINUED FROM P.17

field training program – to shoot Ramos with a lead-pellet round. After Ramos is hit, he falls back into the Prius and, after a few moments as officers continue shouting, he begins to drive, slowly, in a direction that appears to be away from the officers. As Ramos drives away, Taylor fires three times, killing the man.

Austin Police Association President Thomas Villarreal described the shooting as an “extremely tragic” and “heartbreaking” situation. “I can feel for the family of Mike Ramos,” Villarreal told us. “I can have empathy in my heart for the loss their family is living with and, at the same time, understand, know, and believe why Officer Taylor took the actions he took. I stand firmly behind Officer Taylor and his decision to use force.”

In some ways, criminal prosecutions against police officers for violence in the line of duty are no different than prosecutions against civilians for the same category of crime. Whether prosecuting a police officer or civilian for murder, prosecutors must prove their case “beyond a reasonable doubt” when trying to persuade a jury that the defendant is guilty of the alleged crime. Officers charged with any violent crime, even murder, are also held to the same legal standards as civilians charged with the same crime, as outlined in the Texas Penal Code.

Police as criminal defendants have access to the same legal justifications (like self-defense, defense of others, or defense of property), and those justifications have the same legal limitations for officers as they do for civilians. Chapter 9 of the Penal Code deems use of deadly force as justified in protecting one’s own life, or the life of a third person, “when and to the degree” an individual “reasonably believes the force is immediately necessary to protect the actor against the other’s use or attempted use of unlawful force.” (The Penal Code does include specific justifications for law enforcement officers using deadly force during the course of an arrest, but that defense is likely unavailable to Taylor in this case because officers were not attempting to arrest Ramos when he was shot and killed.)

To secure a guilty verdict, prosecutors will have to convince the jury that Ramos’ action did not pose a serious enough threat to Taylor or his fellow officers to warrant the use of deadly force. Outside the facts of the case, that task may prove difficult for prosecutors due to what one expert called the “atmospherics” of trials involving police officers accused of criminal conduct through the normal course of their duty (i.e., responding to a 911 call where the caller said the person was armed, as was the case with Ramos, versus a police officer accused of assaulting someone while off duty).

“It’s tended to be the case that police officers, even as defendants, enjoy a level of presumption of credibility that the average non-police suspect doesn’t in the mind of the public,” Jennifer Laurin, a University of Texas Law professor, told us. Members of the public also tend to presume that criminal defendants on trial are guilty, Laurin continued, because criminal defendants tend to be poor, people of color, or otherwise belonging to marginalized groups. It’s the reverse for police.

That presumption of credibility may factor into how jurors respond to testimony offered by Taylor’s fellow officers on the witness stand. It is unknown if Taylor himself will testify (he of course does not have to, and a key strategy during jury selection for the defense will be selecting jurors who will not hold it against Taylor if he invokes his constitutionally protected right to not testify against himself). But some of the officers who responded to the 911 call that led to Ramos’ death have been subpoenaed, and they may take the witness stand. If those officers testify that they felt under threat and that Taylor’s use of force was justified, how will cultural perceptions around police credibility impact the way that testimony lands with jurors?

It could go either way, as revealed by questioning during jury selection. Some jurors may think officers are providing testimony they think will be beneficial to Taylor’s defense (refusing to cross what is commonly referred to as the “blue wall of silence”) and others may think

that officers testifying to the justified nature of Taylor’s use of force are doing so because they are presumed to be professionals speaking honestly about their work, which can be dangerous and, at times, life-threatening.

POLITICAL, BUT NOT A POLITICAL PROSECUTION

Laurin pointed to the “political valence” of the trial as another factor that sets prosecution of law enforcement apart from criminal trials involving civilians. Though the Taylor case, like any murder, is tragic on a human level, it also possesses political dimensions that expand its meaning beyond the interpersonal. The alleged murder in question helped spark a protest movement in Austin and it likely contributed to Garza’s commanding 2020 election victory over then-incumbent D.A. Margaret Moore in the Democratic primary run-off, which was held a little over two months after Ramos was killed.

Consider Garza’s campaign commitment to bring every case of police violence before a grand jury. Or a statement made by Garza, on the cusp of his election in November 2020, that he was “prepared to fight” for the families of victims of police violence as they awaited justice. Garza opponents have attempted to characterize the campaign promise and the statement as reflective of the D.A.’s intent to persecute cops – not prosecute them for alleged criminal violence as civilians are prosecuted for similar crimes.



Brenda Ramos speaks about the investigation into her son’s death in 2020

JOHN ANDERSON / ZEKE BARBARO

For someone like Chris Harris, policy director at the Austin Justice Coalition and a leading figure in the broader criminal justice movement in Austin, Garza's commitment to bring every case of police violence to grand jury – and that in about 20 of those cases, grand juries have decided the cases should proceed to trial – represents a way of achieving police accountability in a community where there is not really another way of meaningfully holding officers to account (i.e., through on-the-job discipline).

"I don't have faith that the prosecution here will serve as a deterrent [to police misconduct] any more than the prosecution of most offenses deter people from engaging in other activities," Harris told us. "But we have no other functioning systems of accountability as a community. No venue to thoroughly investigate misconduct, unearth facts for the public, and discipline officers on the job. The criminal court system is our proxy to do that."

But for Villarreal, Garza's commitment to holding police officers to account when

they are accused of committing violent criminal acts – and his statement about the Ramos family, specifically – reflects political motivation more than a commitment to fair justice. "The D.A. sparked an interest in this case years ago and made promises prior to having any knowledge or facts of the case," Villarreal said. "That clouds what's actually going on here."

"It's tended to be the case that police officers, even as defendants, enjoy a level of presumption of credibility that the average non-police suspect doesn't in the mind of the public."

JENNIFER LAURIN, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS LAW PROFESSOR

Laurin, however, suggests a different view – one that positions Garza's priorities as D.A. as the result of democratic expression. "In our criminal legal system, we elect prosecutors," Laurin said. "Conventionally, we view that as a feature of the system, not as a bug. It generates local accountability for actors using the incredibly powerful tools of criminal prosecution that, if used improperly, are tools of oppression and,

when used properly, are a collective form of democratic expression."

The fact that Garza – or any prosecutor – states an intention to prioritize certain classes of offenses over others, when facts exist to support prosecution of those offenses, "is not an illegitimate politicization of criminal prosecution in our system," Laurin added. "Not any more than if the elected D.A.

ran on a campaign of going after drug dealers or stepping up property crime prosecutions."

The key is that, whatever class of criminal offense a prosecutor chooses to prioritize – whether that be minor drug offenses or police violence – the facts of

the case, at every stage of prosecution, must be considered in a fair-minded way.

"The community can decide police violence is a category of crime that has been neglected and that should be prioritized," Laurin continued. "But the community must also ensure that defendants in those cases have every right to demand their individual guilt be established and that prosecutors prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt." ■



District Attorney José Garza in August 2023

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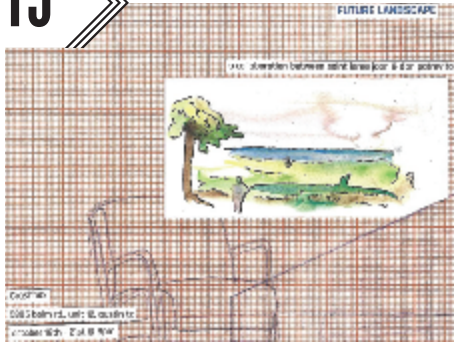
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CALENDAR

OCTOBER 19 >> OCTOBER 26



19 >> THURSDAY



FUTURE LANDSCAPE
Crashbox, 8pm

Pairing polka, a lively, quick-paced, jumpy song and dance, with the stillness and potency of Harold Pinter's pause, *Future Landscape* explores the ever-shifting landscape of memory and its impact on our ability to connect.

See more arts events on p.26.

20 >> FRIDAY



FORMULA ONE
Circuit of the Americas, Friday-Sunday

The pinnacle of motorsports returns for a weekendlong celebration of speed and sound, with can't-miss racing action, amusement rides, culinary experiences, and more, including performances from the Killers and Queen & Adam Lambert.

Find more community events on p.30.

21 >> SATURDAY



ART FROM THE STREETS
Blue Genie Art Bazaar, Saturday-Sunday

For 31 years, Art From the Streets has been offering creative supplies and marketing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness. Browse thousands of artworks in a variety of genres and a range of prices at this annual exhibition – and meet the artists, who will tell you about their work and inspiration.

See more arts events on p.26.

22 >> SUNDAY



BARONESS
Empire

The Philly foursome changed irrevocably following the 2012 tour for *Yellow & Green*. Sixth LP *Stone* reflects that sliding doors changeover. Like vintage prog-lite Canadians Triumph, Baroness remains richly layered but not extreme.

See more music recommendations on p.44.

23 >> MONDAY



EARLY VOTING BEGINS
Oct. 23-Nov. 3

This time around it's all about constitutional amendments. Learn about what's on the ballot at austinchronicle.com/elections. Assuming you're registered, you can vote anywhere you see a "Vote Here/Vote Aqui" sign.

See our endorsements and more on p.8.

24 >> TUESDAY



BUNGALOW
AFS Cinema, 7:30pm

As part of AFS's Essential Cinema series, director Ulrich Köhler's debut centers on an AWOL German soldier who returns to his childhood home.

More movie recommendations and reviews on p.34.

25 >> WEDNESDAY



ALLISON RUSSELL
3ten ACL Live

The Canadian songwriter's shows evolved into a powerful platform for community building, and new album *The Returner* infuses that intensely inclusive focus with a sense of celebratory joy.

See more music recommendations on p.44.

26 >> THURSDAY



LISA TUTTLE ROUNDTABLE CONVERSATION
Alienated Majesty Books, 7pm

Join a panel of Austin-based women in horror as they discuss Tuttle's forthcoming novella, *My Death*. The participants include Taisia Kitaiskaia, May Cobb, Agatha Andrews, and Amy Gentry.

See more arts events on p.26.

AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/EVENTS

For FAQs about submitting a listing, contact info, deadlines, and an online submission form, go to austinchronicle.com/submit.

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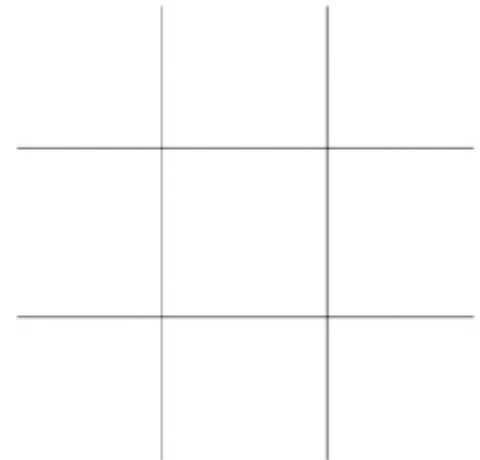
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Culture

THE BEAUTY OF THE BIZARRE

999 Eyes Freakshow & Surreal Sideshow invites you to step inside an American tradition

BY RICHARD WHITTAKER

When the freaks, musicians, clowns, hoochie coochie dancers, and blockheads of 999 Eyes say this ain't your grandfather's sideshow, they're not kidding. Their version of the great American midway is as vibrant, alive, and evolving as it was when P.T. Barnum made General Tom Thumb a household name, or when Ward Hall's World of Wonders Amusement Show traversed the backroads of America in the 1940s, or when Jim Rose merged the carnival with grunge for his Circus Sideshow. Now Austin's own original freak show and surreal sideshow is bringing the dime museum, the midway, the bally, burlesque, and vaudeville all under the same big top for the next evolution of this great American art form and its celebration of the unique and beautifully bizarre. "Everyone's talking about nostalgia," says Creative Director Jason Black, aka Black Scorpion. "I'm just trying to get ahead."

Just in time for the season of the weird and strange, the troupe is filling the shelves of its museum of mutantstrosities, oiling the gears on the human-powered Ferris wheel, and fluffing the feathers and silks of the peep show, all for their newest extravaganza, Time Trap. Taking over Sagebrush on Oct. 28, the night will find the performers of 999 Eyes trapped in their own permanent Halloween, and the only way out is through time travel and a deal with Barnum himself.

Narratives have always been a big part of what makes 999 Eyes unique among its peers. "This show has always had magic," says founder and Musical Director Samantha X, "and it's not just, 'Let's do a bunch of shocking shit.'" In the case of Time Trap, she adds, "It's got a very complex story that it's hard to believe it's not true. We don't even know, sometimes. Were we really in 3033?"



Above: The cast of 999 Eyes Freakshow & Surreal Sideshow

PHOTOS BY JANA BIRCHUM

"Time travel's possible, especially in your mind," says Black.

"People talk about traveling time but it's not like, 'I'm going to the Quickie Pickie,'" adds accordionist Dylan Blackthorn, taking a more metaphysical bent. "Traversing time is different, because you change as well as your surroundings."

In that way, 999 Eyes is a time machine that glimpses at the continuing history of the sideshow to allow audiences to reappraise it as a living, breathing tradition. X recalled a conversation with the World's

Greatest Showman, Bobby Reynolds, a legendary fire-eater, sword-swallower, flea circus seller, and talker (the guy that lures you into the 10-in-1 tent to see wonders your mundane life will never reveal). "He says, 'It's so stupid. Whenever anyone paints the circus, or takes a photo, they make it sepia. It wasn't sepia! It was so colorful.'" That's why she recoils at the idea that there's a revivalist element to 999 Eyes. "We're not re-creating anything," she says. "It's not keeping alive anything. It's always been alive. The circus and the carnival live in all of us."

That's not all that's inside some of the performers. Take Juan Martinez: shaman, death rattle maker, and sword-swallower. Turns out, that's not a skill that's easy to learn – simply because there aren't that many people to teach it. "I've had other sword-swallowers tell me I should not be alive right now, because I am self-taught. I taught myself by reading firsthand accounts and literature, and going, 'OK, I know how it works in theory, so let's put it in practice.'" He started with a toothbrush, and then a stainless steel spatula with a long handle, and finally a coat hanger. "Another performer who was here in town, Blockhead Benny, says, 'If you can do that, you can swallow this sword.' He gave me my first sword, I swallowed it, and he says, 'Congratulations. That's gross, I don't want it back. You can have it.'"



At left: Accordionist Dylan Blackthorn; at right: Musical director Samantha X, dual-wielding her flute and clarinet

“The circus and the carnival live in all of us.”

SAMANTHA X



Now Martinez passes on those same skills, but X noted that there's a balance between keeping the act on stages without losing what makes it not just safe (“We've seen many sword-swallowers in hospital”) but special. “Part of keeping a tradition alive is protecting it like a precious pearl,” she says. “I teach tarot card reading, and there's a fine line between making it inaccessible to people – ‘You can't learn this if you don't climb Mount Kilimanjaro first’ – and teaching it in a way that doesn't take the seriousness into account.”

All the sideshow classics are there – the sword-swallower, walking on glass, block-heads – yet every 999 Eyes show is new, all springing from the rainbow mind of Black. Blackthorn dubs him “relentlessly creative, with an exhaustive repertoire of music that he's written, but in addition to that all the creative concepts that you've brought out of the show.”

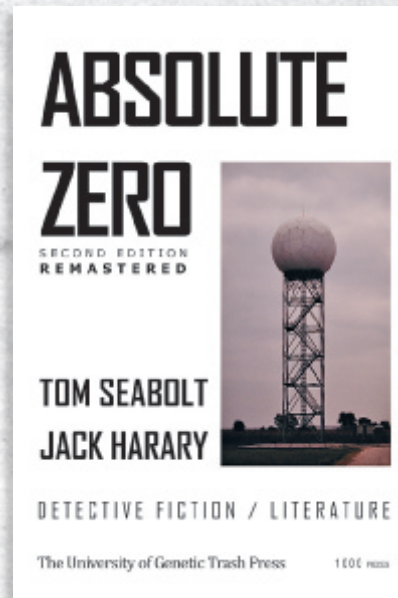
The puckish Black giggles. “It's a disease. It's a mental illness.”

So at his behest the Quantum Wrench that powers Time Trap was forged specifically for this event, just as there will be new performers (as X noted, “Giving people the platform to perform is something the midway and carnivals always did”). Fresh to the troupe are multi-instrumentalist Dr. \$ick of the Asylum Street Spankers and Squirrel Nut Zippers, and Whorie the Clown, who joined 999 Eyes earlier this year. “I was born a clown,” she says, “and have been a clown my whole life, and now I have finally found my people.”

At the new show, Blackthorn will be operating the Quantum Wrench – but then, as the accordion player for That Damned Band, he's used to wrangling heavy equipment, “and I've been known to wield a sledgehammer now and then,” he drolly notes. For many, the sound of the squeeze-box is the sound of the sideshow, but that's another indicator of the evolving tradition. It wasn't ubiquitous until the 1990s, when new troupes like the Bindlestiff Family Cirkus and the Yard Dogs Roadshow brought in elements of middle-European Jewish klezmer music and Weimar cabaret.

“It was in part the accordion that drove 999 Eyes,” says X. Back in the early 2000s, Blackthorn had invited her to come on tour as part of his vision for a new carnival, with traditional Japanese butoh dancers sharing

CONTINUED ON P.24



ABSOLUTE ZERO

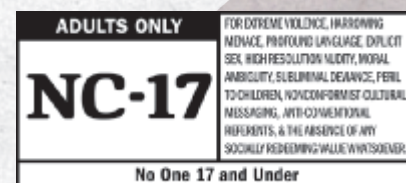
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PHOTOS BY JANA BIRCHUM

At left: Jason Black, aka Black Scorpion, natural born artist and freak; above: Whorie the Clown

999 EYES CONTINUED FROM P.23

the stage with goblin musicians, “but it didn’t have any freaks. I was doing some freak stuff at the time, teaching the endocrine system using pictures of freaks, and at that point I went, ‘Oh, I’ll put together a freak show tent.’”

Initially, 999 Eyes was primarily a place for “mostly genetic oddities and natural born freaks, and over time it morphed itself,” says X. That’s meant fewer freaks in the roster, but the name stays the same. “At some time, Black says to me, ‘If I’m in it, it’s a freak show.’ I used to be like, ‘We have to have at least four natural-borns,’ and he’d go, ‘No, we don’t. If I’m in it, it’s a freak show.’”

That’s because Black was born with ectrodactyly, a genetic condition that means that each of his hands developed with one large thumb and two fingers, arcing away from each other like a crescent moon in full silvery shine. That’s why he calls himself “a natural born artist and freak.”

Black’s first venture into the circus world came via word of mouth, from a legend of the 1990s scene: Mister Lifto, who became a counterculture icon for weightlifting using not his hands but his piercings. Seeing him perform and become a celebrity inspired Black and led him to 999 Eyes. “It wasn’t necessarily him dropping a name, but I

went, ‘What kind of career is this?’” He looked up X on MySpace, they met in Austin at Cafe Mundi, he flew to Portland for his first performance, and that’s how he not-so-metaphorically ran off to join the circus as an artist, performer, and freak.

Let’s talk about that word. The F-word. Freak. It’s long been a slur, associated with talkers trying to convince rubes to enter a tent and gawk at someone with a disability. Many performers were exploited, but for others it was a path to independence. As X noted, Tom Thumb not only died a millionaire but bailed Barnum’s circus out of debt twice as an investor. Indeed, in 1898, Barnum faced an organized labor stoppage when 40 of his most famous performers went on strike while on tour in London, demanding that the word “freak” be removed from all publicity material and replaced with the term “prodigy.” Over a century later, on 999 Eyes’ first tour, the performers once again took control of their linguistic destiny. X recalled that Black was in the tour bus “with the Lobster Girl, the Elephant Man, the Half Girl, and the Giant, and they were having conversations about, ‘It sucks to be called

deformed. It sucks to be called abnormal.’ Well, what do you guys want to call it? ‘Let’s reclaim the word freak!’”

As X puts it, nobody is born a freak. A freak, she explains, “is a genetic human anomaly who’s willing to perform.”

And performing can be tough. Black recalled working on Coney Island, walking on glass and having to pull shards out of his feet, only to go back out 20 minutes later. But there’s one scar that has more meaning than most, an old scar on his hand – his empathy scar, which throbs whenever he sees someone else in pain. He got it when a surgeon decided that he shouldn’t have webbed fingers, so cut his body. It wasn’t until he was on that first tour that

he found out that every other freak in the bus had a scar “from an American doctor from where they wanted to poke and prod and try something out.” Those scars created what he calls “a Mother Nature family connection. ... I could look into someone else’s eyes and there was no doubt about them understanding where I come from.”

Part of Black’s act is about wonder at a different body; part is about admiring some



“I’m a natural born artist and freak.”

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Five Ingredients for a Perfect Halloween

Like the best bags of trick-or-treat candy, it's all in the selection

BY RICHARD WHITTAKER

SÉANCES

In *Flood of Spirits*, writer/director Rebecca Maag summons the spirits of the Austin Dam failure of 1900 and uses the tale of a séance gone awry to evoke the catastrophic flood. She debuted the intimate interactive theatrical experience earlier this year as part of FronteraFest at Hillside Pharmacy, and now takes its historical chills to the grander stage of the Driskill. **Through Oct. 24, 6:30 and 8:30pm. The Driskill, 604 Brazos. \$36. cheerfultsecrets.com**

PUMPKINS

The original jack-o'-lanterns were made from turnips, so it's lucky for everyone that the easy-to-carve pumpkin has become the official gourd of the season. Texas Pumpkin Fest celebrates the orange fruit, with rides, photo ops, pumpkin smashing – and, of course, there are pumpkins to take home. **Through Oct. 29. Thu.-Sun., 10am-7pm. VFW Post 10427, 8760 FM 2243, Leander. \$10-\$13. texaspumpkinfest.com**

THE OLD WAYS

On the grounds of Scream Hollow sit three buildings exploring the history of Halloween, spooky season costuming and traditions, and haunted attractions. This is the Texas Halloween Haunt Museum, the world's only institution dedicated to preserving the history of this most chilling holiday. **Through Nov. 4. Scream Hollow, 149 Split Rail, Smithville. \$10. texashalloweenmuseum.com**

SCARY MOVIES

It's twins of evil at AFS Cinema with two series of Halloween-themed programming. Big Screen Classics turns to the dark side with four stone-cold masterpieces regardless of genre – *The Shining*, *The Omen*, *The Exorcist*, and *Poltergeist*. Meanwhile AFS's latest programming strand, Fright Club, continues to introduce younger audiences to frights with Jacques Tourneur's *Cat People*. **AFS Cinema, 6259 Middle Fiskville. austinfilm.org**

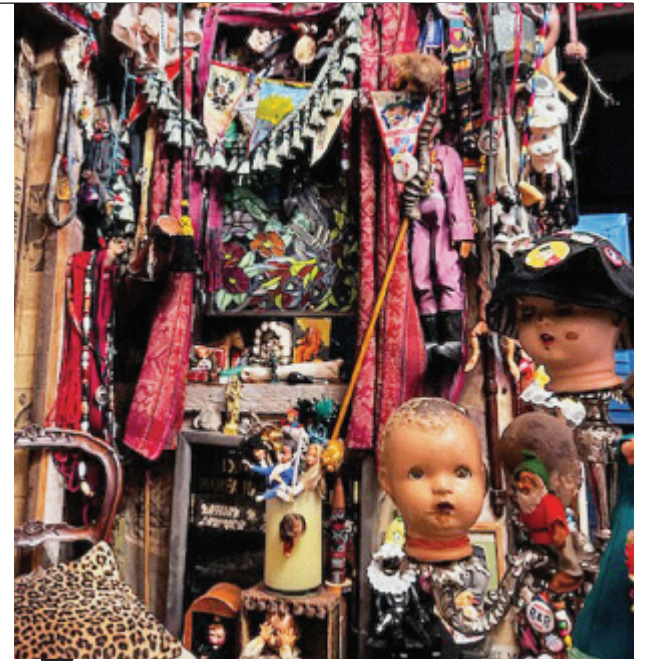


PHOTO BY CARL MCQUEARY

CREEPY DOLLS

Estate sales expert and *Chronicle* cover star Carl McQueary has a soft spot for all those poppets and puppets that are left over after a house clearance, and for one night only he's allowing visitors into the Morningwood Dolls' Home for the Retired, Haunted, and Unfit, his collection of the weirdest articulated toys you ever saw. Wait. Did that one's eyes move? **Sat., Oct. 28, 8pm-12mid. 8504 Putnam. \$5.**

THEATRE

OPENING

EMILY MANN, ROBERT SCHENKKAN, AND THE FUTURE OF THEATRE The acclaimed playwrights speak in celebration of their archives' arrival at the Harry Ransom Center. **Thu., Oct. 19, 5pm. Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 512/471-8944. Free. hrc.utexas.edu.**

★ FUTURE LANDSCAPE This is a collaboration between Saint Loree Joan and musician Dan Patrevito, as part of the Rude Mechs' Rude Fusion program. Pairing polka, a lively, quick-paced, jumpy song and dance, with the stillness and potency of Harold Pinter's pause. **Thu.-Sat., Oct. 19-21, 8pm.. Crashbox, 5305 Bolm #12, 917/971-7376. Free. saintloreejoan.com.**

AUSTIN PLAYHOUSE'S FALL CABARET Austin Playhouse company members and other local luminaries treat guests to a spooky evening of musical theatre – "All Souls Cabaret" – accompanied by a live band. **Oct. 20-22. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 405 W 22nd, 512/476-0084. \$37 and up. austinplayhouse.com.**

IT'S ONLY A PLAY Terrence McNally's stage comedy is a celebration of theatre at its best – and theatre people behaving their not-so-best. Directed by Jim Lindsay for City Theatre. **Oct. 20-Nov. 5. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun. 3pm. Genesis Presbyterian Church, 1507 Wilshire, 512/470-1100. \$15 and up. citytheatreaustin.org.**

SALVADOR DALI'S NAKED FEAST This is the Vortex's big annual fundraiser. Bring on your surreal and enter a food-filled performance installation cocktail party evoking and embodying Salvador Dali's aesthetic and artistry. **Sat., Oct. 21, 7pm-12mid. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 512/478-5282. \$50-125. vortexrep.org.**

JOHN MALKOVICH IN THE MUSIC CRITIC Aleksey Igudesman has created a sardonic mix of the most evil music critiques of the last centuries. Equipped with a frivolous potpourri of musical insults, John Malkovich slips into the role of the evil critic who believes the music of Beethoven, Chopin, Prokofiev, et autres, is weary and dreary. **Mon., Oct. 23, 7:30pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 512/474-5664. \$52 and up. thelongcenter.org.**

THE THIN PLACE In *The Thin Place*, the fragile boundary between our world and the other one is breached. With acuity and relentless curiosity, Lucas Hnath's play transforms the theatre into an intimate séance, crafting an unnerving testament to the power of the mind. **Oct. 25-Nov. 26. Wed.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zach Theatre's Kleberg Stage, 1421 W. Riverside, 512/476-0541. \$28 and up. zachtheatre.org.**

MALUM MALUS BURLESQUE: SAMHAIN The Wheel of the Year inspires this occult burlesque chantry of witches to revel in darkness, wherein all manner of devilry and mischief is allowed. Featuring performances by Blaise Ricin, Fig, Sigh, Mandy Mezcal, Magpie, Sunday Slaughter, Copper Penny, and Allegra Jade Fox. **Thu.-Sat., Oct. 26-28, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 512/478-5282. \$15-37. vortexrep.org.**

RIDE THE CYCLONE In this comedy by Jacob Richmond and Brooke Maxwell, the lives of six teenagers from a Canadian chamber choir are cut short in a freak accident aboard a roller coaster. When they awake in limbo, a each tells a story to win a prize like no other: the chance to return to life. Directed by Jenny Lavery. **Oct. 26-Nov. 5. See**

website for dates and times. B. Iden Payne Theatre, Winship Drama Bldg., 24th & San Jacinto, 512/232-5340. \$15-26. texasperformingarts.org/venues/b_iden_payne.

CLOSING

TWELFTH NIGHT The Baron's Men present Shakespeare's romantic comedy about grief, mistaken identity, and finding love, directed by Shannon Gibson. **Through Oct. 21. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. The Curtain Theatre, 7400 Coldwater Canyon. \$17-25. thebaronsmen.org.**

ANTIGONE Sophocles' classic, adapted by Davis Rush, is presented by the Filigree Theatre under the direction of Elizabeth V. Newman. **Through Oct. 22. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Factory on 5th, 3409 E. Fifth, 512/839-3062. \$25-40. filigreetheatre.com.**

ONGOING

BAT BOY: THE MUSICAL ACC presents this musical comedy/horror show about a half-boy, half-bat creature who is discovered in a cave near Hope Falls, West Virginia. Directed by Jamie Rogers. **Through Oct. 29. Fri.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. ACC Highland, 6101 Highland Campus Dr, 512/223-7204. \$8. admc.austinctc.edu/drama/.**

CHRONICLES OF AN INDIGENOUS OFFSPRING Zell Miller III uses hip-hop culture, jazz aesthetics movement, and spoken word to weave an authentic tapestry of what it means to be a person of color in this Southern city. **Through Nov. 4. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 512/479-7529. \$21-28 (pay what you can, Thursdays). hydeparktheatre.org.**

COMEDY

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. **Fallout Theater, 616 Lavaca, 616/676-7209. falloutcomedy.com.**

EAST AUSTIN COMEDY CLUB This club operates out of Tiger Den on the Eastside and is the city's only BIPOC-owned comedy venue. **Tiger Den, 1303 E. Fourth. eastaustincomedy.com.**

ESTHER'S FOLLIES The comedy gem that still dazzles this growing urban hub brings the best to the weekly live stage of their club on Dirty Sixth, the whole troupe rocking old favorites and debuting new programs of hilarity with topical sketches and musical numbers. And, oh – the whole hilarious show's going SPOOKY AF for Halloween weekend! See website for details. **Thu., 7pm; Fri.-Sat., 7 & 9pm. Esther's Follies, 525 E. Sixth, 512/320-0198. \$30-40. esthersfollies.com.**

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB The longtime cornerstone of Austin's comedy scene is in the Domain with an ongoing showcase of the country's top comics. **Cap City Comedy Club, 11506 Century Oaks Ste. B-100, 512/467-2333. capcitycomedy.com.**

THE COMEDY MOTHERSHIP Joe Rogan's new venue is open at what used to be the Alamo Ritz, bringing in some of the biggest names and rising stars in the business. **The Comedy Mothership, 320 E. Sixth, 512/610-5537. comedymothership.com.**

CONTINUED ON P.28

THREE HORRIFYING ATTRACTIONS

BATCITY SCAREGROUNDS

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

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"Cloud World (#3)"

PHOTO BY AARON MORSE

Review: "If the Sky Were Orange"

JOURNALIST JEFF GOODELL CURATES THE BLANTON'S CALL TO ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE **BY LINA FISHER**

The title of the Blanton Museum of Art's ongoing exhibition, "If the Sky Were Orange: Art in the Time of Climate Change," comes from an experience Jeff Goodell had 15 years ago. An award-winning climate journalist and author, Goodell was sailing the North Atlantic on a reporting trip and asked a scientist with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute what it would take to convince people to pay attention to the risks of climate change. "If carbon dioxide stained the air purple, people would care," the scientist replied. When Goodell saw Aaron Morse's "Cloud World (#3)" – an expansive painting crowded with orange clouds above a stormy sea – he saw a version of the same thought. "This is a show about making climate change visible – if not by painting the sky orange, then by seeing its impact through the eyes of artists," he writes in the introductory notes.

The exhibit was curated collaboratively by Goodell, Blanton Deputy Director for Curatorial Affairs Carter Foster, and museum Director Simone Wicha. It's the museum's first exhibition to explore one topic across several gallery spaces, and it's a topic that truly requires that space. "Climate change is about many other things besides getting hotter," writes Foster. "It's about migration. It's about greed. It's about corporate power. It's about nature, it's about abundance – all these things."

With all that in mind, the trio went through 120 works in the museum's permanent collection, some dating back to the 1600s, and paired contemporary pieces with written responses by prominent climate writers. "I really relish the opportunity to think about this in different ways," Goodell writes, noting that visual media "reveals nuances about this story that I know so well." Many of the works were not created as a literal commentary on climate change, but they "demonstrate that when we talk about climate change, we are really

talking about much deeper things, including our relationship with nature, the promise of technology, and how we define progress."

Goodell's sensibility shines through in the curation. The exhibit is organized almost in chapters, from "the romance of energy" to "the age of abundance" to "consequences" and finally to "the bounty of nature." The accompanying texts in turn contextualize the works within history, politics, and science. John Gerrard's "Western Flag," a digital simulation of a black smoke flag perpetually waving atop a desolate landscape, re-creates the exact weather conditions at the current time of Spindletop, the location of Texas' first oil boom.

Amy Westervelt, host of the *Drilled* podcast, observes that "Gerrard's piece shows not only the way that Spindletop and the industry it represents endures, but also that oil wells are ephemeral; they have not always been here, and they need not continue infinitely, despite the oil industry's insistence on the contrary."

Goodell often recounts a story in which Al Gore told him that everyone has an "oh, shit" moment about climate change – they suddenly realize it's a bigger problem than they thought. After this record-shattering summer, Austinites might just have that moment walking through this exhibit. But the show is not meant to be simply a wake-up call; it's also a call to action and projects a lot of hope. In response to Cannupa Hanska Luger's video "Future Ancestral Technologies: New Myth," activist Julian Brave NoiseCat writes, "To fight climate change, we don't need more technologies than the ones already at our disposal: batteries, solar panels, culture, imagination. The monsters we must slay have been incorporated, conglomerated, and elected ... If we are to survive and restore a more just relationship between humans and the more-than-human world, you will have to slay monsters again." ■

"IF THE SKY WERE ORANGE: ART IN THE TIME OF CLIMATE CHANGE"

The Blanton Museum of Art,
200 E. MLK, 512/471-5482.
blantonmuseum.org
Through Feb. 11, 2024

COMEDY CONTINUED FROM P.26

THE CREEK AND THE CAVE This snazzy spot for local and national stand-up acts has shows almost every night of the week. *The Creek and the Cave*, 611 E. Seventh, 737/222-0852. creekandcave.com.

SOUTH AUSTIN COMEDY CLUB South Austin's first dedicated comedy venue brings top-notch acts to South Austin every Wednesday through Saturday. *Wed.-Sat., 7:30pm. South Austin Comedy Club, 7601 S. Congress. southaustincomey.com.*

THE HIDEOUT The diverse lineup of sometimes hilarious, always surprising improv shows continues, with Pgraph and Maestro and the Big Bash and more, for the most unexpected delights of in-person entertainment. For instance: The Tim Burtonesque hijinks of *Recently Deceased* on Saturday nights in October. *Hideout Theatre & Coffeehouse, 617 Congress, 512/476-1313. \$10 and up. hideouttheatre.com.*

COLDTOWNE THEATER ColdTowne? Yes! With improv, sketch, stand-up, this place is a designated den of gold, baby, sweet comedy gold. *ColdTowne Theater, 1700 E. Second. coldtownetheatre.com.*

VELVEETA ROOM The legend of Ronnie Velveeta lives on at this storied 'stablishment of a stand-up stage, where some of the country's hottest comics come to make the floorboards quake with laughter every weekend. *Velveeta Room, 521 E. Sixth, 512/766-8358. \$10. thevelveetaroom.com.*

TREY KENNEDY: GROW UP *Sun., Oct. 22, 7:30pm. Bass Concert Hall, 2350 Robert Dedman, 512/471-2787. \$20-125. texasperformingarts.org.*

DANCE

DANCE CAROUSEL Founded in 2004 by Ellen Bartel, Dance Carousel – 40 dances in 40 minutes – is being re-introduced into the community after an 11-year hiatus. Two different programs will each showcase the work of ten different choreographers; each choreographer will create four one-minute dances that will be shown in a round, amounting to 40 minutes of dance. See website for details. *Wed.-Sat., Oct. 18-21, 8pm. Ground Floor Theatre, 979 Springdale #122, 512/840-1804. \$20-25. dancecarouselaustin.com.*

CLASSICAL MUSIC

ASO: HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BY GEORGE! The Austin Symphony Orchestra honors George Gershwin, featuring his "Concerto in F" performed by Yifei Xu. *Fri.-Sat., Oct. 20-21, 8pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 512/474-5664. \$24 and up. thelongcenter.org.*

ERIC CHAPPELLE ALBUM RELEASE PARTY Celebrate the release of the new album *Works for Solo Piano* composed by Austin composer Eric Chapelle, performed by pianist Michelle

Schumann of the Austin Chamber Music Center. *Sat., Oct. 21, 4pm. Draylen Mason Studio, 41 Navasota, 512/476-5632. Free. kmfa.org.*

VISUAL ARTS

EVENTS

ART FROM THE STREETS For 31 years, Art from the Streets has been offering creative supplies and marketing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness. Browse from thousands of artworks in a variety of genres and a range of prices at this annual exhibition – and meet the artists, who will tell you about their work and inspiration. *Sat.-Sun, Oct. 21-22, 11am-5pm. Blue Genie Art Bazaar, 6100 Airport, 512/222-7303. Free. artfromthestreets.org.*

OPENING

BIG MEDIUM: FUERTES Y FIRMES The multidisciplinary artist José Villalobos grew up on the U.S./Mexico border in El Paso, Texas, and was raised in a traditional and religiously (Evangelical) conservative family. His work reconciles the identity challenges in his life, caught between traditional Mexican customs and American mores, as well as growing up with religious ideals that conflict with and condemn being gay. Recommendation: See this vivid show of highly resonant work, the inaugural exhibition in the new Big Medium space! *Opening reception: Thu., Oct. 19, 8-10pm. 4201 S. Congress #323. bigmedium.org.*

REIMAGINING THE NEY: COMMUNITY ART BASH Reimagine Elisabet Ney's iconoclastic life and brilliant art through the lens of local contemporary artists, who've created a variety of art experiences and performances at the museum. *Sat., Oct. 21, 3-8pm. Elisabet Ney Museum, 304 E. 44th, 512/458-2255. fb.com/elisabetney.*

WEST CHELSEA CONTEMPORARY: COMBINATIONS Here's a show by the legendary Cey Adams, credited as the architect of Hip-Hop's visual language via his work as the creative Director of Def Jam Recordings. *West Chelsea Contemporary, 1009 W. Sixth, 512/478-4440. wcc.art.*

BOOKS

LISA TUTTLE ROUNDTABLE CONVERSATION Join a panel of Austin-based women in horror as they discuss Lisa Tuttle's forthcoming novella, "My Death." The participants will be Taisia Kitaiskaia, May Cobb, Agatha Andrews, and Amy Gentry. *Thu., Oct. 26, 7pm. Alienated Majesty Books, 613 W. 29th, 512/243-6679. Free. alienatedmajestybooks.com.*

For more, see austinchronicle.com.



Yard Dog: Complicated Characters

This new show at **Austin's finest bastion of folk art** features **mixed-media collaborations** that combine **Jim Sherraden's printmaking** with **Jon Langford's painting** to brilliant, rockabilly effect. *Opening reception: Fri., Oct. 20, 7-9pm. Yard Dog, 916 Springdale, 512/912-1613. yarddog.com.*

COMMUNITY

BY JAMES SCOTT

HERE'S ONE STORM you'll want to get caught in: the new lineup of lightning-in-a-bottle shows at **Rain on 4th**. Curated by recently crowned Show Director **Basūra**, Rain's stage now boasts hosts like **Ethereal Girl** with fairy goddess **Louisiana Purchase**, mad scientist **Bobby Pudrido's Drag Lab**, and **Arinna Dior Hey's** night of fabulousity **Fierce Factor**.

Basūra recalls their first experience at Rain being intertwined with one of their first experiences in drag. They'd been to the bar several times to catch Austin drag queen **Sable** in **Showstoppers**, where the host frequently asked after their drag prospects. Repeated protestations against them ever stepping foot on stage ended the night they let an ex-partner paint them in drag makeup. "When [Sable] saw me she asked me to do Showstoppers to which I vehemently said 'NO,'" Basūra remembers. "Thirty minutes later she came up to me and said, 'I picked a song, I hope you know it. You're on next.' And the rest is history."

History indeed: Their continued work with Rain ranged from taking the stage alongside **Brigitte Bandit**, participating in the bar's drag competitions, and working the door. Eventually, the show director position opened up after **Nadine Hughes** ended her tenure. "I presented a binder of five years of my own experience as a drag entertainer," recalls Basūra of their job application, "with shows I had made proposals for to mock calendars down to a letter of intent and what I imagined the direction of drag at Rain could eventually go."

Their plan is to integrate a community vibe that honors the people and places that shaped the entertainer they are today. That means pulling from their own experiences in cities around Texas, in **New York, New Orleans**, and even **Boise**. But most of all, they want to shine a spotlight on the Austin scene that formed them. "I have a lot of inspiration and gratitude to give and extend to the next generation of performers in this city," Basūra says. "On top of that, I wanted to bring a light to the ever growing alternative community we have in Austin that we haven't seen represented, to this capacity, on Fourth Street." In a similar vein, as a POC performer themselves, Basūra hopes to create more opportunities for Black and brown talent on the Rain stage. "It's all a work in progress," they say, "and with time we will see that more at Rain."

While Basūra does acknowledge that there's no correct "formula" for a drag show's success, they note that they do not follow "**drag time**," aka every show starting at least five minutes late. "We start our shows **ON TIME** every time," they promise. ■



IMAGE VIA FACEBOOK

“
The most important thing you can do to fight climate change: talk about it.

—Katharine Hayhoe, Chief Scientist, TNC

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- Jeff Goodell, journalist & author of *The Heat Will Kill You First*
- Katharine Hayhoe, Chief Scientist, The Nature Conservancy
- Julian Brave NoiseCat, writer/filmmaker/activist

Purchase tickets at blantonmuseum.org/BlantonLive



BLANTON MUSEUM & ART

Q'D UP

SYMBIOTICENE RETURNS: ERESHKIGAL'S ABYSS Enter the abyss with your Netherworld host Gothess Jasmine as the night "unveils Ishtar's descent through the 7 gates of the dead amidst celestial dramas and divine sacrifices." *Thu., Oct. 19, 8pm. Sahara Lounge, 1413 Webberville Rd. \$10. ministryofmuse.com.*

HALLOWEEN MOVIE NIGHTS AT MARYJAE This local social club welcomes the 4/20 friendly in need of frights to October movie nights. Catch *Practical Magic* on Oct. 20 and *Hocus Pocus* the following week. *Oct. 20 & 27, 6-11pm. MaryJae, 2110-E S. Lamar. Free but RSVP. instagram.com/maryjaesocialclub.*

THE SIXTH ANNUAL DRAG SUPREME OF HALLOWEEN PAGEANT Louisiana Purchase and Kitty Taylor host, with performances from CupCake, Basūra, and Summer Clearance. *Fri., Oct. 20, 10pm. Elysium, 705 Red River. \$10 online; \$15 at door. instagram.com/poopooatx.*

IMPULSE PURCHASE'S GLAMPIRE TWINK DEATH Ring in Impulse Purchase's 30th b-day with a fantastic farewell to her twink era, featuring Travis Randy Travis, Leia Sakura Dior, MK Ultra, and Owie. Plus: a costume contest. *Sat., Oct. 21, 9pm. Cheer Up Charlies, 900 Red River. \$10. fb.com/zenythgale.*

MUTUAL LOVE REST FEST This festival centers "inner child healing, well-being, and joy" with drag story time by Bobby Pudrido and friends, onsite HIV/STI testing, an art station, a DJ set by Queer Vinyl Co., and much more. *Sat., Oct. 21, 2-7pm. Atelier 1205, 1205 E. Cesar Chavez. Free but RSVP. instagram.com/mutuallov3.*

BANNED BODIES The Trans Era and JasMania host a show supporting live music, mutual aid, and drag. Maddie and the Deadnames perform. *Sat., Oct. 21, 6-9pm. Hotel Vegas, 1502 E. Sixth. \$5. instagram.com/thetransera.*

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

HALLOWEEN EVENTS



PHOTO BY HONG & YUEYUE / CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

CANINE COSTUME CONTEST

Deck out your furry friends in their Halloween costumes and join **Sawyer & Co.** for the contest with a surprise special judge, plus shop a variety of local pet vendors curated by **Eastside Pop Up**. *Wed., Oct. 25, 6pm. Sawyer & Co., 4827 E. Cesar Chavez. sawyerand.co.*

LILA DOWNS DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

Celebrate with one of Mexico's greatest singers, Lila Downs. Guests are invited to wear imaginative costumes and makeup, bring remembrances of their loved ones, and join a pre-show art activity. *Fri., Oct. 20, 8pm. Bass Concert Hall, 2350 Robert Dedman. \$10+. texasperformingarts.org.*

CEDAR PARK MARKET DAYS A special Halloween edition of the local market hosts over 90 artisans, crafters and gourmet food vendors, plus trick-or-treating for the kids, games, and munchies. *Sat., Oct. 21, 9am-4pm. 11066 Pecan Park Blvd., Cedar Park. fb.com/cedarparkmarketdays.*

POP! HALLOWEEN: A NORTH LOOP HAUNTING

A pop-up market of your nightmares, co-haunted by Eastside Pop Up and the Little Gay Shop, with a curated collection of spectres, demons, and witches, plus Queer Vinyl Co. spinning the eeriest of tunes. *Sat., Oct. 21, 11am-4pm. Top Drawer Thrift, 5312 Airport. Free. fb.com/eastsidepopup.*

BITCHCRAFT FAIR Warm up for Halloween by shopping local artisans and curators of rare oddities and marvels, attending witchy workshops, and more. Witchlings and sorcerer's apprentices 10 and under get in free and can trick-or-treat throughout the fair. *Sun., Oct. 22, noon-6pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. bitchcraftfair.com.*

VINTAGE COSTUME YARD SALE Talented sellers make up this vendor market where you can create a spectacular secondhand costume. *Sun., Oct. 22, noon-5pm. Coco Coquette, 2109 E. Cesar Chavez. instagram.com/coco_coquette.*

WEREWOLF COSTUME CONTEST This benefit for Happy Hearts Dog Rescue includes a "werewolf" costume contest for dogs, a pet-friendly vendor market, Lucky Dog Tarot readings for dogs (5-7pm), and music by DJ Tropicana Joe. *Wed., Oct. 25, 5-9pm. Meanwhile Brewing Co., 3901 Promontory Point. meanwhilebeer.com.*

HOWL-O-WEEN The brilliant Brigitte Bandit hosts a pet costume contest, plus lots more fun for all ages. *Sun., Oct. 22, 1-4pm. Cheer Up Charlies, 900 Red River. cheerupcharlies.com.*

UNDEAD: HAUNTED HOUSE OF DANCES An immersive, all ghostly and ghostly, more-than-mostly, adults-only Halloween show, featuring local professional dance and theatre artists curated by Ventana Ballet. *Thu.-Sat., Oct. 26-28, 7 & 9pm. Factory on 5th, 3409 E. Fifth. \$32 and up. ventanaballet.com.*

HAUNTED HOUSES

BAT CITY SCAREGROUNDS A fully immersive, multi-acre entertainment complex dedicated to all things Halloween, with three highly detailed haunted houses, live music, Vegas-style performances, seasonal food, and a dark market with 10 vendors. *Open select dates through Halloween. Bat City Scaregrounds, 14101 South Turnersville Rd., Buda. batcityscaregrounds.com.*

HOUSE OF TORMENT Beyond the terrifying haunted house attractions, find escape rooms, themed bars, a zombie shooting game, and more. *Open select dates through Nov. 4. 2632 Ridgepoint. houseoftorment.com.*

KIDS

MONSTER CONCERT & CARNIVAL Orchestras from local schools perform eerie music through the day along with a carnival offering a stunning haunted house, a costume contest, barbecue, and games for kids of all ages. Funds raised will support arts education at local schools. *Sat., Oct. 21, 2-7pm. Austin High School, 1715 W. Cesar Chavez. austinhighorchestra.com.*

PUMPKIN CARVER A free, family-friendly event full of fall fun, including costume and pumpkin-carving contests for prizes, face painting, activities, music, and more. *Sat., Oct. 21, noon-3pm. Carver Museum, 1165 Angelina. austintexas.gov/carvermuseum.*

COMMUNITY AC

VOLUNTEER BUILDERS WELCOME AT HABITAT FOR HUMANITY Austin Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers age 18 and up in their construction program to assist in building six new homes in Northeast Austin, with shifts Saturdays and weekdays through December. *Ongoing. austinhabitat.org/get-involved/volunteer.*

GEEKS WHO DRINK TRIVIA The masters of minutiae present trivia games for prizes, covering everything from Hungary to *The Hunger Games*, science to sports, the *Billboard Hot 100* to *Better Call Saul*. Find them at watering holes all over town each week. *geekswhodrink.com.*

YOUNG MEDITATORS GROUP Youngsters ages 18-39 who'd like to cultivate mindfulness are welcome to gather and reflect on and discuss topics about everyday life. *First and third Thursdays, 7-8:30pm. Austin Shambhala Center, 1702 S. Fifth. Free. tinyurl.com/youngmeditatorsat.*

DRIPPING SPRINGS PUMPKIN FESTIVAL It's the third and final year for this family-friendly fest on the beautifully shaded farmstead, with tons of activities beyond the pumpkin patch: live music, shopping, art, games, a hay maze, armadillo races, camel and pony rides, a petting zoo, and so much more. *Through Oct. 29. Sat.-Sun., 10am-7pm. Dr. Pound Historical Farmstead, 419 Founders Park Rd., Dripping Springs. \$15; free for seniors and kids under 3. dripping Springspumpkinfestival.com.*

FREE VACCINE CLINICS With flu season ramping up, it's time to think about vaccines again. Find a list of free vaccine clinics and other health info on the city's site. *Various locations. austintexas.gov/health.*

WHAT A DEAL! FREE WHATABURGER WHEN YOU DONATE BLOOD Treat yourself to a breakfast taquito on We Are Blood when you donate blood or platelets. *Through Oct. 31. We Are Blood donation centers and mobile drives. Free. wearblood.org/donor.*

PALM PARK COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS Waterloo Greenway and the Parks and Recreation Department host conversations to dive deeper into the design of Palm Park. Sign up online, by phone, or by email for one of the following: *Thu., Oct. 19, Palm Elementary School, 7601 Dixie; Sat., Oct. 21, Chalmers East Community Room, 1700 E. Third; Wed. Oct. 25, Rodolfo "Rudy" Mendez Recreation Center, 2407 Canterbury. Oct. 19 & 25, 6pm; Oct. 21, 10:30am. info@waterlogreenway.org, bit.ly/PalmParkConvos.*

WILD HEARTED WOMEN'S CIRCLE Join monthly for a deep connection in sisterhood, with a different healing theme each session. This month is "Crystals, Cards, Magic." *Thu., Oct. 19, 7-8:30pm. Wild Heart Yoga, 5604 Bee Caves Rd. \$35. wildheartyogaustin.com.*

NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCES TALK Hear a talk addressing all the vital questions about near-death experiences. *Thu., Oct. 19, 7:15pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 512/476-2535. \$10. casadeluz.org.*

FOR WOMEN, BY WOMEN: CELEBRATING WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS Join the city as it spotlights the remarkable spirit of local women-owned businesses, the invaluable contributions of entrepreneurs, and their pivotal role in shaping Austin's small business landscape. *Fri., Oct. 20, 4-7pm. Hyatt Regency Austin, 208 Barton Springs Rd., 512/477-1234. \$65. austintexas.gov.*

FROST BANK ELECTRONICS RECYCLING Frost Bank welcomes you to drop off small appliances, printers, computers, laptops, VCRs, miscellaneous wires, metal items, and anything with a plug (with the exception of CRT or old-style TVs). Services will be provided by the Junkluggers. *Fri., Oct. 20, 11am-1pm. Frost Bank Lake Travis Financial Center, 12532 FM 2244, Bee Cave. Thu., Oct. 26, 11am-1pm. Frost Bank Tarrytown Financial Center, 2425 Exposition. Free. fb.com/frostbank.*

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Join AIFD for an evening of dances from around the world with no experience or partner required. *Fridays, 7-9:45pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 512/453-7765. \$5 (under 18, free). aifd.cc.*

GEM CAPERS Austin Gem & Mineral Society hosts a gem and mineral show featuring dozens of vendors, exhibits, demos, and door prizes, with this year's theme being "Minerals of India." *Fri.-Sun., Oct. 20-22. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. agms-tx.org.*

ADOPTOBERFEST Austin Animal Center pulls out all the stops to encourage pet adoption and support local biz this weekend. Enjoy the cooler temps along with a vendor market, music, adoptable animals strutting the runway in costumes (starting at 11:30), pet meet & greets, and more, hosted by a surprise emcee. *Sat., Oct. 21, 11am-2pm. Austin Animal Center, 7201 Levander Loop. fb.com/austinanimalcenter.*

NINTH ANNUAL DOG BEARD & MOUSTACHE COMPETITION Stylish doggos will strut their stuff and be judged in several categories. Beyond the canine competition, there'll be raffle prizes, tables with reps from local animal groups and nonprofits, and a craft table where you can create a bodacious beard for your dog (or yourself). *Sat., Oct. 21, 1-5pm. The Little Darlin', 6507 Circle S. Free for spectators; \$5 competitor fee (all proceeds go to Austin Pets Alive!). austinfacialhairclub.com.*



Puptopia Festival

The **first-ever amazement park for dogs and their owners** returns this fall with larger-than-life photo opportunities, never-before-seen activities for dogs and their owners, amazing "pupformances," free treats, SPAW treatments, samples from **Hornitos**, and more. *Sat., Oct. 21, 10am-5pm. Pease Park, 1100 Kingsbury, 512/974-6700. \$30-40. puptopiafestival.com.*

DECADES IN RETRO: KINDA TROPICAL VINTAGE MARKET

Shop, eat, drink, and vibe. Sat., Oct. 21, noon-6pm. Kinda Tropical, 3501 E. Seventh. kindatropical.com.

MINDFUL NIGHT MARKET The Mindful Market partners with Tweedy's Bar and the Counter Culture food truck for a market with a theme of "cool sustainability, giving back, and innovation in reducing waste, recycled materials, and saving the darn planet." Sat., Oct. 21, 1-5pm. Tweedy's, 2908 Fruth. Free. theyogamarket.wordpress.com.

LOVE, JUSTICE, AND JOY FEST The second annual fest, named after part of the church's mission statement, includes fun-filled activities for people of all ages, with food, music, face-painting, a bounce house, games, stations to design your own pronoun name badges, and a performance from Latin pop artist Lesly Reynaga. All are welcome! Sat., Oct. 21, 2-4pm. Wildflower Church, 1314 E. Oltorf. Free. wildflowerchurch.org/love-justice-joy-fest.

SHERWOOD FOREST ZINE LIBRARY OPEN SHIFT

Head on over for a friendly hangout and meet the zine library cat, Twister! Membership is free and members can check out zines from a selection of over 2,500 on a variety of topics. Sat., Oct. 21, 2-6pm. Sherwood Forest Zine Library, 5215-A Joe Sayers. Free. sherwoodforestzinelibrary.org.

REIMAGINING THE NEY: COMMUNITY ART BASH

Reimagine Elisabet Ney's iconoclastic life and brilliant art through the lens of local contemporary artists, who've created a variety of art experiences and performances at the museum. Sat., Oct. 21, 3-8pm. Elisabet Ney Museum, 304 E. 44th, 512/458-2255. fb.com/elisabetney.

TEXANA AT TWILIGHT: TELLING THE UNTOLD TALE

Learn the "real stories" behind Sarah Bird's historical novels and get a sneak peek at her latest untold tale, *A Juneteenth Rodeo*, due from UT Press June 2024. Proceeds benefit Brush Square Museums Foundation. Sat., Oct. 21, 6-8pm. French Legation Museum, 802 San Marcos St., 512/472-8180. fb.com/susannadickinsonmuseum.

PIONEER GHOST TOUR Explore one of the most haunted sites around at the historic farm with Austin Ghost Tours. If you're a fan of history and haunts, this one's for you! Third Saturdays, 7pm. Pioneer Farms, 10621 Pioneer Farms Dr., 512/837-1215. pioneerfarms.org.

BABY GOATS & BRUNCH AT VISTA BREWING

They had us at "baby goats," but brunch is good too! Goat Shenanigans brings the beautiful bouncy babes, who'll be dressed up in October and December for Halloween and the holidays, and there'll also be pumpkin painting at the October event. Sun., Oct. 22, Nov. 26 & Dec. 17, 11am-12:30pm. Vista Brewing, 13551 FM 150, Driftwood. \$10. vistabrewingtx.com.

BIRDS BARBERSHOP + FSG PRESENT "GOOD HAIR DAY" HAAM BENEFIT CONCERT

Join Birds Barbershop and Feels So Good for a concert benefiting musician health care non-profit HAAM, featuring a stellar lineup of music, food, and bevs. Visit the Typewriter Rodeo for a custom poem, the Quick Draw Photo Booth for a one-of-a-kind drawing, and Birds Barbershop for a beard, bang, or neck trim, along with several other local vendors. Sun., Oct. 22, 3-10pm. Feels So Good, 211 E. Alpine. Free; donations to HAAM encouraged. birdsbarbershop.com.

PAINT WITH KITTENS! Paint your choice of cat pottery while hanging with adoptable kitties to benefit Austin Humane Society. Sun., Oct. 22, 4-7pm. Art Garage Brentwood, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. A-225, 737/330-3289. \$30. theartgarageaustin.com.

MONDAY MOVIES Chill in the taproom with a film, free popcorn, and \$2 Carls. Mondays, 7pm. St. Elmo Brewing Co., 440 E. St. Elmo. Free. stelmobrewing.com.

SONGWRITERS' OPEN MIC Hear all original music from talented local artists on the famed Cactus Cafe stage. Contact Jake Farr at jakefarmusic@gmail.com if you're interested in hopping onstage. Tuesdays, 7:30pm. Cactus Cafe, 2308 Whitis. Free. universityunions.utexas.edu.

PEDIATRIC MEET & GREET Choosing a pediatrician for your child is one of the most important decisions you can make as a parent. Meet your child's new pediatrician at one of Baylor Scott & White's virtual meet-and-greet events. To make an appointment, call 844/279-3627 or RSVP online. Last Wednesdays, 5:30pm. Virtual. Free. bswhealth.com/pedsmeetgreet.

CONTINUED ON P.32

The University of Texas at Austin
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COMMUNITY CONTINUED FROM P.31

CIVICS 101

AISD BOARD REGULAR VOTING MEETING See agenda for details, and watch the broadcast on AISD.TV. *Thu., Oct. 19, 6pm. austinisd.org.*

AISD SUPERINTENDENT HIRING PROCESS CONVERSATION Austin ISD's board of trustees will discuss the process due to be complete by July 1, when interim Superintendent Matias Segura's contract expires. Join the English conversation at 5:30, or Spanish at 7pm. *Mon., Oct. 23. Online via Zoom. austinisd.org.*

CITY COUNCIL CALLS FOR MUNICIPAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION APPLICATIONS Qualified individuals are sought to serve on the five-member volunteer commission that makes recommendations on human resources actions for covered city employees. Time commitment varies but is around 20 hours per month, and applicants must be qualified voters and Austin residents. *Open until positions filled. austintexas.gov/content/municipal-civil-service-commission.*

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING See agenda for details, and watch the recording on ATXN. *Thu., Oct. 19, 10am. City Hall, 301 W. Second. austintexas.gov/council.*

JOINT CITY COUNCIL & PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING The two bodies will meet to discuss changes to the Land Development Code: allowing up to three housing units on single-family properties; revising regulations that apply to properties with two housing units; and removing restrictions on the number of unrelated adults living in a housing unit. Public comment is welcome in person or by phone. *Thu., Oct. 26, 2pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second. austintexas.gov/planningcommission.*

NOVEMBER 7 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION Vote anywhere you see a "Vote Here/Vote Aqui" sign, and learn about what's on the ballot at austinchronicle.com/elections. *Election day: Tue., Nov. 7; early voting Oct. 23-Nov. 3. traviscountytx.gov.*

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 MAIN EVENT

TEXAS ROLLER DERBY CALVELLO CUP It's Cherry Bombs vs. Rhinestones for the banked-track Roller Derby championship. *Sat., Oct. 21, 6pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. trxd.com.*

SLAM PORTAL VI The outrageous comedy wrestlers put on a "SNAPMARE on SLAM STREET" with plenty of body slams and headlocks. *Sat., Oct. 21, 7pm. Central Machine Works, 4824 E. Cesar Chavez, 512/385-3287. cmwbrewery.com.*

THE HOME TEAMS

TEXAS STATE Soccer Vs. Old Dominion; wear orange for the "Kick Out Cancer" theme. *Thu., Oct. 19, 7pm. Vs. Southern Miss; Senior Day. Thu., Oct. 26, 6pm. Bobcat Soccer Complex, 1101 Academy St., San Marcos. Volleyball Vs. South Alabama; Alumni Weekend. *Oct. 20-21. Fri., 6pm; Sat., noon. Strahan Arena at the University Events Center, 106 Charles Austin Dr., San Marcos. Softball Vs. St. Edward's. *Fri., Oct. 20, 5pm. Bobcat Softball Stadium, 225 Charles Austin Dr., San Marcos. txst.com.***

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Soccer Vs. TCU. *Mon., Oct. 23, 7pm. Mike A. Myers Stadium, 707 Clyde Littlefield Dr. Volleyball Vs. Baylor. *Thu.-Fri., Oct. 26-27, 7pm. Gregory Gym, 2101 Speedway, UT campus. texasports.com.**

RECREATION & FITNESS

VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON ZUMBA Join It's Time Texas for a dynamic and exciting dance workout. *Saturdays, 10-11am. South Austin Recreation Center, 1100 Cumberland. Free, but RSVP. strongerbx.itstimetexas.org.*

HANDSTAND WORKSHOP Get started on your upside-down journey. *Sat., Oct. 21, 1:30pm. Wild Heart Yoga, 5604 Bee Caves Rd. \$35. wildheartyyogaustin.com.*

HEART WALK Take a step toward longer, healthier lives at this walk benefiting research, training, and breakthroughs for heart health. *Sat., Oct. 21, 8am. Q2 Stadium, 10414 McKalla Place. Free. austinheartwalk.org.*



PHOTO BY WES TENNYSON / CC BY-NC 2.0

Formula 1 Lenovo United States Grand Prix

The **pinnacle of motorsports** returns for a weeklong celebration of **speed and sound**, with can't-miss racing action, amusement rides, culinary experiences, and more, including performances from **the Killers** and **Queen & Adam Lambert**. *Fri.-Sun., Oct. 20-22. Circuit of the Americas, 9201 Circuit of the Americas Blvd., 512/301-6600. circuitoftheamericas.com.*

KIDS

KATHA: BUILDING STORYTELLERS This engaging workshop series, tailor-made for young writers age 9-14, promises to spark their creativity and nurture their writing talents. Katha in Sanskrit signifies "a story, legend, conversation, or tale," and kids will explore storytelling on a literary adventure inspired by South Asian culture. *Through Nov. 2. Thursdays, 5pm. Hampton Branch Library, 5125 Convict Hill Rd. Free. peerbagh.com.*

GET CREATIVE SATURDAYS Creative Action camps will soon be offered as eight-week classes taught by pro artists, and they're offering sneak peeks of each class free of charge. Get more details online. *Saturdays through Oct. 28. Creative Action, 1023 Springdale Bldg. 3. Free. creativeaction.org.*

TEXAS HISTORY TRUNKS STORYTIME: DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS At this free children's storytime, they'll be reading *The Day of the Dead (El Día de los Muertos)*, written by Bob Barner and illustrated by Teresa Mlawer, followed by a sugar skull and marigold bouquet craft activity session. *Fri., Oct. 20, 10am-noon. Susanna Dickinson Museum, 411 E. Fifth, 512/974-3830. Free. susannadickinsonmuseum.org.*

CROWE'S NEST FARM FALL FEST Celebrating 40 years of educating students and families, the farm populated with 250 animals hosts a fest with an owl and hawk show, milking demonstrations, reptile presentations, hayrides, a pumpkin patch, and live music. Children's entertainer Joe McDermott performs *Sat., Oct. 21, at noon. Through Oct. 29. Sat.-Sun., 10am-5pm. Crowe's Nest Farm, 10300 Taylor Ln., Manor. \$5-15; kids under 2, free. crowesnestfarm.org.*

KIDS ON BIKES IN PARKS Violet Crown and the Trail Conservancy present a cycling skills clinic for kids ages 5-15 with 1,000 feet of grassy parkland to ride bikes on, open track time with experienced cyclists, and timed laps for kids to test themselves and track progress. They'll have a few loaner bikes on hand for kids without one of their own. *Sat., Oct. 21, 9am-noon. Chicano Park, 1495 Nash Hernandez Sr. Rd. Free. bikereg.com/kids-on-bikes-in-parks.*

DOUGHERTY STORY HOUR Dougherty presents an inclusive story time with picture books selected to engage young artists, including *The Dark*, *Boo Stew*, and *Crickwing*. *Sat., Oct. 21, 11am. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd. Free; registration encouraged. austintexas.gov/dac.*

OUT OF TOWN

DRIPPING SPRINGS SONGWRITERS FESTIVAL Join 45+ songwriters as they pass the guitar for the love of a good tune and the turn of a phrase. *Fri.-Sun., Oct. 20-22. Downtown Dripping Springs. Free. drippingsspringsongwritersfestival.com.*

BANDERA BEERFEST Take a scenic drive to enjoy the family-friendly games, karaoke, and craft beers in the Hill Country. *Fri.-Sun., Oct. 20-22. Bandera. Free. banderabrewery.com/banderabeerfest.*

TEXAS JAZZ FESTIVAL Be a part of the oldest free jazz festival in the world, still going with three stages plus food and merchandise vendors. *Fri.-Sun., Oct. 20-22. Corpus Christi. Free. texasjazz-fest.org.*

WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL Enjoy the beauty of handmade watercraft while listening to the music and shopping with local vendors. *Fri.-Sun., Oct. 20-22. Port Aransas. woodenboatfestival.org.*

HOGYE FESTIVAL Hop over to Elgin for an exciting, family-friendly, free street festival with live music, contests, food, handmade arts & crafts, a barbecue cook-off, car show, cornhole toss, kids costume and pet parade, the Pearls Before Swine Art Show, and cow patty bingo. *Fri.-Sun., Oct. 26-28. Elgin. hogeyefestival.com.*

FREDERICKSBURG FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL Fredericksburg's signature culinary event transforms MarkPlatz into a foodie paradise with a celebration of all things Texas. *Thu.-Sat., Oct. 26-28. Fredericksburg. fbgfoodandwinefest.com.*

For more, see austinchronicle.com.

DAY TRIPS BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

The **Crazy Water Hotel** is open again and it sets new standards for the more-than-a-century-old story of **Mineral Wells**.

Named for the mineral water that put the town on the map as a **health resort** in the early 1900s, the hotel's lobby shines with polished marble and hospitality, and the 62 suites are spacious and modern.

On the seventh floor, an outdoor patio offers a view of the surrounding hills, while topping the opposite tower is the ballroom where **Mary Martin**, the Weatherford-born Broadway legend and mother of **Larry Hagman**, once taught dance lessons.

The Crazy Water Hotel was first built in 1912 over well No. 3. Legend says that a woman suffering from dementia was cured after drinking two glasses a day of the water with high lithium content.

Fire consumed the hotel, but it was rebuilt and opened in 1927 as a 200-room resort and spa. By 1961 the spa business had dried up. Over the years the building served several purposes until it became a retirement home that closed in 2010.

The future didn't look good for the yellow brick building until a group of local investors decided to restore it. The grand reopening came in October 2021.

The area once occupied by doctors' offices now houses boutiques. In one corner of the lobby is **Rickhouse Brewing**. Opening later this month, **Second Bar + Kitchen**, helmed by former Austinite chef **David Bull**, will offer high-end dining. Spa services are in the works.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

Palo Pinto County is an often-overlooked scenic playground. The surrounding area supports three state parks, and **Possum Kingdom Lake** is a short scenic drive from town.

The Crazy Water Hotel in Mineral Wells offers modern lodging while you're exploring this historic and beautiful part of the state. For more information, go to thecrazywaterhotel.com.

1,674th in a series. Everywhere is a day trip from somewhere: Follow "Day Trips & Beyond," a travel blog, at austinchronicle.com/daily/travel.

THE VERDE REPORT BY ERIC GOODMAN

The Blame Game

The 2023 MLS season concludes on Saturday with what the league's crack marketing team has branded "Decision Day," so you know it's a pretty big deal. Unfortunately for **Austin FC**, one of just six clubs with stone-zero chance of making the playoffs, the only decisions to be made involve which bench players will get minutes in an otherwise meaningless game.

The season essentially played out to a worst-case scenario for an Austin club that finished the 2022 campaign second in the Western Conference and made a run to the league's finals. That all feels like a distant dream after the painful year the club is about ready to wrap up, which was dominated by an 81-day winless streak that stretched from mid-July to early October. All we can do now is assess what went wrong. Let's point some fingers, shall we?

CLAUDIO REYNA

If you need a fresh face for your Verde dashboard, let it be **Claudio Reyna**'s. Not only did Helicopter Parentzilla disgrace himself when the entire Reyna family feuded with **U.S. men's national team** manager **Gregg Berhalter** at the **World Cup** and leave Austin FC looking for a new sporting director in the middle of a critical offseason, but apparently Reyna was already checked out even before getting to that point.

"We've now spent two transfer windows with very little additions. Part of that was a sporting director that wasn't in place in November and December, or certainly had other things going on," head coach **Josh Wolff** revealed in August.

Wolff added further context this month, saying, "We lost players unexpectedly. We had contracts that weren't picked up or weren't completed. We had players drop out at the eleventh hour before the season started. So there was a lot going on."

For those keeping track, that firestorm didn't erupt publicly until early January. So under Reyna's watch, Austin FC lost key players like **Ruben Gabrielsen** and **Moussa Djitte** and failed to sufficiently replace them. That dereliction of duty proved to be the hole from which Austin FC could never climb out.

JOSH WOLFF

There's plenty of fair criticism to be levied against Austin FC's first and only head coach. Wolff's tactics have often looked stale and



Claudio Reyna
COURTESY OF AUSTIN FC

easy for opponents to thwart, he failed to get the most out of a flawed roster, and his gruff demeanor will never fully jive with the club's (and city's) identity. When things really got sour in late summer, Wolff had no answers and the losses kept piling up. His coaching resumé rightly took a ding in 2023.

There's also a sizable amount of unfair criticism, though. Many have derided Wolff's tendency to feature his son, Owen, in the squad as blatant nepotism. Yep, the same **Owen Wolff** who is nominated for the league's Young Player of the Year award and recently landed on a 22 Under 22 list of the league's bright young stars. If Owen is not one of the club's key players in 2024, it will have been because a European-based club came in with a multimillion-dollar transfer offer to procure his services.

DESIGNATED PLAYERS

Sebastián Driussi was dynamite last season with 22 goals and seven assists and became one of the league's highest-paid players (as well as Austin FC's captain) because of it. That production has slashed in half this year, a drop-off the club simply couldn't afford.

However, it still dwarfed the impact of Driussi's countryman **Emiliano Rigoni**, who managed just five goals and six assists as the club's supposed second star. He's mostly been a bust since arriving in Austin.

Partial credit goes to **Alex Ring** for manning up and filling a hole at center back when the club dealt with injuries over the summer, but the former captain never truly looked like he wanted to be in Austin this season ... though we'll never know for sure since he spoke to the media exactly zero times. ■

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SATURDAY 10/21
Gypsy 7PM

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Vile History as Personal Tragedy in *Killers of the Flower Moon*

Scorsese at his best for a true tale of hideous heartland crimes **BY RICHARD WHITTAKER**

A screenwriter associate of mine recently said that Martin Scorsese is bad at storytelling. By this, he meant that the director of *Goodfellas* and *Casino* is more interested in character and incident than he is in narrative structure. His films are often more collages than they are linear progressions, and sometimes they overstay their welcome (*Shutter Island* being an excellent episode of *Alfred Hitchcock Presents* dragged out mercilessly over two hours). In epic crime film *Killers of the Flower Moon*, he creates possibly his most straightforward story structure since 2011's *Hugo* by recounting seemingly every moment of a slow-rolling atrocity.

This accounts for the monumental runtime – but that's a determined decision, not a flaw, one intended to fill the audience with a sense of fury at a crime initially indulged and ultimately barely punished. Under a brooding score by longtime musical collaborator Robbie Robertson (one of many returning Scorsese regulars), he lays out a true crime tale of race, greed, and betrayal.

The victims were the wealthiest members of the small community of Fairfax: members of the Osage tribe, forced off of their lands in Kansas by the federal government and on to the barren scrub of Oklahoma, only to strike it rich when they found oil. In the late 1910s and early 1920s they became the target of petty criminals and stickup

men, but worse and more insidiously by William King Hale, played by De Niro. In his 11th Scorsese performance, he gives fetid and villainous life to the respected cattle rancher. Publicly he was the Osage's best friend among the white men, speaking their language, respecting their ways, but he is quickly revealed as genocide reshaped in a suit and offering a handshake. His scheme was simple: Murder the Osage in the right order, and their share of the oil money – the headrights – finally pools and flows the right way, right to Hale. Core in his scheme is his nephew, Ernest Burkhart (DiCaprio), who he not-so-subtly pushes toward Mollie Kyle (Gladstone, *The Unknown Country*, *Certain Women*), part of the oil-rich Osage Kyle family.

At the center of events is Burkhart, and DiCaprio finds the limits of this greedy dullard. He's a dupe, yes, never quite seeing the inevitable destination

of this path of violence: But he's also a willing co-conspirator and a stick-up man. Chin out, lips pursed like he's trying to cover up an underbite, DiCaprio gives him a little hint of De Niro in the face, but it's his inner life that is most incisive and intriguing. The methodical pacing of *Killers of the Flower Moon* allows more than simply a glimpse into his contradictory impulses: that he can hire someone to kill sisters-in-law while still loving his wife while also poisoning her at Hale's behest. Equally, Gladstone – in expressing

KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON

D: Martin Scorsese; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Robert De Niro, Lily Gladstone, Jesse Plemons, Tantoo Cardinal.
(R, 207 min.)

★★★

NEW REVIEWS

TAYLOR SWIFT: THE ERAS TOUR

D: Sam Wrench. (PG-13, 168 min.)

At my screening of *Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour*, the mood was warm and celebratory: a high school sleepover with friends. Looking up at the screen, there was a giant Taylor Swift gliding across the frame, and also the inevitable outline of fans underlining her, swaying along in the front row. Your mileage might vary on seeing the silhouettes of strangers, collectively dancing, singing, and sharing deeply cathartic moments with each other while the spectacle of *The Eras Tour* plays out. This collective emotional response, however, is one of the movie's magic tricks: letting Swift's powerful stage presence spill into the theatre. Over the course of nearly three hours, the film transmits Swift's star power onto the screen and creates something so charismatic and entertaining that it's nearly impossible to turn away.

A showcase that spans 17 years of Swift's music, from her 2006 self-titled debut album to last year's *Midnights*, *The Eras Tour* might prove a challenging watch for the casual listener. However, Swifties (or people who've come around over the years to appreciate Swift's acumen as a writer and musician, like this critic), are in for a true blast. If there's one thing that can be said for *The Eras Tour*, it's that it doesn't lose momentum, with all the performers and musicians carrying the energy, theatricality, and quality without missing a beat. The kinetic editing matches their energy while maintaining a coherent structure, with title cards filling up the screen to let us know which era we're in. Perhaps the most impressive feat of this editing was for Swift's 10-minute rendition of "All Too Well" from her version of *Red*. It plays out in its entirety, and the camera work never feels stale or too chaotic, finding a balance that's borderline hypnotic and letting Swift's performance stand by itself – a smart choice, especially for a performance of this length.

We also get a great sense of scope, with wide shots of Los Angeles' SoFi Stadium, where the film was shot. There are moments you aren't always able to appreciate during a live performance: a closer look at Swift's immersive sets, a better sense of the choreography and effort it takes to perform on this scale, and flashes of the fans themselves, their raw emotion captured forever. The result is a solid sense of place, but scale and emotion too, ramping up the excitement with every frame.

While, on the whole, the movie is a fast-paced, engaging watch, there are also some slower moments. This is inevitable in any artist's setlist, but especially Swift's, and thankfully, the selections from 2020 back-to-back releases *evermore* and *folklore* give Swift and company to breathe. It's necessary for the viewers, too. As Swift's song "The 1" floated across the speakers, her voice singing "I hit the ground

Mollie's grief, rage, and powerlessness – gives insight into why this woman stays with a man who is increasingly and clearly part of a barbarous conspiracy. If anything, her performance gives credence to complaints that *The Irishman* turned its women characters into nothing more than character beats for the men: Mollie's story is never subsumed by Ernest but instead she is a constant counterbalance. There's no inadvertent romanticizing of the horrors here, but instead despair and fury, alleviated by a slow and doubting sigh of relief when the Feds (embodied in a subtle performance by Plemons) arrive.

Still, in that extensive run time *Killers of the Flower Moon* suffers from some odd digressions. Scorsese occasionally plays fast-and-loose with facts that seem almost irrelevant, like Burkhart's military career, and leaves a few dangling threads, like a brief appearance by the Ku Klux Klan. Moreover, in a film that is so dedicated to avoiding all the pitfalls of "othering" its Osage subjects he still can't quite resist a couple of implications of the old "Magical Native American" trope.

Yet even with those minor flaws, *Killers of the Flower Moon* is a monumental achievement for Scorsese, who brings his peerless ability to deconstruct criminal enterprises to a topic other than the mob (a subject that, contrary to foolish criticism, he does not glamorize but with which he is definitely enamored). After the facile mysticism of *Silence*, the tone-deaf anti-union cant of *The Irishman* and the self-indulgent cutesiness of *Rolling Thunder Revue: A Bob Dylan Story By Martin Scorsese*, *Killers of the Flower Moon* feels like the work of a filmmaker who is doing more than just ticking off boxes on a decades-old wish list.

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running each night/I hit the Sunday matinee/You know the greatest films of all time were never made," audience members reverently sat down, giving us all a moment to collect ourselves.

Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour is bound to be a blast for anyone who has been moved by Swift's songwriting or musicianship no matter the era. It's an impressive, career-spanning feat from one of our most notable performers that's worth seeing on the biggest screen you can. The dancing, singing, and rowdy camaraderie fostered in theaters might be hit or miss depending on what you want from a trip to the theatre. Regardless, there is something to be said about cinema that can reach out off the screen and move us, emotionally and physically.

★★★★ – Alejandra Martinez

ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO MUELLER, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ALAMO S. LAMAR, ALAMO VILLAGE, AMC DINE-IN TECH RIDGE 10, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, BLUE STARLITE DOWNTOWN, CINEMARK 20, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, EVO CINEMAS BELTERRA, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, METROPOLITAN, MOVIEHOUSE, MOVIEHOUSE & EATERY LANTANA PLACE, LAKE CREEK 7, WESTGATE

★ ANATOMY OF A FALL

D: Justine Triet; with Sandra Hüller, Swann Arlaud, Milo Machado Graner, Samuel Theis, Jehnny Beth, Antoine Reinartz, Saadia Bentaieb, Messi. (R, 152 min., subtitled)

"Sometimes, a couple is kind of a chaos and everybody is lost." Acclaimed novelist Sandra Voyer (Hüller) is trying to explain the complexity of the relationship with her husband, Samuel (Theis). She is doing this in a courtroom in Grenoble, and she is doing this because Sandra has been accused of murdering Samuel, of pushing him off the balcony of their three-story mountain chalet. The testimonies given thus far haven't been going her way. Well, maybe they have, it's difficult to pinpoint these things from one moment to another. Welcome to *Anatomy of a Fall*, filmmaker Justine Triet's brilliant Rorschach test of a courtroom drama, winner of the 2023 Cannes Palme d'Or, and this year's French export (after 2022's *Saint Omer*) of women on trial for murder and the legal system that judges them.

With surgical precision, Triet and co-writer Arthur Harari's script exposes nearly every contemporary relationship schism you can

imagine (or maybe would sooner forget). Professional and personal rivalries, infidelities, shame, and resentments are all drawn out as topics of motive as the case progresses in trying to determine if this was murder or suicide. The third key player in this drama is Daniel (Graner), the couple's 11-year-old son, visually impaired as a result of being struck by a motorcycle at age 4 – an accident that altered the dynamics of the entire family. Daniel was leaving to walk his guide dog Snoop (Messi) when the events began that led to Samuel's death, and he is a key witness. The court assigns him a guardian, Marge (Beth), to keep his testimony from being influenced by his mother. But Daniel is having memory problems of his own, due to the trauma of his father's death. Or is he? As he sits with Marge in the courtroom listening to the testimonies, Triet uses Daniel to illustrate the various scenarios conjectured. He may hold the key to his mother's future, or perhaps he just thinks he does.

The centerpiece of *Anatomy of a Fall* is a conversation between Sandra and Samuel on the day before his death, a conversation that Samuel had secretly recorded on his phone for an ongoing literary project. It is given into evidence as audio, but Triet depicts it as a flashback – the only true one – in a film that plays with truth and belief the way a cat might play with a dead mouse. It is also the only scene in the film to feature the couple together. In the exchange, which devolves into shouting and violence, not a single psychic wound is left unprodded, and the sheer emotional density of the scene is gasp-inducing. And while it's a prime example of that chaos that Sandra describes to the court, *Anatomy of a Fall*'s recurring theme ultimately belies this sequence we witness; that one can be reduced to, say, a castrating bitch or a self-pitying failure. To merely believe the one negates all the other aspects that inhabit us. Triet's film is a marvelous reminder of this flawed perception. For we are large, and contain multitudes.

★★★★ – Josh Kupecki

ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO MUELLER, ALAMO S. LAMAR, BARTON CREEK SQUARE

CONTINUED ON P.37



Anatomy of a Fall

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

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SPECIAL SCREENINGS

BY KAT McNEVINS



The Omen

A SEVENTIES HALLOWEEN

Alien (1979) D: Ridley Scott; with Tom Skerritt, Sigourney Weaver, John Hurt. (R, 117 min.) A chilling sci-fi horror. @Blue Starlite Downtown, Fri., Oct. 20, 9:40pm.

☉ **The Exorcist (1973)** D: William Friedkin; with Linda Blair, Ellen Burstyn, Max Von Sydow, Jason Miller. (R, 121 min.) What's eerier than seeing the ultimate demon possession thriller in a church? The *Chronicle's* own Culture Editor Richard Whittaker intros the film. @Central Presbyterian Church, Sat., Oct. 21, 8pm. Also playing @Violet Crown, Tue., Oct. 24, 7pm, and @Alamo Drafthouse (all locations); find showtimes online.

Halloween (1978) D: John Carpenter; with Donald Pleasence, Jamie Lee Curtis. (R, 93 min.) It's just not October without *The Shape*. @Blue Starlite Downtown, Sat., Oct. 21, 9:45pm. @Blue Starlite Central, Sat., Oct. 21, 9:30pm.

The Omen (1976) D: Richard Donner; with Gregory Peck, Lee Remick, Harvey Stephens. (R, 111 min.) **Big Screen Classics.** A diplomat (Peck) surprises his wife (Remick) with a new adopted son (Stephens), who happens to be the devil's spawn. Shoulda gotten her a puppy! @AFS Cinema, Thu., Oct. 26, 7:45pm.

☉ **The Texas Chain Saw Massacre (1974)** D: Tobe Hooper; with Marilyn Burns, Gunnar Hansen, Ed Neal. (R, 83 min.) **Panic at the Paramount.** Texas-made classic redefined and invigorated the genre. @Paramount Theatre, Thu., Oct. 19, 7:30pm.

Young Frankenstein (1974) D: Mel Brooks, with Gene Wilder, Peter Boyle, Marty Feldman. (PG, 105 min.) A fun and funny take on the Frankenstein story has Wilder play a descendant of the mad scientist. @Blue Starlite Central, Sun., Oct. 22, 7:15pm.

FEATURED SCREENINGS

The Addams Family (2019) D: Conrad Vernon and Greg Tiernan. (PG, 87 min.) **Flix Junior.** The animated version screens along with activities for kiddos. (*) @Flix Brewhouse, Sat., Oct. 21, 11am.

Back to the Future (1985) D: Robert Zemeckis; with Michael J. Fox, Christopher Lloyd. (PG, 111 min.) **Fathom Events.** Celebrate the day Marty McFly returned to the past (Oct. 21) and set the iconic series in motion. @Metropolitan, Gateway, Cinemark 20, CM Southpark Meadows, Sat. & Wed., Oct. 21 & 25; times vary by theatre.

Beetlejuice (1988) D: Tim Burton; with Michael Keaton, Winona Ryder, Alec Baldwin, Geena Davis. (PG, 92 min.) **FrightFlix.** Evo offers screenings for only \$5, plus dress-up parties Friday. @Evo Cinemas Belterra, Evo Entertainment, Oct. 20-26; find showtimes online. **Movie & a Meal.** With a three-course dinner and themed drinks. @Moviehouse, Moviehouse & Eatery Lantana Place, Wed., Oct. 25, 7pm. Also playing: @Flix Brewhouse, Highland, Blue Starlite Central, Blue Starlite Downtown; find showtimes online.

The Birds (1963) D: Alfred Hitchcock; with Tippi Hedren. (NR, 120 min.) **Fathom Events.** Hitchcock's enthralling avian horror celebrates its 60th anniversary. @Metropolitan, Cinemark theatres, Sun.-Mon., Oct. 22-23, 1, 7pm.

☉ **The Black Cat (1934)** D: Edgar G. Ulmer; with Boris Karloff, Bela Lugosi. (NR, 65 min.) **Brunch.** Karloff and Lugosi face off in a psychological chess-game thriller. @Alamo Village, Sat., Oct. 21, 12:45pm.

The Blair Witch Project (1999) D: Eduardo Sanchez and Daniel Myrick; with Joshua Leonard, Michael Williams, Heather Donahue. (R, 87 min.) **Flix Picks.** Found-footage horror standard-bearer will have you rethinking that fall camping trip. (*) @Flix Brewhouse, Thu., Oct. 26, 9:55pm.

Bug (2007) D: William Friedkin; with Ashley Judd, Michael Shannon. (R, 102 min.) A black comedy love story about a waitress (Judd) and a drifter (Shannon), who hole up together in a motel and proceed on a downward spiral of delusion. (*) @Alamo S. Lamar, Mon., Oct. 23, 9:30pm.

Cassandra Cat (1963) D: Vojtěch Jasný. (91 min.) **Wild Things.** This Czech New Wave folktale tells a fantastical story of a cool carnival cat with magic eyes. @Alamo S. Lamar, Village; find showtimes online.

Cat People (1942) D: Jacques Tourneur; with Simone Simon. (NR, 73 min.) **Fright Club.** A moody supernatural horror that pioneered jump scares. @AFS Cinema, Fri., Oct. 20, 7pm; Sun., Oct. 22, 4pm.

The Craft (1996) D: Andrew Fleming; with Fairuza Balk, Robin Tunney, Neve Campbell, Rachel True, Christine Taylor. (R, 100 min.) **Brunch & Boos.** Gather your coven and partake in a complimentary mimosa and all-day breakfast items. (*) @Flix Brewhouse, Sun., Oct. 22, 11am. Also @Blue Starlite Central, Sat., Oct. 21, 9:30pm.

☉ **Dracula and Dracula's Daughter Double Feature.** The iconic original starring Bela Lugosi, with the follow-up adding LGBTQ themes. @Alamo Lakeline, Sat., Oct. 21, 3:05pm. @Alamo Mueller, Sat., Oct. 21, 11:45am. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, Sun., Oct. 22, 2:20pm; Mon., Oct. 23, 3pm. @Alamo Village, Wed., Oct. 25, 2:45pm.

Farewell My Concubine (1993) D: Chen Kaige; with Leslie Cheung, Zhang Fengyi, Gong Li. (R, 171 min.) **Newly Restored.** See the complete, restored masterwork in celebration of its 30th anniversary. (*) @AFS Cinema; find showtimes online.

☉ **Fright Night (1985)** D: Tom Holland. (R, 106 min.) **Master Pancake.** Mary Jo Pehl of MST3K and Rifftrax joins the MP gang to roast the cult classic horror. @Alamo S. Lamar, Sat., Oct. 21, 10pm.

Halloween III: Season of the Witch (1982) D: Tommy Lee Wallace. (R, 99 min.) A weird and wild installment that veered off the Michael Myers path for a sci-fi/witchcraft mash-up that was critically panned but gained a cult following. @Doc's Drive In, Sat., Oct. 21, 10:15pm.

☉ **Hereditary (2018)** D: Ari Aster; with Toni Collette, Gabriel Byrne, Alex Wolff, Milly Shapiro, Ann Dowd, Mallory Bechtel. (R, 127 min.) **Flix Picks.** This sinister nightmare will haunt you long after you've left the theatre. (*) @Flix Brewhouse, Sat., Oct. 21, 9:30pm.

Hocus Pocus (1993) D: Kenny Ortega; with Bette Midler, Sarah Jessica Parker, Kathy Najimy. (PG, 95 min.) (*) @Blue Starlite Downtown, Thu., Oct. 26, 7pm. @Blue Starlite Central, Thu., Oct. 26, 7:15pm. @Alamo Drafthouse Slaughter Lane, Lakeline, Mueller; find showtimes online.

☉ **It Follows (2015)** D: David Robert Mitchell; with Maika Monroe, Jake Weary, Kier Gilchrist. (R, 100 min.) **Panic at the Paramount.** A true original closes out the series, with a chilling story of a curse that passes through physical intimacy. (*) @Paramount Theatre, Mon., Oct. 23, 7:30pm.

The Lair of the White Worm (1988) D: Ken Russell; with Hugh Grant. (R, 93 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** A bonkers retelling of the Bram Stoker tale about pagan snake worship. @Alamo S. Lamar, Wed., Oct. 25, 9:30pm.

☉ **The Last Days of Disco (1998)** D: Whit Stillman; with Chloe Sevigny, Kate Beckinsale. (R, 120 min.) **Doomed. Bourgeois.** In *Love: 3X Whit Stillman*. A pair of administrative assistants (Sevigny and Beckinsale) let their hair down by night under the disco ball. Stillman joins for the final screening of the series on Wednesday. (*) @AFS Cinema, Mon., Oct. 23, 7:30pm; Wed., Oct. 25, 6pm.

The Lost Boys (1987) D: Joel Schumacher; with Jason Patric, Corey Haim, Kiefer Sutherland. (R, 97 min.) **Fan Fest.** Sink your teeth into a themed menu crafted for the occasion and go home with free souvenir glassware. @Flix Brewhouse, Tue., Oct. 24, 6:45, 7:45, 9pm.

☉ **Manuela (2022)** D: Clara Cullen; with Bárbara Lombardo, Sophie Buhai, Alma Farago. (NR, 90 min.) Cine Las Americas International Film Festival presents a fest winner about a Latina nanny caring for a toddler whose mother goes missing. @Violet Crown, Wed., Oct. 25, 7pm.

Opera (1987) D: Dario Argento; with Cristina Marsillach, Ian Charleson, Urbano Barberini, Daria Nicolodi. (NR, 107 min., subtitled) **Newly Restored.** Argento's masterful giallo about a maniac on a torture spree in a theatre. @AFS Cinema; find showtimes online.

Pet Sematary (1989) D: Mary Lambert; with Dale Midkiff, Fred Gwynne. (R, 103 min.) A gory and goofy prequel now streaming on Paramount+ tells the origin story through the perspective of Judd, played brilliantly here by Gwynne (*The Munsters*). @Doc's Drive In, Mon., Oct. 23, 10pm.

☉ **Sinister (2012)** D: Scott Derrickson; with Ethan Hawke. (R, 110 min.) **Scream Screens.** A true-crime writer (Hawke) gets too close to the subject trying to score a best-seller. Screenwriter C. Robert Carrigil intros the film and joins a discussion after. (*) @Violet Crown, Thu., Oct. 26, 7pm.

Skin Deep (1995) D: Midi Onodera; with Dana Brooks, David Crean, Tara Strong. **Queer Cinema: Lost & Found.** A lesbian filmmaker's documentary involves her with a troubled androgynous drifter. Programmer Elizabeth Purchell joins for a discussion. Paired with Annette Kennerley's "Boys in the Backyard." @AFS Cinema, Sat., Oct. 21, 7pm.

To Live and Die in L.A. (1985) D: William Friedkin; with William Petersen, Willem Dafoe, John Pankow. (R, 116 min.) A gritty and violent crime noir from the *Exorcist* director. @Alamo S. Lamar; find showtimes online.

☉ **Windows (1980)** D: Gordon Willis; with Talia Shire, Joe Cortese, Elizabeth Ashley. (R, 96 min.) Screening as part of a retrospective of controversial New York queer cinema around 1980, this unusual psychological thriller tells of an assault victim (Shire) and a new friend who's hiding something (Ashley). @Alamo S. Lamar, Mon., Oct. 23, 6:45pm.

SPACES

Practical Magic (1998) D: Griffin Dunne; with Sandra Bullock, Nicole Kidman. (PG-13, 110 min.) For the 4/20 friendly in need of frights. (*) @MaryJae, Fri., Oct. 20, 6pm.

Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse (2023) D: Joaquim Dos Santos, Kemp Powers and Justin K. Thompson. (PG, 136 min.) **Community Cinema.** Bring chairs or blankets for the outdoor screening. (*) @Community First! Village, Fri., Oct. 20, 6:30pm.

☉ **Ringu (1998)** D: Hideki Nakata; with Nanako Matsushima, Miki Nakatani. (NR, 96 min., subtitled) **Hyperreal Hotel.** The terrifying microbudget J-horror screens alongside short film "The Revisitor" with filmmaker Mike Schöneberg. @Hotel Vegas, Mon., Oct. 23, 8pm.

Hocus Pocus (1993) Movies in the Park. Dogs, picnics, and lawn chairs welcome at a screening presented by Austin Parks Foundation. (*) @Mueller Lake Park, Thu., Oct. 26, 7pm.

Night of the Demons 2 (1994) D: Brian Trenchard-Smith. (R, 106 min.) **The Horror Section.** High schoolers party in a haunted mansion. @We Luv Video, Thu., Oct. 26, 8pm.

FESTIVALS

☉ **Austin Film Festival** A must for anyone wanting to be a screenwriter, TV writer, playwright, or podcaster. @Various locations, Oct. 26-Nov. 2. austinfilmfestival.com.

Cinema Touching Disability Film Festival The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities presents the 20th annual iteration of this fest that celebrates disability in film, from documentaries to animated shorts to the avant-garde. @Rollins Theatre, Fri.-Sat., Oct. 20-21, 6:30pm. txdisabilities.org.



Young Frankenstein

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 Nov. 3 issue is Monday, Oct. 23.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, 4000 N. I-35, Austin, TX 78751; fax, 512/458-6910; or email. Contact Kat McNevins (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com.



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FOE

D: Garth Davis; with Saoirse Ronan, Paul Mescal, Aaron Pierre. (R, 110 min.)

In 2065, large swaths of the planet are uninhabitable, including most of the American Midwest. Still, married couple Hen (Ronan) and Junior (Mescal) cling to the patch of dead farmland that's been in his family for generations. There they toil – him at a chicken processing plant, her at a diner – distant from other people, and increasingly from each other. That is, until a man named Terrance (Pierre) arrives to recruit Junior for a lengthy assignment as a laborer in space, part of a larger push to accelerate the move of Earth's population off-planet. Junior has a year before the new job starts, which will allow time for psychological testing with Terrance and a slow thaw in his troubled relationship with Hen.

That's the straightforward, spoiler-free distillation of *Foe's* plot, co-adapted by novelist Iain Reid from his own novel with director Garth Davis. "Straightforward" is otherwise the last word you'd use in conjunction with the film, which intentionally obfuscates certain truths about Junior's upcoming mission. (Charlie Kaufman adapted Reid's debut novel *I'm Thinking of Ending Things* in 2020, which should give you some idea of *Foe's* baffling headspace.) I gather *Foe's* commitment to mystery is true to Reid's novel; he probably wasn't clamoring to blow up his own source material. But the result of that fealty is a cinematic game of chicken in which the filmmakers test how long they can keep their audience in the dark before pissing them off. In that game, we are all losers.

Davis' feature career rocketed to six Oscar nominations with his first narrative film *Lion*, a very effective weepie starring Dev Patel, then dramatically fell back to Earth with the pretty to look at but narratively pokey *Mary Magdalene*. Even with the stars baked into its premise, *Foe* plays weirdly pedestrian. Though there are two fertile tracks happening in parallel – the seven-year itch of a husband and wife, and the dystopian considerations of climate migration, space exploration, and AI (all extremely relevant topics in 2023!). By fashioning itself a thriller above all else, *Foe* obstinately opts for the no-man's land in between both tracks, in the process wasting its tiny, mighty cast, and the opportunity to say anything impactful.

★★ – Kimberley Jones
BARTON CREEK SQUARE

NYAD

D: Jimmy Chin, Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi; with Annette Bening, Jodie Foster, Rhys Ifans, Karly Rothenberg, Jeena Yi. (PG-13, 121 min.)

Is 2023 the year of the fact-checked biopic? Earlier this year, Eva Longoria's *Flamin' Hot* hit theatres – well, Hulu – amidst heated conversations about the film's historical accuracy. But that film might prove to be just a warmup for *Nyad*, Netflix's new drama about Diana Nyad, the controversial swimmer who has inspired

legions of amateur fact-checkers. So much so, in fact, that nyadfactcheck.com is something of a crowd favorite in certain sports circles.

But should a biopic – even one that adapts Nyad's autobiography – be held to a high standard of accuracy? While *Flamin' Hot* might be of questionable truthfulness, Longoria used that history to craft an undeniably charming Mexican American success story. *Nyad* offers shades of that same charm, but more than a few creative choices get between the film and success.

There's not a lot of space in endurance swimming for sixtiesomething superstars, but former competitive swimmer Diana Nyad (Bening) will not go quietly into that good night. So when she decides to pick up her decades-old pursuit of a distance swimming record – becoming the first person to swim from Cuba to the Florida coast – her willpower alone is enough to convince best friend Bonnie Stoll (Foster) to stand in as her coach. But first, the two women must find the perfect crew of dreamers and burnouts to help make their dangerous journey a reality.

Bening's a bit of a hard watch as Diana Nyad. Her monotone affections and cold indifference might be faithful to the swimmer, but it's a pretty grating personality for a two-hour movie. Thankfully, the movie rarely spends a moment where Jodie Foster isn't also onscreen. She is effortlessly charming as the best friend and future coach, and when directors Jimmy Chin and Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi reach for themes of interpersonal connection and reliance, it is Foster who is there to pick up the slack. The two play off each other nicely, and when *Nyad* works, it is as a two-hander about middle-aged women refusing to let society put them in a box.

Like most sports movies, the biggest challenge with *Nyad* is that it builds to a foregone conclusion. We know that Diana Nyad will be the first person to cross that 110-mile divide – Hollywood studios don't really barter in alms – but screenwriter Julia Cox's script offers a curious subversion of how we build to that moment. It took five attempts for the real-life team to successfully make the journey, and *Nyad* dedicates screentime to each and every one of them. As a result, we spend much more time on failure than we do on success: failure in preparation, failure in execution, and the occasional old-fashioned act of God.

That's a deceptively bold creative decision, one that risks stalling out the narrative even as it makes a powerful point about endurance. But it still isn't enough to offset the sheer convention of the narrative. Diana Nyad may be one of the most famous swimmers in American history. She may also be a serial fabulist whose accomplishments have proven to be a moving target. But cinema is a medium of fabrication, and those who stream *Nyad* on a random Tuesday will likely skim along the surface – pun intended – of a modest human interest story. The greatest sin that *Nyad* commits is its adherence to the Netflix model: It's as serviceable as it is forgettable.

★★★ – Matthew Monagle
IPIC

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Food

Restaurant Review: Yamas Greek Kitchen + Bar

Inconsistent food and service mar influencers' darling

BY MELANIE HAUPT

When it opened on Balcones Drive in mid-June, Yamas basically became an overnight sensation, thanks to word of mouth generated by social media influencers. Photos of luscious seafood dishes and drool-worthy cocktails – and highly filtered skin care gurlies dressed for the club – flooded our Instagram feeds, fueling FOMO something fierce.

We made our first visit to Yamas on a Friday night, having booked an 8:45 reservation three weeks in advance (this is a place you need to plan ahead for). When we arrived, I was taken aback by how beautiful the restaurant is, its stark white walls accented with pops of bright Aegean blue and tasteful, sand-colored cushions. Myriad evil eye amulets ward off evil and bad luck; murals of Medusa and a giant octopus reference the darker parts of the sea; pink bougainvillea drips from the walls, lending the space a resort feel. You're definitely meant to feel like you're on vacation at Yamas.

We were seated in the back dining room at a two-top against the wall – perfect for people-watching, as owners Hristos and Roxie Nikolakos flitted around the crowded dining room and Roxie's brother, ponytailed and suit-clad, wandered around doing card tricks for amused diners. The clientele consisted mostly of groups of four to 12 or more; there were many birthdays and bachelorettes celebrating at Yamas that night.

Because it was very busy, it took quite some time for our server to greet us. Once he arrived, he was gracious and hospitable, taking the time to walk us through the extensive menu (there are about 50 items listed), explaining the details of each dish (he even described the fish dishes according to how light to heavy they were). We chose the pikilia appetizer and a couple of cocktails, then settled in.

I loved my Greek sangria, with white wine and chunks of peach and strawberries; it was perfectly refreshing on a very hot late-summer night. My spouse enjoyed his Medusa Margarita, bloodred and rimmed with menacing black salt. The pikilia was delicious and a very strong “dips for dinner” candidate (BYO Gut Milk). The tzatziki was thick and creamy, redolent of dill and cucumber, while the Kalamata olive spread was the perfect blend of salty and umami. The hummus tasted fishy; when we inquired about it, the waiter was surprised to inform us that the kitchen had run out of hummus and replaced it with taramasalata, a dip made with fish roe, olive oil, and lemon juice (vegetarians may want to confirm that they are actually receiving hummus if they order this dish). The roasted pita was warm and delicious and, as we waited quite a while for our mains to arrive, generously replenished.

My spouse loved his scallops, four plump, fresh, perfectly cooked bivalves served atop a delicious dill sauce. I enjoyed my moussaka, a large slab of casserole stuffed with spiced ground beef, tender potatoes, smoky eggplant, and a creamy béchamel. We both liked the lemon potatoes, some of which were a bit undercooked but flavorful nonetheless. We left feeling full and happy, despite the unrelenting din (chatting over dinner is overrated, amirite?).

We returned for a double date with another couple a few weeks later. After we'd been seated for several minutes, our server, whose hospitality ethos could best be described as “perfunctory,” greeted us coolly and took our cocktail and mezze orders.



The scallops at Yamas are plump and delicious, served atop a creamy dill sauce

JOHN ANDERSON

I didn't care at all for my Artemis Spritz; the lime and cucumber juices overpowered the gin, mint, and prosecco (strangely, my friend's tasted much lighter and more balanced), while the Tasos Old Fashioned, described as containing bourbon, cinnamon, and nutmeg, was sweeter and less spiced than anticipated.

The calamari was nicely cooked, with a light, crispy batter, served with a lovely aioli and lemon. The beet salad we ordered never arrived.

We wandered into tempestuous waters with the entrées. My spouse opted for the chicken souvlaki, while my friend and I chose the seafood youvetsi to share and her spouse selected the short ribs. When our plates arrived, we were disappointed to see that the short rib and seafood entrées were basically interchangeable apart from the proteins: a too-

large portion of orzo drowned in a tomato sauce that was a spoonful of sugar shy of Chef Boyardee, topped with a hunk of braised short ribs for him and a smattering of sad mussels and a few pieces each of calamari, lobster meat, and shrimp for us. That said, the short ribs were nicely cooked and seasoned, and fortunately weren't lost in that sea of tomato sauce.

The real kick in the pants, though, was the chicken souvlaki. While the chicken, which came in plump chunks on two skewers, was nicely cooked, it had precisely zero seasoning. Not even the accompanying

thick, creamy tzatziki could remedy the lack of flavor. The fries, another too-large portion, were lukewarm and rubbery. They definitely didn't earn their spot on the plate. The price tag? Twenty-nine American dollars for underseasoned chicken and cold, inedible fries.

We reluctantly inquired into dessert; there are three options, two of which contain pistachios, to which I am allergic. So we opted for the galaktoboureko, which the waitress helpfully described as “like a bread pudding but with phyllo dough.” What we got was a lukewarm slab of tough, stale-tasting phyllo filled with a slimy custard and swimming in a tepid, too-sweet cinnamon-honey syrup. “It's got hints of school cafeteria,” said my friend's spouse.

Finally, it was time for us to launch our ships back out into the world, our Aegean adventure coming to a blessed end. The waitress, who'd spoken maybe two dozen words to us during the entire sojourn, dropped the check and I kicked myself for not having Apple Pay so that I could scan the QR code and hasten the end of a disappointing adjunct to that exciting earlier visit.

Ultimately, the inconsistent food and service sank Yamas for us. If you're looking for a restaurant to celebrate a special occasion alongside your favorite Instagram influencers but you don't care about the cuisine or the service, by all means, book a table at Yamas. But if you're looking for a thoughtfully curated, high-quality meal with service that's commensurate with the price point, you've got a big fat variety of better options. ■



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First Look: Clandestino

Not your abuela's tacos **BY EVAN RODRIGUEZ**

Life is negotiating a balance of opposing forces, day and night, corn and flour, family time and a nightlife. Clandestino, a new food trailer from Alejandro Macias and his wife, Jennifer Camacho, is an expression of the party-time side of their personalities. Clandestino adds a killer norteño-style late-night dining option at the Hotel Vegas and Volstead compound. The name means “illegal” or “clandestine,” a nod to Macias’ history as a back-of-the-house worker himself operating under “an illegal veil,” as he puts it.

“Our menu showcases what we grew up eating and what we enjoyed eating after a night out. We want to offer rotating items and take it back to the carne asada

basics, border food such as burritos, tostitos preparados, and rusas [fruit punch with grapefruit soda]. We’re also interested in making torta burgers on a seasonal basis,” say Macias and Camacho.

The couple first established a name for themselves as Qué Sazón Foods, hanging a banner at the Mueller farmers’ market in 2021, selling chilaquiles and salsas (some of the best I’ve had). Their salsa verde is a true work of art.

“We created Clandestino to reconcile the fact that we are a young Latino couple that has a traditional family side but we also have our Chicano identity that allows us to thrive in this fast-moving city. Qué Sazón at

the farmers’ market is our family-focused concept that highlights the nostalgia for our abuela’s sazón. Clandestino is our rowdier side,” the couple explains.

That rowdiness manifests in a rich and succulent birria quesadilla; simple, but with a deft balance of meat and quesadilla cheese (similar to Monterey Jack) on a well-griddled flour tortilla. There are tacos campechanos – minced sirloin and pork adobado, pork typically marinated in red chile, vinegar, and oregano – and tacos costras, a blister of griddled cheese encapsulating the filling. You can’t really go wrong ordering most tacos this style. An ice-cold Mexican-style lager is highly recommended before, during, and after,

but of course not a requirement.

At brunch, the chilaquiles were just as comforting as I remembered them from Qué Sazón, and a salve to my previous night’s shenanigans. Crisp, thick, hand-fried corn chips tossed in their fiery salsa verde rest atop excellent refried black beans, sprinkled with cotija cheese and crema, onion, and cilantro. I added a fried egg and it was hearty and filling enough, but there are also meat additions available. There’s also a brunch-only migas burrito.

Clandestino is party food, yes, but it is put out with thought, care, and well-crafted execution. That Macias and Camacho are able to open a passion concept like this in a city

CLANDESTINO

1502 E. Sixth (inside Hotel Vegas)
Thu., 6pm-12mid; Fri., 6pm-1:30am;
Sat., 3pm-1:30am; Sun., noon-6pm
[instagram.com/celandestino.atx](https://www.instagram.com/celandestino.atx)



Clandestino's chilaquiles with a fried egg

PHOTO BY SARA PALMA / @PALMSTUDIO

“Qué Sazón at the farmers’ market is our family-focused concept that highlights the nostalgia for our abuela’s sazón. Clandestino is our rowdier side.”

OWNERS ALEJANDRO MACIAS AND JENNIFER CAMACHO

that is rapidly becoming untenable for those who make and eat fare like Clandestino’s is a testament to their dedication and hard work.

For the time being, they are limited to serving inside Hotel Vegas’ large patio, but they are working to open the window facing the street side to serve customers not attending shows.

“Owning a food truck was always our next step and we jumped at the opportunity to offer our food at Hotel Vegas and Volstead,” they say. “We know that the taco is king in Austin, and we wanted to bridge the gap between what Americans know as bar food versus what we grew up eating after la peda.” ■



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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.

Camp Out (6700 Burnet Rd.), a new outdoor restaurant and bar patio from the mind of Yard Bar's Kristen Heaney Clark, is now open in the Allandale neighborhood. The space features fire pits, covered seating, cooling fans, televisions, a playground for kids, a play turf area with a soccer net, and more in that campy sort of vibe. The kitchen is led by chef Candace Landberg, formerly of Cenote, who says that guests can expect "an adventurous twist on comfort foods with a 'campfire fusion.'" So, a variety of inventive burgers, hot dogs, salads, cocktails, and – what s'mores could you want, citizen? campout.yardbar.com

Longtime SoCo icon **Austin Motel** (1220 S. Congress) is launching their first-ever **Wiener Cart** on Thu., Oct. 19, cooking up dogs from classic to veggie, along with all the fixins! The cart's right there in the motel's popular courtyard, and among the frankfurter highlights are a **Texas dog** and a **Chicago dog**. Bonus: **giant pretzels with mustard**. bunkhousehotels.com/austin-motel

Everybody feels a little crabby every now and then, hey? Sometimes that's a delicious thing, as in: "For more than 30 years **Truluck's** has been so committed to fresh **Florida stone crab** that they work exclusively



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with a dedicated third-generation team of crabbing professionals in South Florida." Yes, it's once again stone crab season at the acclaimed seafood eatery, **from now until May**, so consider scuttling on over to either Austin location (300 Colorado; 10225 Research). trulucks.com

WUXTRY! **Devil May Care** (500 W. Sixth) is hosting a **Dalí-inspired Surrealist Ball** on Tue., Oct. 31, featuring three specialty cocktails in partnership with **LALO**, **Tito's**, and **Rosaluna**, and the ticket price (\$55) includes lamb kabobs, charcuterie skewers, chicken sliders, spicy hummus crudite, and more. devilmaycareatx.com

Now eat as well as you can, tip like it's going out of style, and remember that no Halloween horrors are worse than some of what fills the Texas Legislature these days. ■

SALVADOR DALÍ'S NAKED FEAST This is the Vortex's big annual fundraiser, and the company's artists are joining together to create a gigantic extravaganza that will delight all your senses. Bring on your surreal and enter a performance installation cocktail party evoking and embodying Salvador Dalí's aesthetic and artistry. Graze from elegant food art on naked bodies, designed with culinary magic and featuring vegan, meat, gluten-free, and dessert options by chef Nic Patrizi. *Sat., Oct. 21, 7pm-12mid. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 512/478-5282. \$50-125. vortexrep.org.*

RARE & FINE WINE AUCTION GALA This Wine & Food Foundation gala begins with an auction lot preview reception with wines from the featured winemaker (Laurent Drouhin of Maison Joseph Drouhin), an elegant dinner, and an impressive wine selection presented by a team of Austin's best sommeliers. The evening's highlight is a live auction in which spirited bidders compete for rare and fine wines and other luxury packages. *Sat., Oct. 21, 5-10:30pm. JW Marriott Austin, 110 E. Second. \$375. winefoodfoundation.org.*

DISTRICT KITCHEN + COCKTAILS: 10TH ANNIVERSARY Raise a toast to a decade filled with culinary excellence, memorable moments, and an incredible community that's made District Kitchen + Cocktails an Austin dining destination for the past 10 years. They're throwing two anniversary parties with drink and food specials (favorite dishes from the past return!) and live music and more. *Tue. & Sat., Oct. 24 & 28. District Kitchen & Cocktails, 5900 W. Slaughter Ste. D-500, 512/351-8436. districtaustin.com.*

🍷 **TIKI TATSU-YA: HALLOWEEN LUAU** It's not just a Halloween luau, it's the second anniversary party for this islander gem of a world-class tiki bar. The party includes a five-course drink menu and a luau buffet featuring a whole roast hog. Note: Spooky attire is requested, so show up ready to haunt! *Thu., Oct. 26, seatings at 5 & 8pm. Tiki Tatsu-Ya, 1300 S. Lamar. \$125. tiki-tatsuya.com.*

ADEENA SUSSMAN AT MOSAIC Bestselling Jewish cookbook author Adeena Sussman presents her newest cookbook, *Shabbat: Recipes and Rituals From My Table to Yours*, at Mosaic this year, showcasing her collection of mouthwatering recipes designed to bring joy to your Shabbat table. *Thu., Oct. 26, 10:30am-1pm. JW Marriott Austin, 110 E. Second. \$72. shalomaustin.org/mosaic.*

🍺 **BEER RELEASE: JUBILBERRY** Blue Owl Brewing releases Jubliberry, a seasonal sour cranberry ale with ginger and oats. Beat even Eric Puga to the punch and head to the Owl's tasting room for a pour and a six-pack to-go before Jubliberry hits stores around Texas. *Thu., Oct. 26, 3-10pm. Blue Owl Brewing, 2400 E. Cesar Chavez, 512/593-1262. blueowlbrewing.com.*

MOODY TONGUE'S BRAD DAVIS AT THE LOREN The Loren at Lady Bird Lake's third guest chef event is an Oktoberfest barbecue with Brad Davis of the Michelin-starred Chicago brewery Moody Tongue. *Thu., Oct. 26, 6pm. The Loren, 1211 W. Riverside, 512/580-1182. \$85. thelorenhotels.com/austin.*

Central Market LIVE MUSIC CALENDAR

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SUN. OCT 22, 12 - 2:30 PM

THE BASIL TRIO | Jazz

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THURS. OCT 19, 5:30-8 PM

DAVID CHAO | Jazz

FRI. OCT 20, 5:30-8 PM

CIENFUEGOS | Latin/Salsa

SAT. OCT 21, 5:30-8 PM

KUPIRA & MAFARO MARIMBA | World Music

SUN. OCT 22, 5:30-8 PM

WILSON MARKS | Jazz

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Music

Austin Underground Veterans Immortalize the Nineties in New Oral History

A Curious Mix of People's Greg Beets and Richard Whymark plot October launch events **BY CARYS ANDERSON**

“The funny thing is, I remember [around] ’92 being like, ‘Why are these people always talking about the Armadillo World Headquarters?’” Greg Beets laughs. “That place has been gone for 11 years now.’ And here we are writing a book about Liberty Lunch and the Cavity.”

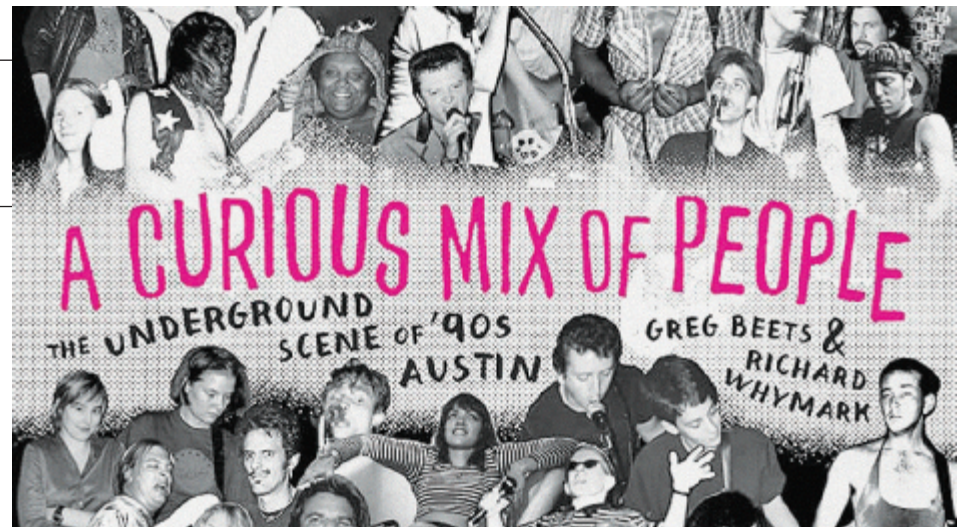
Co-written with Richard Whymark, it’s not just about beloved, since-shuttered local music venues. *A Curious Mix of People: The Underground Scene of ’90s Austin*, recently released by UT Press, immortalizes key music players across all parts of the decade, from the Sound Exchange record store to Sweatbox Studio to the Trance Syndicate label to, yes, the *Chronicle*. Multigenerational influences King Coffey, Conrad Keely, and Britt Daniel recall the glory days alongside members of cult favorites like Sincola, FuckEmos, and Stretford. As does Miss Laura, the founder of lost punk/LGBTQIA club Blue Flamingo (now Chess Club) who coined the oral history’s titular phrase.

The project began over a decade ago, when Gomez/Sincola musician Chepo

Peña tapped KVRX DJ-turned-Austin Music Network producer Whymark to film interviews for a Nineties Austin documentary. When subjects began donating old tapes, fliers, posters, and other memorabilia, the process quickly grew too big to handle, prompting Whymark to pivot to a written oral history – something akin to *Please Kill Me*, he remarks.

Writing started in earnest right before the pandemic. Filmmaker Whymark transcribed and edited the interviews into a narrative, while co-author Beets – former vocalist of Cheezus, Noodle, and the Peenbeets and a longtime *Chronicle* contributor – wrote the historical passages that contextualize each chapter. Beets conducted additional interviews over Zoom, thanks to a “woodwork effect” of stories that only came to light as artists took notice of the project.

“It was a healthy, sane thing to do during COVID,” Beets says. “Getting to talk with all these folks, during that time especially, made it that much more poignant.”



A Curious Mix of People: The Underground Scene of '90s Austin

COURTESY OF UT PRESS

As any local could guess, many of the scene fixtures detailed in the book don’t stay in Austin through the end of the decade, when the ever-growing tech industry sank its fangs into the city. Still, Beets and Whymark are too plugged in to claim modern Austin is a lost cause. “The city hasn’t stopped producing art. It’s just a little more difficult to find parking,” Whymark quips, pointing to rising punks Die Spitz as a modern act who’s caught his interest.

To that end, the co-authors plan two launch events that toe the line between scene reunion and present-day celebration. On Saturday, Oct. 21, 7-8pm, they’ll discuss the project at the Austin Central Library alongside KUTX’s Laurie Gallardo and Carrie Clark, singer of Nineties noise-poppers Sixteen Deluxe. The following Saturday, Oct. 28, starting early at 3pm, Clark’s current band the Living Pins joins an Austin underground music showcase at the Parlor. The bill is a who’s who of Nineties artists, though many are in new projects these days: anti-folk poet

Ed Hammell, Peña’s Gomez, Motards/Slum City/Jesus Christ Superfly supergroup Yard Work, and indie rockers the John-Pauls, headlined by beloved art-punks Glorium.

The concert mirrors the authors’ purpose for *A Curious Mix of People*: less nostalgic revelry, more documentation. With the book as just one entry in an ongoing archival project, the two have distributed 11 zines with graphic design from Peña, who also created the oral history’s collage cover. Whymark has edited the on-camera interviews into two episodes of a documentary series he plans to submit to South by Southwest, and Beets is eyeing a podcast.

While Austin looks very different than it did in ’92, Beets thinks the independent artistic spirit remains. “We tried to write in such a way that people would recognize it as a story that might have been specific to this particular time and place, but also had some, hopefully, universal thread to it – about being young and growing up in a music scene,” he says. ■



Book Review: A Nontraditional Look at Why Willie Mae Thornton Matters

LYNNÉE DENISE ESCHEWS HER GROUNDBREAKING SUBJECT’S “BIG MAMA” MONIKER **BY JAY TRACHTENBERG**

Those looking for your standard music biography à la Peter Guralnick best move on. Instead, self-describing her work as an “experimental biography,” Lynnée Denise tells the story of Willie Mae Thornton through a nontraditional, Black consciousness prism as part of UT Press’ Music Matters series. For starters, the author – a Los Angeles-raised, Amsterdam-based child of Eighties hip-hop – eschews her subject’s familiar “Big Mama” moniker for the more respectful and accurate Willie Mae. Denise traces Thornton’s 40-year career

from Southern, rural, traveling revues; her time in Houston recording for Peacock Records and traveling the Chitlin’ Circuit; and her many years out in the Bay Area on through appearances at renowned international music festivals. The author embraces Thornton’s gender nonconformity of wearing pants, overalls, boots, and cowboy hats, placing her alongside groundbreaking queer artists like Little Richard and R&B star Billy Wright. Despite some cringe-worthy factual mistakes, Denise effectively delivers perhaps her most salient point:

Who is authorized to convey the story of these Black musicians? To paraphrase the text, should it be white journalists, promoters, and record company executives who dictate how the music is contextualized and defined in literature, musicology, and white-owned music publications? And who largely profits from the music? In fact, the story around Thornton’s original recording of “Hound Dog” in 1952 and how Elvis Presley reaped the profits with his version in 1956 is a recurring issue throughout the book. That, and the more positively looked upon relationship with Janis Joplin, who asked permission to record “Ball and Chain” and then subsequently paid Thornton appropriate royalties for use of her music. Thornton’s career embraced many aspects of African American musical tradition, but at the end of the day the blues innovator was one of a kind, and that’s what matters.

Why Willie Mae Thornton Matters by Lynnée Denise, University of Texas Press, 207 pp., \$24.95

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HARVEST THIEVES

As the Sparks Fly Upward

"It's a bad man's world, but a good man's countryside," sings Cory Reinisch on Harvest Thieves' sophomore album, *As the Sparks Fly Upward*. The line captures the central tension of the band's long-awaited follow-up to 2016's *Rival*, attempting to make sense of a globe grown cruel but still capable of such incredible beauty. Opening triptych "Birth of a Salesman,"

"Cadillacs in the Sky," and "Mercy Kill" offers invective against the current state of politics, religion, and social mendacity, yet steeped nostalgia for a time before values became so twisted. The sweet memories and soft fiddle of "McCulloch County Wind Chimes" hit all the more powerfully between Annah Fissette's breathless, biting lead on "Gaslighter" and the self-destructive punch of "Friendly Fire." The LP's backside mellows behind the easy roll of "Golden Age" and barroom regrets of Graham Weber's "Avenue A," while Fissette slides in gorgeously wrought heartache with "Unrequited." Throughout, the band cuts their smart, blistering narratives with a tight alt.country sound that doesn't shy from the genre's Nineties roots. Closer "Empire Falls" epitomizes that pull, setting the political against the personal, contrasting the world raging outside with the warm embrace of a lover: "They're storming the walls while the empire falls, and all I can think of is you."

— Doug Freeman

SINGLE LASH

Ladida

Ever hear the interstitial music VH1 Classic used during commercial breaks for *120 Minutes*? It was just a few seconds of dreamy, jangly guitar over a steady rhythm section, the melody building toward something promising but never delivered. On *Ladida*, the second album from Austin quartet Single Lash, it sounds like bandleader Nicolas Nadeau heard that snippet and decided it was a damn shame there wasn't an actual song growing out of it. The tracks evoke early evening skies, when the sun streaks muted colors as it cedes the day to twilight, and thoughts turn to old sorrows and nervous beginnings. Sublimating the shoegaze fireworks of their 2018 debut *Providence*, Nadeau and co-guitarist Neil Lord (Future Museums) smoothly braid smoke and mirrors, reflecting bright tones and murky beauty off the surfaces of elegant melodies like "Sorry We Missed You" and "Clinging to Life." The band flexes some crunchy muscle on "Possessor" and "Approaching the Point," but mostly sticks to shimmer rather than shake. *Ladida* culminates in the ardent whorl of "Cicada" and the frothing chum of "To Laugh," mini epics that field the tension of an uncertain world, but let us down gently with the promise of a new dawn.

— Michael Toland



LUNA LUNA

L.L. (Rostrum)

When Luna Luna first exploded onto the scene, the Austin-via-Dallas band wooed listeners with their doe-eyed brand of bedroom pop, charm-laden viral moments, and dreamy declarations of love. *L.L.*, their first project since 2021's *Flower Moon*, isn't a major departure from those roots, but time stamps how much they've grown in the years since. The four-piece sounds confident and self-assured, like they're having more fun than ever before. The EP debuts with Los Angeles' Rostrum Records, known for boosting the careers of Mac Miller, Wiz Khalifa, and Mod Sun. Continuing to play with R&B influences, the almost-self-titled effort expertly fuses the pulsating, high-octane rhythms of Latin club with the ardent guitar pop they've become known for. With its persistent beat and verses sung in both Spanish and English, "Solo Tú" stands out as absolutely radio ready, while "Dance With U" and "La Tormenta" are made for the dance floor with warm intensity and upbeat feel. *L.L.* presents an impressive outing from a group that's woken up from teenage dreams to fully step into their own. Next stop: the moon.

— Elizabeth Braetn



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Friday 20 w/ Redbud, Mockjaw, Tearjerk, Creekbed Carter Hogan

Saturday 21 w/ Texas Gentlemen, Lady Dan, Brown Burlesque

Set up in a renovated Forties-era house at 3504 Montopolis Dr., the offshoot second location of South Austin hangout Radio Coffee & Beer opened Wednesday. Alongside a continued focus on cocktails and coffee, the new Radio/East welcomes a fleet of food trucks in Veracruz All Natural, Shortwave Diner, and Side Eye Slice. While sticking to Radio 1.0's *Twin Peaks*-inspired wood paneling and cozy cabin vibe, the new space considerably expands on two fronts: parking and concert bookings. Alongside Jack Wilson and general manager Trey Hudson, the ownership group adds Rick Pierik of local Nine Mile Records & Touring to up music venue operations on indoor and outdoor stages. "We'd like to be a lot more ambitious," says Pierik. A locally sourced fall calendar kicks off today with Sunrosa, followed by a *Peach Fuzz* magazine 10th anniversary party on Saturday. Currently setting a capacity of 600 to 700 fans, tickets are also on sale for upcoming performances by Caroline Rose, Money Chicha, A Giant Dog, and a DAWA benefit featuring Latasha Lee. Read the full interview online.

— Rachel Rascoe

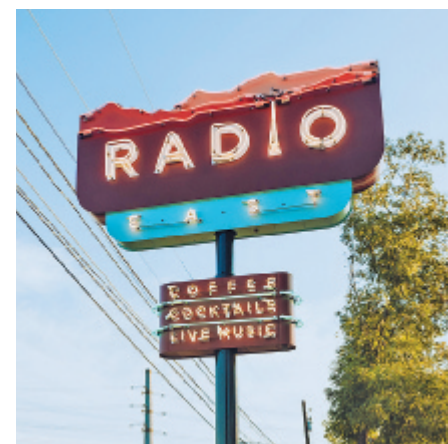


PHOTO BY RENEE DOMINGUEZ

DEMONS MY FRIENDS

Valhalla, Friday 20

Deep, stony, long-view metal, Demons My Friends debut last month's full-length bow where Pablo Anton lays his head. Born after a South by Southwest 2022 metal showcase where the bandleader's D.C. desert rockers Fellowcraft jammed with Mexico City stoners Qbo, *Demons Seem to Gather* finds the now-local behavioral science researcher, plus bassist Lu Salinas and drummer Tarro Martinez, reverberating doom, nu metal, and grunge. If they sound ripe for a double header with *Duel*, blame that group's guitarist Jeff Henson, who produced the album at his Red Nova Ranch studios in East Austin. Invisible Orange labelmates Stone Nomads and Red Beard Wall support.

— Raoul Hernandez

TITS OUT! PLASMATICS TRIBUTE

House of Stuff, Saturday 21

A bloody mother lode of merch and collectibles in the horror, metal/punk, and evil pop culture vein, House of Stuff is the retail headquarters of Pallbearer Press — operated by musician Craig Merritt and wife Jennie Henson-Merritt. The shop's two-year anniversary runs 1-7pm with DJ Wes Texas hitting at 5:30pm before a performance by the Suzy Bravo-led TITS OUT!, a tribute to notorious shock punk destructors Plasmatics (1977-1988), fronted by the chain-saw-and-sledgehammer-wielding Wendy O. Williams. Plasmatics guitarist Richie Stotts will be there for a Q&A with the Hickoids' Jeff Smith afterward at neighboring bar the Little Darlin'.

— Kevin Curtin

BARONESS, PORTRAYAL OF GUILT

Empire, Sunday 22

Not your father's Baroness — front room of old Emo's sludge fiends — the Philly foursome changed irrevocably following the 2012 tour for *Yellow & Green*. Sixth LP *Stone* reflects that sliding doors changeover, refracting much light, sound, melody. "Last Words" echoes U2, while "Beneath the Rose" slams Doors-ian in last-founder-standing John Baizley's lizard king vox. Like vintage prog-lite Canadians Triumph, Baroness remains richly layered ("Shine," "Magnolia"), but not extreme. Shitstorming extremity, *Portrayal of Guilt* supports with *Devil Music*, the local trio's fourth exorciating full-length. Katerina Economou fronting HC grind/powerviolence openers Escuela Grind might just usurp the whole bill.

— Raoul Hernandez

TWAIN, NATALIE JANE HILL

Parish, Monday 23

After Natalie Jane Hill delivered her gorgeously contemplative sophomore LP, 2021's *Solely*, the Texas native moved away from Austin just as quietly, into the Appalachian mountains of North Carolina. Hill returns to Austin tuning her hushed, restorative solitude that hearkens classic British folk with intricate Hill Country lushness. Troubadour Twain accompanies behind his latest platter from local imprint Keeled Scales, *Noon*, gently unfolding songs of wonder and wander in tender, trilling vocals. Local songwriter Lefty Parker supplies the opening serenade from the equally lulling acoustic twang of his 2021 debut, *Off San Gabriel*.

— Doug Freeman

ALLISON RUSSELL

3ten ACL Live, Wednesday 25

Allison Russell's 2021 solo debut, *Outside Child*, swept a rejuvenating call to healing, even as it confronted a hard history of trauma. The Canadian songwriter's shows evolved into a powerful platform for community building, and new album *The Returner* infuses that intensely inclusive focus with a sense of celebratory joy. With her powerhouse band, the former member of Po' Girl and Our Native Daughters shifts from poetic folk roots into soul-shaking beats and rhythms, unrolling a propulsive energy and empowerment while still fearlessly staring down injustice and wounds.

— Doug Freeman

LIVE MUSIC

ALL AGES VENUE ROADSHOW RECOMMENDED

THURSDAY 10/19

04 Center Brett Dennen & John Craigie (8:00) **A**

12 Fox Beer Picker's circle (6:00)

13th Floor Pkew Pkew Pkew, Decent Criminal, Capital Crew (8:00) **A**

The ABGB Girls Rock Austin karaoke/open mic (6:00) **A**

ACL Live Flatland Cavalry, John Baumann (8:00) **A**

Antone's Cowboy Mouth, Tiffany Pollack & Co. (8:00) **A**

Armadillo Den Jaxon Sherrill (7:00)

The Ballroom Boycott, NOVA ONE, Housewarming (8:00) **A**

Batch Craft Beer + Kolaches Eric Waxwood (7:30) **A**

Broken Spoke The Derailers (9:00), Tracie Lynn (6:00)

C-Boy's Mel & James [jade room] (10:00), Shvkiel, LeTrainiump (10:00) **A**, Restos w/ Kathryn Legendre (6:30)

Carousel Lounge Pony Soprano (10:00), Sam Goldwinners (7:00)

Central Machine Works Folk Yeah! w/ Panoramic Voices (7:30)

Central Market North David Chao (5:30) **A**

Cheer Up Charlies MBM Thursdays w/ DJ Chozio Funk, JAViii, Brett Johnson (9:00) **A**, DJ Jenny Hoyston, Meat Joy, Edith Frost & Friends (8:00) **A**

Cherrywood Coffeehouse Ryan Morris (8:00) **A**

Chess Club Marylynn Alvarado, Como Las Movies, Roleros Cosmicos, Jabalí, DJ Hiera Malita (7:00) **A**

Continental Club Barfield the Tyrant (10:30), Casper Rawls (6:30)

Continental Club Gallery Da' Homies (10:30), Bonnie Whitmore (8:30)

Coral Snake Cara Van Thorn, the Foxtones, Foxglove (8:00)

The Cut Loki (2:00am)

Devil May Care Eli Arbor (8:00)

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

Driskill Bar Sam Pace (8:00)

The Electric Church Prieto Bosques, Leila Sunier, Carito (8:00) **A**

Elephant Room Gil Del Bosque Quartet (9:00), Elena Diaz Quartet (6:00)

Elysium Austin Oddities Market w/ Visceral Anatomy, Dread Risks (10:00)

Emo's Botch, Portrayal of Guilt, Fuck Money (7:00) **A**, **A**, **A**

Empire Control Room Jalen Ngonda [control room] (8:00) **A**, Jake Hill, Oliver Francis, Guccighwaters, Cherie Amour [garage] (8:00) **A**

Geraldine's Scott Strickland (8:30)

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

Greene Hall Lance Lipinsky & the Lovers (6:00) **A**

Guero's Hannah Wright (6:00)

H-E-B Center at Cedar Park MercyMe, Crowder, Andrew Ripp (7:00) **A**

Half Step Midnight Snack (9:30)

Haute Spot Travelin' McCourys, Lost Patterns (7:00) **A**

Hays City Store Vin Mott Trio (6:00)

Hole in the Wall Greg Loftus, Ben Ballinger (7:00)

Hotel Vegas TC Superstar, Zach Kursman (single release), Tombus, Mockjaw (9:30) **A**, Sleep Well, Nova (7:15) **A**

Hudson's on Mercer Hudson House Band w/ Natasha Hudson, Chad Hudson, Joey Resendis (8:30)

Kick Butt Coffee Alex Fraile Band, Trashy Annie, the Jazzyblues, Giddy Up Go (8:00) **A**

Kingdom JSTJR (10:00) **A**

The Liberty 14th anniversary w/ #1 Record (the Replacements tribute)

Little Longhorn Six Sons of a Gun (9:00), Beth Lee & the Breakups (6:00)

Lone Star Court Matt Creaton (7:00)

Maggie Mae's Leander Kevin Kelly (8:00)

Meanwhile Brewing Co. Saddle Sores (8:30)

Mohawk Frosty Palms, Food Group, Proun [inside] (9:00) **A**

Monks Jazz Club Julie Slim & RendezVous (8:00)

Mozart's Jon Parmentier (7:00) **A**

Neighbor's Formula Wonderfest w/ Paul Oakenfold, Deeze Brown, DJ L.A.D.D.A, the Midnight Stroll ft. Aaron Behrens (6:00) **A**

NeWorldDeli Kate Howard, Shawnee Kilgore, & William Wallace (7:00)

Parish Ariel Posen, Terra Lightfoot (8:30) **A**

Parker Jazz Club Monte Warden & the Dangerous Few (7:30)

Parmer Lane Tavern Angelyn (9:00)

The Pershing Candlelight Cabaret w/ Steve Carlson, SiSi (7:00) **A**

Poodies TG Express (8:00), Ryan Lawless (6:00)

The Porch KTSW Third Thursday w/ Maddie & the Deadnames, Grocery Bag (10:00)

Radio/East Sunrosa, Guma, Feeling Small (7:00) **A**

The Railhouse Drowning Pool, Saliva, Adelitas Way, Any Given Sin (5:30) **A**

Ranch 616 Tate Mayeux (7:00)

Riley's Tavern Mike Ethan Messick & Friends (7:00)

Roadhouse Bar Musicians jam session w/ MOJO (8:30)

Rollins Theatre Concert Club w/ Sue Foley (8:00)

Sagebrush Bob Appel, Weldon Henson (8:00)

Sam's Town Point JD3 (10:00), Ghost Town Blues (8:00), two-step dance lessons w/ Double or Nothing (intermediate level following beginner level) (7:00, 6:00)

Saxon Pub Braedon Barnhill (10:00), Patrice Pike (8:00), PAACK (6:00)

Schoiz Garten Cray & the Boys (5:30) **A**, **A**

Shore Raw Bar Jam session w/ Floyd Domino (6:30)

Skiyark Lounge Austin Blues Society jam (9:00), UFO Radio (7:00)

Speakeasy Lonestar Souvenirs (9:30)

Superstition Sports Illustrated presents Rev Country Austin w/ LoCash (9:00) **A**

Valhalla Feral Vices (9:00) **A**

Waterloo Records Harvest Thieves (performance & record signing) (5:00) **A**

The White Horse Aaron McDonnell & the Neon Eagles, Hobby Ranchers, Libby & the Loveless (8:00)

FRIDAY 10/20

04 Center Brett Dennen & John Craigie (8:00) **A**

12 Fox Beer Trace of Gold (4:00)

13th Floor Don't Get Lemon, Mass Minor, Dreamgoth (8:00), Soul Sirens (8:00)

8120 Research #100 Jacob Forever (9:00) **A**

Angel's Icehouse Samantha Leigh Williams (9:00), Ruby Dice (6:00) **A**

Armadillo Den The Barflys (8:00)

Austin Proper Hotel JaRon Marshall (DJ set) (9:00)

Baker Street Cap City Band (9:00)

The Ballroom Hunny [inside] (7:00) **A**, Spontaneous (single release), Safehaven, Slurp the World, Swellin, the Shysters [outside] (6:00)

Banger's Shadow Band ATX (8:00)

Bass Concert Hall Lila Downs (8:00) **A**, **A**

The Boat Tracie Lynn (7:00)

Brauntex Theatre Ronstadt Revue (Linda Ronstadt tribute) w/ John Beland (7:30) **A**

Brentwood Social House Rosed Colored Lenses (3:00), Michael Gailinas (9:00am)

Broken Spoke Alvin Crow (9:00), Ian Stewart (6:00)

Buck's Backyard Stoney LaRue (8:30)

Butterfly Bar Cello party w/ Batty Jr., Diana Burgess & Curtis McMurtry (7:30)

C-Boy's Metrocade, Tomar & the FCs (10:00) **A**, Adam Johnson (6:30)

Cactus Cafe Jess Kerber, Will Orchard, Daphne Tunes (7:30) **A**, **A**

CONTINUED ON P.46

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NEWS > CULTURE > FOOD > MUSIC

FROM SUNDAY

Moody Center Jonas Brothers, Lawrence (7:00) **R**

Mozart's Robert Parker Jr. & Poet Hawkins (8:00), Nick Austin (1:00), Selmer's Arch (9:30am) **A**

Neighbor's Julie Bouchard (5:00)

NeWorDeli Woot Talley & David Fore (2:00)

Oakwood BBQ BBQ, Blues, & Brews w/ the Larry Harris Band (1:00)

Oskar Blues Brewery CTBA Sunday bluegrass jam (3:00)

Parish Luna Luna, Michael Seyer (8:00) **R**

The Parlor Satellite Fest Day 2 w/ Mary-Charlotte Young, the Wheel Workers, Extracts, Roominghouse, Black Books (2:00)

Plaza de Toros Los Elegantes, Banda Los Reales, Estilio al Norte, Banda Los Tecateando, Nico y los Insolitos, Banda Rancho Grande (3:00) **R**

Poodies Austin Mayse (7:30), the Alibis (4:00)

Ranch 616 Haydon Hoodoo (7:00), Calloway Ritch & Ruby Dice (11:00am)

Riley's Tavern Picker's Circle w/ Bo Porter (4:00)

Rock House Bar Fear Fentanyl (Casey Copeland memorial) benefiting Texas Against Fentanyl w/ Lyn Cody, Suicidal Butterflies (3:00)

Sagebrush The Mellows, Libby & the Loveless (7:00), Scattered & Shattered (4:00)

Sahara Lounge Corvette Summer, Mike Wiebe & 3 X Good, Steve Ulrich (6:30) **R**

Sam's Town Point Cocktail Steel w/ Rose Sinclair (7:00)

Saxon Pub The Resentments (7:30), ULLA (5:30), Brian Pounds & Friends (4:00)

Seareinas Los Remis (8:00) **R**

Shore Raw Bar Cicely Jones Trio (noon)

Skylark Lounge Soul Man Sam & the SMS Band (8:00), Venson & Friends (6:00)

Speakeasy Raul Ochoa (8:00)

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Anton Nel (4:00)

Stateside at the Paramount Carrie Rodriguez Laboratorio w/ Angélica García, Cat Cardenas (7:00) **R**

Stubb's 6lack, Jordan Ward (8:00) **R**, Gospel brunch w/ the Levites (12:30, 10:30am) [inside]

Studio A Piano Nate Guthrie (3:30), Music of India w/ Ustad Ghulam Farid Nizami, Faraz Nizami (3:00)

Suds Bluegrass jam (11:30am)

Superstition 3LAU, AVA ALIKA, Soleiman (9:00) **R**

Texas Keeper Ciderly Red River Valley (2:00)

Vista Brewing Pendulum Hearts (6:00) **R**

The White Horse Armadillo Road, Silo Road (8:00), Tate Mayeux (6:00)

MONDAY 10/23

ACL Live Nick Cave (8:00) **R**

Antone's Soul Man Sam Evans, Lindsay Beaver & Brad Stivers (8:00)

Buzz Mill Open mic w/ Cole McDonnell & Chris Turpen (8:00)

C-Boy's Theo Lawrence (10:00) **R**, Andrea Magee (6:30)

Chess Club Müsle Worship, Porcelain, BFF (9:00) **R**

Continental Club The Mellows (10:00), Eve Monsees & Mike Buck (6:30)

Continental Club Gallery Michael Hale Trio (10:30), Church on Monday w/ Elias Haslanger & Dr. James Polk (8:30)

Cooper's BBQ Jessica Healey (7:00)

Donn's Depot Chris Gage (8:30)

Driskill Bar Brian Wolff (7:00)

The Electric Church Shadow Work, the Straits, Silver Hour

Elephant Room Monday Night Jazz Jam w/ Diego Rivera (9:00), Austin Jazz Band (7:00)

Empire Control Room DragonForce, Amaranthe, Nanowar of Steel, Edge of Paradise [garage] (7:00) **R**

Geraldine's Ali Holder (8:00)

Giddy Ups David Touchton & Shad Blair song swap (8:30)

Grue Hall Bret Graham (6:00) **A**

Highball Motown Mondays w/ the Matchmaker Band (8:30)

Hole in the Wall John Wesley Coleman, Jenny Carson (8:00)

Kenny Dorham's Backyard Monday blues jam (8:15), the Assorted Chocolates (7:17) **R**

The Lost Well Suckling (8:00)

Mohawk Born Without Bones, Lady Denim, Nominee [inside] (8:00) **R**

NeWorDeli Open mic (7:00)

Parish Twain, Natalie Jane Hill, Lefty Parker (8:00) **R**

Poodies Songwriters showcase w/ Cory Reinisch, Aaron McDonnell (host) (6:30)

Radio Coffee & Beer Bluegrass Night (7:00)

Ranch 616 Frank Cavitt (7:00)

Sam's Town Point Little Elmore Reed Band (10:00), advanced two-step dance lessons w/ Double or Nothing (8:30), Steel Monday w/ Gary Newcomb (7:00)

Shenanigans Musicians jam session w/ Shelley Mier & the E Flat Band (7:30)

Speakeasy Open mic w/ Raul Ochoa (8:00)

The White Horse Brian Scartocci, Adam Johnson (8:00)

TUESDAY 10/24

Antone's Hojean, Sayak Das (8:00) **R**

Antone's Records Stayres (6:00) **R**

Armadillo Den Grant Hudson (7:00)

Broken Spoke Two-Steppin' Tuesday w/ Weldon Henson (8:00), Dan Whitaker (6:00)

C-Boy's Grooveline Horns, James Speer (9:30), 8½ Souvenirs (6:30)

Cactus Cafe Songwriters' open mic (7:30) **R**

Come & Take It Live Emarosa, the Dangerous Summer, First & Forever, Chancia Fight Club (7:00) **R**

Continental Club Van Jackson Band, James McMurtry (10:00), The Revelators (6:30)

Continental Club Gallery Robert A. Kraft (10:30), Blue Moon Jazz Quartet w/ Rosie Flores (8:30)

Coral Snake Welsh Avenue, Ben Brown (8:00) **R**

Donn's Depot Grouchy Like Riley (8:30)

Driskill Bar Massimo Gerosa (7:00)

El Mercado Matt Smith's World (CD release) w/ Durawa (7:00) **A**

Elephant Room Double Vision (9:00), Sarah Sharp & Friends (6:00)

Emo's Amigo the Devil, Tejon Street Corner Thieves, David Ramirez (8:00) **R**

Empire Control Room Mockjaw, Euphonia, Auntie [control room] (10:30) **R**, Clown Core [garage] (8:00) **R**

The Far Out Steepwater Band, the Reverent Few (7:00) **R**

Friends Whitney Mongé (7:00) **R**

Geraldine's Song swap w/ Dan Radin, Kaylin Karr, & Brock Macarelli (8:00)

Giddy Ups Breck's Open Blues Jam (7:45), W.C. Clark (5:00)

Half Step Michael Hale Trio feat. Mac McIntosh (9:30)

Hi Hat Public House Jazz jam w/ Jacob Wise (8:00)

Hole in the Wall The Golden Roses, Jimmy Deet & the Repellants (8:00)

King Bee Bluesdays Tuesdays w/ Michael Brodnax (8:00)

Little Longhorn Fingerpistol (8:00), two-step dance lessons w/ Hill Country Two Step (7:00)

Meanwhile Brewing Co. Brannen Temple (7:30)

Mohawk Jukebox the Ghost, Wolves of Glendale [outside] (7:00) **R**

Monks Jazz Club George DeLancey Sextet (8:00) **R**

NeWorDeli Beatle Bash w/ the Eggmen (6:30)

Paramount Theatre Bruce Hornsby (8:00) **R**

Parker Jazz Club Parker Jazz Club House Band (7:30)

Poodies Kim Meeks (8:00), the Troubadillos (5:00)

Ranch 616 Lucas Hudgins (7:00)

Sagebrush Joe Bourdet (8:00)

Sam's Town Point Theo Lawrence (10:00) **R**, Dylan Bishop (9:00)

Saxon Pub Songs of Jimmy Buffet w/ Suzanna Choffel, Graham Wilkinson, Barbara Nesbitt, Tomar Williams, Dustin Raye, Daniel Watters, Mike Donello, the New Essentials (10:00), Taylor Alexander (8:00), Dave Scher (6:00) **R**

Speakeasy Dennis Dietz (8:00) **R**

Stubb's Thundercat (8:00) **R**

Superstition Last Tuesdays benefiting DAWA second anniversary w/ Talib Kweli & Friends (9:00) **R**

The Water Tank Musicians Jam hosted by Ernie Welter & Shoot From the Hip (8:00)

Waterloo Records Joshua Ray Walker (performance & record signing) (5:00) **R**

The White Horse The Mellows, Blake Whitmire Band, Devin Jake (8:00)

WEDNESDAY 10/25

04 Center The House of Songs 14th birthday celebration w/ Graham Weber, Sarah Dossy, Aubrey Hays, Madison Baker, Scott Strickland (8:00)

13th Floor Levitation pre-party w/ BALTHUS, Hidden Ritual (9:00) **R**

3ten ACL Live Allison Russell (8:00) **R**

The ABGB Warren Hood (7:00)

Anderson Mill Pub Musicians jam w/ hosts Mike Ryan, Henry Crafts, & Corky Groat (8:00)

Armadillo Den Nico Little (7:00)

Austin Proper Hotel DJ Kurupt (8:00)

The Ballroom Mating Ritual, Loviet (8:00) **R**

Bass Concert Hall Johnny Cash - the Official Concert Experience tour (7:30)

Bell Springs Winery James Hearne (6:00)

Broken Spoke Ian Stewart Band (9:00)

Butterfly Bar Strange Bangs, Kate Heron, Amethyst Jonquille, Naome (7:00)

THE Luv Doc



"BLINDING LIGHT"

Dear Luv Doc,

Even though your column is called "The Luv Doc," I know I have seen you respond to all kinds of questions so I hope you can help me with this one as well. For our 20th anniversary, my husband and I took a two-week trip to Italy. Yes, it was wonderful! We ate amazing food, we drank wine, we looked at lots of great art and beautiful scenery. When we got back late Sunday night, the exterior of our house was lit up so brightly we could see it from the end of the block. We were immediately scared something bad might have happened while we were away, and it turned out that we were right. For some reason, our new neighbors decided to install a security light on the side of their house that faces our bedroom. Worse yet, it has a really sensitive motion detector that makes it go off regularly with a blinding amount of light that routinely wakes me up several times a night. This morning I went next door to complain and the husband told me that his wife was "hearing strange noises on the side of the house" while he was away and so he installed a Ring security camera/lights. I asked him if he could dim them somehow and he simply said, "No, I can't." What do we do? There has to be some way to dim those lights. They are ridiculously bright but our neighbor seems to be a bit dim. Can you help?

- Flooded Out in Allandale

I will agree with you wholeheartedly that your neighbor might not be as bright as his security camera. However, unless he got that thing used on Craigslist or out of the trunk of some shady-looking dude's car at the Circle K, that Ring security light should absolutely come with a dimmer adjustment - especially if he only bought it a few weeks ago. Look, if Jeff Bezos can launch a \$5.5 billion dollar penis rocket into suborbital space, he can surely put a dimmer switch on a floodlight, can't he? OK, upon doing some research, he apparently put off that dimmer switch thing until sometime in 2020, but he did get 'er did. Will Ring Floodlight Cam users be able to create the dusky ambience of a St. Louis Italian restaurant? Probably not, but I'm betting they can tone them down from the default "Gitmo Interrogation" setting. Whoops! I just realized I'm going to need to pause for a second to send Jeff Bezos a Venmo invoice for product placement. I'll be billing Venmo, too, because let's be honest, it's no PayPal ... and Zell ... do they even have invoicing? Let's hope so because I'm not wasting precious ink on shameless corporate promotion without getting my beak wet.

The good news is that no matter how deep my shame for adding to the Bezos penis rocket development fund, at least I can declare your problem officially solved ... YOU'RE WELCOME ... unless of course your neighbor doesn't know how to download the Ring app or negotiate the available settings therein. In that case, you might need to invest in a roll of masking tape and some aluminum foil or - and this is a slightly pricier option - an extra thirsty lawyer with crippling student loan debt. There's probably a couple of thousand of those on the Texas attorney general's payroll because otherwise why even? That said, I will never recommend suing your next door neighbor. That's pretty much the epitome of shitting where you eat. Rather than solving your problem, you will only create a thousand new ones. I know it's not nearly as satisfying as watching a thoroughly disillusioned, deeply indebted, morally compromised, moonlighting, state-salaried lawyer go to town on a flustered defendant, but the smart neighbor hack is to always use empathy, understanding, and compromise to seek an equitable solution.

It's not easy and not everyone can pull it off. Israel comes to mind, but there are countless analogs. Hell, that's why Texas was invented - so that crazy, blood-feuding Appalachian hillbillies could safely distance themselves from their murderously hateful kinfolk. Crazy still, they wanted an extra large piece of this ridiculously spacious dirt furnace so badly they were willing to battle roving bands of pissed off Comanches and the entire Mexican army to get it. Texas is a 268,597 square mile monument to how desperately people don't want to try to get along, and yet, somehow, we're the friendship state. That's a good thing to keep in mind when dealing with difficult neighbors. The friendship state is a state that needs careful, regular nurturing. I think you're up to the task. Oh, and happy anniversary!

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



Mr. Smarty Pants Knows

An early form of resuscitating a person presumed dead was to blow tobacco smoke in a person's mouth or anus. Some doctors preferred the anus.

The players on the Carlsbad High School boys teams in New Mexico are the Cavemen. The players on the girls teams are the Cavegirls.

The first novel written by a Native American was 1854's *The Life and Times of Joaquín Murieta* by John Rollin Ridge (aka Yellow Bird), which was based on a bandit from Mexico being killed by California Rangers.

In September 1962, President John F. Kennedy gave his space frontier speech at Rice Stadium. "But why [go to] the moon? ... Why climb the highest mountain? Why ... fly the Atlantic? Why does Rice play Texas? Not because they are easy, but because they are hard." That October, the Rice football team played the No. 1-ranked Longhorns at home in Houston. Final score, a 14-14 tie.

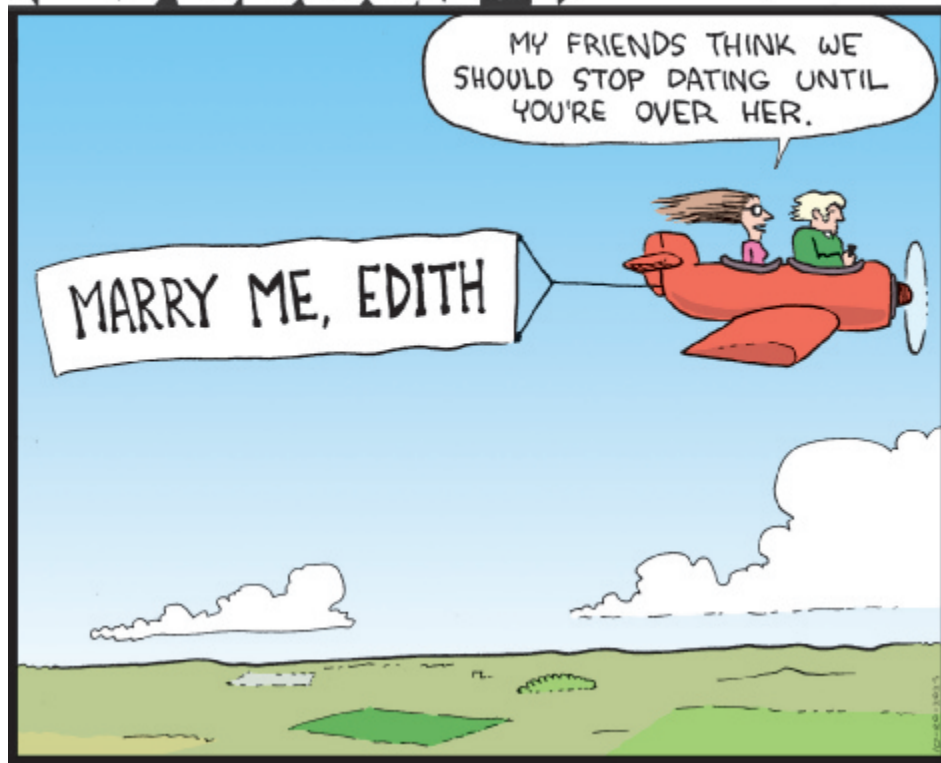
Texas leads the nation in the number of babies born with syphilis.

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

Exbeam

by Sam Hurt



CASTING

YOGA MODELS NEEDED FOR PATENTED YOGA PILLOW \$500-\$2K
DaVinci Yoga Models is hiring female models 18-30 for content creation for social media to market The DaVinci Orthopedic Pillow, patented in over 50 countries. (www.davinciorthopedics.com) - also used for yoga. Additional opportunities available. Submit application at www.DaVinciYogaModels.com

BACK PAGE Advertise your product or service on the Back Page! Call 454-5765.

COMPUTER/TECHNICAL

MULTIPLE POSITIONS
Nueve Solutions LLC has multiple openings:
Bachelor's + 5yrs exp/equiv:
Software Engineer I (NSEI23): Azure, HTML, RESTful, Agile, ReactJS, JavaScript, JSon and Bootstrap.
Mail resume with job ID # to HR:Summit Executive Centre, 13706 Research Blvd, Ste 304, Austin, TX 78750. Unanticipated work site locations throughout U.S. Foreign equiv. accepted.

SENIOR DEVOPS ENGINEER
Bazaarvoice, Inc. seeks a Senior DevOps Engineer (Job Code R5925) in our Austin, Texas office to maintain highly

available services and big data clusters by reviewing health metrics, alerts, and dashboards. To apply, submit resume with job code R5925 to <https://bit.ly/3PWKp4l>. EOE. No recruiters.

SENIOR PROJECT ENGINEER
Ryan Companies US, Inc. seeks a Senior Project Engineer in Austin, TX to assist Project Manager with project procurement through development of

subcontractor RFP bid forms & bid form evaluation spreadsheets. Multiple Openings.
Req: Bachelor's degree or FDE in Construction Management, Civil Engineering or a closely related field & 2 years rel. experience. Req. Must be willing to travel 10-30% of the time and/or relocate, as needed, to execute projects. Position reports to Austin, TX. For full details and to apply, visit: www.ryancompanies.com/careers

SOFTWARE ENGINEER SENIOR
NetSpend Corporation is recruiting for a Software Engineer Senior in Austin, TX and other various unanticipated locations throughout the U.S. Duties include developing, creating, and modifying general computer applications software or specialized utility programs. Telecommuting permitted from anywhere in the U.S. Relocation may be required. Domestic travel up to 25% may be required. To apply, visit <https://www.netspend.com/about/careers>, and search for Req #1073 or "Software Engineer Senior." NetSpend Corporation is an EOE.

WEBSITE Check out more great ads online! austinchronicle.com/classifieds.

SR. DEVELOPER, ENTERPRISE INTEGRATIONS
Natera seeks Sr. Developer, Enterprise Integrations for Austin, TX office to develop technical designs and solutions for complex integration problems. Role holder is eligible for hybrid work schedule with manager approval and must reside within commuting distance from the work location. Salary: \$160,650.00-\$163,000.00 per year. Send resumes to: K. Warner, Careers_NTR@natera.com. Ref.code: 6924530/No calls/emails/faxes EOE.

VALIDATION ENGINEER (Neuralink Corp.; Del Valle, TX): Perform equipment qualification/validations. 10-20% domestic travel required. To apply, submit resume to: NLK-Recruiting@neuralink.com

PROFESSIONAL

STUDENT SERVICES COORDINATOR
CyberTex Institute of Technology (Austin, TX). Serve as primary contact for all students of post-secondary technology institute. Oversee creation & implementation of post-secondary student admission, enrollment & onboarding/orientation. Dvlp methods to use data to determine & respond to student needs. Serve as primary point of contact for school admin in developing plans to identify & address barriers to attendance & academic goals. Create & maint forms & processes to support implementation of student code of conduct. Document disciplinary actions, maint req'd disciplinary data & support campus director's response to disciplinary situations. Monitor students' performance, progress, & attendance, incl creation & maintenance of student files. Provide academic counseling & advising. Communicate w/instructors & carry out course evals. Reqs Bach's deg in Education or Communication & 1 yr in job offered or in secondary or post-secondary education position. Submit res & ltr of interest to ali.azam@cybertex.edu

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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.

Call: 1-877-717-6101 or apply online at www.acwia.org

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1st PUBLIC NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES - Public notice is hereby given that MJVMJ Inc., Rocha's Towing Service, Special Automotive, (TDLR VSF license number #0534246VSF) to the owners of the following vehicles that charges are due, and a storage lien applies. 2023 FORD BRONCO Plates: 7F1184 VIN: 3FMCR9B65PRE26233. If left unclaimed 51 days after the date of this notice, they will be declared abandoned and constitutes a waiver of all liens, title, and interest, and consent for disposal at public sale. The vehicle can be claimed with proof of ownership and payment of accrued charges at 5700 Burleson Rd, Austin, TX 78744, 512-280-2642.

1st PUBLIC NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES - Public notice is hereby given that MJVMJ Inc., Rocha's Towing Service, Special Automotive, (TDLR VSF license number #0655814VSF) to the owners of the following vehicles that charges are due, and a storage lien applies. 2009 CHEVROLET COBALT Plates: 94C251A VIN: 1G1AT18HX97231724. If left unclaimed 51 days after the date of this notice, they will be declared abandoned and

constitutes a waiver of all liens, title, and interest, and consent for disposal at public sale. The vehicle can be claimed with proof of ownership and payment of accrued charges at 5700 Burleson Rd, Austin, TX 78744, 512-280-2642.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
Separate sealed Bids for the **Goforth Special Utility District (SUD) - BEBEE ROAD - 16" WATER LINE EXTENSION PROJECT**, SWE Project No. 0092-097-22 will be received by and at the office of Southwest Engineers, Inc., 307 St. Lawrence Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629 until **Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 10:00 AM** where they will be opened and read aloud. Bids must be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope or package with the words "Goforth SUD - Bebee Road - 16" Water Line Extension Project". Bids received after this time will be rejected and returned unopened. Project consists of, but is not limited to the following: **Approximately 5,750 L.F. of 16-inch water line, 330 L.F. of directional bore, 80 L.F. of 30-inch bored steel casing, valves, hydrants, fittings, restraints, and associated**

appurtenances, driveway crossings and water meter reconnections. **Each Bidder shall also include the time when he could begin work and the number of days needed to complete the project as part of his bid. This may factor into the award of the project.** The Information for Bidders, Bid, Bid Bond, Contract, Plans, Specifications, Performance and Payment Bonds and the Contract Documents may be examined at the following locations: **SOUTHWEST ENGINEERS, INC., 307 ST. LAWRENCE STREET, GONZALES, TEXAS 78629 (830) 672-7546** Plans and Specifications are available at the office of Southwest Engineers, Inc. in two different formats: **Hard Copy - \$80.00 (Non-Refundable) ~ Download - \$25.00 (Non-Refundable)** A bid bond in the amount of 5% of the bid issued by an acceptable surety registered with the U.S. Treasury shall be submitted with each bid. A certified check payable to the Goforth SUD may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond. The Goforth SUD reserves the right to reject any or all bids

and to waive any informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by the Goforth SUD for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award. **October 10, 2023 Goforth Special Utility District Travis McDonald, President**

AN APPLICATION IS BEING MADE WITH THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION FOR A MIXED BEVERAGE PERMIT WITH A LATE HOURS PERMIT AND A FOOD AND BEVERAGE CERTIFICATE BY HATTIE B'S OF TEXAS LLC D/B/A HATTIE B'S LOCATED 2529 S

LAMAR BLVD, AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TX 78704. OFFICERS OF SAID LIMITED LIABILITY COMP GARY N BISANY ARE TODD WILLIAMS, CFO, GARY N. BISHOP SR., CEO, AND GARY N. BISHOP JR., VP.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit by **Busty's Bar LLC d/b/a Busty's Bar and Jukebox**, located at 6214 Cameron Road, Austin, Texas 78723. The Manager of Applicant is Open

Road Hospitality Group, LLC. The managers of Open Road Hospitality Group, LLC are Nathan Hill, Jeremy Murray and Travis Norman.

Application has been made with the TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION for a Package Store Permit (P PERMIT) by **MOM & POP BUSINESS LLC dba LIQUOR BARN**, to be located at 4420 UNIVERSITY BLVD, STE# 101 ROUND ROCK (WILLIAMSON COUNTY), TX 78665. The Principals of said

Company are **RAHEEL BHAI, MANAGING MEMBER AND ZEESHAN CHAUDHRY, MANAGING MEMBER.**

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's ON Premises (BG) by **UNIK EXPRESS, LLC dba THE PALM**, to be located at 9515 N Lamar Blvd, Ste 150, AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS 78753. Officers of said Corporation are **FORTUNE DIWE -**

CONTINUED ON P.52

**Managing Member/
president/secretary**

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retail Dealer's On-Premise Permit Tykhe ATX Playground, LLC dba Playground ATX located at 5001 Airport Blvd, Austin, Travis County, Texas. Managers, Katie Kim and Sue Kim-Drohomyrecky.

Application has been made with the Texas Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's On-Premises Permit by IKE N AVES LLC dba IKE N AVES to

be located at 900 E. Braker Lane, Ste. 105, Austin, Travis, Texas. Manager of said limited liability company is Chad Lyons.

CAUSE NO. C-1-PB-23-002080
NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MYRTLE WILLIAMS BELL, DECEASED
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Myrtle Williams Bell, Deceased were issued on October 17, 2023, in Cause Number C-1-PB-23-002080, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Darnese A. Bell, Jr., All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time prescribed by law to Darnese A. Bell, Jr., Independent Executor of the Estate of Myrtle Williams Bell c/o Joel B. Bennett, P.C., 2939 East 12th Street, Austin, TX 78702.
Dated the 17th day of October, 2023.
By: /S/ April Griffin
Attorney for Independent Executor

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-23-003513
To: **DANIS ALBERTO PA-**

CHECO SAGASTUME 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, 250TH DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Civil Family Court Facility of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of Twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP, filed by, ANA CELIA EUSTACIO SANCHEZ filed in said court of Travis County, on MAY 09, 2023, against, **DANIS ALBERTO PACHECO SAGASTUME** and said suit being number **D-1-FM-23-003513** on the docket of said court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF H. P. CHILD(REN)". The nature of said suit is a request to SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP 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: **HEYDI YOLIBETH PACHECO CASTILLO-OCTOBER 30TH, 2006**
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 27, 2023.**
Velva L. Price
Travis County District Clerk
Civil Family Court Facility (CFCF)
1700 Guadalupe Street, P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, TX 78701
REQUESTED BY:
CHRISTOPHER L. ALONSO
PO BOX 831391
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78283-1391
Jimmy Kieke, Deputy

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-23-004166
To: **CHRISTINA REED** and to all whom 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, 53RD DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Civil Family Court Facility of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of Twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION TO ANNUL MARRIAGE OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE, filed by, PETITIONER, and filed in said court of Travis County on **JUNE 01, 2023**, against **CHRISTINA REED** and said suit being number **D-1-FM-23-004166** on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF GUILLERMO ZUNIGA MEJIA VS. CHRISTINA REED". The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right. The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property which will be binding on you. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, **OCTOBER 16, 2023.**
REQUESTED BY:
IRIS A ALBIZU-RIVERA
111 W ANDERSON LANE SUITE D-207
AUSTIN, TX 78752
Velva L. Price
Travis County District Clerk
Civil Family Court Facility (CFCF)
1700 Guadalupe Street, P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, TX 78701
Aurora Olivares Jennings, Deputy

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-GN-22-002816
To: **VICTOR MANUEL MEJIA PERDOMO**
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 November 21, 2023, and answer the PLAINTIFFS ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 200th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on **June 21, 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-22-002816**, in which

MARCELINO CASTILLO Plaintiff(s), vs. **VICTOR MANUEL MEJIA PERDOMO** Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows: On or about **June 22, 2020**, Plaintiff(s), **MARCELINO CASTILLO, son, EBER MISAE CASTILLO ORTIZ**, was a passenger in Defendant **VICTOR MANUEL MEJIA PERDOMO's** vehicle when Defendant caused a collision. Defendant **VICTOR MANUEL MEJIA PERDOMO** was driving northbound on the 10600 block of Brownie Drive when he left the roadway and collided with a stone mailbox and fence and fled the scene on foot. Plaintiff's son succumbed to his injuries and was killed as a result of the collision caused by Defendant. ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM: PLAINTIFFS ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, October 03, 2023.
Velva L. Price
Travis County District Clerk
Civil Family Court Facility (CFCF)
1700 Guadalupe Street, PO Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, TX 78701
REQUESTED BY:
Cedillo, John Eric
1725 Greenville Ave
Dallas, TX 75206-7416
Melissa Romero, Deputy

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-GN-23-001259
To: **UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF ROBERTO REVILLA PIERCE** 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 31, 2023, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 419th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on **March 7, 2023**, 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-23-001259**, in which **FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION** Plaintiff(s), vs. **CRISTINA A. GARCIA; GUADALUPE MICHAUD; ENRIQUE R. PIERCE; ISIDRO R. PIERCE; GLORIA RAMIREZ; UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF ROBERTO REVILLA PIERCE** Defendant(s) and the nature of which said suit is as follows: **THIS PROCEEDING CONCERNS THE FORECLOSURE OF A LIEN**

**ON THE FOLLOWING REAL PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS COMMONLY KNOWN AS 7013 TONKA LANE. AUSTIN, TEXAS, 78744. AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 15 IN BLOCK S OF COLORADO CROSSING IV SECTION NINE (BEING A RESUBDIVISION OF LOT 5A, RESUBDIVISION OF LOT 1, OF LOCKHEE ADDITION). A SUBDIVISION IN TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT DOCUMENT NO. 201700284, MAP AND PLAT RECORDS. TRAVIS COUNTY TEXAS. ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM: ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, September 11, 2023.
Velva L. Price
Travis County District Clerk
Civil Family Court Facility (CFCF)
1700 Guadalupe Street P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin TX 78701
REQUESTED BY:
BRADLEY J. CONWAY
5601 DEMOCRACY DRIVE #265
PLANO, TX 75024
Melissa Romero, Deputy**

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-GN-23-007056
To: **UNKNOWN HEIRS OF S.C. PEARSON, IDA PEARSON, WESLEY C. PEARSON, IVEAN C. PEARSON, HAZEL PEARSON CANTWELL, CISCERO E. PEARSON, CLARA ETHEL KILLEBREW, ELVIN KILLEBREW, ELGIN KILLEBREW** 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 November 27, 2023, and answer the PLAINTIFFS ORIGINAL PETITION, SUIT TO QUIET TITLE AND MOTION FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on **October 04, 2023**, 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-23-007056**, in which **SHIRLEY ANN DAVIS** Plaintiff(s), vs. **UNKNOWN HEIRS OF S.C. PEARSON; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF IDA PEARSON; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF WESLEY C. PEARSON; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF IVEAN C. PEARSON; UNKNOWN**

HEIRS OF HAZEL PEARSON CANTWELL; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CISCERO E. PEARSON; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CLARA ETHEL KILLEBREW; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ELVIN KILLEBREW; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ELGIN KILLEBREW Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows: DESCRIBING A TRACT OF LAND CONTAINING 3.18 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF THE JOSEPH PEARSON SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 641, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, BEING A PORTION OF THAT TRACT CONVEYED TO LCRA, AND DESCRIBED IN DEED RECORDED IN VOLUME 630, PAGE 91, DEED RECORDS, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, AS SURVEYED ON THE GROUND BY TEXAS LAND SURVEYING, INC. ON **JANUARY 30TH, 2023**, AND FURTHER DESCRIBED BY METES AND BOUNDS ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM: PLAINTIFFS ORIGINAL PETITION, SUIT TO QUIET TITLE AND MOTION FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, October 11, 2023.
Velva L. Price
Travis County District Clerk
Civil Family Court Facility (CFCF)
1700 Guadalupe Street, P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, TX 78701
REQUESTED BY:
LANE, JULIE K.
2301 S CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY BLDG H
AUSTIN, TX 78746-7700
Victoria Benavides, Deputy

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO **UNKNOWN HEIRS OF GUY VINCENT THERIOT, DECEASED**
IN PROBATE COURT #2, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS. **CAUSE NO. C-1-PB-23-002372**
KELLY THERIOT LEBLANC filed an APPLICATION FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP AND LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION in the above-numbered and -entitled estate on **October 12, 2023**, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **Guy Vincent Theriot**, 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 #2, Probate Courthouse, 200 West 8th Street, Austin, Texas 78701, on or after 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of ten days from the publication date of this citation. Therefore, to ensure consideration, any contest, answer, or other response must be filed with the Travis County Clerk in cause number **C-1-PB-23-002372**, styled IN THE ESTATE

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NOTICE OF BOND ELECTION

ORDER BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS CALLING A BOND ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN SAID COUNTY; MAKING PROVISIONS FOR THE CONDUCT AND THE GIVING OF NOTICE OF THE ELECTION; AND CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING THERETO

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court (the "Commissioners Court") of Travis County, Texas (the "County"), finds and determines that it is necessary and advisable to call and hold a bond election for and within the County on the propositions hereinafter set forth; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court hereby finds and determines that said election shall be held on a uniform election date established by Section 41.001(a), Texas Election Code, as amended, as required by Texas law; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court finds, determines, and declares that the meeting at which this Order is considered is open to the public as required by law, and that the public notice of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting was given, as required by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, as amended.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS:

Section 1. Findings. The statements contained in the preamble of this Order are true and correct and are hereby adopted as findings of fact and as a part of the operative provisions hereof.

Section 2. Election Ordered; Date; Propositions. A bond election (the "Election") shall be held for and within the County on Tuesday, November 7, 2023 ("Election Day"), a uniform election date established by Section 41.001(a), Texas Election Code, as amended (the "Code"), as required by Texas law. At the Election the following propositions (each, a "Proposition", and collectively, the "Propositions") shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the County in accordance with law:

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS - PROPOSITION A

SHALL THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, BE AUTHORIZED UNDER ARTICLE III, SECTION 52, OF THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION TO ISSUE AND SELL, AT ANY PRICE OR PRICES AND IN ONE OR MORE SERIES OR ISSUES, THE BONDS OF THE COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$233,060,000, MATURING SERIALLY OR OTHERWISE WITHIN 30 YEARS FROM THEIR DATE OR DATES, AND BEARING INTEREST AT SUCH RATE OR RATES (FIXED, VARIABLE, OR OTHERWISE), NOT TO EXCEED THE MAXIMUM INTEREST RATE NOW OR HEREAFTER AUTHORIZED BY LAW, AS SHALL BE DETERMINED WITHIN THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT AT THE TIME OF ISSUANCE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF MACADAMIZED, GRAVELED, OR PAVED ROADS AND TURNPIKES, OR IN AID THEREOF, INCLUDING ACQUIRING LAND AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY THEREFOR, ROAD DRAINAGE, BIKE LANES, SIDEWALKS, AND SHARED USE PATHS, AND REPLACEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT OF ROAD BRIDGES AND CULVERTS, WITH RESPECT TO THE FOLLOWING ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS:

Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Projects

- Howard Lane/McNeil Road – add a shared use path from McNeil Drive to McNeil-Merrilltown Road
- Active Transportation Safety Projects – add sidewalks, shared use paths, bike lanes, and signalization improvements to existing roadways

Roadway Capacity Projects

- Blake Manor Road – construction of a new 4 lane divided roadway from Taylor Lane to Burluson Manor Road
- Rowe Lane – construction of and improvements to existing roadway and the addition of a shared use path from SH130 to Hodde Lane

- Cameron Road – construction of a new 4 lane divided roadway and addition of a shared use path from Pecan Street to Fuchs Grove Road
- Arterial A – construction of a new 4 lane divided roadway with sidewalks and bike lanes
- Bee Creek Road – construction of and improvements to existing roadway and the addition of a shared use path from Lakehurst Road to Highland Boulevard
- South Pleasant Valley Road – construction of a new 4 lane divided roadway with bike lanes and sidewalks from Bradshaw Road to SH45
- Pyramid Drive – construction of and improvements to existing roadway and addition of sidewalks
- O'Reilly Drive – construction of and improvements to existing roadway and addition of sidewalks
- TxDOT Right-of-Way – right-of-way for State road projects,

AND IN PROVIDING FOR THE ABOVE PROJECTS, THE COMMISSIONERS COURT SHALL HAVE THE DISCRETION TO PRIORITIZE SUCH PROJECTS AND TO APPLY BOND AUTHORIZATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUCH PRIORITY, AND TO LEVY TAXES, WITHOUT LIMIT AS TO RATE OR AMOUNT, UPON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE COUNTY ANNUALLY SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE INTEREST ON THE BONDS AS IT ACCRUES AND TO CREATE A SINKING FUND TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF THE BONDS AS IT MATURES?

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS - PROPOSITION B

SHALL THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, BE AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE AND SELL, AT ANY PRICE OR PRICES AND IN ONE OR MORE SERIES OR ISSUES, THE BONDS OF THE COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$276,440,000, MATURING SERIALLY OR OTHERWISE WITHIN 40 YEARS FROM THEIR DATE OR DATES, AND BEARING INTEREST AT SUCH RATE OR RATES (FIXED, VARIABLE, OR OTHERWISE), NOT TO EXCEED THE MAXIMUM INTEREST RATE NOW OR HEREAFTER AUTHORIZED BY LAW, AS SHALL BE DETERMINED WITHIN THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT AT THE TIME OF ISSUANCE, FOR THE PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTING AND IMPROVING COUNTY PARKS AND THE ACQUISITION OF LAND AND INTERESTS IN LAND IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, INCLUDING THE ACQUISITION OF OPEN SPACE PARK LAND, AND THE ACQUISITION OF CONSERVATION EASEMENTS FOR AUTHORIZED PURPOSES IN CONNECTION WITH OR FOR THE BENEFIT OF COUNTY PARKS, WITH RESPECT TO THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

Parks

- Strategic Parkland Acquisition – acquire land or interests in land for parks purposes along existing greenway corridors and in the Post Oak Savannah and Springs, Lake Travis (and adjoining watersheds), Cow Creek, Gilleland Creek, Onion Creek, Wilbarger Creek, Pedernales River, and Colorado River areas
- Onion Creek Greenway – construction of greenway trails and amenities from the US183 trailhead West to McKinney Falls State Park and East to Moya Park
- Gilleland Creek Greenway – construction of greenway trails and amenities from Northeast Metro Park to and including improvements to Ben E. Fisher Park
- Arkansas Bend Park Phase III – construction of a group building and associated site improvements
- Bee Creek Sports Complex – construction of synthetic sports fields, a pavilion, and walking trails
- Southeast Metro Park Improvements – construction of 4 synthetic sports fields

Conservation Easements

- Execute conservation easement agreements on land in connection with and for the benefit of County parks for any authorized purposes, including to retain or protect or assure its availability for agricultural, recreational, or open-space use, protect natural and cultural resources, or maintain or enhance air or water quality,

AND IN PROVIDING FOR THE ABOVE PROJECTS, THE COMMISSIONERS COURT SHALL HAVE THE DISCRETION TO PRIORITIZE SUCH PROJECTS AND TO APPLY BOND AUTHORIZATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUCH PRIORITY, AND TO LEVY TAXES, WITHIN THE LIMITS PRESCRIBED BY LAW, UPON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE COUNTY ANNUALLY SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE INTEREST ON THE BONDS AS IT ACCRUES AND TO CREATE A SINKING FUND TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF THE BONDS AS IT MATURES?

Section 3. Official Ballot.

- (a) Voting at the Election, and early voting for the Election, shall be by the use of the County's lawfully approved voting systems and ballots.
- (b) The preparation of the necessary equipment and the official ballots for the Election shall conform to the requirements of the Code so as to permit the electors to vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" the Propositions which shall be set forth on the ballots substantially in the following form:

OFFICIAL BALLOT

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS – PROPOSITION A

- FOR) THE ISSUANCE OF \$233,060,000 OF ROAD) BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE) CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF MACADAMIZED, GRAVELED, OR PAVED ROADS AND TURNPIKES, OR IN AID THEREOF, INCLUDING ACQUIRING LAND AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY THEREFOR, ROAD DRAINAGE, BIKE LANES, SIDEWALKS, AND SHARED USE PATHS, AND REPLACEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT OF ROAD BRIDGES AND CULVERTS, AND THE LEVYING OF THE TAX IN PAYMENT THEREOF.

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS – PROPOSITION B

- FOR) THE ISSUANCE OF \$276,440,000 OF BONDS FOR) THE PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTING AND) IMPROVING COUNTY PARKS AND THE ACQUISITION OF LAND AND INTERESTS IN LAND IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, INCLUDING THE ACQUISITION OF OPEN SPACE PARK LAND, AND THE ACQUISITION OF CONSERVATION EASEMENTS FOR AUTHORIZED PURPOSES IN CONNECTION WITH OR FOR THE BENEFIT OF COUNTY PARKS, AND THE LEVYING OF THE TAX IN PAYMENT THEREOF.

Section 4. Multilingual Election Materials. All notices, instructions, and ballots pertaining to the Election shall be furnished to voters in English and Spanish in compliance with the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended (the "Voting Rights Act"), and the Code, including particularly Chapter 272 of the Code pertaining to bilingual requirements.

Section 5. Persons Qualified to Vote. All resident, qualified voters of the County shall be eligible to vote at the Election.

Section 6. Election Precincts, Voting Locations, and Voting Hours on Election Day. The polling places for the Election are hereby designated to be those locations identified by Dyana Limon-Mercado, the Travis County Clerk (the "County Clerk"). Voting on Election Day shall be conducted at the countywide polling locations designated on Exhibit A attached hereto, with such locations being incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof for all purposes; provided, however, such locations may be changed if so directed by the County Clerk without further action by the Commissioners Court and without amendment of this

Sección 1. Conclusiones. Las declaraciones contenidas en el preámbulo de esta Orden son fieles y exactas, y se incorporan al presente documento como conclusiones de hecho y como parte de las disposiciones operativas del mismo.

Sección 2. Elección ordenada; Fecha de elección; Propuestas. Se celebrará una elección (la "Elección") para y en el Condado el día martes, 7 de noviembre de 2023 ("Día de la Elección"), fecha de elección uniforme establecida según lo dispuesto en el Artículo 41.001(a) del Código Electoral de Texas, en su versión modificada (el "Código"), según lo exige la ley de Texas. En la Elección, se someterán las siguientes propuestas (cada una denominada una "Propuesta" y, en conjunto, las "Propuestas") a los votantes habilitados del Condado de acuerdo con la ley:

CONDADO DE TRAVIS, TEXAS: PROPUESTA A

¿DEBERÁ EL TRIBUNAL DE COMISIONADOS DEL CONDADO DE TRAVIS, TEXAS, SER AUTORIZADO, EN VIRTUD DE LA SECCIÓN 52 DEL ARTÍCULO III DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN DE TEXAS, PARA EMITIR Y VENDER, A CUALQUIER PRECIO O PRECIOS Y EN UNA O MÁS SERIES O EMISIONES, LOS BONOS DEL CONDADO POR UN MONTO DE \$233,060,000, CON VENCIMIENTO EN SERIE O A MÁS TARDAR 30 AÑOS DESPUÉS DE SU FECHA O FECHAS, Y A DEVENGAR INTERESES A UNA TASA O TASAS (FIJAS, VARIABLES U OTRAS), QUE NO EXCEDAN LA MÁXIMA TASA DE INTERÉS AUTORIZADA POR LA LEY ACTUALMENTE O EN ADELANTE, SEGÚN LO DETERMINE EL TRIBUNAL DE COMISIONADOS, A SU ENTERA DISCRECIÓN, AL MOMENTO DE LA EMISIÓN, PARA LA CONSTRUCCIÓN, EL MANTENIMIENTO Y LA OPERACIÓN DE RUTAS O AUTOPISTAS DE MACADÁN, GRAVA O ASFALTO, O PARA CONTRIBUIR A ELLO, INCLUYENDO LA ADQUISICIÓN DE TERRENOS Y DERECHOS DE PASO PARA ELLAS, DRENAJE VIAL, CARRILES PARA BICICLETAS, ACERAS Y SENDEROS DE USO COMPARTIDO, Y EL REEMPLAZO Y MEJORAMIENTO DE PUENTES Y ALCANTARILLAS VIALES, CON RESPECTO A LOS SIGUIENTES PROYECTOS DE MEJORAMIENTO VIAL:

Proyectos para la seguridad de ciclistas y peatones

- Howard Lane/McNeil Road: agregar un sendero de uso compartido desde McNeil Drive hasta McNeil-Merrilltown Road.
- Proyectos de seguridad de transporte activo: agregar aceras, senderos de uso compartido, carriles para bicicletas y mejoras de la señalización en rutas ya existentes.

Proyectos de capacidad vial

- Blake Manor Road: construcción de una nueva ruta dividida en 4 vías desde Taylor Lane hasta Burleson Manor Road.
- Rowe Lane: construcción y mejoramiento de rutas existentes y la adición de un sendero de uso compartido desde SH130 hasta Hodde Lane.
- Cameron Road: construcción de una nueva ruta dividida en 4 vías y adición de un sendero de uso compartido desde Pecan Street hasta Fuchs Grove Road.
- Arterial A: construcción de una nueva ruta dividida en 4 vías con aceras y carriles para bicicletas.
- Bee Creek Road: construcción y mejoramiento de rutas existentes y la adición de un sendero de uso compartido desde Lakehurst Road hasta Highland Boulevard.
- South Pleasant Valley Road: construcción de una nueva ruta dividida en 4 vías con carriles para bicicletas y aceras desde Bradshaw Road hasta SH45.
- Pyramid Drive: construcción y mejoramiento de rutas existentes y adición de aceras.
- O'Reilly Drive: construcción y mejoramiento de rutas existentes y adición de aceras.
- Derecho de paso de TxDOT: derecho de paso para proyectos viales estatales,

¿Y AL PROPORCIONAR LO NECESARIO PARA LOS PROYECTOS ANTES MENCIONADOS, EL TRIBUNAL DE COMISIONADOS DEBERÁ TENER LA DISCRECIÓN PARA PRIORIZAR DICHOS PROYECTOS Y APLICAR LA AUTORIZACIÓN DE BONOS DE ACUERDO A DICHA PRIORIDAD, Y PARA APLICAR IMPUESTOS, SIN LÍMITE EN CUANTO A TASA O MONTO, SOBRE TODAS LAS PROPIEDADES IMPONIBLES DENTRO DEL CONDADO Y DE MANERA ANUAL, QUE SEAN SUFICIENTES PARA PAGAR LOS INTERESES DE LOS BONOS A MEDIDA QUE SE ACUMULEN Y PARA CREAR UN FONDO DE AMORTIZACIÓN SUFICIENTE PARA PAGAR EL CAPITAL DE LOS BONOS A MEDIDA QUE VENZAN?

CONDADO DE TRAVIS, TEXAS: PROPUESTA B

¿DEBERÁ EL TRIBUNAL DE COMISIONADOS DEL CONDADO DE TRAVIS, TEXAS, SER AUTORIZADO PARA EMITIR Y VENDER, A CUALQUIER PRECIO O PRECIOS Y EN UNA O MÁS SERIES O EMISIONES, LOS BONOS DEL CONDADO POR UN MONTO DE \$276,440,000, CON VENCIMIENTO EN SERIE O A MÁS TARDAR 40 AÑOS DESPUÉS DE SU FECHA O FECHAS, Y A DEVENGAR INTERESES A UNA TASA O TASAS (FIJAS, VARIABLES U OTRAS), QUE NO EXCEDAN LA MÁXIMA TASA DE INTERÉS AUTORIZADA POR LA LEY ACTUALMENTE O EN ADELANTE, SEGÚN LO DETERMINE EL TRIBUNAL DE COMISIONADOS, A SU ENTERA DISCRECIÓN, AL MOMENTO DE LA EMISIÓN, PARA LA CONSTRUCCIÓN Y EL MEJORAMIENTO DE PARQUES DEL CONDADO Y LA ADQUISICIÓN DE TERRENOS E INTERESES EN TERRENOS VINCULADOS CON LOS MISMOS, INCLUYENDO LA ADQUISICIÓN DE TERRENOS AL AIRE LIBRE PARA PARQUES, Y LA ADQUISICIÓN DE SERVIDUMBRES DE CONSERVACIÓN PARA LOS FINES AUTORIZADOS VINCULADOS CON, O PARA EL BENEFICIO DE, LOS PARQUES DEL CONDADO, CON RESPECTO A LOS SIGUIENTES PROYECTOS:

Parques

- Adquisición estratégica de terrenos para parques – adquirir terrenos o intereses en terrenos para fines relacionados con parques a lo largo de los corredores de áreas verdes ya existentes y en las áreas de Post Oak Savannah and Springs, Lake Travis (y cuencas adyacentes), Cow Creek, Gilleland Creek, Onion Creek, Wilbarger Creek, Pedernales River y Colorado River
- Áreas verdes de Onion Creek: construcción de senderos e instalaciones de áreas verdes desde US 183 Trailhead hacia el oeste en dirección a McKinney Falls State Park y hacia el este en dirección a Moya Park.
- Áreas verdes de Gilleland Creek: construcción de senderos e instalaciones de áreas verdes desde Northeast Metro Park hasta Ben E. Fisher Park (incluyendo mejoras al mismo).
- Fase II de Arkansas Bend Park: construcción de un edificio grupal y mejoras asociadas del sitio.
- Complejo deportivo de Bee Creek: construcción de campos deportivos con superficie sintética, un pabellón y senderos para caminatas.
- Mejoras a Southeast Metro Park : construcción de 4 campos deportivos con superficie sintética.

Servidumbres de conservación

- Ejecutar acuerdos de servidumbres de conservación en terrenos relacionados con, y para el beneficio de, los parques del condado para cualesquiera fines autorizados, como conservar o proteger o asegurar su disponibilidad para uso agrícola, recreativo o como espacio abierto, la protección de recursos naturales y culturales, o la manutención o mejoramiento de la calidad del aire o del agua,

¿Y AL PROPORCIONAR LO NECESARIO PARA LOS PROYECTOS ANTES MENCIONADOS, EL TRIBUNAL DE COMISIONADOS DEBERÁ TENER LA DISCRECIÓN PARA

PRIORIZAR DICHOS PROYECTOS Y APLICAR LA AUTORIZACIÓN DE BONOS DE ACUERDO A DICHA PRIORIDAD, Y PARA APLICAR IMPUESTOS, DENTRO DE LOS LÍMITES ESTABLECIDOS POR LA LEY, SOBRE TODAS LAS PROPIEDADES IMPONIBLES DENTRO DEL CONDADO Y DE MANERA ANUAL, QUE SEAN SUFICIENTES PARA PAGAR LOS INTERESES DE LOS BONOS A MEDIDA QUE SE ACUMULEN Y PARA CREAR UN FONDO DE AMORTIZACIÓN SUFICIENTE PARA PAGAR EL CAPITAL DE LOS BONOS A MEDIDA QUE VENZAN?

Sección 3. Boleta oficial de votación.

(a) La votación el Día de la Elección y la votación anticipada para la Elección se llevará a cabo mediante el uso de sistemas de votación y boletas de votación legalmente aprobados del Condado.

(b) La preparación del equipo necesario y las boletas oficiales de votación para la Elección deberá hacerse de conformidad con los requisitos del Código, de modo que les permitan a los votantes votar "A FAVOR" o "EN CONTRA" de las Propuestas, las cuales serán presentadas en las boletas de votación sustancialmente en la forma presentada a continuación:

BOLETA OFICIAL DE VOTACIÓN CONDADO DE TRAVIS, TEXAS: PROPUESTA A

- A FAVOR) LA EMISIÓN DE \$233,060,000 EN BONOS VIALES) PARA LA CONSTRUCCIÓN, EL MANTENIMIENTO) Y LA OPERACIÓN DE VÍAS O AUTOPISTAS DE MACADÁN, GRAVA O ASFALTO, O PARA AYUDAR A LAS MISMAS, INCLUYENDO LA ADQUISICIÓN DE TERRENOS Y DERECHOS DE PASO PARA LAS MISMAS, DRENAJE VIAL, CARRILES PARA BICICLETAS, ACERAS Y SENDEROS DE USO COMPARTIDO, Y EL REEMPLAZO Y MEJORAMIENTO DE PUENTES Y ALCANTARILLAS VIALES Y LA APLICACIÓN DE UN IMPUESTO PARA EL PAGO DE LOS MISMOS.

CONDADO DE TRAVIS, TEXAS: PROPUESTA B

- A FAVOR) LA EMISIÓN DE \$276,440,000 EN BONOS PARA LA) CONSTRUCCIÓN Y EL MEJORAMIENTO DE) PARQUES DEL CONDADO Y LA ADQUISICIÓN DE TERRENOS E INTERESES EN TERRENOS EN CONEXIÓN CON LOS MISMOS, INCLUYENDO LA ADQUISICIÓN DE TERRENOS AL AIRE LIBRE PARA PARQUES, Y LA ADQUISICIÓN DE SERVIDUMBRES DE CONSERVACIÓN PARA LOS FINES AUTORIZADOS EN CONEXIÓN CON, O PARA EL BENEFICIO DE, LOS PARQUES DEL CONDADO, Y LA APLICACIÓN DEL IMPUESTO PARA EL PAGO DE LOS MISMOS.

Sección 4. Materiales de elección multilingües. Todos los avisos, instrucciones y boletas de votación relacionados con la Elección se proporcionarán a los votantes en inglés y español de conformidad con la Ley Federal de Derecho de Voto de 1965, en su versión modificada (la "Ley de Derecho de Voto"), y el Código, incluido especialmente el Capítulo 272 del Código relacionado con los requisitos bilingües.

Sección 5. Personas habilitadas para votar. Todos los votantes residentes y habilitados del Condado tendrán derecho a votar en la Elección.

Sección 6. Recintos electorales, lugares de votación y horario de votación del Día de la Elección. Los lugares de votación para la Elección se designan por la presente para ser aquellas ubicaciones identificadas por Dyana Limón-Mercado, la Secretaria del Condado de Travis (la "Secretaria del Condado"). La votación en el Día de la Elección se llevará a cabo en los lugares de votación a nivel del condado designados en el Anexo A, adjunto al presente documento, siendo dichos lugares incorporados en el presente documento por referencia para formar parte del presente documento para todos los propósitos; siempre y cuando, sin embargo, dichos lugares puedan cambiarse si así lo ordenara la Secretaria del Condado sin más acciones por parte del Tribunal de Comisionados y

sin necesidad de modificar esta Orden. Por medio de la presente, se autoriza (y se ordena) a la Secretaria del Condado a realizar los cambios necesarios en los lugares de votación para llevar a cabo la Elección de manera adecuada, sin más acciones por parte del Tribunal de Comisionados y sin modificar esta Orden, y al Juez del Condado o a la persona designada por este a actualizar el Anexo A para que refleje los lugares designados por la Secretaria del Condado, cuyas ubicaciones se aprueban por medio de la presente. El Día de la Elección, cada lugar de votación deberá estar abierto desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m.

Sección 7. Oficial de Votación Anticipada; lugares de votación anticipada; fechas y horarios.

- (a) La oficial del Condado es designada por este medio como oficial de Votación Anticipada de la elección. Los secretarios/jueces adjuntos de la votación anticipada se designarán según sea necesario para procesar las boletas de la votación anticipada enviadas por correo y llevar a cabo la votación anticipada. La votación anticipada por correo se llevará a cabo de conformidad con los requisitos del Código. Por este medio, se autoriza a la Secretaria del Condado a designar a los miembros del Consejo de Boletas de Votación Anticipada, a los jueces presidentes y a los jueces suplentes de acuerdo con los requisitos del Código y/o por orden separada del Tribunal de Comisionados. La oficial de Votación Anticipada llevará a cabo la votación anticipada en el lugar de votación principal para la votación anticipada señalado a continuación; no obstante, la Secretaria del Condado podrá cambiar dicho lugar o añadir otros lugares de votación anticipada, sin necesidad de acción adicional por parte del Tribunal de Comisionados ni modificación de esta Orden, según sea necesario para el correcto desarrollo de la Elección.
- (b) La dirección de la oficial de Votación Anticipada y la dirección para la solicitud de boletas de votación por correo es Dyana Limón-Mercado, Travis County Elections, P.O. Box 149325, Austin, Texas 78714-9325, y sus medios de contacto son: i) teléfono: (512) 238 - 8683, ii) Correo electrónico: elections@traviscountytexas.gov, y iii) Sitio web: <https://countyclerk.traviscountytexas.gov/departments/elections>.
- (c) En el Condado, las solicitudes de boletas de votación anticipada por correo postal deben enviarse a Travis County Elections, P.O. Box 149325, Austin, TX 78714-9325, o cada votante en persona o por servicio de mensajería común o contratada a Travis County Election Division, 5501 Airport Blvd, Suite #100, Austin, TX 78751-1410. Las solicitudes para la votación por correo postal deben ser recibidas (no mataselladas) a más tardar a la hora de cierre (5:00 p.m., hora del centro) del 27 de octubre de 2023.
- (d) El lugar de votación anticipada principal para el Condado se designa por la presente como City of Austin Permitting & Development, ubicado en 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive, Austin, Texas 78752.
- (e) La votación anticipada en persona para todos los recintos electorales se llevará a cabo en los lugares, en los horarios y en los días establecidos en el Anexo A adjunto a la presente e incorporado en este documento, o en otros lugares, horarios y días que pueden ser designados por la Secretaria del Condado, sin necesidad de acción adicional por parte del Tribunal de Comisionados ni modificación de esta Orden. Se autoriza al Juez del Condado o a la persona designada por él a actualizar el Anexo A para que refleje los lugares y horarios designados por la Secretaria del Condado, y dichos lugares se aprueban por la presente.
- (f) Se autoriza a la oficial de Votación Anticipada a designar a los miembros del consejo de boletas de votación anticipada, a los jueces que presidirán y a los jueces suplentes para cada lugar de votación de acuerdo con los requisitos del Código. Los jueces que presidirán estarán autorizados

a aprobar a los funcionarios electorales necesarios para ayudar a llevar a cabo las elecciones.

- (g) Se podrán cambiar los horarios de votación si así lo decide la secretaria del Condado sin necesidad de acción adicional por parte del Tribunal de Comisionados ni modificación de esta Orden. Por el presente, se autoriza (y se ordena) a la Secretaria del Condado a hacer tales cambios de horarios de votación según sea necesario para la realización adecuada de la Elección.

Sección 8. Aviso de Elección. El aviso de elección deberá ser realizado por medio de las siguientes modalidades: i) publicación de una copia sustancial de esta Orden, en inglés y en español, en un periódico de tirada en el Condado o, en ausencia de dicho periódico, en un periódico de circulación general dentro del Condado (o que cumpla con la ley aplicable), dos veces el mismo día en semanas consecutivas, con la primera publicación dentro de un plazo no anterior al trigésimo día ni posterior a catorce días antes de la fecha estipulada para la elección; ii) publicación de una copia de esta Orden y los Documentos de información para el votante (definidos a continuación), en inglés y en español, en el tablero de anuncios del Tribunal del Condado utilizado para publicar avisos de asambleas del Tribunal de Comisionados y en al menos tres lugares públicos adicionales dentro de los límites del Condado, a más tardar el vigésimo primer día previo a la fecha estipulada para la elección; y iii) publicación de una copia de esta Orden y los Documentos de información para el votante, en inglés y en español, en el sitio web del Condado, de forma destacada y junto con el aviso de la elección y el contenido de la propuesta y cualquier ejemplo de boleta de votación preparada para la elección a más tardar el vigésimo primer día antes de la fecha estipulada para la elección y hasta el final del Día de la Elección. Además, en el Día de la Elección y durante la votación anticipada en persona, esta Orden y los Documentos de información para el votante deberán estar publicados en una ubicación destacada en cada lugar de votación. El Aviso de Elección también deberá publicarse en el sitio web del Condado a más tardar el vigésimo primer día antes de la Elección, de conformidad con la Sección 4.009 de Sección 8. Código Electoral de Texas, en su versión modificada. La dirección del sitio web del Condado es <https://www.traviscountytexas.gov>.

Sección 9. Realización de la Elección. La Elección deberá realizarse de conformidad con el Código, el Código de Gobierno de Texas y la Ley de Derecho al Voto, lo que incluye, en particular, el Capítulo 272 del Código referente a los requisitos bilingües.

Sección 10. Información requerida por la Sección 3.009 del Código Electoral.

- (a) Deuda pendiente del Condado. A la fecha de la presente Orden, el importe total del capital pendiente de pago de la deuda respaldada por impuestos del Condado era de \$900,550,000, y el importe total de intereses pendientes sobre dicha deuda respaldada por impuestos era de \$264,289,150. A la fecha de la presente Orden, la tasa impositiva del servicio de deuda ad valorem del Condado correspondiente al año fiscal en curso es de \$0.039318 por cada \$100 de valuación estimada.
- (b) Emisión de nueva deuda. El Condado tiene la intención de emitir los bonos autorizados por la Propuesta de cierta forma y de conformidad con un cronograma a ser determinado por el Tribunal de Comisionados sobre la base de varios factores, entre los que se incluyen las necesidades actuales del Condado, los cambios demográficos, las condiciones predominantes en el mercado, las valuaciones estimadas de propiedades en el Condado y la administración de la exposición del Condado a la tasa de interés a corto y a largo plazo. Las condiciones del mercado, la demografía y valuaciones estimadas de las propiedades varían conforme a un número de factores ajenos al control del Condado; por lo tanto, el Condado no puede garantizar ni garantizará una tasa de interés particular o una tasa impositiva asociada con los bonos autorizados por

las Propuestas. Conforme a lo precedente, la información contenida en este párrafo se proporciona únicamente con fines ilustrativos y no establece ninguna limitación o restricción ni crea ningún contrato con los votantes. El Condado estima que, con base en la actual valuación estimada imponible del Condado, las condiciones actuales del mercado, a partir de la fecha de esta Orden, y el crecimiento futuro estimado en la valuación estimada imponible del Condado, si todos los bonos autorizados por las Propuestas se emiten de acuerdo con el actual plan de financiamiento del proyecto del Condado, se espera que la máxima tasa de interés de los bonos no exceda el 5.00 %.

- (c) Información adicional requerida por la Sección 3.009 del Código. Toda información adicional requerida por la Sección 3.009 del Código se encuentra en las Secciones 2 y 3 de esta Orden.

Sección 11. Documentos de información para el votante. Por la presente, el Tribunal de Comisionados aprueba los Documentos de información para el votante (los "Documentos de información para el votante"), sustancialmente en el formato presentado al Tribunal de Comisionados, con los cambios que pueda aprobar el Juez del Condado o la persona designada por el mismo, actuando en nombre del Tribunal de Comisionados, en consulta con el Abogado del Condado, el asesor en materia de bonos y/o el asesor financiero, según lo establecido por la Sección 1251.052(b) del Código de Gobierno de Texas.

Se autoriza (y se ordena) al Juez del Condado, o a la persona designada por él, que actúe en nombre del Tribunal de Comisionados, a publicar los Documentos de información para el votante o a encargarse de su publicación, en la manera dispuesta conforme a la Sección 8 de esta Orden, y adicionalmente en el sitio web del Condado de una manera fácilmente accesible, comenzando a más tardar el vigésimo primer día antes de la fecha estipulada para la Elección y finalizando el día después del Día de la Elección.

Sección 12. Determinaciones de las Servidumbres de conservación. Si los habitantes del Condado aprueban la Propuesta B, el Tribunal de Comisionados determinará —al momento que autorice cualesquiera bonos a ser emitidos de conformidad con la Propuesta B para los fines de adquirir Servidumbres de conservación— que las Servidumbres de conservación a ser adquiridas con ganancias obtenidas a partir de dichos bonos estén vinculadas con o sean para el beneficio de los parques del Condado.

Sección 13. Acciones necesarias. Por medio del presente documento, se autoriza (y se ordena) al Juez del Condado y a la Secretaria del Condado, o a las personas designadas por ellos, en nombre del Tribunal de Comisionados, en consulta con el abogado del Condado y el asesor en materia de bonos, a realizar todas las acciones que sean necesarias para cumplir con las disposiciones del Código y de la Ley de Derecho al Voto para llevar a cabo la Elección, ya sea que se encuentren o no autorizadas expresamente en el presente documento, lo cual incluye realizar cambiar o agregar los lugares o procedimientos de votación con el alcance requerido o deseable, según lo determine la Secretaria del Condado, o que pudieran hacerse necesarios en virtud de las circunstancias que surjan posteriormente a la fecha de esta Orden.

Sección 14. Separabilidad. Si alguna disposición, sección, inciso, oración, cláusula o frase de esta Orden, o su aplicación respecto de cualquier persona o conjunto de circunstancias, por cualquier motivo, fuera declarada inconstitucional, nula, inválida o no exigible, ni las partes restantes de esta Orden ni su aplicación a otras personas o conjunto de circunstancias deberán verse afectadas por tal medida, ya que es la intención del Tribunal de Comisionados, al adoptar esta Orden, que ninguna de sus partes, disposiciones o regulaciones pierdan su operatividad o vigor con motivo de cualquier inconstitucionalidad, nulidad, invalidez o inexigibilidad de cualquiera de sus partes. A tal fin, se declara que todas las disposiciones de esta Orden son separables.

Sección 15. Fecha de entrada en vigencia. Esta Orden entrará en vigencia inmediatamente después de su aprobación.



Travis County Election Day Locations - November 7, 2023
Centros de Votación del Condado de Travis - 7 de noviembre de 2023
 Polls are open 7am - 7pm - Las urnas están abiertas 7am - 7pm

Dyana Limon-Mercado County Clerk - Secretaria del Condado
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VOTE CENTER CENTRO DE VOTACION	ADDRESS DIRECCION	CITY CIUDAD	ZIP CODIGO POSTAL
Austin Achieve Northeast Campus	7424 E Hwy 290, HS Gym	Austin	78752
Gus Garcia Recreation Center	1201 E Rundberg Ln, Senior Rm	Austin	78753
Connally High School	13212 N Lamar, Lig. Gym Hall	Austin	78753
Our Savior Lutheran Church	1513 E Yager Ln, Narthex	Austin	78753
St Mark United Methodist Church	601 W Braker Ln, Fellowship Hal	Austin	78753
Barrington Elementary	400 Cooper Dr, Bldg 200	Austin	78753
Austin Fire Station 41	11205 Harris Branch Hwy, Bay	Austin	78754
Pioneer Crossing Elementary	11306 Samsung Blvd, Library	Austin	78754
Congregation Beth Israel	3901 Shoal Creek Blvd, Smith Aud	Austin	78756
Yakborough Branch Library	2205 Hancock Drive, Meeting Rm	Austin	78756
Ben-Hur Shrine Center	7811 Rockwood Ln, Ballroom	Austin	78757
Northwest Recreation Center	2913 Northland Dr, Classroom 2	Austin	78757
Brice + Peace Austin (formerly Brentwood Bible)	6301 Woodrow Ave, Gym	Austin	78757
North Village Branch Library	3505 Stock Ave, Meeting Rm	Austin	78757
Guliett Elementary	6310 Treadwell Blvd, Library	Austin	78757
Disability Rights Texas	2222 W Braker Ln, Board Rm	Austin	78758
Grant AME Worship Center	1701 Kramer Ln, Leon Thomas Annex	Austin	78758
Jaime Padron Elementary	2011 W Rundberg Ln, Music Rm	Austin	78758
Juan P Navarro Early College High School	1201 Payton Glen Rd, Lobby	Austin	78758
Spicewood Springs Branch Library	8637 Spicewood Springs Rd, Meeting Rm	Austin	78759
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church	8134 Mesa Dr, Huffman Hall	Austin	78759
The Junior League of Austin	5390 Bluffstone Ln, Ballroom	Austin	78759
Anderson High School	8403 Mesa Dr, Library	Austin	78759
Kathy Casaway Elementary	11104 Oak View Dr, Portable	Austin	78759
Balcones Woods Shopping Center	11199 Research Blvd, Ste 102	Austin	78759



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 Los sitios con un icono de autobús están a cinco minutos o menos de distancia caminando de una parada de autobús de Capital Metro.

*Subject to change. To verify, please go to the Travis County Elections website.
 *Puede cambiar, por favor visite:
<https://www.elections.traviscountytexas.gov/electiondaylocations>

2 of 2

Travis County Early Voting Locations
November 7, 2023

Sitios de Votación Adelantada del Condado de Travis
 7 de noviembre de 2023



Early Voting begins Monday, October 23, 2023 and ends on Friday, November 3, 2023
La Votación Adelantada comienza el lunes, 23 de octubre de 2023 y termina el viernes, 3 de noviembre de 2023

Mega-Centers will have extended hours on the first and last day of Early Voting
Los Mega-Centros tendrán horas extendidas en el primer y último día de Votación Adelantada

Monday, October 23rd <i>Lunes, 23 de octubre (7am - 10am)</i>	
Tuesday, October 24th — Saturday, October 28th <i>(7am - 7pm)</i>	
<i>Martes, 24 de octubre — Sábado, 28 de octubre (7am - 7pm)</i>	
Sunday, October 29th <i>(Noon - 6pm)</i>	
<i>Domingo, 29 de octubre (mediodía - 6pm)</i>	
Monday, October 30th — Thursday, November 2nd <i>(7am - 7pm)</i>	
<i>Lunes, 30 de octubre — jueves, 2 de noviembre (7am - 7pm)</i>	
Friday, November 3rd <i>(7am - 10pm)</i>	
Ben Hur Shrine Center <i>Mega-Center / Centro</i>	7811 Rockwood Ln, Ballroom Austin 78757
Austin Permitting & Dev Ctr <i>Mega-Center / Centro</i>	6310 Wilhelmina Delco Dr, Rm 1407 Austin 78752
Millennium Youth Complex <i>Mega-Center / Centro</i>	1156 Hargrave St, East Media Rm Austin 78762
Southpark Meadows <i>Mega-Center / Centro</i>	9600 S IH 35 Frontage Rd, Site 200 Austin 78748
	<i>(Next to Dollar Tree)</i>

Monday—Saturday (7am - 7pm), Sunday (Noon - 6pm) <i>Lunes—Sábado (7am - 7pm), Domingo (mediodía - 6pm)</i>			
Austin City Hall	301 W 2nd St, Media Rm 1034	Austin	78701
Austin Energy Headquarters	4815 Mueller Blvd, Capital Training Rm	Austin	78723
Austin Oaks Church	4220 Monterey Oaks Blvd, Family Life Ctr	Austin	78749
Austin Recreation Center	1301 Shoal Creek Blvd, Dance Studio	Austin	78701
Balcones Woods Shopping Center	11199 Research Blvd, Ste 102	Austin	78759
Bee Cave City Hall	4000 Galleria Parkway, 2nd Fl	Bee Cave	78738
Copeda Branch Library	651 N Pleasant Valley Rd, Rm 1	Austin	78702
Christ Episcopal Church	3520 Whitestone Blvd, Outreach Ctr	Cedar Park	78613
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church	21900 FM Rd 1431, Fellowship Hall	Lago Vista	78641
Community Center at Del Valle	3518 S FM 973, Bldg D	Del Valle	78617
Dan Ruiz Branch Library	1600 Grove Blvd, Rm 1	Austin	78741
George Morales Dove Springs Recreation Center	5801 Almez Dr, Dance Studio	Austin	78744
Gus Garcia Recreation Center	1201 E Rundberg Ln, Senior Rm	Austin	78753
Hustan-Tillotson University	900 Chicon St, Student Union	Austin	78702
Lake Travis ISD Educational Development Center	607 Ranch Rd 620 N, Sage Rm	Austin	78734
Lakeway Activity Center	105 Cross Creek, Rm A	Lakeway	78734
Manor ISD Admin Building	10335 Hwy 290, Tech Rm	Manor	78653
Northwest Recreation Center	2913 Northland Dr, Classroom	Austin	78757
Old Quarry Branch Library	7051 Village Center, Meeting Rm	Austin	78731
PRISD Rock Gym	702 W Pecan St	Pflugerville	78660
Randall's Flagship West Lake Hills	3300 Bee Caves Rd, Cafe	Austin	78746
Randall's Steiner Ranch	6145 N FM 620, Cafe	Austin	78732
Riverbend Centre	4214 N Capital of Texas Hwy, Quod 3	Austin	78746
BRISD Hartfield PAC	5800 McNeil Dr, Lobby	Austin	78729
South Austin Recreation Center	1108 Cumberland Rd, Lobby	Austin	78704
UT Flawn Academic Center	2304 Whites Ave, Lobby	Austin	78712
Westminster Presbyterian Church	3208 Exposition Blvd, Fellowship Hall	Austin	78703
Westoak Woods Baptist Church	2508 W Slaughter Ln, OMB Rm 104	Austin	78748



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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsy for October 20-26

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I'm not enamored of Shakespeare's work. Though I enjoy his creative use of language, his worldview isn't appealing or interesting. The people in his stories don't resonate with me, and their problems don't feel realistic. If I want to commune with multi-faceted characters dealing with fascinating dilemmas, I turn to French novelist Honoré de Balzac (1799-1850). I feel a kinship with his complex, nuanced understanding of human nature. Please note I am not asserting that Shakespeare is bad and Balzac is good. I'm merely stating the nature of my subjective personal tastes. Now I invite you to do what I have done here: In the coming weeks, stand up unflinchingly for your subjective personal tastes.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): As much as I love logic and champion rational thinking, I'm granting you an exemption from their iron-grip supremacy in the coming weeks. To understand what's transpiring and to respond with intelligence, you must partly transcend logic and reason. They will not be sufficient guides as you wrestle with the Great Riddles that will be visiting. In a few weeks, you will be justified in quoting ancient Roman author Tertullian, who said the following about his religion, Christianity: "It is true because it is impossible."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): As a Sun-conjunct-Uranus person, I am fond of hyperbole and outrageousness. "Outlandish" is one of my middle names. My Burning Man moniker is "Friendly Shocker," and in my pagan community, I'm known as Irreverend Robbie. So take that into consideration when I suggest you meditate on Oscar Wilde's assertions that "all great ideas are dangerous" and "an idea that is not dangerous is unworthy of being called an idea." Oscar and I don't mean that interesting possibilities must be a risk to one's health or safety. Rather, we're suggesting they are probably inconvenient for one's dogmas, habits, and comfort zones. I hope you will favor such disruptors in the coming days.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Some people might feel they have achieved the peak of luxury if they find themselves sipping Moët & Chandon Imperial Vintage Champagne while lounging on a leather and diamond-encrusted PlumeBlanche sofa on a hand-knotted Agra wool rug aboard a 130-foot-long Sunseeker yacht. But I suspect you will be thoroughly pleased with the subtler forms of luxury that are possible for you these days. Like what? Like surges of appreciation and acknowledgment for your good work. Like growing connections with influences that will interest you and help you in the future. Like the emotional riches that come from acting with integrity and excellence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): There are over 20 solutions to the riddle your higher mind is now contemplating. Several of them are smart intellectually but not emotionally intelligent. Others make sense from a selfish perspective but would be less than a blessing for some people in your life. Then there are a few solutions that might technically be effective but wouldn't be much fun. I estimate there may only be two or three answers that would be intellectually and emotionally intelligent, would be of service not only to you but also to others, and would generate productive fun.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Naturalist John Muir didn't like the word "hiking." He believed people ought to saunter through the wilderness, not hike. "Hiking" implies straight-ahead, no-nonsense, purposeful movement, whereas "sauntering" is about wandering around, being reverent toward one's surroundings, and getting willingly distracted by where one's curiosity leads. I suggest you favor the sauntering approach in the coming weeks - not just in nature but in every area of your life. You're best suited for exploring, gallivanting, and meandering.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): JooHee Yoon is an illustrator and designer. She says, "So much of artmaking is getting to know yourself through the creative process, of making mistakes and going down rabbit holes of research and experimentation that sometimes work out - and sometimes don't." She adds, "The failures are just as important as the successes." I would extend this wisdom, applying it to how we create our personalities and lives. I hope you will keep it in mind as you improvise, experiment with, and transform yourself in the coming weeks.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Sometimes, we droop and shrivel in the face of a challenge that dares us to grow stronger and smarter. Sometimes, we try our best to handle a pivotal riddle with aplomb but fall short. Neither of these two scenarios will be in play for you during the coming months. I believe you will tap into reserves of hidden power you didn't realize you had access to. You will summon bold, innovative responses to tantalizing mysteries. I predict you will accomplish creative triumphs that may have once seemed beyond your capacities.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Gemini novelist Meg Wolitzer suggests that "one of the goals of life is to be comfortable in your own skin and in your own bed and on your own land." I suspect you won't achieve that goal in the coming weeks, but you will lay the foundation for achieving that goal. You will figure out precisely what you need in order to feel at home in the world, and you will formulate plans to make that happen. Be patient with yourself, dear Gemini. Be extra tender, kind, and accommodating. Your golden hour will come.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Some astrologers say you Crabs are averse to adventure, preferring to loll in your comfort zones and entertain dreamy fantasies. As evidence that this is not always true, I direct your attention to a great Cancerian adventurer, the traveling chef Anthony Bourdain. In the coming weeks, I hope you will be inspired by these Bourdain quotes: 1) "If I'm an advocate for anything, it's to move. As far as you can, as much as you can. Across the ocean, or simply across the river. Open your mind, get up off the couch, move." 2) "What a great way to live, if you could always do things that interest you, and do them with people who interest you." 3) "The more I become aware of, the more I realize how relatively little I know, how much more there is to learn. Maybe that's enlightenment enough - to know there is no final resting place of the mind." 4) "Travel is about the gorgeous feeling of teetering in the unknown."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Author Iain S. Thomas writes, "The universe is desperately trying to move you into the only spot that truly belongs to you - a space that only you can stand in. It is up to you to decide every day whether you are moving towards or away from that spot." His ideas overlap with principles I expound in my book *Pronoia Is the Antidote for Paranoia: How the Whole World Is Conspiring to Shower You With Blessings*. There I propose that life often works to help dissolve your ignorance and liberate you from your suffering. I hypothesize that you are continually being given opportunities to grow smarter and wilder and kinder. In the coming weeks, everything I've described here will be especially apropos to you. All of creation will be maneuvering you in the direction of feeling intensely at home with your best self. Cooperate, please!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "Never do anything that others can do for you," said Virgo novelist Agatha Christie. That's not a very Virgo-like attitude, is it? Many astrologers would say that of all the zodiac's signs, your tribe is the most eager to serve others but not aggressively seek the service of others on your behalf. But I suspect this dynamic could change in the coming weeks. Amazingly, cosmic rhythms will conspire to bring you more help and support than you're accustomed to. My advice: Welcome it. Gather it in with gusto.

PARK & HOMER
puzzles

Sounds the same

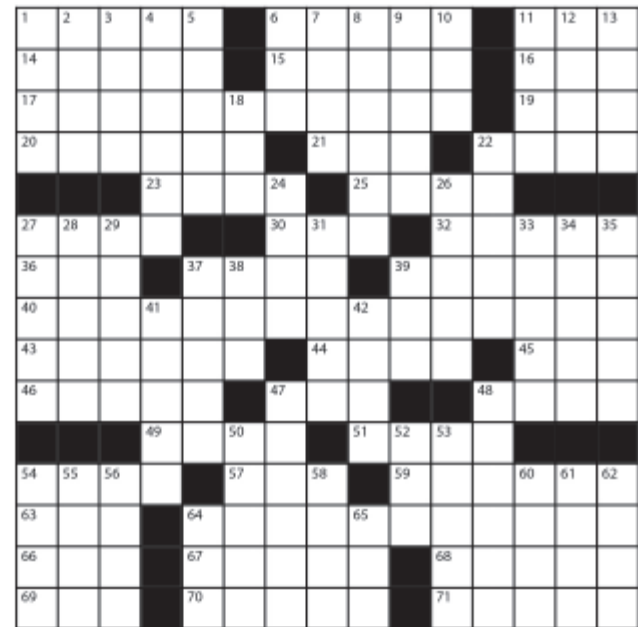
Puzzle by J. Reynolds

No. 812

Across

1. Whip marks
6. Independent candidate Ralph
11. Smartphone buy
14. Electronic game pioneer
15. Snapshot
16. "___ sport"
17. Reassuring words
19. Dust remover
20. Pointless
21. Spanish uncle
22. Fill beyond full
23. Strong cleaners
25. Canadian gas brand
27. Mama ___ of the Mamas and the Papas
30. Radio settings
32. 747, e.g.
36. Bush spokesman

37. "Othello" villain
39. Add spice to
40. Parting words
43. Most October babies
44. Gives a hand
45. "___ Rosenkavalier"
46. Tangle
47. Building add-on
48. Dynamic beginning
49. Airline to Israel
51. Cabinet dept.
54. The ___ of Avon
57. Tie the knot
59. What's left behind
63. "I'll take that as ___"
64. Third baseman for the Mets
66. Mil. titles



67. 2000 comedy "My, Myself & ___"
68. Doubleday, ___ (old publishing house)
69. Mayo, e.g.
70. Wilder and Hackman
71. "West Side Story" girl

Down

1. Homeless child
2. "___, Brute!"
3. Endure
4. Hiker's paths
5. Nonsensical
6. "Morning Edition" ailer
7. Take ___ (suffer loss)
8. Plains orphans

9. Cultural values
10. Decompose
11. Start of a magician's cry
12. ___ moss
13. Newspaper unit
18. Filmmaker Spike
22. Kind of panel
24. Herb in stuffing
26. Gushes
27. Olympic track gold medalist Lewis et al.
28. "The results ___!"
29. "The Lion King" lion
31. Fable's end
33. "All kidding ___..."
34. Observant one
35. Another 69-across
37. "___ ears!"
38. Tummy muscles
39. Landscaper's need

41. Guessed wrong
42. Mosaic piece
47. Nearing midnight
48. Director's cry
50. Cognizant
52. Drops on blades
53. F.D.A. guideline
54. It's soothing
55. Get the pot going
56. One of the friends on "Friends"
58. Eat
60. Prefix with culture
61. "Take ___!"
62. European erupter
64. Archaeological site
65. ___ Plaines, Ill.

SEE THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTION AT WWW.AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/CROSSWORD

LEGAL NOTICES CONTINUED FROM P.55

Fudman, Deceased, were issued on October 10, 2023, in Cause No. C-1-PB-23-002043, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Cindy S. Fudman. The notice to the Independent Executor may be delivered at the following address:

c/o Melissa L. Harvey
Karisch Jonas Law, PLLC
9111 Jollyville Road, Suite 225
Austin, Texas 78759
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner

prescribed by law. Dated the October 10, 2023, /s/ Melissa L. Harvey
Melissa L. Harvey
Attorney for Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE is hereby given that

original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of IDA LOUISE JEANNE HENDRICK, Deceased, were issued on September 28, 2023, in Cause No. C-1-PB-23-001826, pending in the Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Texas, to: DANA JOSEPH HENDRICK. All per-

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsy's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

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