THE AUSTIN
CHRONICLE

RONALD REAGAN's Best Jokes!

HD RADIO: Is It Here Yet?

KURT VONNEGUT, Loud and Clear

VERTICAL HELICAL SCAN: We Hardly Knew Ye

The Kingdom of **POWELL ST. JOHN**

MUSIC DVDs: Kiss, Wu-Tang, Waylon, Ronnie Lane, U2

YEAR ... NEW YEAR
007 LISTINGS *p.85*

We Make Comics
(and **COMIX** and **MANGA** and **MORE**)
by Joey Seiler p.40

When ROBOTS War on Christmas

Vol. 26 No. 16 ★ austinchronicle.com ★ December 22, 2006

DiscountElectronics.com

1011 W. Anderson Lane 1 Block West of Lamar · Open Mon - Sat 9 to 9 Sunday 11 to 6



Dell Dimension 3000

Intel 2.4GHZ Cel CPU
128MB DDR, 20GB HDD
CDRW or DVD ROM Drive
No Operating System
90 Day Bumper to Bumper Warranty

$199

Dell Optiplex GX400

Intel P4 1.7GHZ CPU
256MB DDR, 20GB HDD
Windows 2K Pro Preinstalled
90 Day Warranty

$199





DELL Latitude

Windows 2K
Preloaded
C610 PIII
1GHZ
256MB RAM
20GB HDD
90 Day
Warranty

$369

GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE NOW!

Dell P4 GX260 Package

2.0GHZ 20GB 256MB
Includes:
17" Monitor
Keyboard
& Mouse
Internet
Ready
Windows XP
Pro Preloaded



$269

Vector 175 Watt Power Inverter

Put on AC outlet in your car



$12

512MB USB Keychain Drive



$15

Limit 3 USB 2.0

DELL LATITUDE D600

Intel Centrino 1.3GHZ CPU
20GB Hard Drive, 256MB
Windows XP Pro Preinstalled
90 Day Bumper to Bumper Warranty



$549

Laptop LCD Displays
Replaced $99 & Up
Price Includes Parts & Labor
WE REPAIR LAPTOPS FAST!

We Pay Cash

For Computers, Laptops
Memory, Hard Drives,
CPUs and more!
We'll buy 1 or 1000

If your company is upgrading be sure to give us a call. We pay more for your equipment.

Dell Laptop Backpack

$29



Altec Lansing 3 Pc Speaker Set



$19

459-0026 Open Every Day

PEACE ON EARTH, Y'ALL!

HOLIDAY SAVINGS FROM WATERLOO!



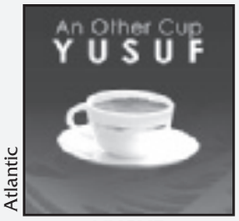
DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE
Transatlanticism
$12.99 CD



WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS
Trying To Never Catch Up
$11.99 CD



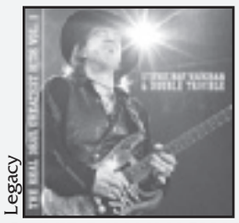
ERIC CLAPTON/JJ CALE
The Road to Escondido
$13.99 CD



YUSUF
(Formerly Cat Stevens)
An Other Cup
$13.99 CD



WILLIE NILE
Streets of New York
$12.99 CD



STEVIE RAY VAUGHAN
The Real Deal: Gr. Hits Vol. 1
$13.99 CD
available 12/26



various artists
ANDREW LLOYD
WEBBER: DIVAS
$13.99 CD



RENEE FLEMING
Homage: The Age
of the Diva
$13.99 CD



WILLIE NELSON
Songbird
$12.99 CD



SONIC YOUTH
The Destroyed Room:
B-Sides & Rarities
$12.99 CD



MALFORD MILLIGAN BAND
Rides Again
$11.99 CD



KASEY CHAMBERS
Carnival
$13.99 CD



JET
Shine On
$13.99 CD



SHAWN COLVIN
These Four Walls
$13.99 CD



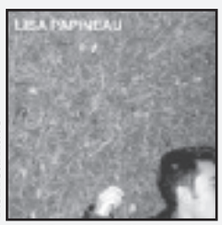
THE BLACK CROWES
The Lost Crowes
$21.99 2 CD set



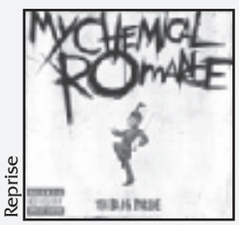
DAMIEN RICE
9
$13.99 CD



MATT MAYS
Matt Mays and El Torpedo
$12.99 CD



LISA PAPINEAU
Night Moves
$12.99 CD



MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE
The Black Parade
$13.99 CD

WATERLOO ACCEPTS CHAIN COMPETITORS' GIFT CERTIFICATES AND GIFT CARDS*!

We'll gladly exchange gift cards from any national chain store that carries music or video for its full amount!

* card's value must be able to be verified by Waterloo via phone or internet.

SALE ENDS 1-3-2007

WATERLOO

Compact Discs
Records • Video

10-11 Mon- Sat 11-11 Sun
600-A North Lamar Austin, TX 78703
www.waterloorecords.com
(512)474.2500

WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

HOLIDAY SHOPPERS!

STILL LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT GIFT FOR THE MUSIC LOVER IN YOUR LIFE? WATERLOO RECORDS & VIDEO GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE AVAILABLE IN STORE OR ONLINE AT WATERLOORECORDS.COM!

contents

VOL. 26, NO. 16 DECEMBER 22, 2006



COVER CREDITS:
TIM DOYLE – DESIGN, LAYOUT PENCILS, FOREGROUND ROBOTS
DAVE MARQUEZ – SANTA, FROSTY, ELF, RUDOLPH
NICK DERRINGTON – TANK, BIG ROBOT
RIVKAH – BACKGROUND, HOUSE, DIGITAL COMPOSITION, AND DIGITAL COLORING

6 **PAGE TWO** A Little Light-Rain Music

8 **POSTMARKS** Futrell on conflict of interest, Wal-Mart, Wal-Mart, and more Wal-Mart

WX *"Postmarks" online – updated (almost) daily* austinchronicle.com/webextra

NEWS

17 Will 37th Street Xmas Lights Burn Brighter or Burn Out?; 2006 Politics Holiday Gift Guide; and More

POINT AUSTIN Wal-Mart's Xmas Gift

27 **THE HIGHTOWER REPORT** The Nobel Prize for Greed; and Camp Wellstone Winners

28 **NONPROFITS' WISH LISTS, PART 2** Give till it helps

30 **WORLDWIDE RADIO WRESTLING!** HD format hopes to body-slam satellite radio to an industry draw

BY KEVIN BRASS

35 **LETTERS@3AM** A Messy Species

ARTS

38 Three Theatre Artists Look Back at 2006; the Ransom Center Goes Googling for Godot; and a New Theatre Loses in a Battle of the Bands

VISUAL ARTS

40 **THE COMICS (ARTIST) PANEL** Five Austinites on the state of sequential art, from comics to comix to manga and beyond

BY JOEY SEILER

44 **BOOKS** Austinite rescues archival Vonnegut interviews

46 **AFTER A FASHION** Gather round, children, and listen to the tale of how *Eight Is Enough* factored into a big family reunion

FOOD

49 Just Another Drop of the Midleton, Please; Wine of the Week: Big Bargains at the Big Box; and Food-o-File

50 **TWO TRIPS TO COSTCO** A mother and a private chef share their notes

BY BARBARA CHISHOLM AND MM PACK

THE HOST ON HIGH Some entertaining words of caution

BY MARION WINIK

54 **RESTAURANT ROULETTE** A spin around our restaurant guide

SCREENS

58 Crew Stories: Jeff Schwan, Stuntman; DVD Watch: *The Spirit of the Beehive*; and In Space: SXSW Interactive Extends Web Awards Deadline

60 **VERTICAL HELICAL SCAN, WE HARDLY KNEW YE** You'd better record this on your VCR – it's probably the last time that we'll mention it

BY JOE O'CONNELL

62 **TV EYE** *Heroes* and Zeroes

MUSIC

65 **TCB** Beerland branches out, bickering neighbors at a South Congress rehearsal space, and a music-centric guide to last-minute shopping

66 **POWELL ST. JOHN** Ascending the psychedelic pioneer's "Kingdom of Heaven"

BY BILL BENTLEY

70 **MUSIC DVDS** *Kissology*, Wu-Tang, U2, Elvis, Tupac, Dylan, Cohen, Tweedy, Cars, Pixies, Mobb Deep, Metallica, Marah, and more

74 **PHASES & STAGES** Loreena McKennitt, Sufjan Stevens, Tomasz Stanko, Yusuf, Aterciopelados, Beat Box, etc.

76 **NEWS OF THE WEIRD** Cocaine caches and Christmas madness

CALENDAR

78 **COMMUNITY**
Santa's gonna smack your house right upside the chimney with presents if you've been good, so provide some evidence by giving via any of several volunteer opportunities this season. Also, PINK: A Love Courier Service will help you get your holiday heart on.

80 **DAY TRIPS** River View Bed & Breakfast in Blanco provides small-town ambience and a base camp for exploring the Hill Country

83 **SOCCER WATCH** Bob Bradley names 29 players to U.S. men's training-camp rosting

WX *"Soccer Watch" online: Semiregular updates from everywhere* austinchronicle.com/webextra

WX New Year's Listings: Get a jump austinchronicle.com/newyears

86 **ARTS**
Theatre: *It's a Wonderful Life, 70s Christmas Special, Starring the Fonz*
Visual Arts: "Take Me to Bed or Lose Me Forever," e-flux video rental

90 **FILM**
Dreamgirls, *The Good Shepherd*, *We Are Marshall*, *Night at the Museum*, *Rocky Balboa*, *The History Boys*, *Vajra Sky Over Tibet*

92 **SHOWTIMES**

98 **SPECIAL SCREENINGS** *Bad Santa*, High for the Holidays series, *Danielson: A Family Movie*

101 **MUSIC**
RECOMMENDED It's beginning to look like Christmas, with Terry Allen's not-so *Silent Majority*, a Neville Family Christmas, Winter Solstice Soul Party, Hip Hop Holiday Classic, Mohawk's Wintershow, Dale Watson & Miss Lavelle White's two holiday specials, plus Asleep at the Wheel, Alejandro Escovedo, Galactic, etc.

102 **VENUES**

104 **CLUB LISTINGS AND ROADSHOWS**

BACK

123 **COMICS** *Coffee Man*, *Troubletown*, *Bitter Yeti*, and more

MR. SMARTY PANTS Folk-rock grudge match and the unmanning of men

WX *Ask Mr. Smarty Pants – sooner or later, he'll answer* austinchronicle.com/webextra

124 **CLASSIFIEDS**

135 **THE COMMON LAW** Getting burned by eBay for the holidays

137 **CAR TALK** The safety of backing in and backing out

141 **EASY STREET, PERSONALS**

THE LUV DOC A rambling recommendation to shore up your social calendar

143 **FREE WILL ASTROLOGY** Paving the rainforests and other wild solutions

WX web extra

For this week's Web extras and more Web exclusives, go to:
austinchronicle.com/webextra

CHRONIC NEWS YOU CAN ABUSE

This week: **ALL-THINGS WAL-MART, WEEK THREE; GIFT IDEAS FROM OUTSIDE THE BIG BOX**; and the usual daily flap from around the city, state, and world

austinchronicle.com/chronic

THE SCORE CHRONICLE SPORTS BLOG

This week: A visit from **TIP TIME** and more opinionated sports-nut blather, ongoing

austinchronicle.com/sports

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

PUBLISHER Nick Barbaro
EDITOR Louis Black

SENIOR EDITORS
MANAGING EDITOR Cindy Widner
FILM Marjorie Baumgarten
ARTS Robert Faires
MUSIC Raoul Hernandez
NEWS Michael King
FOOD Virginia B. Wood
SPECIAL ISSUES, GUIDES, INTERNS Kate Messer
SCREENS, BOOKS Shawn Badgley

ASSOCIATE EDITORS
NEWS Lee Nichols, Cheryl Smith
MUSIC Audra Schroeder

CALENDAR
ARTS LISTINGS Wayne Alan Brenner
COMMUNITY LISTINGS Nora Ankrum
ASST. LISTINGS Anne Harris

STAFF WRITERS
Wells Dunbar, Katherine Gregor, Margaret Moser, Marc Savlov, Amy Smith, Jordan Smith

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
TV EYE Belinda Acosta
TCB Christopher Gray
VISUAL ARTS LISTINGS Benné Rocket
DAY TRIPS Gerald E. McLeod
MR. SMARTY PANTS R.U. Steinberg
LETTERS AT 3AM Michael Ventura
LITERA Ric Williams
CLASSICAL, DANCE LISTINGS Robi Polgar
FASHION Stephen MacMillan Moser
GAY PLACE Kate Getty

PRODUCTION
ART DIRECTOR Taylor Holland
PRODUCTION MANAGER Karen Barry
WEBMASTER Brian Barry
WEB PROGRAMMER Paul Warner
PREPRESS MANAGER Mark Gates
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS Tim Grisham, Shelley Hiam, Carrie Lewis, Chris Linnen, Liz Osting, Doug St. Ament
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS John Anderson, Jana Birchum
PROOFREADERS Mark Fagan, Jeremy Martin, James Renovitch, Sofia Resnick, Darcie Stevens
INTERNS Meredith Barnhill, Lucas Del Pico, Kristin Hillery, Lindsay Meeks, Matt Patin, Meghan Ruth Speakerman, Kristine Tofte, Richard Whittaker

ADVERTISING
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR Carol Flagg
SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Jerald Corder, Annette Shelton Patterson, Carolyn Phillips, Lois Richwine
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Jeff Carlyon, Lindsey Dickson, Serena Horn, Sandy Martinez, Elizabeth Nitz, Lori Whitley
RETAIL OPERATIONS MANAGER Tobi Gates
ADVERTISING ASSISTANTS Matthew Cornelius, Michele Freeman, Christina Jupson
MARKETING DIRECTOR Erin Collier
PROMOTIONS MANAGER Sadie Caplan
CHRONTOURAGE Ashley Campbell, Tony Dorsey, Alex Fader, Cat Herring, Nolan Ley, Allen McIntyre, Jenn Nuzzo, Katie Parks, Matt Patin, Lindsey Powers, Ashley Sherwood, Tierney Stout
PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR/PERSONALS/CIRCULATION Dan Hardick
CLASSIFIEDS DIRECTOR Cassidy Frazier
SENIOR CLASSIFIED ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Brian Carr
LEGAL NOTICES Jessica Nesbitt
CLASSIFIED ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Michael Bartnett, Cody Kirk, Bobby Leath, Samantha McClellan, David Thibodeaux
NATIONAL ADVERTISING The Ruxton Group
NATIONAL SALES DIR. Susan Belair
MIDWEST SALES DIR. Stephen M. Lee
SOUTHWEST SALES DIR. Terri Smith

OFFICE STAFF
CONTROLLER Michael Schwarz
SUBSCRIPTIONS Jenn Nuzzo
CREDIT MANAGER cindy soo
ACCOUNTING Liz Franklin
ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT Jenn Nuzzo
INFO CENTER Shayna Hayden, Andrea Skola
SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR Steve Raymond
ASST. SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR Frederick Stanton
SPECIAL EVENTS Elizabeth Derczo

CIRCULATION
Erik Conn, Perry Drake, Joy Fairchild, Tom Fairchild, Ruben Flores, Brent Malkus, Michael McKenzie, Grant Melcher, Paul Minor, Dane Richardson, Motorcycle Michael, Rex Tarr, Jeff Watts, Nicholas Wibbelsman, John Williamson, David Williford

CONTRIBUTORS
Meredith Barnhill, Lynda Barry, Greg Beets, Kevin Brass, Rob Brezsny, Toddy Burton, Jim Caligiuri, Katherine Catmull, Barbara Chisholm, Lloyd Dangle, Steve Davis, Robert Gabriel, Melanie Haupt, Sam Hurt, Marrit Ingman, Hannah Kenah, Tom and Ray Magliozzi, Wes Marshall, Michael May, Nikki Moore, Daniel Mottola, Joe O'Connell, Dan Oko, MM Pack, Austin Powell, Kimberly Reeves, Sofia Resnick, Josh Rosenblatt, Patricia J. Ruland, Joey Seiler, Chuck Shepherd, Meghan Ruth Speakerman, Darcie Stevens, Jason Stout, Tom Tomorrow, Roy Tompkins, Jay Trachtenberg, Shannon Wheeler, Richard Whittaker

The Austin Chronicle offers nonpaying internships. Contact Kate Messer at the intern hotline, 454-5765 x303.

VERIFIED AUDIT CIRCULATION

The Austin Chronicle **(ISSN: 1074-0740) is published by The Austin Chronicle Corporation weekly 52 times per year at 4000 N. I-35, Austin, TX 78751.**

©2006 Austin Chronicle Corp. All rights reserved.
Subscriptions: One Year: $60 2nd class. Half-year: $35 2nd class. Periodicals Postage Paid at Austin, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Austin Chronicle, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765.

Unsolicited submissions (including but not limited to articles, artwork, photographs, and résumés) are not returned.

WATERLOO RECOMMENDS

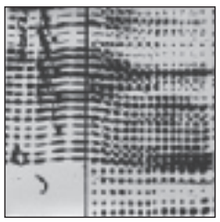
GREAT NEW MUSIC AT GREAT PRICES & OUR 100% GUARANTEE



CSS
Cansei De Ser Sexy (Sub Pop)
Pretension? Absent. Friction? Probable. CSS are the un-pretension: unfinished, exposed, and throwing all they have right at you. It is quick, tightly-wound, unfastened and supreme. Not a sneer, but a giggle.

$11.99 CD

ROGER O'DONNELL
The Truth In Me (Great Society)
Roger O'Donnell steps out on his own with his beautiful new album *The Truth In Me* – a collection of songs composed and recorded using a single instrument, the Moog Voyager.



$11.99 CD



various artists
FROM CLARKSDALE TO CLEVELAND V. 1: THE ROADHOUSE (Kejo Entertainment)
The new music series where the blues collide w/ rock 'n' roll. Compiled, sequenced, mixed and liner notes by DJ Jim Ladd, w/ performances by the Doors, Howlin' Wolf, Bill Wyman's Rhythm Kings, Jimmy Rogers, Stevie Ray Vaughan & more.

$12.99 CD

ALICE SMITH
For Lovers, Dreamers, and Me (BBE Beat Generation)
Alice Smith is an uncategorizable and rare artist whose commanding 4-octave voice lets her skip across genres effortlessly and transport you along with it.



$11.99 CD



J DILLA
The Shining (BBE Beat Generation)
J Dilla leaves behind a lasting impression on Hip Hop and *The Shining* serves as a testament to his talents. Featured artists include Common, Pharoahe Monch, Busta Rhymes, D'Angelo, Madlib and more.

$12.99 CD

MIDLAKE
Trials of Van Occupanther (Bella Union)
"Midlake's new one rises above retro pastiche to probe its central character, the lovelorn, calendar-confined Van Occupanther; spacey production and allusive songwriting mark the album as a present-day artifact." - *Pitchfork*



$11.99 CD



HENRIK SCHWARZ/various
DJ Kicks (K7)
Across 23 tracks, Henrik adeptly takes us on a musical journey that manages to entertain, enthrall, and educate all at once. This is one DJ Kicks you don't want to miss.

$12.99 CD

KASHMERE STAGE BAND
Texas Thunder Soul 1968 - 1974 (Now Again)
The best high school band of all time! Two discs of '60s and '70s funk from Houston's Kashmere High School Stage Band. Monster drum breaks, as heard on *Funky 16 Corners* and *Cold Heat* comps, including songs sampled by DJ Shadow.



$13.99 CD



ROCCO DELUCA & THE BURDEN
I Trust You to Kill Me (Ironworks)
Deluca's debut album challenges the listener to dive head first into the heart and soul of a musical revolution.

$9.99 CD



dB's and FRIENDS
Christmas Time Again (Collector's Choice)
There are a lot of modern rockers who consider this to be THE great Christmas album of the last 25 years or so. Originally released as a 7 song LP in 1986, this holiday classic appears here with six new tracks.

$13.99 CD



DOUG SAHM
Doug Sahm & Band (Collector's Choice)
Expect Doug's usual blend of blues, country, rock 'n' roll, Tex-Mex, and every other American musical style under the sun on this record, which features a fairly amazing supporting cast and some of Sahm's best work.

$10.99 CD



various artists
ONE WORLD, MANY CULTURES (Putumayo)
Multicultural collaborations between many of the world's leading musicians. $1 from the sale of this CD will be donated to Search for Common Ground in support of their efforts to find peaceful solutions to conflict in countries around the world.

$11.99 CD



DANAVA
Danava (Kemado)
"Had David Bowie seduced Black Sabbath and the coupling been consummated in a waterbed of liquid LSD, the music would sound as epic as Danava." - *The Stranger*

$9.99 CD

NELLIE McKAY
Pretty Little Head (Hungry Mouse)
A 23 song masterpiece, *Pretty Little Head* continues where *Get Away from Me* left off as she has crafted yet another incredibly unique, mesmerizing album.



$13.99 CD



STEVE GOODMAN
Live at the Earl of Old Town (Red Pajamas)
Live at the Earl of Old Town was recorded on August 14, 1978 at the intimate Chicago nightclub that was the launching pad for Steve, John Prine, Bonnie Koloc, and many other singer-songwriters.

$13.99 CD



DAN REEDER
Sweetheart (Oh Boy)
Dan Reeder's new second album consists of 15 original songs plus a cover of Procol Harum's "Whiter Shade of Pale." It isn't so much a sequel to his wonderful out-of-nowhere, out-of-time 2003 debut, as it is an extension of his first musical offering.

$10.99 CD



THE BLOW
Paper Television (K Records)
Fascinated with the physics of pop construction, The Blow makes music that holds a weightless gravity. Their songs are light enough to sail easily through the air, landing simultaneously on the turntable of a London DJ, in your Mom's car stereo, and in the iPod of a middle schooler in study hall.

$10.99 CD

MIRAH
Joyride: Remixes (K Records)
In this hot air balloon ride of remixes, Mirah lifts off with old friends and new ones. With so many music-smart friends at the controls, *Joyride: Remixes* is an experiment in floating free through the clouds, sharing, giving away, and opening presents at the same time.



$10.99 CD



SWAN LAKE
Beast Moans (Jagjaguwar)
Beast Moans is Swan Lake's debut record featuring, among other things, beast moans, starling voices, cobra hi hats and arpeggiating pianos. The songs are great weaves, showcasing the famous and very distinctive songwriting styles of Bejar, Krug, and Mercer.

$10.99 CD

SUFJAN STEVENS
Songs for Christmas (Asthmatic Kitty)
In December 2001, Sufjan set out to create a Christmas gift for his friends and family. Over the next several years, he created new Eps to add to the collection. This 5-CD box set includes all five volumes plus a ton of extra goodies.



$16.99 5 CD set

COME IN AND LISTEN TO THIS MONTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS CULLED FROM HUNDREDS OF NEW RELEASES. WE FULLY GUARANTEE YOU'LL BE SATISFIED OR EXCHANGE FOR EQUAL VALUE MERCHANDISE. PLUS, AS ALWAYS, YOU'RE WELCOME TO LISTEN TO ANYTHING IN STOCK!

SALE ENDS 2-7-2006

WATERLOO

COMPACT DISCS
RECORDS • VIDEO
10-11 Mon-Sat 12-11 Sun
600-A North Lamar Austin, TX 78703
www.waterloorecords.com
512-474-2500

WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

A Little Light-Rain Music

A holiday meditation

BY LOUIS BLACK

Late at night, I'm driving through a very light rain in a rented vehicle that is nothing like my car. It really isn't late, maybe just 10pm, but it seems later; still, the calmness rolls over me like a fragrance, surrounds me, and scents me. It's one of those rare interludes where all the things that haunt my head or hurt my body have all chosen the same time to rest. I'm playing a CD, given to me by a friend earlier in the evening, that I've never heard before. Driving, I'm just there. The music is neither distant nor flat; it is full and present. Lost in the music, the rain, the night, I'm trying to remember where I'm going, but I don't really care.

Ordinarily, having just been at the South by Southwest holiday party, I'd feel just a bit more distorted. The journey from the "who I once was" to the "who I am now" never makes sense or seems coherent when I think about it. So I'm not thinking about it.

Now, some of us at the paper have worked together, on one thing or another, for more than 2½ decades. Some of the younger staff weren't even born when others of us first hooked up so long ago. We lean back against railings or walls, talking about music. Sure, sometimes we tell stories of the old days, too many stories – too often you can watch as people's eyes glaze over, even when you feel like you haven't really started in yet. But such talk did not dominate on this night. There was planning, shared excitement, and the kind of communication that happens among folks who have known one another so long they don't even always need to speak.

The CD is late-Sixties, Los Angeles, Brian Wilson-type, wall-of-sound, arty rock; it's densely labored, boasting textured harmonies, with hippie-lite lyrics that ignore the tar and reach for the sky. I'm still rolling the taste of being with so many people I like around in my mouth, and the music is perfect. I just want the drive to be forever, the rain to be steady and light.

The next day, when I'm thinking back, however, the soundtrack does not embrace the joyous celebration of sun, with the ocean stretching out forever, that I had played over and over. Instead, it's Waylon Jennings performing Dee Moeller's "Slow Movin' Outlaw." This is from Jennings' terrific *This Time* album, which I've never found on CD, unlike every other Jennings vinyl (including a few cases in which it is more likely he walked by rather than actually recorded).

This is one of those songs that just gets stuck in my head, playing over and over. It is more than welcome – unlike when some bubblegum-pop song lodges there, returning every time you think it's finally gone. At those times, I feel like driving a nail into my mouth just so I can concentrate on something not quite so painful.

There are certain moments in songs, or scenes in movies, that become part of an endlessly playing, autobiographical collage. In "Try a Little Tenderness" on the *Live in Europe* album, for example, there's the moment when Otis Redding – with the deepest, most soulful sigh – near-moans, "And them young girls they do get weary." The way he curves that "weary" is the only description I know of the feeling at certain times when soul-sick and busted up, when all I want to do is rest, and yet I know there isn't even the hope of it anywhere in my future.

"All your ol' stations are being torn down and the high flying trains no longer roar/The floors're all sagging with boards at a suffering from not being used anymore" is how "Slow Movin' Outlaw" begins. It's a closeted, Dorian Gray Polaroid of how I really feel, the chorus hitting it just right: "Where has a slow movin' once quickdraw outlaw got to go."

These are the times when I feel so old that my face bears the ugly deep scars of each and every one of the too many miles I've lived, all too roughly and unwisely. When I look in the mirror at my eyes, they seem deadly flat, yet endlessly deep. But rather than just feeling sadness or loss, I kind of treasure each scar, especially some of the ugliest ones, as markers of a life lived and lessons learned.

Sometimes it may not be 20-years-ago good, but usually it's not that bad, either. Sure, the miles hurt, and hope has been chastened by experience, but desire can trump experience and memory leaven pain.

There is a light rain, and there is music. I hope they both never end, but I'm feeling good enough that I know I won't care when they do.

Happy holidays. ■

Office Closed Monday and Tuesday

The *Chronicle* offices will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25, through Tuesday, Dec. 26, and will reopen for regular business hours Wednesday, Dec. 27.

City Manager Futrell Responds

Dear Editor,

Michael King circuitously questions my professional integrity while acknowledging he has no knowledge of either a conflict of interest or any inappropriate personal interventions ["Point Austin," News, Dec. 15]. He then tries to draw a parallel about how I handle my job as city manager and my husband's employment to a past conflict-of-interest case involving a contract project manager on a major city utility project. In that particular case, the project manager did not disclose that he had a live-in relationship with an individual who obtained significant financial subcontracts at the same time and on the very same project he was hired to directly manage.

While inviting readers to draw their own conclusions, Mr. King lays out a shadowy conspiracy theory.

Before readers draw their own conclusion, they should know that for years, I have annually disclosed my husband's employment as a heating and air-conditioning technician for Wal-Mart on multiple, publicly filed financial disclosure forms. Once filed, these forms are made available for inspection in the City Clerk's Office.

What I did file for the first time last January was a new state disclosure form designed to disclose potential vendor conflicts. I filed this form reporting my husband's job, in addition to the two other financial disclosure forms I file annually where I also report my husband's employment. This new state disclosure requirement was created by legislation as part of HB 914 in late 2005. The new form could not be filed prior to January 2006, and I filed in January 2006. This is the "curious coincidence" or suspicious timing Mr. King refers to.

Mr. King says, "Futrell abruptly recused herself of any further Wal-Mart dealings." This is incorrect. It is incorrect because I was never involved in the Northcross Mall Wal-Mart site plan. Filed as an administrative site plan, full authority to review and approve this site plan was vested under Austin city code to the department director of the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department. The site plan would not have, and did not, come before me.

A few weeks ago I did recuse myself from the separate discussion of a citywide conditional-use permit process being proposed as land-use regulation for all large retail establishments. Once that proposal was being linked directly to the discussion of the specific redevelopment of Northcross Mall and a Wal-Mart site plan, I recused myself. It is that new link that could create a potential conflict of interest and the reason that I recused myself.

In my opinion, recusal was the right thing to do at that point to avoid any distraction, interference, or even the appearance of a conflict of interest while the council evaluates this proposed new land-use regulation and any direct tie to the Northcross Mall site plan.

And yes, Mr. King, that is what high-level ethics principles are all about.

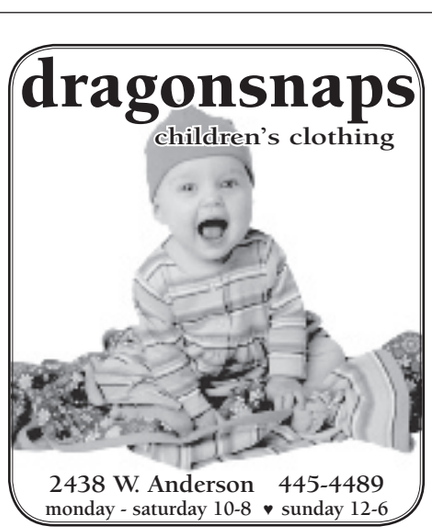
Toby Hammett Futrell
City manager
City of Austin

continued on p.8

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

General e-mail address: **mail@austinchronicle.com**
Postmarks forum: **austinchronicle.com/forums/postmarks**
Mailing address: *The Austin Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765









Car Donation
Hope House



WITH YOUR HELP - CARE IS PROVIDED FOR 40 SEVERELY CHALLENGED CHILDREN FROM VIRTUALLY EVERY AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOOD. (FOR OVER 40 YEARS).

- Run by Hope House – we're not a vehicle broker
- Funds generated go directly to the needs of our children
- Tax Deductible
- Cars, Trucks, Boats, Property – any condition★

THANK YOU AUSTIN 515-6889 www.hopehouseaustin.com

QUALITY ABORTION SERVICES
331-6651

International Healthcare Solutions



- Medical Abortion (abortion pill)
- Surgical abortion
- I.V. sedation for comfort
- Flexible appointments including weekends & evenings
- Private Practice of Physician couple

9805 Anderson Mill Rd.
Austin, TX 78750
TDSHS#8417

www.internationalhealthcaresolutions.com

FORUMS

A *CHRONICLE* READER COMMENTS
on the smoking ban:

"Or just like, stop being cigarette nazis, Austin."

JOIN THE FRAY

CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com/forums

Make your reservations now!



Christmas Eve Dinner
Dec. 24th Special Menu

New Years Celebration
all inclusive feast!
salad, appetizer, entree, dessert & champagne

both locations open 11am

CUBAN RESTAURANT & BAR
Habana

709 E. 6th Street (512)443-4252-----2728 South Congress (512)443-4253

MERRELL



PRIMO CHILL BOOT: Tan, Black, Brown 6 1/2-9
Going north? Fleece Lined Comfort sole
Great after ski boot

SHOE BOXES
Austin's Affordable Fashion Boutique
2438 W. Anderson Ln. • 323-0554
www.shoeboxesaustin.com

The Fitting Stool
Barton Creek Mall • 328-0682

WELLS BRANCH
Pet & Bird Clinic



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FREE* PET EXAM
NOT REDEEMABLE FOR CASH
EXP. 12-27-06

SOUTH BRANCH
403 E. Ben White
SUITE F
462-0002



50% OFF* ROUTINE SPAYS & NEUTERS
DOGS & CATS ONLY
NOT REDEEMABLE FOR CASH
EXP. 12-27-06

NORTH BRANCH
12202 N. Mopac
339-8472

50% OFF* ALL VACCINATIONS
NOT REDEEMABLE FOR CASH
EXP. 12-27-06



$5 OFF* PET BATH
NOT REDEEMABLE FOR CASH
EXP. 12-27-06

*MUST PRESENT COUPON UPON ARRIVAL

DISCOVER
PLANET K

GROWNUP GIFTS FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

*Don't Forget our **Holiday Hours**:*



OPEN UNTIL 1 A.M.
Friday & Saturday Dec. 22, 23
Sunday Dec 24 XMAS EVE
OPEN EARLY at 10 A.M.
CLOSE around 8 P.M. (Call Us!)
Xmas Day - CLOSED

HOLIDAY SALE
Up to 60% off SELECT Clothing, Jewelry, Lingerie, Lighters Hats, Mugs, Beaded Curtains, Action Figures & Lunchboxes
20% off ALL Stickers, Patches, and Temporary Tattoos
WE FEATURE THE BEST SELECTION OF IMPORTED CIGARETTES, CIGARS, PIPES, INCENSE, EROTIC OILS, UNDERGROUND BOOKS & COMIX, PIERCING AND UNIQUE JEWELRY, INDOOR GARDENING & MORE...

NORTH
9407 N. IH-35
(RUNDBERG EXIT)
832-8544

SOUTH
1516 S. LAMAR
(WEST SIDE OF LAMAR)
443-2292

E. RIVERSIDE
2007 EAST RIVERSIDE
(BETWEEN KAOS & THE BACKROOM)
441-5555

RESEARCH
11657 RESEARCH BLVD
(@ DUVAL RD.)
502-9323

OPEN EVERY NIGHT 'TIL MIDNIGHT

Primates Grotesquely Used

Dear Editor,

Oliver and the other animals at Primarily Primates are being used in grotesque displays yet again ("Famous Long Ago," News, Dec. 15).

The attempt to rival Bob Dylan's most dismal ballad with the description of Primarily Primates can only increase the sanctuary's hardships, rather than support what's good about it.

Readers may visit **www.friendsofanimals.org**, which offers this Texas sanctuary the one public forum it's got since the media turned sharply on it several weeks back and since its Web site was taken over by the people who seem bent on destroying it.

What's perhaps most remarkable in the *Chronicle*'s story is what's missing altogether: a considerate acknowledgment that Friends of Animals, a no-nonsense organization with an excellent track record since 1957, has offered to merge with this sanctuary in order to do right by its donors and ensure its future.

Lee Hall
Legal director for Friends of Animals
Devon, Pa.

[News Editor Michael King responds: We don't know what Lee Hall means by "a considerate acknowledgement," but apparently it doesn't mean "reporting." As Jordan Smith reported, "Tello and Feral thought the controversy was over and Tello could return to running the sanctuary; Tello says he was in the process of making physical improvements to the enclosures, and Feral says FOA was 'in the process of a merger with PPI, so that they could get the ongoing financial support and the administrative support that they needed.'"]

Support Local Businesses

Dear Editor,

In response to a letter in last week's edition ["Postmarks," Dec. 15], I wanted to let readers know that the Austin Independent Business Alliance, Austin's largest and longest-running local business advocacy organization sees other entities like Choose Austin First and Austin Unique not as competitors but instead as co-promoters of the economic and quality-of-life benefits of shopping and doing business locally. The fact that Austin can support two nonprofits (AIBA and CAF) and one for-profit company (Austin Unique) all promoting the interests of local businesses is testament to the strength of our local business community and the support it enjoys in the community.

As for being "financed" by Stratus Properties, yes they are one of our many sponsors and were also one of our first. They have participated with other AIBA sponsors like Catellus, Cencor, Endeavor, Trammell Crow, and Walters Southwest in helping craft our CLIC Program that helps place local, independent businesses in new commercial developments. These sponsors now actively recruit AIBA members and other local businesses for their developments, and Stratus has recently provided new locations for Nuevo Leon, Satellite Cafe, Twin Liquors, and Waterloo Ice House in their Escarpment Village development. Their Block 21 project Downtown and the Crestview Station TOD on North Lamar provide even more opportunities for local businesses.

We're an independent group by nature. We do not support or oppose specific development projects, and we take tough stands on public policy issues that some of our sponsors don't share. While we understand that there are other important quality-of-life issues in Austin like the environment, housing, health care, and many others, our focus is on promoting local, independent business, and we welcome and appreciate all those who wish to financially and otherwise support those efforts.

Thanks for your continued coverage of local business issues.

Melissa Miller
Director, Austin Independent Business Alliance

Wal-Mart's Manifest Destiny

Dear Editor,

In your Dec. 15 issue ["Point Austin," News], we learned the following fun fact: "To satisfy Wall Street investors ... Wal-Mart must add eight percent of floor space internationally every year – that's now roughly 65 million square feet a year." Using these numbers and some simple math, one can calculate that our friends' current worldwide footprint is 812 million square feet, or just under 30 square miles. According to my atlas, the Earth has roughly 57 million square miles of land. If Wal-Mart continues to meet their doughty goal of 8% growth, we can look forward to a day in 2194 when all the land on Earth will be covered by their super-duper-centers. Good luck finding parking.

Sincerely,
Jesse Attas

About Dr. Heffley

Greetings all,

I am the oldest son of Dr. James Heffley, who as of late wrote the column "To Your Health." I read what Ms. Lewis had to write and was pleased ["To Your Health," Dec. 8]. Dad was certainly everything people have said about him, but there are other things that people don't know about. People wouldn't know about the man who took time out before work to play a quick game of catch with his son(s) or who taught us and sang old Sons of the Pioneers songs or who built the house on the farm where we lived so many years. He taught us many things, and if I can pass half of what he taught me to my sons, then they will know more than most.

Thanks for helping Dad help others.

Mike Heffley

Error in KOOP Story

Dear Lee Nichols,

Well, I suppose, it's a small conciliation that a friend made the error.

But, I was stunned to learn that you thought that Thomas Durnin was the first voice on KOOP, especially after your many stories about the place ["Naked City," News, Dec. 15].

I started KOOP radio. I worked for 11 years to get the license. I was able to get the first-ever modification of the so-called "Wolfman Jack" Treaty with Mexico. I negotiated the timeshare with TSP/UT.

I was the first voice on KOOP. Why? Because I started the station.

And for all the changes the group has gone through, I'm still locked out of the station. They even deny I started it! When I asked them to simply put up their Web page that originally described how the station came to be, they refused.

They even rebuffed a mediation with the good folks at the Dispute Resolution Center.

They haven't paid me back the money I spent putting the station on the air. And *Austin Airwaves* was thrown off the air for not doing a station ID (but it's on the air check). Lee, you personally wrote about these scandals!

Apparently, none of this is newsworthy to the *Chronicle* anymore.

Errors happen, sure. Overall, the *Chronicle*, and you Lee, does an excellent job of accurately

continued on p.10

CHUCK NORRIS PRESENTS WORLD COMBAT LEAGUE COMBAT MARTIAL ARTS VIP SEMINAR.



TICKET GIVE AWAY

Saturday, Jan. 6
Frank Erwin Center
Lone Star Room

Learn World Combat League techniques, and meet the stars of the WCL. Event hosted by Multiple Fighting Champion Guy Mezger.
Five winners will each receive four passes to attend the VIP Fight Seminar and four ticket vouchers to the World Combat League Championship at the Frank Erwin Center on Saturday, Jan. 20.

to WIN tickets to see MARTIAL ARTS VIP SEMINAR
log on to austinchronicle.com/contests

CHRONIC NEWS BLOG

On the Austin City Store Opening:

"'Even though it's only 1,400 square feet, this is a very important project for us,' says Will Wynn. Normally, it takes 217,000 square feet to get noticed, huh?" - Wells Dunbar

CHRONICLE READ MORE AND COMMENT: austinchronicle.com/chronic



20% OFF
Holiday Accessory Sale

Last Chance for Christmas Savings!

In-stock lamps, picture frames, mirrors, tableware and more
consignment and closeout not included

URBAN LIVING
7727 BURNET RD 451-2144 • MON-SAT 10-6 SUN 1-5 • WWW.URBANLIVINGAUSTIN.COM • FINANCING AVAILABLE



Neolithic Goddess Necklace
in Sterling Silver

THE TURQUOISE DOOR
1208 S. Congress



The Stepping Out Pin
in Sterling Silver
and Black Onyx

THE TURQUOISE DOOR
1208 S. Congress

Open Late 416-7100

SEASON'S GREETINGS



TURQUOISE DOOR

1208
South
Congress
Austin
Texas
78704

(512)
416-7100
Open Daily

JEWELRY AND FOLK ART

LABORATORY
COMPUTERS & SERVICE

CUSTOM BUILT GAMING COMPUTERS

512MB OF DDR2, 250GIG SATA2 HD
256MB PCI-X VIDEO, 16X DVD RW
AMD 3500+ $499
AMD DUALCORE 3800+ $575
AMD DUALCORE 5000+$799
INTEL P4 3.2GIG-$529
INTEL DUO CORE 2 E6300-$599
INTEL DUO CORE 2 E6700-$999

ALL MACHINES ARE CUSTOM BUILT WITH NEW PARTS AND INCLUDE A ONE YEAR PARTS AND LABOR WARRANTY.

RACK MOUNT AVAILABLE FOR AUDIO AND SERVER SOLUTIONS

WE FIX COMPUTERS

$39 FLAT RATE WITH NO HOURLY CHARGE INCLUDES VIRUS AND SPYWARE REMOVAL, INSTALLS AND REPAIRS. DESKTOPS OR NOTEBOOKS.

CALL 419-7422 OPEN 10-6 MON-SAT VISIT 5400 N LAMAR
ORDER ONLINE AT WWW.LABORATORYCOMPUTERS.COM



PIONEER/ALUMINUM LED

VICTORINOX SWISS ARMY

APPAREL TRAVEL GEAR WATCHES CUTLERY MULTI-TOOLS
WWW.SWISSARMY.COM

Whole Earth Provision Co.
2410 San Antonio St., 478-1577 (FREE parking w/purchase at UT Lot).
1014 North Lamar Blvd., 476-1414
WESTGATE @ S. Lamar & Hwy 290 W., 899-0992
www.WholeEarthProvision.com

reporting the news week after week. But we both know nowhere near as many people will read the correction box, as did the caption of a prominently placed photo on the News page. Your error will only reinforce the rewriting of the station's history.

Lee, ol' chum, you want to make it up to me? Please write a story about how I am being treated by the folks at KOOP. Is that too much to ask?

11 years.

Disappointed and dejected,
Jim Ellinger
Austin Airwaves

[Associate News Editor Lee Nichols, who wrote the photo caption to which Ellinger refers, replies: I regret the error; as near as I can figure, I misread the press release announcing the move into KOOP's new studios. As for the conflict between the station and its founder – and no matter what some at the station try to claim, Jim Ellinger is in fact the founder of KOOP radio – isn't it about time you guys patched this up? Seriously, this fight has been going for about a decade now (search the Chronicle's *online archive for the history), and the point at which reconciliation should have happened has long since passed.]*

Safeguard Small Businesses

Dear Editor,

We read with great interest the challenge that the neighborhoods surrounding Northcross Mall are facing regarding the proposed "upscale" Wal-Mart. As owners of Tesoros Trading Company on 209 Congress, one of the three longstanding, locally owned businesses that will be displaced due to the three Marriott hotels that will be built on the block, we have been humbled by the experiences we've had both with our political leaders and the representatives of White Lodging/Marriott.

It is clear to us that the city of Austin has been too slow in addressing the needs of its citizens and small businesses in the face of development (a sentiment that we have personally shared with them). Austin *is* a different kind of American city, where both its citizens and visitors appreciate its unique culture and spirit. Creative solutions are possible in a city like Austin. Although the mayor and council members have expressed sincere empathy toward our own situation, it's a shame that the city did not set policies to safeguard the interests of neighborhoods and small businesses when Austin was clearly on the development swing. Not that we are against urban densification/renewal, nor do we negate private property rights, but the city should've had plans to ensure that developers address the needs of local citizens and independent businesses so that win-win situations are viable in the development process.

But ultimately the issue is that it is very hard for regular citizens and small-business owners to go against big business to fight to preserve Austin's individuality, when our city leaders say, "There's not much we can do, it's a private deal." Big business has big money, and unfortunately, big money wins.

Sincerely,
Kisla Jimenez and Jonathan Williams
Tesoros Trading Company

Texans Illegal in Colorado

Dear Editor,

For any of my fellow Texans who might be planning to move to (or vacation in) Colorado, keep this in mind: The state of Colorado considers you to be an illegal alien.

A recently passed state law designed to combat illegal immigration requires all Colorado residents to have state driver's licenses in order to receive any state benefits (unemployment insurance, etc.). In order to obtain a Colorado driver's license, you must present the DMV with three legitimate forms of identification. However, because Texas shares a border with Mexico (and because Texas supposedly contains a big black market in phony IDs), all forms of identification from Texas are considered to be *illegitimate* in Colorado. This means that, according to Colorado state law, your Texas driver's license is phony; if you were born in Texas, your birth certificate is phony; and so on. According to Colorado's governor and Legislature, you are not a United States citizen.

By singling out Texas as a "hotbed" of illegal immigration, Colorado is violating federal law (read the U.S. Constitution if you don't believe me). This means that all Texans are being labeled as criminals by people who actually *are* criminals.

Matthew K. Diedrich

Just Don't Shop There

Dear citizens of Austin,

If you do not want a Wal-Mart in your midst, do not shop there, at any of them, ever. Get your friends to desist, your family to shop elsewhere. Organize the whole neighborhood to cease flooding Wal-Mart with your money.

I made a conscious decision to delete Wal-Mart from my life several years ago and still have plenty of stuff and all the shopping experiences I can stand. You can do it, too. It's really very easy. Just stop.

Nancy Weaver
Driftwood

Photo Caption Correction

Dear Editor,

Thanks for running the photo on p.17 of this week's *Chronicle* ["Naked City," Dec. 15] relating to KOOP radio signing on from its new facility at 3823 Airport Blvd. Ste. B. I must point out an error in the accompanying caption: I was not the same deejay who signed KOOP onto the air for the very first time on Dec. 17, 1994 – it was Jim Ellinger. I did not become involved with KOOP until around May of 1995.

Thomas Durnin
Producer/host
KOOP 91.7FM and KOOP.org

Better Energy Solutions

Dear Editor,

The Dec. 1 article entitled "It's the Carbon, Stupid!" [News] discussed the harm that 19 new coal-fired power plants being built in Texas will cause to the environment in the form of climate change. We learned from the last election that clean energy is both good policy and good politics. With rising concern about CO2 emissions and America's dependence on nonrenewable energy sources, it is clear that building more coal-fired power plants will not solve our energy problems but only increase them. Congress has an opportunity to start taking action toward solving our energy problems by investing in clean, renewable energy sources that save consumers money.

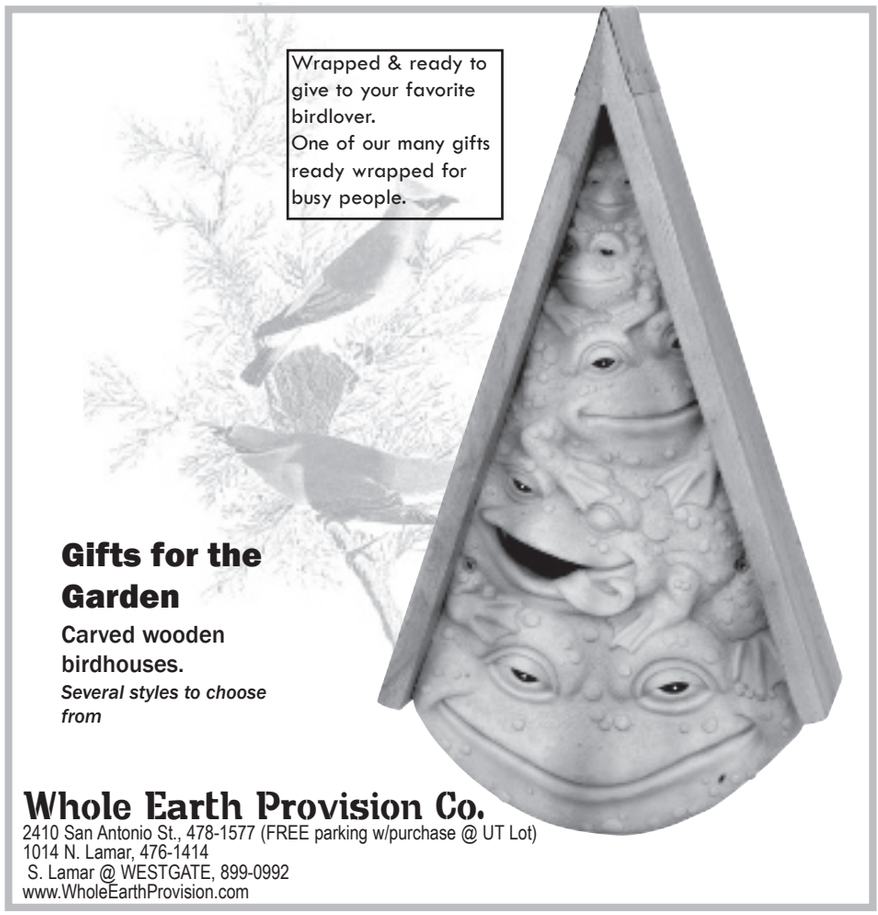
I look forward to seeing what will be accomplished by the new Congress in moving toward better energy solutions.

Jessica Blau

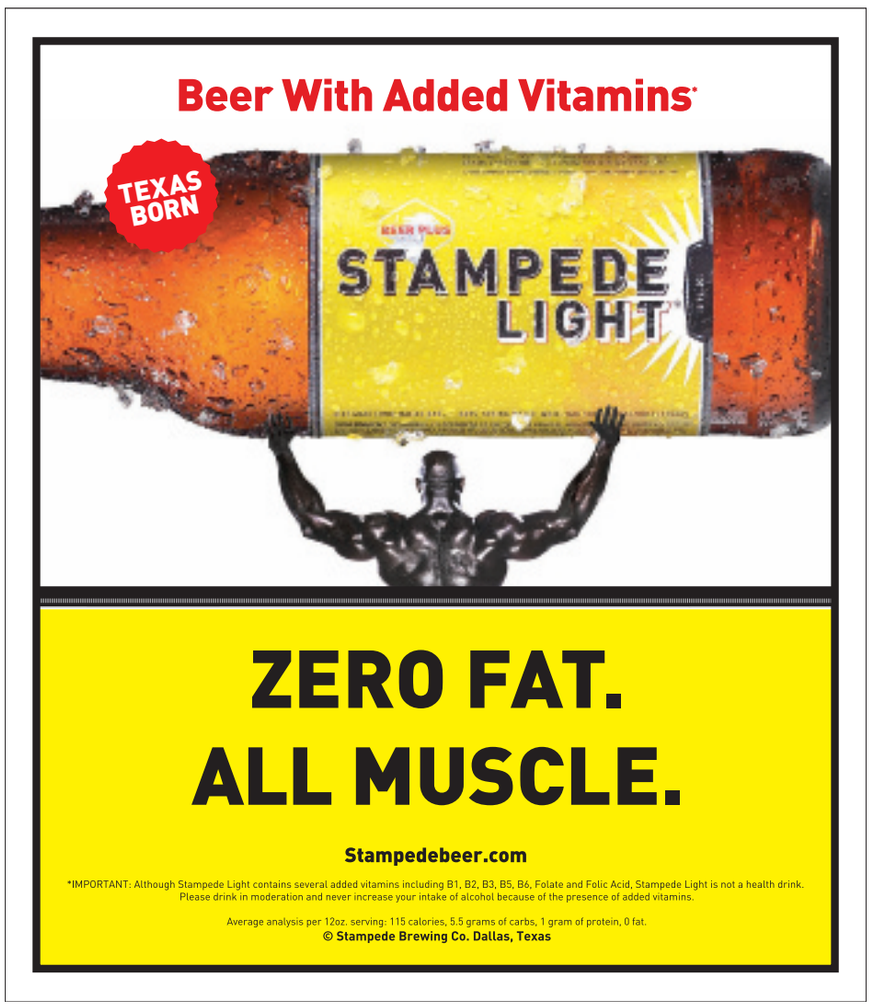
continued on p.12




FOOTBALL COUNTRY,
SANTA DIDN'T FORGET YOU.
Austin Wranglers Holiday Pack includes:
- 2 Arena Sideline seats for the home opener March 4th
- An Authentic Austin Wranglers game jersey
A $205 value for only $99!
339-3939
austinwranglers.com
AUSTIN WRANGLERS
THE ZONE
1300 AM


Wrapped & ready to give to your favorite birdlover.
One of our many gifts ready wrapped for busy people.
Gifts for the Garden
Carved wooden birdhouses.
Several styles to choose from
Whole Earth Provision Co.
2410 San Antonio St., 478-1577 (FREE parking w/purchase @ UT Lot)
1014 N. Lamar, 476-1414
S. Lamar @ WESTGATE, 899-0992
www.WholeEarthProvision.com


Even the IT guy has a date to the office party.
Austin
512.476.5566
100 locations worldwide
Do you feel like you're the only one who's single?
You're not! We have thousands of clients who are just waiting to meet a quality single like you. We will find out who you are looking to meet, then set you up on a date for lunch or drinks after work. We take care of all the details, all you have to do is show up. Call today. Date tomorrow.
Director Jennifer Donnelly
Director PJ Osgood
Director Lisa Purdum
IT'S just LUNCH!®
dating for busy professionals®


Beer With Added Vitamins*
TEXAS BORN
STAMPEDE LIGHT
ZERO FAT.
ALL MUSCLE.
Stampedebeer.com
*IMPORTANT: Although Stampede Light contains several added vitamins including B1, B2, B3, B5, B6, Folate and Folic Acid, Stampede Light is not a health drink. Please drink in moderation and never increase your intake of alcohol because of the presence of added vitamins.
Average analysis per 12oz. serving: 115 calories, 5.5 grams of carbs, 1 gram of protein, 0 fat.
© Stampede Brewing Co. Dallas, Texas

They Should Waive the Laws for Me

Dear Editor,

I was intrigued today when reading the stories about Wal-Mart. The substance of the various articles and letters was that the site-plan application met every one of the requirements and thus was fully in compliance with our laws and regulations, but darn it, we don't want it so our politicians should be free to reject it.

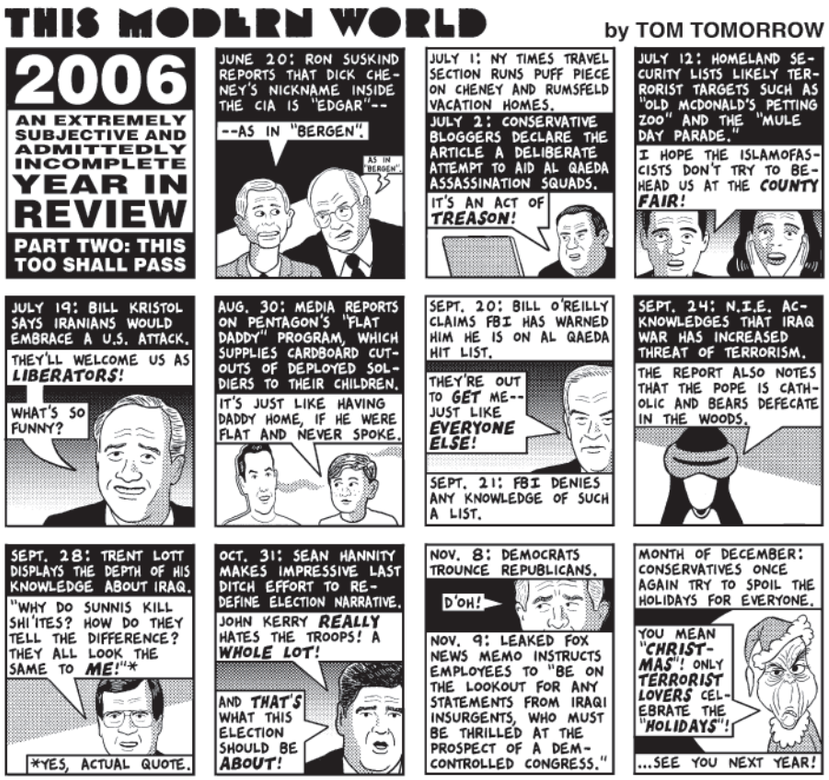
Makes me wonder, can I tap into this passion somehow to get someone to waive the laws and regulations so I can make my house larger than 2,300 square feet? Oh, I guess that would make it a "McMansion," and that's a bad thing. So the "rule of law" should only apply to things you agree with?

Thank goodness I don't have to make a living by being an Austin politician. I laughed out loud reading their tortured statements attempting to align with the neighborhoods while admitting they have to follow laws and regulations. I particularly liked the one who said she'd go to Bentonville and get down on her knees for the community. That was a hoot!

The city manager's solution was much more practical. In truth, probably every one of the council members, as well as most of the authors, probably have a conflict of interest in the matter by virtue of having retirement investments in the American economy, a not insignificant part of which are in one of its largest companies, Wal-Mart.

I don't mean to belittle anyone's concerns about this issue, but really, listen to yourselves.

Tom Wiatt



Not Whitewater

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed this analysis of the Constitution by Louis Black ["Page Two," Dec. 8]. His final judgment about the slow pace of government equating to the proper workings of the Constitution is not a new one, but I also believe it to be correct.

However, his recollection of the President Clinton impeachment is flawed. President Clinton was impeached for lying about Monica Lewinsky during the Paula Jones sexual-harassment trial, not during the Whitewater investigation. In fact, part of the plea agreement in that case was that the Whitewater prosecutors would not pursue criminal charges against the president for the same offense.

The president was impeached for obstruction of justice against an American citizen in a civil case against himself.

Brian York
Round Rock

Democrats Have Already Collapsed

Dear Editor,

Oh, I knew it was coming. My only surprise was how fast the new Dems collapsed. They didn't even wait until the new Congress convened. The day after the election, Pelosi abrogated her constitutional responsibility and gave Bush a free ride on impeachment, a smile on her face. Then Harry Reid says he can support more troops for Iraq. Look around and watch the spines turning to jelly.

Who do they think elected them? The 28% hardcore stupid who still support the war in Iraq? Who do they think will support them next time with money and votes? Well, it won't be me.

Ben Hogue

Story Raises More Questions

Dear Editor,

The story on Primarily Primates ("Famous Long Ago," News, Dec. 15) raises more questions than it answers.

Has PETA ever financially supported Primarily Primates? If PETA wanted them to have a veterinarian on site, why didn't they simply write a check instead of filing a costly (to both sides) lawsuit?

Why no mention of the various animals that have died or become ill during Theisen-Watt's watch? There is quite a large number of stories to tell in a mere two months.

continued on p.14

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS!

A Different Sale Begins Each Day!
All items remain on sale until December 24th

FRI. 1	SAT. 2	SUN. 3	MON. 4	TUES. 5	WED. 6
20% OFF Incense	20% OFF Clothing	20% OFF Music	20% OFF Feng Shui Supplies	20% OFF Candles	20% OFF Tea
THURS. 7	**FRI. 8**	**SAT. 9**	**SUN. 10**	**MON. 11**	**TUES. 12**
20% OFF Salt Lamps	20% OFF Jewelry	20% OFF Aroma-therapy	20% OFF Statues	20% OFF Books	20% OFF Singing Bowls

See stores for more details.
Chinese Herbs, Asian Arts, Feng Shui Items, Books, Music, Gifts & more

WHITE CRANE HERBAL MEDICINE
NORTH: 2700 W. Anderson Lane 323-6720
SOUTH: 1902 S. Congress 693-HERB (4372)

Give the Gift of Austin
NOW AVAILABLE
Limited Edition
2006 GOODWILL Holiday Ornament



$14.99 plus tax

3-D, 24K Gold Finished Gift-Boxed Ornaments
AVAILABLE AT ALL GOODWILL STORES
or e-mail us at ornaments@austingoodwill.org
WE PUT PEOPLE TO WORK



WHOLE LIFE PRODUCTS FOR YOUR PETS

We offer the best selection of organic, holistic and nutritious foods in town!
Flint River Ranch • Wysong • Prairie • Sensible Choice • Solid Gold
Eagle Pack • Wellness • Natural Balance • FarMore
Innova • Precise • California Natural
We also offer: Pet Supplies • Toys • Grooming
Treament that reduces shedding 60-80% • Raw Foods

Choose the pet center that Austin has trusted since 1955!

Bark 'n purr
4604 Burnet (1 block N. of 45th)
(512) 452-3883
www.barknpurr.com

CLASSES, STAINED GLASS
FLAME WORKING & FUSING

unique gifts handmade by local artists



BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS
380-0770 · 108 W. 43rd
www.austinbluemoon.com

Sparks
Cards & Gifts
Gift Wrap
Ornaments
Holiday Cards
ON SALE
12/21 - 12/30
1014 W. 6th Street (512) 4SPARKS
9-10 M-F, 9-11 Sat., 12-6 Sun.
Next To Amy's Ice Cream

JEEP REPAIR
THE DEALER ALTERNATIVE
SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE
30K-60K-90K
THE AMERICAN SUV SPECIALIST
• TUNE-UPS • ENGINES
• BRAKES • TRANSMISSIONS
• EXHAUST • CUSTOM MODS
CALL FOR ESTIMATES
JEEP MASTERS
326-3555
www.jeepmasters.com
4125 B. TODD LANE







Next Stop: 2007

Put New Year's on track for fun

Come roll into the new year on a vintage train! The New Year's Eve *Twilight Flyer* features a gourmet buffet dinner plus an open bar (beer, wine, and champagne). Just for fun, a comedian will be along for the ride. The train departs from Cedar Park at 9 p.m. on Sunday, December 31, for a four-hour Hill Country cruise. Tickets are $125 per person. Seating is limited, so reservations are required. All aboard!

AUSTIN STEAM TRAIN

RESERVATIONS 477-8468

austinsteamtrain.org

A nonprofit volunteer organization. Sponsored by: Capital Metro, City of Austin, City of Cedar Park, Cedar Park Tourism & Convention Bureau, Crocker Crane Rentals, Kozmetsky Foundation, Trans-Texas Rail Shop. All trains temporarily diesel-powered.

Where are the 250 animals who have been removed from Primarily Primates? Are they all still alive? Or just some?

Has the liquidation plan been thwarted? What is the current value of the Primarily Primates real estate?

Why would PETA want to see any chimpanzees sent to Chimp Haven, which is not a sanctuary, but rather a government scheme to subsidize experimentation? It houses chimpanzees that can be recalled into research at any time, under the federal CHIMP Act that Clinton signed in 2000.

Lynn Cuny of Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation, according to a *Houston Press* story ("The Great EscApe" by Carol Flake Chapman, Feb. 15, 2001), defended Primarily Primates in 1992 and "arranged to have Primarily Primates inspected by a Dallas zookeeper and prominent primatologist Carol Noone. Noone concluded that there were no signs of animal neglect or mistreatment." Why is Cuny now saying that at that time she encouraged people to take their complaints to the authorities?

Why has no evidence been produced regarding the pretext for the takeover – the alleged mismanagement of funds?

Why not clarify who shot Betty? It was Terry Minchew, the very person on whose allegations PETA relied to initiate legal action.

Alternatives were available. Yet Minchew used this act in allegations against the refuge.

Why doesn't Theisen-Watt mention that Oliver doesn't live with other chimpanzees for his own safety? The elderly chimpanzee is blind and also had a mild stroke, which can affect motor skills. Too much space means it's difficult to get regular medications to Oliver.

If PETA repeats their false allegations enough, will people believe them?

Noah Lewis
Correspondent, Friends of Animals
Darien, Conn.

A Pivotal Time

Fellow Austinites,

I would like to remind you that just because Wal-Mart has graciously postponed groundbreaking at Northcross for 60 days doesn't mean the "proposal" has gone away. This is a pivotal time in Austin history. It's time to stop watching television and take serious action. We must unite and fight to protect our beloved city.



Not only do we have a duty to absolutely stop Wal-Mart's invasion at Northcross, we need to seriously consider whether Austin needs an additional 11 Wal-Marts on top of the 10 (soon to be 11) we already have. I implore anyone who truly cares about the city of Austin please join us in taking action to stop Wal-Mart. Anything you can do is helpful. It's important our city leaders understand how serious this is. You can do your part by visiting the following Web sites: **www.austinfullcircle.org** and **www.rg4n.org**. You can pick up yard signs at Zinger Hardware on Anderson and Burnet and sign the petition while you are there. Most importantly, you can e-mail City Council members and let them know you totally oppose Wal-Mart at Northcross. Get the word out. If we unite as a community, there is no reason to think we can't stop Wal-Mart. If we are successful this one time, it will give Austinites a louder voice the next 11 times Wal-Mart wants to build here. Please do it today. Take Austin back.

Respectfully yours,
Colette Michalec
AustinFullCircle.org

Humans Need to Become Educated

Dear Editor,

Thank you so much for your cover story titled "Famous Long Ago" [News, Dec. 15] about the plight of the animals at Primarily Primates Inc. This will help raise awareness not only about these animals but about the lack of animal welfare laws to protect all animals and ensure they are treated humanely. Nothing will change until humans become educated. This story will help that.

Sincerely,
Cherie Rachel

Meeting Just Raised More Concerns

Dear Editor,

Last night, I attended the Crestview Neighborhood Association meeting, where representatives from the engineering firm developing the property spoke in an effort to allay any concerns the neighborhood might have about the proposed construction. Instead, it only brought more questions and skepticism to mind.

1) First, representatives from Wal-Mart failed to appear at the meeting, which demonstrates a certain level of disdain for the community. Wal-Mart's PR group can give lip service to the inclusion of the community all they want, but if they fail to appear ... it just speaks to what I think most of the people in the neighborhood fear. Wal-Mart is interested in Wal-Mart and not interested in being beholden to or accountable to the community. That's not the sort of business that I want in my neighborhood.

2) The traffic impact analysis seems to be at best incomplete and at worst negligent.

a) Impact on Morrow was not included. It's a pretty common shortcut through that area, and it's a residential street.

b) The proposed number of trucks per day (six to nine) seems like it's a conservative estimate to say the least. Further, the metrics used as a basis of that estimate are flawed. The engineering company representatives stated that estimate was based on the volume of traffic at an average area Supercenter. This facility is intended to be the *largest* in the area. No mention was made of that.

3) It does not appear that they have considered the impact on public transportation yet.

4) What will be the impact on smaller locally owned businesses? I can't see an upside for them. Am I missing something?

I'd like to state, in addition, that I am pro-density. I believe that Northcross is in desperate need of revitalization. However, I do not think that Wal-Mart is the solution.

Andrew Boyd

Living Without Wal-Mart

Dear Editor,

In two years, I am happy to say that I have only patronized the Walton empire once. That was only because I desperately needed motor oil for my car. I can live without Wal-Mart and so can anyone else.

But it is obvious that Wal-Mart is welcome. If people wanted to put Wal-Mart out of business, they could do so right now. Wal-Mart is in business because many people choose to buy products there. Wal-Mart started out as a single store and got bigger because they gave customers what they wanted.

No dominance lasts forever. In the 1930s, A&P had about 16,000 stores nationwide. Today they have about 400. Wal-Mart will lose out if customers do decide that they prefer something else. And the wants and needs of customers are always changing.

Chris Baker

Wal-Mart Is Evil

Dear Editor,

I live near to the Northcross Mall. I make crap for pay, but I'd still rather this thing [Wal-Mart] not come in here ["Mart Growth," News, Dec. 15].

I have no idea what people are saying about property values and traffic. I'm not too concerned about either since I'm not a property owner.

What I am concerned about is that Wal-Mart is freaking evil, folks. I'm against the thing because their profits are based on destroying small business and exporting manufacturing jobs to authoritarian countries with no real labor protections. Mainly China, you know, Tiananmen Square China? Remember?

They're devils, plain and simple. They should be turned out of the country, let alone resisted in this area.

Why on Earth are y'all turning this into a class thing? Wal-Mart is a freaking slaver company. The base of their business is barbarism. I'm broke, too, but Jesus, don't bother defending the devil, he can afford his own lawyers.

Donald Jackson





ATTENTION: PAY-AS-YOU-THROW CUSTOMERS



Monday, December 25th & Monday, January 1st begin ***"SLIDE"*** *weeks.*

NO COLLECTION of garbage, recycling or yard trimmings on Christmas Day or New Year's Day

Monday Dec. 25	Tuesday Dec. 26	Wednesday Dec. 27	Thursday Dec. 28	Friday Dec. 29	Saturday Dec. 30
NO COLLECTION Christmas Day	Mon. — Monday's Collection	Tues. — Tuesday's Collection	Wed. — Wednesday's Collection	Thurs. — Thursday's Collection	Fri. — Friday's Collection

Monday Jan. 1	Tuesday Jan. 2	Wednesday Jan. 3	Thursday Jan. 4	Friday Jan. 5	Saturday Jan. 6
NO COLLECTION New Year's Day	Mon. — Monday's Collection	Tues. — Tuesday's Collection	Wed. — Wednesday's Collection	Thurs. — Thursday's Collection	Fri. — Friday's Collection

Pay-As-You-Throw Customers:

You may set out your Christmas trees with yard trimmings for curbside collection beginning December 26th. Trees 6 feet and over should be cut in half. Please remove the stand and all decorations.



REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE — SOLID WASTE SERVICES

NOTE: *The City of Austin Household Hazardous Waste Facility will be closed the week of Christmas.*

For more information, please call the City of Austin Solid Waste Services Department at **494-9400** or visit **www.austinrecycles.com**

ACC – where the focus is on you!



Register for spring classes!

- **Nov. 13** - Registration begins for current and former ACC students. Check the schedule for your eligible times.
- **Nov. 20** - Registration opens for new, current, and former ACC students.
- **Jan. 16** - Classes start.

In-district students can register for only $39 tuition per credit hour. Out-of-district students pay $110 tuition per credit hour.

Pick up a schedule at any ACC campus, check the web at www.austincc.edu, or call 512.223.4ACC for a campus near you.

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Start Here. Get There.

Workforce Training • University Transfer • Access Programs • Great Faculty & Staff

Perfect Holiday Gifts for Anyone

LAPTOP BLOW-OUT!!!



Dell C600 P3 700MHz
256Mb RAM, 12Gb HDD
Windows 2000 Pro
$259.99



Dell C400 P3 1.3GHz
512Mb RAM, 30Gb HDD
Wireless, Win XP Pro
$369.99



Dell C640 P4 2.4GHz
512Mb RAM, 60Gb HDD
DVD ROM, Win XP Pro
$429.99



Compaq Armada M300
P3 600MHz, 128Mb RAM,
10Gb HDD, Open SUSE
Linux 10.1
$199.99



HP Omnibook vt6200
P4 1.6GHz,512Mb RAM,
40Gb HDD, DVD
Win XP Pro
$419.99



Compaq Evo N610C
P4 2.4GHz, 512Mb RAM,
60Gb HDD, Wireless,
DVD/CDRW Win XP Pro
$449.99

10% OFF ALL COMPUTERS

December 21st through December 23rd



$99.95 Dell GX150 600Mhz
128Mb RAM, 10Gb HDD,
Win 2000 Pro, Includes
19" Monitor, Keyboard
and Mouse



$349.95 Dell GX260 P4 2.53GHz
512Mb RAM, 40Gb HDD,
DVD/CDRW Win XP Pro,
Includes 19" Monitor,
Keyboard and Mouse



$449.95 Apple PowerMac G4 733Mhz
256Mb RAM, 60Gb HDD
CD-RW, 15" Flat Panel,
Keyboard and Mouse
Includes Mac OS



$329.95 Apple PowerMac G4
Dual 450MHz, 256Mb RAM,
30Gb HDD, DVD-ROM
Keybard and Mouse
Includes Mac OS



GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS

DVD/CDRW Combo Drive	512Mb USB Pin Drive	Wireless Card for Laptops	OfficeOne Gift Certificate
$18.99	$28.99	$9.99	ANY $ AMOUNT

OfficeOne
8868 Research Blvd #204
Between Burnet & Putnam

EXPANDED HOLIDAY HOURS:
Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 12pm-6pm

608-0800

BUY ANY PC GET A DVD/CDRW FREE

Does not include installation. PC must be valued at $100 or more. Can not be combined with any other special offers.

Faster Zip, unlimited Yap. It's a double-edged bundle.

Get EarthLink's Cable Internet and trueVoice home phone service

$49.90* a month

for the first 6 months

- **Zip Fast**—Faster downloads—up to 5Mbps
- **Zipyapping**—Cable Internet access that never ties up your phone
- **Yap More**—Unlimited local and long-distance calling to anywhere in the U.S., Canada, and Puerto Rico
- **Yap Better**—Premium calling features at no additional charge

Call 1-866-252-1173 1027386 Promo Code
sign up today

©2006 EarthLink, Inc. *Cable Internet Service: First 6 months @ $29.95/month and $41.95/month thereafter. Add EarthLink trueVoice for $19.95/month. Offer available in limited areas for a limited time. Discounted price for EarthLink trueVoice is only available when bundled with High Speed Internet Cable Service. Available in some Time Warner Cable/Bright House Networks serviceable areas only. Does not apply to Comcast serviceable areas. Customers who purchase the EarthLink Cable Internet + trueVoice bundle will receive a bill from Time Warner Cable for Internet service and will receive a bill from EarthLink for trueVoice service. Other restrictions apply. Offer and rates subject to change. Activation fee of $29.95 applies. Service not available in all areas. Unlimited calling to the U.S., Canada, and Puerto Rico only. Per minute international rates vary by country and are in addition to monthly fees. Equipment Recovery Fee of $50.00 may apply to unreturned or non-working equipment upon cancellation. Service for fixed residential use only. Actual download/upload speeds will vary depending on distance, line quality, and other factors. Certain taxes, shipping, handling, other fees and restrictions may apply. E911 service may be limited to or not available before service is activated or for power or broadband service failure. Directory/operator assistance charges apply. See the International Rates page for all charges and rates. Cancellation must be by phone, U.S. mail or fax before next billing period begins to prevent further charges.

EarthLink®

news

27 THE HIGHTOWER REPORT
30 HD RADIO



JOHN ANDERSON

Hundreds of well-wishers, including local and state elected officials, poured through the doors of the Palmer Events Center Friday to say thanks, so long, and good luck to retiring Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos, who represented Austin and Travis Co. for 32 years in the House and Senate. Sen. Eddie Lucio, D-Brownsville, served as master of ceremonies at the reception and dance, which featured Tejano performers Ruben Ramos and Little Joe y la Familia. Barrientos promised to keep fighting for the little guy long after he leaves office.



Rumsfeld with his pal Saddam in 1983

QUOTE(S) OF THE WEEK

"This man knows how to lead, and he did – and the country is better off for it."

– President Bush, speaking of outgoing Defense Secretary Don Rumsfeld. No, seriously.

"I believe the record speaks for itself – Don Rumsfeld is the finest secretary of defense this nation has ever had."

– Vice President Cheney, apparently high on crack

HEADLINES

- **City Council** said farewell to 2006 with a fire alarm and a couple of still-burning issues: the Wal-Mart at Northcross Mall (still pending for at least 60 days) and the Big Box Ordinance, which passed on first reading yet remains in the balance as to crucial details. See "Point Austin" and "Beside the Point."
- Amid signs of declining support for capital punishment, both California and Florida declared or extended **moratoriums on the death penalty** – Florida after an execution by injection was botched and California after a judge declared death by injection "cruel and unusual punishment." In Texas, the capital prosecution of Anthony Graves was undermined when the DA's office had to recuse itself from any retrial (see p.24).
- In response to a ringing defeat at the polls of his Iraq war and strategy, President George W. Bush has come up with a new, improved position: much, much more of the same. The official D.C. buzz is a "short-term surge" of U.S. troops – 20,000 to 40,000 – to "secure" Baghdad (where much of the populace says U.S. troops are the primary problem) and a simultaneous push to expand the overall size of U.S. military forces (from all those recruits banging on the door).

NAKED CITY

- The **AISD board of trustees** voted 5-3 Monday to hold a special election in May to fill the vacant seat left by District 2 trustee **Rudy Montoya**, who left in November. The board was initially going to appoint a new board member Monday night but decided instead to hold an election after coming under criticism for not releasing the names of the candidates or holding public forums with the community. And though the local League of United Latin American Citizens insisted that a Hispanic should represent District 2, only one of the school board's five candidates, Gerald Guerra, is Hispanic. The downsides to holding a May election? The seat will remain vacant for another six months, it could cost the district as much as $50,000, and the winner will have to stand for re-election in May 2008. *– Michael May*
- In other AISD news, the board of trustees approved on Monday a **2007 school year** that begins Aug. 27 – no doubt pleasing those parents who complained that the district's practice of summoning kids back to school in mid-August went against their inviolable rights to life, liberty, and a long, lazy summer. The decision wasn't simply responding to the people, however. Rather, the legislation that came out of last year's special session on school finance, which included a provision that school can start no sooner than the fourth Monday in August. The fall semester will run to Dec. 20, 2007, with spring being Jan. 8 to June 4, 2008. The result is a fall semester that's 19 days shorter than the spring semester, though the district points out that Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test preparation already eats up much of spring semester. Incidentally, those tests were frequently blamed for the earlier start date – on the theory that in today's high-stakes environment, every extra day of learning helps. *– M.M.*
- A Travis Co. grand jury on Dec. 13 indicted three officers of the suspended UT fraternity **Lambda Phi Epsilon** on multiple charges of serving alcohol to minors and hazing. The indictments come a year after the death of 18-year-old LPE pledge **Phanta "Jack" Phoummarath**, who died of acute alcohol poisoning in connection with drinking during frat hazing rituals (his blood-alcohol level was a whopping .41). County Attorney David Escamilla said the investigation into the fraternity's pledge-hazing activities lasted most of the year. In the end, Escamilla told reporters, officials found that pledges were subjected to rites amounting to torture and were expected to drink excessive amounts of alcohol – in all, he said, fraternity leaders demonstrated a "complete disregard" for the safety of members. LPE president Benny Chan was indicted on seven counts of providing alcohol to minors and 22 counts of hazing; pledge captain Andrew Nguyen faces seven counts of giving alcohol to minors and 28 counts of hazing; LPE pledge "Hellmaster" Camal Pulukuri was indicted on 14 counts of hazing. All counts are Class B misdemeanors – the three could each spend more than a year in jail. Had the grand jurors found that excessive drinking, which caused Phoummarath's death, was in fact a requirement of LPE membership, the three would have faced felony charges. *– Jordan Smith*

continued on p.19

POINT AUSTIN

Wal-Mart's Xmas Gift

Bringing coal to Northcross, something better for the rest of us

BY MICHAEL KING

The first favorable consequence of the proposed Wal-Mart Supercenter at Northcross – although entirely unintended – was delivered last Thursday night at City Council. Somewhere around midnight (I suppose dedicated council-watchers should be pleased it wasn't 3am), the council voted to enact a new Big-Box Ordinance that would require more public and more detailed review of proposed retail stores in excess of 100,000 square feet. It's only a first reading, and there were timorous notes of potential amendment from the dais, so it's hardly a "done deal," in the self-satisfied parlance of those folks who normally disdain any public oversight of "private" business transactions that yet generate myriad public effects.

If you ask me, the first rational amendment would be to lower the review limit to 50,000 square feet, a point at which a project's publicly costly "externalities" begin to outweigh its putative benefits. (The folks at RECA needn't worry – nobody's asking me.) Much more likely is some attempt to weaken the ordinance so that it applies only to unlikely projects, while the predictable behemoths still skate free. Thusly skated the massive project filed by Lincoln Property for Northcross, which under the current code and two-generation-old zoning required, or so says city staff, only cursory "administrative" review.

As more than one observer has since rued, for projects this size with these kinds of reverberations, that simply doesn't make sense. Nobody wants to regulate small businesses to death, but as former Council Member Bill Spelman of Liveable City reminded the council, "Under the current code, there is no distinction between a mom-and-pop convenience store of 2,000 square feet, and a supercenter of 219,000 square feet, as far as the site plan goes." Under the proposed ordinance, a proposal of more than 100,000 square feet would automatically trigger a public hearing and also notify the demographic community explicitly targeted by major retailers – roughly 3 square miles, far beyond the 300 feet worth of neighbors considered "interested parties" under current law.

Blind and Deaf

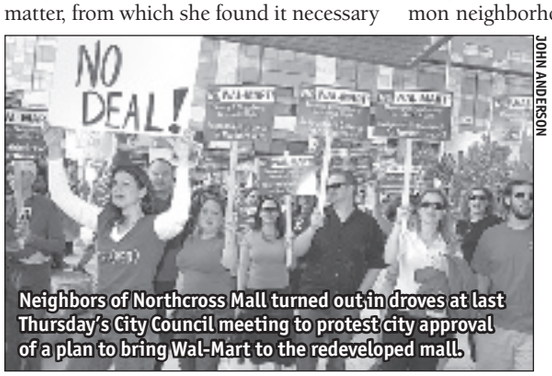
It's a real shame that it took the Northcross debacle to force this matter to the city's official attention, although the problem has been a matter of public discussion for years, and the ordinance has been in formal development for at least 14 months. City staff insist they have not dragged their feet on the ordinance, and City Auditor Stephen Morgan seconded that position after a limited review. But it doesn't take an elephant's memory to recall that whitewash of a big-box impact review the city commissioned in 2004. The report managed to conclude, ludi-

continued on p.18

crously and against all available evidence, that major-scale national retailers don't really compete financially with local stores.

At the moment, in the middle of the Northcross uproar, Assistant City Manager Laura Huffman is assuring everybody that the city is now fully on board with the proposed ordinance. Yet according to several folks at Liveable City, last summer City Manager Toby Futrell made it abundantly clear that she found the proposals – especially any economic impact requirements – extraordinarily onerous. The City Hall buzz (lamentably but understandably off the record) is that staffers received the clear and unmistakable message from on high to "find ways to slow this [ordinance] down."

Futrell is flamboyantly pissed at me at the moment – see today's "Postmarks" – and just a trifle defensive on this entire matter, from which she found it necessary to recuse herself (after the fact). For the record, last week I accused her of hypocrisy, not corruption, and I *reiterate* here that I don't think any personal conflict of interest underlies the city's reflexive deference to major business interests, even when those interests are using the city's review processes against the interests of the community at large. I get it – city staff is institutionally committed to "economic development" of any kind; they don't want to discriminate against a mom-and-pop *or* Wal-Mart; and by laws far more imposing than city ordinances they are forbidden to do so. So they tie themselves into procedural knots declaring their irrational neutrality and deliver nonsensical and frankly silly declarations to the effect: "We only found out about Wal-Mart when we read about it in the paper." Believe that if you will – but is it a defense of competent, workable city government?



JOHN ANDERSON

Neighbors of Northcross Mall turned out in droves at last Thursday's City Council meeting to protest city approval of a plan to bring Wal-Mart to the redeveloped mall.

The plain truth is, there are plenty of times when it makes simple common sense to make rational, legal distinctions between small and humongous businesses and to find out what the hell is going on before you "administratively" bless the latter. This is very much one of those times.

Citizens, Not Consumers

Rational city government may come too late to save the Northcross neighborhoods, which began long ago as de facto suburbs and are only now discovering all the ills that unplanning is heir to. But we owe those neighbors a great thanks for reacting as quickly and coherently as they have and for doing their level best to find a way to insert themselves and their common neighborhood interests into an official rubber-stamp process that currently allows them no effective input. May they emerge, next year, with a satisfactory resolution; if nothing else, they will have supplied the momentum for legally preventing such travesties in other Austin neighborhoods.

For at bottom, this debate is finally not about Wal-Mart but about whether the economic power of disembodied corporate financial interests inevitably overrides the much-beleaguered but still quite real political rights of Austin citizens. Had you endured to the wee hours of last Thursday's debate, you would have heard a succinct and irrefutable summation from Liveable City's Susan Moffat: "This whole controversy isn't about the merits of big-box retail, it isn't about a popularity contest, it isn't about low prices or class war or elitism, or any of the other red herrings that have been in the discussion over the last few months. This really, in my mind, is about democracy." ■

Full disclosure: Susan Moffat is the spouse of Chronicle *publisher Nick Barbaro, who didn't attend last week's council meeting and is not nearly as articulate as his wife. Nor, QED, am I.*

BESIDE THE POINT

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like 2007

BY WELLS DUNBAR

You gotta feel bad for citizens signed in to address City Council last Thursday, the last meeting of the year. As Jennifer Gale waited to deliver holiday wishes – and the breathtaking declaration that she is now running both for U.S. president and Dallas mayor (you go, girl!) – and El Concilio aired its current Eastside grievances, some 150-plus protesters rounded their way from City Hall's plaza to the full-length windows outside the chambers, Christmas-caroling, "No Deal! No Deal!" You have to wonder how it affected Gale's annual medley of "Silent Night" and "Feliz Navidad," performed in three excruciating minutes.

Señorita Claus be damned, **Responsible Growth for Northcross** didn't go quietly into that silent night. Instead, the noon protest culminated in a hearing that evening, over **Wal-Mart** and **Lincoln Property Group**'s plans to build at Northcross Mall (and the related, if belated, **Big Box Ordinance**). A lengthy executive session (one guess what they were discussing) got the hearing off to a late start. Assistant City Manager Laura Huffman led the council and a sizable, incredulous audience through the approval process. Huffman reiterated the now-familiar storyline – that, by applying to build at the mall under its existing, decades-old, and extraordinarily permissive zoning categories, Lincoln's site-plan application skirted the more extensive public notice a newly sited Wal-Mart – or virtually any store – would require.

When the topic turned to council's legal recourses – heretofore a rapidly shifting, shrinking, and transforming thing, depending on which day you caught city staff – well, the neighbors caught them on a bad day. "The application was complete," said Huffman, "but we did find a mistake that we made, and the mistake that we made had to do with notice." But according to Huffman, the lack of sufficient "interested parties" notice, which allows neighbors greater oversight, and which inexplicably evaporated years ago, is the city's problem, "Not something that falls onto the responsibility of the developer."

She then turned to the newest revelation. Beyond the announcement that Lincoln and Wal-Mart would institute a 60-day moratorium on demolition – news that did little to impress RG4N – came word of Lincoln's filing of a new, separate site plan for Northcross. Huffman hastened to add that a company can't have two approved plans – rather, one approved plan and a "second, filed application in the system." This bureaucratic paper shuffling, presumably with everyone from here to Ardmore getting noticed, also allows time for Wal-Mart to pursue its public-relations charm offensive, bearing green-building-this and design-standards-that.

The bloodletting didn't begin in earnest until the question became: **traffic**. Despite city counts of some 28,000 actual car trips at the smaller Wal-Mart on Slaughter Lane and 150 to 300 18-wheeler trips projected daily to stock the Northcross Supercenter, an impact analysis said – to a chorus of jeers – that Burnet and Anderson would still operate at "an acceptable level of service, D or better" (E presumably standing for "Everyone and Their Mothers on the Road"). Lincoln's own traffic estimates are even rosier, prompting Brewster McCracken to say "if Wal-Mart and Lincoln folks are watching tonight, I would call on them to tell the truth when they submit their next traffic impact analyses." (Speaking of truthiness, the city auditor's office said it found no evidence city staff worked to delay the Big Box Ordinance, adding that the scope of the auditor's review was constrained by time limits.)

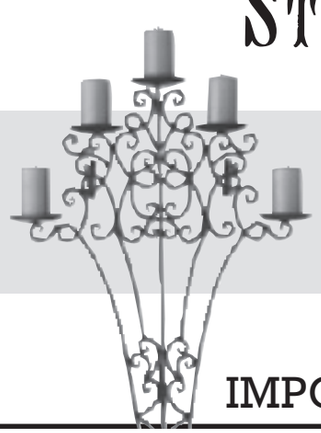
The most surprising admission of the evening came from City Attorney David Smith, whose legal department is legendary for its trepidation before major property owners. Under McCracken's quizzing, Smith acknowledged that the city possesses regulatory "police powers" to curtail Wal-Mart's 24-hour operation. This information was designated for further discussion, as council urged negotiation between neighbors and developers on every conceivable subject: traffic, parking, design standards, environmental impact, lighting, and noise.

Wal-Mart's long track record doesn't exactly inspire confidence; nor do early reports from the neighbors. On Monday, the Crestview Neighborhood Association was treated to a bait-and-switch, expecting a meet-up with Lincoln or Wal-Mart, and provided instead with Wal-Mart's engineering and public-relations *subcontractors*. Still, negotiation may well be the neighbors' best recourse. The city insists it can't act on its own failure-to-notice, and any "police powers" restriction would have to be applied equitably (across the city), raising a whole host of ex post facto complications. But the city attorney's unexpected suggestion of actual civic influence – the power to exercise at least a little *say* and to recognize, as one council member put it, the neighbors' "right to self-determination," to say nothing of the city's – should give Wal-Mart opponents at least a ray of hope.

Council returns in the new year, Jan. 11.

STOP IN FOR ALL YOUR LAST MINUTE GIFTS

A huge selection of crosses, frames, wall decor, candle holders and more!








IMPORT CONNECTION 2438 W. Anderson (Corner of Anderson & Burnet) 302-3229

- Now for a holiday message from your local law enforcement agencies: **Do Not Drink and Drive**. The Texas Department of Public Safety, Travis Co. Sheriff's Office, and APD will all be out in full force through New Year's Eve, their eyes trained to nab weavin'-and-boozin' scofflaws. Last year, during the week of Christmas alone, DPS troopers made 581 arrests for driving while intoxicated and issued nearly 14,000 speeding tickets; from Dec. 29 through Jan. 1, troopers made 461 DWI arrests. The TCSO has its own holiday DWI enforcement campaign under way, dedicated to the memory of Kayla Marie Floyd, who was killed by an underage drunk driver in 1997 at the age of 24. On Floyd's birthday, Dec. 27, drivers who are pulled over – for any reason – will be given a flyer with Floyd's picture as a reminder that the decision to drink and drive can carry grave consequences. – *J.S.*

- In other vehicular news, the APD released on Dec. 15 the Highway Enforcement Command's latest **fatality review** report, part of an ongoing initiative to make Austin's roadways safer. Since Sept. 26, 10 people have died on Austin roadways – including three pedestrians and one motorcyclist. Not surprisingly, speed was a factor in 40% of the deaths, and alcohol was confirmed as a factor in one of the nine crashes that claimed the 10 lives. In all (as of Dec. 15), 62 people have died on Austin roadways this year; during the same period of time in 2005, there were 57 roadway deaths. – *J.S.*

- **Holiday government closures, schedule changes**: On Dec. 24, 25, 31, and Jan. 1, all Capital Metro routes will operate on a Sunday schedule, there will be no UT service, and the Tour the Town bus (route 470) will not be in operation. City of Austin administrative offices will be closed Dec. 25-26 and Jan. 1. There will be no garbage or recycling collection Dec. 25 or Jan. 1, and collection will be made a day later than normal during those weeks. The Household Hazardous Waste Facility will be closed Christmas week. All city libraries, cultural arts center facilities, and the Austin Nature and Science Center will be closed Dec. 24-26 and Jan. 1. All recreation and senior activity centers will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, as will all city pools. Also, **AISD's holiday break** starts Dec. 22 for students and Dec. 25 for district staff. Administrative offices open Jan. 8 and school starts Tuesday, Jan. 9. – *Lee Nichols*

- County commissioners finally passed the **conservation development ordinance** – 15th draft and all – during a low-key session on Tuesday, fulfilling Commissioner Karen Sonleitner's wish that the ordinance be passed before she leaves the court at the end of the year. Participation in the program remains voluntary, and any contract will come back to the court for final approval, giving commissioners a chance to approve incentives. A controversial memorandum of agreement with the BFI landfill, on the other hand, was pulled from Tuesday's agenda, meaning it probably won't be back until after the new year. – *Kimberly Reeves*

- Parks Director Warren Struss says the **Trail of Lights** is drawing record crowds this year, with up to 40,000 people walking through the 43 lighted scenes in Zilker Park each night. The Trail of Lights began as the Yule Fest, back in 1965, with a lighted display of the 12 days of Christmas, a display that is still part of the walking tour. The Trail of Lights, which saw 372,000 visitors last year, will continue through Dec. 23. – *K.R.*

- After months of turmoil, NBC affiliate **KXAN-TV** has a new news director. **Michael Fabac** of KLRT, the Fox affiliate in Little Rock, Ark., will take over the news department on Jan. 8; he replaces **Bill Seitzler**, who resigned in October after a tumultuous 10-month stint. Amid reports of plummeting morale, several key behind-the-scenes and on-air personnel either voluntarily left or were fired, including reporters Rich Parsons, Jim Bergamo, and weatherman Dan Robertson. Seitzler originally announced he would leave to join a consultancy at the end of the November sweeps ratings period but ultimately left at the beginning of November. Fabac met with newsroom managers before he was hired and displayed "a lot of positive energy and was very enthusiastic and talked a lot about passion, integrity, and love of news," according to KXAN general manager Eric Lassberg. In recent months, Lassberg held two staff meetings to try to air out grievances. Morale in the newsroom is "dramatically improving," he said. "We definitely have seen people feeling better about the future." One of Fabac's first challenges will be to "evolve" the look of the newscast, including the set and graphics, Lassberg said. Meanwhile, longtime reporter and anchor **R.J. DeSilva** has left to take a PR job. – *Kevin Brass*

- Capitol bloggers of the Texas Progressive Alliance have named **Carolyn Boyle**, the organizer of the Texas Parent PAC, as **Texan of the Year**. Parent PAC endorsements were tied to a number of high-profile defeats and victories during the most recent election cycle, most notably Diane Patrick unseating House Education Committee Chair Rep. Kent Grusendorf, R-Arlington. Last year's winner was former Rep. Carter Casteel, R-New Braunfels. The Progressive Alliance is a group of 25 liberal-leaning political blogs in the state, including, among others, Burnt Orange Report, Pink Dome, In the Pink Texas, and Eye on Williamson County. – *K.R.*

- For the last 25 years, Recycling Joy has been collecting **used eyeglasses** from Austinites and giving them, through Medical Mission International, to people in countries like Haiti and the Dominican Republic, where a single pair often exceeds a person's monthly wages. Spearheaded by **Eye Physicians of Austin**, the program has collected between 400,000 and 500,000 pairs since it began, distributing them during weeklong clinics. To ensure as many correct matches as possible, the physicians need around 25,000 glasses before they plan any given trip. They try to give every patient a pair with the correct specifications, from prescription to frame size; as a last resort, they find the closest match, even if it means "giving a woman a man's frame," explained EPOA administrator Ron Burgener. The weeklong clinics bring in up to 1,000 people a day, and the doctors examine each patient for eye disease and perform surgery if necessary – on his last trip to Nicaragua, ophthalmologist Jim McNabb performed more than a dozen. "Most have never had glasses before," he said. Right now, EPOA is offering $25 discounts on new pairs of glasses ($50 for bifocals) to anyone who brings in a used pair by Jan. 31. See **www.eyephysiciansofaustin.com** for office locations. – *Nora Ankrum*

- The city of Austin is still looking to deck its halls with local artwork in the new year. As part of its third-annual **People's Gallery Exhibit**, the city is searching for paintings, prints, sculptures, installations, and digital art. Artists must apply at the city's Web site (**www.ci.austin.tx.us/aipp/apply)** by Jan. 5. – *Wells Dunbar*

BEYOND CITY LIMITS

- Veteran state Sen. **Ken Armbrister**, D-Victoria, is leaving office at the end of this term, but don't think for a moment that his water-carrying days are over. Gov. Rick Perry has named his favorite Democrat to be his legislative director, a job he'll assume in January. Readers will recall that Armbrister spent much of the Nineties and beyond in Austin-bashing mode as he sought to curtail the city's water-quality laws and other rule-making authority. On a personal level, Armbrister is a perfectly nice fellow with a fine appreciation for casseroles and stews borne of the Dutch oven; in his last regular session, he successfully sponsored a resolution to have this cast-iron trail-wagon cookery declared the official State Cooking Implement. Perry, who praised his new hire for his two decades of legislative service, figures Armbrister's Democratic ties will help him win bipartisan favor on key initiatives. Considering the number of times Armbrister bailed on his Dem colleagues, however, he may be in for a Dutch treat when he comes calling on Perry's behalf. – *Amy Smith*

- On Dec. 14, the *Chronicle* got word from Austin political consultant Mike Blizzard, who is providing pro bono public relations services to Bexar Co. primate sanctuary **Primarily Primates Inc.**, that famed "Humanzee" Oliver, the chimpanzee cover boy for our feature on the battle over animal welfare at PPI, has moved into a new, larger enclosure at the 75-acre sanctuary. (See "Famous Long Ago," last week.) It's "really good news," Blizzard said, and everyone at PPI is "really stoked about Oliver" being moved into an enclosure that he says is 10 times the size of his former home, a small red metal circus transport cage not much larger than a closet. In a phone message, Blizzard reported that Oliver is "very happy" with his new digs. By yesterday afternoon, he said, Oliver was kicking back and taking a nap – he's "very tired," Blizzard said, "because he's been walking around" his new enclosure. – *J.S.*

- Environmentalists were absent at last week's Texas Transportation Commission meeting when new guidelines were approved for the **environmental review process on Texas transportation projects**. The guidelines, which were part of the recent passage of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (or SAFETEA-LU), give Texas and four other states the ability to self-approve the environmental reviews of transportation projects without sending them on to the Federal Highway Administration. This will be a time savings to the agency, which says the FHA rarely contests the state's environmental process on the 900 or so projects they send to the feds each year. The appeals process will still be in place, so someone concerned about a project can trigger a federal review. – *K.R.*

- If the **death penalty** is supposed to assuage victims of violent crime and right a wrong, what does that mean for the families and friends of the executed? According to a new report (see **www.mvfhr.org.)** published by the Massachusetts-based **Murder Victims' Families for Human Rights**, the death penalty doesn't provide closure – it creates additional victims. "Family members of the executed are the death penalty's invisible victims," said a press release on the report. "As a society, what are we doing to address the suffering of these families?" In a word: nothing – or, at least, not nearly enough. MVFHR recommends that mental-health professionals, educators, and religious leaders develop assistance programs for this group of relatively invisible victims and urges lawmakers to enact legislation to ensure that the families of the executed are given access to the same assistance and support programs designed for other crime victims. – *J.S.*

- Security shortcomings at the **South Texas Project nuclear power plant** – the two-reactor site in Bay City that provides 28% of Austin's electricity – were aired in a meeting earlier this month between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and plant officials, with the apparent intent of bringing closure to a tumultuous yearlong saga. Troubles began when several STP guards (security contractors with Wackenhut Corp.) approached the NRC last December with concerns ranging from security facilities and equipment in disrepair to poorly controlled weapons and ammo storage, said David Lochbaum, the director of nuclear safety projects for D.C.-based nonprofit Union of Concerned Scientists. Some guards reported subsequent retaliation while the NRC issued a "whitewashing" report this April, he said, and in June, the same guards came to the UCS and helped produce a scathing report detailing scores of security gaps, which got the attention of U.S. Rep. Ed Markey, who sent it to the NRC along with a nasty letter. Last month, in a revised report, the NRC cited STP for failing to inspect the plant's fire truck for bombs and bad guys upon returning from routine highway road tests, among numerous lesser safety issues. – *Daniel Mottola*

BRITE IDEAS
HYDROPONICS AND ORGANICS
SALE
December 19th thru 30th
Any item $50 & over
20% OFF
Any item $200 & over
25% OFF
Open Regular Hours During Holidays
4201 S. Congress Ave. #317
(behind Texas Light Bulb)
444-2100
Sat 11:30am-5pm / Closed Sun & Mon
Tue-Fri 11am-6pm



SHOE BOXES
Austin's Affordable Fashion Boutique
2438 W. Anderson Ln. • 323-0554
www.shoeboxesaustin.com

$6.99
HAIRCUTS
with this coupon
Regularly Adult $12, Child $10
Northwood Salon
2900 W. Anderson Ln.
Next to Stein Mart & Zen.
420-0099
Old Quarry Village
3563 Far West Blvd.
231-1325
West Creek Village
4404 William Cannon
(next to Gold's Gym)
899-3105
STYLISTS WANTED CALL 965-0946
Great Clips for hair.
Open M-F 9-9, Sat 9-6 Sun 11-5
exp. 1/31/07

REEFER MADNESS
Common Sense Theory

BY JORDAN SMITH

Researchers at the **University of Pittsburgh Medical Center** have hammered another nail into the government's beloved "**gateway theory**," which posits, in part, that the use of marijuana is a portal to a life of using harder illicit drugs. That isn't exactly the case, say Pitt researchers. For 12 years, researchers tracked 214 boys, beginning at ages 10 to 12, all of whom eventually used either legal or illegal drugs – specifically, alcohol, tobacco, and/or marijuana. At age 22, the boys were categorized into one of three groups: those who used only booze or butts; those who started with booze or butts and then moved on to pot – the gateway sequence; and those who used pot first and then moved over to booze and/or butts, which researchers dubbed the **reverse gateway sequence**.

In the end, researchers found that 28 boys – a quarter of the total number who used both illegal and legal drugs at some point during the study – followed the reverse gateway sequence, meaning they started out smoking pot and then moved on to alcohol or tobacco. Additionally, they found that the reverse gateway population was no more likely to develop a substance abuse problem than those who progressed through the gateway, from alcohol to pot.

The researchers also sought to identify the characteristics that distinguished each group – that is, they wanted to find out if there was anything that distinguished the boys who ended up going down the traditional gateway path from those who reversed that course. In the end, they found three differentiating variables, according to a Pitt press release: Reverse gateway users were more likely to have grown up in neighborhoods with a "poor physical … environment," were more likely to be exposed to drug use in the neighborhood, and were less likely to have parents who were involved in their lives.

The study – groundbreaking in scope and scale – is significant for several reasons, chief among them is that the work suggests that **environmental factors** have more influence on behavior than the government would like to admit. Indeed, when **White House Office of National Drug Control Policy** czarina **Bertha Madras** rolled into Austin in October, she took great pains to explain to the *Chronicle* that recent research – involving adolescent rodents given pot at a very young age and then, later, given an opportunity to self-administer heroin – proved that the gateway theory was valid, precisely because it removed all outside factors and concentrated exclusively on the physical properties of addiction. (That study was far less significant than she made it out to be, in part because, in the end, the two groups of rats – one group had been exposed to pot, the other hadn't – were equally likely to become addicted.) Here, though, in a study of humans, living in real life situations, researchers found that "environmental aspects have stronger influence on which type of substance is used," Pitt reported. In other words, it isn't the drug itself – that is, pot – that leads to substance abuse, no über-powerful villainous weed descending from above and casting innocents down into a life of debauchery; rather, it's a combination of factors – chief among them, significantly, the environment in which the use begins.

Researchers say these are the hallmarks of an "emerging" theory they call the "**common liability model**," which posits that "the use of illegal drugs is determined not by the preceding use of a particular drug, but instead by the user's individual tendencies and environmental circumstances." This is a theory otherwise known as common sense.

Myth, Reality, and the State Budget Surplus

There are two things certain in Texas – painful property tax bills and politicians who promise R-E-L-I-E-F in campaign commercials. Oh, the heartburn of reality TV. Speaking of which, the state's budget-making process cranks up anew in January, and **property taxes** will be a hot item on the legislators' brawl menu. Our puffed-up leaders spent the election year feeding us a lot of happy talk about the state's economic picture, saying things like, "We're rich!" at public forums. The "we" in this case doesn't apply to you and me.

Depending on who's doing the chest-thumping, next year's budget will have Texas sitting on either an $8 billion **surplus** (Gov. **Rick Perry**'s figure) or a $15.5 billion surplus (House Speaker **Tom Craddick**). It's a big old pile of money either way. Others would suggest that Perry and Craddick's lofty figures are just … figures. That figures.

"This so-called surplus is really illusionary," said **Dick Lavine**, a tax analyst with the **Center for Public Policy Priorities**, a research group that advocates for the 3.6 million or so Texans living in poverty. In a press briefing last week, Lavine and **Eva DeLuna Castro**, a budget analyst with CPPP, said Perry and Craddick's yakking about extra money isn't based on hard, cold truth. Like frugal parents counseling their thrift-challenged children, Lavine and Castro say that if by chance there is money left over after all the bills are paid, then tuck it away into the reserve fund, for crying out loud. "We don't have a $15 billion surplus, as the speaker is saying," Castro said. "We have $3 billion less than what we need to fund current services to pay for those [property] tax cuts and have an adequate reserve fund set aside."

In any case, just the word "surplus" is cause for concern when you consider who's driving the gravy train. The surplus discussion has riled up the anti-tax forces, who are organizing in a big way ("Refund!" "Appraisal caps!" "Privatize!"). Plus, all the talk over how rich we are has swollen Perry's head something awful, and now he's convinced that his corporate welfare boondoggles are just the ticket for building a strong economy and catapulting him to the VP post in '08. While on the campaign trail, Perry suggested using some of the "surplus" to lower the new **business tax** rate – before it even takes effect.

After many, many failed attempts, lawmakers last year passed the new business tax deal as part of a court mandate to change the **school-finance system**, which drew most of its funding from property taxes. The idea was that homeowners would get some property-tax relief and businesses would shoulder more of the public-education costs. Critics of the tax swap predicted that homeowners would see little or no relief in their tax bill, and hey, whatever happened to putting more money in schools? Never mind schools, a group of lawmakers friendly to the anti-tax crowd plan to push a bill that would clamp new restraints on local taxing entities.

A similar effort was thwarted in the last session. The new Legislature will have a few more Democrats and moderate Republicans on board, so it's not entirely clear how the tax-cap proponents intend to smuggle this one onto the governor's desk. But even with a new government-friendly-leaning Legislature, local officials across the state are nonetheless waking up in cold sweats over the prospect of taking a major drubbing in '07. The reason? Perry would not have assembled his **Texas Task Force on Appraisal Reform** if he weren't serious about getting a tax-cap bill passed, by hook or by crook, in the next session. Pass the Rolaids, please. – *Amy Smith*







WilCo Constable Lawsuit:
Crying wolf … and mayhem

Williamson County's courthouse dogs are at it again. This time, they're barking a threat that Precinct 1 Constable **Gary Griffin** may have broken the law by including **mental-health-call-related 911 logs** as evidence in his civil case against the county, an action County Attorney **Jana Duty** is alleging violates privacy laws and the **Texas Public Information Act**.

At issue are 911 logs Griffin and his attorneys, former Travis Co. Judge **Bill Aleshire** and former Texas Attorney General **Jim Mattox**, offered as evidence that there was no dire dearth of service on Oct. 19, 2005, the day that Griffin redeployed his deputies. Griffin had directed his officers on that one day to concentrate on the office's core duties – serving warrants and subpoenas – and to cover mental-health calls only as backup for the **Williamson Co. Sheriff's Office**. According to Griffin's submitted documentation, not one call went unanswered.

The 911 logs now in question record mental-health calls answered by WCSO deputies in 2004 and 2005 and illustrate the fact that the WCSO was entirely capable of serving as primary responders on such calls. In short, the records suggest that the county did not really need Griffin's help handling mental-health calls. Moreover, according to the sworn deposition of Commissioner Lisa Birkman, the county didn't want Griffin's assistance.

Nevertheless, the county's team of official Chicken Littles – Duty and the county commissioners – called an "emergency" court session on the day of the redeployment, to mitigate the "crisis" Griffin had supposedly created. Griffin's decision to redeploy his deputies put every "man, woman, and child" in the county in jeopardy, commissioners warned in their rushed budget order, as well as in subsequent pleadings. The manufactured crisis was then used by commissioners to justify an immediate order to slash Griffin's FY '05 budget by 70% – funds the court had approved two months earlier. That move sparked Griffin to file suit against the county, arguing that the court illegally tampered with the budget of an independently elected official midyear, simply because commissioners disagreed with his budget priorities. The 911 logs are important to Griffin's case because they show that the county faked a crisis in order to cut the constable's budget, says Aleshire.

While a decision on the legality of the commissioners' budget-slashing action is pending before the **3rd Court of Appeals**, the county has been woofing that the 911 logs were placed into evidence improperly, even illegally, because they were unredacted and thus contained the names of those who'd made mental-health-related calls to police. In fact, Duty told a *Williamson County Sun* reporter that if the records were improperly disclosed, Griffin (and presumably his attorneys) could be facing a criminal misdemeanor charge of "official misconduct," which she said could "result in [Griffin's] removal from office." And it appears that District Attorney **John Bradley** has also entered the fray, supporting Duty's request for Texas Attorney General **Greg Abbott**'s office to investigate the alleged privacy violation. On Nov. 3, the county also filed a motion to seal the records, accusing Griffin of breaking the law outright. The late-breaking, accusatory motion took Aleshire by surprise, he said, because the records in question have been part of Griffin's legal filings since July. "Why did the county's team of four lawyers wait four months" to raise the issue? Aleshire demanded. "Duty should read attorney disciplinary rules that prohibit a lawyer from presenting, participating in, or threatening criminal charges to gain an advantage in a civil matter."

Apparently Williamson Co. officials consider the timing irrelevant, and moreover, their rhetoric in the bureaucratic turf-battle is reaching new extremes. Asked about the dispute by the *Chronicle*, Assistant County Attorney **Dale Rye** grimly compared the argument over court documents to the currently most notorious local homicides. "It's like the capital charges against Michael Moore," Rye declared. "We can't ignore a criminal violation. Someone needs to look into it." (Moore is the already convicted and incarcerated murderer most recently accused of the murder of still-missing 19-year-old Rachel Cooke.)

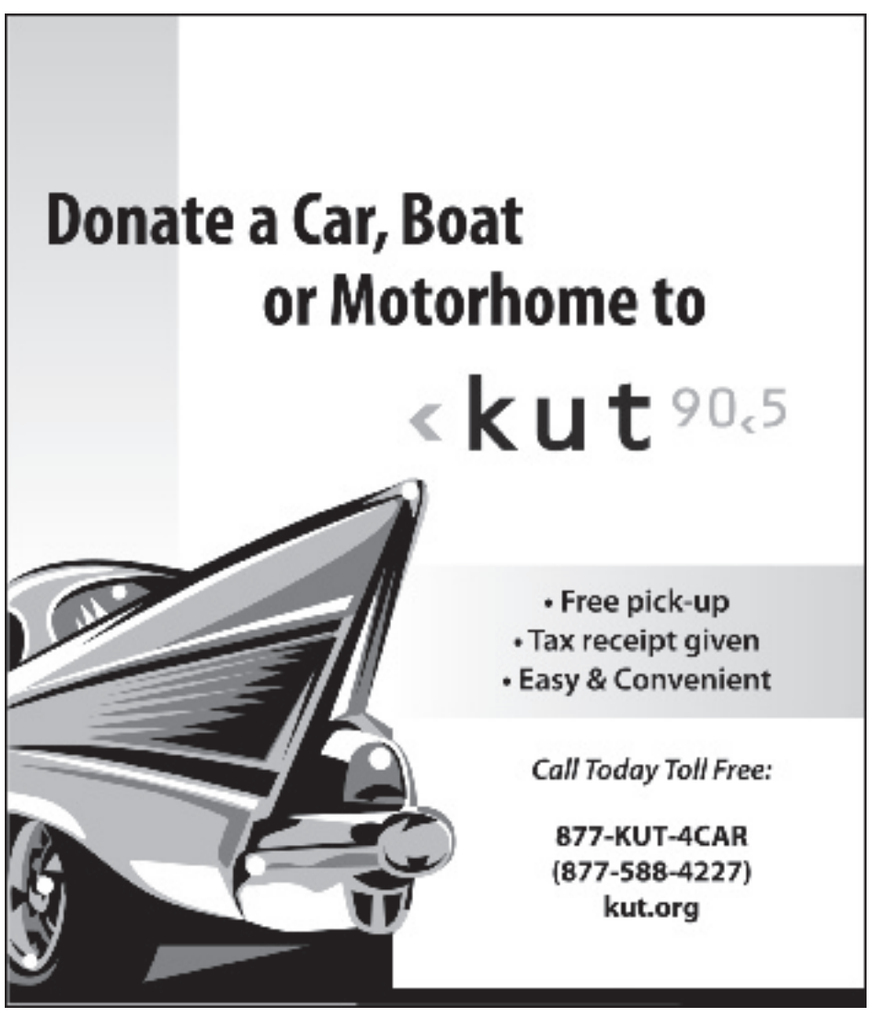
If Griffin's alleged infraction is, indeed, akin to serial homicide, why did the county wait this long to act? Incredibly, Rye says, it didn't come up sooner because "nobody" – that is, nobody on the county's crack legal team – bothered to read through all of the contents of Griffin's civil suit until recently. "It just dawned on us that there could be a problem," Rye said. Aleshire says the county's newfound fury signifies nothing: "These 911 call notes are not confidential records of communication between a 'patient' and a 'professional,'" as defined under the law, he wrote, responding to the county's motion. "911 call information is routinely released in Williamson County to the news media and others." In fact, Aleshire notes, the AG's office has "consistently" ruled that dispatch records are, indeed, public information. "They are doing this because Gary dared to stand up to the Courthouse Gang," Aleshire told the *Chronicle*.

Aleshire is not known to be a shrinking violet, and he blasted the charges as an attempt at intimidation. "The county and district attorney are attacking me for doing my job as an attorney," he thundered. "I am not afraid. I am not cowered. Their sorry tactics make me indignant and just that much more determined to stand up strongly for my client." Mattox chimed in, calling the county's recent ploy "pure political harassment" and "abuse of power."

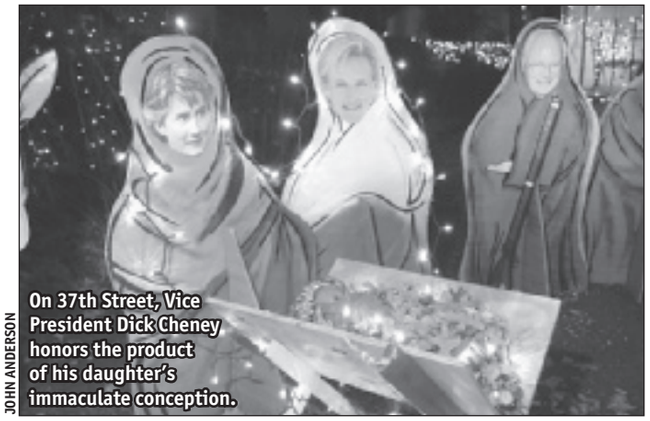
AG spokesman **Tom Kelley** says the agency will review the records and make recommendations to county officials, but he declined to comment on whether Griffin might face a charge of official misconduct. "We are looking into an alleged violation of the Texas Open Records Act, period," he said. On Dec. 1, at the request of lawyers for Griffin and for the county, Williamson Co. District Judge **James Clawson** sealed the records in question; redacted copies of the call logs have been placed in the portion of the file available to the public.

– *Patricia J. Ruland*





37th Street Lights:
Will they burn brighter or burn out?


JOHN ANDERSON
On 37th Street, Vice President Dick Cheney honors the product of his daughter's immaculate conception.

Austin's electrified yuletide tradition – a shimmering strip of Christmas-light-laden bungalows on **37th Street**, just east of Guadalupe – for more than 20 years has treated processions of thousands to a visual OD of elaborate outdoor illumination that would leave even **Clark Griswold** feeling inadequate. But many residents and onlookers agree that this year things aren't quite what they used to be.

It's a story less about lights than about community. The short explanation for the street's absence of dazzle is that the most devoted – perhaps fanatical – Christmas-light enthusiasts have all gradually moved away. Some say this year's departure of light display co-founders **Jamie Lipman** and **Sharon Smith** – owners of the light-loaded plastic- and foil-wrapped cornerstone residence that offered an eye-popping backyard walkthrough – was the tipping point. Several neighbors partially blame the lackluster year on three dark, long-vacant houses on the street, owned by well-known Central Austin real estate lord **Jules Caplan**, which have inexplicably come on and off the market at allegedly exorbitant prices. Passerby **Jorie Grosse**, who's lived in Austin off and on for 15 years, described this year's showing as "kind of lame" and "uninspired" Thursday night, specifically noting how she missed the insane luminescence of the Lipman-Smith residence (the new owners have a drastically toned-down display – reportedly leftovers that remained hanging). She compared the success of the street's Christmas lights to a shopping mall, in that "you need to have the anchors." (What the display lacks in shimmer, it has recently made up for in shock – with the weekend debut of a nativity scene featuring **Mary Cheney** – the vice president's pregnant lesbian daughter – and her partner, **Heather Poe**, as Christ's parents, along with Dick Cheney and Rummy as wise men and an angelic floating Condi Rice overhead.)

Randy Thompson, a 37th Street resident since 1980, said, "Most years I wouldn't say the [Zilker Park] Trail of Lights is better than ours, but this year it is." Thompson said he opted against putting up lights due to spousal pressure and reported overhearing upset and belligerent onlookers bemoan his lack of lights as well as his next-door neighbor's lackluster illumination effort.

"It's unfair that we're somehow responsible for entertaining the city of Austin," said a 37th Street resident of four years who asked not to be named for fear of darkening relations with neighbors. We'll refer to that source as **Rudolph**. "The story ended last year. You can observe what happened now that the people who started the tradition aren't here any more," Rudolph said. "It's not the new people's fault that they didn't buy into the lights, they simply saw a house that met their needs." Many of the new homeowners are professionals who come home late and rarely socialize with neighbors, he added.

While the new folks can't be held responsible for upholding the tradition, "We're trying to get the community kicked back in," Rudolph said. The famously intertwined displays had always been dependent on kinship, camaraderie, and bonding on the street – an effort for neighbors, by neighbors. "All the characters involved didn't necessarily like each other," he explained, "but we got along and could stand in the street together and have some beers."

Last year at this time, the six or so homes set to change hands on the small street made observers in the **North University Neighborhood Association** worry that a disproportionate concentration of college-aged partyers living on the street, and their laissez-faire landlords, was inciting owner-occupant flight, a symptom NUNA veteran **Mary Gay Maxwell** described as a precursor to community deterioration. This year, the raucous partying appears to have calmed. "It seems a lot more subdued. There was a lot of discomfort with how out of hand it got," Maxwell said.

Regardless of the extent to which the several new single-family owner occupants participate in the lighting lunacy, Maxwell sees the ownership shift as a positive for the neighborhood after last year's commonly held fears that the homes would go to investors eager to pack them full of rowdy frat-types – a common grievance in university-area neighborhoods. Maxwell, who served on the city's **McMansion ordinance** task force, said **occupancy limits** are needed to address the backdoor frat issue (where a single-family-zoned house – sometimes a newly built McMansion – functions as mini apartment complex, often renting to students). She isn't hopeful such rules will materialize soon, however. So the fresh crop of homeowner occupants is comforting to NUNA stalwarts who feared deterioration into a "student ghetto," as Maxwell puts it. (It's worth noting that longtime residents agree that 37th has always been a mix of owners and renters.) Thursday night, a handful of thirtysomethings joined new 37th Street homeowner **Ethan Cohen** on his porch. With ping-pong-table-sized recreations of vintage Astrodome scoreboard animations in the front yard, it was more than apropos when the term "rebuilding year" was thrown out as an explanation for this year's Christmas light lull. Though Cohen, a native Houstonian, had never seen the display in person before moving in, tales of the season-long crowds didn't dissuade him from purchasing. Cohen said he's actually met a few neighbors for the first time thanks to the lights.

Like Cohen, **Marjorie Cartwright** had never actually seen the Christmastime displays prior to closing on her 37th Street home in October, despite being an Austinite since 1988. She said the area's convenient walkability outweighed what she had heard about the street's holiday hysterics. For the most part, she has also been willing to overlook some occasional late-night revelry next door, she says, "not that I don't remember those days."

Thursday night, Cartwright lit up a respectable yet conservative array of white lights. "The creative and off-the-wall ideas require group consensus about aim and participation, otherwise it's just lights," she said, perhaps showing signs of emerging as heir apparent to her street's light legacy.

– *Daniel Mottola*

FLDS' Jeffs to Stand Trial

Concluding that the child bride referred to in court documents as **Jane Doe No. 4** "expressed her disdain, reluctance, opposition and total dislike of sexual relations," Utah District Judge **James Shumate** ruled Dec. 14 that **Warren Jeffs**, the "prophet" leader of the polygamist Mormon breakaway sect the **Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**, will stand trial on charges of rape-as-accomplice. Jeffs, 51, is accused of abetting rape by arranging and presiding over the 2001 "spiritual marriage" of Doe, then 14, and her 19-year-old first cousin. (For more on the FLDS, see "Meet the New Neighbors," July 29, 2005.)

After two days in court – spread over two months – for a hearing on whether the state has enough evidence to try Jeffs for the rape charge, Shumate ruled that the trial will go forward, starting April 27. Jeffs immediately entered a plea of not guilty; his lawyer, **Wally Bugden**, told reporters that the state charges against Jeffs amount to religious persecution. "Shame on the state," he told Salt Lake City's *Deseret Morning News*. "There was no rape in this case. Mr. Jeffs is not on trial for practicing polygamy. The religious counsel he gave to this couple is no different from what religious leaders of other religions tell their faithful every day across America." – *Jordan Smith*

Civil Rights Lawsuit Filed Against APD

The **Austin Police Department** and former officers **William Heilman**, **Christopher Gray**, and **Joel Follmer** violated the civil rights of **E. Ramon Hernandez** when they held him down, Tasered him, and punched him repeatedly in connection with a minor traffic accident near the corner of Burnet and Steck last fall, Hernandez charges in a civil rights lawsuit filed Dec. 12 in federal court.

According to the lawsuit, Hernandez, who was dealing with a difficult divorce at the time, had a panic attack as a crowd gathered near the scene of the accident, which occurred around 9:30am on Sept. 21, 2005. In order to get his bearings, Hernandez says he took his Bible and walked slightly down the block, dropped to his knees, and began praying for "God to help him feel better," attorney **Amber Vazquez Bode** wrote in Hernandez's court petition. As he knelt on the sidewalk, Heilman arrived on the scene and, without provocation and without first assessing the scene, Bode argues, unholstered his **Taser** and pointed it at Hernandez. Hernandez put his arms up and stood, following Heilman's direction, Bode writes. Nonetheless, Heilman fired his Taser at Hernandez, shooting him seven times.

According to Bode, the repeated Taser strikes, combined with Hernandez's already panicked mental state, were "extremely painful and disorienting" to 25-year-old Hernandez. Still, Heilman didn't stop, the civil suit charges; instead, he pulled out his baton and began beating Hernandez. Although Hernandez was on the ground – face down in an anthill – Heilman, along with Gray and rookie Follmer, who arrived as Heilman's "backup," continued beating Hernandez: In all, Gray delivered 14 punches, and Follmer, straddling Hernandez's back, delivered five punches to Hernandez's abdomen. Gray, Bode writes, even "took a water break" before he "resumed in taking part in the beating." While Hernandez suffered multiple injuries, the officers walked away without injury – save for bloodied knuckles, writes Bode. In all, she argues, the officers' actions were "malicious" and "sadistic."

While Hernandez was originally jailed for seven days, held on a variety of charges – including assault on a police officer – he was eventually released and all charges were dropped. Heilman and Gray were tried and acquitted of criminal misconduct. Heilman and Follmer are no longer with the department; Gray was given 70 days off for his role in the incident, a portion of which was captured on an in-car video camera.

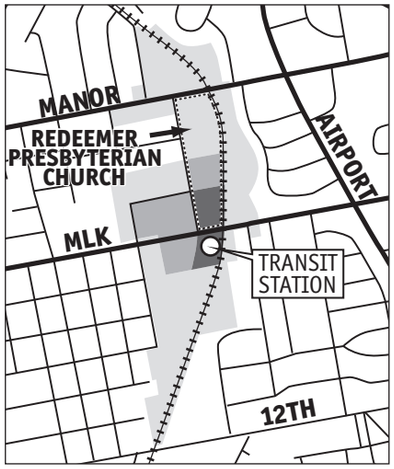
Hernandez also charges that detectives in the APD's **Integrity Crimes Unit** displayed inappropriate bias in their investigation of the incident, helping the officers with the wording of their statements to investigators in a way that would help justify their actions, and that **Internal Affairs** investigators compelled Hernandez to come alone, without an attorney, to an interview where they coerced him into making statements that would benefit the officers. "The investigation surrounding Hernandez's assault demonstrates a clear pattern and practice by APD to coerce false statements from victims in order to exonerate officers accused of excessive use of force and assist the accused officers in changing their stories in a manner that would decrease their criminal culpability."

Terry Keel, who represented both Heilman and Gray against criminal charges, told the *Statesman* that the accusations in Hernandez's federal suit are false, that the two officers did nothing wrong, and that they are planning to file a counterclaim against Hernandez. "He attacked the officers," Keel said. (Unfortunately, there is no video evidence to back this allegation since the officers' cars weren't placed so that the in-car video could capture the entire scene.) Hernandez assaulted all three officers, Keel claims, "and placed all three officers in danger." – *Jordan Smith*

Presbyterians, Neighborhood Compromise

The two sides in the **Redeemer Presbyterian Church** zoning case each had a vision for the church's East Austin property, but it took a last-minute save by Council Member **Mike Martinez** last week to seal a deal on a **zoning compromise**.

Redeemer Presbyterian's congregation is relocating from the soon-to-be-defunct center city location of **Concordia University** to an 11-acre portion of the **Featherlite Tract** off Manor Road. Looking at the property, the congregation saw a large church complex with a 60-foot sanctuary for resplendent musical programs. The **Rosewood neighborhood**, on the other hand, saw an impending threat to a proposed **transit-oriented development** gateway to the **MLK commuter rail station**.



Redeemer Presbyterian's proposed church location could conflict with the city's hopes for a transit-oriented-development zone centered around Capital Metro's planned commuter rail station. The TOD plans call for intense development in the shaded areas, with the darker areas being the densest.

Rosewood was willing to give on the sanctuary height if the church was willing to give on the zoning of the gateway land. But the church, represented by attorney **Richard Suttle** and Elder **Barry McBee**, argued that commercial zoning would create tax liability, a liability the church was not willing to bear. As a religious institution, the church is exempt from property taxes. Any threat to that exemption was unacceptable to the church, McBee told the City Council.

City staff proposed a "no build" zone in the plat notes, but neighbors considered that one step short of what was really needed: a covenant to force the church to use the southern edge of the property for shared parking with the MLK rail station, and not for use as a day-care center, bookstore, or other nonreligious church-related use. No compromise appeared to be in the offing as council approached a vote, and the church threatened to pull its application and immediately build a 40-foot sanctuary.

"If you are unable to, for whatever reason, make a decision this evening, then we will proceed immediately to build our sanctuary at 40 feet to take care of all of the steps that are necessary to accomplish that purpose," McBee said. "We will do that with a great deal of sadness, because we will have lost the opportunity, we believe, to provide for the city of Austin and all of Central Texas a very unique cultural resource and also with sadness because we will lose the various commitments and agreements we have been able to make in discussions with the neighborhood over the last many months."

Council would have been sad, too, because limiting the church to 40 feet would have also limited the transit-oriented development next door to 40 feet. Sensing the impasse – and a split council vote on second and third reading of the zoning change – Martinez called a recess and put together additional closed-door negotiations between church and neighbors.

When the two sides returned, they had negotiated a different way around the "religious assembly" concern. Both sides agreed that "religious assembly" uses – including a private school, day-care center, or any type of private community recreational use – would be a conditional use on the northern or southern extremes of the property. As such, any construction would require a conditional-use hearing before the Planning Commission.

The church got its sanctuary and zoning. The neighborhood got the guarantee on the land it requested. And the IRS, it appears, got nothing out of the deal. – *Kimberly Reeves*



JOHN ANDERSON

Last Friday, City Council Members Mike Martinez (r) and Lee Leffingwell got hands-on with their environmental activism, cleaning up trash in the Oak Springs area. In a rare shift of environmental action away from the Hill Country and toward East Austin, the council voted on Dec. 14 to buy 5.99 acres around Oak Springs, thus preventing it from being paved over to make way for a Dollar General store. According to a city press release, the Oak Springs property has one of the last remaining springs in Texas that pours from river terrace gravel; the tract contains a variety of longstanding trees, including a 58-inch live oak, and historically the springs provided drinking and irrigation water for East Austinites as well as a meeting place.

COMING IN JANUARY

SOUTH CONGRESS ATHLETIC CLUB

A LOCALLY OWNED NEIGHBORHOOD GYM DEDICATED TO HEALTH AND EDUCATION

AFFORDABLE MEMBERSHIPS WITH NO CONTRACTS OR INITIATION FEES

1109-B SOUTH CONGRESS AVE.
WWW.SOCOATHLETICCLUB.COM

LEARN TO LIFT FOR LIFE.

FAMILY CONFLICT?



MEDIATION: IT'S YOUR SOLUTION

GOT A PROBLEM? NEED HELP? TALK DON'T FIGHT
Problemas? Necesitas Ayuda? Habla no Pelees!
Call the DRC for Mediation service or training

DRC (512) 371-0033
Se habla Espanol!
www.austindrc.org

Produced by the Maryland Judiciar's Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office • © MACRO 2005 • Reproduction and/or alteration, without written permission, is strictly prohibited • www.marylandmacro.org



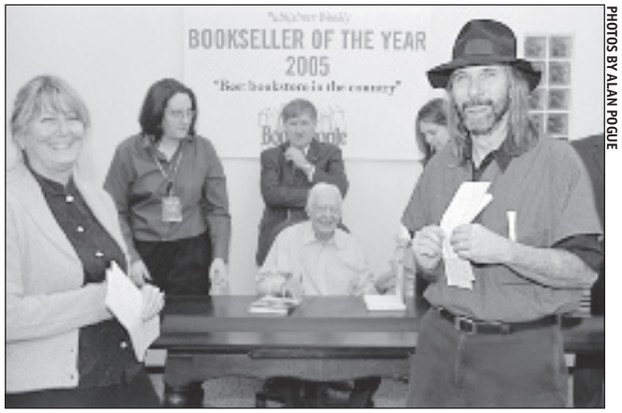
MEALS ON WHEELS AND MORE

476-MEAL

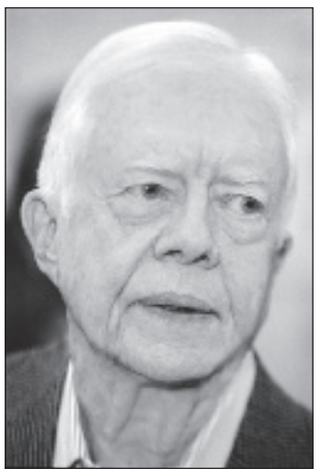
IT ONLY TAKES ONE HOUR TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Volunteer Today!

Volunteer Training Every Thursday
12:15 - 1:15pm
3227 East 5th Street
www.mealsonwheelsandmore.org



PHOTOS BY ALAN POGUE



Last Thursday, former President Jimmy Carter stopped by BookPeople to promote his new (and controversial) book, *Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid*, which is highly critical of Israel's treatment of Palestinians. The store sold about 1,200 autographed copies of the volume; outside the store, a handful of protesters expressed disapproval of the book.

Graves Free on Bond; Prosecutor Withdraws

The *Chronicle* learned Dec. 18 that **Burleson County** District Attorney **Renee Mueller** filed a motion this afternoon voluntarily recusing her entire office from handling the retrial of **Anthony Graves**, who was convicted and sentenced to die for a 1992 multiple murder in that county. The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals earlier this year overturned Graves' conviction on grounds that several crucial witness statements had been withheld from the defense at his original trial. Also on Dec. 18, the 5th Circuit again ruled in Graves' favor, denying a state motion to keep him locked up until he can be retried. The appellate court ruling orders the state to hold a bond hearing by Jan. 4 or release Graves by that date on a $50,000 bond already set by U.S. District Judge Samuel Kent.

Graves and co-defendant **Robert Carter**, who was executed in 2000, were convicted for the murders of a family of six, including four children younger than 10 years old; the family was bludgeoned, stabbed, and shot, and their home was set on fire in an apparent attempt to cover up the crime. Graves has maintained his innocence but was fingered as an accomplice by Carter. Carter later recanted, saying he was pressured by law enforcers to name an accomplice – even though he had none – and that Graves played no part in the murders or arson.

The news that the Burleson DA's office is stepping away from Graves' retrial comes a week after Burleson Co. District Judge **Reva Towslee-Corbett** (whose father was the judge presiding over Graves' 1994 trial) granted a defense motion to disqualify Assistant DA **Joan Scroggins**, who was the third-chair attorney at Graves' first trial, from being a part of the new prosecution team. During a Nov. 30 pretrial hearing, Texas Ranger **Ray Coffman**, the lead investigator on the murder case, testified that Carter told him numerous times that he had acted alone and that Graves was, in fact, innocent. Amazingly, sources tell us that Coffman further testified that each time Carter told him that Graves was not involved, Coffman passed that information along to then-DA **Charles Sebesta**. Nonetheless, sources say Coffman admitted that he never recorded this information in his reports because he didn't believe Carter was telling the truth.

Sources say Coffman's testimony last month was met with a collective courtroom gasp – in large part because the Ranger previously testified that Carter never told him that he had acted alone and that Graves was innocent, a circumstance that could mean Coffman perjured himself back in 1994.

What will happen now that the entire Burleson DA's office is off the case remains unclear. Sources say it's likely that Mueller will try to find a special prosecutor to take the case, though none was identified in the motion. That may prove to be a problem since the 5th Circuit ruled that the state must set Graves free on bond pending any retrial. According to the six-page opinion, authored by Judge **W. Eugene Davis**, the state has not been able to offer any credible argument as to why Graves should not be freed while awaiting retrial. In November, Kent ordered Graves released on a $50,000 bond, and unless the state can get its act together by Jan. 4, Kent's order will stand, meaning that with $5,000 up front, Graves could walk out of prison – and away from death row – after more than 12 years behind bars. His freedom would, of course, be contingent on his showing up for all further court proceedings – including any future retrial on the murder charges. But given the bitch slapping the state has been taking for the handling of this case, it's unclear whether anyone – including those working under Texas Attorney General **Greg Abbott**, whose office actually spearheaded the appeal to keep Graves behind bars – will now be willing to put their balls on the chopping block in order to prosecute a case that threatens to set free many of the dusty, dirty, and downright ugly skeletons that live in Texas' death-penalty-loving closet. – *Jordan Smith*

Disaster Assistance: Numbers vs. people

Earlier this month, **Gregory D. Kutz**, managing director of forensic audits and special investigations for the **Government Accountability Office**, testified before the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs that from June to November 2006, "**FEMA** continued to lose tens of millions of dollars through potentially improper and/or fraudulent payments from both **hurricanes Katrina and Rita**," including "$17 million in **rental assistance** paid to individuals to whom FEMA had already provided free housing through trailers or apartments." Among the cases highlighted in the report is one in Austin. In September 2005, FEMA began paying the $705-a-month apartment rent of an evacuee indirectly through the **city of Austin**, while simultaneously making "rental assistance payments in September 2005, February 2006, and May 2006 totaling more than $3,600."

"I'm not surprised by it, but no, I don't know that specific case," said **Paul Hilgers**, director of the city's **Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office**, which funneled the federal rent aid to local landlords, when asked about the testimony. "There would be no way for us to know who had received direct payment assistance from FEMA."

FEMA spokesman **James McIntyre** complained that auditors are only looking at numbers and, as a result, their reports and testimony don't convey the overall disaster response picture, particularly the human side of the catastrophe. "The cities did not take into consideration whether these people would be eligible [for assistance]," McIntyre said. "They took them out of the kindness of their hearts."

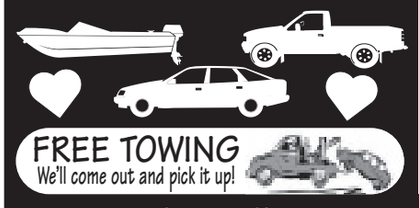
On the federal end, FEMA initially sent money to evacuees in advance of getting their paperwork processed, he said. "They had nothing. They had [to get] food, water, diapers for the babies." He acknowledged that duplicate payments were very possible at this point, adding, "That's because the process was catching up."

Hilgers noted that FEMA initially sent rental assistance payments directly to evacuees without explaining that the aid was meant to be spent on rent, so many evacuees spent their checks on things like furniture and clothes. FEMA later sent out letters informing evacuees that the money should be spent on rent. But the correspondence didn't come at the same time as the money, McIntyre explained, because the direct payments were deposited electronically into evacuees' bank accounts. The government didn't initially have addresses for many evacuees, who started out in emergency shelters all over the country, he said. Most evacuees who received duplicate rental assistance are cooperative when they are contacted and informed that they can pay the government back in installments, he said, but "unfortunately, in auditing, payment plans don't count. It's [only] actual money back into the system" that gets counted.

As Hilgers put it, "It's not the character of the Katrina evacuees that's being called into question with this testimony. It's really the ineffectiveness of the bureaucracy." See the entire testimony at **www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-252T**.

– *Cheryl Smith*

Donate your car, truck or boat to charity and get $499 or more!*



FREE TOWING
We'll come out and pick it up!

People Fund
Helping Hand Home For Children
Meals on Wheels and More
El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission
Habitat for Humanity
Hospice Austin
American Red Cross of Central Texas
Any Baby Can
alzheimer's association

*If eligible under IRS guidelines.

carstrucksandboats.com
It's all for a good cause.
CALL TOLL FREE:
866-398-5995

Spiderhouse patio bar & café

NEW YEAR'S EVE
WITH RIVERBOAT GAMBLERS
SUNDAY, DEC. 31
SPIDERHOUSE
PATIO BAR & CAFE

TICKET GIVE AWAY

Win a pair of tickets to the Spiderhouse New Year's Eve Party with bands, booze, dancing, and general revelry! Featuring Riverboat Gamblers with Brigante Aux Armes and a complimentary champagne toast at midnight. Ticket availability is limited; buy them in advance. **General admission ($12) tickets are on sale now at Spiderhouse. Doors at 8pm, 21 and over.**

to WIN tickets to see RIVERBOAT GAMBLERS log on to austinchronicle.com/contests

AMoA

WE'RE AUSTIN'S MUSEUM OF ART



THROUGH JANUARY 28, 2007
Presented by Michael A. Chesser
in memory of Virgil Young

Radical NY! is a two-part exhibition about distinct generations of New York artists who challenged the definitions of art and re-envisioned the artist's role in society. The first chapter focuses on the Abstract Expressionist era, with seventeen gestural abstract paintings and works on paper from the 1940s-60s by artists including Willem de Kooning, Adolph Gottlieb, and Jackson Pollock.

AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART—DOWNTOWN
823 Congress Avenue • 512.495.9224
GALLERIES AND MUSEUM STORE
Tuesday-Saturday 10-6 • Thursday 10-8 • Sunday Noon-5



Robert Longo, *Untitled*, from the series *Men in the City*, 1981, Charcoal and graphite on paper, 96 x 60 inches, Holzer Family Collection, Courtesy the artist and Metro Pictures

Austin Art Seen
circa 1961

Presented by Mark and Jerry Clements and Anne Knight Hoey

Austin Art Seen, circa 1961 reexamines the Modernist movement in Texas art, the art form that gained popularity during the time AMOA-Laguna Gloria (formerly Laguna Gloria Art Museum) was chartered. Modernism was slow to develop in Texas, which was firmly tied to a naturalistic painting style rooted in regionalism for the first half of the century. However, several of the seventeen local artists included in this exhibition brought Texas Modernism to national attention in the latter half of the century. Each of these featured artists exhibited widely during their careers, many times at Laguna Gloria, and all had connections with the growing art department of The University of Texas. Created roughly between 1946 and 1969, many of the works included in this exhibition were first exhibited at Laguna Gloria.

THE ART SCHOOL
REGISTER NOW
FOR WINTER
BREAK CLASSES
DEC 26 - 29

AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART—LAGUNA GLORIA
3809 West 35th Street • 512.458.8191
DRISCOLL VILLA Monday-Sunday 11-4
GROUNDS Monday-Saturday 9-5 • Sunday 11-5

WWW.AMOA.ORG

Radical NY! is co-organized by the Grey Art Gallery at New York University and the Austin Museum of Art and is generously supported by Michael A. Chesser in memory of Virgil Young. ▼ The exhibition *The Downtown Show: The New York Art Scene, 1974–1984*, is curated by Carlo McCormick in consultation with Lynn Gumpert and Marvin J. Taylor, and made possible in part by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, Philip Aarons and Shelley Fox Aarons, M.D., the Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation, the New York University Humanities Council, Ronald and Frayda Feldman, the Buhl Foundation, Frank and Mary Ann Arisman, MRB Foundation, Frederieke S. Taylor, Larry Warsh, NYU's Graduate School of Arts and Science, and the Abby Weed Grey Trust. ▼ The exhibition *Abstract Expressionism: 1940s–1960s* is organized by the Grey Art Gallery at New York University and the Austin Museum of Art and is curated by James Housefield. ▼ The Austin Museum of Art 2006 Exhibition Sponsors are Berman Family Foundation; Green Family Foundation; Chris Mattsson and John McHale; Bettye and Bill Nowlin; Still Water Foundation; Susman, Tisdale and Gayle Architecture and Interior Design; Rosemary Haggar Vaughan Family Foundation; Vinson & Elkins LLP; and Joan Hohlt and J. Roger Wich Foundation. ▼ 2006 Education Outreach is generously supported by 3M, James Armstrong, Bank of America, Katelena Hernandez Cowles and James Cowles, Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nordstrom, donors to the Education Fund, Laura W. Bush Endowment for Education and Outreach, and an anonymous donor. ▼ The Austin Museum of Art 2006 Promotional Sponsors are News 8 Austin and Time Warner Cable, *The Austin Chronicle*, KUT Radio 90.5, and The Decoder Ring Design Concern. ▼ The Austin Museum of Art is funded by The Austin Fine Arts Alliance, Museum Trustees, Members, and Patrons.



We'll help you
PEACE
It Together!
BeaD It.

2058 S. Lamar (Lamar & Oltorf) 512.693.BEAD



Dear Whole Earth Friend,

I want to tell you about the BEST toy we've seen in our 36 years in business. The winner of several industry awards, the 20Q promises to be our "Toy of the Year". Play the old 20 questions game and it guesses what ***you*** are thinking. *REALLY!* I've spent hours playing with this entertaining gadget. It's so good it's spooky!

Jack Jones
Founder and Toy Buyer

Whole Earth Provision Co.
2410 San Antonio St., 478-1577 (FREE parking w/purchase @ UT Lot)
1014 N. Lamar, 476-1414, and S Lamar @ WESTGATE, 899-0992
www.WholeEarthProvision.com

PERFECT GIFTS TO DAZZLE EVERYONE ON YOUR HOLIDAY LIST!



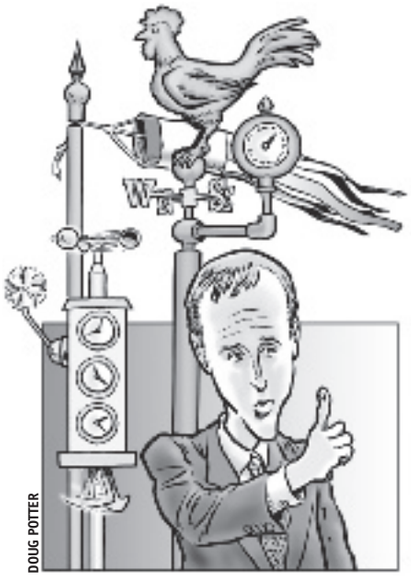
Nomadic Notions
Austin's Oldest & Largest Bead Store

BEADS • JEWELRY • GIFTS • CLASSES • PARTIES • REPAIRS • CUSTOM ORDERS

454-0001
3010 W. Anderson Ln. M-Sa 11-7, Sn 12-5

2006 Political Procrastinators' Holiday Gift Guide

One last push from the imagination of the 'Chronicle' Christmas Study Group



Brewster's Barometer

Shifting political winds? Storm clouds gathering over City Hall? No matter the forecast, Austin power players shouldn't be caught without Brewster's Barometer, the latest in poli-meteoro-tainment from Cracky & Co. The barometer's fine-tuned political sensors alert aldermen to any changes in the weather politic, letting them adjust their outfits (and outlooks) accordingly. Whether it's calls for sunshine at City Hall or those pesky toll road rain clouds (Costelloco's rain-gutter sludge collector sold separately), no change in pressure goes unnoticed. With Brewster's Barometer, you'll know which way the wind blows – and when it's just hot air.

Holiday Goodies Pack for Developers

For the Condo Impresario Who Has Everything: It's rough being a builder or development attorney. You've thrown condos up everywhere but Oakwood Cemetery, but gazing into your *chilaquiles* at Las Manitas, you know it's not enough. Cheer yourself up with this specially assembled package. That beloved Austin institution isn't going to tear *itself* down, you know! Contents include:

- An autographed photo from city staff, to let you know you're appreciated.
- *Mind of Mencia* DVD set, for the cultural sensitivity required when developing Latino neighborhoods. Remember, "You belong East."
- One rent voucher, for an "affordable" $1,000 per month apartment, for when you feel like slumming.

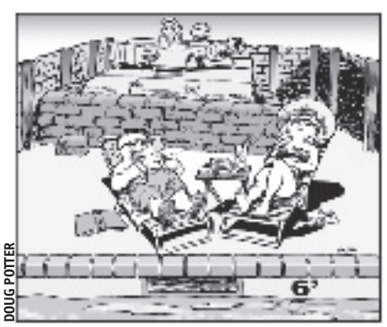
Gipper's Greatest Laughs



Wondering again what to get for that impossibly right-wing uncle or that aging frat-boy cousin who longs for the good old days when men were men, horses were horses, and it was still morning in America? How about a priceless audio collection – *Ronald Reagan's Greatest Laughs*? No, we don't mean the boffo mass firing of air-traffic controllers, nor the hilarious, long-running *Iran-Contra Follies*, nor even Ronnie's acclaimed *Panama Madness* (starring Manuel "CIA" Noriega), which didn't close until the first Bush administration. We're talking literal jokes (and "funny stories") from the ineffable King of the Mirthless One-Liner, who once opened a radio broadcast with a knee-slapper declaring a bombing assault on the Soviet Union. The Faux Gipper also had a full repertory of welfare queen jokes, trickle-down economics jokes, and what-am-I-doing-here? jokes! Now that's entertainment! And it's all available on CD or audio cassette for only $19.95 at NewsMax.com, the bilious right-wing Web service that turned the news into a joke. At NewsMax, you can also get the latest Bill O'Reilly book hoax, or if you're feeling even more nostalgic, a John Wayne retrospective. Merry Xmas!

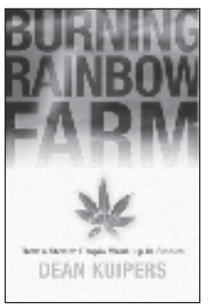
Free Iraq Getaway

Looking for a way to limit your in-laws' holiday-season visit? Have we got the solution for you! In an effort to win back support for the Iraq war, the U.S. Army is giving away free one-week, all-expense-paid trips to Iraq. According to a promotional brochure put out by Uncle Sam, although the liberal media would like Americans to believe that Iraq is a dangerous, war-torn mess, it's really quite the desert paradise. Can you think of a more exotic way to achieve a crisp tan than lying out for a toasty afternoon on the gracious sand dunes of the Kalahari Desert? Just be sure to wear your bulletproof shades. For more info, see **www.operationdesertparadise.gov**, or call 800/JOKE-ON-U.



Weed Watch: Holy-Daze Edition

If you're looking to get your favorite drug warrior/policy reformer a good holiday read, look no further than Dean Kuipers' excellent and detailed *Burning Rainbow Farm: How a Stoner Utopia Went Up in Smoke* (Bloomsbury, 361 pp., $24.95). It's a tragic and cautionary tale about how the American war on drugs actually works – or doesn't – and how in the end, the narco-warrior's quixotic impossibility costs real lives. To wit:



Burning Rainbow Farm tells the story of lovers Tom Crosslin and Rollie Rohm, founders of Rainbow Farm, a civil libertarian utopia in Southwestern Michigan that drew activists and free thinkers of all stripes – hippies, militia men, and evangelicals among them – to their annual festivals. Or so it was until a righteous prosecutor got crossways with Crosslin and, apparently without regard for the possible consequences, designed to snare Crosslin and Rohm on drug charges, seize the farm, and shut the whole thing down. The law got what it wanted but left Crosslin and Rohm dead, torn through by sniper rifle fire. The story blew onto headlines in early September 2001 but was obliterated on 9/11, never to return. Kuipers has done a painstaking job of reporting the entire story – from the beginnings of Rainbow Farm through the final days of its founders' lives – and has produced an engaging tale about the struggle between state power and individual rights. It is a must-read.

Rummy's Forget Me (Not!) T-Shirt (Great Desert Vacation Accessory!)

The curtains closed on Donald Rumsfeld's career last week, and not a moment too soon. Here's a timely gift that fits the season to a T. Dreaming of a cathartic Christmas? Blaze the hike-and-bike trail in this little number (pictured), and your endorphins will perk up faster than you can say "I don't do quagmires." Rumsfeld Who? Indeed. Find this and other Rummy gems at **www.cafepress.com** (search under Donald Rumsfeld).



Dedicated Care.
Real Choices.
Austin's only physician-owned clinic since 1976.

· Surgical Abortion & Abortion Pill
· Sedation for Comfort
· All Gyn Services
· Personal & Supportive
· Flexible Payment Options
AUSTIN WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTER
512-443-2888 · 800-252-7016
www.austinwomenshealth.com DSHS# 7502

GOD
IS *NOT* THE PROPERTY
of the loveless, lifeless religions of fundamental extremists. Both ancient wisdom & modern revelations teach that God, Goddess, All that is, *IS* in each of us and *WE* are all *IN* God. Raise your consciousness – change the world!
Whole Life Books
1006 S. Lamar 443-6794 easy reserved parking right in front. 11-10 Mon-Sat, 12-7 Sun. Austin's largest spiritual and metaphysical bookstore. From Alchemy to Zen. Books, Music, Gifts, Incense, Jewelry. A non-profit organization founded by Austinites in 1982 to provide easy access to the spiritualities of the world.

BEST COMPUTER DEALS
$149
Compaq EN
1.0GHz Intel PIII
256MB SDRAM
20GB Hard Drive
10/100 NIC
3.5" Floppy Drive
CD-ROM Drive
Keyboard
Mouse
17" Monitor
Windows 2000
logic approach
444-4443
444-4443
LOGIC APPROACH
2500 S LAMAR 10-6 MON-SAT

Pack a full week of *Chronicle* Listings
into your iPod, PDA, or phone!
austinchronicle.com/ipod

THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR GREED

What a scream John Tierney is! I howled with laughter when I read this *New York Times* columnist's comic piece a while back promoting Wal-Mart for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Yes, with perfect deadpan delivery, Tierney asserted that no one "is doing more to alleviate third world poverty than Wal-Mart." Seriously! Not even Voltaire at his satirical best could have come up with such a farcical plot. I'd love to see Tierney take it to the road.

The right-wing pundit playfully claims that Third World poor folks are lucky to get $2-a-day jobs in urban sweatshops making stuff for Wal-Mart because this is better than the dollar-a-day drudge of working with their own families back in poor rural villages. Yes, getting poked in the eye is so much better than getting shot in the head.

Wouldn't it be fun for Tierney to meet Ana Barahona? She's one of the lucky sweatshop workers that Tierney wrote about. Ana was recently brought from Nicaragua to the U.S. by the women's labor group, STITCH, to talk personally about how it is that Wal-Mart helps impoverished workers. "I wanted to vomit," Barahona said when she visited a U.S. Wal-Mart store and saw some $30 slacks that she'd been paid 12 cents to make.

Barahona tells of having to work with toxic chemicals without protective equipment, getting only two bathroom passes a day, sometimes forced to work 24-hour "shifts" with no overtime pay, and being subject to firing if she gets pregnant or "too fat." Oh, and that $2 a day that Tierney heralded? Barahona says the factory deducts $1 for lunch and about 50 cents for transportation, so the women skip lunch to "have something left."

It's always helpful to have six-figure pundits like Tierney tell us how great it is for impoverished people to work in sweatshops. I say, let's put him in one for a year! Then we can all laugh with him all the way to the nearest Wal-Mart, where he can buy some of that "cheap stuff."

CAMP WELLSTONE WINNERS

Democracy doesn't happen by accident. It happens when grassroots agitation melds with good organization.

One group that is doing a great job of applying organization to agitation is Wellstone Action. Named for the legendary progressive senator Paul Wellstone, this group holds intensive training sessions around the country to hone the political skills of potential candidates, campaign workers, and citizen activists. Called "Camp Wellstone," these sessions empower regular folks to act on their progressive principles, to challenge even the most entrenched political establishment … and to win.

Begun in 2003, Wellstone Action has been educating and motivating a whole new generation of grassroots leaders who are not beholden to money interests, not tied to old-line political hierarchies, and not afraid to offer a new politics based on ideas and ideals. And now, graduates of these citizenship camps are running winning campaigns all across the country.

In the Nov. 7 election, Camp Wellstone alumni ran for local, state, and federal offices, and 78 of them were elected in 18 states. They will now be state senators, country commissioners, secretaries of state, and even members of Congress – three Wellstone grads (John Hall of New York, David Loebsack of Iowa, and Tim Walz of Minnesota) were elected to the U.S. house this year. In addition, one of Wellstone Action's trainers, Keith Ellison, was elected to the house, becoming the first Muslim to serve in Congress.

Just as important are the scores of alumni who worked on winning campaigns – or who were involved in campaigns that didn't win this time but laid a base for future wins. Democracy is not a quick-fix project; it's built over the long haul by grassroots people who are principled, passionate … and skilled.

To get involved in Camp Wellstone, call 651/645-3939, or go to **www.wellstone.org**.

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown – *visit* **www.jimhightower.com**.

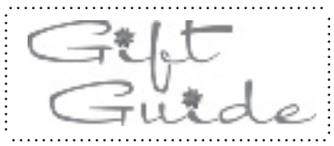
John Dromgoole's
NATURAL GARDENER
ORGANIC GARDENING HEADQUARTERS
20% OFF ALMOST EVERYTHING!
Sale ends December 30, 2006.
Not valid with any other offer.
8648 Old Bee Caves Road, 288-6113
naturalgardeneraustin.com

DEBT RELIEF
Bankruptcy • Liens • Collections
512-477-2777
craigsmithatty@yahoo.com
Craig Smith
Attorney & Counselor at Law
"I am a debt relief agency. I help people file for bankruptcy relief under the Bankruptcy Code."
716 Congress, Suite 203
Austin, Texas 78701
Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law
Texas Board of Legal Specialization

BEST OF '06 AUSTIN®
You voted we thank you!
Best New Car Dealership
(Austin Chronicle Best of Austin, Vol. 26, No. 6, October 13, 2006)
Howdy HONDA sez Thank You!
IH 35 @ Ben White
800 226 6382
www.howdyhonda.com

Holiday Wish Lists 2006

Give 'til it helps: Part 2



Hey Austin,

We invited local nonprofits to ask for all the things they need to be able to serve our community with the impact they have. This is a great way, not only to enjoy an end-of-the-year tax-write-off, but to give back to our community in a major way.

These lists are edited as space dictates. Please call your intended benefactee(s) for details on what specific kinds/brands/sizes of things they need. Here's a big hint: They always need your cash and love (i.e., volunteer hours).

So have at it, Austin. Go share our bounty and show them all how much we appreciate their place in our community and the good they do all year long.

– Kate X Messer; list compiled by X, Meghan Ruth Speakerman, Meredith Barnhill, and Richard Whittaker

ALLGO
701 Tillery, 472-2001.
www.allgo.org
- Recordable compact drive (CD-R)
- External hard drive
- Color paper
- Web support
- Nice love seat
- Nice plants

AUSTIN FREE-NET
2209 Rosewood, 236-8225.
www.austinfree.net
- 3¼-inch floppy disks – new or used
- Computer headsets and/or earbuds
- 17-inch flat-panel monitors
- Pentium 4 or higher PCs or laptops (or comparable with 1.0 gigabyte speeds)
- Copier that collates and staples

AUSTIN STATE HOSPITAL
4110 Guadalupe, 452-0381.
- Men and women: Walkmans, watches, house shoes, sweats, wallets
- Men: cologne (no glass), cards, dominoes, board games
- Women: bath sets, sweaters, jewelry, make-up

AUSTIN ZOO
10807 Rawhide Trail, 288-1490.
www.austinzoo.org
- Canned and dry cat and dog food

CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK
8201 S. Congress, 282-2111.
www.austinfoodbank.org
- Cash donations for fresh meat, fruits, and vegetables. (You can't put those in a food drive barrel.) Every $1 equals five healthy meals for hungry Central Texans.

CASA MARIANELLA
821 Gunter, 385-5571.
www.casamarianella.org
- Phone cards to Latin America
- HEB gift cards
- Fleece sweaters
- Discmans

CASA OF TRAVIS COUNTY
6330 Hwy. 290 E. #350, 459-2272. **www.casatravis.org**
- Laptops
- L-shaped desk
- A laser printer
- HEB gift cards
- Parking spaces near the courthouse
- Gift cards for restaurants and movies (to treat the kids)
- Digital camera

DIVERSEARTS LITTLE GALLERY
1705 Guadalupe #234, 477-9438
www.diversearts.org/gallery.html
- Design/merchandising/fundraising consultation
- Furniture for art gallery, etc.
- Mounting/hanging hardware, book/storage shelves
- Track lighting and installation
- Outdoor tables/chairs/umbrellas
- Patio heaters for Kenny Dorham's Backyard
- Web site design, updates, maintenance
- Digital video/audio services (call for specs)
- Use of moving van and labor for moving to new space
- Free storage space

DOUGHERTY ARTS CENTER
1110 Barton Springs, 397-1468.
www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty
- Upright piano in good condition
- Outdoor storage unit

EAST SIDE SOCIAL ACTION COALITION
6510 Berkman, 454-8459.
- Video camera equipment
- Computers with DVD-burning capability
- Reading materials (Hooked on Phonics, etc.)

EL BUEN SAMARITANO EPISCOPAL CENTER
7000 Woodhue, 439-0700.
www.elbuen.org
- Baby dolls
- Barbie, Bratz, or Polly Pocket dolls
- Four-square balls
- Hand and body lotion sets
- Soccer and footballs

EQUAL JUSTICE CENTER
510 S. Congress #206, 474-0007.
www.equaljusticecenter.org
- Mini DV or similar video camera
- Expert video help
- Design help
- Southwest Rapid Rewards
- Help with filing system
- Administrative assistance

EQUALITY TEXAS
PO Box 2340, 474-5475.
www.equalitytexas.org
- Paper cutter
- Cross-cut shredder
- Office supplies
- Three-ring binders
- In-kind food donations
- T-shirt, sticker, poster, brochure-printing services
- Office chairs
- Musicians/entertainers for fundraisers
- Stamps
- Trailer/float materials

EVERYWOMAN'S SELF DEFENSE
203 E. Riverside, 416-9735.
www.everywomans-selfdefense.org
- Headset-ready phone
- Fax machine
- Folding chairs
- White and colored paper
- Macintosh laptop

FAMILY CONNECTIONS
825 E. 53½ #E-101, 478-5725.
www.familyconnectionsonline.org
- New, high volume copier
- New Risograph machine
- New computers (10 desktops, 10 laptops)
- New mobile library van

FAMILY ELDERCARE
2210 Hancock Dr., 450-0844.
www.familyeldercare.org
- 70-plus volunteers to work with our younger disabled clients
- New blankets (twin or larger, washable)
- HEB gift cards

FOUNDATION COMMUNITIES
3036 S. First #200, 447-2026.
www.foundcom.org
- Digital video cameras
- Household goods
- Computer-lab supplies
- Employment supplies (uniforms, tools, shoes)
- Fitness equipment
- Tools and shed

FRONT STEPS
500 E. Seventh, 305-4100.
www.frontsteps.org
- Soap, razors
- Toothbrushes, toothpaste
- Men's jeans, athletic socks
- Blankets

GIRLS EMPOWERMENT NETWORK OF AUSTIN
201 E. Mary, 414-0472.
www.genaustin.org
- Gift certificates for volunteers
- Six conference-table chairs
- Copier paper
- Legal-sized hanging folders
- Art supplies
- Plants

GREENBRIAR SCHOOL/ MARSALOM
1411 Old Sayers, 281-2661.
- A tractor
- Used or new scanner
- Two microphone stands
- Working band equipment
- Early-childhood education materials
- Special-education materials; physical rehabilitation supplies (used OK)

GRIFFIN SCHOOL
710 E. 41st, 454-5797.
www.griffinschool.org
- Copy paper
- Printing services
- Stereo system with speakers
- Laptop computers
- Science lab equipment
- Graphic design/marketing support

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT
827 W. 12th, 647-4803.
www.insidebooksproject.com
- Water cooler
- Hand truck with solid rubber wheels
- Photocopy service cards
- Dictionaries – English and English-Spanish
- African-American studies books
- GED study books
- Clear packing tape
- Large envelopes, postage

KAZI 88.7 FM
8906 Wall #203, 836-2887.
www.kazifm.com
- New mix system
- New antenna
- Studio-quality Electro-Vox microphones
- New AudioArts D-70 audio engineering console

KOOP 91.7FM
3823 Airport Ste. B, 472-1369.
www.koop.org
- PA system
- Nice couch for front room
- Round stickers
- Sharpies
- Date stamp
- Clear packing tape

KVRX 91.7FM
SHC Building, Dean Keeton & University, 471-5106. **www.kvrx.org**
- Web design
- Automation system
- Shelving
- Headphones, DAT tapes, blank CDs
- CD/DVD pressing
- Space for our SXSW day party

LATINITAS
PO Box 4284, 322-9947.
www.volunteermatch.org/orgs/org42185.html
- White and colored paper
- Photo paper (8½-inches-by-11-inches and 4-inches-by-6-inches)
- Rechargeable AA batteries
- Digital cameras
- Snacks for girl clubs
- Gift certificates for girls' prizes

MONKEYWRENCH BOOKS
110 E. North Loop, 407-6925.
www.monkeywrenchbooks.org
- More collective members
- Help with Web

MUSIC RESOURCE CENTER
2824 Real, 524-5252
www.mrcakids.org
- Musical instruments

NARAL PRO CHOICE TEXAS
PO Box 684602, 462-1661.
www.taral.org
- Pro-choice governor and Legislature
- 10 hours of IT consulting
- Digital camera
- Laptop computer
- DVD player
- Gift certificates from local businesses for volunteers

PLANNED PARENTHOOD
707 Rio Grande, 275-0171.
www.ppaustin.org
- Toys and children's books
- Spanish magazines/coffee-table books
- Clear plastic storage containers
- Medical-record, two-, four-drawer filing cabinets
- Video camera

PROJECT TRANSITIONS
7101-B Woodrow, 454-8646.
www.projecttransitions.org
- General and hardware gift cards
- Rakes, shovels, gloves, pruning shears, etc.
- DVDs
- Paper towels, bath tissue
- Neutrogena liquid soap

REFUGEE SERVICES OF TEXAS
3710 Cedar, 472-9472.
www.rst-austin.org
- Computers
- Basic kitchen items
- New sheet sets, blankets, towels
- Couches, beds, tables, chairs, etc.
- Bus passes

RUDE MECHANICALS
2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833.
www.rudemechs.com
- Air miles
- Air compressor
- Nail gun
- Crown staplers
- Stand-alone ice maker
- Freezer
- Cordless screw guns
- Spanish lessons
- Firing-range passes

SAFEPLACE
PO Box 19454, 356-1567.
www.austin-safeplace.org
- Arts & crafts supplies
- Educational toys
- Teen gifts
- Grocery and general gift cards
- Diapers size 4-6 and Pull-Ups
- Baby wipes and care products

SUSTAINABLE FOOD CENTER
1106 Clayton, #480-W, 236-0074.
www.sustainablefoodcenter.org
- Gardening tools and shed
- Greenhouse
- Cooking tools
- Children's toys
- Office chairs

TEXAS CIVIL RIGHTS PROJECT
1405 Montopolis, 474-5073.
www.texascivilrightsproject.org
- Laptops
- Phone headsets
- Locking file cabinets
- Office supplies
- Laser printer
- Fax machine
- Administrative assistance

TEXAS FREEDOM NETWORK
608 W. 22nd, 322-0545.
www.tfn.org
- Construction services
- Computers/laptops
- Video equipment

TEXAS HEARING AND SERVICE DOGS
4803 Rutherglen, 891-9090, 877/TEX-DOGS.
www.servicedogs.org
- New laptop computers
- Two new HP printers
- Large jars of peanut butter
- Hot dogs, string cheese
- 10-foot-by-10-foot, easy-up tent (for fairs/festivals)

TEXAS HOMELESS NETWORK
1713 Fortview, 482-8270.
www.thn.org
- Medium-sized (apartment) refrigerator

TOP DRAWER
4902 Burnet, 454-5161.
www.topdrawerthrift.org
- Portable sign with interchangeable letters
- Commercial-grade vacuum cleaner
- Slat wall-display units with hardware

TREASURE CITY THRIFT
1720 E. 12th, 524-2820.
www.treasurecitythrift.org
- Furniture, books, computers
- Electronic goods, clothes
- Household items, kitchenware, toys
- Plumber and carpenter

UNKNOWN CITY
PO Box 300351,
www.unknowncity.com
- Digital video camcorder
- Digital camera
- Digital audio recorder
- Apple MacBook

VENTANA DEL SOUL
1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447.
www.ventanadelsoul.org
- Board games, cafe tables and chairs
- Commercial ice machine
- 30 or more matching stacking chairs
- 20 to 40 matching rolling conference table chairs or desk chairs
- Folding tables (round or rectangular)
- Conference-style training tables
- Point-of-sale cash register system
- Refrigerated buffet or deli case
- Commercial espresso machine

VICTORY GRILL
1104 E. 11th, 804-1944
- Sound system (two main, two monitor, two sub)
- 24 tables (30-inch-by-30-inch) with chairs
- Fire suppressant system
- 500-square-foot carpet
- computer

WILLIAMSON COUNTY CRISIS CENTER
211 Commerce Blvd. #103, Round Rock, 512/255-1212.
www.wccc.info
- HEB/Wal-Mart gift cards
- Vacuum cleaners
- Over-the-counter medicines
- Heating pads, slippers, socks
- First-aid kits
- Diapers, baby wipes
- Children's thermometers
- Alarm clocks
- Sheets and towels
- Car repairs, oil changes

YELLOW BIKE PROJECT
2013 E. 51st, 457-9880.
www.austinyellowbike.org
- Used bikes (especially kids')
- Bike activists

YWCA
2015 S. I-35 #110, 326-1222.
- Van paint job
- New computers
- Lamps and furniture
- Office supplies
- Phone cards

mazda

Who knew you could get such a well-built, well-equipped SUV for such a small price? Roger Beasley did.

All New
2007 MAZDA
CX-7

Starting at
$19,995
+TT&L

LIMITED TIME ONLY!



"Zoom-zoom, indeed."
-Edmunds.com

"Underanticipated overachiever."
-Motor Trend 6/06

"The CX-7 is likely to give the big guys a serious run for the money."
-TheCarConnection.com

"The CX-7's exterior styling is probably the strongest indication that this isn't your normal everyday crossover."
-Road & Track 6/06

5 STAR
SAFETY RATED**

24 MPG
ESTIMATED HIGHWAY

STANDARD FEATURES:

- Automatic transmission
- 244 hp, 258 lb-ft of torque 2.3 liter, dual-overhead-cam 16-valve I-4 turbo-charged engine
- 18-inch alloy wheels and P235/60R18 tires w/ Tire-Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS)
- Anti-Lock Brake System (ABS) with Electronic Brake force Distribution (EBD) and Brake Assist
- 3-spoke tilt steering with Illuminated steering-wheel-mounted audio and cruise control
- Remote Keyless illuminated entry with integrated transmitter and retractable key
- Dynamic Stability Control (DSC) with Traction Control System (TCS)
- Power door locks and outside mirrors
- 60/40 split rear seatback with remote releases
- Satelitte-radio-ready modular AM/FM CD stereo
- Advanced driver's and passenger's front air bags
- CFC-free air conditioning with cabin air filter
- Power windows with one-touch auto open/close front windows
- Sport Shift 6-Speed automatic transmission
- Power-assisted 4-wheel ventilated disc brakes
- Front-wheel drive
- Front side-impact air bags and side air curtains (front and rear) with roll-over protection
- Front & rear crumple zones
- Engine-immobilizer antitheft system

Let's compare:

VEHICLE MAKE & MODEL	BASE MSRP	HP / TORQUE	EST. MPG CITY/HWY
MAZDA CX-7	$24,310	244/258	19/24
ACURA MDX	$37,740	253/250	17/23
INFINITI FX35	$38,450	280/270	17/23
NISSAN MURANO	$28,205	245/246	19/24
VW TOUAREG	$38,080	240/229	16/21
VOLVO XC-70	$36,135	208/236	19/26

VEHICLE MAKE & MODEL	LEGROOM FRONT / REAR	HEADROOM FRONT / REAR	TURNING DISTANCE
MAZDA CX-7	41.7 / 36.4 IN.	39.7 / 39.3 IN.	37.4 FT
ACURA MDX	41.5 / 37.8 IN.	38.4 / 39.0 IN.	38.0 FT
INFINITI FX35	43.9 / 35.2 IN.	40.8 / 39.5 IN.	38.70 FT
NISSAN MURANO	43.4 / 36.1 IN.	40.7 / 39.7 IN.	38.70 FT
VW TOUAREG	41.3 / 35.6 IN.	38.7 / 38.3 IN.	38.00 FT
VOLVO XC-70	42.6 / 35.2 IN.	39.3 / 38.9 IN.	43.30 FT

BASE MSRP INCLUDES DESTINATION CHARGE. NOT TT&L. INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM EACH MANUFACTURER'S WEBSITE FOR COMPARISON PURPOSES ONLY.

†2007 CX-7 SPORT, 2WD, AUTOMATIC - MSRP $24,310 - $4,315 DEALER DISCOUNT = $19,995 +TT&L. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS.

Your Austin Area Mazda Dealers

TAKE A TEST DRIVE TODAY

3 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS
SALES: M-SAT 8:30AM-8PM
SERVICE: M-F 7AM-6PM

PREMIER MAZDA
IH-35 N. at Westinghouse Rd.
1-800-440-9115
premiermazda.net

ROGER BEASLEY MAZDA
2 MI. SOUTH OF 183 ON BURNET
(512) 459-4111
www.rogerbeasley.com

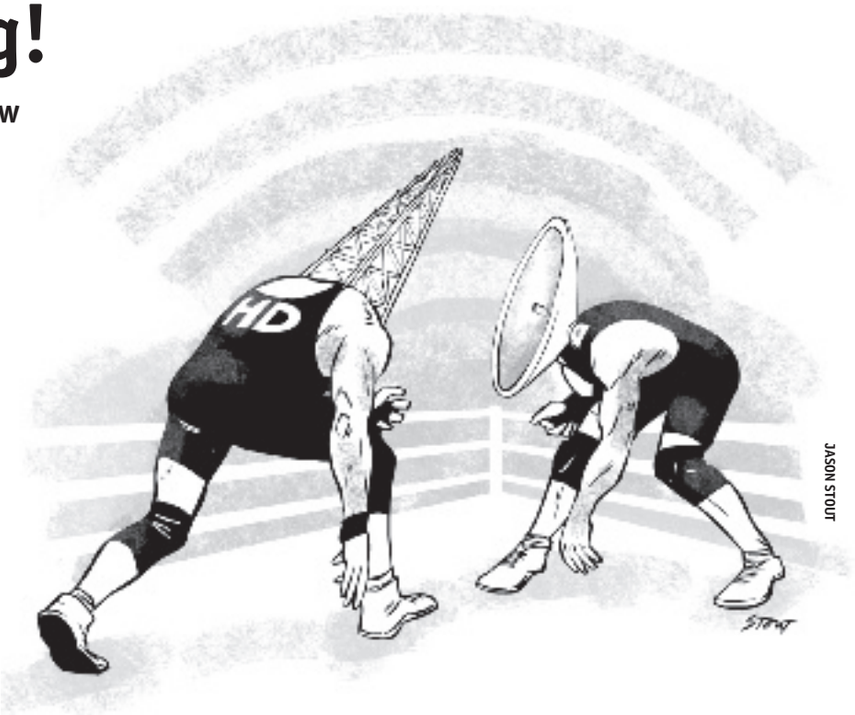
MAZDA SOUTH
4506 IH-35 South
800-207-6534
mazdasouth.com

**BASED ON FRONTAL AND/OR SIDE AND/OR ROLLOVER RATINGS FOUND AT www.safercar.com. ALL PICTURES FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY. OFFERS END 12/30/06.

Worldwide Radio Wrestling!

HD format hopes to body-slam satellite radio to an industry draw

BY KEVIN BRASS



Like the heavy metal fanfare for a wrestler approaching the ring, the drumbeat has begun for HD Radio, the long-awaited entrance of traditional radio into the digital arena. Radio companies are using $200 million in advertising time to tout HD as the Great Tech Hope, the chance for old, fuddy-duddy "terrestrial" radio to show it has the stuff to compete with satellite services and the Internet. With the bombast of a World Wrestling Federation ring announcer, the industry proclaims HD "the biggest trend in consumer entertainment since the advent of FM radio!"

But ask your friends and neighbors about HD Radio, and they'll likely respond with a blank stare and "huh?" Go to a store, and try to buy a receiver, and chances are the polo-shirt-clad zombie will send you to the DVD department. And if you do buy a receiver, you'll find only a smattering of channels available, ranging from smooth jazz to a "rockin'" country channel.

Nevertheless, in an industry desperately in need of some good news, HD – the industry's not-quite-acronymic designation for digital radio – is seen as a potential savior, a chance to compete in the modern age. "It's something we have to do, or the business will pass us by," says John Hiatt, Austin market manager for the four stations recently purchased from CBS by Entercom.

But as HD takes its baby steps into the market, serious questions linger. Is it too late? Can the radio industry – the world of perky morning shows and "adult contemporary" formats – pull it off? And, perhaps, the most nagging, crucial question of all: Can HD make commercial radio cool again?

Rollout Alliance

In many ways, HD – a term borrowed from "high definition," although it has nothing to do with HD television – represents a giant leap forward for radio. Reception in many areas will be crystal clear, static-free, much like the jump from analog to digital phones. And, like satellite services, receivers will display information about the songs as they play. Best of all, HD allows broadcasters to offer more than one channel over a radio frequency, a technique known as "multicasting." For example, if you have an HD radio, you'll be able to listen to KVET-FM on 98.1, but you'll also be able to switch to KVET's HD-only channel on the same frequency, KVET-2 (and, eventually, KVET-3 and maybe even a KVET-4).

As a result, Austin radio stations will be able to offer a dozen new channels, no longer constrained by their designated frequencies. For KUT-FM, Austin's National Public Radio affiliate, that translates as an opportunity to broadcast national programs such as the *BBC World News* and *The Tavis Smiley Show*, that it can't fit on its main channel, on an HD channel. "It creates a new program stream for our local audience," said Rich Dean, director of channels for KUT.

To the commercial stations, it's a chance to roll out the type of diverse and niche-oriented formats that have all but disappeared from the radio dial. Formats like reggae, jazz, Tejano, oldies, and classical will find a new home on HD – and they will be offered for free to anyone with an HD receiver, a bitch slap to the pay-for-play satellite services. "A lot of people are excited about the chance to do these things," said Scott Gilmore, Austin market manager for Emmis Communications. "We can take a chance on this and look for things that create passion and listenership."

To launch HD, the largest radio companies, led by industry giant Clear Channel, joined together to form the HD Digital Radio Alliance. In an unprecedented display of cooperation, the members set ground rules for the rollout. In addition to agreeing to devote airtime for commercials promoting HD, stations randomly drew lots for different formats to avoid direct competition. For example, in Austin, Emmis' hip-hop station, KDHT (Hot 93.3), chose an "Old Skool" hip-hop format, and Entercom rival the Beat (104.3) picked up an "urban adult contemporary" format. Alliance members also agreed not to run ads on the channels for a year to help establish the format (although, after that, all bets are off).

Despite the cooperation and anticipation, HD's emergence into the market has been a sputtering, jerky affair. Receivers actually have been available for more than two years. But companies were slow to spend the $150,000 to $200,000 per station for broadcast equipment and the HD technology, which is controlled by a company called iBiquity. Stations that made the leap experienced a long series of technical problems, forcing further delays in the launch. KUT's HD channel was initially operational in January, but a long series of problems getting the hardware and software to work properly prevented the station from going live until September. Although the NPR affiliate's pioneering foray into the format was largely subsidized by grants, it ultimately dug into station funds to get all the equipment operational.

As far back as July, *MediaWeek* columnist Rich Russo suggested HD stood for "huge debacle." The HD Digital Radio Alliance says the problems have been solved and trumpets that there are now more than 1,000 stations around the country offering HD programming. But even now, as the local commercial stations air ad after ad promoting HD, many of the Austin stations don't expect to have their HD offerings on the air until next year.

Low Expectations

Multicasting – the ability to transmit more than one signal on the same frequency – is considered the "killer app" by many HD pioneers. But, so far, the multicasting programming offered by the commercial stations seems unlikely to send consumers into an HD-buying frenzy. Emmis' first HD channel, which hit the air the first week in November, is a smooth-jazz channel offered as a companion to KBPA-FM (the channel known as Bob). Most of the HD channels are extensions or variations of existing stations. Easy-listening Majic, for example, will offer an oldies HD channel. KLBJ-FM, the classic rock station, will offer a blues channel. At this point, all the channels are generic and automated, with no live voices.

While the new formats will undoubtedly add a level of diversity to the radio dial, most are readily available in many forms these days, including on satellite and a wide variety of Web services. It's also the reality of the modern media world that any hardcore blues enthusiast eager for a commercial-free blues extravaganza can simply dial up his favorite iPod playlist.

Equally uninspiring is the level of support for the format at the store level, a key ingredient for the rollout of any consumer electronics product. The HD Digital Alliance's big preholiday retail announcement was that Circuit City would carry receivers in 10 markets and online, the only big-box chain offering HD. Post-Thanksgiving, a North Austin Circuit City displayed one Boston Acoustics HD receiver on a corner shelf, behind several kiosks promoting satellite. The model was priced at $234 (after rebate), but it couldn't pick up any HD channels. "You'll need an amplified antenna," the salesman said. "I think once I've been able to pick up one HD station with this," he said, flopping around the flimsy, thin wire antenna included with the receiver.

Outside of Circuit City and RadioShack, the big chains are largely ignoring HD, so far preferring to stock shelves with products they apparently deem more likely to sell. Radio ads for HD often point people interested in buying a receiver to Web sites. And the HD receivers available are still expensive, usually in the area of $200 or more, which dampens enthusiasm for anyone eager to make the plunge.

At the very least, it's fair to say HD is not generating any momentum – the Big Mo – which is considered essential for establishing a new consumer electronics product. Think of the enthusiasm and interest generated in the early days by the DVD format or the buzz created by iPods. In the midst of the holiday buying frenzy, there's almost no buzz over HD, despite the radio ads and general industry hype. "I think the industry has done a really poor job of educating people about what HD radio is," said Dean of KUT. "If you went out and asked 100 people about HD Radio, 99 would not have heard of it, and the other one probably works in radio."

Even within the industry, debate rages about the technical aspects of the format and the launch's inability to "wow" consumers. Widely read analyst Sean Ross of Edison Media Research recently wrote about his disappointment with the initial HD experience, including his difficulty finding a receiver, crummy reception, and a less-than-thrilling sound quality. "I was somehow expecting the head-rush of loud-

NEW CHANNELS ON THE LOCAL SCENE

HD channels currently or soon to be available:

KUT-FM	90.5	News/Variety
KHFI-FM	96.7	Contemporary Hits
KVET-FM	98.1	Rockin' Country
KASE-FM	100.7	All New Country
KPEZ-FM	102.3	Christian Contemporary
KBPA-FM	103.5	Smooth Jazz
KFMK-FM	105.9	Spanish Oldies
KINV-FM	107.7	Tejano

Source: iBiquity

ness of, say, the THX 'the audience is listening' movie trailer," he wrote. "What I heard sounded a lot less processed than even the average FM station – as if the primary goal was to demonstrate CD-style clarity."

Not all broadcasters have been eager to jump on the HD bandwagon. Border Media Partners, which controls seven frequencies in Austin, primarily broadcasting Spanish-language channels, has no immediate plans at this point to invest in the equipment. "We will wait until the market becomes better defined," said Bob Proud, BMP's vice president of operations. "The number of Spanish-language households in Austin [that] have bought an HD receiver has to be close to zero." (It's worth noting that Border Media Partners doesn't have Web sites for its stations, either, so maybe it's not the best gauge of cutting-edge technology. Spanish-language giant Univision is supporting the launch.)

In its infancy, the HD rollout is getting knocked around by market forces. The four Austin stations that Entercom just bought still don't have HD gear (although it's on order). Previous owner CBS was reluctant to spend the money on the gear while it pursued a sale, according to management. At this point, "We don't know when it will go up," said local Entercom programmer Dusty Hayes.

Meanwhile, no one is quite certain what the future holds for industry giant Clear Channel, one of the technology's biggest supporters. The company is going private and selling off dozens of stations. Many insiders believe the moves will help the industry and HD's rollout – bringing more players to the competition and less focus on the quarterly share prices – but it might also slow the investment in the HD rollout. (Austin-based Clear Channel officials didn't return phone calls.)

With so much uncertainty, Kagan Research expects only 200,000 to 300,000 HD receivers will be sold this year. That number should jump to more than 2.5 million in 2007, but

"If you went out and asked 100 people about HD Radio, 99 would not have heard of it, and the other one probably works in radio."
– Rich Dean, KUT

sales won't really start to ramp up until 2008, when 8.5 million will be sold, according to Kagan's model. From there, sales are expected to almost double every year, to 16 million in 2009 and 27 million in 2010. But that will still represent a relatively small percentage of the 100 million radios sold every year.

That's not blockbuster news for the commercial radio companies, who have seen their values plummet amid widespread Wall Street skepticism about their future revenue. "I think it will be a lot like FM radio," Hayes said. "It took a while to get into homes and cars, and then it became second nature." The industry, Hayes said, is "committed to make it work."

Circular Economics

Few doubt that HD digital technology will eventually become the standard for radio, but there are no guarantees it will grasp the public's imagination. The tech landscape is littered with cool products that didn't catch on, from Beta videotape to AM stereo. Digital television was backed by an entire industry and federal legislation mandated conversions, yet the rollout of HD television – universally viewed as superior technology – is taking decades, not years, to worm its way into a significant number of homes.

At the same time, fundamental shifts are taking place in consumer habits. Internet radio, podcasts, and portable media are all in their infancy. Meanwhile, a wide variety of telecommunications companies are pouring billions of dollars into creating networks using WiMax – a long-range, higher quality version of Wi-Fi – which will be used to beam video, music, and data to mobile devices and computers. New services likely will be able to reach into cars, for decades the almost-exclusive domain of radio. Now many car models are equipped with DVD players and iPod docking stations, in addition to satellite-capable radios.

Wall Street analysts are skeptical about the public's loyalty to radio, despite the industry's claim of vibrant listenership. Studies show that people are using radio fewer days per week, "the only traditional medium showing such erosion," according to research

continued on p.32



MORE GOOD NEWS. NEW LOW RATES.

Car insurance made simple.
Immediate coverage by phone.
Convenient payment plans.
Round-the-clock claim service.

GEICO.



CALL OUR LOCAL OFFICE FOR A FREE RATE QUOTE.

732-2211 ext. 3
9041 Research Blvd. Suite 240
(Hwy 183 at Burnet Rd., above Black-Eyed Pea)

Government Employees Insurance Co. • GEICO General Insurance Co.
GEICO Indemnity Co. • GEICO Casualty Co. • Colonial County Mutual Ins. Co.
GEICO, Washington, DC 20076. © 2005 GEICO

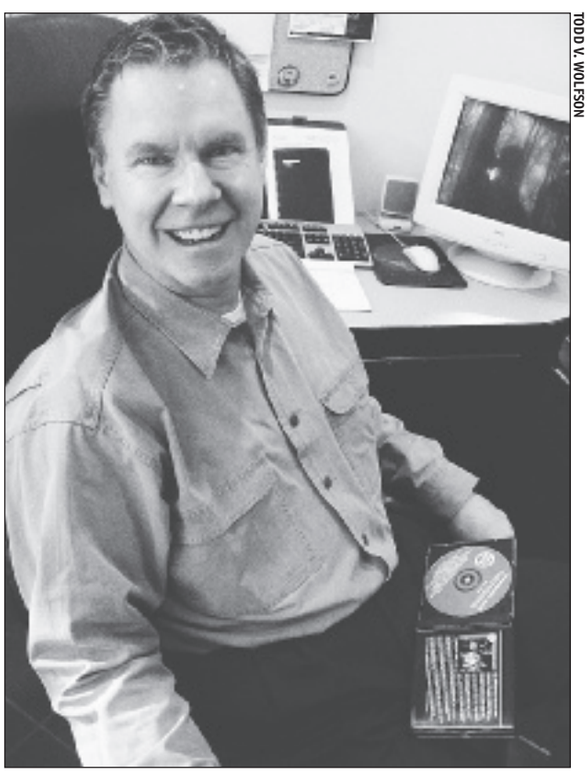


firm Gartner Inc. Even newspapers and TV are holding on to consumers' habits better than radio, according to Gartner. Even though satellite requires a paid subscription, Gartner predicts that satellite radio will have 26 million household subscribers by 2009, while digital radio will only be available in 11 million households.

To succeed at HD, radio broadcasters will have to "re-evaluate [their] most fundamental assumptions" about business models and "use the FM multicast to superserve" audiences, Gartner said. That means local programming and targeted niches, like minority groups, virtually ignored by conventional radio. Some obviously get it. "One thing that sets us apart is localism," Gilmore said.

But the broadcasters are faced with a nasty Catch-22. They don't want to spend money on HD without a clear return on investment, but they won't get any return on investment until they spend money to create and market dynamic programming. With budgets tight, radio companies have spent money on the equipment, but none has shown any willingness to step forward to create original HD programming. No one is close, for example, to suggesting the hiring of a Howard Stern-type name to air only on HD and drive the market. "With budget and personnel cuts now taking place across the industry, it seems unrealistic that more resources are now going to be devoted to multicast stations," Ross concluded.

While $200 million in ad time sounds impressive, the industry is spending very little cash to launch the format. "I think the radio industry, in some respects, is going about this very conservatively," said Kagan analyst Michael Buckley. So far, for example, the HD Alliance has shown a reluctance to subsidize the installation of receivers in cars, something that has helped boost the satellite industry (though also one of the reasons satellite continues to hemorrhage money).



TODD V. WOLFSON

"We can take a chance on this and look for things that create passion and listenership."

– Scott Gilmore, Emmis Communications

"It's something we have to do, or the business will pass us by."

– John Hiatt, Entercom



TODD V. WOLFSON

There is a sense that broadcasters are already hedging their bets, viewing HD as a means to an end rather than a savior on a white horse. "In the short term, it's not important to us at all," Gilmore said. After all, the HD channels aren't expected to generate revenue – in the short term – and no significant money will be spent on them. Gilmore looks at HD as part of an overall digital strategy. "I know it's vital that we be more platform-agnostic," Gilmore said. "We're prepared to be where the listeners are."

To KUT's Dean, in the current landscape HD is primarily an excuse to create new channels to stream on its Web site. "If HD radio fails in some way, it's not something that I'm concerned about, because the main audience for HD-2 is online," he said. In addition to the current news channel, KUT will likely debut a digital music channel next year. But KUT probably won't expand its HD programming, Dean said, unless it can arrange specific sponsorship and financial support, the very same dilemma facing the commercial stations.

With competition increasing, pressure will mount for the commercial stations to monetize HD, to wring some sort of revenue stream from it. Temptation will eat at the radio executives, pushing them to make decisions that could ruin their competitive advantage. After the launch period, some will want to put as many ads as possible on the HD channels, threatening to make the new digital channels sound a lot like old radio, while ceding the commercial-free landscape to satellite and the Web. Others will push to add more channels, which would damage the quality of the reception, literally slicing away at the format's technological advantage.

Finding Ears

In the media world, many wonder if the radio industry will be able to make it happen, whether it has the mojo to create a new generation of radio. At its heart, the HD campaign is a referendum on radio's ability to market itself and create new, fun programming. Ultimately, they know they're aiming at a young generation that, studies show, is growing up less interested in terrestrial radio than their parents. HD is seen as a chance to hook them into old-fashioned radio services, before they settle into new habits. "We're looking at doing things to make radio cool for teens," Gilmore said, invoking the c-word.

Several factors could boost the industry's chances. The HD Digital Radio Alliance has already announced plans to up the ad commitment supporting the format to $250 million in 2007. And it has vowed to focus on automakers in the next year, including a new device to convert car radios to HD. In the next year, more manufacturers are expected to include both HD and satellite capabilities into new receiver models for both home and cars, giving consumers a choice. HD could also spark innovation, including new TiVo-like digital recording devices for radio, which might spark people to buy.

Most importantly, the price of receivers is steadily dropping, and a variety of models will soon be readily available for less than $100. When RadioShack put an Accurian tabletop HD receiver on sale for $99 the day after Thanksgiving, sales surged, according to the alliance. "When we reach $100, we will see a real ramp-up in consumer interest," Buckley said.

And then what? At that point, it will still be up to the radio industry to make it work, to offer the public a reason to buy. When HD radios are as inexpensive and ubiquitous as regular radios, broadcasters will face "a renewed responsibility to put on a show for those listeners who do show up," according to Ross.

If they don't, broadcasters must face the very real possibility that the slow ramp of HD channels may simply cannibalize the listenership of their existing channels. If they're unable to grow the number of people choosing terrestrial radio over satellite and the Internet, they will simply be redistributing their listeners to more channels, slicing the pie into smaller pieces instead of growing the pie.

Ultimately, "It doesn't matter; they have got to do it," Buckley said. "They may not grow the pie, but hopefully they can keep the pie from shrinking." ■

GIFT LIST: HD receivers

A sampling of some available receivers:

ACCURIAN BY RADIOSHACK



Style: Tabletop
Features: Remote control, 24 presets, headphone jack
MSP: $199.99
Available: $124.99 (after rebate) at RadioShack.com

POLK AUDIO I-SONIC



Style: Tabletop
Features: Four speakers, CD-DVD player with outputs, satellite and iPod compatible
MSP: $599
Available: $549 (after iBiquity rebate) at PolkAudio.com

BOSTON ACOUSTICS RECEPTER RADIO



Style: Clock radio
Features: Easy to use with detachable second speaker
MSP: $299
Available: $249.99 at Circuit City

JVC KD-HDR1



Style: In-dash car stereo
Features: Compatible with iPods, satellite radio, or a CD changer
MSP: $299.99
Available: $166.66 at Amazon.com

FREE NEW AUSTIN DIRECTORY!

austin.com

...your town, your words, your way.

We invite everybody Austin to visit and share everything Austin. Music, Events, Shows, Art and more! Log on and add your business, club, band or event to our new Austin directory and events calander!



www.austin.com

GAME OVER
VIDEOGAMES
CLASSIC AND USED GAMES

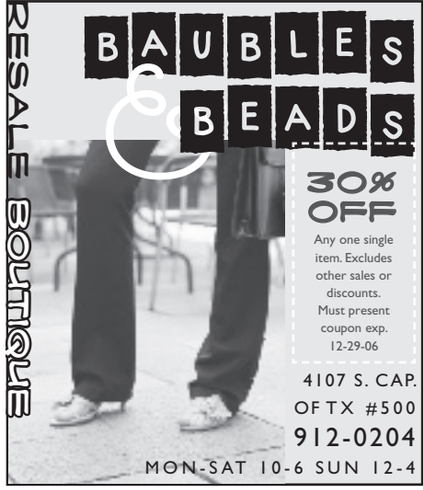
WE PAY CASH FOR VIDEO GAMES
WE BUY ALL OLD VIDEO GAMES FROM ATARI TO XBOX

RECEIVE AN EXTRA $5 FOR EVERY $25 OR MORE TRADE-IN
LIMIT ONE PER PERSON • EXP. 1-31-07

911 W. ANDERSON @ LAMAR • 454-GAME
GAMEOVERVIDEOGAMES.COM • M-SA10A-7P

RESALE BOUTIQUE

BAUBLES & BEADS



30% OFF
Any one single item. Excludes other sales or discounts. Must present coupon exp. 12-29-06

4107 S. CAP. OF TX #500
912-0204
MON-SAT 10-6 SUN 12-4

Renew your love for your car

First, your carpets and seats are professionally cleaned to remove spots and stains, restoring that new car luster. The vinyl and the dash are shampooed and conditioned with low-gloss sun block. Your leather is cleaned with an aloe-based shampoo to prevent drying, then mink oiled to protect and restore it's original aroma. Autoshine even cleans the radio buttons, gauges and air vents (yes, we really do use Q-tips).

Next, your vehicle is hand washed before we gently buff your paint to remove surface scratches, oxidation, and swirls. Our paint conditioner is then buffed into your finish to produce the envied Autoshine wet look. Autoshine finally hand paste waxes your car with 100% pure Brazilian Carnauba wax. After cleaning and dressing your tires, your chrome, wheels, and trim are all polished to complete your new car look.

CHRISTMAS GIFT CERTIFICATES NOW AVAILABLE



Yes, we really do use Q-tips.
Call for an appointment today!

276-1005
Get an AUTOSHINE
www.AutoshineAustin.com

$30 off our regular price of $209.95.*
Offer expires 01/07/07
*Slight additional charge for larger vehicles.

Hey, nice condo.



WWW.THEMAGNOLIA-AUSTIN.COM

Call to visit our showroom (512) 445-5400

AVERA
MORE AUSTIN

No More Studio Fees!

Paint where you can feel at peace. Handmade gifts for everyone. Ahh! What a great stress release! The Best Holiday Gifts in the City! Give the gift that makes them giddy!

Cafe Monet
Paint Your Own Pottery
Westgate Center
512-892-3200
www.cafemonet.org

GREAT GIFT IDEA!

HOLIDAY HEALER SPA PACKAGE '06

SAUNA TIME
1 HOUR SWEDISH MASSAGE
HERBAL HEALER BODY WRAP
HOT HERBAL STEAM TOWEL TREATMENT
FULL BODY DRY BRUSH
HEAD AND FOOT ANOINTMENT WITH SACRED OILS OF SANDALWOOD FRANKINCENSE AND MYRRH
COOL CUCUMBERS ON THE EYES
SERVED WITH HOT CHAI OR HOT CHOCOLATE

APPROXIMATELY 2 HOURS - $149

VIVA DAY SPA

WHERE BEAUTY & WELLNESS ARE ONE

1811 W. 35TH ST. 300-2256
WWW.VIVAAUSTINDAYSPA.COM

TESOROS TRADING COMPANY®

FOLK ART & OTHER TREASURES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Thank You Austin for 17 years.
Come Celebrate Our Last Christmas on Congress Avenue.

209 Congress Avenue • 512/479-8377 • Free parking behind the store
Holiday Hours 10-7 • www.tesoros.com

HOT, SWEATY CARDIO COOL, RELAXED STUDIO

Power Vinyasa Yoga and Heated Hatha at

Yoga Vida

Austin's first hot studio is still its favorite.
Try our free class each Friday, 6:30pm.

3620 Bee Caves 480-8489
yogavida.net

mark your calendar.

bookmark ours.

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com

GIVE THE GIFT OF HEALTH

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR LIST.

Reduce Stress • Increase Flexibility
Build Strength • Improve Focus • Lift Your Spirit

4 AUSTIN LOCATIONS

Westgate:	4477 South Lamar	512.328.1200
South:	1700 South Lamar	512.326.4900
North:	2167 Anderson Lane	512.380.9800
Northwest:	12001 Burnet Road	512.490.1200

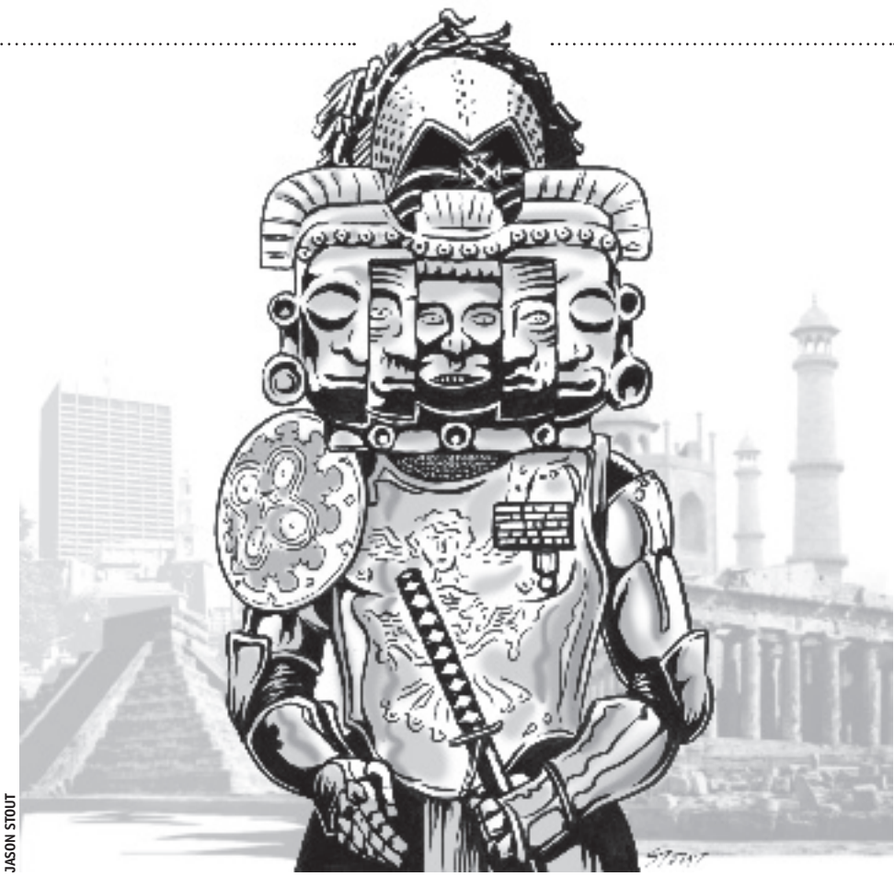
YOGA YOGA

www.yogayoga.com



A Messy Species

BY MICHAEL VENTURA



JASON STOUT

Civilizations are usually better off dead. Especially empires. Greek civilization is pretty cool, what with all those plays, philosophies, geometry, and democracy – none of which prevented Athens and Sparta from tussling, and after that, their civilization just kind of poofed. But their rep gave Macedonia's Alexander the Great some class. In return, he spread their ideas and troubles throughout the known world. Still, for the Greeks themselves, it was mostly poof. So their smarts didn't do them much good, not in terms of "having a civilization." In fact, one of the great lessons of civilizations is that smarts don't count for much in the long run; no civilization has been smart enough not to screw up and fall. The Greeks left us a great shelf of books, though.

Which is what civilizations end up doing after they're done causing trouble. They leave some books, some art, some ruins for the future to unearth. And they leave some lessons, usually about what not to do – lessons ignored by the new civilization that is so sure it's smarter than the last. And what happens to the people who do a civilization's dirty work when their civilization tanks? The common folk, like us, schlep on. Hang around. They're a little lost sometimes because, for so many, what they thought was their personal identity was mostly just a symptom of their civilization. But that hangover wears off in a few centuries. After all, Greeks still do whatever Greeks do and picnic at the Parthenon. Egyptians, Persians, Romans, Mayans, the English, they're still around, mostly just getting by and looking for new ways to get into trouble. For instance, Persians (we call them Iranians) want their own nuke, which is a prime product of our civilization, a civilization that (not a moment too soon) is on its way out. We'll leave lots of books and movies and the blues and the Net and the bomb, and (unless the planet decides differently) we'll still piddle around, waxing nostalgic over lost glories like '69 Chevies and Louis Armstrong and Marilyn Monroe. But we won't cause as much trouble for other people – which is what civilizations are really good at. We'll keep our trouble local. And we'll still do some notable stuff. Hey, in the 20th century the Greeks had great poets again – it was about 2,300 years since their last great poets, but Cavafy, Seferis, and Ritsos almost make up for that gap. And the trouble Greeks cause now, you never hear about it, 'cause it stays Greek.

Some civilizations leave something behind to spook the future. The Mayans left prophecies and a calendar. If by some good fortune (which I'm about to ruin) you haven't heard, the Mayan calendar ends on Dec. 21, 2012 – the winter solstice, no less. According to Mayans, after 2012 there's zilch. No more history-as-we-know-it. Well, Dec. 21, 2012, is just six years from today (Thursday). I don't worry about what I can't influence, but for anyone who does, the Mayan calendar is something to bite your lip about. Mayans were crackerjack astronomers. They invented the zero before anyone else, which, as usual, did their civilization no good in the long run. Centuries before Copernicus, the Mayans could predict eclipses, so they knew that the solar system revolves, and who knows what else they knew? According to the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, six years from now the Mayans thought that "the present world … is doomed to end in cataclysm … of a markedly direful character."

Isn't that just like the Brits? "Markedly direful." It's possible Mayans knew of an asteroid or comet that we don't, with which we may collide on 12/21/12. Some think "markedly direful" is a shift of Earth's magnetic poles. And some think, well … hit the Internet, read the bilge. People will think anything that satisfies them emotionally. We're that kind of species. Which may be good, because if we weren't, our civilizations might last longer and cause even more trouble.

Some think 2012 will bring "the return of universal telepathy, a self-reflexive consciousness [you mean we're not self-reflexive enough?!] … a return to the sacred domain of inner technology." That and more (if you can stand it) can be read on **www.13moon.com**, one site among many. Some intelligent gents and gals of my acquaintance believe a more seemly version of the above, to the effect that after 2012, humanity will finally, slowly or swiftly, blossom into its full potential, if such a thing exists. It would be cantankerous not to root for their point of view, though history argues for a darker prospect. Still, one truly marvelous trait of our species is that we never give up, not about the big things. We dream, and we act upon our dreams. Which often, in the process of causing more trouble, also creates great beauty. They go hand in hand, beauty and trouble, always. Beauty and trouble are the building blocks of civilizations. So no need to tell us, "Dream on"; we can't help dreaming on, punch-drunk or not, and there's something lovable (if not particularly successful) about that.

One of the great lessons of civilizations is that smarts don't count for much in the long run; no civilization has been smart enough not to screw up and fall.

But back to that Mayan calendar. My reference books don't note whence comes the phrase, "a fly in the ointment," but it's a useful image: a pesky bug stuck in undefined goo. A bug in the Mayans' goo is inadvertently hinted at on **www.13moon.com**: Mayan "messengers" deposited their "calling card" upon "a series of super-sized stone monuments and pyramids" on which their celestial prophecies got writ. The Brits demurely note that "the amount of labor involved [in the construction of those pyramids] would have been enormous and so would have the social controls necessary to see the job through to its completion." For "social controls" read "slavery." Slobs like you and me don't schlep and sweat to build pyramids unless someone threatens to kill us. So one must wonder why hip people, who seek release from the slavish ways of our present empire, find solace in ancient prophecies of a slave empire. Aristocracies lie, and concoct systems of lies, to control the likes of us. They do it now and did it then. How Mayan beliefs served to control the common Mayan Jane and Joe, we don't much know. But beliefs carved in stone, even lovely beliefs, don't often originate or conclude in peace and harmony.

Or is Mayan math, like ours, a closed system, referent to itself, useful for some things and not for others, handy as a hook for mythology and useless at predicting the future? They had a circular sense of time, and 2012 could be merely the circumference of that circle. But it's much more fun to think that history is about to end or that humanity is about to change its basic nature.

No doubt a civilization is ending. Western civilization – and its American subset – can no longer dominate the world. No one knows what the next civilization will look like, but everybody loves a happy ending, especially when the story is one's own. Which explains all versions of: "It's a *good* thing the world's a mess 'cause it means things are about to get *better*!" Christians look toward a Second Coming after Armageddon, and Jews look toward a first. Many of all faiths believe human consciousness is evolving (though, speaking as a writer, it's hard to see how writers have evolved since Shakespeare). Some believe we'd all be better off if we knew how better to raise our children, especially our male children. Or science will improve us. Or we'll be better as the galaxy shifts into Aquarius. Or something. What all these beliefs have in common is the notion that, through divine or human agency, humanity is perfectible.

An extraordinary belief, when all humanity's ventures indicate that it is not perfectible. In fact, our founders wrote our constitutional checks and balances to protect us from our flaws, because they believed our flaws to be incurable. Few are so practical. Why are so many unable to accept that what we are is what we are? A messy species, hard to please, brutal and beautiful, creative and constantly in trouble, never giving up on the big things, always fascinating (at least to ourselves), and always shimmering with a quality that is essentially unknown. That unknown quality, which we sense and try ineffectively to name, is what makes us able to say anything about ourselves. Anything at all. "Made in God's image" or whatever. We know what we do, but many of us cannot quite bring ourselves to conclude that what we do is what we are. And is all we are.

A high school kid once said to me, "Humanity has no opposite." We have no correlative or check on what we may think about ourselves. Civilization by civilization, we see ourselves anew, make ourselves up, get into and out of trouble, all the while doing what we do and, very often, hoping what we do is not what we are. Or not all we are. We insist on this. Over and over, this way and that, civilization after civilization. And it may be true. Or it may be just another thing we do. ■

CHRONICLE gift pages



The Garden Room

Virgins, Saints & Angels and more!

Gifts for them and for you!

5 Jefferson Square
Kerbey Lane
458-5407
M-Sa 10:30-5:30
Su 11-4

TEXACELLO LLC, AUSTIN TX, 30% ALC/VOL

Paula's Texas Lemon

Inspired by limoncello, handmade in Austin

Delicious local lemon liqueur is great for sipping or cocktails and makes a great gift.

Available at liquor stores throughout Texas.
For recipes & info, visit paulastexaslemon.com



Atomic City

The Coolest Shoes!

Shoes & Gifts
Japanese Toys

1700 San Antonio
477-0293



InStep Austin

"So that's what the holes are for!"

Crocs & Jibbitz.
Fun Gifts for Everyone!

Gateway
Loop 360 & Hwy 183
346-4400

Lamar Village
38th & Lamar
476-5110

Viva Day Spa

Full Service Day Spa and Salon

This year give the gift of relaxation.

Gift Certificates Available

300-2256
1811 W 35th St.
vivaaustindayspa.com



Sea of Beads

Everything For the Beader, Including Gift Certificates

BEADS, SUPPLIES, CLASSES, PARTIES GIFTS & GIFTCARDS

2438 W. Anderson Ln.
Burnet Rd. & W. Anderson
533-9090
Open 7 Days a Week



Concrete Jungle

Holiday Sale

20% off all tattoo gift certificates
2 for 1 Piercings (rings only, Tuesday-Friday)
All Body Jewelry
20-50% off Every Day

Eternally Bound Tattoo & Concrete Jungle
5241 N. Lamar
@ North Loop
380-0730



Drumz

A World Percussion Paradise

Give the Gift of Music

Come see our expanded space and inventory!
Hand drumming classes for all ages!

Special Holiday Hours
Tues.-Sat.,10am-7pm
Closed Sun., Xmas Eve
3700 Kerbey Ln., 453-9090
www.drumzaustin.com



Book Woman

Unique T-Shirts & Gifts for The Whole Family

open every day
12th & Lamar
472-2785
www.ebookwoman.com



Philip Glass' Waiting for the Barbarians

An American Premiere

Jan. 19, 21,27, 29; 2007
Bass Concert Hall

Austin Lyric Opera
austinlyricopera.org
472-5992

To be a part of these gift pages, call 454-5766



Aziz Salon

Day Spa & Skin Wellness Center

Holiday Gift Certificates
Purchase Online Today!
Spa Packages, Hair,
Nails, Skin & Massage

476-4131
710 W. 7th
azizsalon.com
open 7 days a week



Earth Art

Beautiful Art, Jewelry,
Clothing, Gifts &
Handicrafts from the
Global Community.

Austin
632B N. Lamar
behind Compu-Sign
(512) 693-9400
Sun 12-5, Tue-Sat 11-7

Bryan/College Station
209 S. Main
Post Oak Mall
(979) 779-8208
Sun 10-4, Tue-Sat 10-7

White Crane Herbal Medicine

20% Off Selected Items (Dec.1-24)

Chinese Herbs, Asian
Arts, Feng Shui Items,
Books, Music and More

2700 W. Anderson Ln.
323-6720
1902 S. Congress
693-4372



Mr. Nice Guys

Featuring Locally Blown Glass, Heady Glass and Shirts

- *Incense Candles*
- *Jars/Mags/Scales*
- *SO.A.P. Products*
- *Best Prices & Selection*
- *Friendly Service*

Independently
Owned & Operated.
In the Real South Austin.
7811 S. 1st, Ste. 101
444-0001



Daya Day Spa

Luxury and Relaxation in the Heart of Austin

Gift certificates are the best
gift this holiday season!
Available in person, by
phone or online.

512-374-1010
3208 Guadalupe
www.dayaenergy.com



Solid Gold

New East Austin Boutique Now Open! Apparel, Bath, Beauty, Jewelry, Gifts

15% off through*
December.
** with this ad*

Across from Saltillo
Plaza, 1601 East 5th
Mon-Sat 11-7, Sun 12-5



Cheapo

Gift Certificates Available!

KGSR Broadcast
CDs Too

477.4499
10th & Lamar
open til midnight
www.cheapotexas.com



Alien Scooters

Give an eco-friendly X-Mas with an electric scooter!

Being electric doesn't
mean being alien, but
Alien Scooters thinks
being green is pretty
COOL!

1122 S. Lamar
512-447-4220
www.alienscooters.com



$100 VIP Coupon

Valid towards any Training Program at Master Gohring's Tai Chi & Kung Fu

Coupon valid for new
student sign-up only.
Valid on day of initual
private lesson only.

422-4245 or 879-7553
North of Highland Mall
6611 Airport Blvd.
www.mastergohring.com



So.A.P

Dye-Free, Petroleum-Free, Dolphin-Free, Rainforest Wood-Free

We make luxury hand-
made body products, as
natural as can be, with
our own unique small
batch formula.

373-SOAP
southaustinpeople.com



The Arabic Bazaar

Gifts, Clothing & Home Furnishings

Directly imported from
Syria, Egypt & Morrocco

Jewelry, clothing,
mosaic backgammon
boxes, hookah's, glass
& ceramic ware, leather
goods, rugs, furniture

5013 Duval St. 533-9227
wmdproductions.com
Late Holiday Hours
Mon-Sat 10a-10p,
Sun 11a-6p



Bark 'N Purr

Grooming, Nutritious Pet Food, Quality Pet Supplies

Holiday Gifts for
Dogs & Cats

4604 Burnet Rd.
www.barknpurr.com
m-sat 8-7, sun 11-6
452.3883

the arts

40 COMIC ARTISTS
44 LOCAL SAVES VONNEGUT
46 AFTER A FASHION

THE HRC'S BECKETT ONLINE: Googling for Godot



When your Web-wanderings bring you to the Harry Ransom Center's online Samuel Beckett exhibition, you have a choice.

"I can't go on," reads one scrawled line. "I'll go on," reads the other.

Choose the first of these iconic lines from Beckett's novel *The Unnamable*, and you're promptly thrown back to the page you came from. Choose the second, and you enter "Fathoms From Anywhere: A Samuel Beckett Centenary Exhibition."

The title is taken from a letter Beckett wrote in 1959: "I don't find solitude agonizing, on the contrary. Holes in paper open and take me fathoms from anywhere."

Most avant-garde art looks quaint and time-bound 50 years on. But Beckett's plays and novels remain essentially strange, like visitors from a cultural future. Beckett was so far ahead of his time that we haven't yet caught up with him, and his work retains unnerving power.

Launched on the centenary of Beckett's birth, April 13, 2006, the exhibit will be kept online "in perpetuity," says curator Cathy Henderson, associate director for exhibitions and education at the HRC. (This Friday, Dec. 22, marks the 17th anniversary of his passage to the grave, by the way.)

The exhibit is designed to accommodate those who want a quick dip into Beckett, says Henderson, as well as those who want to swim deeper in the HRC's Beckett collection, which is among the world's finest. "A collector of Beckett first editions will be able to see images of what the first-edition books look like," she notes. You can also see handwritten drafts of the plays and novels and hear passages read by Irish actor Barry McGovern.

Besides deeper layers of information and more interactive and multimedia components than real-space exhibitions allow, an online exhibition also circumvents what Henderson calls "fatigue and label burnout," since visitors can bookmark and return whenever they like.

It's interesting to wonder what Beckett's dazed and dogged characters would have made of the Web. "Too fearful to assume himself the onus of decision," someone remarks of the titular character in *Watt*, "he refers it to the frigid machinery of time-space relation." Now Watt could just hit the "I'm feeling lucky" Google link over and over.

Perhaps he'd land at the HRC Web site and hear that famous passage from *The Unnamable*: "You must go on, I can't go on, you must go on, I'll go on, you must say words, as long as there are any … where I am, I don't know, I'll never know, in the silence you don't know, you must go on, I can't go on, I'll go on." – *Katherine Catmull*

"Fathoms From Anywhere: A Samuel Beckett Centenary Exhibition" is on view through eternity at **www.hrc.utexas.edu/exhibitions/online/beckett**.

AUSTIN THEATRE: That was the year that was

If artists have anything, they have something to say. The *Chronicle* sat down with six of Austin's fine theatre folk to talk about the year that was and the year that will be. We don't have enough space in print to do justice to all of their remarkable responses, but here's a sampling of comments from director Sonnet Blanton (Refraction Arts), director/actress Lorella Loftus (Renaissance Austin Theatre Company), and lighting designer Jason Amato (Zachary Scott Theatre Center/Blue Lapis Light).

□

Austin Chronicle: *How would you define yourself within the context of Austin theatre?*
Sonnet Blanton: The loudest? I don't go anywhere without my bullhorn. Literally.
Lorella Loftus: I suppose you could say that I bring European classics to Austin and interpret them with a Celtic sensibility. By classics, I mean period, modern, contemporary, or avant-garde authors who are leaders in their particular genre.
Jason Amato: Lighting designer and artist and hopefully not as poor tomorrow as I am today.
AC: *What was your greatest accomplishment of 2006?*
Blanton: Getting to work with the actors, designers, and production staff of *The Assumption*. I was consistently astonished by the creativity, discipline, and heart that they brought to the process from start to finish. I think we all fell a little bit in love with one another.
Loftus: *4:48 Psychosis*, by Sarah Kane, co-produced with the Vortex. I was overjoyed to have Bonnie Cullum as a collaborator. It took me the best part of two years before the Kane estate would grant me the rights to this closely guarded piece. Kane was an absolute master of text.
Amato: I got engaged [to Michelle Fowler], and she didn't have a clue. As we paddled up to the Lamar Street pedestrian bridge in a canoe, a crew of my closest friends dropped 200 red tulips into the water around us and then lowered a basket of champagne and strawberries into the boat while I popped the question.
AC: *What was the most exciting thing you saw/heard on an Austin stage in 2006?*
Blanton: I thought *Thrush* was beautiful, so beautiful. Doug Taylor made me swoon in *Have You Ever Been Assassinated?* But I have to go with two performances in *The Assumption*: Ron Berry and Travis Hale. They gave two of the most oddly riveting performances I've ever seen.
Loftus: The most exciting thing I saw in 2006 was *St. Nicholas* at Hyde Park Theatre. This was a low-budget, low-production-values piece that nonetheless totally created another world and immersed the audience in it. This was a brave undertaking by Ken Webster.
Amato: Blue Lapis Light's *Requiem* at the soon-to-be-dead Intel building. The show was unlike anything we've seen before. Sally Jacques takes a dream of beauty and opens it up to all of us. I also have to talk about *Urinetown* at Zachary Scott Theatre. It was such a wonderfully absurd, ludicrous mirror of American attitudes today. Dave Steakley and Robin Lewis did a fantastic job. Apparently, if you combine 100,000 watts of the most hideous yellow and green light, you can make a lot of people laugh really hard. – *Hannah Kenah*

ROGUE PERFORMANCE VENUE: Paradise lost

At this point, Rogue Performance Venue was *supposed* to be in the sixth and final week of its run of *The Creation of the World and Other Business*, a play by Arthur Miller. But the new theatre company's second-ever production barely got open before Artistic Director James Cotton called the show on account of noise. Midway through the first act on opening night, musicians started rehearsing in the not-quite-soundproofed rooms of neighboring Black Rose Rehearsal, and their sound drowned out the dialogue onstage. When the musicians rebuffed a request to delay their rehearsal until the play ended, the performance was canceled. And when it seemed likely the show would face similar sound issues in subsequent performances, the run was abandoned.

The natural consequence of putting a theatre next door to a rehearsal studio for bands? Maybe, but in this case, Cotton thought he'd taken care of the issue. After encountering the sound conflict in Rogue's first show, *Bars, Bedrooms, Bukowski*, he met with representatives of Black Rose Studios and Dimension Properties (landlord for both businesses in a complex south of Penn Field) to work out some kind of living arrangement. He says a deal was struck: He'd have to tolerate band noise whenever Rogue wasn't having a public performance or workshop, in exchange for which bands would refrain from practicing during Rogue shows and workshops. Although the sound bleed made play rehearsals "a disaster," according to one participant, Rogue plugged on, confident that at least the performances would be quiet. But the bands played on.

Cotton claims that neither the studio nor the property manager offered to enforce the agreement after that, even though Black Rose's lease prohibits excessive noise that disturbs neighbors. (Dimension Properties had not responded to requests for comment by press time.) But Rogue also appears not to have been in compliance with all the city's requirements for operating a theatre and was busted by the fire marshal when a band anonymously called in a complaint. So Cotton canceled not only his second show but the remainder of Rogue's debut season and will likely move on. But the director, who just moved here from California this past summer, swears this experience hasn't soured him on Austin. "There are too many talented and supportive and generous artists that give Austin its true character," he says.

"They are why I love this city." – *Robert Faires*

See also "TCB," p.65.

365 DAYS/365 PLAYS: Week 7

The yearlong festival of plays by Suzan-Lori Parks continues. Each week through Nov. 12, 2007, a different group will present seven short plays written during the same week four years earlier. Admission is free or by donation, as noted. For more information, visit **www.zachscott.com/365**.

WEEK 7: Red Then Productions (Robert Faires, director)
Wednesday, Dec. 27, 8pm, at the Off Center, 2211 Hidalgo. Seven plays performed by actors Lowell Bartholomee, Barbara Chisholm, Rosalind Faires, Hannah Kenah, Carla Nickerson, and Espie Randolph. Admission: free. Donations collected for Capital Area Food Bank.

©2006R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO.



WIDES FILTERS

17 mg. "tar", 1.3 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method. Actual amount may vary depending on how you smoke. For T&N info, visit www.rjrttarnic.com.

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Quitting Smoking Now Greatly Reduces Serious Risks to Your Health.

The Comics (Artist) Panel

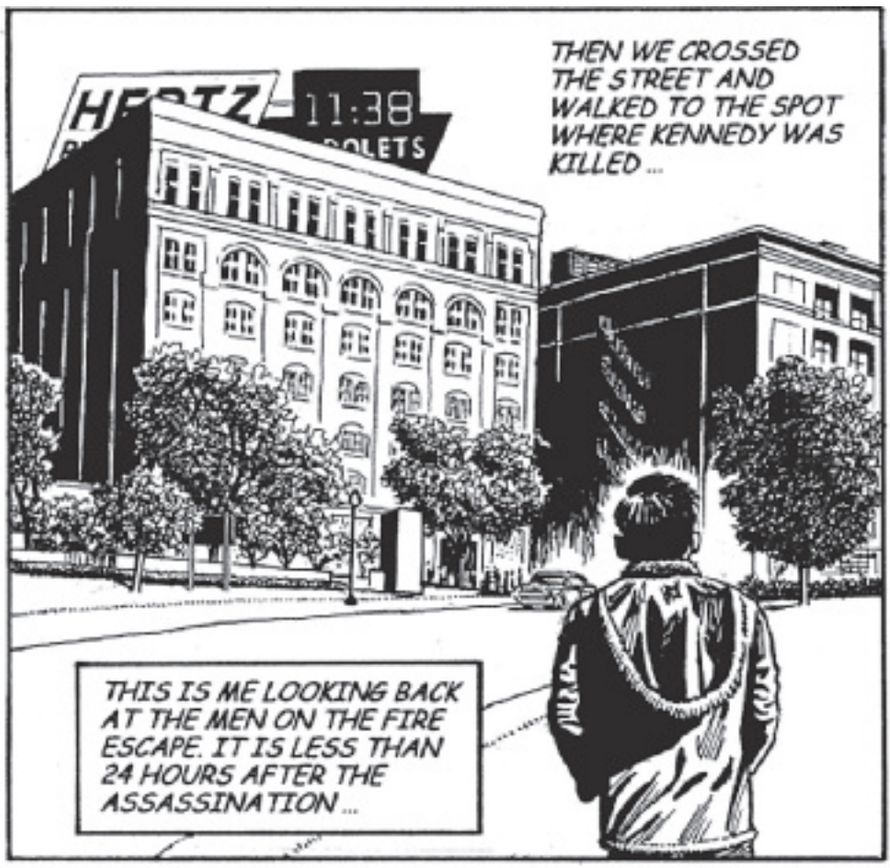
Five Austinites on the state of the sequential art, from comics to comix to manga and beyond

BY JOEY SEILER

Austin has a pedigree of comic-book artists to make any bullpen on any coast nervous. And it's certainly more than enough to justify the geek-chic culture. But while Chris Ware reigned through the Nineties as one of the most meticulous, creative artists and Berkeley Breathed made Bill the Cat into a household name – or at least a familiar bathroom reading companion – fewer people remember Austin as the birthplace of underground comix with Jack "Jaxon" Jackson's *God Nose*. And fewer people follow the still fertile current comics scene.

Instead of breaking out in the comics pages of *The Daily Texan*, which in its day played gallery to Robert Rodriguez and Ben Sargent, these artists are simply making it on their own. Comix, manga, noir, diaries, and superheroes, they're making it. We sat down with five local artists who range from living and working through the Eighties' zine scene to just starting their first big contract about how they got there.





Mack White

Mack White is one of the classic Austin artists. A close friend of the late Jack Jackson, one year away from retirement in the dean's office at UT's school of architecture, co-editor of *The Bush Junta*, featured in the touring gallery Comics on the Verge, and a blogger and podcaster on politics and conspiracies prolific enough to rival Alex Jones, White most recently has been creating work that's closer to surrealistically illustrated essays than straight comics.

"What I do now," he says, "tends to be more political than anything else – I wonder why. And those topics don't lend themselves to traditional comics. In *The Bush Junta*, I contributed a piece about 9/11, and that piece is barely a comic strip. It's really just an illustrated timeline. The most recent comic I did since then was last year, in *Hotwire*, and it was more a noir-type mystery about JFK, called 'My Gun Is Long.' And it's still very, very dialogue and narration heavy."

Growing up the son of a newspaper editor in Mansfield and Arlington, White was in Dallas the day after John F. Kennedy was assassinated, making him one of the youngest conspiracy theorists ever at 11 years old. And though by 14 he'd burned out on the Silver Age supermen and crime-fighters, he found *Zap Comix* only a few years later.

"There's a really important ancestry in Austin from the underground comix scene," White says. "And I wasn't doing comics then, but I was definitely influenced. I'd go every week to hit all the head shops, and they were everywhere in Austin then. But even the blue-jeans shops were carrying the underground comix."

In the interim, White had experimented with a literary journal through his father's printer, but he says the Xerox revolution changed everything: "In the Eighties, anyone could publish anything. I stayed up on the underground scene, and Robert Crumb was publishing *Weirdo*, and that's where I first heard about this zine scene for comics. I thought, 'I could do that.' So I sat down and drew a comic. And you'd sell 'em by mail, because there were publications that would run ads and reviews, and people would collect these little minicomics that you'd photocopy and staple yourself."

But now he's gone digital. "It's better than the zine scene," he says. "That was just driven by these scattered few hundreds of people around the country who had to find out your work in ads and then order it. But then I put my comics on my Web site, and before I knew it, those things had been read by more people than I could ever count. Just the other day, a Web site in China was linking to it. There's no money in it, but I can look at the stats on my site, and 1 million people might have seen those comics. That's worth it. "

But in what White describes as "my other persona, Bison Bill," he's also working on a Western novel, drawing a Bison Bill comic, and managing an online collection of Wild West curios. With his long hair and Texan accent, he can fit the part. "One other idea I've had for retirement," he says in a way that seems both serious and joking, "is I'd set up a gallery out in the West and dress in buckskins and do nothing but paint serious, realistic, or surrealistic Western themes. I'd have to be Bison Bill all the time, though, and greet people. But it would beat passing out coupons at Wal-Mart."

To see Bison Bill's exhibits and Mack White's comix and essays, visit **www.mackwhite.com**.

POWER STONES
EVOKING ANCIENT FOLKLORES OF
COURAGE • CLARITY • STRENGTH
BALANCE AND HEALING
only at
CRYSTAL WORKS
12th and Lamar behind the Tavern 472.5597

momoko
japanese gifts & bubble tea
Looking for Naruto plushs, Domo Qun, Totoro items Tenshi Neko bags, sake sets, tea pots & lucky cats, we have them right here...
www.momoka-gifts.com
Mon - Sat 11:00 to 8:00 Sun 12:00 to 6:00

One World Theatre
A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization
The Perfect Gift!
HOLIDAY GIFT CERTIFICATES NOW AVAILABLE
www.oneworldtheatre.org
CLARKE/DUKE PROJECT JAN 14 rescheduled to STANLEY CLARKE AUG 2

JERRY JEFF WALKER		SHARON ISBIN	3/4
w/Truluck's Dinner	1/19	GLOBAL PERCUSSION MASTERS	
LES BALLET JAZZ DE MONTREAL	2/4	Hussain, Hidalgo & Bozzio	3/7
EROICA TRIO	2/18	DAVID BROZA	3/20
SARA HICKMAN & JONATHAN EDWARDS		DULCE PONTES	4/24 & 4/25
w/Siena Dinner	2/23	ARTURO SANDOVAL	5/27
EDDIE PALMIERI	2/25	STANLEY CLARKE	8/2

Austin American-Statesman statesman.com
AmericanAirlines
Holland
kut 90.5
This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.
For Tickets
Call (512) 32-WORLD or
Front Gate Tickets 888-512-SHOW
www.frontgatetickets.com

David Marquez



While Mack White is part of an Austin tradition, David Marquez is the most recent artist to make the scene. After graduating from UT in 2005, Marquez went almost immediately to working as an animator for *A Scanner Darkly*. Since then he's worked as a freelance illustrator and designer for everything from posters to greeting cards. But his big news is a deal with Image Comics to illustrate a political thriller, *Government Bodies*, written by Stephan Nilson.

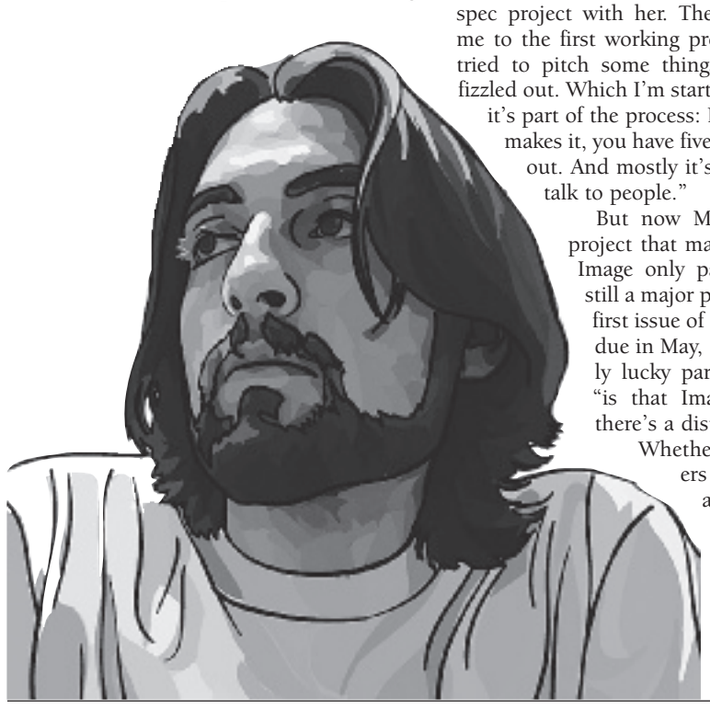
"The problem is that with Image," he says, "all the money is back-end. Getting published is a great opportunity, but the problem is that while I love working on it and have a lot of fun working on it, I have to find time to do it when I'm not working on something that actually pays for rent and groceries and things like that."

The important thing is that it gets him noticed. According to Marquez, "Comics is the sort of paradoxical business where you have to have done work to get work. Producing a comic means it becomes like your business card. You can say, 'Hey, here I am. This is what I can do.' Past that, it's all about getting to know people."

The easiest places to meet the players in the industry are conventions. Unlike Hollywood, where directors and producers hide behind assistants and velvet ropes, comics editors go to the major conventions to review portfolios and scout talent. And the biggest of the big are at the San Diego Comic-Con.

"It's just a crazy mecca of nerd culture," says Marquez. "Its nickname is 'nerd prom.' But once you know one person there, you meet another, and so on. I'd been working on an Image pitch after *Scanner*, and it kind of flopped, but one of the guys I'd met knew Stephan. And Stephan needed an artist, and I was looking for a job, so it just worked out."

But even that flop was at the end of a line of others: "A writer in England named Alex de Campi had noticed my work on some bulletin boards and asked if I wanted to do a quick spec project with her. Then she introduced me to the first working pros I'd met. So we tried to pitch some things, and it kind of fizzled out. Which I'm starting to learn is that it's part of the process: For every idea that makes it, you have five more that bottom out. And mostly it's just important to talk to people."



But now Marquez is on the project that made it. And even if Image only pays back-end, it's still a major press. And with the first issue of *Government Bodies* due in May, "the best and really lucky part," says Marquez, "is that Image stamp means there's a distribution network. Whether individual retailers want to sell it is another story. But it's there to be sold."

To see Marquez's work, visit **www.davidmarquez.com**.

continued on p.42

NOW ON SALE!



Disney PRESENTS

THE LION KING

BROADWAY'S AWARD-WINNING BEST MUSICAL

A GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT!

CALL
(512) 477-6060
ONLINE
BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com/Austin
IN PERSON
UT PAC's Bass Concert Hall Box Office
23rd Street & Robert Dedman Drive
or all Texas Box Office outlets
PREMIUM TICKET PACKAGES
(512) 477-6060
GROUPS (12 OR MORE)
(877) 275-3804

Tickets subject to applicable service charges. Performance prices, dates, times and cast are subject to change without notice. Orders limited to 8 tickets per person. Other restrictions may apply.

©DISNEY

FEBRUARY 15 – MARCH 25
UT PAC's BASS CONCERT HALL • AUSTIN

PAC25 BROADWAY ACROSS AMERICA AUSTIN lionkingtour.com Disney BROADWAY Disney+ VISA

Rivkah

While the process of rejection, rejection, interest, rejection, and then acceptance is probably the most traditional, ever since Rivkah started drawing manga, she's had success. "I've never received a rejection letter," she says, "but I'm aiming for one now. I've been trying to get into short stories, and I want to do a children's series, just prose,



and I just sent something to *The New Yorker*, so I might get my first letter from them. I figure that the higher you aim, the rejection doesn't feel quite so bad."

For now, though, she writes and draws *Steady Beat*, a manga set in Austin about two sisters that deals with relationships, homosexuality, and adolescence.

But the 25-year-old native Austinite says she's "really only been drawing seriously for about three years. I wasn't serious at all before, and I didn't draw that much before. I took some life-drawing classes in high school, but that was it. But I was lucky. Tokyopop was looking for stories targeted towards teenaged girls, and I had those stories that I wanted to write."

She still had to go the convention route, but after winning a free hotel stay and admission to the Los Angeles Anime Expo in an online create-your-own-manga contest, it was a bit easier. "*Steady Beat* was initially a Web comic, and I had about 20 pages, so I printed them out and took them to Tokyopop, and I said, 'Hey, what do you think of my work?' And the good news is they liked it. A couple months later I had a contract."

Rivkah's quick rise to a professional contract is especially odd in an industry dominated by men. Even DC's Minx, a just-announced imprint aimed at teenage girls, is stocked with mostly male creators. But that's one of the things that drew Rivkah to manga.

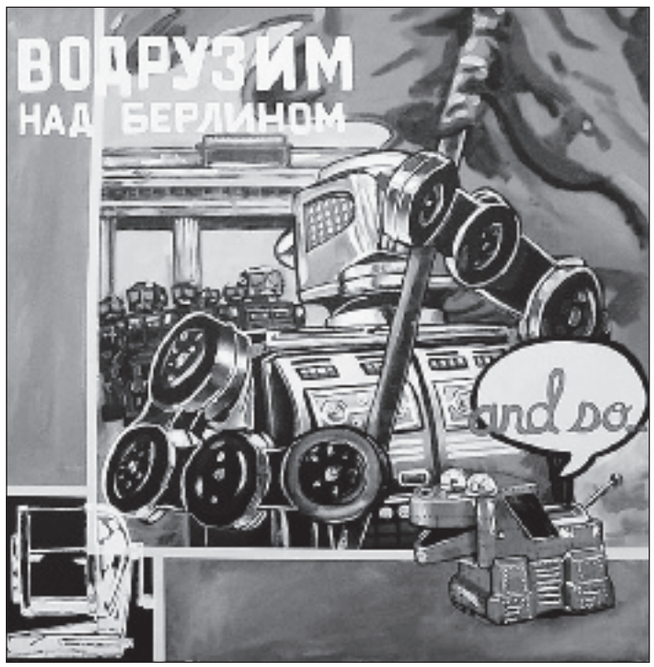
"I was always more influenced by Japanese comics than American comics," she says. "I'm just not into Superman or Spider-Man. I like Batman, but mostly the movie or cartoon. The Japanese art is just a lot prettier, the stories are more diverse, and it's about girls instead of guys in tights. And the women that were in most American comics were objectified. And they were older women, not girls. I didn't want to see women with huge breasts and wide hips; I wanted to see people like myself as a young girl."

But Rivkah didn't go directly into comics. First she started her own publishing company, Rabid Press, and worked as marketing director. When Tokyopop came calling, she decided that she didn't have time to do both, but her experience informs the way she looks at her current work.

"I am kind of a businesswoman," she says. "I do my comics out of love and passion, but I also want to make money out of it some day. With the children's series, I also think about how merchandisable the characters are. And I can put my message and my theme in there, and that has to be the important part, but you still think about how to sell the book."

With her success so far, that seems like sound advice.

To see Rivkah's manga and read her blog, visit **www.rivkah.com**.



Tim Doyle

Instead of going national, Tim Doyle stayed extremely local. In addition to managing a group of comic shops, he self-published – or, as he calls it, "sub-published, sub-sub-sub-published. Basically, I knew a guy at Kinko's." – a two-year-long run of a diary comic called *Amazing Adult Fantasy*. Each month's issue collected daily strips based on the day in Tim's life.

"I didn't have to pay for it, I could do a comic. It was great," he says. "But people would track you down 'cause they know you through a comic. It's kind of dangerous for your ego. You know? I wasn't doing anything that amazing. People just knew all about my life anyways. Which is kind of why I stopped. I couldn't make it grow anymore, and I couldn't make it any crazier. And a daily diary comic is a grind. It's just like, 'Well I didn't do shit today, but I've got to grind something out.'"

Doyle has gone on to do much more. In addition to working at the Alamo Drafthouse, he opened successful galleries of his paintings, which are a mixture of Vespa scooters, Iron Man, and Nintendo. But when pressed to explain them, he only says that he hates artists' statements. "It doesn't matter," he says. "It's just, 'Do I like this painting or not?' Like with my painting, people will ask what it means, and I'm just like, 'I like King Hippo, and I thought it'd be funny to put him there instead of Jesus.'"

He'll admit to having a narrative of how two images wound up together, but he usually won't go beyond saying that "I just put images together that I like. I'm coming from a Weird Al school of art: It's fun, it's enjoyable, and that's it."

But Salvage Vanguard Theater seems to think there's more there. SVT tapped Doyle to design the backdrops for their *The Intergalactic Nemesis* series, and it worked well enough, whether or not Doyle explained anything, to bring him in on the *Nemesis* Web comic written by SVT's Jason Neulander. "I'm absolutely loving doing the comic. My fiancée is doing all the colors. We'll be in the back room, and I'll draw, and she'll be coloring. It's on the Web site, about a page a week. But it's weird. Jason Neulander has been great to work with. He's never written a comic before, but we'll sit down and look at the play's script that's been running for 10 years, and then we get to figure how it'll work in a comic and give a visual idea to the characters. What the play does in 10 minutes might take us a few months, though. So hopefully people enjoy this enough to keep reading."

Since the play version of *Nemesis* has been touring around the country for the last few months, with plans to perform it in New York sometime in the future, that seems a safe bet. So maybe he won't stay local for long.

To read The Intergalactic Nemesis, *visit* **www.theintergalacticnemesis.com**. *To view Doyle's art, visit* **www.mrdoyle.com**.

A By-No-Means-Comprehensive List of Austinite Comics Writers and Artists

JACK "JAXON" JACKSON – first underground comic *God Nose* (1964); co-founder of Rip Off Press (1969); graphic novels *Comanche Moon* (1979), *Los Tejanos* (1981), *The Alamo* (2002), et al.

GILBERT SHELTON – comic strips/series *Wonder Wart-Hog* (*The Texas Ranger*, various, 1961-2006), *The Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers* (1968-1992); co-founder of Rip Off Press (1969)

BERKE BREATHED – comic strips *The Academia Waltz* (*The Daily Texan*, 1977-79), *Bloom County/Outland* (nationally syndicated, 1980-1995), *Opus* (nationally syndicated, 2003-present)

CHRIS WARE – comic strips *Quimby the Mouse*, et al. (*The Daily Texan*, 1986-1990; *Raw*; *The New Yorker*); comics series *Acme Novelty Library* (1993-present); graphic novel *Jimmy Corrigan, The Smartest Kid on Earth* (2000)

SHANNON WHEELER – comic book/strip *Too Much Coffee Man* (1991-present)

SAM HURT – comic strips *Eyebeam* (*The Daily Texan*, 1979-81; elsewhere, 1981-1990, 2006), *Queen of the Universe* (nationally syndicated, 1990-1992)

ROBERT RODRIGUEZ – comic strip *Los Hooligans* (*The Daily Texan*, 1988-1991); also director, *El Mariachi*, *Sin City*

BILL WILLINGHAM – comics series *The Elementals* (1980s), *Pantheon* (1998-2004), *Fables* (ongoing)

JIM FRANKLIN – founder, Armadillo Comics (circa 1970); poster artist, Armadillo World Headquarters

KERRY "KERRY AWN" FITZGERALD – contributor, *Austin Stone*, *The Rag*; poster artist, Armadillo World Headquarters; also, performer with Uranium Savages, Esther's Follies

GUY JUKE – poster artist, Armadillo World Headquarters, Kinky Friedman gubernatorial campaign; also performer with Cornell Hurd Band

MARTIN WAGNER – comic strip *Hepcats* (*The Daily Texan*, 1987-89) and series *Hepcats* (1989-94)

WALT HOLCOMBE – comics series *The King of Persia* (1997), *Poot* (1998); also, animator, *The Courtship of Sniffy LaPants* (2001)

ETHAN PERSOFF – Web comics *Teddy* (2001), *A Dog and His Elephant* (2002-2003), *The Pogostick* (ongoing)

BILL WILLIAMS – comics series *Pantheon* (1998-2004); founder, Lonestar Press

TOM KING – comic strip *Snookums, That Lovable Transvestite* (*The Daily Texan*); comics series *Futurama*; also, character layout artist, *Futurama* TV series

JEANETTE MORENO – comic strip *French Dressing*; also, character layout artist, *Futurama* TV series

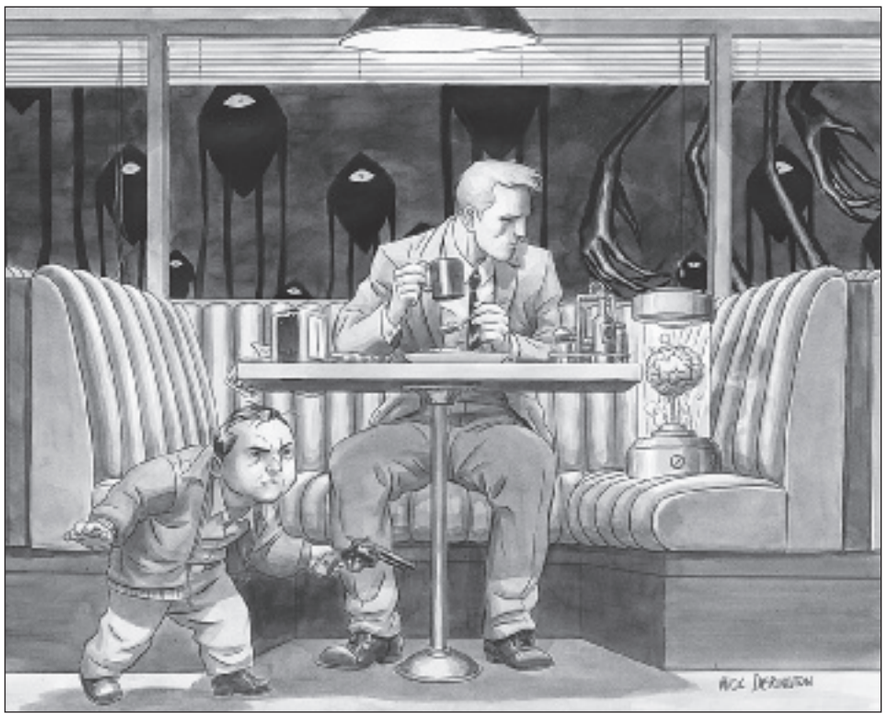
KOREY COLEMAN – comic strips *Eddie the Albino Squirrel*, *The Reel Deal* (*Austin American-Statesman*, ongoing)

CAYETANO "CAT" GARZA – Web comics *Magic Inkwell Comic Strip Theatre* (1999), *Whimville* (ongoing)

PENNY VAN HORN – *Recipe for Disaster* (1999); also, animator, *Waking Life*

ROY TOMPKINS – *Trailer Trash* (1992-ongoing); *News of the Weird*

MATTHEW STURGES – comics series *Jack of Fables* (ongoing)



Nick Derington

For those who prefer heroes in tights and detectives who fight space aliens, there's Nick Derington. He moved to Austin two years ago to take a role as a lead animator for *A Scanner Darkly*, leading the team that David Marquez worked on. As happens with many artists, Derington stayed.

While he is quick to point out that Austin isn't brimming with big-name comics writers and artists, he was "immediately inserted with 50 other people who were into it and knew about line art and were interested in cartooning and just making stuff. I got injected to the group pretty quickly."

But as a lead animator, he still found it hard to recruit talented local artists. "Cartooning is kind of a lost art form," he says. "You know, as far as taking it crazy seriously, illustration is kind of dying off. Most people are into graphic arts, and they become Photoshop jockeys. And, also, comics had been kind of crappy for a while, so that made a lot of cartoonists not start bubbling out for a while."

But it is improving. And to make it easier for artists to connect with the medium, Derington works with a company in New York that is designing software to allow users to generate their own comics. Users can choose between a set of backgrounds and provided elements to fit into a frame and write in their own word balloons. "It's pretty neat," Derington says. "I'm doing a bunch of elements like this mad scientist with all sorts of poses and faces for a detective or heroine." He's also working with a company that creates educational comics for children in hardbound books. "I'm so excited about it," he says. "I love the idea of doing comics in weird ways. They let you reinterpret classical stories and write biographies, history, science, and then some original stories."

But that's to provide a basis to do his own work. While he's had success so far working with franchises, Derington is eager to make his name with his own work. "The thing is, though," he says, "unless you're a straight-up Marvel or DC slave, you still have to supplement your income." This is from the guy who got a big break doing a backup feature for *Savage Dragon* and then drawing for *Catwoman* and co-writing and drawing an *X-Statix* story with Mike Allred.

When that's pointed out, he admits that he has been lucky to work with pros and learn. After self-publishing an anthology called *Paper Museum* with a friend and, as he puts it, doing "this kind of tricky thing and having all these famous guys do parts of the cover to get people into it," Derington realized he had a lot to learn.

The best way, he says, is to take every chance to dissect and learn from other people's work: "After I did those first two stories, I thought, 'This is all right, but it's not great. So I can draw for this guy and see how he lets his stories flow and look at how he works the mechanics of storytelling.' And then you start working with other writers and watching them and learning their tricks to see what they do that you like or don't like."

And, he says, publishers are actually always looking for talent. The big two may have plenty of artists already, but almost anyone else still needs more help. After you learn to do good work, it's all about "well, just being sociable," he says. "It's much harder than it sounds. If you're interested in comic books and cartooning, it probably means you're socially awkward to begin with. Like, 'Oh, I love spending days on end in a little room, hunched over the table doodling on this little thing.' So you go to conventions, and if you've got a cool vision and you're not a total spaz, you can just hang out and meet people."

You just have to "draw, draw, draw. Be a storytelling geek."

Nick Derington's work is online at **www.nickderington.com**.

THE ASSOCIATION
SARAH & ERNEST BUTLER HOLIDAY POPS
SEASON SPONSOR JPMorganChase
CONCERT SPONSOR Mercedes-Benz of Austin
SEASON MEDIA SPONSORS Time Warner Cable/News 8 Austin · Austin American-Statesman · KVET-FM 98.1
Tickets start at $25
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2006
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2006
8:00 pm, Palmer Events Center
THE AUSTIN SYMPHONY
PETER BAY, Conductor
476.6064
AustinSymphony.org 1.888.4MAESTRO

ZACH • JOIN US THIS HOLIDAY WEEKEND!
Forever Plaid presents Plaid Tidings
A Special Holiday Edition
The 'Cool Yule' Hit Musical!
Directed by Dave Steakley
By Stuart Ross
Starring: Kevin Farr, Bill Akey, Charles Brown & Steven Michael Miller
Photo by Bret Brookshire
Join Us New Year's Eve! Includes Champagne!

"BEST MUSICAL!" – Austin Critics' Table Awards
ROCKIN' CHRISTMAS PARTY
THE ROCK-N-SOUL MUSICAL!
Created and Directed by DAVE STEAKLEY
ZACH's award-winning cast puts the Christmas spirit in your heart – and your booty! – as they shake, rattle and roll down Santa Claus Lane!
Hurry, Final Two Weeks All 3 Shows!
Photo by Kirk R. Tuck

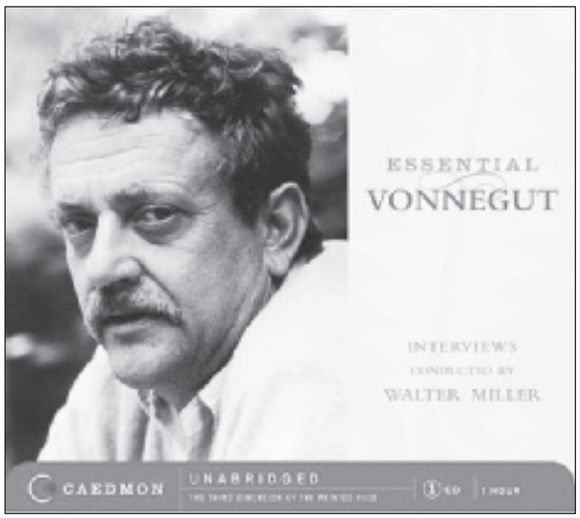
Join Us for New Year's Eve Antics, Too!
Photo by Kirk R. Tuck
"WHAT A FUN NIGHT!" –The Austin Chronicle
A laugh 'til you cry evening of merrily subversive entertainment to delight adult audiences.
DAVID SEDARIS' The SantaLand Diaries
Directed by Dave Steakley
Starring ZACH'S Orginal Little Macy's Elf MARTIN BURKE!
With music by MEREDITH McCALL and JASON CONNOR
ZACHARY SCOTT THEATRE CENTER • RIVERSIDE DR. AT S. LAMAR
TICKETS BY PHONE! 476-0541, EXT: 1 OR AT WWW.ZACHSCOTT.COM

Kurt Vonnegut, Loud and Clear

Austinite rescues archival interviews

Like finding a wrinkled $100 bill from a pair of rummage-sale jeans, sound engineer and Austin resident K.A. Ryan happened upon an unlikely treasure just a few years ago. Through serendipitous circumstances, Ryan met literary scholar/professor Walter James Miller and discovered his collection of 200-plus analog tapes, wherein he interviewed famous writers and artists for NPR's *The Reader's Almanac* during the Seventies. Ever since, Ryan has been on a mission to restore these tapes into an immortal digital literary archive, beginning with three interviews conducted by Miller and close friend Kurt Vonnegut. Caedmon has just released *Essential Vonnegut: Interviews Conducted by Walter Miller*, in CD form, which includes three interviews spanning about 30 years of Vonnegut's career: In 1973 Miller and Vonnegut discuss *Slaughterhouse-Five*; in 1981, *Palm Sunday*; and this year, the two eightysomethings talk *A Man Without a Country.* – *Sofia Resnick*

□



Austin Chronicle: *What was your role in the production of these interviews?*

K.A. Ryan: It was my idea to do this project. ... I had found a bad copy of an interview with Burne Hogarth through interlibrary loan, and I figured out it was Walter James Miller who had done the interview. It turns out he had done hundreds of interviews in this time, and a lot of them were with Kurt Vonnegut. I was surprised, because Vonnegut, of course, has never done many interviews at all. I told him, "Walter, you're not getting any younger. Have you made provisions for all these tapes? With NYU or Columbia or the Library of Congress to archive?" He hadn't. And I said it's a valuable collection, because it's one of a kind, and told him he should preserve them or get them transferred. ... And he said, "Well, what would you want to be paid to [transfer the material]? What would you like?" So that's kind of how it got started. I eventually did all the Vonnegut material: transcribed it all, transferred it all from the original analog tape to digital, then mastered it, and then burned it to CD.

AC: *In these interviews, Vonnegut discusses at length the value of presenting readers with the creator's character, along with the other fictional characters. After working so closely with this material, what do you have to say about Vonnegut's character as a creator?*

KR: He's got to be one of the strangest writers I can think of. He somehow manages to weave together what appear to be disparate narratives, like in *Slaughterhouse-Five*. He's clearly channeling his experiences during the war: seminal experiences for him, because he was so young ... his experience at the Battle of the Bulge and being captured and being held in Dresden, and where they kept him was that slaughterhouse, slaughterhouse five. And in fact being down in the basement of that place was what spared him of being burned alive by the firebombing of Dresden. He survived it, and that had a profound effect on this guy. I guess I don't really know where his interest in science fiction came from. He had a master's in anthropology from the University of Chicago. ... But, yeah, he's definitely one of a kind. He certainly offers a cynical outlook, but a humorous cynicism.

"He's got to be one of the strangest writers I can think of. He certainly offers a cynical outlook, but a humorous cynicism."
– K.A. Ryan

AC: *What is the appeal of these specific interviews to Vonnegut fans?*

KR: It's pretty indispensable, because you learn a lot about this guy, and you get some pretty important insight into three of his books. Certainly through *Slaughterhouse-Five*, Walter's whole analysis of *The Song of Roland* and Roland Weary, and the fact that Kurt is delighted that he had drawn this entire analogy, which he had not consciously done but was very true. It's a huge insight into these specific works and also this writer, because definitely, if you've read Vonnegut, you've got to have some questions about this guy. Who is he? What did he do? While he was writing a lot of that, he was teaching English, he was selling Volvos or whatever on the Cape, raising his family, and trying to make ends meet as a struggling writer, and he drew on his really horrific experiences during the war. I think that really colored a lot of his life. I'm amazed that he became a writer of these types of fiction stories given the tragedy of his youth. ■

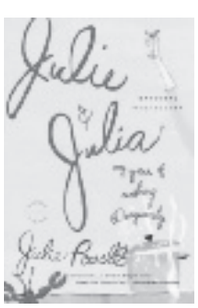
Gifts for the Cooke in Your Family



DREAM BOOGIE
BY PETER GURALNICK
$16.99

Sam Cooke was popular in gospel music before he crossed over into pop. His first single sold two million copies. When record companies treated black artists like hired help, Sam Cooke demanded respect equal to white artists. Most would recognize his songs like "Wonderful World" and "Chain Gang." Guralnick captures a human essence so vital that it is impossible not to be moved. This would make a perfect gift for the music-lover of your family. And, since it's new to paperback, it won't put you out too much green.

JULIE AND JULIA
BY JULIE POWELL
$13.99



An inspiring, yet hilarious, story of how a 30 year-old woman stuck in a dead-end temp job struggled to change her life. She made a vow to herself that she would make every recipe, all 524, out of the 1961 Julia Child cookbook *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*. What she thought would be easy turned out to be one of the hardest things of her life. *Julie and Julia* will be the perfect addition to any chef's—or aspiring chef's—library.

HOLIDAY HOURS Sunday, December 24: 9 am - 9 pm
Monday, December 25: 12 pm - 6 pm

Publishers Weekly
BOOKSELLER OF THE YEAR 2005
"Best bookstore in the country"

Book People
A Community Bound By Books.

Bookstore • Giftshop • Coffeehouse
9 am - 11 pm everyday
603 N. Lamar 472-5050
shop online at:
www.bookpeople.com

A.I.B.A.

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB
JOE ROGAN JAN 11-14
BOTH SHOWS NEW YEAR'S EVE INCLUDES TWO PASSES TO RETURN IN 2007, THE LATE SHOW INCLUDES PARTY FAVORS & CHAMPAGNE AT MIDNIGHT PLUS A BREAKFAST BUFFET! $20/$40



467333
WWW.CAPCITYCOMEDY.COM

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT CAP CITY WITH BENGT WASHBURN



DRINK RESPONSIBLY—CAPTAIN'S ORDERS!® WWW.CAPTAINMORGAN.COM



PARTY WITH THE GREAT TASTE OF A

CAPTAIN &COLA!



Got a little CAPTAIN in you?

CAPTAIN MORGAN Original Spiced Rum. Puerto Rican Rum with Spices and Other Natural Flavors. 35% Alc./Vol. ©2006 Captain Morgan Rum Co., Norwalk, CT.

AFTER A FASHION

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

CHRISTMAS 1977 In her Dec. 19, 1997, "**TV Eye**" column in ***The Austin Chronicle***, my sister, Margaret, wrote, "Of the many things to be grateful for this season, oh reader, thank your lucky stars I am sparing you the heartwarming story of how an ***Eight Is Enough*** Christmas episode brought my estranged family together. Suffice it to say that it was the one after **Mom Bradford** (**Diana Hyland**) died and **Tommy** (**Willie Aames**) acted out his anger until the discovery of Mom's hidden Christmas present made him realize what a shallow, self-absorbed little twit he'd been." Well, far be it from *me* to spare the details. When that show aired 20 years earlier (29 years ago!), I'd just turned 20 and was living on my own in Houston, beginning my career as a designer, and had just been fired from my job at **Hire's Fabrics** ("Hire's fires"). My father had died three years before, and the wound was still fresh. I was painfully estranged from my mother in Seattle and had been for several years. My two brothers also lived in Seattle, and we didn't talk much then, but my sister, Margaret, was in Austin, and she and I were close, as we always had been. It was not a pretty time for me; I was dirt poor, well on my way into a 20-year drug spree, and had nothing in my life to keep a grip on. It was cold that year, and my gas stove and heat had been turned off because I hadn't paid the bill. I still had electricity, though, and survived by heating up soup in my coffeemaker and making grilled cheese sandwiches with my iron. Life wasn't all bad: I was whipping up fabulous outfits to wear to the disco every night and drank plenty of 5 cent beer (!) when I was there. Beer, I could afford. Heat, I could not. I found a job making gift baskets at a liquor store – mainly so I could buy more fabric, party more, and forget how miserable I was. It worked for a few minutes. Too tired after work one night to put on platform shoes and mascara, I swaddled myself in blankets on my couch and turned on the television. *Eight Is Enough*, a guilty pleasure of mine, came on – a two-hour Christmas special. (*Eight Is Enough* starred **Betty Buckley**, a favorite of mine, who will be honored at the coming **2007 Texas Film Hall of Fame**.) The first hour was filled with the usual sentimental travails of the Bradfords, but as hour two unfolded, I was transfixed. The saga of Tommy and the Christmas present from his dead mother hit me hard, and in no time, I was blubbering like a baby. When it was over, I called my sister in Austin, sniveling, but got her then-husband, Ken (I called him my husband-in-law), instead, who matter-of-factly told me, "Margaret's in Seattle with the rest of your family for Christmas. I thought you'd be there, too." Weeping anew and feeling *very* sorry for myself, I called Margaret in Seattle. I told her about the show, and soon, à la **Lucy** and **Ethel** (or was it **Sodom** and **Gomorrah**?), we were cooking up a scheme so that I could be in Seattle, too, and we could all be together as a family for the first time in a long time. Margaret enlisted the help of my two brothers, who were also excited at the idea of having me visit for Christmas (probably more excited because I promised to bring them a case of **Coors** beer, which was not available in Seattle back then), and we decided that I would arrive on the 23rd and surprise my mom on **Christmas Eve**. Flying up there was out of the question, given our collective finances, but after I got paid, I could definitely afford to take the bus. And so it was settled. The day before my departure, I collected my check, quit my job, packed the beer, and packed a bag with crackers and spray cheese on which I subsisted during the long ride. The trip was a jolly one; everyone was going *somewhere* for Christmas, and the excitement was contagious. We drove through places I'd only heard about in the folk music I loved – Denver, Cheyenne, and Big Sky – and the 3½ days on the bus were over before I knew it, though I was suffering from a heavy dose of "bus lag." Margaret and my brother Scott met me at the bus terminal in Seattle, and we went to his apartment that he shared with my brother Bill. We all celebrated our reunion with Coors and assorted party favors well into the night. Groggy the next morning, we made the trek to my mother's house, where my brothers and sister had my mom sit down and close her eyes while I was ushered into the room. I was already on the verge of tears when she opened her eyes, and when she saw me, she leapt up and hugged me tightly, crying and kissing me. There was not a dry eye in the living room, and once again we were a family together for the holidays.



Film, stage, and television actress Betty Buckley will be honored at the 2007 Texas Film Hall of Fame ... *and* starred in a personal drama in my life as well.

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: **style@austinchronicle.com** *or PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).*











SHOE BOXES
Austin's Affordable Fashion Boutique
2438 W. Anderson Ln. • 323-0554
www.shoeboxesaustin.com

Are you looking for a new **Salon Professional** *who is as highly dedicated* ***TO YOU*** *as their Profession?*

Someone who will *LISTEN* to *YOU* and hear your needs ... Someone who stays *EDUCATED* and up-to-date on Current Fashion and Hair Trends?

Direct from Southern California, **Carter** and **Charlene** are Vidal Sassoon- and Framesi-educated in Italian style. Both are highly trained in PERSONALIZING and DESIGNING a color and style to suit your lifestyle, body shape, skin tone, and bone structure.

They proudly offer their exclusive services at **Élan** with absolute attention to detail to ensure that your visit is a great experience.

Call for an appointment or consultation. **(512) 371-3526**

Carter and Charlene are offering a complimentary haircut service valued to $75 with any color service (for first-time clients only).



Élan 1601 W. 38th Street #10 Austin, TX 78731





method.hair
www.methodhair.com
512.469.0044

RackOutfitters.com



SAVE 10% OFF Retail | OR | FREE Installation*

YAKIMA SportRack | SARIS | THULE RockyMounts

2300 South Lamar
Two Blocks South of Oltorf (Next to Batteries Plus)
Open 10AM to 6PM Mon.-Sat.
Shop Online 24/7
512-441-RACK (7225)

*Excludes installs that require drilling. 10% discount can not be combined with other offers. Offer expires 12/31/2006

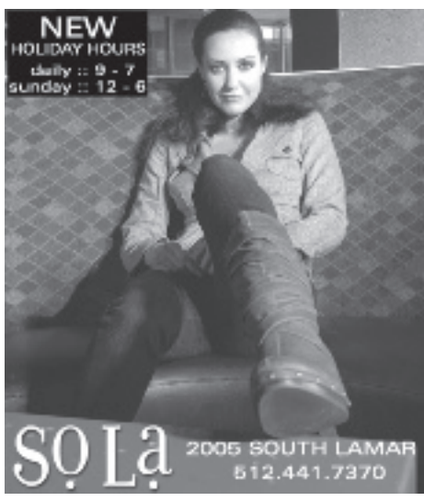
ALIA SALON

WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO OUR NEW HAIRSTYLIST:

LEVI GARZA

LEVI SPECIALIZES IN COLOR. HE'S AN EDUCATOR FOR TONI & GUY, EMPLOYED BY SALON AT STANLEY KORSHACK AND FOR A LIMITED TIME HE'LL DO A FREE CUT WITH COLOR ($50-$60 VALUE). CALL NOW TO BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT.

836-6979 • ALIASALON.COM
9063 RESEARCH STE.101



BEADZ!
the place to BEAD creative
Now carrying PANDORA jewelry



Open Mon-Sat
512-328-6600
Village at Westlake
at 360 & Bee Caves Rd.

SEA OF BEADS

EVERYTHING FOR THE BEADER, INCLUDING GIFT CERTIFICATES

BEADS • SUPPLIES • CLASSES • PARTIES
2438 WEST ANDERSON LN.
533-9090
M-FRI 11-7 • SAT 10-6 • SUN 12-6



A new reason to watch CBS 42 News.
Elizabeth Dannheim and Fred Cantú.

AUSTIN, TEXAS 42 K-EYE
COVERAGE YOU CAN COUNT ON

WEEKDAY MORNINGS AT 5AM

FORBIDDEN FRUIT

BEING NAUGHTY CAN BE VERY NICE!

THE HOLIDAYS CAN BE PUNISHING
Whips • Ticklers
Floggers
Restraints • Boy Toys
and More!
Free Gift Wrapping!



Photo by Scott Van Osdol

REWARD FOR GOOD BEHAVIOR
Kama Sutra
Edible Lubes & Oils
Vibes & Toys
Books • Games
Lingerie • and More!

Holiday Block Party— Sunday On The Strip! 12/10 Noon-8pm

OPEN SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER
www.forbiddenfruit.com

512 Neches
478-8358

108 East North Loop
453-8090

las manitas
AVENUE CAFE
•211 Congress Avenue •472-9357



We will be closed from
Dec. 24 through
Jan. 1st. (Hopefully)
Feliz Navidad

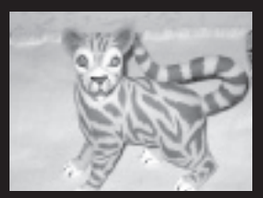
Whip in

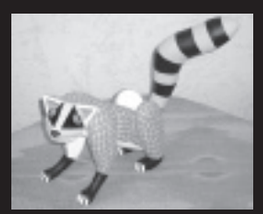


Best little cornershop in Texas!
750+ beers & 1000+ wines
gourmet groceries
take-out meals
music and events
tasting blog
smokes & incense
1950 S. IH-35 * 512.442.5337
whipin.com

Wild Wood
Art Cafe & Bakery







Wheat & Gluten
FREE menu

Tribal Rugs • Oaxacan Wood Carvings • Pottery
Vegan & Veggie • Gluten, Wheat & Dairy Free
Deli Sandwiches • Breakfasts • Soups • Salads

3663 Bee Caves #4A • 327-9660
www.wildwoodartcafe.com

TRADE UP
POST YOUR
FREE
AD NOW
CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com/tradeup

the Brick Oven
www.brickovenrestaurant.com
TASTE THE DIFFERENCE

WOOD FIRED
TEXAS' LARGEST
WOOD FIRED OVENS

Free Wireless Internet
GET FIRED UP

$3 OFF
A LARGE PIZZA
OR DINNER ENTREE

MUST PRESENT COUPON • LIMIT ONE PER TABLE • EXPIRES 2-3-07

ARBORETUM	DOWNTOWN	LAKELINE MALL	SOUTH
Jollyville Rd.	12th & Red River	South Entrance	Brodie & Slaughter
345-6181	477-7006	335-5445	292-3939

LAST MINUTE GIFTS THAT FIT EVERYONE ON YOUR LIST!

One place for thousands of gifts, saving money and time for you!
Godiva Chocolates, Cigar Lovers collection, Fresh Roasted Whole Bean Coffees, Loose Leaf Teas, Wine Storage Refrigerators, Riedel Glassware, handy barware in every price, and all EVERY DAY CHEAP!
Your own SPEC'S Wines, Spirits & Finer Foods is NOW OPEN at 5775 Airport Drive, 2222@IH35, next to Highland Mall. 512-366-8300.



food

50 TWO TRIPS TO COSTCO; SOME ENTERTAINING WORDS OF CAUTION
54 RESTAURANT ROULETTE

Just Another Drop of the Midleton, Please



Just for the record, I love Irish whiskey. There's something about the smooth, clean flavors and the way the whiskey blooms into floral aromas when you put a few drops of water in it. It will never replace the affection I have for whiskey from Scotland or bourbon, but I tipple more of the Irish drink than the others combined.

Jameson is the Irish whiskey for me. Made since 1780, this stuff is triple distilled and allowed to rest for years in a blend of oak casks previously used for sherry or bourbon. Pour a jigger in a brandy snifter, add about a tablespoon of good, unchlorinated water, and you have one of the best drinks on the planet. A fifth will give you 17 inspirational drinks for about $24.

Moving up a notch in price, Bushmills Black Bush ($36) is rested solely in sherry casks for several years, then blended with a more neutral grain whiskey to give it a delicate flavor. Tullamore Dew 12 Year Old ($33) is also very mild, but its smoothness comes from spending 12 years in oak casks, letting evaporation and nature further distill its sweetness. Given its pedigree, the price is a bargain.

Best of all is a whiskey I've only tasted once. After listening to me talk about how much I loved Irish whiskey, a bartender in Kinsale, County Cork, offered me a snifter with Midleton Very Rare. It was the best Irish whiskey I've ever tasted. Changing from the others was like going from Devendra Banhart to Nick Drake: both sublime, but only one is transcendent. The bartender refused payment, just telling me to enjoy my night. As soon as I got back to the U.S., I checked to see if it was available. Here's the bad news: It is available, but it runs about $150.

Oh well, maybe some rich uncle will give it to me for Christmas.

The Jameson, Tullamore Dew, and Black Bush are available at fine liquor stores all over town. The Midleton Very Rare is available at Grape Vine Market, the Austin Wine Merchant, and several of the higher end Twin Liquors.

– *Wes Marshall*

FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

We're told that hungry guests thoroughly enjoyed two nights of mouthwatering contemporary Texas cuisine at the soft-opening parties for the long-awaited **Lambert's Downtown** (401 W. Second, 374-9194) last weekend. Fans of chef/owner **Lou Lambert**'s cooking are glad to have him back home in the Austin market. Lambert and chef **Larry McGuire** have designed a very inviting menu that includes such distinctive items as brown-sugar-and-coffee-rubbed brisket, homemade jalapeño hot links, Asian barbecue wild boar chops, Waygu short ribs, and Bandera quail. Lambert's is located in the lovingly renovated historic Schneider Store. They serve lunch, dinner, and late-night food in the bar and will also be featuring live music... The **Escarpment Village Shopping Center** has quickly become a much-needed dining destination for folks in Circle C and points southwest. The most recent Austin eatery to locate there is the newest outlet of **Waterloo Ice House** (9600 Escarpment Blvd., 301-1007). The Waterloo folks report they are already serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner to enthusiastic crowds and plan to add a weekend live-music lineup soon... National chain outfit **Houlihan's** recently vacated their location across from the Convention Center. It appears that even a long-established brand identity coupled with their enthusiasm for booking local music didn't generate the kind of numbers needed to support the large Downtown space with the swank rooftop bar. It's not the first time the distinctively quirky Austin market has proved to be a difficult challenge for chains that are accustomed to predictable success in other cities... We've also heard from the young local entrepreneurs who own **Gelato's**, who report they've just closed a campus-area store on Guadalupe but may reopen in another nearby space after the first of the year... Folks involved in the Central Texas wine business are all abuzz with the news that award-winning Aussie winemaker **Craig Parker** has left his position at **Flat Creek Estates** (**www.flatcreekestate.com**). The sophisticated Travis Peak wines Parker created at Flat Creek, along with those produced under his own personal Parker label, are some of the most highly regarded wines to come out of Texas in recent years. For example, his Parker 2003 Sangiovese was recently named one of the Top 100 wines in the world in Tom Stevenson's annual global wine report. No word yet on Parker's immediate plans. We can only hope they include continuing to make wine in Texas... Young patients and their families at the **Children's Hospital of Austin** will have visions of gingerbread dancing in their heads to help them get into the holiday spirit, thanks to a volunteer effort by the graduating pastry class of the **Culinary Academy of Austin** (6020-B Dillard Circle, 451-5743). Under the direction of pastry chef instructor **Alain Braux**, the students created a complete Victorian gingerbread village that will be on display in the first-floor lobby of the hospital through the end of the year. They also prepared bags of gingerbread cookies and other sweets for each child who is spending the holidays in the hospital... The other elaborate gingerbread village on display this holiday season is in the lobby of the **Four Seasons Hotel** (98 San Jacinto, 478-4500). Drop in for a festive holiday drink, and admire the excellent handiwork of executive pastry chef **Judy Marts** and her staff... It's not too late to stop by **BookPeople** (Sixth & Lamar, 472-5050) and snap up a copy of the third annual *Soupie Cookbook* (self-published, $12). This year's spiral-bound recipe collection contains recipes for such items as **Toni Price**'s Dew Drop Biscuits and **David Ansel**'s Chopped Liver. These charming, homemade books raise thousands of dollars every year for Austin's **Mobile Loaves & Fishes**, as well as **Paballo Ya Batho** in Johannesburg, South Africa, and they make a truly Austintatious stocking stuffer... **Bud the Pieman** e-mailed with the news that in addition to shopping at **Whole Foods**, there are three convenient drive-through pickup locations for those **Royer's Cafe** holiday pies. Visit the following locations from 11am to 4pm on Thursday, Dec. 21, and Friday, Dec. 22, and from 11am to 2pm on Saturday, Dec. 23: American YouthWorks campus at Fourth and Brazos; 4400 Marathon (one block west of North Lamar and 44th); and at the northeast corner of Highway 71 West and William Cannon.



JOHN ANDERSON

A Victorian gingerbread village on display in the first-floor lobby of the Children's Hospital of Austin through the end of the year

WINE OF THE WEEK

Big Bargains at the Big Box

One of the great joys of shopping at Costco is checking out the bargains in the wine department. Prices run about 10-20% cheaper than other stores, plus, they have some ace tasters in the regional offices that somehow suss out the best obscure wines. Then they negotiate hard for the full production, and we, the consumers, end up with a great wine at an even bigger bargain.

How do they accomplish this? Well, it helps being the largest wine retailer in the United States. During their last fiscal year, Costco sold $805 million in wine. That kind of clout gets you all sorts of concessions. And lest you think Costco just caters to the budget wine crowd, consider this: Costco is the No. 1 retailer of Dom Pérignon in the world.

Someone at Costco is doing a masterful job of buying. Their selection is small: about 125 wines. Places like Grape Vine Market carry more than 4,000 wines. But even with their much smaller selection, Costco ends up delivering some real surprises.

If you find a megacorp with one good department, thank the department manager. But when the department is consistent, no matter where or when you try it, someone on the corporate level is providing outstanding leadership. So, I decided to find out who runs the Costco wine program.

Annette Alvarez-Peters runs the program from the Costco home office in Issaquah, Wash. Like any good manager, she gives all the credit to the people on the local level. "We have eight regional buyers in the U.S., who purchase autonomously," she tells me. Does that explain why our two local Costcos always have some Texas wine? "Yes. All of our region buyers try to support their local markets, whether that is in Texas or the Central Coast area for the Santa Barbara warehouses, Temecula for the San Diego region, or Oregon for the Oregon warehouses." That's a nice touch.

What really sets the Costco program apart from everyone else is the fact that, with the exception of a few low-budget wines, they really don't sell any bad wine. Costco is a great place for novices because you can just pick your grape and your price range, and you'll end up with a good bottle of wine.

Real wine aficionados are regularly hunting the shelves at Costco for both the remarkable, obscure, and insanely low-priced pickings. Our Texas buyer really knows his or her obscure Bordeaux, usually costing less than $15. Get 'em while they're available. When they're gone, they're gone. As Alvarez-Peters explains, "Our strategy is to move in and out of items, to create a 'treasure hunt' atmosphere. If you see it, buy it – it might not be there the next time you shop."

They find these bargains by tasting almost nonstop, year-round, by attending as many local trade tastings as they can, and they even send all eight of the regional buyers to the big tastings, like the *Wine Spectator* Wine Experience and the Aspen Food & Wine events. "It is very important for us to try every wine we bring into the clubs," Alvarez-Peters says. "With eight regional buyers, we have the opportunity to help each other out with our communications, in what they have tasted and what works well in other markets of the U.S."

It's so refreshing to find a big-box store using creativity and invention to attract customers, rather than just plowing through all the tired labels you can but at any local 7-Eleven. Costco will never replace the personal service or breadth of selection you can get in a place like Twin Liquors, the Austin Wine Merchant, Grape Vine Market, or Central Market. But, for bargain hunters with adventurous taste, it's a small miracle.

– *Wes Marshall*

A FEW GOOD CURRENT COSTCO PICKS

Chateau St. Jean Sonoma Chardonnay – $9.59
D'Arenberg Shiraz/Grenache – $12.79
Penfolds Koonunga Hills Shiraz/Cabernet Sauvignon – $7.99
Piper Heidsieck Champagne – $26.99
1986 Chateau D'Yquem in 5-liter bottle (that would be between a Rehoboam and an Imperial) – $2,799.99 (Internet only)

Two Trips to Costco

A mother and a private chef share their notes

FROM A FAMILY'S PERSPECTIVE

Some things, like oysters, are acquired tastes. Others, like chocolate, inspire instantaneous devotion. Costco falls into the latter category. The buzz about Costco had reached deafening proportions before I decided to give it a go and check it out myself. The noise began as chatter when we lived in Southern California in the early Nineties. There was talk of a Price Club, a members-only warehouse and precursor to Costco that featured bargains on bulk items. As part of a two-member household, there wasn't much attraction to such an operation.

Fast-forward a couple of years, and I note the frequency with which my sister in Oregon mentions Costco. As in, "I love Costco." And "I got this at Costco." And "I can't wait to get to Costco." Hers is a household of four, and mine had grown to three, but still I was wary of its charms. Besides the daunting prospect of purchasing 12 rolls of paper towels at a time, by this time Sam's Clubs and Wal-Marts were taking over the world, and my indifference toward discount warehouses had turned to animosity amid tales of local merchants being driven out of business, wages for workers that left many employees at poverty levels, and an absence of health benefits. It wasn't until 2004 that I ventured into a Costco for the first time, accompanying my sister who was visiting from Oregon.

Certainly the prices are the primary draw, and steeply discounted prices are in evidence everywhere. But cheap alone won't win devoted customers; who feels deep loyalty to a 99 cent store? Quality matters, too. From the clothing section – where 7 for All Mankind jeans were on sale for around $87 (not cheap by any standards, but cheaper than the $140-plus price you can expect to pay elsewhere) – to the coffee aisle – where Ruta Maya Organic Coffee sells for $5.22 a pound – the finest products are peddled.

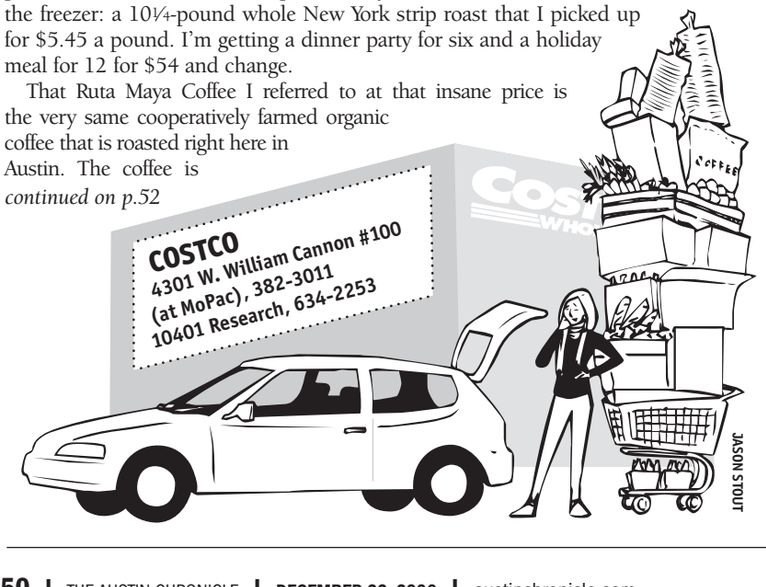
Your conscience is assuaged knowing that you're shopping at what *The New York Times* referred to as the "Anti-Wal-Mart," where the average worker pay is $17 an hour, 42% higher than that of Sam's Club. In addition, employees enjoy a generous health plan, 92% of which is footed by the company. All of which led Bill Dreher of Deutsche Bank to complain that at Costco, "It's better to be an employee or a customer than a shareholder." Sounds like nonsense, since Costco's stock price rose more than 10% in 2005, while Wal-Mart's slipped 5%. Costco shares sell for almost 23 times expected earnings; at Wal-Mart, the multiple is about 19.

Full Circle, an all-volunteer group of Austin citizens concerned about the economic; social; and environmental consequences of increased big-box development by national retail chains (notably Wal-Mart), calls Costco the "Ben & Jerry's of the big-box world," applauding its 14% store markup cap; its developing policy to consider and incorporate social and environmental factors in the store-site selection process; and its nondiscrimination policy that provides health benefits for domestic partners regardless of gender. Why, shopping at Costco is practically a patriotic act!

If you're a home cook, it's an act of good taste, too. Despite running a household of four now, I regularly shop at Costco and find quantities that suit our one-refrigerator, no-pantry home. It's where I've recently purchased wild Alaskan halibut for $9.99 a pound – you read that right – cut in portions ranging from 1¼-pound pieces to filets of more than 2 pounds. My Christmas dinner entrée is in the freezer: a 10¼-pound whole New York strip roast that I picked up for $5.45 a pound. I'm getting a dinner party for six and a holiday meal for 12 for $54 and change.

That Ruta Maya Coffee I referred to at that insane price is the very same cooperatively farmed organic coffee that is roasted right here in Austin. The coffee is

continued on p.52



JASON STOUT



JASON STOUT

The Host on High

Some entertaining words of caution

BY MARION WINIK

It is said that the guest list is more important than the menu in determining the success of a dinner party. That is surely true, but how about the behavior of the host or hostess? Even with the most generous intentions, it is entirely possible to ruin your own soiree. For example, it's hard for people not to notice that you invited them over, then failed to spend any time with them at all. Well, if you fail to start early enough on the dinner preparations, if you choose too many dishes with last-minute steps, this is exactly what happens. Entertaining 101: Interacting with your guests is part of the deal. Do you care more about the spanakopita than them? Don't answer that, just get out of the kitchen.

The most common of dinner party faux pas is to tell everyone what is wrong with the meal before they've even picked up their forks – particularly because you probably feel, under the pressure of the situation, that nothing has come out as you had hoped. If the sesame noodles were better last time you made them, you should conceal rather than publicize this fact. And if they really are too awful to serve, don't serve them. Shut up and let the guests enjoy their food without having to devote their evening to rebuilding your self-esteem. Be steadfast: Often I will get through the whole event without breaking down and at the very end blurt, "So no one thought the soup was too salty?" Really, what are they going to say?

One of the most memorable meals I ever had was served by an elderly gent who had my mother and me over for plain, microwaved chicken breasts, rawish Minute Rice, sliced white bread, and some violently orange baby carrots, also à la *micro-onde* as I recall. It would have ruined it if he'd apologized, and he did not.

Closely related to the Miserable Faultfinder, and often appearing in concert with him, is the Rueful Dreamer. Because really, you saw this great recipe for Thai noodles in the food section of the paper, but you couldn't get the lemongrass. You might have done your tiramisu, but a simple bowl of berries seemed more seasonal. No, you should not tell people what they almost won, or what they could have been eating – this, too, is essentially another ruse to make yourself seem like a better cook than you are. Most people love spaghetti and meatballs, as long as you don't start raving about the lobster ravioli you saw on the Food Channel.

Speaking of lobster ravioli, perhaps you have met the Insufferable Überchef. The Überchef can prepare complex dishes from many different cuisines, and he does. He prepares them all, seemingly, at a single meal. And for each of the many first courses and entrées and desserts, as well as for all of the wines carefully selected to go with them, study notes are provided. Guests will be well-fed – but more importantly, they will be thoroughly intimidated. In many cases, the Überchef will also have an Invisible Man problem, since the reduction sauce with the 30-year-old port can't be prepared in advance. Perhaps he does not realize Joel Robuchon and Charlie Trotter didn't make it, and since all but other Überchefs are afraid to invite the gratuitous gourmet to their humble boards, this condition is its own punishment.

Please note: Because the host should never be more swoozled than the guests, or at least not dramatically so, do not start drinking more than one hour before the guests arrive. Okay, two on the outside. Once you drop the salad bowl, ladle gumbo all over the tablecloth, and knock over their wine glasses, it will be too late.

Worse even than the Sloppy Drunk is the Divorce-in-Progress. It is a challenge to have people over to dinner when you are in the midst of serious relationship issues, and for some of us, this is a permanent situation. Nevertheless, nobody wants to have dinner with the Bickersons. As hard as it is, you have to avoid carping at each other all night and trying to involve people in your long-running arguments. I can't tell you how many times I've been guilty of this, but one night I finally saw the error of my ways. We were guests at the home of a couple we knew slightly. He was the chef of the pair, a bit of an Überchef actually, and was taking his sweet time getting his famous jambalaya on the table. She wasn't happy about this. Nor did she like the method he used to prepare the rice or the casserole he chose to put in the microwave, and when, in the final moments, the entire Pyrex dish smashed on the floor, my husband and I worried we might soon be called as witnesses at some sort of trial. I can't even remember what we did eat, so I hope that's not one of the questions. ■

EAT, DRINK, AND BE MERRY

THE RED HOUSE
BAR | LOUNGE | PATIO
AT
El Gringo

By the FINE FOLKS who BROUGHT YOU

El CHILE Cafe y Cantina

El CHILITO TACOS Y MAS

1917 MANOR ROAD | WWW.ELGRINGOAUSTIN.COM | 391-9500

El Borrego de Oro
Mexican Restaurant

SOUPS
SALADS
APPETIZERS

CALL-IN
ORDERS
CATERING

Open Every Day
Homemade Corn Tortillas
$3.99 Breakfast Specials 7am-11am
Lunch Specials 11am-3pm
Dinner Specials

3900 SOUTH CONGRESS AVE.
(512) 383-0031

POLLOS
INTERIOR MEXICAN FOOD

HAPPY HOUR • 4PM 7PM • M F
$3.50 Margaritas • $2.75 Imports
OPEN • 7AM-10PM • Every Day

2004 S. I ST. 441-5446

MEALS ON WHEELS AND MORE

Please help your homebound neighbors.
The Need is Now!
Call 476-6325

www.missionrs.com

MISSION
RESTAURANT SUPPLY
6509 N. Lamar Dr.
Austin, TX. 78752
512-389-1705 / 800-399-1705
HOURS: M-F 8am to 5pm • Sat. 10am to 2pm

Holiday Specials

Complete Chafer
$39.95
*Good through 12/31/06

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!
Kitchen Supplies, Culinary Items, Food Service Equipment Bar & Tabletop Products, Wine Accessories, & Much More!

SALES • SERVICE • LEASING
E-Mail: salesAU@missionrs.com
Refrigeration License - TACLB02261 7R

BIG BURRITOS. Chipotle



Park: 2 decades of improvements Security: [illegible]

sold in 2.2-pound bags, which for regular coffee drinkers is not an excessive size. Partnering with local vendors is part of the Costco philosophy: They work with local businesses to bring unusual, local, and high-quality goods to the warehouse. I now am able to purchase the beloved Fischer & Wieser Original Roasted Raspberry Chipotle Sauce produced up the road in Fredericksburg in 40-ounce bottles for $6.69.

And the produce! High-quality stuff that makes upping your fruit and vegetable intake a pleasure. We've been indulging in weekly hauls of strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, and blueberries. And these are premium Driscoll's berries, as fragrant and delicious as found in any of our boutique grocers – of which I am a fan – but at lower costs. I scored 2 pounds of strawberries for $5.99, 18 ounces of blackberries for $4.99, and 18 ounces of blueberries for $7.49. And you know those sweet little haricots verts you love for their ease of preparation, beauty, and delicate flavor? You can pick up a 2-pound bag of trimmed beans for $5.99. Not to mention the bargains on red, yellow, and orange peppers (bags of six for $6.45), organic spring mix (1 pound for $3.99), and on and on. Obviously, the selection and price is dependent on seasonal circumstances over which even Costco has no control. But it's the rare visit that I don't find some fruit and veggies to take home and of which we make short work.

Despite the modest size of our family, we find 2 pounds of cheddar to be just about right. Especially when it's Tillamook Special Reserve Extra Sharp Cheddar for $7.99. Our house salad, served several nights a week in this home, consists of greens topped with pears or strawberries (depending on the season), blue-cheese crumbles (an 18-ounce tub of crumbles sells for $4.49), and toasted pecans. All of which I am able to procure at reasonable rates, making it a gourmet salad I can afford to serve daily.

When cooking isn't in the cards, due to time or inclination, I grab the rotisserie chicken that the late, great Julia Child deemed the best in the land for a mere $4.99. A quick cook of some of those luscious little green beans, a toss of the house salad, and you've got a meal that'll pass muster under the most intense scrutiny.

Each cook will find her own treasure in the cavernous repository to satisfy the specific cravings of her household. If you've acquired a taste for olives or natural peanut butter, brie or organic milk, asparagus or sweet peppers, households of two or 20 will be able to indulge, affordably.

– *Barbara Chisholm*

FROM A PROFESSIONAL'S PERSPECTIVE

Costco is many things to many people, but I'd be the first to agree that shopping there isn't for everyone: If you don't possess beaucoup storage space, a big fridge, the wherewithal to navigate recalcitrant carts the size of rowboats, and the muscle to lift and tote heavy loads, then Costco probably isn't an important part of your life as a consumer. However, for many of us on the little end of the culinary business – private chefs, personal chefs, small caterers, or anyone filling multiple mouths on a regular basis while trying to balance quality, quantity, and cost – Costco can certainly provide a source of quiet satisfaction.

Much has been written about Costco's successful business model that focuses on selling quality products at high volume and low prices. Goods are usually bulk-packaged and targeted primarily to small businesses and large families willing to pay an annual membership fee, hoist their own hefty containers, and dispense with such amenities as credit cards, advertising, and decor. Costco is known for fair employee compensation, internal promotion, and a low staff turnover. Unless you shop at different stores around the country (370, last count), you might not realize that, in addition to internal and national brands, regional Costcos sell regionally produced goods. Tracy Claros of Austin's Sticky Toffee Pudding Company told me that her products are in our Costcos because the regional buyers sought her out. Recently, I was pleased to see a couple of wines from the Texas Hill Country's Becker Vineyards.

As a private chef, my job is to keep my two client households (three, if you count my own) content and well-fed via high-quality family meals, snacks, dinner parties, cocktail buffets, business lunches, happy-hour hors d'oeuvres. Thus, I shop. A lot. Every day. And all over the place, from farmstands to international groceries to specialty stores to upscale destination markets. Austin chef/restaurateur Foo Swasdee likes to tell her cooking classes that the principal part of Thai cooking is "shopping and chopping." I contend that the principal part of all cooking is shopping and chopping. Particularly shopping. Unlike our forebears who grew and produced everything, if you don't shop well, how can you possibly cook well?

Of course, what constitutes shopping well is complicated and subjective; it includes elements of flavor, nutrition, variety, freshness, eye appeal, convenience, and cost, not to mention politics, ethics, and morality. From my professional perspective, a big part of shopping well is acquiring sizable quantities of various foodstuffs at reasonable costs that meet my (and my employers') standards of quality. I once heard a market analyst say that value is the intersection of product satisfaction, utility, and price. For me, that's where Costco comes in.

I'm not talking about all those other goods for sale at Costco – computers to Christmas lights to camping gear – or even about the kitchen-related staples I buy twice a year, like the giant rolls of foil and plastic wrap or pallet-sized bundles of paper towels and toilet paper. And I'm not referring to the already prepared, ready-to-eat foods so abundantly provided (just as they are at Central Market and Whole Foods and every supermarket). That's another shopping story. People pay me to cook specially for them, so I'm talking about ingredients, the basic culinary building blocks I use all the time – together with different ingredients from other sources – to create the dishes my clients want. An important part of my value to my employers is the ability to respond to last-minute requests. I always need to be ready to get creative and productive on very short notice: A stocked pantry is essential.

So, what do I buy at Costco? Upon reflection, I realize that it's almost always the same things. I automatically wend my way along the same route of long aisles, filling my cart with those items I want in the kitchens at all times. I don't really even need a list.

First stop is the bread department. I often use the 36-count package of dinner rolls ($3.79) for buffet sandwiches; they keep quite well in the freezer. The Panne Provino demibaguettes (six for $3.99) and 2-pound multigrain loaves are properly crusty and flavorful. (One of the things Costco shoppers don't have is choice among brands; one of the ways they keep prices down is to supply one brand per item, although that brand may vary regionally.)

On to the refrigerated section. I make a lot of tapenade, so a 2-pound tub of Krinos Pitted Kalamata Olives ($5.99) goes into the cart. Depending on upcoming party hors d'oeuvres, I often pick up proscuitto di Parma ($12.99 for 12 ounces) and a side of house-brand smoked salmon ($9.89 a pound). While I prefer fresh avocados for guacamole, ripe ones aren't always available, and I'm very pleased with the 3-pound containers of mashed avocado for $6.99, divided into three Cryovac bags (which freeze surprisingly well, by the way).

The cheese department is a source of multiple delights, albeit in large chunks. My particular favorites are 2 pounds of blue cheese for dressings and dips, fresh soft chèvre ($4.39 a pound), and fresh buffalo mozzarella ($9.99 a pound). (The 3-pound boxes of cream cheese for $4.59 and the giant bags of shredded cheddar, jack, and mozzarella – so useful for cheesecakes, big pans of Tex-Mex-style enchiladas, and homemade pizzas – are in the freezer section.)

Because I prefer to buy locally, seasonally, and in smaller amounts, I usually don't get much from the produce section. However, there are times when client requests or party-sized volumes indicate a detour there. One of my favorites is the tub of miniature sweet peppers, which are terrific for stuffed appetizers or on a roasted veggie platter.

I bake constantly for my employers, so I go through lots of pine nuts, walnuts, almonds, and sugar (free-trade, organic, $6.99 for 10 pounds), as well as unsalted butter (4 pounds, $6.09) and eggs (organic, 18 for $3.89).

In my opinion, dried, canned, and packaged goods are where Costco really shines, but it's also where you need some serious storage and/or volume consumption. For example, the huge bags of dried shitake mushrooms ($9.99) are a bargain and last forever. My cart always contains boxes of S&W canned tomatoes (12 for $7.49), tomato paste, sun-dried tomatoes ($7.09 for 32 ounces), Hellman's Mayonnaise ($4.99 for 4 pounds), extra-virgin olive oil ($11.85 per liter), Carr's Water Crackers (four boxes, $7.49), Super Lucky Elephant jasmine rice (30 pounds for $17.11), and S. Pellegrino sparkling water at $9.59 a case. You can see what I mean about the lifting thing.

Costco certainly doesn't meet all of my professional shopping needs, but having it available makes my job a great deal easier and economically viable. Now, excuse me, but it's the holiday entertaining season, and I gotta go shop.

– *MM Pack*

NEW STYLE... NEW FOOD...
Sushi GEISHA
HAPPY HOUR
$1 Sushi
Tue- Fri 5-7
SAKE SPECIAL
$1 Sake
Thur-Fri 8-10
www.sushigeisha.com
open late till 2am on Fri., Sat.
616 E. 6th tel: 512-480-2211

MARS restaurant and bar
is moving to 1400 S. Congress
so make your next mission a trip to Mars before
we move south in the winter. Come join us for an
exquisite meal at 1610 San Antonio.
view menu online www.marsaustin.com 472-3901

PHO SAIGON
Vietnamese Noodle House
OPEN DAILY: 10AM-9PM
Located in Chinatown Center
10901 N. Lamar
Suite A 108
821-1022

Java Noodles
Authentic Indonesian Cuisine
eclectic menu including many vegetarian items
sunday brunch buffet 12pm-3pm
2400 E. Oltorf Ste 14 • 443-5282

Chuy's

Ho Ho Dough

GIFT CARDS

AVAILABLE IN ANY DENOMINATION

T-SHIRTS
MAKE GREAT GIFTS!
ONLY $13.95 + TAX

Barton Springs 474-4452
Round Rock 255-2211
N. Lamar 836-3218
183 @ Duval 342-0011

Reason #2,248
not to live in
Dallas.

Austin's Pizza
austinspizza.com

10 area locations
or call
795-8888

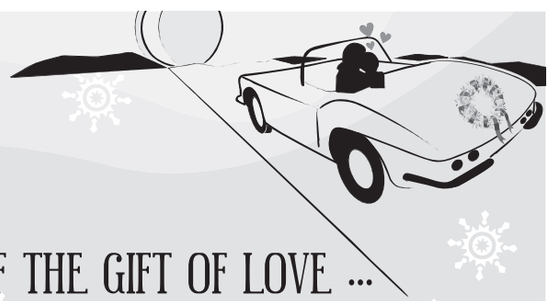


Join us for New Year's Eve
please call to reserve your table

Siena Ristorante

Happy Hour M-F, 5-7pm
Half Price Appetizers

360 & 2222
www.sienarestaurant.com
Reservations 349-7667



GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT OF LOVE ...
TURN ONTO Lovers Lane

Give yourself the gift of love this holiday season with a turn onto Lovers Lane, the Chronicle's new online community for hooking up with real people from the Austin area. On Lovers Lane you can read profiles, look at pictures, and listen to voice greetings - absolutely free. You can also place your own profile, upload pictures, and record a voice greeting for free. You could be meeting new, interesting people right now.

PLACE A FREE PROFILE with a picture on Lovers Lane and you could win a ROMANTIC DINNER FOR TWO at DOÑA EMILIA'S!

Doña Emilia's
South American Bar & Grill

CHRONICLE

austinchronicle.com/loverslane

Austin's Italian
Romeo's

Fall Dining Deal!
Buy one entree, receive second FREE
(EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE)
WITH THIS AD. OFFER GOOD ANY TIME.
GOOD FOR PARTIES UP TO 6 PEOPLE.
EXPIRES 1/12/07

Happy Hours
Mon-Fri 5-7
FREE APPETIZERS

Visit our piano bar
featuring Austin's best pianists
7 days a week from 6:30-9:30

"... traditional dishes prepared as they should be. [Romeo's is] aiming high ... and succeeding."
- *Dale Rice, XL, 11.24.05*

FREE VALET PARKING THURSDAY-SUNDAY
1500 BARTON SPRINGS RD. ❤ 476-1090

WE'LL HELP YOU GET
rioquainted
FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

Join the Rio Grande Mexican Restaurant for:

Graduation & Holiday Parties
Private Parties for 20-300 people

Daily Happy Hour
Salsa Dancing every Sunday 5~7
Live music Thursdays 8~10

3rd and San Jacinto ~ 512.476.8300 ~ www.riograndemexican.com



KOREA HOUSE
SUSHI BAR & RESTAURANT

Korean BBQ at Your Table
Busiest, Freshest Sushi Bar
Soup & Noodles
Family Owned for 23 Years

2700 WEST
ANDERSON LN #501
IN THE VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER
512.458.2477

RESTAURANT ROULETTE

ESTIMATED MEAL COST PER PERSON

$ *<$10* **$$** *$10-25* **$$$** *$25-40* **$$$$** *$40+*

DOWNTOWN

MEDITERRANEAN: **ATHENIAN GRILL** Tasty traditional Greek cuisine. Spit-roasted lamb, chicken, and gyros; an outstanding *avgolemono* soup; and tangy, creamy feta cheese dressing are among the highlights. ***705 Colorado, 482-8988 $$***

INDIAN: **CLAY PIT** Best described as "contemporary Indian cuisine," pairing traditional Indian techniques and flavors with items such as mussels and salmon. ***1601 Guadalupe, 322-5131 $$$***

PUB GRUB: **FADÓ** Hearty Irish-inspired food and the only place in town that serves Guinness on draught *and* Guinness ice cream. ***214 W. Fourth, 457-0172 $***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP, DESSERTS: **HALCYON** You'll find all kinds of espresso and coffee drinks, wines, scotches, and even a Chocolate Espresso Martini. Snack on their sandwiches and desserts in comfy lounge chairs. ***218 W. Fourth, 472-9637 $***

AMERICAN CAFE: **HICKORY STREET PATIO CAFE** Jam-packed come lunchtime. Food bar, above-average hamburgers, and a New Orleans-style breakfast menu. ***800 Congress, 477-8968 $$***

STEAK HOUSE: **HOFFBRAU** A vestige of old Austin since 1934 and an icon for generations, they serve up steak, potatoes, and beer in a former feed store. ***613 W. Sixth, 472-0822 $$***

BARBECUE: **IRON WORKS BARBECUE** The Works retains its neighborly charm, with modest prices and self-serve beer offered from tin coolers. ***100 Red River, 478-4855 $$***

TEX-MEX: **LAS MANITAS AVENUE CAFE** If people-watching and amiable service don't explain the weekend wait, one taste of their Migas Especiales con Hongos surely will. Enjoy the dishwasher's song as you walk through the kitchen to get to the patio. ***211 Congress, 472-9357 $$***

JUICE BAR, VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: **LIVING FOODS BAR AT WHOLE FOODS** Über healthy-living foods bar and "deli" case offering Austin's largest selection of all-raw entrees, juices, smoothies, desserts, and salads. ***525 N. Lamar, 476-1206 $$***

SEAFOOD: **MARISCOS SEAFOOD GRILL** This place features a full Mexican menu in addition to their delicious seafood with a Mexican twist. ***211 E. Sixth, 474-7372 $$***

PUB GRUB: **RINGERS SPORTS LOUNGE** Giant screen and plasma TVs to follow the action from any seat. Awesome appetizers; big, thick burgers; signature fries and onion rings; and very good cocktails. ***415 Colorado, 495-1558 $$***

AMERICAN CAFE, BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **ROYAL CAFE** The daily lunch specials feature a choice of sandwich, plus tea, chips, and the food of kings, pickles – all less than $4. ***400 W. 15th, 457-9917 $***

FINE DINING: **STARLITE** Devotees may miss the cozy blue house uptown, but the charm is still there. Elegant and creative New American cuisine made with fresh, seasonal ingredients still complements affordable wine options. ***407 Colorado, 374-9012 $$$***

EAST

AMERICAN CAFE: **ARKIE'S GRILL** This cafe has been around since 1948, maintaining the same super homestyle menus and hospitable spirit. Thursday's turkey and dressing special is highly recommended. ***4827 E. Cesar Chavez, 385-2986 $***

BARBECUE: **AUSTIN'S BARBECUE** What a feast. Ethereal pancakes, fluffy omelettes, homemade hashbrowns, and ancho-chile-spiked barbecue sauce compete with really wonderful hamburgers. Try the Chorizo Burger. Seriously. ***6002 Burleson, 382-2105 $***

TEX-MEX: **CHAPALA JALISCO** This taqueria features cheap breakfast specials and Jalisco-style *barbacoa* by the plate or pound. ***2101 E. Cesar Chavez, 320-0308 $$***

AMERICAN CAFE: **DANDELION CAFE** Look for a focus on healthy food in a casual, fun environment. Morning dishes such as breakfast pie and granola are available all day, along with classics like grilled cheese, BLT, and the PB&J. ***1115 E. 11th, 542-9542 $***

TEX-MEX: **EL AZTECA RESTAURANT** After 37 years of neighborly service and rich food, this family restaurant was one of the first local eateries to offer vegetarian options. ***2600 E. Seventh, 477-4701 $$***

TEX-MEX: **LA INDIA BONITA** Eccentric hours, cozy-looking interior, terrific mural out front. ***1505 E. Seventh, 220-0819 $$***

SOUTH AMERICAN: **MI COLOMBIA** Austin's newest entry into the realm of Colombian food. Here you'll find delicious rustic Colombian fare, simply and authentically prepared. ***1614 E. Seventh, 391-0884 $$***

SEAFOOD, SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: **MR. CATFISH** Everything is made from scratch here. Catfish and seafood dinners with side dishes come in different sizes, depending on your appetite. ***1075 Springdale, 927-6666 $***

AMERICAN CAFE, BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **PROGRESS COFFEE** Serves fair-trade, shade-grown organic coffee in a revamped warehouse showcasing some of Austin's best artwork. The menu walks a tasty line between deli standards and gourmet innovation. One block east of I-35. ***500 San Marcos, 493-0963 $***

BARBECUE: **SAM'S BBQ** Late-night hours make this spot popular with jazz musicians, but the great barbecue keeps folks of every occupation coming back any time of the day or night. ***2000 E. 12th, 478-0378 $***

JAPANESE: **SUSHI JAPON** The sushi is fresh and professionally prepared, and the draft Ichiban is perfect with it. Don't leave without tasting the black cod and the yellowtail. ***6801 N. I-35, 323-6663 $$$***

LAKE

AMERICAN CAFE, BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **CAFE LAGO** You'll be rewarded with fresh, delicious breakfast food, plus a healthy and inviting selection of soups, salads, and sandwiches. ***1200 Lakeway Dr., 261-8141 $***

BARBECUE: **SMOKY J'S BAR-B-Q** A definitive Texas barbecue joint with a smoking pit out back, window service, and picnic tables. Meat is available by the sandwich, the plate, or the pound, and it's still BYOB. ***7008 RR 620 N., 331-4888 $***

AMERICAN CAFE: **TRUE GRITS TEXAS GRILL** The food is of the real-deal, made-from-scratch, Texas-cafe variety. Beef anchors the menu, assisted by chicken-fried everything. Dozens of homemade pies and sturdy coffee, too. ***18645 FM 1431, 267-4749 $$***

NORTH

STEAKHOUSE: **COOL RIVER CAFE** Elegant steak house and grill with a ski-lodge atmosphere. Menu items have a Southwestern flair. Full bar available. ***4001 Parmer, 835-0010 $$$***

CHINESE: **DIN HO CHINESE BBQ** A menu long on fresh seafood and meats, all authentically prepared, served, and priced. The best roast duck and *char siu* roast pork around. Get them to go or eat them there. ***8557 Research #116, 832-8788 $$***

TEX-MEX: **EL TACORRIDO** In addition to standard breakfast-taco fare (bacon, egg, potato, chorizo, etc.), they serve chicken, carnitas, and barbacoa tacos, as well as burritos. ***9316 N. Lamar, 873-8602 $***

SOUTHWESTERN: **IRON CACTUS NORTH** In addition to stacked enchiladas, the extensive menu offers hearty steak, chicken, and shrimp dishes treated with combinations of Southwestern and Interior-Mexican spices. ***10001 Stonelake Blvd., 794-8778 $$***

PIZZA: **SACCONE'S PIZZA & SUBS** Saccone's motto is "Pizza With a Jersey Attitude." Pasta, calzones, stromboli, and subs round out the menu. ***13812 Research, 257-1200 $$***

INDIAN: **SHALIMAR** Pakistani food that's second to none and a *gosht karahi* that'll really get your goat. Try the buffet, but it's even better to take a chance on the menu items. ***9310 N. Lamar, 719-3700 $$***

AFRICAN: **T'S CAFE** Go with a small army and safari your way through the menu of tasty and exotic stews, starches, and appetizers. ***15608 Springhill #102, 251-4432, 913-1095 $$***

VIETNAMESE: **TÂM DELI & CAFE** Authentic and exquisitely crafted Viet noodlehouse fare: particularly strong on appetizers, *bun*, pho, and desserts. Nice portions, good service, low prices. ***8222 N. Lamar, 834-6458 $***

TEX-MEX: **TAQUERIA ARANDAS #4** Mexican breakfasts, sweet *horchata*, and the sunny red-and-white interior could whisk the fog out of anyone's morning brain. ***834 Rundberg, 835-4369 $***

MEDITERRANEAN: **TINO'S GREEK CAFE** Northwest Austin's gift to the Greek culinary gods. Great prices and portions served from a cafeterialike line, with oodles of choices for carnivores and vegetarians alike. ***13450 Research #237, 336-5999 $$***

NORTH CENTRAL

BURGER JOINT, TEX-MEX: **ALONZO'S/JALAPEÑO JOE'S** Present yourself at the window and order an Angus beef burger or the pile of Tex-Mex sustenance known as the Alonzo Platter, but save room for Ernest's Enchiladas. ***4905 Airport, 451-3326 $***

FINE DINING, ITALIAN: **ASTI TRATTORIA** For various Italian regional cuisines and an extensive wine list of mostly Italian and Cal-Ital selections, try this Hyde Park corner spot. ***408-C E. 43rd, 451-1218 $$$***

ITALIAN: **CARRABBA'S ITALIAN GRILL** Order from the pasta bar, sample one of the wood-fired pizzas, or choose a grilled specialty. The menu also includes requisite manicotti, lasagna, and spaghetti options. ***6406 N. I-35, 419-1220 $$$***

continued on p.56

SILHOUETTE

Recognized By The Wall Street Journal
As One Of Austin's Best Restaurants

Lunch Specials 11am - 2pm • Daily Happy Hour Specials

AUSTIN'S BEST HAPPY HOUR
HAPPY HOUR ALL DAY MONDAY AND ALL NIGHT WEDNESDAY
OPEN DAILY 'TIL MIDNIGHT, WEEKENDS UNTIL 2AM

718 Congress Ave. • 512.478.8899

kerbey lane
CAFE
GREAT GIFT BASKETS

AT THE CAFE or ONLINE
kerbeylanecafe.com

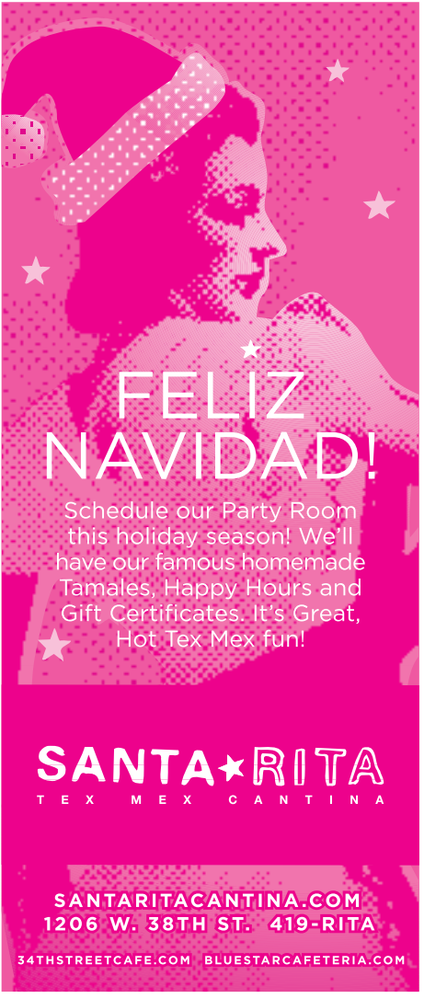
3rd Annual New Year's Eve Celebration
Dinner package includes a magnificent four (4) course menu complimentary party favors, champagne toast, and music from one of Austin's hottest bands - Los Gallos.
Doña Emilia's
Bar & Grill


The first seating will begin at 5:00 for $29-$49 per person
the second seating will begin at 8:00 pm for $49-$69 per person.
Call 478-2520 for Reservations or book online www.donaemilias.com



OPEN CHRISTMAS EVE & DAY
AND NEW YEAR'S DAY
RESTAURANT HOURS: SUN-THURS 11AM-10PM, FRI-SAT 11AM-11PM


My New Year's resolution:
To be pickier about my choice in Mexican food!
Three generations of family recipes mixes Texas, old and New Mexico to create a delicious fusion of flavor. Enjoy two full bars, and accomidations for large parties. Reservations welcome. The old style is new, again.
Holiday Hours:
Christmas Eve & Day-CLOSED
December 26th- Noon to 9pm
New Years Eve-CLOSED
New Years Day- Noon to 9pm
Tacos Garcia's
Jorges
Since 1957
2203 Hancock Dr.
Austin, Texas
512.454.1960
Serious Tex-Mex. Serious Margaritas.
www.jorges.com



BOOMERANG'S
Gourmet Veggie & Meat Pies

- austin original
- comfort food
- best new restaurant -A.B.J. 2006 Reader's poll -Chronicle - Honorable Mention
- healthy alternative to fast food
- catering
- 10% off with student / teacher i.d.
- cool to say: "I ate a pie today"
- hangover cure

Guadalupe @ 31½ ST.
Diagonal from Wheatsville Co-op

NOW OPEN
7 DAYS A WEEK!

www.BoomerangsPies.com

512.380.0032

eat more pie

food :: RESTAURANT ROULETTE :: FROM P.54

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP, DELIVERY: **FOODHEADS** Mornings consist of cappuccino, espresso, pastries, and breakfast tacos. By lunchtime, you can choose from a staggering array of sandwiches, soups, salads, and side dishes. ***616 W. 34th, 420-8400 $***

TAKEOUT, TEX-MEX: **FREEBIRDS WORLD BURRITO** Fresh ingredients; a fun, casual atmosphere; and their patented "Bad Ass BBQ Sauce" make this place a must-try. Plan early for the lunch hour, when lines are out the door. ***1000 E. 41st, 451-5514 $***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **QUACK'S 43RD STREET BAKERY** Carrying on the tradition of *Slacker*-era Austin, it is a great place to luxuriate over coffee and a muffin. ***411 E. 43rd, 453-3399 $***

SEAFOOD: **QUALITY SEAFOOD** It's the place where all your favorite restaurants get their seafood, so you know it's the freshest. Hit the oyster bar for lunch or an early dinner. ***5621 Airport, 454-5827 $***

BARBECUE, BURGER JOINT: **THE STALLION GRILL** You'll find the traditional country fare here solid, tasty, and affordable. Don't miss the homemade rolls and desserts. Now serving breakfast at 6:30am. ***5201 Airport, 380-9433 $***

TEX-MEX: **TAMALE HOUSE** An Airport Boulevard institution, they offer authentic, no-frills Tex-Mex. Pull up a chair on the sunbaked concrete and forget about tamales; they actually do not serve them. ***5003 Airport, 453-9842 $***

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: **THREADGILL'S OLD NO. 1** Fried-catfish dinners at Threadgill's have been a popular menu item as long as the restaurants have been open in Austin. ***6416 N. Lamar, 451-5440 $$***

SOUTH

AMERICAN CAFE, BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **BAKEHOUSE** Features a menu studded with specialties, from stir-fry to filet mignon to chicken Florentine. Classic diner food, designed for those who crave the honest, homemade flavors of Mama's cooking. ***5404 Manchaca, 443-5167 $$$***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **THE BIG KOLACHE** This cheerfully painted shop offers 16 varieties with sweet fillings made from scratch and savory fillings like ham and cheese, and Elgin sausage with jalapeño. ***2407 S. Congress, 383-9050 $***

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: **CASA DE LUZ** Follow the walkway through herbs and flowers to the inviting, airy dining room for food that is organic, in season, vegan, and all-natural. ***1701 Toomey, 476-2535 $$***

SEAFOOD: **CATFISH PARLOUR** When the gang's hungry, take a crowd to eat in, or arrange to have them cater your next outdoor fish-fry. ***4705 E. Ben White, 443-1698 $$***

restaurant guide ONLINE

austinchronicle.com/guides/restaurant

CHINESE: **CHINA EMPEROR** Definitely try the General Tso's chicken, featuring a sinus-clearing spice rating. The hot and sour soup also leaves a pleasant, peppery afterburn. ***111 W. William Cannon #312, 443-2922 $$***

INTERIOR MEXICAN: **CILANTRO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT** This tiny restaurant serves tasty Mexican home cooking in a cozy and no-frills atmosphere. Not to be missed are the tacos doblados and the fabulous homemade flan. No liquor, but you can BYOB. ***1025 W. Stassney, 707-1207 $$***

ITALIAN: **CRAIG O'S** A comfortable neighborhood spot with pasta, pizzas, and beer. ***4970 Hwy. 290 W., 891-7200 $$***

INTERIOR MEXICAN: **EL SOL Y LA LUNA** Their menu of breakfast specialties is available all day. Try the Omelette del Sol or the Omelette de la Luna. Live music on weekend evenings. ***1224 S. Congress, 444-7770 $$***

AMERICAN CAFE: **GALAXY CAFE** French-press coffee and jazz on Saturday nights up the cool factor, while bargain prices and delicious food keep you coming back. ***9911 Brodie Ln. #750, 233-6000 $$***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: **GARDEN DISTRICT COFFEE HOUSE** The eats are predominantly Cuban, including sweetly rich and delicious coffee drinks and piping hot empanadas. An assortment of grill-pressed sandwiches are offered too, including an extra piggy ham and roast pork. Wi-Fi ready. ***2810 S. Congress, 462-2473 $***

INTERIOR MEXICAN: **JANITZIO** Grab a couple of *cocas en botellas* from the icebox and choose from among the Michoacan-style steak dinners, seafood platters, sopas, gorditas, tacos, and tortas. ***1422 Town Creek Dr., 442-6275 $***

UT

TEX-MEX: **EL PATIO** These friendly folks have been serving up moderately priced Tex-Mex food with salsa and saltines since 1954. ***2938 Guadalupe, 476-5955 $$***

THAI: **MADAM MAM'S** Fans and regulars are always borderline obsessed. The authentic Thai homestyle dishes served in this popular campus-area spot are "Mam's" family recipes. ***2514 Guadalupe, 472-8306 $$***

PIZZA: **MILTO'S** Longtime UT-area institution serving both Italian and Greek specialties. Wonderful. ***2909 Guadalupe, 476-1021 $$***

PUB GRUB: **POSSE EAST** Beer and burgers for the pre-, post-, and during-the-game crowds. In-house ATM for those who fit into all three categories. ***2900 Duval St., 477-2111 $***

BURGER JOINT: **ROCKETS** Burgers, chicken sandwiches, and "planet-sized spuds." They claim it's their burgers you see in fast-food commercials. ***118 W. Fifth, 482-0621 $***

CHINESE: **SUN HING CHINESE RESTAURANT** Kung Pao, General Tso, and other Chinese standbys served up fresh and inexpensively. ***2801 Guadalupe, 478-6504 $$***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **TEXAS FRENCH BREAD** The bright, comfortable dining room is populated with students enjoying Hyde Park Fudge Cake, Hobbit Bread, hearty sandwiches, soups, and salads. Great for breakfast. ***2900 Rio Grande, 499-0544 $***

THAI: **THAI KITCHEN** The Drag location of this respected local Thai restaurant chain is popular with student diners – the authentic food is fresh, spicy, and affordable. ***3009 Guadalupe, 474-2575 $$***

MIDDLE EASTERN: **TOM'S TABOOLEY** The kitchen offers tabbouleh, dolmas, baklava, gourmet coffee, and lots of surprising tidbits for lunch and dinner. Pick up some brined grape leaves to cook with at home. ***2928 Guadalupe, 479-7337 $***

CHINESE: **YEN CHING NOODLE HOUSE** Get your noodle fix with homemade noodles and fantastic Ma Po Dofu. ***2910 Guadalupe, 472-4754 $***

WEST

AMERICAN CAFE: **CAFE BISTRO AT NORDSTROM** The most elegant food at the mall, with a menu strong on ladies-who-lunch fare. Salads and sandwiches are exceptional, but more substantial offerings are there for the asking. ***Barton Creek Square, 2901 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 691-3500 $$***

AMERICAN CAFE: **EZ'S** Although the hamburgers are very good, they also serve up a plethora of chicken dishes, from battered and fried tenders to oven-roasted rosemary chicken plates. ***3918 N. Lamar, 302-1800 $***

CAJUN/CREOLE: **FREDA'S SEAFOOD GRILLE** A challenging menu with often rewarding results. Start with the fried pickles and a cocktail or two from the superior spirits list. Live music and catering. ***10903 Pecan Park, 506-8700 $$***

TEX-MEX: **HULA HUT** Sure, it's got water and the hills too, but the best view at this Polynesian-styled paradise is on everyone else. Try the Tubular Tacos. ***3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 476-4852 $$$***

INDIAN: **INDIAN PALACE** The buffet for AusTex vegetarians who need a Punjab fix. With a menu also blessed with seafood, meats, and poultry for the carnivore crowd, food is right on. ***3616 Far West, 241-1732 $$***

VIETNAMESE: **KIM PHUNG** Most folks go for the bowls of pho or for the *bun*, but give the diners a try. The hot and sour soup rocks, and the lunch specials are delicious, big, and cheap. ***7601 N. Lamar Ste. I, 451-2464 $***

AMERICAN CAFE: **MAGNOLIA CAFE** With monster omelets and entrées from Tex-Mex to pastas, the menu is wide enough to satisfy all hankerings within a given group of people. ***2304 Lake Austin Blvd., 478-8645 $***

BARBECUE: **POK-E-JO'S SMOKEHOUSE** Find some of the best barbecue in town at this funky compound just blocks from downtown. ***1603 W. Fifth, 320-1541 $***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: **WILD WOOD ART CAFE** Finally, a health-conscious menu dedicated to the nutritional well-being of people whose choices are limited by food allergies and medical restrictions. Find fresh, well-prepared breakfasts and lunches featuring salads, sandwiches, and entrees. ***3663 Bee Caves Rd. Ste. 4A, 327-9660 $***

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: **ZUZU HANDMADE MEXICAN FOOD** The tomatillo and poblano salsas are fresh, and their guacamole is some of the best in town. Try corn relish and green salad on for sides. ***5770 N. MoPac, 467-9295 $$***






The Starlite family wishes you and yours a joyous holiday season and a prosperous new year.
COCKTAILS.DINNER.BRUNCH — 407 COLORADO — 512 374 9012 — STARLITEAUSTIN.NET


Frank & Angies
508 West Ave • 472-3534
Frank & Angies "might just be the pie enthusiast's best bet; it's great thin crust version is accompanied by reasonably priced, classic homestyle dishes named after famous Italians and served with a bit of nostalgic attitude, making it great for a casual date." -Zagat Survey 2006


Hut's
THANKS AUSTIN! FOR VOTING US BEST BURGER EVERY YEAR FOR THE PAST 20 YEARS!
472-0693 • 807 W. 6th St.

screens

60 THE DEATH OF VHS **62** TV EYE

CREW STORIES

Jeff Schwan, Stuntman


NATHANAEL VORCE

It's not surprising that Schwan bit a wolf. It is surprising that a wolf had the audacity to bite him.

Jeff Schwan once bit a wolf. "She was only 85 percent wolf," he says, smiling his sleepy cowboy smirk. "I bit her in the ear after she bit me."

It's not surprising that Schwan bit a wolf. It is surprising that a wolf had the audacity to bite him. As one of the busiest and longest-working film and TV stunt coordinators in Austin, Schwan is a professional badass. Need someone to get hit by a car, thrown off a horse, or attacked by dogs? Call him.

His long list of credits includes stunt work on *The Alamo*, all three *Spy Kids*, *Waking Life*, the in-production Tarantino/Rodriguez collaboration *Grindhouse*, and *Gary the Tennis Coach*. He's currently the stunt coordinator for the *Friday Night Lights* TV series and even had a role in *Sin City*.

"My mom was so excited," Schwan recalls. "I said, 'It's not a very glamorous part,' but she said, 'Oh, Jeffrey, don't talk about your work like that.' Then I told her, 'I'm getting my head shoved in a toilet by Mickey Rourke.'"

It wasn't always getting swirlies from celebrities for Schwan. Beginning as a roper and rough bull rider in the late 1970s, Schwan fell, quite literally, into the business. After a day of cowboying outside of Bastrop, Schwan stumbled onto a movie set. The filmmakers asked him to ride his horse back and forth behind the camera to give the actor an eye-line during the take. After getting tangled in some cables, the horse reared up and fell to the ground. As always, Schwan remained in charge. "I landed on top of the horse's head, and the whole set was quiet. This young kid came up to me and said, 'Man, that was great; are you a stuntman?' What could I say? 'Yeah.' So that was my first stunt. Unpaid and behind camera."

But where to go next? In the early 1980s, Austin was hardly the moviemaking town it is today. *Slacker* and *El Mariachi* were still a decade away. What's a 21-year-old kid with a talent for falling off horses to do? Hook up with Willie Nelson, of course. After a period of working for free, Schwan landed a gig as a stunt double on the 1986 film *Red Headed Stranger*. With his face covered in yak hair to match the bearded actor he was doubling, Schwan waited on set for 14 hours.

"I sat there forever, all excited. Finally, at about 4 in the morning, they came to get me." The stunt involved Schwan falling backward off a horse. "After they got the shot, the crowd splits. Out walks Willie, like Moses, with a bottle of tequila. He says, 'Get Jeff a glass,' and I say, 'I don't need a glass.' That was my first official job in film."

When I visit Schwan on the set of *Gary the Tennis Coach*, he's attacking an actor with three rottweilers. Well, he's coordinating the stunt. And the process is anything but simple. This particular stunt involved re-envisioning the director's original plan for the shot, building a ramp, and editing together videotaped rehearsals. The actor was wary, harboring a childhood fear of dogs. But after rehearsing with the gentle and assured Schwan, the actor regained his poise. "We're cheating the angle so it only looks like the dogs hit him," Schwan explains. "But after rehearsing, the actor says, 'Just let 'em hit me,' and I'm like, 'You'll do that once, but you won't do it again.'"

So, how do you take an actor from canine-phobia to volunteering for an attack by three rottweilers? "You say, 'Everything's going to be all right. I'm right here.'" Clearly, a good stunt coordinator has to have a way with words. Schwan smiles like he's got a secret joke and drawls, "I'm just here to contribute. I love making movies." – *Toddy Burton*

IN SPACE

SXSW Web Awards Deadline Extended to Jan. 1

Although the Dec. 15 deadline for entries in the 2007 SXSW Web Awards competition has officially passed, we have it on good authority that late entries will be accepted until Jan. 1. Only Web sites launched in 2006 are eligible, except in the Classic category. According to SXSW, all submissions are evaluated on the following criteria: visual design, functionality, interactivity, content, and creativity.

Categories include:

Amusement, Art Blog, Business: For-Profit, Business: Green/Non-Profit, CSS, Classic, Community, Educational Resource, Experimental, Film/TV, Motion Graphics, Music, Personal Portfolio, Student, Technical Achievement

The entry fee is $25. For more information, submission forms, and previous winners, see **www.sxsw.com/interactive/web_awards**.



DVD WATCH

THE SPIRIT OF THE BEEHIVE

Criterion, $39.95

"Illogical obscurantism," "unbearably slow from reel 3 on," and "intellectually ponderous" aren't the usual tribute paid 1973's *The Sprit of the Beehive*, but they accent the best review Víctor Erice ever got. Franco's censors playing Ebert & Roeper? Fascists.

"They felt no one would go see it," nods the Spanish filmmaker on *Beehive*'s second-disc documentary. "They felt the film was ... simply unendurable. That no one would go see it." Erice laughs, now. And best. The script no one could understand has long since borne out its wildest dream: original image. Inspired by a photo from 1931's *Frankenstein*, in which the monster kneels lakeside with a young girl, Erice's wonder and awe for one of cinema's "source" images produced a visual tone poem as unforgettable as James Whale's original creation. Only Boris Karloff is sorely and unfortunately missed. Otherwise, beginning with the children of remote Segovia province Hoyuelos chasing after a truck on the cobblestones of 1942, cheering, "The movie's coming! The movie's coming!" *The Spirit of the Beehive* paints its own ghost story.

Digitally restoring the filmmaker's Vermeer landscape, wherein the connective tissue is distance, the difference between movies and reality isn't anything 6- or 7-year-old Ana knows to distinguish. Neither did the actress Ana Torrent, whose reaction to Karloff emerging from the bushes to find a would-be playmate remains the centerpiece of what Erice captured on celluloid. For Ana, Frankenstein's monster is no metaphor, and not necessarily the spirit her sister Isabel claims. What unfolds thereafter does so filtered through a child's awakening gaze. "The film owes everything to her," acknowledges Erice. "It was she who guided me." – *Raoul Hernandez*

ALSO OUT NOW

***Solo Con Tu Pareja* (Criterion, $29.95):** Like Martin Tupper on HBO's long-forgotten *Dream On*, the sexcapades of Brian Benben doppelgänger Daniel Giménez Cacho domino decidedly Almodóvar in Alfonso Cuarón's 1991 affair to remember.

Changing Times (Koch Lorber, $29.98): Deneuve and Depardieu together again *(The Last Metro*, *A Choice of Arms)* in André Téchiné's romantic distraction on the cyclical nature of first amour.

AND SOME LAST-MINUTE GIFT IDEAS FROM MARC SAVLOV ...



***Forbidden Planet: Ultimate Collector's Edition* (Warner Home Video, $59.98):** A very young Leslie Nielson, the very hot Anne Frances, Robby the Robot, and monsters from the id get all Jungian on your sci-fi patootie. Classic.

***Oldboy: Ultimate Collector's Edition* (Tartan, $39.95):** Three discs of Park Chan-Wook's exquisitely disturbing ode to the vagaries of vengeance. Forced dental extractions never looked so good.



***Millennium: Seasons 1-3* (20th Century Fox Home Video, $119.94):** *The X-Files*' dark twin never captured the public like Mulder and Scully; nonetheless, Lance Henriksen's demon-haunted FBI profiler, Frank Black, remains the most nuanced of all of Chris Carter's agency characters. Creepy good fun.

***Film Noir: The Dark Side of Hollywood Box Set* (Kino, $49.95):** Five studies in mordant and amoral chiraroscuro, including the Bertolt Brecht-scripted *Hangmen Also Die* and Anatole Litvak's *The Long Night*.

***The Art of Buster Keaton* (Kino, $179.99):** Eleven features (including *The General*, *Sherlock Jr.*, and *Steamboat Bill Jr.*), 21 short films, and extras galore. Why the stone face?



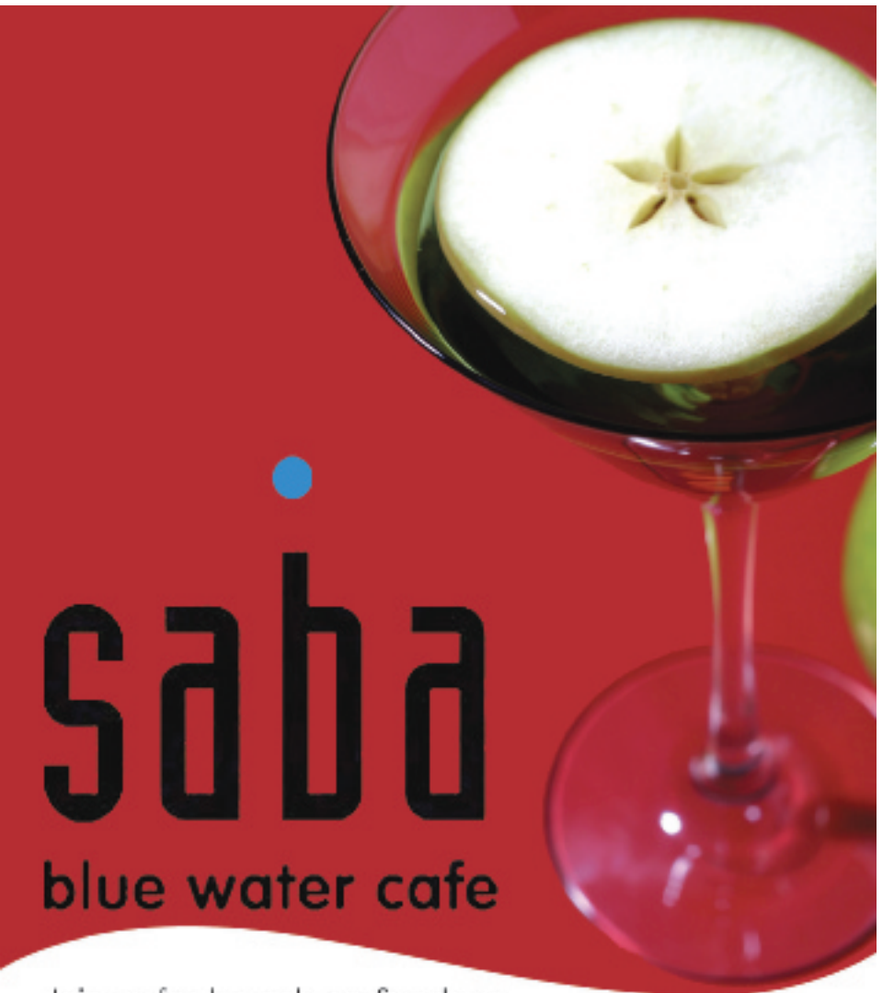
***The Wicker Man 2-Disc Set* (Anchor Bay, $19.98):** Banish Neil LaBute's tepid remake from your mind while scaring the bejesus out of evangelicals everywhere. "A heathen, perhaps, but not, I hope, an unenlightened one."

***The Premiere Frank Capra Collection* (Sony Pictures, $59.95):** As American as Mom, apple pie, and morally bankrupt District of Columbians, five Capra classics and Kenneth Bowser's smart Capra documentary, plus enough extras to satiate even that scurvy spider Mr. Potter (conspicuous in his absence).

JINGLE WITH JAVA
FOR THE HOLIDAYS
GET YOUR HOLIDAY GIFTS
TODAY AT AUSTIN JAVA INCLUDING
Gift Cards
Fresh Roasted Coffee
Holiday Gift Baskets
Now available! Call 472-5282 to order.
Austin Java
Since 1995
AUSTIN, TX
SWING BY OUR LOCATIONS AT
BARTON SPRINGS ROAD OR 12TH AND LAMAR
BREAKFAST ALL DAY. LUNCH. DINNER & DESSERTS
CATCH THE BUZZ @ AUSTINJAVA.COM



OUR GIFT TO YOU
$100 OFF any
tattoo removal package
purchased between now
and December 31, 2006.
Offer good only on new packages.
LoneStar LASER CLINIC
512.637.5277
www.LoneStarLaserClinic.com



saba
blue water cafe
Join us for brunch on Sundays and happy hour Monday - Friday with specials on our award winning cocktails and $5 shareable plates.
Now booking holiday parties; for private events, please contact Michelle: 299.9550 ex 12
208 w 4th / www.sabacafe.com



NEW YEAR'S EVE
Celebrate
'07 @ 219
YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR EYES
Reserve Tickets and Tables Now!
party219west@yahoo.com
219 West
219 W. 4th St.
(512) 474-2194

CHRONIC NEWS BLOG

On the Austin City Store Opening:

"'Even though it's only 1,400 square feet, this is a very important project for us,' says Will Wynn. Normally, it takes 217,000 square feet to get noticed, huh?" - Wells Dunbar

CHRONICLE READ MORE AND COMMENT: **austinchronicle.com/chronic**

Vertical Helical Scan, We Hardly Knew Ye

You'd better record this on your VCR – it's probably the last time we'll ever mention it

BY JOE O'CONNELL



JASON STOUT

It seemed like a good move at the time. Two mystery boxes of videotapes from eBay. Take my chances and feed my desire to watch more and more movies, the good blended in with the putrid and the just plain lame.

The boxes plopped on my doorstep, and I wasn't disappointed. James Doohan starred in a murder mystery called *Through Dead Eyes*. The back of the box showed the man we know as Scotty from *Star Trek* wearing an eye patch and hoisting a pistol at the camera from where he sat in his ... La-Z-Boy? Then there was *Two Small Bodies* with a picture of Suzy Amis chained to the wall with Fred Ward eying her angrily (longingly?) on the cover. "Incredibly hot!" read the quote from *The Village Voice*. Luke Perry in a James Dean-esque T-shirt lolled against a brick wall on the cover of *Terminal Bliss*. "He had everything, but nothing was enough," the cover informed me. As if that weren't enough, the box was chock-full of the detritus of our modern world. From other videotapes I would learn how to babysit, all about Wayne Gretzky's banner season of 1989-90 for the Kings, how to handle menopause, and the secret to an outdated software program. Oh, there were a few real winners, too. *Welcome to Hollywood*, a film that compared itself to *This Is Spinal Tap*, was an early effort from Adam Rifkin, whose *Homo Erectus* from Burnt Orange Productions recently snagged a slot at Slamdance.

The tapes arrived more than a year ago, and I haven't watched a single one yet. Not one. After all, I have a Netflix subscription bringing the latest arty DVDs to my mailbox regularly. My satellite provides free pay movies for six months, just to say thanks (said the heroin pusher). Movies and television programs pile up in my TiVo unit. And the only VCR left in my home is a combo unit in the living room.

So it goes in the sad demise of the VHS tape. Last month *Variety* made it official by running a humorous obituary for our old friend "born 30 years ago as Vertical Helical Scan to parent JVC of Japan." This comes as no great surprise these three years since DVD took over as the dominant format, but it makes me a bit misty-eyed. DVD is just another high quality format; VHS changed everything.

In the early days, we had the battle between the superior, smaller Betamax tapes and the bulky VHS, and the tapes and machines cost so much only the true techies and the truly kinky took the leap. Of course, originally it was all about pornography, as seemingly all technological advances are. But, in 1986, the news rated a full-page feature in the local weekly newspaper when the first video rental store opened in Lockhart. I should know; I was the young punk who wrote it. This was a magical moment for introverts and cheapskates everywhere. We could watch at our own convenience, eat our own, less-expensive popcorn, make out on our comfy couches without the watchful eyes of that flashlight-wielding usher of yore. We, the viewers, were finally in charge. Movie theatres would soon disappear, we were warned. America was getting anti-social, but we knew the truth.

Be Kind and Rewind

Renting a movie to watch at home became our national ritual. The plastic-cased videocassette recorder rented for $5 or so because no one could afford $400 for the top-of-the-line, four-head, high-fidelity stereo unit. The VCR's heft was the holy grail because of limited supply, but we'd call ahead and pray that one of the blessed, weighty machines could be ours to drag out to the car like a trophy buck. The movie itself was a couple of bucks at most before evil Blockbuster swallowed the industry whole and earned its Darth Vader reputation for late fees, rewind fees, fees fees fees. The VHS was our great compromise: Comedy? ("No, Jim Carrey scares me.") Drama? ("Nothing with Michael Douglas, please.") Foreign? ("Does it have subtitles?") Chick flick? ("Never. Ever.") Behind the counter, a budding Quentin Tarantino offered suggestions, sometimes with a nasal note of condescension that let us know this mattered to him.

These spools of videotaped film were indeed something of value in the big, impersonal world. This was art in all of its imperfect beauty. We wandered the aisles of Austin shops like Vulcan Video, I Luv Video, and the Movie Store searching for the perfect committee decision. Sometimes the hunt took more than an hour, but the perfect score meant a night of insight, laughter, love, perhaps hazy drunken memories of being wrapped snuggly in a blanket and being so very alive and so very far away from the madding crowd.

Go Forward! Move Ahead!

Yes, DVD is still here and somewhat afloat, but it will never be what VHS was. Consider the numbers: According to industry mag *Video Business*, sales of all formats – this includes PlayStation Portable – totaled about $9 billion for the first three quarters of 2006. DVD sales were up a mere 2% from 2005, while VHS plummeted somewhere between 55% and 65%, for a total of about $125 million. So VHS movies today are the equivalent of 8-track tapes in 1980, when they still could be found from tape clubs but were otherwise scarce. Sometime in 2007, our old friend VHS will truly die, and the statisticians will finally ignore it. Meanwhile,

The Out-of-Print VHS Titles You might never find on DVD

The format wars leave casualties: Films that perhaps were once available on VHS but take forever, some fornever, to come out on DVD. Sometimes listings like this nudge the powers that be into action, but don't count on it. The bad news: Out-of-print videos can be pricey if you can find them on eBay or Amazon. The good news: This year one top film on my VHS-only list finally made it to DVD. It's *The Loved One*, a 1965 Tony Richardson-directed satire of both the funeral-home business and the British invasion of Hollywood, starring Robert Morse and Jonathan Winters. Darkly funny and way, way ahead of its time. – *J.O.*



***A New Leaf*: Elaine May wrote/directed/stars in this comedy about rich playboy Walter Matthau, who's going broke and in search of a sugar mama. Nerdy May is his choice, and this one's a keeper.**

***Honeysuckle Rose*: What, you live in Austin and you've never seen this 1980 Willie Nelson film about a country singer who sings his way through an affair with his buddy's (Slim Pickens) daughter (Amy Irving)? That ain't right, bubba. The music is worth the visit.**

***Fitzwilly*: Dick Van Dyke is the title butler to wealthy Miss Vicki, who has actually drained her resources giving to charities. Van Dyke leads the household help in robberies to fill the coffers. Suspicious Barbara Feldon almost spoils the fun in this wacky Sixties caper flick.**



***Cold Turkey*: Another Van Dyke film. This one, directed by Norman Lear, is a comedy about a small town offered $25 million if everyone in it quits smoking. The catch is evil tobacco execs want them to lose and do everything possible to tempt the townsfolk.**

***Come Back to the Five & Dime Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*: Here's betting this one pops up on DVD soon with the recent passing of Robert Altman. It's a film adaptation of Ed Graczyk's stage play about the 20th anniversary of the Disciples of James Dean in a small town near where *Giant* was filmed in West Texas and improbably stars Cher.**

***The Oscar*: A campy and melodramatic tale of a would-be Oscar winner and his ruthless climb to the top. The 1966 film stars Milton Berle and is a lot funnier than it ever intended to be. The tagline says it all: "This is the story of ... The Dreamers and The Schemers ... The Hustlers and The Hopefuls ... The Free-loaders and The Phonies ... The Fakers and The Famous ... All Fighting for the Highest Possible Award!!"**

***Rad*: Yet another underdog who climbs to the top of his sport, only this time it's 1986, and the sport is BMX racing! Cru Jones must either take the SAT or enter the qualifiers for Helltrack. Lori Laughlin of TV's *Full House* is the love interest, and Jack Weston is the bad guy bent on keeping our hero out of the race. Great Eighties soundtrack and a bike-dancing scene that makes it all worthwhile.**

DVD is a live-fast, die-young teen who doesn't know its sweet ride is almost over. Ahead we have the Blu-ray Disc vs. HD-DVD battle as the world goes thoroughly high-definition everything. Consider that the new HD discs will hold a kagillion more movie extras than DVD, and you see how much our relatively new friend is doomed. Blu-ray looks to be the early contender because of the industry giants backing it, including Sony, Dell, Panasonic, and Samsung. But who cares? We may all be downloading our films by then anyway. It's not the same.

Ask anyone who still has the entire run – so far – of *The Simpsons* cataloged on tape. Excuse me if I get all sentimental here. I am a conflicted guy who had an 8-track player and a CD player installed simultaneously into his 1995 Toyota Corolla and somehow remains dangerously addicted to the Internet but stubbornly out of the cell-phone market (leave me a voice mail and I receive an e-mail notice). Perhaps 8-track is, in the end, the best comparison to those videotaped movies. I think of my older, hoodlum brother tooling down the highway in his hot rod, a cigarette drooping from his lips. Led Zeppelin's "Dazed and Confused" is cranked, but the sound becomes mushy and

Sometime in 2007, our old friend VHS will truly die, and the statisticians will finally ignore it. Meanwhile, DVD is a live-fast, die-young teen who doesn't know its sweet ride is almost over.

slow. He folds a matchbook cover into quarters and shoves it under the 8-track tape, and we're cruising again.

That's how we'll talk about VHS to our children. We'll feel it more than anything. We'll do a lousy job of explaining it, and they'll coldly say we're too attached to the past. They'll be right. Film fans were educated via videotape. People fell in love watching VHS.

When my film neophyte wife and I were first dating, I held festivals to educate her on this art form that had shaped me. It was a way of sharing a part of myself with the person who had stolen my heart. I remember Dustin Hoffman day: *Tootsie*, *The Graduate*, and *Little Big Man* topped the bill. *Marathon Man* and *Midnight Cowboy*, tougher to digest, would have to wait until later in our relationship. We pulled pillows down onto the carpet and shoved in a big, clunky tape. The picture was jumpy, but I quickly adjusted the tracking, and we waited out the coming attractions. Upon hearing the words "And now your feature presentation," I doused the lights and handed her a glass of wine. Our fingers intertwined as Benjamin Braddock sank to the bottom of a swimming pool in despair. That was my VHS moment. Thanks for the movie memories, my old boxy friend. May you rest in peace. ■

ZAX
TACOS & FLATS
An American Bistro
Fine Food & Spirits
Patio Dining
20 Craft Brews on Tap
Live Music • No Cover
Friday, December 22
LUCKY STRIKES 4PM
Saturday, December 23
TBA
Corner of Riverside @ Barton Springs
481-0100 • www.zaxaustin.com

CHRONIC NEWS BLOG

On the Austin City Store Opening:

"'Even though it's only 1,400 square feet, this is a very important project for us,' says Will Wynn. Normally, it takes 217,000 square feet to get noticed, huh?" - Wells Dunbar

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE
READ MORE AND COMMENT: **austinchronicle.com/chronic**



KVUE NEWS

Where Trust Is Earned

Austin doesn't close down at night. Neither does KVUE News.
As your day winds down, KVUE News is still going strong. Tyler Sieswerda, Christine Haas and the KVUE News team are working harder to bring you all the LIVE, late-breaking news in our community. Get more perspective and more of what's important to you on KVUE News Nightbeat.

NIGHTBEAT 10PM
KVUE IS AUSTIN'S NEWS STATION

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE
BEST OF AUSTIN '06
austinchronicle.com

Watch the Chronicle's 'Best of Austin' on DAYBREAK FRIDAYS 5-7am

TV EYE
‘Heroes’ and Zeroes

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

The year 2006 is nearly spent, and the *Chronicle*’s annual Top 10s issue waits in the wings. As I scribble on that, I’ve been thinking of the hits and misses of the most recent TV year; what I wished for, lamented, and cheered.

Happy comebacks: After a lame third season that culminated in the highly melodramatic death of Marissa (**Mischa Barton**), *The OC* (Fox) returned this season with a new energy, ably navigating that transition between high school and college that other series have stumbled over. Last week’s Chrismukkah episode was a good example of the series’ new, energetic stride. Ryan and Taylor (**Benjamin McKenzie** and **Autumn Reeser**) fell off a ladder and, in their unconscious state, got to see the world as it would be were they not in it. Striking just the right balance between kookiness, prime-time soap, and snarky humor, the episode also put to rest (I hope) Ryan’s mourning for Marissa. Unlike many fans, I am not sad she’s gone. I’m too busy being entertained by Summer’s (**Rachel Bilson**) development into a more complicated version of her former wicked self. C’mon, say it with me: Marissa who?

Everybody Hates Chris (CW), the slice-of-life comedy has become the place to spot former TV stars. **Ernest Thomas** (Raj in *What’s Happening!!*), **Jimmie Walker** (J.J. in *Good Times*) and **Antonio Fargas** (Huggy Bear in *Starsky & Hutch*) are just a few of the former TV stars that have recurring roles in *Chris*. Well, except Walker. Playing Chris’ grandfather, he died in the first three minutes of his appearance. Walker’s rubbery mug falling face first into a plate of mashed potatoes was a sight gag so well done; it’s too bad he was killed off so soon.



Masi Oka on *Late Night With Conan O’Brien*

New characters deserving of a cult following: **Mark Indelicato** as Justin, Betty Suarez’s effeminate nephew on *Ugly Betty* (ABC). The series continually strikes a delicate chord when it comes to dealing with Justin’s apparent future as a gay man. Two episodes stand out. The first was when the foppish Marc (**Michael Urie**), one of Betty’s backstabbing co-workers at Mode, struck up an unexpected friendship with young Justin, recognizing his younger self and offering the young fashionista some survival advice. The second was the episode when Justin’s errant father shows up for the holidays, only to walk out again when he observes his son thrilled by tree trimming instead of wanting to throw a football “like a normal kid.” The walkout was played just out of sight of Justin, who already knew it was coming. I can still feel my heart breaking.

While prognosticators thought another serialized drama with a large cast would test audiences’ patience, *Heroes* (NBC) has become one of the breakout hits of the new TV season. One reason is the refreshing Hiro (**Masi Oka**). His enthusiasm and reverential regard for his powers is charming, funny, and infectious, making him the hero you most want to root for.

Faded glory: After that last episode of *Lost* a few weeks back, I am left with the sense that the series is rudderless. Although the series creators assured *Entertainment Weekly* columnist Stephen King that they had it all under control in a large *EW* spread a few issues back, I remain skeptical. The creators say they never meant the “black fog monster” or the numbers to create such a stir. I say give me a break. Hopefully, they saw the recent Sci-Fi mini-series, *The Lost Door*. While its conclusion was underwhelming, the many curious details of the mini fell into place with precision.

Speaking of precision, the snap, the crackle, and buoyancy of the once great *Gilmore Girls* (CW) is gone with series creator **Amy Sherman-Palladino**. Yes, it still looks like *The Gilmore Girls*, it still walks and talks like *The Gilmore Girls*, but this season rings like a pod-people version of its former self.

Like *The OC*, *Veronica Mars* (CW) managed that high school-to-college shift well. The serial-rapist mystery that carried the first half of the season was scary and smart, but the representation of campus feminists as femi-nazis was a huge disappointment. The one thing you could depend on in *VM* was how series creator **Rob Thomas** would tweak the key characters from various subcultures (the jocks, the popular kids, the nerds) to make them sympathetic. Not so with the femi-nazis, who were cast in uncharacteristic monotones. I’ll come back to the series, but I’m still smarting.

Next week: the overrated and underrated series of the year. Oh, I can imagine the angry e-mails already.

As always, stay tuned.

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



KLRU-TV, Austin PBS, helps build a stronger community through locally-produced programs, community projects and educational workshops. KLRU’s Ready To Learn initiative teaches parents how to create a stimulating learning environment for their children. Last year, KLRU helped almost 900 families through hands-on workshops. Find out more at klru.org

klru tv and beyond
klru.org

HELP US TEST OUR WEBSITE

Please fill out a survey at austinchronicle.com/survey for a chance to participate in testing our web redesign. A few selected participants will be asked to come into our offices and spend about an hour using our website, answering questions, and giving feedback.

A $25 gift certificate to El Chile and two movie passes to the Galaxy Highland will be given for participation.

CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com/survey

NEW Apple Authorized Training Center
"We put the Pro in Final Cut Pro!"

Now offering classes in:
Final Cut Pro
Motion
DVD Studio Pro
Soundtrack Pro
Final Cut Express
Logic Pro
iLife

Taught by **Apple Certified Trainers** under Apple’s official curriculum, the courses balance concepts and lectures with hands-on experience and step by step real world exercises on state-of-the-art Mac editing systems. Upon completion of each course, students become Apple Certified Pro Users by taking and passing a certification exam.

Flexible Financing Available!
10% Holiday Discount
20% Discount for **Austin Film Society** filmmaker members
*Ask about our **Educator** and **Group Rates***

Free Introductory Seminar
Call **(512)236-8877** for more information!

AUSTIN SCHOOL of FILM
Austin Film Society
CHRONICLE
www.austinfilmschool.org
Authorized Training Center

• KENRA • BENEV • SKIN CEUTICALS •

AZIZ

SALON, DAY SPA & SKIN WELLNESS CENTER

Serving Austin for 30 years



Holiday Gift Certificates

PURCHASE ONLINE TODAY!

FULL DAYS OF BEAUTY
SPA PACKAGES
HAIR
NAILS
SKIN
MASSAGE

BEST OF AUSTIN '04 · BEST OF AUSTIN '05 · BEST OF AUSTIN '06

476-4131
710 W. 7TH
AZIZSALON.COM
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

GLO • SYSTEM PROFESSIONAL • KINERASE • DERMALOGICA •

• COSMEDIX • OBAGI • RX SYSTEMS



The best selection of beauty products and gifts for this holiday season.

Gift Cards Available

BEAUTY STORE SALON & SPA

Brodie Oaks Central Market Westbank Market

Now Open in Round Rock 620 @ IH35

CELEBRATE THE SEASON

MÁLAGA Tapas & Bar

www.malagatapasbar.com

208 W. 4TH STREET~WAREHOUSE DISTRICT~236-8020

PLANNING THE PERFECT PARTY FOR YOU

SABA BLUE WATER CAFE
CEDAR STREET COURTYARD
MALAGA TAPAS & BAR

208 Entertainment & Event Group

NOW BOOKING HOLIDAY PARTIES

CONTACT MICHELLE CLAIRE TATE AT 299-9550 X12

OR AT MICHELLE@SCHNURRVENTURES.COM

Handmade Nativities, Ornaments and Gifts from Around the World



Thank You Austin for 17 years. Come Celebrate Our Last Christmas on Congress Avenue.

We will be moving...details later.

TESOROS TRADING COMPANY®

FOLK ART & OTHER TREASURES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

209 Congress Ave. 512/479-8341 www.tesoros.com

Holiday Hours 10-7


IMPORTED
DOS EQUIS
Special Lager
Gulf of
Mexico
Campeche
Veracruz
Ciudad del
Carmen
Villahermosa
Salina Cruz
Golfo de
Tehuantepec
Rosario
©2005 Cervezas Mexicanas, White Plains, NY
eXXperience
the flavor of Mexico
Enjoy Dos Equis® Responsibly.
www.dosxx.com

music

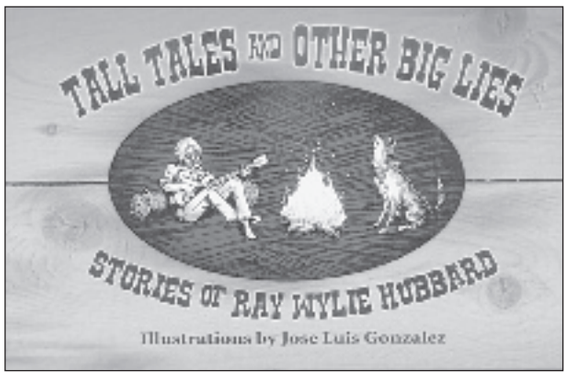
66 POWELL ST. JOHN
70 MUSIC DVDS
74 PHASES & STAGES

TCB music news

BY CHRISTOPHER GRAY





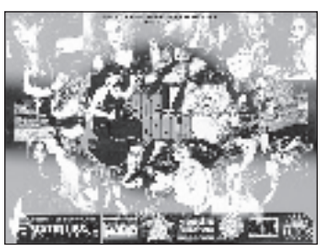


FOOL FOR YOUR STOCKINGS

If you're like TCB, the idea of holiday shopping more than a few days in advance is as laughable as **Will Ferrell** in *Elf*. That said, whatever your winter observance of choice, you're basically out of time as of today (Thursday). Some local music-related gift ideas for all you fellow procrastinators …

DISC THE HALLS: Tired of "The Night Before Christmas"? Try the new reading of **Dylan Thomas**' 1952 poem "A Child's Christmas in Wales," performed by local jazz lights **Suzi Stern** (who also sings three original songs), **Rich Harney**, **Alex Coke**, and **Chris Maresh**. Rockers will enjoy turning up ex-**Sixteen Deluxe** crew **Hit Space**'s excellent new EP, *(Verb)*, or contemplating **Zookeeper**'s pensive new EP. The soundtrack to **Richard Linklater**'s *Fast Food Nation,* meanwhile, has something for everyone: songs from **Spoon**, **Dr. Dog**, and **the Capitol Years**, as well eerie soundtrack instrumentals courtesy of **Friends of Dean Martinez**.

PRETTY PAPER: Readers might enjoy ***Tall Tales and Other Big Lies: Stories of Ray Wylie Hubbard***, the Hill Country troubador's life wisdom as illustrated by **Jose Luis Gonzalez** and published by Austin singer-songwriter **Troy Campbell**'s **Collection Agency Films**. And never forget what day it is for very long with a pair of locally published calendars: **Still Naked** is more local musical figures (**Jeff Pinkus**, **Kacy Crowley**, **Ain't Misbehavin'**) artfully arranged in the buff, while **Ricardo Acevedo**'s **She Rocks** 2007 edition features members of the **Addictions, Quick & the Dead**, **Adrian & the Sickness**, and more wearing clothes, albeit seductively so.







LIVE WITH ME: This is Austin, you know. Why not give passes to tonight's **Parish Christmas Show**, with members of **Okkervil River**, **What Made Milwaukee Famous**, **Voxtrot**, **Zykos**, **Alpha Rev**, and **Loxsly** interpreting their seasonal favorites? Or try **Unlock Austin**'s **Red River Pass**, which for a measly $20 buys you as many shows as you can handle at **Beerland**, **Emo's Lounge**, and the **Mohawk**, plus drink specials at **Club de Ville**, all January long.

A WINTER'S TALE

Guess what happens when a theatre company moves next door to a band rehearsal space. Nobody has a very merry Christmas, that's for sure. Back in August, the **Rogue Performance** theatre moved in next to **Black Rose Rehearsal** in the industrial area south of **Penn Field**. They soon learned it's hard to be neighborly when you share both a nonsoundproofed wall and similar operating hours. The obvious question is how they could be neighbors in the first place, but a call to **Dimension Properties**, both businesses' landlord, went unreturned at press time. Moreover, "When you come to look at a space, you always come during the day," notes Rogue owner **James Cotton**. Soon enough, Cotton learned that prime rehearsal time for most bands is at night, also the time Rogue scheduled its performances and workshops. He talked to Black Rose's owners, who he now thinks were just humoring him, and left notes asking bands, including the **Bad Rackets**, not to rehearse during Rogue performances. The owners and bands reluctantly obliged, until they in turn learned Rogue lacked some permits required for theatre operation, and an anonymous band called the fire marshal during a Rogue production. ("If the city wants to find something wrong, they will," says Cotton.) However, the Black Rose owners discovered a clause in their own lease prohibiting any activity – like excessive noise – that disturbed their neighbors. "I wish I had looked at that lease, goddammit," says co-owner **Jason Westbrook**. "But I also wouldn't have thought our landlord would put another after-hours business next door." Cotton has decided to move out, convincing Dimension to refund him a couple months' rent – "At this point, it's better than nothing" – while Westbrook says he and partner Monte Williams will try to head off any future disputes by acquiring the Rogue space for themselves.

See also "Rogue Performance Venue," p.38.



JOHN ANDERSON

Bad Rackets



JOHN ANDERSON

ESCAPING EAST

As soon as their landlord puts on a new roof, **Beerland** owners **Randall** and **Donya Stockton** will open **Rio Rita** at 1308 E. Sixth. "We're waiting on permits and stuff, **TABC** and all that," says Donya. The Stocktons plan for the Rita to be a coffeehouse by day and beer-only lounge by night, open 24 hours if they can figure out how to staff it. "People are always looking for a place to go and hang out and talk after shows," Donya says. Talking is an important part of their plan, so the only music will come from the jukebox. "Live music isn't always your friend," Donya says. "You can say Beerland is your favorite club, but if you don't like the band that's playing, then it's not." The Stocktons had been considering diversifying for a while, explains Donya, and snapped up Rita when the building owner, a former employer of Randall's, told them it was available in late September. As far as renovations, a new color scheme was about it. "For the past couple of years, it's been **Club Sirenitos**, which means 'little mermaid,'" Donya says. "When we walked in, the walls and ceiling were bright neon blue, and the floor was pink Armstrong tile." The Rita is only a couple of blocks from **Red's Scoot Inn**, leading some to dub the area a new **Red River**, especially since the current one is about to undergo significant change. "As soon as they build those condos down by **Reddy Ice** [Ninth & Red River], we're going to go the same way the **Warehouse District** went," Donya says. "All of Red River is going to have to find a new place to live."

BULLET THE BLUE SKY

Believe it or not, **Grand Champeen** have finished ***Dial "T" for This***, their first album since 2003's *The One That Brought You*, and will release it March 6 on Portland, Ore., label **In Music We Trust**. Careful calendar observers will note this day is also the recently announced release date for another long-delayed, much-anticipated album called ***Chinese Democracy***. Preparing to fight fire with fire, Champeen have been working up versions of "Paradise City" and "November Rain" to join their cover of **G'N'R**'s "It's So Easy."

Skateboarding maybe, but the **Riverboat Gamblers** aren't exactly synonymous with big-time college football. Not until our eagle-eared Music Editor **Raoul Hernandez** noticed "On Again Off Again," from this year's *To the Confusion of Our Enemies*, soundtracking some **CBS** smashmouth highlights a few weeks back. And, it turns out, not entirely legally. "We heard it, too," says Gamblers manager **Bryan McClellan**. "It was used without permission, and the band's lawyer is getting it figured out right now."

One local TV/music tie-in that is legit: Round Rock computer behemoth **Dell** using the **13th Floor Elevators**' "You're Gonna Miss Me" to hawk their latest line of **Dimension** desktops. Ad agency **BBDO** wanted a song similar to the music used on *The Sopranos*, and when they heard "Miss Me," "it sounded real, with a rawness that felt immediate," relays Dell attorney **Dean Blackwood**. Once they discovered the Elevators' local connection, he adds, "Everybody became even more enchanted by the tune."

The Kingdom of Heaven

It's time you knew Powell St. John

BY BILL BENTLEY

The band's been playing at least an hour, but it feels like five minutes. Besides "You Really Got Me," "Roll Over Beethoven," and Bob Dylan's "She Belongs to Me," they've done a dozen originals that seem like the beginning of a new age. There's one called "Roller Coaster" that sends shivers through the audience of 50, massed together at La Maison on the edge of downtown Houston.

It opens slow, speaking of one "whose eyes are clear to see," then hits a hurtling midsection announced by the lyric, "It starts like a roller-coaster ride so real it takes your breath away." For 10 minutes, the music pushes everyone in the room through a twisting, turning trip, with Stacy Sutherland's lead-guitar lines feeding back far beyond what rock bands in 1965 seemed capable of.

In so many ways, that 1965 night in Houston at La Maison listening to the 13th Floor Elevators for the very first time set me on my lifelong course.

When the song ends, there's an audible sigh of relief in the crowd. We've all just taken a journey of incredible intensity, and now, newly baptized, we look at one another with a bond of brotherhood. We glance around the room, shake our heads, and smile at one another with knowing glances that each person there has been shown a deep secret. We can only guess where the 13th Floor Elevators will take us next. For the five musicians onstage, there's no question. It's time now to deliver the words they know we've come to hear:

Here you are at my place
And within your glistening eyes
I'm watching your reactions
As the thing within you cries

And I'm bringing you this message
Because I think it's time you knew
The kingdom of heaven
Is within you

The song is slower than a ballad. In fact, it isn't really a song at all. More like a prayer. It begins with a roll on John Ike Walton's snare, followed by Benny Thurman's fearsome bass pattern, and an ominous drone by jug player Tommy Hall. It takes the crowd into a glowing room, filled with flashes of infinity and, well, love. We stand in front of the stage, "fixed with fascination" as one of the earlier songs has proclaimed, not really sure that what's happening is real. It's as if the music is making us levitate, a reminder that there's a true center to life waiting just outside our physical dimension. The chords blend, treble notes melting together into a searing sonic wall. Singer Roky Erickson is lost in his own world, eyes shut tight, his whole body a vessel of vibrations.

Through the incense and the candle
And the colors on the wall
Your image stands reflected
As a princess come to call

Your suspicions you're confirming
As you found them all quite true
That the kingdom of heaven
Is within you

The quintet is now playing the music of the spheres. As the two guitars become one, overlapping instruments of dedication and desire, the emotions of everyone present have moved La Maison, itself a former church, onto an astral plane. Who's this band giving us such a mesmerizing gift of music and meaning? Coming out of an extended instrumental break, the singer steps up to the mic with a beatific smile, one that shoots through everyone in the audience.

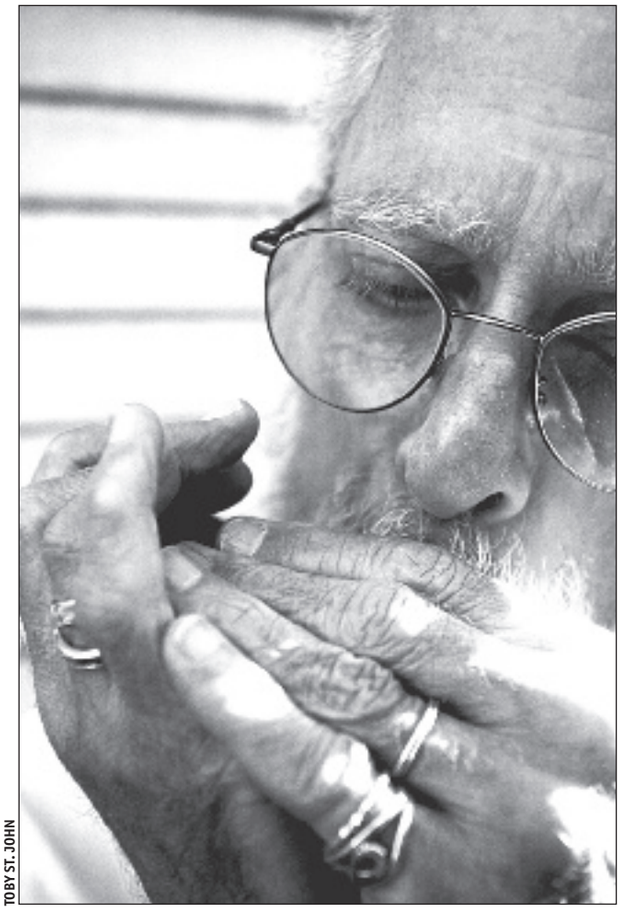
Through the blazing stained-glass windows
Moonlight falls upon the choir
And it splashes across the altar
As a flow of liquid fire

And it bathes you in its glory
As your life begins anew
For the kingdom of heaven
*Is within you**

Erickson, secure in the sanctity of the song and feeling its power, begins a scream from somewhere beyond the soul that builds to a tremulous shriek of belief. The sound bombards our molecules until it feels like we'll explode. When the song ends and quiet fills the room, the 13th Floor Elevators walk offstage, leaving La Maison humming with electricity from our close encounter with the beyond.

For the next year, everyone there searches out the Austin act's first LP, and once procured, we scour the back for that song. There it is, "Kingdom of Heaven," by John St. Powell. For me, it's the start of a 40-year mystery, trying to find out exactly who this person is, this man with the power to put into music what entire religions are forever seeking.

The first thing I discovered, shortly after seeing several songs by St. Powell on the Elevators' 1966 *Psychedelic Sounds*, was that John St. Powell was really Powell St. John. The band's record label, International Artists, had thrown a curveball into the songwriting royalties. Beyond that, the initial story I found on St. John was in the second issue of *Mother*, a short-lived Houston periodical devoted to the developing world of Texas rock. In a one-page piece, writer Larry Supulveda gave a quick rundown of St. John's new band Mother Earth, ending with an explanation by the artist of how he saw the new counterculture: "Spontaneity and juxtaposition are both happening everywhere simultaneously." This, obviously, was a man for the ages. Little did I know just how true that would turn out to be.



TOBY ST. JOHN

Rayward Powell St. John came to Austin in 1959 to attend the University of Texas. Born in Houston and raised in Laredo, he went to college to find freedom. In Laredo, his father had been principal at Powell's high school, which made the son "toe the line." Falling in with fellow seekers, fans of poetry, peyote, and other forms of intelligence-inducing agents, it wasn't long before St. John was playing harmonica and singing with Lannie Wiggins and Janis Joplin as the Waller Creek Boys. The early folk scene was being born at the Student Union's weekly hoot nights, then moved to Kenneth Threadgill's gas station/beer joint on North Lamar for even rowdier runs at musical fun.

"We all wanted to play folk music," says St. John, "and we became this small collection of like-minded souls who got together whenever we could. No one really thought beyond the evening's entertainment, but at that age we all felt anything could happen. Sometimes it did."

A few of those same souls began living in a string of small apartments on Nueces dubbed the Ghetto, giving birth to a bohemian stronghold that morphed into Austin's first hippie enclave. For St. John, it was a chance to pull out his pen and start writing songs. "I'd always been fascinated by songwriting, and felt it was something I could do," he says. "After playing folk music awhile, some of us gravitated to rock & roll. It was a natural progression, plus a whole lot of fun. In a rock band, I could play my kazoo on 'Land of a Thousand Dances,' and it'd be *really* loud."

By then, St. John the Conqueroo had formed, with Ed Guinn, Bob Brown, and a few others. "I'd played some gigs with the Chelsea too by then," he recalls. "But from what I could tell of music, I couldn't see a career doing music in Austin. This was before anyone had recorded any of my songs. I did have a mind that I could go to the West Coast and get serious, possibly. It was set up for me. People I knew were already there, and I had a place to stay. Chet Helms was running the Avalon Ballroom, and I felt there'd be room to maybe make it work.

"So I did something I'd always wanted to do, which was travel around Mexico for three months, and then made my way to San Francisco."

It was while in Mexico that St. John wrote "Slide Machine," where "the gods of gold are heard but seldom seen," which would turn up on the Elevators' second album, *Easter Everywhere*, in 1967. He remembers arriving in San Francisco on Dec. 16, 1966, a month before the Human Be-In and the rest of the upcoming craziness surrounding the Summer of Love. He was ready to roll.

"I'm somewhat cautious," he explains now, "but in those days it was close enough to my last acid trip, and I was living in the flow of letting the cosmos take care of things. I believe if I had a goal in mind, I would somehow achieve it, but with no specifics on how I would do that. I do remember getting a little concerned about food at first. I would go down to Haight Street and collect cans and bottles. This is before it was a trade. I'd get enough to buy a Mounds bar for lunch, and then the people I was staying with would help out with dinner."

His Austin friend Travis Rivers was already in the Bay area, running the alternative newspaper *Oracle* and looking to help St. John start making music. In the Sixties, before the entertainment business became formalized, sometimes all it took was a hope and some like-minded heads to get in the thick of the action.

"Travis had met some musicians from Chicago, and one of them was keyboard player Ira Kamin," St. John recounts. "I got together with him, and he knew this singer from Madison, Wisconsin: Tracy Nelson. Travis also knew the guys from the Sir Douglas Quintet, who he'd heard wanted to make a change.

"So right away we had a complete rhythm section with drummer George Rains, bassist Jance Garfat, and also pianist Wayne Talbert for a while. Wayne had some problems that didn't

continued on p.68

HEAR TEXAS HERE!

NOW ON OUR LISTENING STATIONS: GREAT NEW MUSIC FROM THE LONE STAR STATE



Smilin' Castle

DEL CASTILLO
Brotherhood
"Whether Del Castillo works in Spanish or English, it rocks righteously. They pull together Latin music's romance and rock's grit."
- Philip Van Vleck, *Billboard*
$13.99 CD



Glad Music Co.

COMBO MAHALO
Flight of the Blue Manu
Glad Music proudly presents Austin's amorous ambassadors of aloha, Combo Mahalo. An outstanding blend of island, jazz, and swing, these guys play with quality and passion.
$11.99 CD



Fallen Woman

IDGY VAUGHN
Origin Story
"*Origin Story* just might be the local debut album of the year."
- Margaret Moser, *Austin Chronicle*
$12.99 CD



Ska in the World

ROKKATONE
In This Life
Original ska, blues, and more by Jonny Meyers (the Stingers) performed Jamaican street band style: melodica, steel drum, upright bass, percussion, harmony vocals.
$10.99 CD



Skinny Man

JIM STRICKLAN
Country Man
Country Man is a definitive collection for pure country music lovers. From shuffle to swing, 2-step to waltz, *Country Man* will twirl you around the dance floor!
$9.99 CD



Pearl Snap

GARY KYLE
Livin
Gary's debut CD *Livin'*, produced by Johnny Marshall (Pat Green, Cory Morrow, Robert Earl Keen) is a collection of feel good, make you wanna cry, make you wanna dance, down home Texas country as eclectic and rich in character as the Lonestar state itself.
$10.99 CD



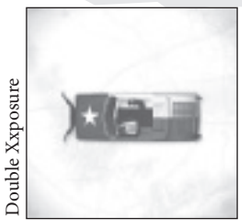
Aunty E & Friends

AUNTY E & FRIENDS
A Whole Lot of Fun
This four-song collection of original music composed by Chas Vergauwen and Erin Duvall, both Austin residents, appeals to parents looking to provide their young children with quality audio entertainment.
$4.99 CD



Ramble Lane

LEMURS
Lemurs
Drawing on influences as disparate as the Cure, the Clash, the Pixies, Pink Floyd, and Television, Lemurs create up-tempo rock songs that include keyboards and samples without ignoring the raw power of guitars, drums, and bass.
$8.99 CD



Double Xxposure

DOUG MORELAND
Doug Moreland
Give one good listen to *Doug Moreland* – the new breakout disc from the Texas-based singer, songwriter, and fiddler – and you'll here a dazzling variety of musical styles, from acoustic-flavored ballads to full-tilt western swing.
$13.99 CD



Strings Attached Music

WILL TAYLOR
& STRINGS ATTACHED
Best of the Beatles White Album... Live!
Will Taylor and Strings Attached present personal renditions from the 1968 Beatles' *White Album*. Artists featured include Carolyn Wonderland, Gary Clark Jr., Joe Ely and many others.
$10.99 CD



New West

IV THIEVES
If We Can't Escape My Pretty
This new platter zooms toward the future in an explosion of rabble-rousing performances, outrageously versatile vocalizing and bullet-proof songwriting.
$12.99 CD



Columbia

DIXIE CHICKS
Taking the Long Way
"*Taking the Long Way*... embraces the depth and fury of classic rock while remaining true to the trio's Texas roots." - ★★★★ Rolling Stone
$13.99 CD



Varese Sarabande

THE DERAILERS
Retrospective: Just One More Time
Bakersfield country, British Invasion, and power pop meet in the middle of Austin, TX, home of the Derailers.
$11.99 CD



Varese Sarabande

DON WALSER &
THE PURE TEXAS BAND
Texas Legend
Don Walser is a Country music legend and has been dubbed by Playboy Magazine, the "Pavarotti of the Plains."
$11.99 CD



Random Records

A U X
A U X
The Austin-based quartet debuts with an eclectic assortment of upbeat and fiercely melodic, guitar-driven indie/pop/rock songs.
$7.99 CD



Kirtland

BURDEN BROTHERS
Mercy
"Think early Soundgarden, think '70s arena rock. Think rock and f@#king roll." - *Dallas Observer*
$10.99 CD



Uncle Lucius

UNCLE LUCIUS
Something They Ain't
Independently released debut album from this Austin-based foursome that is turning heads with their unique blend of rock, country, and soul.
$8.99 CD



Sugar Hill

RECKLESS KELLY
Was Here
"Exciting tunes, daring lyrics, and crunchy riffs you can't wait to hear live." -*No Depression*
$17.99 2 CD + DVD set



Sustain

JASON BOLAND
& THE STRAGGLERS
Bourbon Legend
Jason Boland and the Stragglers have made a record that restores the manhood of country music.
$12.99 CD



Carnival

ELI YOUNG BAND
Live at the Jolly Fox
With roots firmly planted in the fertile musical soil of Texas, the Eli Young Band is a little bit country and a helluva lot of guitar-driven rock & roll.
$10.99 CD

SALE ENDS 1-24-2007

WATERLOO

Compact Discs
Records • Video

10-11 Mon- Sat 11-11 Sun
600-A North Lamar Austin, TX 78703
www.waterloorecords.com
(512)474.2500

WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

HOLIDAY SHOPPERS!

WATERLOO RECORDS & VIDEO
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE IN STORE OR
ONLINE AT WATERLOORECORDS.COM

WATERLOO ACCEPTS CHAIN COMPETITORS' GIFT CERTIFICATES AND GIFT CARDS*!

* card's value must be able to be verified by Waterloo via phone or internet.

really fit with being in a band, so he was replaced by Mark Naftalin from the Butterfield Blues Band. We called it Mother Earth, after the Memphis Slim song that Tracy sang."

New bassist Bob Arthur and guitarist John "Toad" Andrews, who had both played with St. John in Austin band the Chelsea, soon completed the lineup. Like most Bay area bands at the time, Mother Earth found a recording contract fairly fast. Not even there a year, St. John had a band and record deal in San Francisco. The cosmos was definitely smiling on the singer.

The striking thing about Mother Earth was that, somewhat like Certs, they were really two bands in one. Powell St. John's songs, a rootsy blend of country, blues, and folk laced with large amounts of psychedelic underpinnings, were always favorites. Whether a big band arrangement of "Kingdom of Heaven," the captivating "Marvel Group," or even the debut album's title track, "Living With the Animals," each song could be counted on for ingenious lyrics and equally amazing musical structures. Nelson took a different tact, with soul-stirring versions of classic American blues and Crescent City favorites, along with originals like the wrenching "Down So Low." It was a thrill even for her to hear two such distinctive styles coming from the same bandstand.

"In the midst of the budding psychedelic sound, Powell's music was completely original and brilliant," says Tracy Nelson.

"In the midst of the budding psychedelic sound, Powell's music was completely original and brilliant," says Nelson. "He gave us validation as something more than a derivative R&B band, and he inspired me to stretch out beyond my desire to be Irma Thomas. I think he was the most significant and profound artist around, and by the very nature of that, the least appreciated of the era."

Rest assured, those are no small words for someone not prone to praise.

Mother Earth played a lot of hometown benefits and free shows in Golden Gate Park in the beginning, but once their debut album appeared, the whole country beckoned. Their label, Mercury Records, released "Down So Low" as the first single, and it garnered airplay immediately. The problem, according to Mercury, was that most of the stations playing it were African-American, not exactly what the company had in mind for their prestigious San Francisco rock signing. So the label's press department hurriedly sent out a photo of Tracy Nelson to radio outlets, which stopped airplay cold in its tracks. Naturally that was the last significant chart success the band would have.

St. John, Nelson, and the group built a solid live following on the East Coast, particularly with college crowds, but even then, the band's singer-songwriter was already looking for the exit sign. Like airline workers on the Tarmac, he'd taken to wearing 100-decibel sound-suppression earphones onstage to protect his hearing, and after the band relocated to Nashville for the studios and musicians there, not to mention a relatively inexpensive lifestyle, St. John knew he was Berkeley bound.

"I'd left Texas to go West," he laughs, "not East. Plus I was tired of the business. I didn't want to have that experience the rest of my life."

He stayed in Music City long enough to record Mother Earth's second album, *Make a Joyful Noise*, with his classics "I, the Fly" and "I'll Be Moving On," but he was long gone before the band set off to promote their new release on the road.

Back in the Bay area, he played with some Texas friends, including Tary Owens, Minor Wilson, and ex-Conqueroo Bob Brown in the infamous Angel Band. They appeared at a club in North Beach one night, when a few certified Hells Angels came in, listened to several songs, then told the musicians they needed to find a new name. Right away. Not wanting to risk life or limb, the Angel Band became the Leaping Lizards, immediately. St. John, realizing the vagaries of making a living playing music, became a jewelry maker in the early Seventies, changing careers the next decade to work in computer maintenance. This being music, and Powell St. John being a man of intrigue, the story didn't end there.

JIM MARSHALL



Make a Joyful Noise (l-r): John "Toad" Andrews, George Rains, Tracy Nelson, Bob Arthur, Mark Naftalin, and Powell St. John

In the past few years, fans of Roky Erickson, the 13th Floor Elevators, and all those associated with the Austin phenomenon credited with creating psychedelic music have grown exponentially and made themselves known. That includes musician Fred Mitchim and financier George Gershen, who approached St. John about recording a new album two years ago, an offer the singer didn't have to think twice about. During SXSW 05, when St. John was inducted into the Texas Music Hall of Fame, he found himself in an Austin recording studio surrounded by some of the best players in the city, finally making his debut solo disc.

Together, they recorded *Right Track Now*, an exciting mix of most of St. John's early songs – first recorded by the 13th Floor Elevators, Janis Joplin, and Boz Scaggs – along with newer selections proving beyond any doubt that the man who started his career credited wrongly as John St. Powell has found a firm footing in the future. There's even a short second disc that includes three songs with former Elevators John Ike Walton and second bassist Ronnie Leatherman. Early next year, St. John heads back to the studio for round two, this time for the Tompkins Square label based in New York and featuring collaborations with several young players inspired by his music and a strength that's never been shaken.

Almost 40 years to the day I first heard the 13th Floor Elevators and the songs of Powell St. John, I stand outside the house at 1921 Oregon St. in Berkeley where Mother Earth once lived and were photographed for the cover of *Living With the Animals*. It's like going back to your elementary school, where things that once seemed so large now appear much smaller. That 1968 album cover made it seem like the whole world was waiting for the musician on that porch, St. John posed regally at far left, sitting on the stair's railing in a white dress shirt and natty vest, looking proudly into the camera. Today, the street is quiet, the house's facade tastefully redone with redwood shakes. It takes a few moments to pick out where each other person was in that original photo – Rains sitting in back, Andrews on the porch's top post, Nelson and Arthur together on the stairs, and Naftalin on a chair in the front yard to the right.

Gradually the image comes back, burned in my mind all this time, until I realize what makes that photo so indelible to me. It was the first time I'd seen Powell St. John and was finally able to put a face with the man who wrote "Kingdom of Heaven," the song in the top slot on my psychic radio, always reminding me just what music is really here for.

In so many ways, that 1965 night in Houston at La Maison listening to the 13th Floor Elevators for the very first time set me on my lifelong course. More importantly, that song has helped me find that course again and again, all the times I've gotten lost. For that, the message still feels brand new, and the kingdom of heaven really is within you. ■

**© Mainspring Watchworks Music*

POWELL ST. JOHN

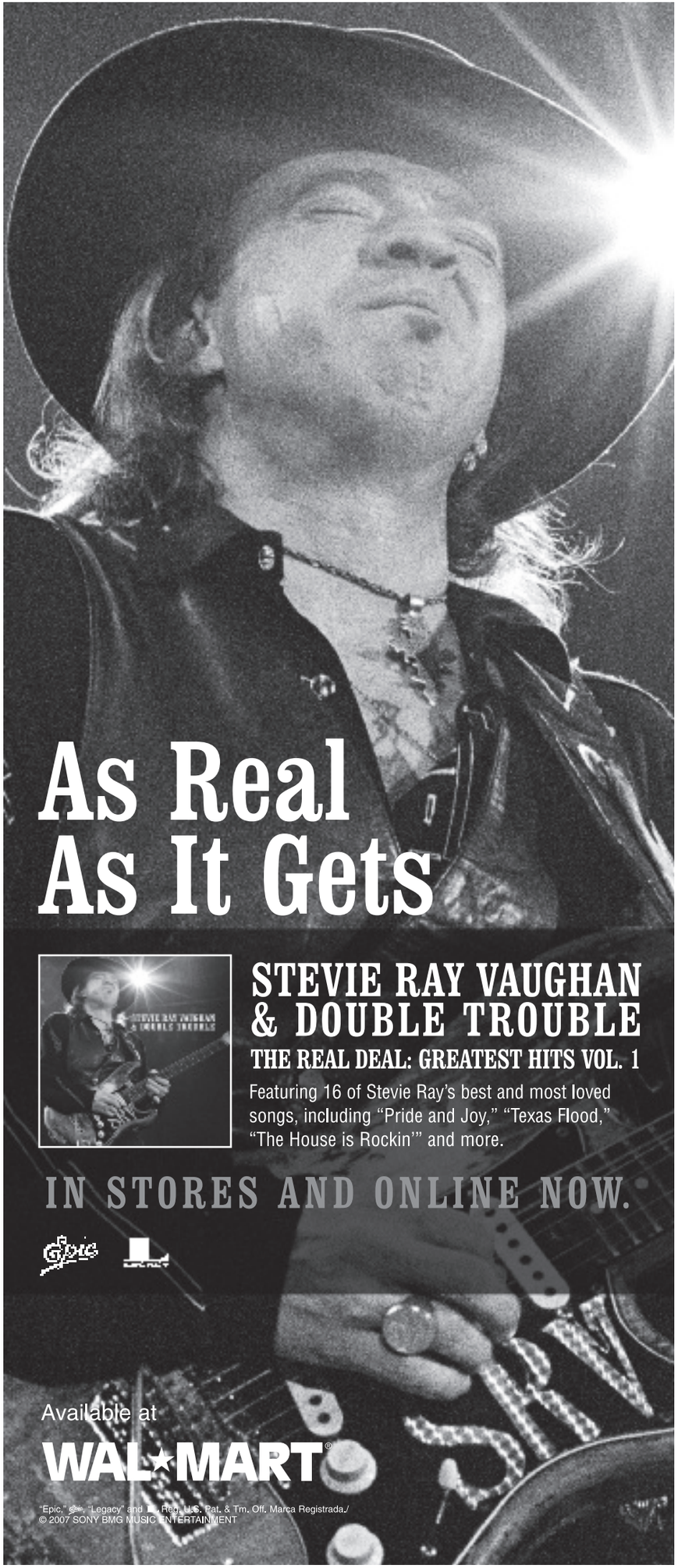
***Right Track Now* (Dream Tracks)**



The remarkable nature of *Right Track Now* isn't quite evident until the second disc, when chiming guitar meets the trippy burble of an electric jug on "You Don't Know." For the uninitiated, the 13th Floor Elevators debuted "You Don't Know (How Young You Are)," written by Powell St. John, on their 1966 debut, *The Psychedelic Sounds of....* Roky Erickson and company recorded other PSJ songs ("Monkey Island," "Slide Machine," "Kingdom of Heaven"), as did Janis Joplin ("Bye, Bye Baby"), Boz Scaggs ("I Will Forever Sing the Blues"), and his own band Mother Earth ("Living With the Animals," "Marvel Group," "I, the Fly"). Forty years on, here comes St. John with all those songs plus a few new ones. At two discs, *Right Track Now* is a mixed bag of first-wave psychedelia, Sixties-style blues-rock ("I Will Forever Sing the Blues," "Living With the Animals"), tender Mexican ballads ("Hermanita," "Abandonado"), the kind of proto-folk that often passes for roots rock ("City Hall," "Right Track Now"), and charming whimsy ("Marvel Group," "I, the Fly"). Like many songwriters, St. John's vocals are limited but expressive enough to carry the 17 tracks distinctively. This is especially true on the title tune, a duet with Erickson, with fine-touch production from Elevators tribute king Fred Mitchim. Powell St. John was there at the creation of all things psychedelic, and *Right Track Now* ensures he won't be just a footnote.

★★½

– *Margaret Moser*





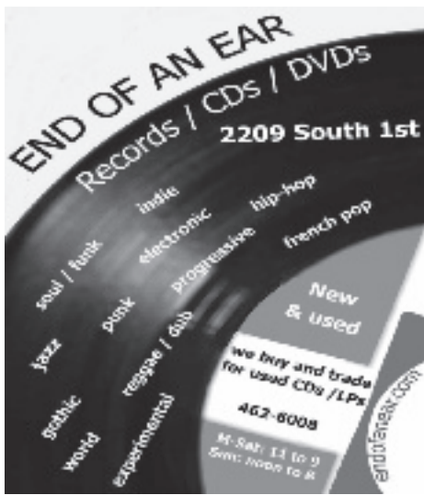
If music is your life, let us help you live it.

IF YOU ARE A MUSICIAN OR A FAMILY MEMBER OF A HARD-WORKING MUSICIAN IN AUSTIN, YOU ARE PROBABLY ELIGIBLE FOR SIMS'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

CONTACT SIMS:
512.494.1007

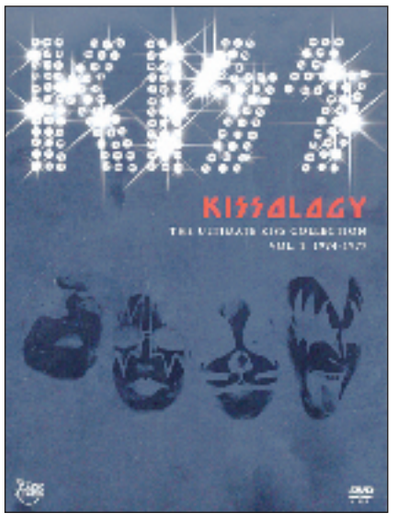
SIMS

HELPING AUSTIN MUSICIANS STAY IN TUNE
WWW.SIMSFOUNDATION.ORG









KISS

Kissology: The Ultimate Kiss Collection Vol. 1, 1974-1977 **(VH1 Classic)**

Commentary on more than five hours of mostly live Kiss footage from the New York metal quartet's beginnings well into its peak comes courtesy of the franchise's controlling partners, Gene Simmons and Paul Stanley, the two founders and band members that didn't drink or do drugs. Ace Frehley and Peter Criss, meanwhile – the raw talents – crashed and burned on the cusp of *Lick It Up* frenching a new generation of Kiss Army brats on MTV. A decade earlier, Long Beach 1974, San Francisco's Winterland '75, and "Detroit Rock City" 1976, Brooklyn's former George Peter Criscoula drums "his heart out," according to Simmons, yowling early set staples "Nothin' to Lose" and future Replacements' battle-axe "Black Diamond." Frehley, meanwhile, Spaceman Ace, still winner of the Kiss solo-album sweepstakes, smokes out his Les Paul – literally – as the band's most musically adept member. Anthrax fatality "Parasite," his. "Cold Gin," too. Simmons' winged bat pig sings, barfs blood, and catches fire on "Firehouse," up front in 6-inch heels with Stanley's Frank N. Furter. Factory Records' Tony Wilson, Paul Lynde with Margaret Hamilton, and Totie Fields outting Simmons ("Wouldn't it be funny if under [the make-up] was a nice Jewish boy?") break up the song overlap of four mostly complete sets on two discs and a Madison Square Garden excerpt on a bonus DVD. By the time Criss croons "Beth" at Budokan in '77, and Barnum & Bailey arrives at Houston's Summit the same year on the Love Gun Tour, his Keith Moon jumper betrays the fact that these NY dolls had already quenched their ambition.

★★★★ – *Raoul Hernandez*

WU-TANG CLAN



Legend of the Wu-Tang Clan: The Videos **(Loud)**

Hasn't it seemed lately like heads have been forgetting just how utterly overwhelmed we once were by the rise of the Wu-Tang Clan? When the "Method Man" video emerged in '93, rap fans took notice of its smoky grime in mass. Fashioning themselves as Shaolin swordsmen, the Wu established a logical connection between Seventies martial-arts movies and rugged project life by way of cinema outtakes and videos for "Da Mystery of Chessboxin'" and "Wu-Tang Clan Ain't Nuthing ta F' Wit." Spanning four group albums, this 91-minute disc offers 16 classic Wu videos and a brief promotional documentary from '94.

★★★ – *Robert Gabriel*

U2



U218: Videos **(Interscope)**

U2's videos match their ambition: causing a mob scene in downtown L.A. ("Where the Streets Have No Name"), knocking about Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport ("Beautiful Day"), rocking the Louisiana Superdome with Green Day (Skids cover "The Saints Are Coming"). Released separately, *Videos* exceeds *U218*'s audio analogue thanks to two extra versions of "One" and "Vertigo," and both U.S. and overseas clips for "Walk On" and "Stuck in a Moment You Can't Get Out Of." (Watch for the Texas flag!) For extra holiday cheer, do a shot every time Bono extends his arms in the Jesus Christ pose. You'll be wasted by "Mysterious Ways."

★★★★ – *Christopher Gray*

ELVIS: THE ED SULLIVAN SHOWS



(Image Entertainment)

Elvis Presley's 1956-1957 appearances on *The Ed Sullivan Show* make you feel awfully sorry for the ventriloquist that followed him. Seeing E get dropped like an atom bomb into the larger context of Sullivan's something-for-everyone variety hour makes the resulting cultural sea change all the more resonant. Footage from this 3-DVD set (i.e., the "above-the-waist" version of "Don't Be Cruel") has been anthologized extensively, but superb kinescope restoration makes it look better than ever. Sullivan was in the hospital recovering from a car wreck the night Presley debuted, so honors fell to droll English thespian Charles Laughton.

★★★ – *Greg Beets*

TUPAC



The Complete Live Performances **(Death Row)**

Known as both an exceptional studio rapper and actor, Tupac, it stands to reason, also thrived as live performer. Nope. It's possible that the young, brash lyricist faltered in live settings as a mere victim of hip-hop circumstance. Too many otherwise proficient MCs tend to scream into their microphone when faced with a large, eager crowd. Too many hype-men can't stop thinking that if their ace needs to scream, they all better scream into their 18 microphones as well. So don't blame Tupac for the indifference that this cacophonous two-disc concert package is bound to elicit. ★★ – *Robert Gabriel*

LEONARD COHEN

I'm Your Man **(Lions Gate)**

Lian Lunson's *I'm Your Man* would be a fascinating documentary of Leonard Cohen had she included more Leonard Cohen. Lunson alternates between hypnotic interviews with a Zen Leonard and clips from a lackluster 2005 tribute concert, time better spent conversing with the poet himself. A closing duet with U2, "Tower of Song," is stiff and painful as Bono sings a verse in tinted sunglasses. What's in the bonus features? Another short interview with Cohen that was cut while the U2 karaoke hour wasn't. Where's the justice?



★★ – *Audra Schroeder*

BOB DYLAN: THE UNAUTHORIZED DOCUMENTARIES



(MVD Visual)

The producer/director of these three rough studies – *1966 World Tour: The Home Movies*, *World Tours 1966-1974: Through the Camera of Barry Feinstein*, and *1975-1981: Rolling Thunder and the Gospel Years*, itself "totally" unauthorized – is a Bob Dylan impersonator. Joel Gilbert, frontman for L.A. tribute band Highway 61 Revisited, shouldn't quit his day job (whatever it might be), but he should be thanked by Bobsessives for getting drummer Mickey Jones to share his memories and home reels from Hawaii, Australia, and Europe as he filled in for Levon Helm in '66; for convincing foundational rock photographer Feinstein to grant a frank interview and then access to his proof books of breathtaking black-and-whites; and for enlisting the likes of Ruben "Hurricane" Carter, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Scarlet Rivera, Rob Stoner, and Regina McCrary to tell stories we haven't heard anywhere else. Oh, yeah, and for getting A.J. Weberman to apologize. This stuff isn't Scorsese; it's what Dylanologists – Weberman at worst but also those slightly less lunatic – wanted to see instead. ★★½ – *Shawn Badgley*

WAYLON JENNINGS



Nashville Rebel **(Legacy)**

Waylon Jennings merits all the recognition Music Row cares to bestow, but clocking in at a mere hour, padded by a pair of archival commercials for RCA, *Nashville Rebel*, coinciding with the 4-CD box of the same name, doesn't cut it. Sure, it rolls out hits: a 1970 performance of "Only Daddy That'll Walk the Line" on Johnny Cash's show and a solo rendition of "Waymore's Blues" with Jessi Colter sitting nearby from 1974. Those four short years aged Jennings, but neither his voice nor his charisma ever falters. Waymore deserves way more. ★★ – *Dan Oko*

BLOODIED BUT UNBOWED: BLOODSHOT RECORDS' LIFE IN THE TRENCHES



(Bloodshot)

Compressing more than 12 years into 3½ hours, this rollicking chronicle of Bloodshot Records, the Chicago indie that gave the world "insurgent country," focuses more on the music than any storyline. Through videos and live performances, it follows the label's irreverent, often drunken sensibilities while giving a major nod to Austin through Alejandro Escovedo, Scott H. Biram, Wayne Hancock, and the Meat Purveyors, as well as the imprint's infamous annual SXSW shindig at Yard Dog Gallery. Ryan Adams devotees will thrill that he's here. I just want to thank them for giving the world Robbie Fulks. ★★★ – *Jim Caligiuri*

16 HORSEPOWER



Live **(Alternative Tentacles)**

The word eulogy is synonymous with 16 Horsepower's sound. So it's fitting that this 2-DVD set eulogizes the gothic Denver grindhouse the only proper way: live. Disc one features Brussels, 2002, but it's the second disc that reveals concerts from a younger, hungrier band, including a 1996 German performance, as well as 16HP's final show in 2004. Beforehand, bewitching frontman David Eugene Edwards silently paces backstage like a manic preacher. Onstage, his eyes flutter and lips twist with rapturous bliss as a celestial voice invites "Harm's Way." Why wasn't he offered a role on *Deadwood*? ★★★ – *Audra Schroeder*

NEKO CASE



Live From Austin TX **(New West)**

As enthralling as Neko Case is on album, the alt. country diva's live shows can be occasionally listless. This 2003 *Austin City Limits* performance poses no such problems, though at 42 minutes, it's much too brief. With modest backing by Jon Rauhouse on pedal steel, guitar, and banjo; Tom Ray on bass; and Kelly Hogan on vocals, Case's voice soars on covers from Dylan, Hank Williams, and Catherine Irwin of Freakwater. Her own "Wayfaring Stranger" and "Deep Red Bells" come off both intriguing and florid. ★★★½ – *Jim Caligiuri*

JEFF TWEEDY



Sunken Treasure: Live in the Pacific Northwest **(Nonesuch)**

Jeff Tweedy isn't afraid of you and will beat your ass. Not really, but he would prefer folks not talk while he's trying to sing. This radical idea is a recurring theme of *Sunken Treasure*, a travelogue of last February's Seattle-to-San Francisco solo trek. In Portland, Ore., the Wilco leader busts out a "shut the fuck up," then apologizes for the hoarseness brought on by his hilarious soliloquy a day later in Eugene. When Tweedy does sing, both Wilco standards ("Shot in the Arm") and unreleased nuggets ("The Thanks I Get," "Black Eye") glow with the same inner light the amber-filtered camera lends his impish face.

★★★½ – *Christopher Gray*

BOBBY DARIN



Seeing Is Believing **(Hyena)**

Shortly before his death in 1973 at age 37, Bobby Darin starred in an NBC variety show while Dean Martin's program went on summer hiatus. Most of the 20 songs on *Seeing Is Believing* are culled from this show, though the packag-

continued on p.72

THE SOUNDS OF THE HOLIDAYS!
ON SALE NOW AT WATERLOO



Super Ego

AIMEE MANN
One More Drifter
in the Snow
$12.99 CD



Immergent

soundtrack
BAH HUMDUCK!
A Looney Tunes Christmas
$13.99 CD



RCA

ELVIS PRESLEY
Elvis Christmas
$13.99 CD



Shout! Factory

BOOTSY COLLINS
Christmas Is 4 Ever
$13.99 CD



Shout! Factory

MARSHALL TUCKER BAND
Carolina Christmas
$13.99 CD



Shout! Factory

HERB ALPERT &
TIJUANA BRASS
Christmas With...
$9.99 CD



Razor & Tie

TWISTED SISTER
Twisted Christmas
$13.99 CD



Razor & Tie

THE VENTURES
Christmas Album
$10.99 CD



Razor & Tie

KATE AND ANNA McGARRIGLE
The McGarrigle Christmas Hour
$13.99 CD



Lava

TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA
Christmas Attic
$12.99 DVD



Warner Latina

LUIS MIGUEL
Navidades Luis Miguel
$13.99 CD



Time/Life

various artists
CLASSIC SOUL
BALLADS CHRISTMAS
$13.99 CD

SALE ENDS 1-3-2006

WATERLOO

Compact Discs
Records • Video

10-11 Mon- Sat 11-11 Sun
600-A North Lamar Austin, TX 78703
www.waterloorecords.com
(512)474.2500

WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS



Time/Life

various artists
TREASURY OF
CHRISTMAS GREAT
HOLIDAY DUETS
$9.99 CD

ing is too flimsy to offer particulars. Despite the overly genteel format of Seventies variety shows, Darin and his crack band turn out swinging renditions of Jackie Wilson's "Higher and Higher" and Muddy Waters' "Got My Mojo Working." Balancing that out are less-than-inspired arrangements of Bread's "If" and Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline." ★★ – *Greg Beets*

THE GO-BETWEENS



That Striped Sunlight Sound **(Yep Roc)**

"The future's so bright I'm not gonna wear shades," smiles Grant McLennan gently at the conclusion of "The Acoustic Stories" half of this two-disc set. Three months after its February release, the 48-year-old Australian died from a heart attack in his sleep, at home in Brisbane. Seventy-five minutes of McLennan and Robert Forster retracing 20 years of *That Striped Sunlight Sound* from Down Under to Over There and back again, with two acoustic guitars and stops in Bavaria and Portland, Ore., overshadow a complete concert from the night before and its full audio complement on CD. Light another candle for McLennan's suede songcraft. ★★★ – *Raoul Hernandez*

THE CARS



Unlocked **(Docurama)**

If you can handle elementary camerawork and shockingly hideous haircuts, it's worth remembering that the Cars were the first band to apply the lessons of New Wave and European art-pop – brevity, copious synthesizers – to mass-market rock. Spanning 1978-1987, Cape Cod dive bars to sports arenas (including Houston's Summit), the Boston quintet's 15 performances can be distractingly dated, down to Ric Ocasek's piano tie. Still, deeper cuts like "Gimme Some Slack" demonstrate real teeth, the pricklier side of a band far too many know only from that stupid "Just What I Needed" Circuit City commercial. ★★★ – *Christopher Gray*

PIXIES



Live at the Paradise in Boston **(Eagle Vision)**

Imagine 90 minutes of indie rock perfection, from "La La Love You" to "Caribou," with only 200 of your closest friends. The Pixies stole 2004 with a successful reunion tour, and after the summer festivals, they returned home to Boston's Paradise. The results are intimate and playful, and with 12 bonus songs recorded on Halloween 1986 at T.T. the Bear's in Boston (VHS-quality but still very cool), *Live at the Paradise* is, as the jacket says, "the gig you always dreamt you'd be at." ★★★★ – *Darcie Stevens*

FUN FROM NONE: LIVE AT THE NO FUN FEST 2004 & 2005



(Load)

If you like incomprehensible, confrontational noise, you probably know about the No Fun Fest, a yearly NYC event organized by noise mastermind Carlos Giffioni. This 2-DVD set, bravely filmed by Chris Habib, piles on the weird, yet the druggy strobe effect he employs obscures many of the more energetic performances (To Live and Shave in L.A., Alan Licht's 1970, Magik Markers). As usual with noise shows, a few performances go on way too long, but truly fun car-wreck moments (Wolf Eyes, Prurient, Monotract, Macronympha) ensure a decapitating, through-the-windshield experience. ★★★ – *Audra Schroeder*

THE PASSING SHOW: THE LIFE & MUSIC OF RONNIE LANE



(Eagle Vision)

Whether he was playing for 120,000 or 12, Ronnie Lane remained a musician's musician whose influence far outstripped his wealth. He walked away from the Faces in 1973 as Rod Stewart's impending superstardom broke the band in America, instead sinking his money into a ramshackle, money-hemorrhaging caravan of musicians and circus acts that toured the British countryside as the Passing Show. It's an appropriate moniker for this endearing documentary about Lane's all-too-brief ride on the planet. Beginning with his working-class upbringing in London's East End, *The Passing Show* unspools Lane's narrative through archival footage and interviews with fellow travelers like Pete Townshend and Eric Clapton. The Small Faces and Faces are given their due, but producer/directors Rupert Williams and James Mackie give special weight to the earthy, full-bodied folk songs from Lane's post-Face years as chronicled by the revelatory new compilation, *Just for a Moment*. Lane's Austin years are preserved through friends like KGSR's Jody Denberg and Joe Ely, but seeing him sing "Ooh La La" at the Big Mamou is the most poignant reminder of his time here. After moving to Colorado, Lane succumbed to multiple sclerosis in 1997. Even if you come to *The Passing Show* knowing nothing about Lane, you'll miss him by the time the credits roll.
★★★★ – *Greg Beets*

HALF-COCKED



(Rumur)

"We started playing these shows so we could make money, so we could eat." Suki Hawley and Michael Galinsky's fictional story of life on the road in 1994 isn't much of a stretch. Soaked in the era's rock, *Half-Cocked* tracks Truckstop, a nonband acted by nonactor musicians Tara Jane O'Neil, Jason Noble, and Jeff Mueller of Rodan; Jon Cook; and Cynthia Nelson. Half *Reality Bites*, half *Slacker,* and packaged with Hawley and Galinsky's 1997 Spanish feature *Radiation* – another unique look at the music industry – both films are soundtracked with Unwound, Crain, the Grifters, Smog, Come, Codeine, and more. ★★★ – *Darcie Stevens*

BEFORE THE MUSIC DIES



Bless *Before the Music Dies*' little heart. What true music lover hasn't despaired that Ashlee Simpson outsells Shelby Lynne 10-to-1, or when the same Fergie song comes on their local Clear Channel station thrice in 90 minutes? Anyone with a broadband connection and an iPod, that's who. *B4MD*'s overall logic never quite clicks, like positing Doyle Bramhall II as a music-biz casualty without mentioning he's Eric Clapton's and Roger Waters' touring lead guitarist. The 90-minute doc is redeemed somewhat by Austinites Guy Forsyth and Blaze jamming and fruit loop Erykah Badu's advice to wannabe starlets: "Do that ho shit." ★★ – *Christopher Gray*

MOBB DEEP



Life of the Infamous: The Videos **(Loud)**

Representing Queensbridge to the fullest, Mobb Deep chronicles its journey from Juvenile Hell to G-Unit affiliation with this relatively uniform collection of 16 videos. Between recurring themes and the obvious peaks of "Shook Ones Pt. II," "Quiet Storm," and "Got It Twisted," Havoc and Prodigy illustrate the full extent of their collective Napolean complex with a persistence that would exhaust even Pepe le Pew. There's something inherently bizarre about picturing self-styled hooligans cruising tropical isles on a luxury yacht, but the video for "It's Mine" certainly makes you proud of those little Mobb Deep dudes for earning the Hype Williams treatment like that. ★★★ – *Robert Gabriel*

METALLICA



The Videos: 1989-2004 **(Warner Bros.)**

Metallica's lyrical and visual adaptation of Dalton Trumbo's 1939 anti-war novel *Johnny Got His Gun* for "One" represents the pinnacle of all metal videos. The lurking shadows and stalking depths of its black-and-white footage became a standard motif for the Bay area wrecking act. Conveniently packaged here are all 21 of the group's videos, including *Load*'s "Mama Said." In retrospect, the *Paradise Lost* imagery of "Until It Sleeps" accurately represented the band's well-publicized fall from grace, though their artistic merits, at least visually, were never hindered. This one's a must for every member of the snake pit. ★★★ – *Austin Powell*

IRON MAIDEN



Death on the Road **(Sanctuary)**

2003's fantastical *Dance of Death* was built for the stage. With Bruce Dickinson cast as both Phantom of the Opera and the grim reaper, *Death on the Road*, filmed in Dortmund Westenfalenhalle, Germany, comes in two separate audio formats capturing a typical Maiden voyage through a blitzkrieg of angles and edits similar to the band's *Rock in Rio* DVD. The real killer here is a bonus disc, which features behind-the-scenes concert footage and a documentary on the tour's *Death* sponsor. Eddie lives! ★★★½ – *Austin Powell*

THE WHO



The Vegas Job: Reunion Concert Live in Vegas **(Passport Video)**

Oh, the irony! The Who pulls out all of the stops during "Won't Get Fooled Again" – Roger Daltrey's microphone lasso, Pete Townshend's windmill strum – while falling victim to the multimillion-dollar hoax that was Pixelon.com. It's a shame this October 1999 concert wasn't seen by "one billion" people as promised. It has to be one of the band's best post-Keith Moon live performances – strictly the hits – though the production lags in comparison to *Live at the Royal Albert Hall*. John Entwistle's "My Wife" and the dueling solos in "5:15" are surprising highlights. Take a bow for the new revolution. ★★★ – *Austin Powell*

CREAM



(Image)

Well after the Eagles but only two months prior to Pink Floyd, hell froze over again with the May 2005 reunification of Eric Clapton, Ginger Baker, and Jack Bruce. In its wake, 110 minutes of rock doc skimps on "Sunshine of Your Love" in favor of *Spinal Tap* narration and talking heads blowing wrong (Baker) and hard (Ahmet Ertegun, David Fricke). The guitarist likening the rhythm section to squabbling schoolgirls, his welling remembrance of the night Hendrix died, and admission of fainting at his first critical panning, plus studio footage, three vintage videos, and a live CD EP can't compensate. "Toad." ★★ – *Raoul Hernandez*

BLIND FAITH



London Hyde Park 1969 **(Sanctuary)**

When Eric Clapton, Ginger Baker, Rick Grech, and Stevie Winwood played their debut gig as Blind Faith before 100,000 people at London's Hyde Park in 1969, they proved their own toughest act to follow. *London Hyde Park* captures the short-lived supergroup's awe-inducing set with narrative and additional footage positing it in a cultural context. Despite Clapton's stature, the show belongs to the barely 21 Winwood, whose plaintive voice soars powerfully, even when slipping off-key and muffing the lyrics to "Well All Right." Extras include marvelous Spencer Davis Group, Traffic, and Cream videos plus stills, discography, and band genealogy. ★★★½ – *Margaret Moser*

WIDESPREAD PANIC



Earth to Atlanta **(Sanctuary)**

STRING CHEESE INCIDENT

Live From Austin TX **(New West)**

Upon the release of *Earth to America*, Widespread Panic simulcast a live performance at Atlanta's Fox

Theatre to movie theatres nationwide. This two-disc set of that show finds the Georgia juggernaut in grand form. Over the course of 26 songs, including sizzling versions of "Tall Boy," "Travelin' Man," "Pigeons," and "Second Skin," Panic, confidently and without drowning in excess, proves why they're one of America's top bands. The 2001 *Austin City Limits* performance by String Cheese Incident matches up nicely, reveling in the Colorado-based band's multitude of styles. From bluegrass to funk and extended jams, it's all presented effortlessly and with mile-wide smiles. With SCI's impending breakup in 2007, fans will cherish this adventurous souvenir. (Both) ★★★½ *– Jim Caligiuri*



RORY GALLAGHER

***Live at Montreux* (Eagle Eye)**



From the late Sixties until his death in 1995, Rory Gallagher inflamed blues-driven guitar rock with a passion worthy of his Irish heritage. *Live at Montreux* gathers the best of his five appearances at the venerable Swiss festival with a handful of bonus tracks, all expertly shot. Gallagher's this-one-goes-to-11 style is adored by enraptured audiences that eat up his inspiration, equal parts Lonnie Donegan and Muddy Waters, as he wanks the bejesus out of his battered Strat. It's for his fans, of course, but you have to really love Gallagher to sit through two discs' worth. ★★½ *– Margaret Moser*

MARAH

***Sooner or Later in Spain* (Yep Roc)**



Skeptical about Marah being one of the best live bands in the world? This DVD/CD set offers weighty proof. This two-hour performance recorded in late 2005 in Spain is a few notches above bootleg quality with bobbing audience heads obscuring the quintet and the sound less than crystalline. Still, Philly's finest frolic and roar though a career-spanning set that's relentlessly affable and heartfelt. One prime extra includes author Nick Hornby and a fab take of the Faces' "Debris." The CD, a superb selection of live tracks taken from shows and radio performances, makes this collection even more essential. ★★★★ *– Jim Caligiuri*

Friends of Sound Records

We Buy, Sell, and Trade Records

1704 South Congress
(located in the alley)

Mon: closed
Tue - Thurs: 11-8
Fri - Sat: 11-9
Sun: 12-8

(512) 447-1000

www.friendsofsound.com

mark your calendar.

bookmark ours.

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com

Tubes Turntables Transistors

...whatever you need for beautiful music in your living room

Tues.-Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-6
1102 W. Koenig 451-5736
www.audiosystems.com

AUDIO systems



CAMEL SNUS

©2006R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO.

Going where no Camel has gone before.



A new spitless and smokeless tobacco pleasure in a pouch.

Pleasure for wherever.

For more info, please call 1-877-SNUSCML (1-877-768-7265)* or visit snuscamel.com*

*CALLS AND WEBSITE RESTRICTED TO LEGAL AGE TOBACCO CONSUMERS.

WARNING: THIS PRODUCT IS NOT A SAFE ALTERNATIVE TO CIGARETTES



LOREENA MCKENNITT

***An Ancient Muse* (Verve)**

Loreena McKennitt remains the queen of Celto-spiritual music, a classically trained Canadian whose sweeping catalog dates back to the 1985 release of *Elemental*. Her last studio release, 1997's *The Book of Secrets*, was a crossover triumph, the tour de force that finally disseminated her panglobal musical vision via "The Mummers' Dance," a hit even in dance clubs. McKennitt's seventh full-length, *An Ancient Muse*, mists up beautifully, lush and expertly produced, shimmering with all the hallmarks of her transcendence while missing a killer track like "The Mummers' Dance" or "All Souls Night." Moreover, the album's seamlessness makes it more like New Age wallpaper than the gorgeous musical ice carvings we've come to expect from McKennitt. Present are incantations, exotic aurals, and instrumentations that hearken less to romanticized Celtic songs ("The English Ladye and the Knight") than their Celtic ancestry in the far reaches of Jordan ("Sacred Shabbat"), China ("Kecharitomene"), Turkey ("Caravanserai," "The Gates of Istanbul"), and Greece ("Penelope's Song"). Make no mistake, the lady has not put out a bad disc. Rather, its exquisite introspection and otherworldliness are an acute reminder that Loreena McKennitt follows a spiritual quest, and we're merely an audience in awe.

★★★ – *Margaret Moser*

BEATBOX









Consider **Jay-Z**'s much-ballyhooed comeback a hot mess. Most of its beats are either too plastic flash ("Oh My God," "Show Me What You Got," and "Hollywood"), or downright listless ("Lost One," "Minority Report," and "Beach Chair"). Jigga's failure to captivate as an MC results in his sounding more like a whiny old man than the brash juggernaut we've come to know through classic discs, including 1996 debut *Reasonable Doubt* and 2001's *The Blueprint*. The few redeeming moments on *Kingdom Come* (Roc-a-Fella) come courtesy of B-Money's slithering bassline on "The Prelude," Just Blaze's drastic chopping of Rick James' "Super Freak" for the title track, and a favorable pairing between Jay and Dr. Dre on "Trouble." While **Snoop Dogg**'s *The Blue Carpet Treatment* (Doggy Style/Geffen) ultimately scatters itself as yet another mixed bag of industry cameos, there are at least three impeccable songs. There's the breezy Cali soul of "Think About It," the resurrected Crenshaw Boulevard g-funk of "Crazy," and the twisted, X-rated marathon of "A Bitch I Knew," each proving Snoop as a legend with still-fresh tricks up his sleeve. Meanwhile, the **Clipse** sticks to its tried-and-true formula (see 2002's *Lord Willin'*), with unyielding crack lore enhanced by otherwordly beats provided by the Neptunes. As the steel drums of "Wamp Wamp (What It Do)" meet bagpipe moans, Pusha T and Malice join Slim Thug in a boast of sinister proportions. On "Keys Open Doors," the Clipse "don't come with a pitch neither, the shit sell itself." Unapologetically, *Hell Hath No* Fury (Arista) serves up street product that remains consistently potent over the course of 12 tracks. From his perch high above Manhattan, **P. Diddy** gazes down at the asphalt and decides that he'd like to pave it with cheese. Sporting executive raps and the most overly refined instrumentals money can buy, *Press Play* (Bad Boy) barely avoids being horrendous. – *Robert Gabriel*

FRIDA HYVÖNEN

***Until Death Comes* (Secretly Canadian)**



With a fragile voice and strong, simple hand, Swedish nymph Frida Hyvönen lands stateside with her debut. *Until Death Comes* doesn't transform the fabric of reality, but without stepping completely outside the box, Hyvönen does what Cat Power and Tori Amos never could: She embodies humanity, warts and all. "Opened the memories, and the violence poured out," she flutters in the lovely "Djuna!" While "Once I Was a Serene Teenaged Child" hints at innocence lost and lives changed, "Today, Tuesday" builds joy in a minor key, teaching independence. "Come Another Night" leaps out of a 1950s left field but is redeemed with the entrancing ivory tickler "N.Y." Hyvönen might not be the female messiah sent in to save us from all the first-namers, but she's a return to form, balancing on the thin line between what is and what never will be.

★★★ – *Darcie Stevens*

ATERCIOPELADOS

***Oye* (Nacional)**



Inevitably, Colombia's Aterciopelados – "Velvety Ones" – have located the velvet rut. 2000's career creamer, *Gozo Poderoso*, got even Grammy's attention, but neither solo album from the group's yin-yang, nor a 2002 greatest hits broached a follow-up. Now, *Oye* leaves word of Triple-A. Platter six packs its predecessor's "powerful pleasure," but flatter, as if sound wizard Héctor Buitrago forgot to light the disco ball. Andrea Echeverri, meanwhile, sounds … ordinary. African and Middle Eastern accents ("Majestad") bottom out well, but opening "Complemento" sets a complacent tone among adult tempos. "Don Dinero" tallies cash cows, but its leaden beat begs youthful irreverence on the order of Café Tacuba. "Cruz de Sal" percolates convincingly, only without a "Dinero" hook, and perky protest "Cancion Protesta" fails to convince. Echeverri crooner "Insoportable" tangs and pangs to the rescue, sparking the desert exotica of "Paces," a throwback to the spunk of 1997's *La Pipa de la Paz*. *Mas* Peace Pipe *por favor*.

★★½ – *Raoul Hernandez*

TOMASZ STANKO QUARTET

***Lontano* (ECM)**

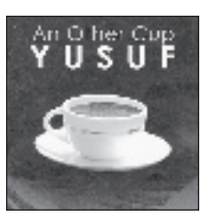


Tomasz Stanko knows how to set a mood. The veteran Polish trumpeter's seventh album for ECM, *Lontano*, is all about using space to create a mood. He does so with a post-Miles vision and an elegance that's earned him the highest accolades from the European jazz community. In listening to the spare, dreamy soundscapes, you wouldn't necessarily know that Stanko's roots lie in the roiling European avant-garde and free jazz scenes of the 1960-70s. Nevertheless, within these spacious, glacial tapestries, the quartet seems free of any structures, and, in fact, their understated restraint is the antithesis of the pyrotechnics that characterized that earlier era. The three different 12-plus minute versions of the title track provide the album's foci and only the tune "Kattorna" approaches a medium tempo. This is the third album to feature Stanko's considerably younger rhythm section led by pianist Marcin Wasilewski, but generations are immaterial in creating this timeless music.

★★★½ – *Jay Trachtenberg*

YUSUF

***An Other Cup* (Ya/Atlantic)**



The Cat came back. Twenty-eight years after disappearing into the Muslim faith, London-born Steven Demetre Georgiou, 58, returns: on only his third life and a reedy chorus of Cat calls harking back to the second. As Cat Stevens, Yusuf Islam wrote Seventies radio nirvana ("Wild World," "Peace Train," "If You Want Sing Out, Sing Out"), and *An Other Cup* gives at least a couple strong jolts of *Tea for the Tillerman*. Opener "Midday (Avoid City After Dark)," its piano almost "Guantamera," and "Heaven/Where True Love Goes," alluding to the singer-songwriter's near death experience in Malibu that hastened his exit from secular opulence, prove *Greatest Hits III*. Sadly, hairballs "One Day at a Time" and "I Think I See the Light" cough up trite, while string-weighted appeal "Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood" should stay with Nina Simone, and "Whispers From a Spiritual Garden" whiffs Jim Morrison. *Mona Bone Jakon* era closer "Greenfields, Golden Sands"? Okay, make it a half-cup.

★★ – *Raoul Hernandez*

THE BLUE VAN

***Dear Independence* (TVT)**



The Blue Van likes it retro: guitar, harmonies, and organ – lots of organ. Yet *Dear Independence*, the Dutch quartet's sophomore effort, plays out less like a *Nuggets* comp – as heard on the British invasion of 2005's debut *The Art of Rolling* – and more like a measured R&B rave-up. The hirsute foursome has swagger hammered of the gods, from the shot-clock tick of the opening "The Odyssey" and "Don't Leave Me Blue" straight through to the MC5 romp of "The Elephant Man" and Moby Grape stomp "Rico." Not only does the Van excel in the revivalist sound, but on the beautiful "The Poet Tree," the lyrics border on, well, poetry, wrought from guitarist Steffen Westmark's velvet rut: "The ink is pushing further up your spine. From your head grows a tree and the roots rip the words." Who knew Danes sold soul?

★★★ – *Audra Schroeder*

PA-RUM-PA-PUM-PUM

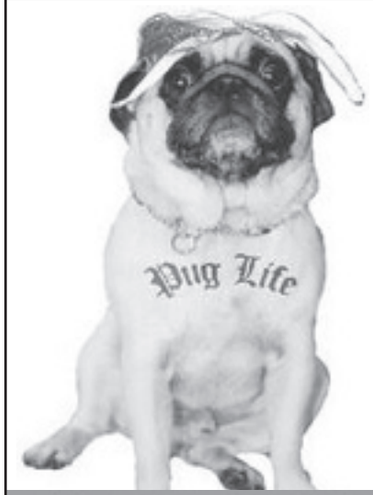
SUFJAN STEVENS

***Songs for Christmas* (Asthmatic Kitty)**



Some locals were so turned off by Sufjan Stevens' pretentiousness during his September shows at the Paramount that they erased his music from their iPods. At the time, it seemed like a ridiculous reaction to every indie hipster's favorite singing-songwriting Christian, but *Songs for Christmas* actually lends the tiniest breath of credence to that indictment. *Christmas* represents everything that's both annoyingly wrong and perfectly breathtaking about Stevens' work. These five boxed EPs began as an annual DIY holiday project in 2001, with Stevens and his friends recording songs in his kitchen and sending out copies of the finished product to far-flung friends and relations. The 42 songs comprise both original compositions and holiday standards such as "Silent Night" and "The Little Drummer Boy," which are predictably fresh and gorgeous interpretations. The originals, on the other hand, are the proverbial wild card. The problem with an artist as prolific as Stevens, who has an epic ear for composition and orchestration, is that somewhat fussy woodwind arrangements begin sounding all too familiar just as listeners begins questioning Stevens' range as an artist and their unflinching faith in just how awesome he is. While its intent is admirable, "Put the Lights on the Tree" is indicative of the clichés that rear their heads in this set. Some of the songs, like "We're Goin' to the Country!" are so bad it hurts. Then again, it's hard to imagine any more singularly beautiful way to recognize Christ's birth (if you roll that way) than with the devotion expressed in "What Child Is This Anyway?" The plaintive harmonies and its shambling instrumentation all suggest humility those pretension-hating boho grinches might have missed in their haste to hit "delete." And that, friends, is how Sufjan Stevens saved Christmas.

★★★ – *Melanie Haupt*



- The Largest CD store in Austin!
- We'll buy all your CDs, DVDs, and LPs
- Open 'til midnight
- Voted "Best used CD store" for six straight years

CASH FOR CD's • DVD's & LP's

OPEN 'TIL MIDNIGHT

cheapo discs

10th & LAMAR • 512.477.4499

www.cheapotexas.com

WATERLOO GIFT CERTIFICATES MAKE GIVING EASY!

Still not sure what to get that special someone for the holidays? If they love music or movies, Waterloo Records & Video gift certificates are the answer to your gift giving dilemmas. We sell our in-store gift certificates for any amount you want to give so they're always the right size. Plus, WATERLOORECORDS.COM also features **online gift certificates** available in a variety of amounts. Buy them online for your friends and family anywhere on the planet and they can shop for CDs, DVDs and videos right from home.

WATERLOO ACCEPTS CHAIN COMPETITORS GIFT CARDS!

We'll gladly exchange gift cards from any national chain store that carries music or video for its full amount on any merchandise we sell: CDs, DVDs, gift items or anything else in the store excluding concert tickets. * The gift card's value must be able to be verified by Waterloo via phone or internet.

WATERLOO ALWAYS PAYS TOP DOLLAR FOR YOUR USED DVDS AND CDS

Is the holiday gift giving season leaving you a little strapped for cash? Think you'll finally get that iPod you've been coveting and starting to convert your CD collection to digital files? Or maybe you just have piles of old DVDs and CDs lying around you don't watch or listen to anymore? Bring them by Waterloo and turn them into cash!



WATERLOO

Compact Discs
Records • Video

10-11 Mon- Sat 12-11 Sun
600-A North Lamar Austin, TX 78703
www.waterloorecords.com
(512)474.2500

BUY, SELL & TRADE

DVDs, CDs & LPs

WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

CAMEL SNUS

All that's required is an

open mind

and a mouth.



A new spitless and smokeless tobacco pleasure in a pouch.

Pleasure for wherever.

For more info, please call 1-877-SNUSCML (1-877-768-7265)* or visit **snuscamel.com***

*CALLS AND WEBSITE RESTRICTED TO LEGAL AGE TOBACCO CONSUMERS.

WARNING: THIS PRODUCT IS NOT A SAFE ALTERNATIVE TO CIGARETTES

©2006R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO.

LEAD STORY

Christmas Madness: 1) In November, the upscale New York City menswear and accessories store Jack Spade removed from its holiday catalog a $40 frog-dissection kit (with a real carcass) after numerous queries from people wondering what in the world the store was thinking. 2) A holiday party for inmates at Britain's Peterborough Jail promised a fun time with Xbox and PlayStations, along with cash gifts of 5 pounds each (about $9), which is greater than the value of the candy boxes the jail will give its guards for Christmas. 3) Police in Rock Hill, S.C., put a 12-year-old boy under arrest at the insistence of his mother after he had defied her and opened his Christmas gift three weeks early.

I KNOW MY RIGHTS!

The North Carolina Court of Appeals overturned the cocaine-possession conviction of Timothy Stone in September, ruling that a search of his person was unconstitutional even though he had given police permission. The judges agreed with Stone that when he consented, he never expected that the search would include the officers holding out the waistband of his sweatpants and shining a flashlight on his genitals (which is where he happened to be hiding a small container of cocaine).

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

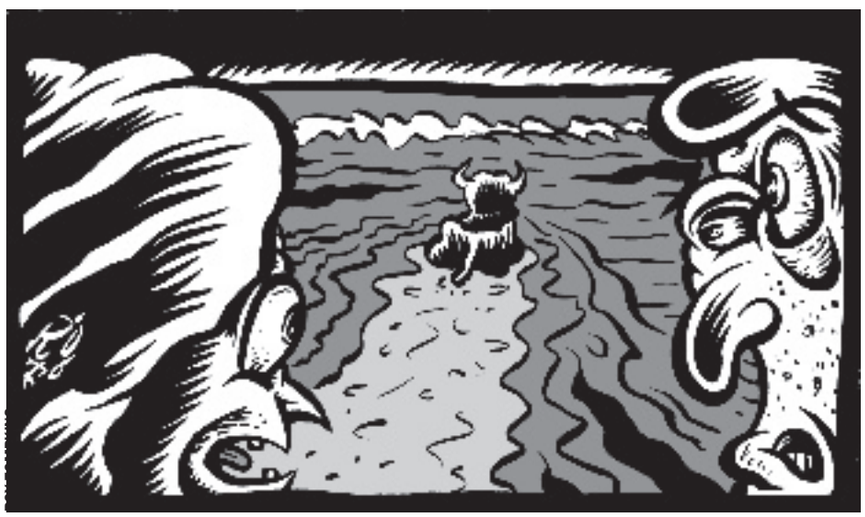
1) The "Berkeley Pit" in Butte, Mont., is the nation's largest environmental-disaster site, with 40 billion gallons of highly toxic copper-mine waste that the federal government has long feared too expensive to clean up. However, Montana Tech researchers, writing in the *Journal of Organic Chemistry* in July, have found more than 160 types of "extremophiles" (organisms that thrive in toxicity) in the pit and have demonstrated that some are effective against lung and ovarian cancers. 2) Kimberly Baker, 22, sought child support in Warrensburg, N.Y., in October from the father of her daughter. However, when officials realized that the father, now 16, would have been 13 when the child was conceived, that made him a rape victim under state law, and thus, they arrested Baker.

MORE THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT

In October in Vancouver, Wash., a Doberman pinscher named Victoria jumped on an electric stove and accidentally nudged a switch that started a fire in her apartment, resulting in about $100,000's worth of damage. It was the second time this year that Victoria had jumped on the stove and started a fire, but the first one did much less damage.

NEWS of the WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



With dozens of puzzled beachcombers witnessing, a cow marched into the surf off the coast of Queensland in Australia in November and swam out as far as 300 yards for four hours (returning to shore twice but venturing out again) before drowning from swallowing water.

COMPELLING EXPLANATIONS

• Ricardo Meana, 81, was charged with attempted murder in November in Sun City, Fla., when his 82-year-old wife, who has Alzheimer's, was found inside a van in a store's parking lot struggling with the plastic bag over her head. Police were called, but Meana seemed unconcerned and even nonchalantly resumed shopping, saying that he often put the bags on when his wife felt sick, so that she would not vomit on herself.

• Not Our Fault: In 2002, Jeffrey Klein and Brett Birdwell, both 17 at the time, trespassed onto a railroad yard in Lancaster, Pa., and climbed atop a boxcar to see what the view was like but were severely burned by a 12,500-volt line on the roof and thus sued Amtrak and Norfolk Southern railroads for not having done enough to prevent them from trespassing. In October, a federal jury awarded the two men a total of about $12 million in compensatory damages plus $12 million in punitive damages.

• In a deposition, Ennis, Texas, physician Aniruddha Chitale admitted that the semen that patient Sherry Simpson found on her face after a 2004 colonoscopy was his and thus later pleaded guilty to sexual assault. However, in his deposition (according to a report by Dallas' WFAA-TV), Chitale insisted that the act that produced the semen was "unintentional." (Simpson is now suing Ennis Regional Medical Center for having tolerated Chitale's behavior.)

THE LAWS OF IRONY

• Federal prosecutors have insisted so far that any ill-gotten money that former Enron executives had squirreled away in their spouses' names still can be fully recovered by the government, except for one executive. Michael Kopper, once a director of Enron's global finance unit, pleaded guilty in 2002 to illegally obtaining $16.5 million, but he is openly gay. And since his home state of Texas does not recognize his union with his longtime partner, prosecutors cannot treat the partner as a "spouse" and have lumped him with "third party" transferees, whose assets are much more difficult to obtain (according to a November report in *Washington Blade*).

• University of California, Irvine, professor Elizabeth Loftus, a prominent scholar on people's overconfidence about memory, was turned down by the judge as an expert witness in November in the forthcoming trial of "Scooter" Libby (Vice President Cheney's former assistant, who has been charged with lying to prosecutors about phone conversations, which Libby says weren't lies but just forgetfulness). At a hearing on Loftus' credentials, prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald not only exposed some problems with her research but elicited from Loftus the confident assertion that the two had never before met. However, Fitzgerald then immediately refreshed Loftus' memory, reminding her that he had cross-examined her in court once before.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

Pleading guilty to manslaughter in Pierre, S.D., in August was Mr. Austin First In Trouble, 19. And in Providence, R.I., in November, the teenager sentenced to life in prison for murder (where his life might rot away) is Mr. Phearin Rot. On the brighter side, a linebacker for South Sumter High School in Bushnell, Fla., had a good year: Yourhighness Morgan (whose brother Handsome Morgan and cousin Gorgeous Morgan were undoubtedly proud of him).

MORE THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT

In October in Vancouver, Wash., a Doberman pinscher named Victoria jumped on an electric stove and accidentally nudged a switch that started a fire in her apartment, resulting in about $100,000's worth of damage. It was the second time this year that Victoria had jumped on the stove and started a fire, but the first one did much less damage.

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at **newsoftheweird.blogspot.com** *(or* **www.newsoftheweird.com***). Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or* **weirdnewstips@yahoo.com**.

©2004 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

TICKET
$29.95 plus tax
Friday, Dec 29th ★ Midnight to 7am
BLAZE'N LOCK-IN BLIZZARD
Minimum of 7 Games of Laser Tag ★ $5 in Tokens ★ 2 Slices of Pizza & Drink ★ Contests & Prizes
CALL 462-0202 FOR TICKETS!
Blazer Tag Adventure Center 1701 W. Ben White Blvd.
Players must be 13 years old to attend, otherwise accompanied by a relative or guardian

THE SCORE
SPORTS BLOG
On Vince Young:
"Down in Houston, self-proclaimed Screw-head Vince Young took the most stupendous crap on Texans coach Gary Kubiak. May a slowed-and-chopped replay of the game-winning touchdown forever haunt Kubiak's sleepless nights." - Robert Gabriel
CHRONICLE
READ MORE AND COMMENT: **austinchronicle.com/sports**

Come get your FREE 2007 Oats Calendar !

OAT WILLIE'S

Warm up with silk and wool
SCARVES AND SHAWLS
funky WINTER HATS
and colorful TOTES
for adults and kids!



1931 East Oltorf 448-3313 * 617 West 29th Street 482-0630

Special ADVANCE Screening
Wednesday, January 3, 7:30pm

To sign up for a chance to win a pass to this screening, go to **austinchronicle.com/contests** by 4pm, Tuesday, December 26.

NEW LINE CINEMA

No purchase necessary. Passes are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Seating is limited. Passes do not guarantee admission. Rated PG-13.

Opens Nationwide
Friday, January 5

AMC Barton Creek Square 14



CHRONICLE

austinchronicle.com/contests

CAMEL
SNUS

©2006R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO.

The most pleasure
you can fit in your pocket.



A new spitless and smokeless tobacco pleasure in a pouch.

Pleasure for wherever.

For more info, please call
1-877-SNUSCML (1-877-768-7265)*
or visit **snuscamel.com***

*CALLS AND WEBSITE RESTRICTED TO LEGAL AGE TOBACCO CONSUMERS.

WARNING:
THIS PRODUCT IS NOT A SAFE ALTERNATIVE TO CIGARETTES

this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

(PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM **ARTS**, **FILM**, AND **MUSIC**) BY NORA ANKRUM



COURTESY OF BOB DAEMMRICH

Armadillo Christmas Bazaar

Holiday Bazaar Bonanza

ARMADILLO CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Stop by for the shopping (there will be artwork, jewelry, ceramics, toys, leather goods, weavings, clothing, books, and works of glass, wood, and metal) or for the live music (nightly performances: 8-11pm; weekends: 12:30-3:30pm). (See Club listings.) *Through Dec. 24. Daily, 11am-11pm. Austin Music Hall, 208 Nueces, 447-1605. $3 ($5, evenings/weekends; free, children under 12).* **www.armadillobazaar.com**.

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET Because of the impending demolition of the Intel building, Austin's Downtown farmers' market has moved temporarily to a **new location** on the banks of Town Lake, where you can still expect to find organic produce, meats, and cheeses straight from surrounding Texas farms, every week, along with live music. Plus, AFM now accepts **food stamps**. (See Club listings.) *9am-1pm. Cesar Chavez & Lavaca, 236-0074. Free.* **www.austinfarmersmarket.org**, **www.sustainablefoodcenter.org**.

BLUE GENIE ART BAZAAR brings more than 80 regional artists together to share with you their original paintings, photography, sculpture, and more. *Thu., 10am-10pm; Fri.-Sat., 10am-12mid; Sun., 10am-6pm. 916 Springdale, 866/611-6655.* **www.bluegenieart.com**.

CALABASH GROVE: AFRIKAN ARTISANS SOLSTICE MARKETPLACE hosts a preview sale in anticipation of their *Fri., Dec. 29*, celebration of **Ujamaa**, which honors the principle of cooperative economics on the fourth day of **Kwanzaa**. Just in time for your holiday shopping, they've got batiks, jewelry, paintings, furniture, clothing, herbal products, and more. Plus you'll see the artists at work – including **Nailah I. Sankofa**, **Constance Perez**, **Selasi Deh**, and many others – as they prepare artwork for the Ujamaa event, so this is your chance to get early dibs on your favorite piece of art-in-progress. *Dec. 23-24, 1-9pm. 1202 Northridge Dr., 380-9918.*

DOWNTOWN ARTIST'S MARKET HOLIDAY FAIR features paintings, photography, pottery, jewelry, stained glass, clothing, candles, and more – all handmade by local artists, with no imports or resales – plus live music. *709 W. Sixth.* **www.theartistsmarket.com**.

EASTSIDE ARTISANS MARKET Warm food and drinks, live music, and local artists and crafters. *Fri., Dec. 22, 7pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447.*

SUNSET VALLEY FARMERS MARKET With 25 artisans this week and all kinds of specialty foods – from gifts baskets to festive candies and truffles to pre-prepped holiday dinner stuff – you can't go wrong on your combo grocery/gift shopping this week. *9:30am-1pm. Toney Burger Center, 3200 Jones, 280-1976. Free.* **www.sunsetvalleyfarmersmarket.org**.

THE 23RD STREET ARTISTS' MARKET Don't forget this Drag stalwart, which features original handcrafted work from local artisans. *Daily, 8am-10pm (closed Christmas). 23rd & Guadalupe.* **www.austinartistsmarket.com**.

THIRD THURSDAY ON GUADALUPE This month, it's all about the holiday shopping, with tons of cool gifts from local artists – from paintings to handmade clothing – plus hot cider, warm treats, and live music from **Green Mountain Grass**. *6-10pm. Guadalupe between 28th & 38th.* **www.austinthirdthursday.com**.

the young ones

AISD SCHOOL-MEAL DISCOUNT PROGRAM AISD offers free and reduced-price school meals (both breakfast and lunch) to students who need them. You can pick up an application at any AISD school as well as receive assistance with filling it out. *414-0251.*

WINTER ART CAMP AT THE ART PAD Weekly morning and afternoon sessions feature different activities led by professional artists, from knitting and wire sculpture to Claymation and painting on unusual surfaces. For ages 6-16. Dates: *Dec. 26-29, Jan. 2-5. Art Pad Studio, 1403 W. 47th, 323-0802.*

MARIPOSAS SPANISH offers a weekly class beginning in January for ages 4-6. Mariposas teaches Spanish through traditional songs, games, literature, and sign language. Enrollment has begun. (Mention this listing for a 20% discount off your first month's enrollment.) *Thursdays, 1:15-2pm. 507 10th, 653-7369.* **www.mariposasspanish.com**.

ART & SOUL HOLIDAY CAMP Kids ages 5-12 will explore their natural creativity through sculpture, drawing, painting, prints, and collages. *9:30am-1:30pm. Wed.-Fri., Dec. 27-29. Stunt Ranch, 13317 Fitzhugh Rd., 288-2277.* **www.artandsoulclasses.com**.

HOLIDAY GOLF CAMP for ages 7-17. *9am-3pm. Tue.-Fri., Jan. 2-5. Harvey Penick Golf Campus, 5501 Ed Bluestein, 732-0380 x204. $175.* **www.firstteeaustin.org**.

LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY OF AUSTIN is accepting applications for the 2007-08 school year from students in grades 8-10. Applications are due *Jan. 17. 414-0024.* **www.lbjhs.net/lasa**.

UNWRAP THE FUN While kids are out of school this month, **Children's Courtyard** hosts all kinds of holiday activities focused on the theme **It's Cooler to Give Than to Receive**. Stop by for Texas skiing, holiday-flubber making, and gift-"rap" composing. *6:30am-6:30pm. Through Dec. 29.* See Web site for the Children's Courtyard location nearest you. **www.childrenscourtyard.com**.

GROUNDWATER ESSAY CONTEST FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS The **Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District** is soliciting essays discussing groundwater issues; the best two essayists will receive **$1,500 college scholarships** for the 2007-08 school year. Call or see Web site for details/restrictions. Deadline: *5pm, Fri., March 2. 282-8441.* **www.bseacd.org/scholarship_program.htm**.

LEGACY PROJECT offers a way to take advantage of having all the kids and grandparents and everyone in between around for the holidays, by providing loads of free activity ideas (like the Generations Scrapbook) that families can do together. Kids 8-18 may also enter the **Listen to a Life** essay contest, which requires them to interview a grandparent (or anyone over 50) and write about it. **www.legacyproject.org**.

YMCA HOLIDAY CAMPS The Northwest, Southwest, East Communities, and Town Lake YMCA locations offer various day camps to occupy the kids while school is out. Choose from **Hawaiian style** theme camp, **Simply Splatter!** paint camp, or **swimming** camp. Call or see **www.austinymca.org/default.asp?ID=76** for details. *Through Jan. 4. 236-9622. $100-135/week.*

HOLIDAY ROCK CAMP introduces children to the fundamentals of climbing techniques and safety. For ages 6 and up. *9am-1pm. Dec. 26-29 & Jan. 2-5. Austin Rock Gym, 4401 Freidrich, 416-9299. $199/week.* **www.austinrockgym.com**.

YOUNG PEOPLES WORKSHOPS is a program that aims to help kids "discover intelligent fun," and they've got a packed schedule this holiday season, featuring the **Gingerbread House Workshop** *(Sun., Dec. 24, 12:30pm)*, plus lots of post-Christmas activities (from **New Year's Crafts Celebration** to **Super-Hydro Robot Arm** to **Tea Party & Etiquette**). See Web site for dates and details. *3201 Bee Caves Rd. #138, 329-5611.* **www.youngpeoplesworkshops.com**.

ZACH HOLIDAY THEATRE VARIETY CAMPS Sign up now for four days of acting, singing, and movement, culminating in live performances. For ages 5-18. *9am-5pm. Tue.-Fri., Dec. 26-29 or Jan. 2-5. Zachary Scott Theatre Performing Arts School, 1510 Toomey Rd., 476-0594 x236.* **www.zachscott.com**.

KIDS KRAFTS Watch a movie and make some holiday crafts. *1pm, Dec. 22, 27, 29. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr.* **www.wblibrary.org**.

TEDDY BEAR TEA An excuse to get the whole family dressed up, this traditional holiday tea includes caroling and a fireside *'Twas the Night Before Christmas* reading with Santa. Don't forget to check out the four Seasons' Gingerbread Village display, complete with a minitrain winding through. *2-4pm. Sat., Dec. 23. Four Seasons Hotel, 98 San Jacinto, 478-4500. $35 ($25, ages 6-11).* **www.fourseasons.com/austin**.

STORYTIME AT THE BLANTON Come for the story time; stay for the art. For ages 6-10. *1-1:45pm. Tue.-Sat., Dec. 26-30. 471-5482.* **www.blantonmuseum.org**.

Thursday 21

A PARISH CHRISTMAS Christmas songs, lots of Christmas songs. Sung by musicians from 11 great bands. Members of **Okkervil River** will be there, and so should you. For the **Capital Area Food Bank**'s sake. *8pm. $10 ($8, advance). Proceeds benefit CAFB.* **www.theparishroom.com**.

AUSTIN CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY MONTHLY MEETING *7:30pm. Austin Area Garden Center, 2220 Barton Springs Rd. (in Zilker Botanical Gardens). Free.* **www.austincss.com**.



CHRISTMAS POPS! SING-ALONG Christmas songs and pop stars, followed by milk, cookies, and caroling at Jackalope. Another Henri Mazza/Owen Egerton instant classic. *7, 9:45pm. Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 409-B Colorado, 476-1320. $10.* **www.originalalamo.com**.

DIRTY LIBRARIAN CHAINS TRUNK SHOW Dirty Librarian Chains is a line of edgy yet understated necklaces – you know, appropriate for the metaphorical dirty librarian in your life – sold at FactoryPeople, and today's trunk show will be showcasing them along with **DJs Chicken George** and **Daetron Vargas**. *5-8pm. FactoryPeople, 1325 S. Congress, 440-8002.* **www.factorypeople.com**.

EMANCIPET FREE DAYS This mobile spay/neuter clinic might be near your neighborhood today – check their Web site to find out. *8am, check-in begins (first come, first served). 587-SPAY. Free.* **www.emancipet.org**.

FESTIVAL OF TREES: SILVER BELL SOCIAL invites senior citizens to enjoy a jazzy performance from **Pamela Hart** and **James Polk** among the Carver's enchantingly decorated holiday trees and wreaths. *3-5pm. George Washington Carver Museum & Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina. $15 ($10, advance).* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/carver**.

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT VOLUNTEER NIGHT IBP sends books to Texas prisoners, and they can always use a hand with sorting mail, processing requests, shelving/sending books, etc. *Thu., 6-10pm; Sun., 7pm-12mid. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 647-4803.* **www.insidebooksproject.com**.

ITALIAN HONEY TASTING Sample imported Italian honeys of the flavored (orange, lemon, strawberry, and tangerine) and cream-custard (pistacchio, hazelnut, almond, and dry-fruit) varieties, and A Taste of Italy's Elsa Gramola will personally bring you back your faves in two weeks when she returns from her next trip to Italy. *7pm. Private residence, 345-8941. $20.* **www.atasteofitalyinaustin.com**.

The Season of Philanthropy

ADOPT A MANATEE FOR THE HOLIDAYS or give one as a gift. Either way, you'll know you're helping save the beloved little chubs from extinction. *$25-35.* **www.savethemanatee.org**.

GIVE A GIFT THAT HELPS THE LIBRARY Holiday shopping quandaries? Try buying the **Austin Public Library** a book in honor of your special someone, and then it's like you bought that book for hundreds of people and not just one. *974-7400.* **www.cityofaustin.org/library**.

HELP NUBIAN QUEEN LOLA HELP OTHERS Every Sunday she opens up her Rosewood restaurant for the homeless, and right now, the people are in need of winter preparation. Your **donations of coats, blankets, and nonperishable foods** will be greatly appreciated. *Nubian Queen Lola's Cajun Kitchen, 1815 Rosewood, 474-LOLA (5652).*

IGIVE.COM: GIVE WHILE YOU SHOP You can designate any one of several worthy local causes – **Yellow Bike Project**, **Cinemaker Co-op**, and **AIDS Services of Austin**, to name just a few – to receive a percentage of the proceeds from your holiday online shopping at all kinds of stores, from **Target** to **Dell** to **Ann Taylor**. Yay! **www.igive.com**.

INSTRUMENT & FUND DRIVE The Lone Star School of Music's **Music Resource Center** provides low-income children with the opportunity to learn to play music. Your **monetary donations** are needed to fund scholarships for 2007, while your **used intruments** will stock the program's lending library. *524-5252.* **www.mrcakids.org**.

KEEP AUSTIN WARM Help keep Austin's 4,000 homeless warm this winter by dropping off blankets, scarves, hats, coats, gloves, and socks at any of the following locations (look for the Keep Austin Warm box): *Wheatsville Co-op, 3101 Guadalupe; Waterloo Records, 600-A N. Lamar; Temple Beth Shalom, 7300 Hart; St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa. 221-1972.* **www.keepaustinhoused.org/newsletters.htm**.

LIFEWORKS GIFT CARD DRIVE Donate a $25 gift card to a young person in need this winter. Target and HEB cards are especially appreciated, for providing food and clothing. *735-2400.* **www.lifeworksweb.org**, **www.kintera.org/TR.asp?ID=M721462009826040637622665**.

MEALS ON WHEELS desperately needs help during the holidays with providing food to Austin's homebound elderly and disabled. Volunteer training provided at *10:30am (daily)* and at *12:15pm (Thursdays). Meals on Wheels and More, 3227 E. Fifth, 476-6325.* **www.mealsonwheelsandmore.org**.

MOTHERS' MILK BANK more than ever needs healthy breast-feeding women to donate their milk for premature and ill babies who need it to ward off life-threatening infections. Even if you're not breast-feeding, you can still help with milk-pouring and donor-support on weekdays. *Mothers' Milk Bank at Austin, 900 E. 30th #214, 494-0800.* **www.mmbaustin.org**.

ORPHANED ANIMALS IN NEED The **Town Lake Animal Shelter** needs toys and chews (specifically tennis balls, wand-type cat toys, and natural rawhide chews), while the **Animal Trustees of Austin** desperately need towels for bedding and surgical procedures. Leave your donations at *The Natural Gardener, 8648 Old Bee Caves Rd.*, or see Web sites for additional info. (Also, the Paramount and State theatres are accepting donations for TLAS *Mon.-Fri., 11am-4pm, through Dec. 20*, in exchange for a Paramount gift: See **www.austintheatre.org**.) **www.ci.austin.tx.us/tlac**, **www.animaltrustees.org**.

PURR-FECT POSES is a calendar full of creatively posed kittens, with proceeds benefiting **Friends of the Town Lake Animal Center**'s outreach efforts and rabies clinics. E-mail to order your very own 2007 calendar of cats, or pick one up at TLAC, Sunset Valley Farmers Market, BookPeople, or Katz's Deli. **friendsoftlac@yahoo.com**, **www.ci.austin.tx.us/tlac**.

READ WRITE CONNECT As part of this statewide literacy campaign, for every two Random House books you buy at HEB, the grocery store will donate a third one to First Book, which provides children in low-income families with their own books. **www.firstbook.org**, **www.heb.com**.

RECYCLING JOY Donate your **used eyeglasses** (with lenses intact) to those who need them in countries like Dominican Republic, Ecuador, and Haiti, where a single pair can cost a month's salary or more. Do so by *Jan. 31*, and you'll get $25 off your next pair from Eye Physicians of Austin. (See News, p.19, for more.) *Drop-off at either Eye Physicians of Austin location: 5011 Burnet Rd. or 13376 Research, 583-2020.*

SOS ALLIANCE Any donation you make to the Save Our Springs Alliance through Dec. 31 will be matched by the SOS board of directors. See **www.sosalliance.org**, and click Donate Here.

STREET OUTREACH BACKPACK DRIVE LifeWorks is providing backpacks filled with basic supplies (socks, sleeping bag, wool hat, gloves, nonperishable food, and hygiene products) to homeless youth this winter; see Web site for details. *735-2400.* **www.lifeworksweb.org**, **www.kintera.org/TR.asp?ID=M721461979826040637622665**.

THERMAL UNDERWEAR DRIVE For just $10, **House the Homeless** can buy a set of thermal underwear to keep someone warm on the streets this winter. So send your $10 donation to: *House the Homeless, PO Box 2312, Austin, 78768. 796-4366.* **www.housethehomeless.org**.

TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE 2007 CALENDAR This new fundraising calendar features photos of Sheriff's Office employees – well hellooo, Mr. January. *Available at any RunTex.* **www.tcsheriff.org/smbs_home.htm**.

The Gathering Place
Worship Center
GLBTSQ Church
A church for all
Worship Service
Sunday 10:30am
Pastors: Lee Thompson, Yolande Yaeger
The Centre Business Park
7801 N. Lamar, Ste. F-25
S.E. Corner N. Lamar & 183
323-9501
www.gatheringplaceworshipcenter.org

AIDS SERVICES OF AUSTIN
Share the courage.
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
CALL 512.458.AIDS (2437)
WWW.ASAUSTIN.ORG

Experience Avatar
Consciousness training that can change your life
• it is effective
• it is profound
• it is available worldwide
The Avatar Course
Dec 27th - Jan 4th
Austin, TX
For information or to schedule your free introduction to Avatar, please contact:
(512)447-8560 or (512)266-7098
Email: shakti4@earthlink.net
www.AvatarEPC.com
www.InternationalAvatarCourse.com
Avatar® is a registered trademark of Stan's Cage, Inc. All rights reserved.

PALACE
THE PALACE THEATRE PRESENTS
On the Springer Memorial Stage
THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED)
By Adam Long Daniel Singer & Jess Winfield
Dec. 28-31
Jan. 4-7
Jan. 11-14
Th-Fri-Sat 7:30 p.m.
Sun. 2 p.m.
$14 Genl. Adm.
$12 Srs. (55+)
$7 Student
Reserved Seating $5 extra per seat
Rated PG-12
Laugh yourself into the New Year!!
Directed by Clifford Butler
Sponsored by: ROMEO'S RESTAURANT GEORGETOWN
Located at 810 S. Austin Avenue in Historic Georgetown
Order tickets by phone (512) 869-7469 or on-line at
www.thegeorgetownpalace.org Discover, Visa, & MC accepted.

MIDDAY CAROLING It's your last chance this holiday season for caroling in St. David's historic sanctuary, accompanied this week by the **Canterbury Bells** choir. *Noon. St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. Seventh, 472-1196. Donations accepted for Trinity Center, St. David's Downtown outreach ministry.*

PAPA MALI'S SOUL OF SOUTH AUSTIN HOLIDAY REUNION features the **Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers**, **Gospel Silverstones**, **Shelley King**, and many others, all to benefit the **Capital Area Food Bank**. (See Club listings.) *7pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. $15 (bring three nonperishable food items for a $3 discount).* **www.rutamaya.net**.

MUSIC (See Music listings.)
Celtic Christmas *Cathedral of St. Mary*
A Parish Christmas *The Parish*
Banana Blender Surprise *Continental Club*

Friday 22

ALTERNATIVE RADIO: INDIA'S FARM CRISIS brings you **P. Sainath**, author of *Everyone Loves a Good Drought: Stories From India's Poorest Districts*, talking about how India's farms have been affected by "market fundamentalism." *2pm. KOOP 91.7FM.* **www.koop.org**.

DOWNTOWN GHOST TOURS offer nooks-and-crannies walking tours that spotlight the dead to bring Austin history and geography to life. *8pm. The Hideout Coffeehouse, 617 Congress, 853-9826.* **www.hauntedtexas.com**.

EAST END FOURTH FRIDAY Every fourth Friday, 11th Street has artists, face painters, exhibits, kids activities, live entertainment, and food stretching all the way from Branch to Navasota. This month, they'll be throwing a massive holiday party with dancing, live poetry, beer-nog from Live Oak Brewery, a raffle to benefit **DiverseArts**, and the Latin funk-hop of **Brown Out**. *5:30pm ($5-10 cover after 8pm). 477-9438.*

FREE CATFISH FRIDAY Every week during happy hour. *6-8:30pm. Club Illusion, 2700 W. Pecan, Pflugerville, 512/670-7411.*

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT HAPPY HOUR IBP lives it up every other Friday, sending books to Texas prisoners, sorting mail, processing prisoners' book requests, etc. *5:30-7:30pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695.* **www.insidebooksproject.com**.

PEOPLE UNITED: IRAQ FOR SALE brings you **Pedro Gatos**, who'll discuss the **privatization of Iraqi assets**, with commentary from Rahul Mahajan. *1pm. KOOP 91.7FM.* **www.koop.org**.

TRANCEDANCE: SPIRITUAL DANCE A surreal blindfolded-dancing experience to help bring you closer to your higher self. *7:30-9:30pm. NiaSpace, 3212 S. Congress, 586-2736. $15.* **www.trancedance-austin.com**, **www.shamanicpassages.com**.

EMANCIPET FREE DAYS *8am, check-in begins (first come, first served). 587-SPAY. Free.* **www.emancipet.org**. (See Thursday 12/21.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film listings.)
Die Hard *@ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45pm*

MUSIC (See Music listings.)
Ethan Azarian, **Lee Barber**, **Elizabeth Jackson** *Flipnotics Coffeespace*
Winter Solstice Soul Party *Beerland*
Neville Family Christmas *Antone's*
Big Moe *Spiros*
East End Fourth Friday *Victory Grill*

Saturday 23

BARTON SPRINGS REOPENS After several weeks of being closed for flood-debris removal, Barton Springs reopens today, just in time for you to take a break from the holiday frenzy and go for a swim. *Barton Springs, 2101 Barton Springs Rd., 476-9044. 5am-10pm.* **www.sosalliance.org**.

BLAZE FOLEY BIRTHDAY/CD RELEASE PARTY Join **Gurf Morlix & the Beaver Valley Boys**, **Mandy Mercier**, **George Ensle**, and many more in celebrating *Cold, Cold World*, the new collection of thus-far unreleased recordings of the beloved Austin musician who passed away in 1989. You'll also get a sneak preview of the upcoming documentary *Blaze Foley: The Duct Tape Messiah*. Proceeds benefit **Front Steps** and the **Austin Resource Center for the Homeless**. *Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* **www.lostartrecords.com**.

CAROLING IN THE CAVE Stuff the in-laws in the car, and head on out to Burnet for a festive evening of games, food, and music in the unique acoustic realm of the Longhorn caverns. *5:15pm. Longhorn Cavern State Park, Burnet, space is limited; call ahead to reserve your spot: 512/756-4680 or 877/441-CAVE.* **www.longhorncaverns.com/schedule.html#caroling**.

FREE HOMEBUYER EDUCATION WORKSHOP Every fourth Saturday, the AAUE offers a workshop covering home-purchasing, mortgage-securing, and money management. Classes fill up quickly, so call to get on the waiting list. Personalized sessions are available. *10am-4pm. Austin Area Urban League Inc., 1825 38½, 478-7176.*

FREE MEDITATION CLASS This intro to self-realization through meditation is always free with no catches or hidden trickiness. Yay! *11am-noon. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek Blvd., 828-0129.* **www.austinsahajayoga.org**.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Jan. 4 issue is Friday, Dec. 22**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

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

Kate X Messer or Kate Getty (The Gay Place): **gayplace@austinchronicle.com**.

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

Nora Ankrum (everything else): **calendar@austinchronicle.com**.

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

HOLIDAY HIP HOP CLASSIC brings in artists from San Antonio and Houston for a night of serious breakdancing (**Cold Rockin' It Crew** will be there), hip-hop, and art thanks to **TEMPO Art Squad** and **Southern Draw Studios**. (See Club listings.) *9pm. The Parish, 214 E. Sixth, upstairs, 479-0474. $10.* **www.tempoevents.org**.

LET'S GET HEALTHY Sponsored by Peoples Rx of Austin (i.e., **Peoples Pharmacy**, your local purveyors of meds, Band-Aids, and the like, along with the most delicious smoothies in town), this weekly radio program gives you the low-down on all the latest in nutrition and medicine. Hosted by Bill Swail. *4-6pm. 1370AM* **www.talkradio1370am.com/pages/24902.php?**.

YELLER DAWG DEMOCRATS BRUNCH & DISCUSSION No dues. No agenda. *11am-1pm. Tres Amigos, 1801 Capital of TX Hwy. S.* **bmcafee@austin.rr.com**.

day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

River View Bed & Breakfast in Blanco provides small-town ambience while offering guests a central base camp for exploring the Hill Country. The rock cottage on the Blanco River comes with its own history and accommodations comfortable enough to last an entire weekend.

"We're only 45 minutes from Austin and 45 minutes from San Antonio," says innkeeper Elizabeth Lundquist. "Most people come here just to kick back and relax for a while."

Built in 1939, the bungalow has the feel of a cabin in the woods but is walking distance from the shops and restaurants on the courthouse square. Lundquist removed the old wallpaper to find beautiful shiplap walls that give the rooms a warm wood glow. The house has two bedrooms downstairs and an upstairs loft with a view of the river through the pecan trees. The house can accommodate up to 10 guests at a time.

Decorated in antiques, each room is tastefully furnished without being cluttered. There are two large tables for get-togethers, and the TV in the front room comes with basic cable. There is patio furniture in the back yard and a swing on the front porch. "I got to admit," Lundquist says, "it was a lot of fun finding things at auctions to decorate the house."

For many guests, the large kitchen will be their favorite room in the house. Lundquist thought of everything when stocking the cooking utensils and glassware. She even stocked the pantry with essential spices, as well as an assortment of coffees and teas. It's a great place to prepare a communal supper or just to enjoy the continental breakfast.

If you have come to the Blanco River to unwind for the weekend, the sun room off the den is a perfect battery charger. The comfortable chairs and rocking chairs look out a wall of windows that opens to the back yard and the river running through Blanco State Park. It's a bright and airy room that just begs for a good book or conversation.

The house was originally owned by the Bindseil family who operated the town's grocery store for many years. The nature trail a block from the house that leads to the second largest oak tree in Blanco County was named after the grocer.

Lundquist purchased the property in 2004. A technician in the computer software industry, she had always dreamed of owning a bed & breakfast house in the country. Even though it was only the second place she looked at, she knew it was the right spot. After a lot of hard work she was ready to open the doors in time for the spring lavender festival.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

Room with a view

Blanco has become the lavender-growing capital of Texas. Within a short drive of the old courthouse there are nine lavender farms. "It's amazing how they all work together," Lundquist says. The June festival has grown to include field tours and a craft fair around the town square. "It just seems to get bigger and better every year," she says.

The town was platted in 1855 by James Callahan, a former Texas Ranger and survivor of the massacre at Goliad. For many years Blanco served as a sleepy supply station for the county's ranches. The courthouse opened in 1888 but was only used until 1891, when the county seat was moved to Johnson City. Since then, the two-story limestone building has been used as a school, newspaper office, and real estate office, and several residents claim they were born there when it was the county's main hospital. It is now the community's visitor center.

By 1986, the old courthouse had deteriorated into disrepair and was purchased by a local rancher to be dismantled and moved to his property. The town rallied around the former hall of justice to preserve it. Lundquist says she can see the spirit in the town's residents that saved the landmark. "Blanco is such a friendly small community," she says.

River View Bed & Breakfast is at 52 Pecan St., in a quiet neighborhood three blocks off the Blanco town square. Rates run from $90 to $100 per night. For information, call 512/892-2304, or go to **www.riverviewbandb.com**.

808th in a series. Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of Day Trips 101-200, is available for $8.95, plus $3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.

out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

VICTORIA COLLECTS FOLK ART features works from area art collections showcasing a variety of media, such as wood sculpture, fabric art, metal sculpture, oil paintings, and mixed media. *Through Jan. 14. Nave Museum, 306 W. Commercial St., Victoria, 361/575-8227.* **www.victoriaregionalmuseum.com**.

WALKWAY OF LIGHTS opens for the holiday season with thousands of lights reflecting off the lake. *Through Jan. 1. 6-10pm. Marble Falls, 866/839-3378.*

OJOS PARA VOLAR/EYES TO FLY WITH: PHOTOGRAPHS BY GRACIELA INTURBIDE continues the Wittliff Gallery's 10th anniversary celebration with an exhibition from one of Mexico's most important modern photographers featuring a number of previously unpublished, never-before-exhibited photographs and a selection of her most famous works. *Through March 18. Wittliff Gallery of Southwestern & Mexican Photography, Aikek Library, Texas State University, San Marcos, 512/245-2313.* **www.wg.txstate.edu**.

INVENTIONS OF LEONARDO DA VINCI are on exhibit as built by IBM from drawings left by the master. In the upstairs gallery, see 50 color photographs of Texas singer-songwriters by art professor Gary Goldberg. *Through Dec. 31. Grace Museum, 102 Cypress St. at North First Street, Abilene, 325/673-4587.* **www.thegracemuseum.org**.

ECHOES: MEMORIES OF A BLACK CULTURE goes behind South Texas ranching life to reveal a community rebuilt after Emancipation. Cowhands, preachers, midwives, cooks, and servants tell their stories through film, photographs, and oral histories collected by cousins and fifth-generation Texans Louise and Nancy O'Connor in the 1980s. *Through Dec. 30. Museum of Coastal Bend, Victoria College, 2200 E. Red River, Victoria, 361/582-2511.* **www.museumofthecoastalbend.org**.

HO-HO PADDLE gets you in a kayak and on the lake to fish, bird-watch, or just enjoy the scenery of Sam Houston National Forest for a few hours. Trips are a two-hour minimum; reservations required. *Sat.-Mon., Dec. 23-25. North Lake Conroe Paddling Company, Stow-a-way Marina, 13988 Calvary Rd., Willis, 936/2032697.* **www.northlakeconroepaddlingco.com/contact_us.html**.

BOXING DAY Celebrated as a holiday in parts of the British Commonwealth, Boxing Day always falls on the first weekday after Christmas, when gifts are traditionally given to service workers who had to work on the holiday. Join Becker's winery staff around the fireplace for festive hors d'oeuvres and yuletide music. *Tue., Dec. 26, 10am-5pm. Becker Vineyards, Stonewall, 830/644-2681.* **www.beckervineyards.com**.

Miller Blueprint

Holiday Sale

5 more days of shopping...

up to 40% off

art supplies and gifts

An excellent selection of paint sets, drawing kits, easels, sketch pads and much more! Perfect gift items for all ages!



Miller Blueprint has been in Austin since 1920

Shop Locally

MILLER blueprint

www.millerblueprint.com

Downtown Location
501 W. 6th Street
Austin, TX 78701
(512)478-6793
M-F 8-5:30
Sat 10 - 5 (Retail Sales Only)

North Location
10713 Metric Blvd
Austin, TX 78758
(512)837-3888
M-F 8-5:30

Envision a future without violence.
SafePlace needs your support.

24 HOUR HOTLINE:
512/267-SAFE • 927-9616 TTY

www.austin-safeplace.com

SafePlace exists to end rape, sexual assault and domestic violence.

Gaslight Theater

THURS-SAT @ 8PM THRU DEC. 23RD

proudly presents

YOU BETTER WATCH OUT

by Don Hodgins

Christmas at the Willow Inn will be a surprising and heartwarming one when the spirit of Christmas comes to stay.

204 N. Main, Lockhart (512)376-5653
Across the street from world-famous *Black's BBQ*
www.GaslightTheater.com

HELP US TEST OUR WEBSITE

Please fill out a survey at austinchronicle.com/survey for a chance to participate in testing our web redesign. A few selected participants will be asked to come into our offices and spend about an hour using our website, answering questions, and giving feedback.

A $25 gift certificate to El Chile and two movie passes to the Galaxy Highland will be given for participation.

CHRONICLE

austinchronicle.com/survey

WEALTH IS OF THE HEART, NOT OF THE HAND.

– Tommy Dewar
(1864-1930)



Dewarism™.com

PROVE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY, NOT YOUR CAPACITY.
©2006 DEWAR'S, WHITE LABEL AND THE HIGHLANDER DEVICE ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS AND DEWARISM IS A TRADEMARK.
IMPORTED BY JOHN DEWAR & SONS COMPANY, MIAMI, FL. BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY - 40% ALC. BY VOL.

spark07

KLRU'S ENGAGING SPEAKER SERIES
PRESENTED BY AMD

SUBSCRIBE and SAVE

Purchase tickets NOW for Spark: KLRU's Engaging Speakers Series presented by AMD. Five and three event series subscriptions are on sale now at **klru.org/spark**

Gwen Ifill JAN 31
Election year politics with PBS's Washington Week host and respected analyst Gwen Ifill

Maria Hinojosa and Ray Suarez
In Conversation FEB 21
America's changing culture with journalists Maria Hinojosa and Ray Suarez in Conversation

Tim Flannery and Elizabeth Kolbert
Global Warming MAR 20
Global warming with international scientist Tim Flannery and pioneering journalist Elizabeth Kolbert

Douglas Rushkoff APR 18
Media manipulation and its impact on consumers with cyberpunk author and filmmaker Douglas Rushkoff

Anne Lamott MAY 15
Everyday life viewed through a quirky, humorous literary truth with award-winning novelist Anne Lamott

SPARK brings some of the world's most celebrated and outspoken experts to Austin to discuss issues that have a global impact, social significance and community relevance. All lectures begin at 7:30 p.m. and take place at the Paramount Theatre located at 713 Congress Ave.

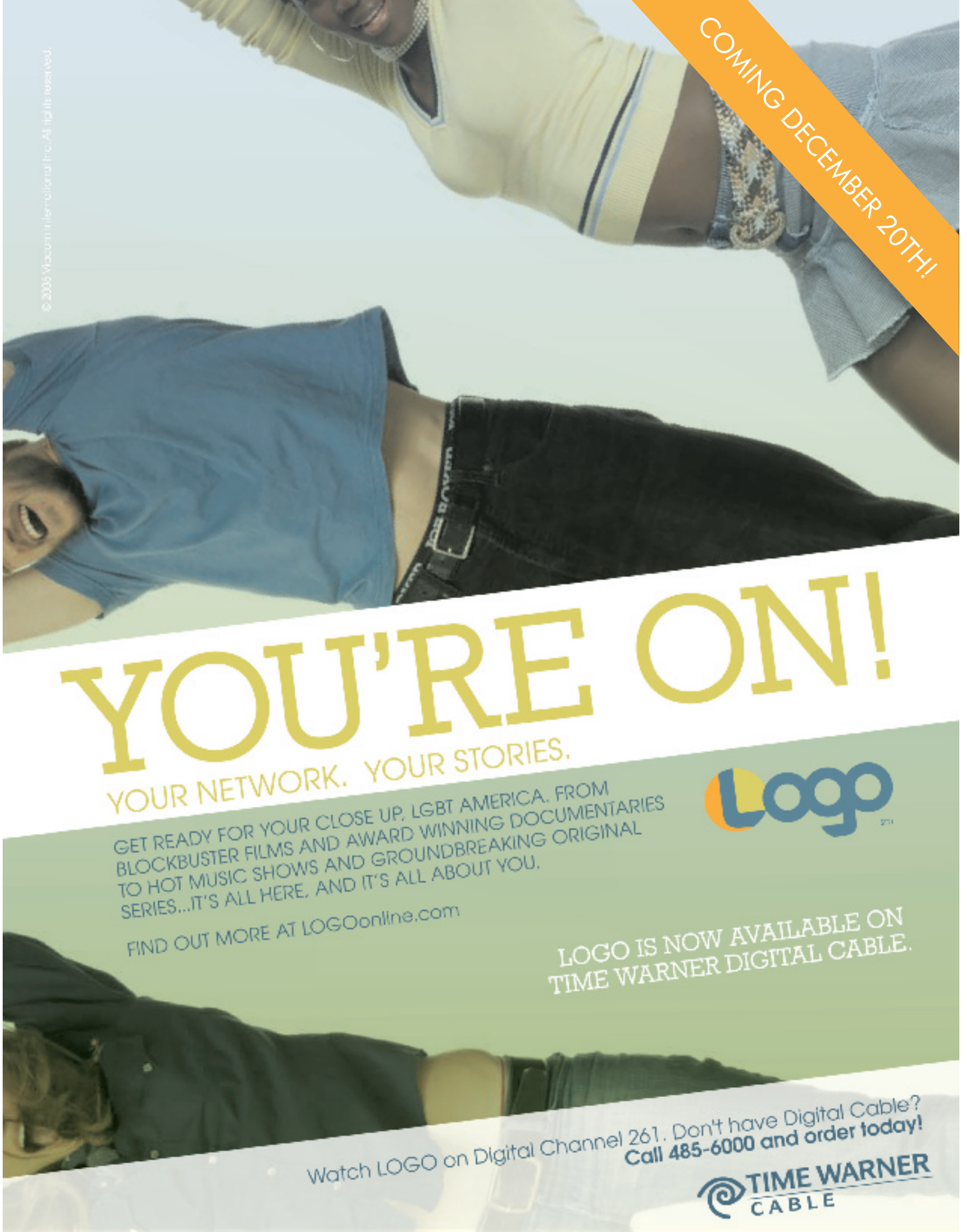
All proceeds benefit KLRU-TV, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization



sponsored by: AMD WELLS FARGO INTERCONTINENTAL

Thanks to our media sponsors: The Austin Chronicle • KUT • austinist.com

klru


COMING DECEMBER 20TH!
YOU'RE ON!
YOUR NETWORK. YOUR STORIES.
GET READY FOR YOUR CLOSE UP, LGBT AMERICA. FROM BLOCKBUSTER FILMS AND AWARD WINNING DOCUMENTARIES TO HOT MUSIC SHOWS AND GROUNDBREAKING ORIGINAL SERIES...IT'S ALL HERE, AND IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU.
FIND OUT MORE AT LOGOonline.com
Logo
LOGO IS NOW AVAILABLE ON TIME WARNER DIGITAL CABLE.
Watch LOGO on Digital Channel 261. Don't have Digital Cable?
Call 485-6000 and order today!
TIME WARNER CABLE

YOGA FOR BACK PAIN Call ahead to reserve your spot. This class focuses on back-muscle relaxation, flexibility, and strength. *Yoga Solutions, 10008 Mount Rainier Dr., 963-8364. Donations accepted.* **yogasolutions@gmail.com**.

DIRTY LIBRARIAN CHAINS TRUNK SHOW *Noon-4pm. FactoryPeople, 1325 S. Congress, 440-8002.* **www.factorypeople.com**. (See Thursday 12/21.)

DOWNTOWN GHOST TOURS *8pm. The Hideout Coffeehouse, 617 Congress, 853-9826.* **www.hauntedtexas.com**. (See Friday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film listings.)
Die Hard *@ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45pm*

MUSIC (See Music listings.)
Holiday Hip Hop Classic *The Parish*
Asleep at the Wheel *Broken Spoke*
Wintershow *The Mohawk*
Terry Allen *Saxon Pub*
Blaze Foley CD Release/Birthday *Ruta Maya*
Paul Ray & the Cobras *Continental Club*

Sunday 24

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES All are invited to catch the early service with carols and a sermon from the Rev. **Roger Paynter**, or wait till evening for the traditional "candles, carols, and communion" service with a special appearance from composer/pianist **Joseph Martin**. *11am, 5:30pm. First Baptist Church, 901 Trinity, 476-2625.* **www.fbcaustin.org**.

YOGA FOR DIGESTIVE DISORDERS Please call or e-mail to register. *11am-12:15pm. Yoga Solutions, 10008 Mount Rainier Dr., 963-8364. Donations accepted.* **yogasolutions@gmail.com**.

SATISFY YOUR INNER SANTA: MILK, COOKIES, & BEER What's Christmas Eve without 'em? *8am-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* **www.rutamaya.net**.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE Led by the Rev. **Jacquelyn Donald-Mimswith**, accompanied by singer **Pamela Hart** and the gospel/jazz saxophone of New Orleans' **Brian Hunter**. *10am. Imani Community Church, Davis Elementary School auditorium, 5214 W. Duval Rd., 343-9300. Free.*

UNTITLED So-called because they don't subscribe to labels, this group of "post-college, pre-kids" young professionals hopes to offer an alternative to mainstream church and meets regularly to discuss life and faith. *10am. Quad 5-C at Riverbend Church, 4214 Capital of TX Hwy. N.* **www.riverbend.com**.

Monday 25

CHRISTMAS AT RUTA MAYA Don't you hate it when the whole world shuts down for a holiday? Well, don't worry. You don't have to sit at home staring at the wall or wander the streets looking for a sign of life today. You can go where the people are, at Ruta Maya, your friendly Penn Field coffee shop. *10am-10pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* **www.rutamaya.net**.

KARAOKE CHRISTMAS AT THE HOLE The Hole in the Wall has passed through many hands during its tenure on the drag, but the beloved institution somehow manages to keep its traditions alive, and this year one of its best – Karaoke Christmas, hosted by the fabulous **Debbie** and **Rusty**, with entertainment from **Bruce Newman & the Barnstormers** – turns 15. So stop by and sing your piece among the best collection of inebriated holiday orphans you'll ever find. *9pm. Hole in the Wall, 2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747.* **www.holeinthewallaustin.com**.

MUSIC (See Music listings.)
Honky, **Billy Dee** *Woody's South*
Dale Watson *Continental Club*

the GAY *place*

BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY



Blake & Erochica: 2006 tour

ADVENTURING OUTDOORS Austin's gay and lesbian group for making the nature scene. Minimal dues, maximum fun! *236-7176.* **www.main.org/adventuring**.

ATTICUS CIRCLE Come join the grassroots gay-straight alliance that stands up for dignity, justice, and the (true) American way! *450-5188.* **info@atticuscircle.org**, **www.atticuscircle.org**, **www.myspace.com/atticuscircle**.

POSITIVE INFLUENCE New therapy/support group for HIV-positive gay men. Eight-week sessions. Call for schedule. *Wednesdays, 6-7:30pm. 784-8220.*

GAY PLACE ON MYSPACE Your pals at Gay Place are on **MySpace**, unabashed in our quest to crack 1,500 by New Year's. We'd be proud to have you as our friend! **gayplace@austinchronicle.com**, **www.myspace.com/gayplace**.

ELECTROCUTION: THE WHITE PARTY Think you have to travel to the Dinah Shore to don the most cloroxed clothing lingering in your closet? Not this year, tchotchkies! Wear your whities, tight-y or loose-y (we hope reeeeal loose-y), and dance until you glow. Black lights on, smoke machine fogging, and three DJs spinning to the darkest, danciest depths of your soul. It's going to be hot! White hot. With proceeds benefiting the top surgery of local gender queer, quasi-celeb, model, and goth-bar 'tender extraordinaire **Johnny Panther**, in a journey to make the outsides match the insides. *Thu., Dec. 21, 9pm. Elysium, 705 Red River, 478-2979. $2, with white attire.*

BOOK A SEX WORKER TODAY! That's right. The **Sex Workers' Art Show** wants to do Texas. The crew of talented professionals, who'll be traveling all over the country bringing art, drag, spoken word, music, and performance of all kinds, is in the final stages of booking its early-2007 tour. Want in? Of course you do! Book it up, for your school or venue, and see what their spirits really have to offer. (Shoot an e-mail to **annie@sexworkersartshow.com** if interested.) **www.sexworkersartshow.com**.

THE OZ PARTIES' ANNIVERSARY PARTY Happy birthday to you, Ozzies! That's 9 under their belts, and it's time to celebrate! Bring a holiday plate of your very own, and share your own traditions with the crew. As always, the Oz Parties provide the opportunity for straight, gay, bisexual, and transgendered individuals with HIV to meet for fellowship and community. 'Tis the season, for sure. *Tue., Dec. 26, 7-11pm. 3137 Jazz Street, Round Rock, 512/406-6408. $5-10 suggested contribution.* **theozparties@hotmail.com**, **www.theozparties.org**.

For more gay stuff, see Calendar online: **austinchronicle.com. *Send gay bits to*** **gayplace@austinchronicle.com.**

Sports

BY MARK FAGAN

THE HOME TEAMS

WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL Football State Championship Game The Chaps have their work cut out for them against the Dragons of Southlake Carroll, who will be competing in their third straight state championship game (they won the last two), have a 47-game winning streak, and an all-time 5A record of 78-1. Vs. Southlake Carroll: *Sat., Dec. 23, 7pm. Alamodome, San Antonio.* **www1.eanes.k12.tx.us/athletics**.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Women's Basketball Southwestern University Invitational: Vs. Concordia (Ill.): *Thu., Dec. 28, 5pm.* Consolation/Championship Game: *Fri., Dec. 29, TBA.* **southwesternpirates.cstv.com**.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Men's Basketball See "Tip Time" for more. Vs. Centenary: *Thu., Dec. 28, 7pm.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. Texas A&M-Corpus Christi: *Thu., Dec. 21, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center.* **www.texassports.com**.

AUSTIN TOROS The Toros continue their winless campaign (0-8), but with five games left in '06 (four at home), they have plenty of time to get back on course before the new year. See our sports blog, the Score, for more. There will be some high school basketball action prior to the Dec. 30 game (free with admission) featuring Connaly vs. Temple (boys) and Connaly vs. Leander (girls). Vs. Los Angeles: *Sat., Dec. 23; Tue., Dec. 26, 7pm.* Vs. Sioux Falls: *Thu., Dec. 28, 7pm. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez.* **www.nba.com/dleague/austin**.

RECREATION & FITNESS

WHOLE FOODS MARKET ICE SKATING See Super Fun Holiday in a Major Way, p.84. *Through Jan. 14, 10am-8pm. 525 N. Lamar, 476-1206. $10.* **www.wholefoodsmarket.com**.

RAINBOW ROLLERSKATING *Wed., Dec. 27, 8pm. Skate World Northwest, 9514 Anderson Mill Rd., 258-8886. $6.* **www.main.org/rainbowskate**.

ACTIVE ADULT 50+ ACTIVITIES Free outdoor activities such as kayaking, mountain biking, rock hounding, extreme jewelry making, fly fishing, and hiking for active adults 50-plus every day of the week. *Daily. Lorraine "Grandma" Camacho Activity Center, 34 Robert Martinez Jr., 391-1863. Free.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/camacho.htm**.

FREE LADIES ROCK-CLIMBING CLINIC Members and day-pass holders receive free instruction and get to meet other female climbers. *Mondays, 7:30pm. Austin Rock Gym, both locations, 416-9299. Free.* **www.austinrockgym.com**.

HILL COUNTRY OUTDOORS *Mon., Dec. 25, 6:30-8pm. Opal Divine's, 3601 S. Congress Ste. K-100, 707-0237. Free.* **www.hillcountryoutdoors.com**.

TEXAS OUTDOORS WOMAN NETWORK *Tue., Dec. 26, 6:30pm. LCRA-Hancock Building board room, 3701 Lake Austin Blvd., across from Hula Hut, 255-3645.* **www.townaustin.org**.

U.S. men's national team coach **Bob Bradley** has named 29 players to his first training-camp roster that will begin workouts Jan. 4. It's an extremely young, inexperienced group, with only one player based overseas, 22 with less than five appearances with the national team, and 10 who have never appeared in a game with the senior team.

Soccer WATCH

Italian defender **Fabio Cannavaro** was voted FIFA Player of the Year Monday, the first defender ever to earn the honor and only the second Italian (Roberto Baggio, 1993). Brazilian midfielder **Marta** is FIFA Women's Player of the Year.

South American champ **Internacional** of Brazil got a late goal from **Adriano** to upset Spanish powerhouse Barcelona 1-0 to win the **Club World Cup** on Sunday.

The **European Champions League** round of 16 draw was announced Friday. Highlight matchups include **Liverpool-Barcelona**, and **Real Madrid-Bayern Munich**. The full draw, plus a look at the European season at its midpoint, is at **austinchronicle.com/soccer**. – *Nick Barbaro*

Tip Time: Finals Edition



PHOTO COURTESY OF UT

D.J. Augustin

As campuses close up shop on the first semester, and anonymous students at state schools across the country collect their payoffs for acing star athletes' exams, "Tip Time" wishes all college basketball fans – them and only them – the best this holiday season, as well as in the new year. But stay sharp. Soon after unwrapping our **Rick Majerus** replica sweaters and wearing them around our hometowns while getting wasted with old friends, we'll have a lot to work on in the months leading up to the Madness. Majerus rules, by the way. He's one of the best things about the sport, and we'll bring him up a lot along the way.

But before getting into all of that, let's talk **Texas**, only because I'm contractually obligated to do so. The Hornish Game Hens are playing Arkansas at the Erwin Center as we go to press, which would seem like a gimme – their old SWC rival Razorbacks' two losses this season, both blowouts, have come against Big 12 opponents **Missouri** and **Texas Tech** – but given Texas' occasional lapses in precocity, looking ahead to a Saturday, Dec. 23, date with **Tennessee** in Knoxville would be unwise at best.

Still, we have no choice but to do so here. UT-UT (ESPN, Sat., 11am) makes for a bellwether tilt for both teams. The game should be a good final exam going into next semester and the Big 12 slate (yes, I'm aware that the Gents of Centenary await on Dec. 28, but let's call them extra credit), as the Vols are a good comp for Texas: Each squad is deep, young, coached by a weirdo, and possessing a résumé steadily building toward an NCAA Tournament bid with a couple of quality losses and a showcase win apiece. Tennessee's two losses have come against ranked opponents, **Butler** and **North Carolina**. No shame whatsoever there. Their big win was Monday against the till-then-unbeaten **Oklahoma State Cowboys**. Texas, meanwhile, took tough hits from **Michigan State** and **Gonzaga** before outlasting **LSU** in overtime on Dec. 10.

That classic, of course, was **D.J. Augustin**'s statement game. Young'un reminds me of former **UConn** point guard **Marcus Williams**, now with the New Jersey Nets. Both are savvy penetrators with a nose for the rim – not many other ways to say that, sorry – and Augustin's solid 2-1 assist-to-turnover ratio this season is a just year of experience away from Williams' sterling 2.5. Let's just hope the freshman doesn't get into the laptop-fencing game. He has a huge future and is a lot of fun to watch. Should he stick around for a few years, it'll be him leading the Longhorns to a national title, not **Kevin Durant**. For more *Chronicle* sports coverage, see **austinchronicle.com/sports**. – *Shawn Badgley*

Super Fun Holiday in a Major Way

CITY OF AUSTIN HOLIDAY CLOSINGS & SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENTS Closings: city administrative offices – *Dec. 24-25, Jan. 1*; city libraries, cultural arts facilities, and Austin Nature and Science Center – *Dec. 24-26, Jan. 1*; city recreation and senior activities centers – *Dec. 25, Jan. 1* (see **www.cityofaustin.org/parks** for exceptions); city pools – *Dec. 25, Jan. 1*; Household Hazardous Waste Facility – *Dec. 25-31*. There will be no garbage, recycling, or yard-trim collection on *Dec. 25* or *Jan. 1*. Pay-as-You-Throw customers will receive collection one day late; regular collection schedule resumes *Jan. 8*. **www.ci.austin.tx.us/news/2006/holidays.htm**.

37TH STREET LIGHTS Despite rumors to the contrary, 37th Street is up and running with all kinds of shiny, twinkly lights for you to blink at. We suggest walking, if you can – it's much better than inching along in your car. (See News, p.22, for more.) *37th Street, between Guadalupe & Home Lane.*

EVERGREEN FARMS CHRISTMAS TREES Oh, you don't just cut down your own tree here. You take a hayride to it first, and afterward you hang out by the campfire, drink cider, paint a pine cone or three, play some games, take a walk on the nature trail, pet the farm animals ... you know, a typical afternoon in idyllic-holiday fantasyland. *Through Dec. 24. Thu.-Fri., noon-dark. Sat.-Sun., 9am-dark. 242 Monkey Rd., Elgin, 512/281-4833.* **www.evergreen-farms.com**.

ICE SKATING You can't claim to have experienced a winter this year without visiting Whole Foods' ice rink. *Through Jan. 14. Daily, 10am-8pm. Whole Foods Market, 525 N. Lamar, 476-1206. $10 per 45-minute session.* **www.wholefoodsmarket.com**.

SANTA'S RANCH is open for business. This drive-through Christmas park boasts more than 1.5 million lights displaying various holiday characters and scenes. *Through Dec. 31. Sun.-Thu., 6-10pm; Fri.-Sat., 6-11pm. 9561 N. I-35, between San Marcos and New Braunfels, 830/743-1293.* **www.santasranch.net**.

TEXAS HILL COUNTRY REGIONAL CHRISTMAS LIGHTING TRAIL Towns all around Austin, including Dripping Springs, New Braunfels, Wimberley, and many others, are lit with holiday spirit, and all will have festivals, parades, and family activities going on *Through Jan. 1*. See Web site for a map and details. *866/839-3378.* **www.tex-fest.com/regional/default.htm**.

ZILKER PARK TRAIL OF LIGHTS Every night boasts a full lineup of dancers and singers to accompany the 1-million-light spectacle. *Through Dec. 23.* Shuttle service available from *14th & Trinity, 5:45-10:45pm ($2)*, or you can park at Zilker *($8). Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700. Free.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/tol**.

Tuesday 26

CANDLELIGHT TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION A classic Texas holiday tradition. *5:30-8:30pm. Governor's Mansion, 1010 Colorado, 463-5516. Free.* **www.txfgm.org**.

CARDIAC RISK PROFILE SCREENINGS Call to make an appointment. *Seton Medical Center, 1201 W. 38th, 324-3162. $32.* **cwahlgren@seton.org**.

HEALTH TALK WITH HOST SHANNON JONES Tune in to **KAZI 88.7** on Tuesdays for this program addressing health issues and disparities in Travis County and tracing the progress of Austin's **African-American Quality of Life Initiative**. *8-9am.*

POST-HOLIDAY RECYCLING Find out what to do with your **Christmas tree**, all that **excess plastic packaging** you've acquired, and even **unwanted gifts**. Go to **www.keepaustinbeautiful.org**, and click on **Green Your Holidays**.

SOUL TRAVEL: EXPLORING THE WORLDS OF GOD This free four-week workshop ends today. *7-8:30pm. Austin Eckankar Center, 223 W. Anderson Ste. B-206, 453-0331.* **www.eckankar-texas.org**.

YOGA FOR CANCER SURVIVORS *11am-12:15pm. Yoga Solutions, 10008 Mount Rainier Dr., 963-8364. Donations accepted.* **yogasolutions@gmail.com**.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film listings.)
The Wizard of Oz* With *Dark Side of the Moon *@ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm*

MUSIC (See Music listings.)
Mojoe *Cedar Street*
Miss Lavelle White *Saxon Pub*

Wednesday 27

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET This midweek market features local farmers, vendors, and live music every Wednesday. (See Club Listings) *4-7pm. Whole Foods parking lot, 525 N. Lamar.* **www.austinfarmersmarket.org**.

DIAMOND WAY BUDDHISM MEDITATION MEETING meets on campus at the Texas Union when school's in session; when it's not, they meet at the DWB Center of Austin, 5900 Dunbury. *371-9803.* **www.diamondway.org/austin**.

FREE YOGA CLASSES Release some of that pent-up holiday stress on a cashed-out post-holiday budget. *6pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* **www.rutamaya.net**.

HOLIDAY FAVORITES IN THE MUSEUM Local musicians play holiday music while you peruse the "Miss Ima's Quilts" exhibit. *2-4pm. Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 Congress, 936-8746.* **www.thestoryoftexas.com**.

SHAMANIC JOURNEY CIRCLE Learn the fundamental practice of both ancient and contemporary shamanism. *7:15-9pm (7pm, newbies). NiaSpace, 3212 S. Congress, 586-2736. $10.* **www.shamanicpassages.com**.

YOGA FOR HYPERTENSION *11:30am-12:45pm. Yoga Solutions, 10008 Mount Rainier Dr., 963-8364. Donations accepted.* **yogasolutions@gmail.com**.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film listings.)
High *@ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm*
The Wizard of Oz* With *Dark Side of the Moon *@ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm*

MUSIC (See Music listings.)
Slaid Cleaves *Antone's*

Thursday 28

GET MADE HAPPY HOUR complements your shopping (30% off all tops today) with free makeovers, massages, and appetizers, plus music from **DJ Holland**. *7-9pm. Flirt, 2405 Nueces Ste. H, 472-4440.*

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT VOLUNTEER NIGHT *Thu., 6-10pm; Sun., 7pm-12mid. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 647-4803.* **www.insidebooksproject.com**. (See Thursday 12/21)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film listings.)
Danielson: A Family Movie *@ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm*

MUSIC (See Music listings.)
Daniel Francis Doyle, **Best Fwends** *Beerland*
The Noise Revival Orchestra Experience *Trophy's*
Alejandro Escovedo *Antone's*
Galactic, **Papa Mali** *La Zona Rosa*

Ongoing Events

AUSALON MEETING This longtime debate-and-discussion group meets monthly for casual, Algonquin-style dinners at local restaurants and welcomes anyone with unusual insights or provocative points of view. Call for details. *301-5155.*

TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE: VICTIM SERVICES UNIT desperately needs 30 new volunteers to work alongside sheriff's deputies, providing support to victims at crime scenes. Training runs *Feb. 2-20: two nights a week, 6-9pm, plus two Saturdays, 9am-5pm. 854-9709.*

CAP METRO'S ADOPT-A-STOP allows you or your organization to adopt one of the stops along Cap Metro's bus lines. In exchange for helping keep your stop tidy, Cap Metro will let you spruce it up (Keep Austin Beautiful will even provide landscaping tools) to reflect the personality of your neighborhood. *389-7434.* **lamont.ross@capmetro.org**.

AUSTIN CARSHARE Become part of the solution to our carbon-choked air and our traffic-clogged streets: Enroll in Austin CarShare, the first car-sharing program in Texas. *448-4477.* **www.austincarshare.org**.

BARTON SPRINGS AUDIO TOUR Take a self-guided tour of Austin's favorite swimming hole. All you have to do is download the audio files and map from the Save Our Springs Alliance Web site, and off you go. **www.sosalliance.org**.

PETFINDER.COM Several Austin-area shelters post to this Web site, which has thousands of homeless animals available for adoption, complete with photos, medical histories, personality descriptions, and more. Just type in what kind of pet you're looking for, including size, age, and sex, and up pop dozens of irresistable animals waiting for you to take them home.

E.M. BARRON EXHIBIT OF MINERALS & GEMS Former Texas legislator and World War II veteran Col. E.M. Barron left behind a dazzling collection of unusual gems and minerals when he died in 1969. The globe-trotting colonel had collected them all over the world, and the Texas Natural Science Center has made them available to the public with this new permanent exhibit. *Texas Memorial Museum, 2400 Trinity, 471-1604.* **www.texasnaturalsciencecenter.org**.

COATS FOR CUBS Bring in your real fur trims, accessories, and shearling, and Buffalo Exchange will donate them to the **Humane Society** to use as bedding for injured wildlife. *Through April 22. Buffalo Exchange, 2904 Guadalupe, 480-9925.* **www.coatsforcubs.org**, **www.buffaloexchange.com**.

ENROLLMENT FOR MEDICARE'S PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE PROGRAM Enrollment for the program, called **Plan D** runs through *Sun., Dec. 31*. Call *800/MEDICARE* for free personalized assistance; for assistance from a *local* benefits counselor, call *800/633-4227*. **www.medicare.gov**, **www.tdi.state.tx.us**.

MEDICAID INFORMATION SESSIONS Medicaid beneficiaries with **diabetes**, **heart failure**, **chronic obstructive pulmonary disease**, and/or **end-stage renal disease** may be eligible for the **Care Improvement Plus** program, which offers benefits tailored to the specific needs of people living with these ailments. Call to reserve your seat; lunch will be served. **Golden Corral North**, *9710 N. Lamar: 11:30am, Dec. 21 & 28.* **Golden Corral South**, *3607 S. Lamar: 11:30am, Dec. 26.* **CIP Offices**, *1016 La Posada #200: 11:30am, Dec. 27. 877/625-2207 or TTY: 866/679-3052.*

HEB EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS honor Texas' best teachers, principals, and school districts. **Nominate an educator who's profoundly affected you**, and he or she may receive a hefty grant. Application deadline: *Dec. 31.* **www.heb.com/aboutHEB/HH-excelTeachAward.jsp**.

2006 PROPERTY TAX BILLS have been mailed out. If you're a homeowner who escrows through a mortgage company, then your bill has been delivered to that company; however, you're still liable for taxes. For a copy of your bill or for other information on property taxes (including special provisions for the elderly and disabled), call *854-9473,* or see **www.traviscountytax.org**.

AUSTIN CITY STORE Calling all creative local people making creative local things: City Hall's new store wants your genuine Austin products, be they fashion-, houseware-, or paper-oriented (calendars, postcards, etc.). The only thing they don't want is large artwork or photography (due to space limitations). Call or e-mail for details. *974-7852.* **jan.stephens@ci.austin.tx.us**.

CHAIN FREE AUSTIN PLEDGE DRIVE As part of the movement to outlaw tethering dogs (based on research showing that the practice is dangerous for both humans and the animals themselves), **Chain Free Austin** is proposing that the ban proposal (to go before council in January) be accompanied by a pledge drive to help low-income pet owners buy fencing materials. If you'd like to pledge a future donation to the **Fencing Assistance Fund**, visit **www.chainfreeaustin.org**.

GOT VASES TO SPARE? If so, **Keep Austin Beautiful** would be happy to use them for centerpieces during this February's awards luncheon. Call or e-mail to donate your medium-sized vases (no larger than 9.5-by-3.5 inches). *391-0622.* **alanna@keepaustinbeautiful.org**.

TRANSITIONAL SHELTER PROGRAM This program, sponsored by the **Foundation for the Homeless** and the **Interfaith Hospitality Network**, has openings for families experiencing homelessness this holiday season. Call or e-mail for details. *453-6570.* **shayes@foundationforthehomeless.org**, **www.foundationforthehomeless.org**.

GOT SOMETHING GOOD TO SAY ABOUT YWCA? Well, now's the time to say it, and here's the place: **www.myhometownhelper.com**. Your comments could help the YWCA receive funding for their commemorative centennial project with the Austin History Center, "**An Exhibit of the YWCA's 100 Years: From Deep in the Heart of Austin**." *326-1222.* **www.ywcaaustin.org**.

SUMMER SEMINARS FOR TEACHERS The **Gilder Leherman Institute of American History** offers a competitive tuition-free, weeklong seminar program with lectures from Stanford, Columbia, and Yale historians. Application deadline: *Thu., Feb. 15.* **www.gilderlehrman.org**.

GOT OPINIONS ON TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAMS? The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will be conducting studies on exemplary practices within local TANF programs and wants your suggestions on which programs to include. For more info, see **www.peerta.acf.hhs.gov/whatsnew/index.htm#New**; to nominate a program, e-mail **peerta@icfcaliber.com**.

PINK: A LOVE COURIER SERVICE Perhaps you've seen the **pink-clad bike-messengers** pedaling through the streets of Austin? They're delivering "messages of love" as part of artist **Jaclyn Pryor**'s First Night project, PINK. All who send or receive a PINK message can march in their **grand New Year's Eve processional** down Congress, followed by the **Bicycle Carnival** on the First Street Bridge. Stop by the *PINK headquarters, 237 W. Second* (or see **www.get-pink.blogspot.com** for PINK's satellite locations), to send your own message of love to someone special.

MIRACLE ON WHEELS provides **electric-power wheelchairs**, often free of charge through Medicare, to **senior citizens** and those who are **permanently disabled**. Call or see Web site for details. *800/749-8778.* **www.jaspanmedical.com**.

STANDING CALL FOR VIGIL Sadly, we're approaching the 3,000th death among U.S. soldiers in Iraq. The **Austin Center for Peace and Justice** has issued a standing call for a vigil following the day we reach that number. On that day, bring candles (along with paper plates or cups to catch the wax) to the *Lamar Pedestrian Bridge, 6:30pm. 799-5117.* **www.austinpeacecenter.org**, **www.icasualties.org/oif**.

new year's eve guide

BY RICHARD WHITTAKER

It's time to start planning! Most of the events gathered here require reservations, so make your decisions and start dialing. Don't worry, though. There's plenty of stuff going on for you noncommittal types, too, as long as you don't have your heart set on a three-course meal. We'll have more no-reservation-required events next week; meanwhile, be sure to check out **austinchronicle.com/newyears** for more.

food

ASTI Three courses (or five, if you really feel like one last '06 blowout) of fine Italian dining, with complimentary champagne. *408-C E. 43rd, 451-1218. $65, three courses; $85, five courses.* **www.astiaustin.com**.

CARMELO'S Wish you could bring in the new year in the old country? Try a plate of something Sicilian, complemented by a bottle from restaurateur Carmelo Mauro's excellent wine cellar. Eat early, and it's like you're on Italian time. *5pm. 504 E. Fifth, 477-7497.* **www.carmelosrestaurant.com**.

DOÑA EMILIA'S Two seatings of **New Latin cuisine**. Dine early before partying, or eat late and stay to celebrate. Either way, enjoy the **Latin blues**, courtesy of **Los Gallos**. *5 & 9pm. 101 San Jacinto, 478-2520.* ***$49-29*** *first seating,* ***$69-49*** *second seating.* **www.donaemilias.com**.

DRISKILL GRILL Executive Chef David Bull is keeping his end-of-year celebration menu card close to his chest, but there's a reason why AAA calls his restaurant one of the top 50 in the nation. Whether it's for the early seating or the seven courses at the late seating, book early to ensure your lovin' spoonfuls. *5:30pm. 604 Brazos, 391-7162. $125-$185 plus tax/gratuity (includes bottle of champagne per couple).* **www.driskillgrill.com**.

FADÓ IRISH PUB Two new years for the price of one! Raise a glass at 6pm for the changing of the year in Ireland, then try to make it to midnight in Austin. With Black Velvet specials (don't ask, just try it), and champagne toasts. *Sláinte! 214 W. Fourth, 457-0172.* **www.fadoirishpub.com/austin**.

FINO A special four-course Mediterranean celebration. Gotta say, the ox tail & fresh ricotta-stuffed piquillo peppers sound gooood. *2905 San Gabriel #200, 474-2905. $75.* **www.astiaustin.com**.

MCCORMICK & SCHMICK'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT A fishy way to end the year. Raise a toast with those purveyors of everything piscine, with live piano music through the night. *4pm. 401 Congress, 236-9600.* **www.mccormickandschmicks.com**.

RESTAURANT JEZEBEL This may be its first New Year's in Austin, but this new eatery comes with a stellar reputation, courtesy of chef/owner **Parind Vora**. Two seatings of the finest in global fusion and modern American haute cuisine. *6 & 9pm. 914-C Congress, 499-3999. $85, first seating; $145, second seating.* **www.restaurantjezebel.com**.

STUBB'S BAR-B-Q For anyone who's been looking for an excuse to eat twice in one day at Red River's first house of Texas cooking. Start with a gentle brunch accompanied by two sets from Austin's own first family of gospel, the Durdens. Then come back at night for more of those delicious ribs and the soulful folk of the South Austin Jug Band with support from Derty Bird. *801 Red River, 480-8341. Free, 11am & 1pm show; $27, 9pm show.* **www.stubbsbbq.com**.

THREADGILL'S WORLD HEADQUARTERS You may want a quiet Sunday morning. Or you may want to line your belly with some good home cookin' before the big booze night. Either way, join Willie Nelson's favorite gospel group, **Bells of Joy**, for an early gospel brunch. *11am. 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304. Free.* **www.threadgills.com**.

music

AUSTIN MUSIC HALL We are in Texas, right? Then it's time for some country. Kick off the evening with self-mythologizing bizarro honky-tonksters the **Gourds**; stick around for Austin's own countrified, country-fried rockers **Reckless Kelly**; and then celebrate the passing of time with the Texas troubadour himself, **Robert Earl Keen**. *7:30pm. 208 Nueces, 263-4146. $32 ($125, VIP balcony seats, four per table, with complimentary champagne).* **www.austinmusichall.com**.

BROKEN SPOKE Bars don't come more honky-tonk, and neither do bands. Sit a spell and sip a spell with fiddle player **Alvin Crow & His Pleasant Valley Boys**. *9pm. 3201 S. Lamar, 442-6189. $21.* **www.brokenspokeaustintx.com**.

CONTINENTAL CLUB Since you'll be hanging with the cool kids on SoCo anyway, you better know that gravel-throated gee-nee-us **Jon Dee Graham** will be setting the mood for midnight, accompanied by the laid-back Southern stylin's of the **Mother Truckers**. Regulars probably already know that perennial residents the **Mike Flanigin B-3 Trio** will be at home up in the gallery. *9pm. 1315 S. Congress, 441-2444.* **www.continentalclub.com**.

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL Ever wanted to go to one of *those* parties? That's what Austin Social Scene's 16th annual New Year's Eve Gala promises to be. Sultry Nashville survivor **Christina Bell** seduces the main ballroom, backed by "friends of Willie" the **Troubadillos**. **LC Rocks** bring the Eighties raaaawk with hair metal covers, while **Taboo** and the **Daddios** keep the lounge ballroom jumping. But when the music stops, it's the afterparties that will keep tongues wagging all year. *7pm. 6121 N. I-35, 331-7890. $45 per person ($35 before Dec. 25); $249 per couple includes accommodations/gala/afterparties.* **www.austinsocialscene.com/nye2006.htm**.

INTERCONTINENTAL STEPHEN F. AUSTIN If you're really feeling like welcoming the new year in grand style, can there be any setting more divinely decadent than the Twenties elegance of the Stephen F.? Live music, hors d'oeuvres, and a chance to clink champagne glasses with the beautiful people. And when it's all done, just slink back to your hotel room. No designated driver for you! *701 Congress, 457-8880.* **www.austin.intercontinental.com**.

LA ZONA ROSA The **Subdudes** were supposed to be a one-night jam band in New Orleans. That was back in 1987, and these Bourbon Street heroes are still keeping roots traditions alive. So join the folk-fusing, Cajun-crooning acoustic veterans as they bring in their 20th year, and *laissez les bons temps roulez. 9pm. 612 W. Fourth, 472-2293. $37.* **www.lazonarosa.com**.

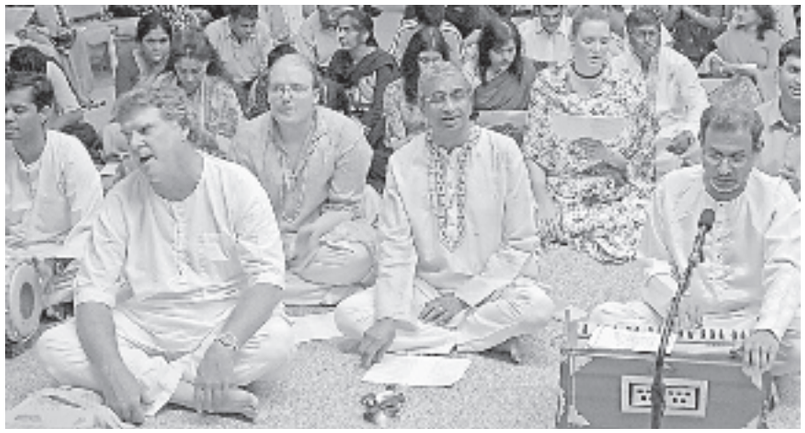
LONGBRANCH INN Are you bringing in 2007 or 1957? Retro tunes and retro gear, from doo-wop to rockabilly and ska, with the **Second Sunday Sock Hop** crew. *9pm. 1133 E. 11th, 472-5477. $10.* **www.myspace.com/secondsundaysockhop**.

MOLOTOV LOUNGE Time for a Stalinist purge of the reactionary old year, comrades? Not likely, with a decadent bourgeois **New Year's Masquerade**, complete with live entertainment, a midnight champagne toast, and, best of all, complimentary shuttles back to your bed. *9pm. 719 W. Sixth, 499-0600. $100 (includes drink tickets, hors d'oeuvres, and transport home).* **www.molotovlounge.com**.

PALMER EVENTS CENTER Before heading into the new year, indulge in some musical reminiscing, as the **Austin Symphony** joins Sixties survivors the **Association** for a night of holiday pops. *8pm. 900 Barton Springs Rd., 404-4020. $40-25.* **www.austinconventioncenter.com/pec**.

UNCLE FLIRTY'S Champagne toast and party favors? Is Sixth Street's new sleazy uncle trying to get you squiffy? Call for group table reservations. *7pm. 325 E. Sixth, 473-8891.* **www.uncleflirtys.com**.

WILD BASIN WILDERNESS PRESERVE Bring in the new year under the stars with the sweet harmonies of **Albert & Gage**. BYOB. *8pm. 805 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 327-7622. $25.* **www.wildbasin.org**.



As far from Sixth Street as you can be

[SEE OTHER, BARSANA DHAM]

theatre, art, & comedy

ARTS ON REAL Time to pluck that unibrow and Vaseline your teeth for **Naughty Austin**'s special gala performance of ***Pageant***! You, the audience, get to decide who gets crowned Miss Glamouresse. But who'll look more fabulous, you or the cast? *9pm. 2826 Real, 472-2787. $25-35 ($150, table of four).* **www.artsonreal.com**.

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB **Bengt Washburn** is a very angry, very evil, very funny man. He'll be explaining why you should be glad '06 is over and annoyed that '07 is starting. *8 & 10:30pm. 8120 Research, #100, 467-2333. 8pm: $20, including free pass for a show in 2007; 10:30pm: $40, including free pass, party favors, champagne, & breakfast buffet.* **www.capcitycomedy.com**.

OMNI AUSTIN HOTEL SOUTHPARK Tighten your bow tie, slip on that LBD, and get ready for champagne, a gourmet meal – and a little light murder to go with your aperitif. Back at the Omni for their 16th annual **New Year's Murder Mystery Midnight Madness** (APD has to be getting suspicious by now), **Keith O'Leary** and **Margo Morrison** promise mystery, mirth, and moider (rated PG-13). *8:30pm, 4140 Governor's Row, 888/876-5834. $279 per couple ($382 with guest room and breakfast).* **www.murdermysterytexas.com/newyearsevebash**.

SPAGHETTI WAREHOUSE "Waiter, waiter, there's a dead body in my soup." Time for murder among the meatballs, courtesy of the **Capital City Mystery Players**. It's **interactive dinner theatre** where you play detective, with nautical naughtiness afoot. Board the *SS Titanium* for an evening of intrigue, romance, and prizes for guessing the culprit. *7 & 10pm. 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. $119 per couple.* **www.capcitymystery.com**.

VORTEX THEATRE It's the last night of the last show by L.A.-transplant **Rob Nash**, so catch his family-friendly farewell to Austin with *It's a Wonderful Life, 70s Christmas Special, Starring the Fonz* (yep, that's the name). *8pm. 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. $10-$30.* **www.vortexrep.org**.

ZACHARY SCOTT THEATRE It may be New Year's, but those 12 days of Christmas ain't over. In *The Santaland Diaries*, original elf **Martin Burke** is back in David Sedaris' tale of holiday misanthropy for the family. *2:30pm. 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. $40.* **www.zachscott.com**.

other

AUSTIN STEAM TRAIN Woo-woo! Walk down the red carpet and step aboard the **Twilight Flyer** for a night of gourmet cooking and classic cabaret, courtesy of **Laughing Out Loud Productions**. Cruise through the Hill Country and back into the age of steam travel, accompanied by Ol' Blue Eyes himself and a brace of Marilyn Monroes. The perfect way for hipsters, gourmands, and grease monkeys alike to see out the end of the year. *9pm, leaves from Cedar Park, 477-8468. $125.* **www.austinsteamtrain.org**.

BARSANA DHAM If bringing in another year with a hangover and a pocketful of regrets seems like too much, your prayers may be answered with three days of yoga, meditation, and instruction in Kirtan, the ancient wisdom of India. Or if you're back late from the holidays, try the intensive 24-hour Sankirtan, running noon to noon across the big night. *Three-day intensive begins 5pm, Dec. 29; 24-hour intensive begins noon, Dec 31. Barsana Dham, 400 Barsana, 288-7180.* **www.barsanadham.org**.

FIRST NIGHT AUSTIN It's only in its second year, but could you imagine New Year's here without our one-night free-roaming arts extravaganza? Nineteen venues. Dozens of performances, installations, and interactive events. Three thousand floating candles at Auditorium Shores. Enjoy hip-hop on the steps of Bank of America, puppetry courtesy of Dr. Praetorius' Alchemical Carnival, or the amazing ariel ballet of our beloved Sally Jacques' Blue Lapis Light. Make a hat at City Hall, or help create the largest chalk drawing in the world on Cesar Chavez. And of course, the grand procession. Best of all, it's totally free. *2pm. Downtown Austin, 476-5577.* **www.firstnightaustin.org**.

HILTON AUSTIN AIRPORT HOTEL The Muslim New Year falls on January 31 this year, which means the **Arab-American Culture Society** gets to celebrate twice. Join them tonight for **dinner and belly-dancing**. They'll even take the kids off your hands with a babysitting service, so don't forget to say *shukran* (that's Arabic for "thank you"). *8:30pm. 9515 New Airport Dr., 385-6767. $40 ($15, babysitting service).* For tickets, call Fadi Nassif, *971-2033*.

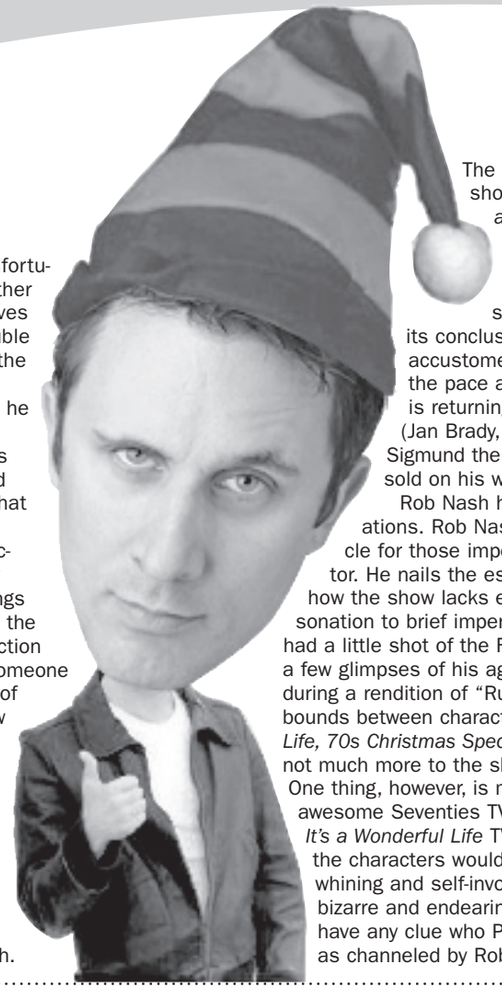
PLAYLAND SKATE CENTER Roller disco. Oh, yes. First, two hours of trying not to fall on your ass while you skate. Next, go retro-rock and cover-version crazeee with **Mr. Blue Sky** and **Horace Wimp**. It's two hours of poppy prog rock nonsense when those hot-pant-revivalists the **K-Tel Hit Machine** join forces with the **Tosca Strings** to bring you a night of **ELO**. *9pm. 8822 McCann, 452-1901. $50, includes six drink tickets, buffet, and skate rental.* **www.originalalamo.com**.

YO RANCH Get away to the Hill Country for a real Texas hoedown. Traditional roundup grub, music by **Hayes Carl**, **Owen Tiner**, **Emory Quinn**, and the **Stillwater Pioneers**, and late-night breakfast tacos. Proceeds benefit the Peaceable Kingdom Children's Ranch for the terminally ill. *7pm. YO Ranch, Mountain Home, 830/640-3222. $150-160.* **www.yoranch.com**.

It's a Wonderful Life, 70s Christmas Special, Starring the Fonz

The Vortex, through Dec. 31

Running time: 1 hr, 15 min



There are many blanket assumptions surrounding Christmas, and one is that everyone is familiar with Frank Capra's holiday classic *It's a Wonderful Life*. But I'm willing to bet that most people are only vaguely familiar with this film. Maybe they've seen parts of it, maybe caught the ending a couple of times, possibly seen some parodies of it, but few are actually intimately familiar with the old black-and-white Jimmy Stewart saga from beginning to end. Most parodies of it focus on a distillation of the story (what the world would be like if George Bailey had never been born). Rob Nash's one-man show *It's a Wonderful Life, 70s Christmas Special, Starring the Fonz* deals with the entire story, down to its most minor characters. That alone might challenge an audience, but Nash adds one more catch to take this show from concept to high-concept: Every character in *It's a Wonderful Life* is portrayed as a character or personality from the era of Seventies television.

Here is a glimpse of the 39-person-long cast list that becomes a legend to the map of Nash's show: Fonzie as George Bailey, Charo as Mary Bailey, Archie Bunker as Mr. Potter, Vinnie Barbarino as Harry Bailey, Tattoo as Joseph, Mr. Roarke as Franklin, Paul Lynde as Gower, Flo as Violet, Geraldo as the newsman, Duane as Charlie, Nipsey Russell as Eustace, Howard Cosell as Sam Wainwright, and so on and so on. It's a masterful melding of Seventies television and Capra's classic movie, but unfortunately, unless one has studied either subject in depth, the meeting proves perplexing. Nash himself has trouble keeping up. Certainly throughout the run of the show, his performance will tighten. But on opening night, he was still uncertain of the material and would periodically go blank as he searched through plotlines and impersonations, trying to recall what was next.

Nash is intelligent enough to recognize that this setup isn't exactly user-friendly, so he does three things to help the audience out: provides the cast list, gives a voiceover introduction for each character the first time someone appears, and changes the names of the original characters to their new Seventies personas, e.g., George is now referred to as Fonzie. Ironically, having the Fonz as the main character adds to the confusion because the Fonz didn't like to use names; he liked to use initials ("Sit on it, Mr. B!").

During the first act, the audience remained pretty quiet, and the silence seemed to fluster Nash. The second half of opening night was the show's saving grace. It's the part of *It's a Wonderful Life* when Clarence the angel is trying to get his wings – or in this case, Mork the alien is trying to get his rainbow suspenders – and the story gets simpler as it barrels toward its conclusion. The audience had grown more accustomed to the format. Nash was picking up the pace and energy. By the end, when Fonzie is returning to his life and hugging his children (Jan Brady, Arnold Drummond, Mushmouth, and Sigmund the sea monster), Nash had the audience sold on his wacky wonderful life.

Rob Nash has an incredible gift for impersonations. Rob Nash has created a hugely complex vehicle for those impersonations. Rob Nash needs a director. He nails the essence of all 39 personas, but somehow the show lacks energy. Nash goes from brief impersonation to brief impersonation casually, as if each one has had a little shot of the Fonz injected into it. There are only a few glimpses of his agility as a performer – at a dance or during a rendition of "Rubber Ducky" – when he leaps and bounds between characters. The trouble with *It's a Wonderful Life, 70s Christmas Special, Starring the Fonz* is that there is not much more to the show than its fundamental gimmick. One thing, however, is made abundantly clear: how totally awesome Seventies TV was. If someone tried to make an *It's a Wonderful Life* TV Christmas special today, most of the characters would be practically indistinguishable, all whining and self-involved. These Seventies characters are bizarre and endearing and wacky! And even if you don't have any clue who Paul Lynde is, you will enjoy his antics as channeled by Rob Nash. – *Hannah Kenah*

Theatre

CLOSING

HAMLET William Shakespeare's classic retakes the stage under the direction of Japhy Fernandes, with Sam Grimes in the title role, in this latest offering from the fledgling Velvet Rut company. *Through Dec. 24. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Velvet Rut Theatre, 1612 E. Eighth, 236-1092. $4-30.*

HARVEY ONSTAGE Theatre Company presents Mary Chase's Pulitzer Prize-winning audience favorite, featuring the lovable Elwood P. Dowd as played by Michael Stuart, just in time for your holiday happiness. Just in time to wonder what it would've been like if Mr. Dowd and Mr. Darko had traded bunnies. *Through Dec. 23. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. $20 ($10, students, seniors).* **www.austinplayhouse.com**.



MONEYGO ON 34TH STREET The Violet Crown Radio Players give their old-timey microphones a holiday workout with this vintage-audio adaptation by Monica Ballard. It's a metafictive take on the classic *Miracle on 34th Street*, featuring holiday songs and commercials for "needlessly complicated" Moneygo products, as the players show what happens when Business tries to commandeer Art. *Through Dec. 23. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. The Hideout Theater, 617 Congress, 443-3688. $15 ($12.50, in advance).* **www.violetcrownradio.com**.

ROB NASH: IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE, THE 70S CHRISTMAS SPECIAL stars the hyper-talented and seemingly multiple-personalitied Nash as the "Fonz," relating the classic Frank Capra tale as seen through a Magnavox darkly. Nash does *all* the characters, of course, in staccato, mindwarping style: Paul Lynd, Charo, Howard Cosell, Walter Cronkite, Miss Piggy, Charles Nelson Reilly, Richard Dawson, Mushmouth, Ricardo Montalban, Redd Foxx, Geraldo Rivera, Archie Bunker, and more: enough star power (and sufficient C-list dwellers) to fill a hundred seasons of *Hollywood Squares*. Whether you grew up on television or you *threw up* on television, this hilarious holiday show will yank you back to where you thought you'd never be again – with bells on. *Through Dec. 23. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. $10-30.* **www.vortexrep.org**.

ABUELITA'S XMAS CAROL Starlex Theatre Company presents a new holiday play written and directed by Alex Garza, purported to "make Charles Dickens and Jimmy Stewart turn over in their graves," in which 70-year-old Rosita, host of her own TV cooking show, is lifted from depression by various ghosts from the past – including, get this, *the ghost of a pig*. It's heartwarming and funky as tequila-spiked hot cocoa, we imagine, and not incidentally because the director also (in drag, we further imagine) plays the title character. *Through Dec. 23. Thu.-Sat., 8pm.* Extra show: *Sat., Dec. 23, 2pm. 619-5327. $12 ($10, students).* **starlextheatre@yahoo.com**.

ONGOING

365 DAYS/365 PLAYS The acclaimed playwright Suzan-Lori Parks wrote a play a day for an entire year, back in 2002. *Now*, in 2006, every single one of those plays is going to be staged. So get set for 10 weeks of theatre – with short plays of only 10 minutes, perhaps, and longer ones of 20 or more – as only Suzan-Lori Parks can write it. Up next: **Hands On** *Thu., Dec. 21, 4pm. In front of Zilker Park's Christmas tree*. **Red Then Productions** presents seven short plays at the Off Center, under the direction of Robert Faires, and featuring Lowell Bartholomee, Barbara Chisholm, Rosalind Faires, Hannah Kenah, Carla Nickerson, and Espie Randolph. *Wed., Dec. 27, 8pm. 2211 Hidalgo. Bring a canned food item for the Capital Area Food Bank.* **www.zachscott.com**.

PAGEANT The drag show to end all drag shows returns to Austin, under the direction of Blake Yelavich for Naughty Austin. And, you, the audience, get to vote on who provides best evidence of fabulosity. *Through Jan. 6. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Arts on Real Theatre, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. $25.* **www.naughtyaustin.com**.

A ROCKIN' CHRISTMAS is where ZACH's fabulous Beehive Girls go all doo-wop and girl-group on holiday standards, mixing it up with much sassy comedy and all manner of retro-yuletide goodness. *Through Dec. 30. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1.* **www.zachscott.com**.

PLAID TIDINGS is Stuart Ross' holiday-themed sequel to the popular *Forever Plaid*, in which the male counterparts of Zach's Beehive Girls sing and dance their way through pop-music standards in sweater-vested, happy-footed harmony. Tributes to the Rockettes, *The Ed Sullivan Show*, the Chipmunks, Harry Belafonte, and more are performed by the fantastic foursome of Bill Akey, Charles Brown, Kevin Farr, and Steven Michael Miller. Directed by Dave Steakley, with musical direction by Allen Robertson, choreography by Robin Lewis, costumes by Leslie Bonnell, sets by Michael Raiford, and everything lit up by Jason Amato. *Through Dec. 30. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. $28-37 ($12, student rush tickets).* **www.zachscott.com**.

THE SANTALAND DIARIES The talented Martin Burke returns as Crumpet, the disgruntled Macy's Christmas elf in David Sedaris' holiday comedy, as directed by Dave Steakley for maximum audience delight. Wow, it's funny, and, yes, we highly recommend it. *Through Jan 7. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm*. Extra show: *Sat., Dec. 23, 5pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. $28-38.* **www.zachscott.com**.

DINNER THEATRE

THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PASTA The Capital City Mystery Players will perform this comedy whodunit with dinner just in time for your midholiday entertainment. The plot revolves around mysticism among wacky socialites of the bluest blood (would you believe "Mary Astor Turf"?) and features a séance-interrupting murder that *you* get to help solve the mystery of. *Dec. 21, 22, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. $29.95.* **www.meatballs.com**.

AUDITIONS

FRONTERAFEST: VOICES Needed: male Caucasian who can play a 14-year-old. Compensation provided. E-mail for details. **voicesfrontera@hotmail.com**.

THEATRE CALL BOARD

FRONTERAFEST 2007: NOW HIRING FronteraFest is searching for fun-loving, dedicated people for the following positions: box office manager and attendants, house managers, stage managers, ASMs, venue managers, and board operators. All positions paid. Send résumé and letter of interest to: *Hyde Park Theatre 511 W. 43rd, Austin, 78751.* Or via e-mail to: **fronterafest@hydeparktheatre.org**.

THEATRE ACTION PROJECT This educational theatre company seeks volunteers for their afterschool program and for First Night Austin's New Year's Eve Kids Festival. *442-8773.* **www.theatreactionproject.org**.

HYDE PARK THEATRE: AVAILABLE FOR RENT HPT currently has three slots available for four-week rentals in 2007: Move in Feb. 18 with a Feb. 22-March 17 run; move in July 1 with a July 5-28 run; and move in July 29 with an Aug. 2-25 run. E-mail or call Ken Webster for details. *479-7530.* **kenwebster@austin.rr.com**.

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

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

Bengt Washburn Past winner of the San Francisco Comedy Competition, Washburn finishes off 2006 at Cap City with a hail of laughs – and brings in the new year with even more. And champagne? See our New Year's listings for more. *Dec. 26-31. Tue.-Thu. & Sun., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

100 Proof features JR Brow, Matt Sadler, Matt Bearden, and Doug Mellard. The very best of Austin comics? We wouldn't argue with that designation if we could, *although it'd be more certain if Cockfield and Huntsberger were part of the line-up, too*. But let's not get all picayunish up in here: When it comes to bringing the funny, these boys do just fine. *Dec. 21-23. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803 Airport. **www.coldtowne.com**.

Get Up is Shannon McCormick and Shana Merlin's hilarious longform improv, followed by **Parallelogramophonograph**, the cutest improvisers in town weaving stories that are equal parts poignant and absurd. *Thursdays, 8pm*. **McNichol & May** The talented husband-and-wife duo create improv by way of the cathode ray tube, in "Guided by Videos." *Fridays, 8pm*. **That Other Paper presents ... Standup Comedy Showcase**. *Fridays, 10pm*. **Whirled News Tonight** is where the news is real, but everything else is improvised by a crack team of performers. Emphasis, perhaps, on "crack." *Saturdays, 8pm*. **ColdTowne** The mighty house troupe rocks your night with fierce improv until you're handed off to the **Knuckleball Now**, a trio with brio and brains to spare, who kick your ass all shortform style. *Saturdays, 10pm*. **You, Me, and Greg** are sometimes improv, sometimes sketch, always unpredictable. *Sundays, 7pm*.

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

Esther's Follies Here's a rollicking holiday romp through the comedy landscape of 2006, from the political to the personal. George W. Bush stars in Esther's version of *It's a Wonderful life*, and a special White House edition of "The Twelve Days of Christmas." On the home front, Christmas shoppers sing their need for the Playstation3 and Nintendo Wii, families scramble for the Prozac in "A Dysfunctional Christmas Dinner," and the girls from Cell Block 13 lament their holiday incarceration. You know: the usual Esther's shenanigans, but all *holiday-sparkly*, yo. *Reservations highly recommended. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. $20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military.) Additional $5 for special reserved seats.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATER 617 Congress, 443-3688. **www.heroescomedy.com**.

AUSTIN IMPROV Let the Austin Improv Collective and friends take away some of the season's chill with a little extemporaneous comedifyin':

Friday: Improv Threefer features **Bearded Lamb**, **Parallelogramophonograph**, and **Kazillionaire***. *8pm. $7-10*. The **Double Barrel** features **Available Cupholders** and **You, Me & Greg** *10pm. $7-10*. And late night's **Cage Match** brings, as challengers, the lingually muscular **Tongue Tied**. *11:30pm. $7-10*.

Thursday: ColdTowne's Chris Trew and **Dave Buckman** of the **Frank Mills** host an Ed Sullivan-style show of stand-up, improv, and sketch comedy to start your preweekend off on the right rockin' foot. *8pm*.

Saturday: Gorilla Theatre is gonna give you something improvised to go, dare we say, ape shit over. *8pm. $7-10*. **Maestro** is a fierce, multipartite battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by *you*, the audience. Highly recommended. *10pm. $7-10*. This week's Blank Show is a **Christmas Spectacular**. *11:30pm. $7-10*.

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

Nancy Reed is one hella funny woman (FPIA 1994, yessir), and she's capping off the annum at the Cheese Palace, with openers Brian Gutman and Sean Carey. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 22-23, 9:30 & 11:30pm. $5.*

Comedy Open Mic is hosted this week by **Ruby Collins**, may the Good Shecky have mercy on her soul. *Thursdays, 10pm.*

"Take Me to Bed or Lose Me Forever"

Volitant Gallery, through Dec. 30



It is the one line from *Top Gun* that almost everyone remembers: When Goose's wife says, "Take me to bed or lose me forever," he follows with "Show me the way home, honey." And if you don't remember what comes next, Volitant's current group show will help jog your memory. Each work shows the way through blissful beds, bedders, and the unhappily bedded alike, employing and questioning many of love's clichés. Under the curatorial direction of Leona Scull-Hons, "Take Me to Bed ..." reminds us that between life and death there is at least love, in its many variations. In Bunnyphonic's coy pairing of apple and inchworm on two separated 78rpm records, we see the unending song of love at play: the desire to absorb, to possess, to even eat the object of your desires and make it part of you. In Candace Briceño's exuberant tented love shack, oozing, scalloped red, pink, and purple carpets map out the space of utopic union, while balloons and ribbons lilt above this house of bliss.

All in this exhibition is not candy and roses, however: In Sarah Voglewede's *Come Play With Me*, which might best be described as an oversized valentine's box of the type we made in class in the third grade, the invitation to love and to play is given form and matter. Stepping into the box, complete with a pink heart-shaped door, the viewer is presented with an endearing little piano, marked with stickers faded and curled by what were once, hopefully, loving hands. The scene and the experience pulls you in, until the moment you acquiesce, breaking all of your own gallery hands-off inhibitions, and finally put your own hands to the little piano keys only to find there is no sound. The piano is broken, and the invitation rings surprisingly hollow.

On the subject of hollowness, Jeff Hauger's work examines the economies of love in a series of very clever documents filled sometimes with formal jargon and other times with the confessions of the lovestruck, signing away one's very soul to an unseen lover in return. In Hauger's description of the materials used to make the piece he calls *Emily Marquadet's Soul*, "pins" and "star dust" file in alongside "one soul" and "shadow box with lock and key." As Emily writes out the promising of her soul – an object, as she notes, the existence of which is as yet unconfirmed by science – the use of blue pen on notebook paper throws us back to our own endless middle-school notes, written in undying love to the latest crush. The price of her soul, however, has a number attached to it, reminding us of the trade, the gift with many strings attached that love often makes of us and itself.

Overall, "Take Me to Bed or Lose Me Forever," like so many of our experiences of love, is a penetrating reflection on our highest heights and our lowest absurdities. It is a smile and a good laugh, and it might end before you realize it was ever here to begin with. – *Nikki Moore*

Dance

BALLET AUSTIN: THE NUTCRACKER BA's annual seasonal treat is back, choreographed by Stephen Mills and set to the timeless music of Pyotr Tchaikovsky, with live accompaniment by the Austin Symphony Orchestra. As ever, special guest Mother Gingers from among Central Texas' leading lights add fun, flair, and not some little height to the festivities; this year's crop includes Mayor Will Wynn, KVUE anchor Christine Haas, San Marcos Mayor Susan Narvaiz (ooh, dueling mayoral Gingers!), and a host of others. *Dec. 21-23. Thu.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2pm & 7:30pm. Bass Concert Hall, UT Campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 866/4-GET-TIX. $15-63 ($10 student tickets available one hour before show).* **www.startickets.com**.

TRAIL OF LIGHTS Besides the fancy lights and family-friendly walkabout, there's nightly entertainment at this annual event, sometimes featuring local dance and classical music troupes. Check their Web site for schedules. *Through Saturday, Dec. 23. Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/tol/entertainment.htm**.

1,001 NIGHTS

ARARAT Almost every night of the week, beautiful belly dancing accompanies your Mideast feast. Reservations encouraged. *Nightly, times vary. Ararat, 111 E. North Loop. 419-1692.*

CLEOPATRA Belly dancing with true Egyptian flavor. *Fri.-Sat., 8pm-2am. Cleopatra, 2620 S. I-35. 947-9462.*

TWO LEFT FEET

CONTACT IMPROVISATION DANCE JAMS Participants move in and out of contact with one or more people through a common center of gravity. All are welcome. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm; Sundays, 4:30-6pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. $5.*

ESTUDIO FLAMENCO Get fired up with flamenco dance classes for beginners and intermediates. Handy central location to boot. Call for times. *2801 W. 45th. 382-1366. $10 per class (private lessons available).* **www.estudioflamenco.com**.

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS ABD sponsors ballroom dancing with DJ-ed music weekly, year-round. *Saturdays, 8-11pm; minilesson, 7:30pm. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek. 989-3939.* **www.austinballroomdancers.org**.

DANCE INTERNATIONAL Open to all, these ballroom and Latin sessions are a great way to practice or learn new steps. Each night features a variety of dances; each month sees the start of a new, progressive course. No partner necessary. *Sundays, 6-8pm. Dancers Workshop, 183 & Balcones Woods. Weeknights, times vary. Hills Fitness Center, 4615 Bee Caves Rd. 32-DANCE. Fees vary.* **www.dancein.org**.

BELLYDANCE CLASSES Twyla of Twyla & the Twilight Star Ensemble offers a variety of belly-dance classes out in Leander. *Class times vary, Mon.-Wed., 7:30-9:30pm; Fri., by appt. 971-0188.* **www.twylabellydance.com**.

AUSTIN SCANDINAVIAN DANCING No partners needed; wear slick-soled shoes. *Thursdays 7:30-9:45pm. Lessons every first and third Thursday at 7:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0598 or 453-9633. $3.* **www.austinscandi.org**.

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE With live music. *Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. $3.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm**.

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Learn a variety of couples' and line dances from around the world before the open dance session. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. No partner required. *Saturdays, 7:30pm (lessons); open dance 8:15-11pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. $5.* **www.yastreb.com/tifd/aifd.html**.

AUSTIN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS Come alone or with a partner; beginners always welcome (kilts optional). *Thursdays, 7-9pm. Quicksilver Dance Studio, 8711 Burnet. First session free.* **www.austinscd.org**.

MODERN JAZZ DANCE CLASS A stylized choreographic blend and technique class targeted toward the intermediate/advanced dancer. *Tuesdays, 8:30pm. Tapestry Dance Company, 507-B Pressler, 458-6336. $10.* **www.tapestry.org**.

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners' lesson starts the evening. *Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. $4 ($2, members).* **www.austinswingsyndicate.org**.

FOUR ON THE FLOOR: CLASSES Ongoing classes for various levels of expertise in Swing and Lindy Hop culminate in a weekly dance. New classes usually start the first Tuesday of the new month. *Tue., 7pm (classes), 9:30pm (open dance). Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 453-3889. Prices vary.* **www.fouronthefloor.com**.

Classical Music

OPENING

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH: CAROLING AT NOON Weekly midday concerts usher in the holiday season. This week: **Canterbury Bells of St. David's**. Lunch follows at Cafe Divine at 12:30. *Thursdays, 12:05pm. St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. Seventh, 472-1196. Free ($6, lunch).* **www.stdave.org**.

CELTIC CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL In addition to the gorgeous Celtic music and song by the likes of Stephanie Prewitt, Claire Vangelisti, the Tea Merchants, and Ed Miller, the concert will feature Irish dance champion David Bologna and storytelling in the Celtic tradition. This show is almost sold out, but 100 standing-room-only tickets will be made available at the door the night of the concert once advance ticket holders have been seated. *Thu., Dec. 21, 8pm (doors open at 7pm). St. Mary's Cathedral, 203 E. 10th. 472-4540. $18 (standing room only).* **www.celticcenter.org**.

Visual Arts

EVENTS

THE MESSAGE Artist Johnny Walker's work for First Night Austin gets a preview to to herald the year-end event. 1,152 images documenting "gratitude" will be exhibited in the construction walkway across from the Austin Children's Museum on Second Street and continued in the walkways at Second Street and Guadalupe. **www.firstnightaustin.org**.

ARMADILLO CHRISTMAS BAZAAR More than 120 artists and merchants offer imaginative gifts and Austin musicians perform nightly and on weekend afternoons at this extravagant yet down-home event. *Daily, through Dec. 24. 208 Nueces, 263-4146. $5 ($3, weekdays until 7pm; free, ages 11 and younger).* **www.directevents.net**.

STORYTIME @ THE BLANTON Tickle the ears of your youngsters with storytime in the galleries (suitable for ages 6-10). Event: *Dec. 26-30, 1-1:45pm. MLK & Congress, 471-7324.* **www.blantonmuseum.org**.

BLUE GENIE HOLIDAY ART BAZAAR Right, *now* the holiday shopping season is officially open! Come on down and see what's on display from a fierce variety of local creators and collectives and *artsgruppen*, as presented by the Blue Genie Boys who've brought so much oversized and year-round joy to this bustling city. *Through Dec. 24. Sun.-Thu., 10am-10pm; Fri.-Sat., 10am-12mid. 916 Springdale, 444-6655.* **www.bluegenieart.com**.

HOLIDAY FAVORITES IN THE STATE HISTORY MUSEUM Live musicians perform seasonal tunes to enhance your art appreciation. *Through Dec. 27. Daily, 2-4pm. 1800 Congress, 936-8746.* **www.thestoryoftexas.com**.

CRL: ART-MAKING EXTRAVAGANZA AND GLEE OPENING This interactive art exhibition kicks off with a week full of art events throughout the UT College of Fine Arts. E-mail UT's Carolyn Porter for more. *2832 E. MLK, 322-2099.* **carolynp@mail.utexas.edu**.

EAST END FOURTH FRIDAYS Before you migrate for the holidays or hibernate for the winter, try on this funky holiday happening at Victory Grill and hosted by DiverseArts. Good food, live poetry, music, dancing, prizes and a late night groove fest featuring the latin funk-hop of Brownout. Event: *Fri. Dec. 22, 5pm-midnight*. Cost: *Free before 8pm. $5-10 cover after. 1104 E. 11th, 804-1944.*

CLOSING

LA PENA: MI RAZA DE BRONCE Traditional symbols of Mexican life are rendered in colorful mosaic windows by Jorge Castro and Eduardo Rosas. *Through Dec. 23. 227 Congress #100, 236-0610.* **www.lapena-austin.org**.

ART PALACE: FAIR Envision a Damien Hirst inches away from an Elizabeth Murray; now imagine it hung precariously on top of a toilet. "Fair" is a delightful version of the cash-and-carry tradition. *Through Dec. 23. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687.* **www.artpalacegallery.com**.

TIRU GALLERY: ANIMAUX A show of works by Jamie Kimmel Shelton galvanizes a venue filled with prints and jewelry from many artists. *Through Dec. 22. Tue.-Sun., 4-9pm. 3701 Guadalupe #103.*

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: DEGREES OF SEPARATION solo exhibition by Heather Johnson. Using a variety of media, from shredded maps to transferred text to embroidery, Johnson's work draws attention to the world within our world that often gets overlooked. *Through Dec. 23. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064.* **www.womenandtheirwork.org**.

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: RED Erin Cone, Julie Speed, Margie Crisp … Wow, what more could you want? How about: All the Workman Gallery regulars, painting in red. This show's as impressive as it is incarnadine. *Through Dec. 24. 1202-B W. Sixth, 472-7428.* **www.wallyworkmangallery.com**.

D BERMAN: WEEDS No, it's not that dope-a-licious show on cable. *This* exhibition is the delicate and stunning bronze sculpture of Beverly Penn, intricately arranged and based on plants from roadsides and her own Austin garden. *Through Dec. 23. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877.* **www.dbermangallery.com**.

ONGOING

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. *12400 Amherst #102. 825-8577.* **www.eyecontactart.com**.

EVR: e-flux video rental

Arthouse at the Jones Center, through Jan. 7



BRET BROOKSHIRE

At a time when we all might have thought that video rental was becoming passé, taken over by online video streaming and Netflix, the self-described "New York-based information bureau" e-flux presents a joint opening of three such rental locations in Austin, Istanbul, and the Canary Islands. An interesting assortment of apparently unrelated choices, to be sure … which is something that might initially be said of the e-flux video rental (EVR) project itself, since its video holdings snowball from city to city as area curators add their favorite and often obscure pieces of video art to the EVR mix. But while it may seem random to have Austin curators such as Risa Puleo and Annette Carlozzi contribute any films they choose to the project as part of its two-month stay at Arthouse, it does in fact serve a real purpose: EVR was conceived by e-flux as a collaborative enterprise, and contributions from every site where it's stationed broaden the number of participants in the project, just as the movement of sites and librarylike policy of "renting" the videos – in short, it's free – ensures an ever-expanding audience of viewers. This ongoing expansion creates a dynamic map of contributors and participants that mirrors our own culture of increasingly inter-netted lives. With a simple sign-up process and a notecard membership, all of us sign our names into e-flux's own reconfiguration of the networks we embody on a daily basis.

But EVR is much more than that as well: For interested viewers who aren't ready to commit to the two-day return policy, EVR offers on-site TV/VCR combos that bring back all the best trappings of video rental culture. In fact, just after choosing between the cushy couch or the beanbags, I was quickly reminded why those "please rewind" stickers were used by so many video stores. The films are arranged in alphabetical order by artist, and a numbered guide to the collection lets you pick out films based upon who recommended them. After grabbing Carlozzi's pick of "Saberverv̄encias," I sat down to screen "Hello, Ms. Schnitt." With Austin's EVR located just inside the glass front of Arthouse, watching this terrific five-minute flick by Corinna Schnitt was a double experience of both viewing and being viewed. Friendly and curious smiles of passersby reminded me that Arthouse's window serves as a screen itself. As more and more lunch-goers passed the building and glanced inside, one stopped to ask, "What is this place?" While the gallery attendant had a helpful answer, I wondered how she could honestly begin to explain that this art gallery, currently Austin's EVR, was a chance not only to see some very interesting, hard-to-find pieces of film and video art in what was once an emerging technology but also to participate in a study of our own patterns of communication – of information flow and networking by immersion. It is a chance to check out of the world around you, and into it, all in the very act of renting or viewing a film. – *Nikki Moore*

ARTISTS MARKET HOLIDAY ART FAIR is an outdoor art fair that features a variety of work by local artists and craftsmen, including paintings, photography, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, stained glass, clothing, candles, and more. *Through Dec. 31. Sat.-Sun., 10am-6pm. 709 W. Sixth.* **www.theartistsmarket.com**.

ADAMS AVENUE GALLERY: THE NOVEMBER PROJECT Thirty photographs of Austin, taken each day of November 2004 by photographer David Keenan. *Through Dec. 30. 5601 Adams Ave., 453-7788.*

AMOA: RADICAL NY! "Radical NY!" is a two-part exhibition presenting "The Downtown Show: The New York Art Scene, 1974-1984" and "Abstract Expressionism: 1940s-1960s." with works by more than 200 groundbreaking artists, including Jean-Michel Basquiat, Willem de Kooning, Cindy Sherman, and hundreds of paintings, sculptures, drawings, videos, and photographs. *Through Jan. 28. 823 Congress, 495-9224.* **www.amoa.org**.

ART ON 5TH: THE SECRET ART OF DR. SEUSS *1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111.* **www.arton5th.com**.

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. *78 San Marcos, 457-0171.* **www.pablotaboadastudio.com**.

ARTHOUSE: E-FLUX VIDEO RENTAL is a free video rental service, a public screening room, and an art film and video archive, as curated by Anton Vidokle and Julieta Aranda. Nothing but the best of arty videos (docs and experimental films, a shitload – we reckon – of Stan Brakhage, a handful of Matthew Barney, that sort of visual goodness). It worked well in NYC; it'll probably soar like an eagle with a jet pack here. *Through Jan. 7. 700 Congress, 453-5312.* **www.arthousetexas.org**.

ARTSPOKEN: 12 BUY is a juried exhibition featuring works in a 12-foot-by-12-foot format. *Through Dec. 30. 1507 W. Koenig.*

ATELIER 3-D The former Austin Sculpture Center hosts an open house for public viewing. *Wednesdays & Thursdays, 4-10pm. 2209 Pasadena, 374-0580.*

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. *1608 S. Congress, 916-4527.* **www.austinartglass.com**.

AUSTIN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: FINDING A FOREVER FAMILY is what hundreds of Central Texas children, who are currently in foster care awaiting adoption, are hoping for. The Adoption Coalition of Texas and CASA organizations have coordinated the Heart Gallery, a traveling exhibit of 95 stirring portraits of these adoption hopeful children. *Through Jan. 14. 201 Colorado, 472-2499.* **www.austinkids.org**.

BLANTON MUSEUM: WORKSPACE: CRISTIAN SILVA Silva presents his *Black Sun/Green Flamingo*, a new and challenging large-scale pictorial piece. *Through Dec. 31. MLK & Congress, 471-7324.* **www.blantonmuseum.org**.

BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART 16th Century Genoese Master Luca Cambiaso Here's a rare opportunity to see more than 60 paintings and 80 drawings by this fascinating artist. *Through Jan. 14. MLK & Congress, 471-7324.* **www.blantonmuseum.org**.

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry made by the staff and friends of the studio. *5241 N. Lamar, 380-0770; 108 W. 43rd.* **www.austinbluemoon.com**.

TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM: MISS IMA'S QUILTS Ima Hogg was a visionary collector, preservationist, and philanthropist; this exhibition presents an extraordinary selection of Miss Ima's quilts, ranging from the late 1700s to the early 1900s. *1800 Congress, 936-4600.* **www.thestoryoftexas.com**.

CAPITOL VISITORS CENTER: ON THE PLAINS WITH PASTELS, PENCILS, AND PAINTS Frank Reaugh vividly captured the rugged beauty and vastness of the frontier and documented the people, landscapes, and animals of a vital period of American history. *Through May 28. 112 E. 11th, 305-8400.* **www.tspb.state.tx.us/tspb/spbt/history/chistory.htm**.

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of a, we guess you might say, average South Austin home. Hours: *Sundays, 11am-2pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413.* **www.keepaustinweird.com**.

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a nonprofit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix Ave., 385-3591.* **www.serieproject.org**.

DAVIS GALLERY: HOLIDAY GROUP SHOW includes constructions by Chris Dial, paintings by Melissa Grimes, sculptures by Caprice Taniguchi, and more surprises from all of the gallery artists. *Through Dec. Jan. 31. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929.*

WINN & WINN @ PENN FIELD The twins strike again! Walker Winn's small, geometric, highly polished, resin-enhanced paintings and Taylor Winn's giant (up to 14 feet) canvases of pure paint will refresh you. *Through Jan. 20. 3601-C S. Congress, 693-0562.*

DIBONA STUDIO Here's a studio/gallery devoted exclusively to the work of Joyce DiBona, including her newest oil paintings and a sculptural tattoo series. *404 W. Milton, 851-2646.*

ELISABET NEY: HOMES AND STUDIOS features an exhibition depicting six homes and studios that artist Elisabet Ney established in Portugal, Bavaria, Georgia, and Texas from 1863 to 1902. Ney's last studio-home, in Austin, is, today, the Elisabet Ney Museum, a national, state, and local historic landmark. *304 E. 44th, 458-2255.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/elisabetney**.

FIRE ISLAND HOT GLASS STUDIO specializes in functional and decorative works in glass for home and garden. Glassblowing demos: *Saturdays, 9am-noon. 3401 E. Fourth, 389-1100.* **www.fireislandglass.com**.

FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY *309-B Bowie, 320-0072.*

GALLERY LOMBARDI XMAS EXPO This 50-artist show offers more original brilliance than you could possibly buy your loved ones for the holidays. Well, unless you're Bill Gates. And, in any case, there's plenty of affordable artistic goodness on display – from the likes of Alejandra Almuelle, Marc Silva, Sun McColgin, Rory Skagen, and 46 others. *Through Jan. 13. 910 W. Third, 481-1088.* **www.gallerylombardi.com**.

GRAVITY CONSTANT STUDIOS: TERRY BEUTLER The gallery's grand opening presents new paintings by Beutler, depicting an autobiographical journey. *301 Chicon, Unit F, 415/254-5222.*

HARRY RANSOM CENTER: FELIKS TOPOLSKI In 1959, the Center commissioned this Polish-born British artist to create 20 portraits of the 20th-century's greatest living British authors, including W.H. Auden, T.S. Eliot, Graham Greene, and Edith Sitwell. This is the first time Topolski's complete set of paintings has been presented together. *Through Dec. 31. 300 W. 21st, 471-8944.* **www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/HRC/HRHRC**.

IF+D: PO+P is a group exhibition featuring works by Rob Fairburn, Karen Maness, Andrew St. Martin, and others. *Through Jan. 5. 208 Colorado, 469-0870.* **www.ifdaustin.com**.

JCAA: LOLI KANTOR'S PHOTOGRAPHS A series of photographs addressing today's Jewish cultural landscape in Central and Eastern Europe. *Through Jan. 25. 7300 Hart Ln.*

KATHY WOMACK GALLERY Art by Kathy Womack. *411 Brazos #100.* **www.kwomack.com**.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: KAREN BRENEMAN Breneman's paintings are an exploration of discipline and endurance, drawing from a wide range of interests. *Through Jan. 27. 300 West Ave. #1318, 215-4965.* **www.lorareynolds.com**.

MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART has an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork and craft items on display. *6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901.* **www.mitchie.com**.

THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA The ongoing exhibition in this intimate, quirky gallery is a perfect example of the more charming and enjoyable side of Austin's weirdness. *Call for appt. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566.* **www.mnae.org**.

SHORELINES GALLERY: SUE KEMP Watercolors from nature. *221 W. Second, 322-9961.* **www.shorelinesgalleryaustin.com**.

STUDIO 107: HOLIDAY PUNCH 3 highlights emerging artists that continue to push the possibilities of beauty and design. *Through Jan. 1. 411 Brazos #107, 477-9092.* **www.studio107.com**.

13TH ANNUAL SERIE PROJECT continues its mission to promote artwork by established and emerging artists focusing on Latino culture. *Through Dec. 31. West Mall Building 5.102, UT Campus, 471-4557.* **www.utexas.edu/depts/cmas**.

VOLITANT GALLERY: TAKE ME TO BED OR LOSE ME FOREVER is a group show curated by Leona Scull-Hons. This bittersweet winter show is both as absurd as every cliché written about love, and as classic as a tragic romance. Artists include Jenny Schlief Houston, Jason Singleton, Allison Wiese, and others. Closing reception: *Sat., Dec. 30, 6-9pm. 320 Congress #100, 236-1240.* **www.volitant.com**.

YARD DOG: NORTHERN HOUSES features new paintings from Toronto's Jennifer Harrison. *Through Dec. 31. 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613.* **www.yarddog.com**.

SPACES

GUTTERKITTY SUDIOS: THE AUSTIN FIGURATIVE PROJECT a group show of figurative paintings done by some of Austin's best painters. *102 Krebs.* **ohlerkingpaintings@yahoo.com**.

THOMAS SAVERIO SALON: BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL Acrylic paintings of flowers by Nancy Lay. *Through Dec. 31. 5416 Parkcrest #800, 323-0615.*

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY is a working studio and gallery of stained & leaded glass and mosaics artwork. *701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266.* **www.decola-eusebi.com**.

LAS MANITAS AVENUE CAFE: THE RUG HOOK PROJECT In the small subsistence farming village of Augustin Gonzales, located in the central Mexican highlands, 16 women spend what little free time they have hooking rugs; see those rugs here. *Through Dec. 30.*

RANDOLPH NESBITT: A STATEMENT ABOUT PEACE A powerful and symbolic work that pushes the envelope of our more cherished and misused icons. *Through Jan. 15. 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.* **www.poetsagainstthewar.org**.

HYDE PARK BAR & GRILL SOUTH: KENYA AND ITALY includes prints from the travels of local photographer Romain Nayalkar. *Through Jan. 6. 4206 Duval St., 458-3168; 4521 West Gate, 899-2700.*

MYSTIC MONKEY TATTOO EMPORIUM Paintings by Chris Chappell and David Ohlerking. *Through Dec. 23. 4607 Bolm, 286-7222.*

QUATTRO GALLERY: EYE OF THE NEEDLE Contemporary quilt exhibition curated by Marcia Kaylakie. *Through Jan. 20. 12971 Pond Springs Rd., 219-3178 or 924-3824.* **www.quattrogallery.com**.

ROADHOUSE RELICS is a vintage-neon gallery and studio where artist Todd Sanders creates neon signs, eye-popping carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture. *1720 S. First, 442-6366.* **www.roadhouserelics.com**.

TEXAS FOLKLIFE: TEXAS ZYDECO Twenty-one black-and-white digital prints by photographer James Fraher, from his new UT Press book with author Roger Wood. *Through Dec. 22. 1317 S. Congress.* **www.texasfolklife.org**.

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

CITY HALL: PEOPLE'S GALLERY CALL FOR WORKS The Cultural Arts Division is now seeking 2-D and 3-D, installation, and digitally created artwork by regional visual artists for the 2007 Austin City Hall Exhibition. The exhibition will be installed in February and will remain on display for one year. Applications available online as of Dec. 1. Deadline: *Jan. 5.* **www.cityofaustin.org/aipp/apply**.

VSA ARTS OF TEXAS: UNRAVELING THE MYSTERY OF SELF-EMPLOYMENT IN THE ARTS with guest speaker David Hammis, co-author of *Making Self-Employment Work for People With Disabilities*. Registration deadline: *Jan. 19*. Workshop: *Tue.-Wed., Jan. 23-24, 8:30am-4:30pm. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 454-9912. $125*. **www.vsatx.org**.

AVAA: STUDIO RENTAL Affordable artist studios available, central Austin. Historic building, natural light, utilities paid. Private studio: $395 monthly; Shared, $170. **www.avaaonline.org**.

ART PAD STUDIO: CLASSES THAT ROCK Photography, Fabric Improv, Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain, Mosaics, Pop Art Bags, and more! Call now to register for classes through December. *1403 W. 47th, 323-0802.* **www.artpadstudio.com**.

ATELIER 3-D: SEEKING PRESENTERS The studio needs working sculptors who are willing to present their art to a small, highly interested group of local sculptors and artists. Presentations: *Thursdays, 2-4pm. 2209 Pasadena, 374-0580.*

ADVANCED PAINTING Taught by Richard Cutler. Learn insights into color application, including reflections, transparency, and shadows. *Jan. 13-March 3. Saturdays, 10:30am-1:30pm. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty**.

FLATBED: BEGINNING PHOTOGRAPHY/ DARKROOM TECHNIQUES Flatbed is adding a new photo class and a darkroom open shop. Check into this class taught by Heidi Schleink, and you might fall in love with film all over again. *2830 E. MLK, 477-9328.*

ART CHALLENGE! Calling all artists to create a work of art every day during 2007! To participate, create a sample and mail it to Imagine Art along with a pledge card. Deadline: Dec. 31. *Call for more info. 3205 S. First, 448-1840; 2001 E. 12th.* **www.imagineart.net**.

TOMA MI CORAZON XV: CALL FOR WORKS Here's La Pena's signature event and annual fundraiser. Each year 10-inch wooden hearts are handed out to artists, schoolchildren, dignitaries, and celebrities. Decorated and returned, the hearts are sold in a silent auction. Deadline: *Jan. 20. 227 Congress, 477-6007.* **www.lapena-austin.org**.

THE ART SCHOOL @ LAGUNA GLORIA Looking to tap into your creative side? Discover the large selection of disciplines available with the online catalog. And Winter Break Classes, Dec. 26-29, are still available. Spring Registration: **www.amoa.org**. *3809 W. 35th, 323-6380.*

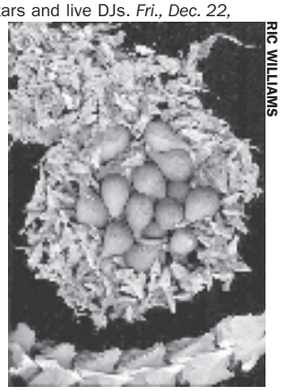
SCULPTOR TO BE: WINTER BREAK CAMP FOR KIDS Workshop: *Tue.-Fri., Jan. 2-5, 9am-12:30pm. 605 Robert E. Lee, 445-5582.* **www.umlaufsculpture.org**.

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

ALTERNATIVE RADIO features P. Sainath, author of *Everyone Loves a Good Drought: Stories From India's Poorest Districts*, talking about the impact of market fundamentalism on India's farms. David Barsamian hosts. *Fri., Dec. 22, 2pm. 91.7 KOOP-FM.* **www.koop.org**.

EAST END FOURTH FRIDAYS features poetry with Ivanho, Thom the World Poet and friends. Plus Word/Jazz Low Stars and live DJs. *Fri., Dec. 22, 7pm. Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th, 804-1944. $5-10 (Free, before 8pm).*


RIC WILLIAMS

TEXAS NAFAS presents Ric Williams reading poetry from his *the secret book of god*, taped at 12th Street Books and in a back yard in Northwest Austin. *Through Dec. 30. Saturdays, 10pm. Cable Channel 16.*

OPEN MICS

SASHA'S RUSSIAN MARKET with your hosts Eric Wheeler and Kathleen Romana. *Tuesdays, 7-9pm. 7817 Rockwood. 459-1449.*

NEO-SOUL is a certified slam venue. *Wednesdays. Antonio's Tex-Mex Cafe & Cantina, 7522 N. I-35 Ste. B, 419-7070. $6.* **www.antoniostexmex.com**.

CAFFEINATED POETRY is open to musicians and poets. Hosted by Thom the World Poet. *Every Wednesday, except the first Wednesday when they all go to Vinny's, 7-9pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473.*

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry captains the crew that has all the best of stand-up, performance art, theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one electrifying evening. And the 1!2!3!4! Slam has joined the holy fracas. Four times the excitement for the same step through that door. $100 in prizes every week; open mic precedes the main event. *Wednesdays, 8pm. Ego's, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091.* **www.austinslam.com**.

MONDAY NIGHT POETRY is hosted by Justin Parker. *Mondays, 8-10pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576.* **www.genuinejoe.com**.

HIDEOUT MIC is an Open Universe event with your newest host, Marty Lloyd. *Mondays, 7-10pm. The Hideout Coffeehouse, 617 Congress, 476-0473. $2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry).* **www.thehideout.org**.

LA TAZZA FRESCA Celebrate the winter solstice with featured poets Hippie Rick from Dallas, Hayward Bethel, and India Rassner Donovan. Features followed by round-robin open mic featuring *you*. Hosted by johnniZanni and Kathleen Romana. *Fri., Dec. 22, 7-9pm. La Tazza Fresca, 519 W. 37th, 453-0403.*

THE POETRY KARAOKE ORCHESTRA backs your poetry on the porch, with hosts Ivanho and Chris the Future. Bring canned foods for the Poets Pantry. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* **www.rutamaya.net**.

RUTA MAYA is one of the longest-running open mics in Austin. Somebody great is featured next. Hosted by Aaron and maslow. Donations accepted for Poets Pantry. *Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* **www.freespeechart.com**.

UNPROTECTED POETRY Spoken word from the House of Soul, with free refreshments. *Thursdays, 7pm. Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th, 391-0174. $5 (after 8pm; free for performing poets).* **poetryatx@yahoo.com**.

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! *hesitation - is that how the heart learned to beat with the light pulse & wave pulse & wave - desire lives in heaven - pull back & what must pierce once looks at his watch - the shadows were the last to know a fear of joy.* Namaste. Vaya con dios.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Jan. 5 issue is Friday, Dec. 22**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

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

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

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical. **dance-classical@austinchronicle.com**.

Ric Williams, litera. **litera@austinchronicle.com**.

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

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

POEM OF THE ISSUE

One woman, and another, and another
begin a long apology
— mother to mother, to son, to child,
to daughter "forgive us, this is wrong"
— a million people, more
until there is enough forgiveness
to end the violence one person at a time.

- Susan Bright, "Apology," from *The Layers of Our Seeing*, a collection of poetry, photographs, and essays about peace done in collaboration with photographer Alan Pogue and Middle Eastern journalist Muna Hamzeh

Nia & Yoga Classes!



Mention this ad to receive 10% off a class card or 10% off one month of unlimited classes. This is for first time students only. Expires June 2007.

We make exercise feel like playtime!
512.328.4440

Nia Intensive Training for everyBODY, Jan. 11-14/19-21

JoyMoves
Dance • Fitness • Fun
2501 S. Capital of Texas Hwy, Austin, TX
www.joymoves.com 512-328-4440

Dreamgirls



D: Bill Condon; with Jamie Foxx, Beyoncé Knowles, Eddie Murphy, Jennifer Hudson, Anika Noni Rose, Keith Robinson, Danny Glover, Hinton Battle. (PG-13, 131 min.)

Right from the start, *Dreamgirls* wows you with such an exuberant energy that you know that you're in for a sweet ride. This euphoric adaptation of the hit Broadway backstage musical about the Dreams, an all-girl singing group loosely modeled on the Supremes, is an infectious experience of sequins and songs that lives up to the hype. Spanning the musical spectrum from the pre-Motown Sixties to the disco era in the late Seventies – when black music and pop music finally converged – *Dreamgirls* is a glittery, slick melodrama about how show business can cultivate egos and destroy friendships, all in the quest to be at the top of the heap. A great deal of the credit for the film's success must go to screenwriter and director Condon, who – after cutting his teeth on the screenplay for *Chicago* – has fashioned what is best described as a dazzling jewel of a movie, both literally and metaphorically speaking. Not only is it evident that Condon clearly loves movie musicals and pop culture, but he is supremely well-versed in the language of film. Musical numbers that quietly begin behind the curtain as rehearsals seamlessly morph into dynamic onstage performances of the same song with the simple sweeping pan of the camera; more intimate musical interludes in which characters express their feelings to one another (such as the eloquent "Family") are shot in ways that make them feel emotionally real, rather than artificial. When done right, a song can express so much more than mere words can – it can transcend any speech or piece of dialogue. That observation has never been so true as when Hudson, in a star-making performance, performs "And I'm Telling You I'm Not Going" at the film's turning point, expressing pain, anger, and desperation with such heartbreaking intensity that you feel she may burst through the screen because it can't hold her any longer. No question about it: The woman can sing a song. (When was the last time that a movie audience burst into applause at the end of a musical number, or sat through the credits to applaud again when an actor's name appeared onscreen?) Hudson's turn as the proud, stubborn, and self-destructive Effie is a revelation; you can't imagine this movie without it. Pop star Knowles holds her own in the role of Deena, the Diana Ross-like singer who goes from being a pretty, naive girl from the projects to a glamorous international diva/superstar. She subtly imbues the character with a softness and innocence that her real-life counterpart rarely projected. The male actors fare less well, largely because their characters are not as interesting comparatively speaking, with the exception of Murphy. As soul singer James "Thunder" Early, a ladies man given to referring to himself in the third person, Murphy keeps his schtick in check and delivers a showy performance that has an underlying sadness to it. The two halves of *Dreamgirls* – the first chronicling the rise of the tightly knit group of characters to stardom, the second depicting the unraveling of those ties as a result of the pressures of money and fame – nicely (if sentimentally) come together in a finale that will leave most with a lump in the throat. Even when it feels packaged like a holiday entertainment that aims to please, watching *Dreamgirls* is like being on cloud nine. *(Opens Monday.)* – *Steve Davis*

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, CM Barton Creek, Tinseltown North

New Reviews

BLACK CHRISTMAS

D: Glen Morgan; with Michelle Trachtenberg, Lacey Chabert, Andrea Martin, Mary Elizabeth Winstead, Jessica Harmon, Katie Cassidy, Oliver Hudson. (R, 100 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Before sealing his reputation as the director of the infamous *Porky's* movies, Bob Clark helmed this dandy slasher picture in 1974, which served as a template for *Halloween* and some of the other horror movies that came after. Using the same title, the masterminds behind this remake sound as though they've kept the essential story intact – and even got Andrea Martin to return for an encore. The slayings begin as sisters in a sorority house are mysteriously murdered, one by one, during Christmas week. *(Opens Monday.)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

CM Barton Creek, Tinseltown North

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

D: Robert De Niro; with Matt Damon, Angelina Jolie, John Turturro, Alec Baldwin, William Hurt, Billy Crudup, Joe Pesci, Michael Gambon, Keir Dullea, Tammy Blanchard, Gabriel Macht, Timothy Hutton, Robert De Niro. (R, 160 min.)

Matt Damon here abandons the cat-and-mouse theatrics of his Bourne identity to play Edward Wilson, the reserved fictional functionary whose life serves as the prism through which *The Good Shepherd* examines the early years of the CIA. Damon plays Wilson as a tight-lipped, button-down professional, the kind of bright and dependable guy the World War II-era OSS and later the fledgling, postwar CIA would recruit to oversee their shadowy and covert spy operations. There's fascinating material here in this behind-the-curtain look at the early formation of our nation's spy agencies. Screenwriter Eric Roth *(Munich)* has clearly done his homework, and episodes such as Wilson's college initiation into the secret Skull and Bones Society (the breeding ground for future presidents and captains of industry) and the group's private retreats to Deer Island are imbued with the sense of observing something strictly off-limits to the rest of us commoners. Despite successfully creating the illusion of forbidden glimpses, *The Good Shepherd* slogs through most of its two-hour-and-40-minute running time. In his second turn in the director's chair, De Niro (who also has a cameo) is unable to marshal this film into an effectively told narrative. Adding to his difficulty is the film's nonlinear structure, which jumps around in time for scenes from Wilson's childhood, his recruitment in 1939 during his college career, years spent in Europe during the war, years spent at the CIA's Langley headquarters, the Cold War, and the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961. The out-of-order sequencing adds little in terms of thematic structure and thwarts all attempts to get swept up in the film's narrative flow. Further muddling the cloak-and-dagger dynamics is a wholly melodramatic storyline about Wilson's loveless marriage to Margaret "Clover" Russell (Jolie), the sister of a college classmate who maneuvers Wilson to the altar. Although you might anticipate any marriage portrayed onscreen by Damon and Jolie to sizzle with sex appeal, this affair droops with disdain and indifference. The marriage is a marked contrast to the passion we witness in Wilson's college romance with a deaf girl named Laura (Blanchard, in a marvelous performance), which provides a hint of what might of become of this man if the government hadn't gotten its hooks into him first. Only Turturro, playing Wilson's streetwise adjutant, adds any personality to this drama. Certainly, the absence of personality that's required for the job but is ruinous to family life is one of the film's primary points. The conundrum, however, is how to make a movie about close-to-the-vest characters without making a movie that's drained of all life. A section of the film concerning Wilson's grown son makes the rigors of the clandestine life all too clear, but it comes too late in the story and serves mostly as a reminder that the thorny relationship between fathers and sons is as central to this movie as it was in De Niro's first directing job, 1993's *A Bronx Tale*. Like Wilson's hobby of building little ships in bottles, these good shepherds know how to keep their innards reined in while never solving the bigger mysteries of how and why. – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★½ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE HISTORY BOYS

D: Nicholas Hytner; with Richard Griffiths, Frances de la Tour, Stephen Campbell Moore, Samuel Barnett, Dominic Cooper, James Corden, Jamie Parker, Russell Tovey, Samuel Anderson, Sacha Dhawan, Andrew Knott, Penelope Wilton, Adrian Scarborough, Georgia Taylor, Clive Merrison. (R, 104 min.)

If you like your British movies quick, raunchy, reflective, and bittersweet, then *The History Boys* is for you. Based on the highly successful play, the film was produced during a break between theatrical engagements and retains its original writer, director, and cast. Alan Bennett, the writer who previously collaborated with director Hytner on *The Madness of King George*, brings to the screen a sharply whimsical exploration into the purpose of knowledge, performance, and hormones. Taking the industrial wasteland of 1983's Sheffield as its backdrop, the film follows eight boys on the verge of entering college. Due to excellent board scores, they're up for scholarships at either Oxford or Cambridge, the golden eggs of British education. As a result, the boys take an extra semester for additional instruction while preparing for the highly competitive entrance exams. Clever, wild, and cocky, the boys are entertaining from the moment they walk onscreen. Their instructors include the eccentric Hector, performed

with every amount of passion and pity by Griffiths *(Withnail and I, Harry Potter)*. Under Hector's training, lessons in "general studies" include re-enactments of old Bette Davis movies and the singing of show tunes. Dripping with poetic romanticism, Hector believes that knowledge is to be inhaled, experienced, and caressed. Sometimes, quite literally. A homosexual, he enjoys taking the more attractive students for rides on his motorbike in order to cop a feel in their nether regions. *Dead Poets Society* this is not. Strangely enough, the very heterosexual students consider this pervy practice merely a humorous obligation. Hector's colleagues include the stalwart, Mrs. Lintott (brilliantly portrayed by de la Tour) and the newly appointed realist, Irwin (Moore). Brought in by the results-oriented headmaster (Merrison) to give the boys some "edge," Irwin embraces an approach to learning that contradicts Hector's. For Irwin, knowledge is a game, a talent that can be mastered with the right amount of manipulation and wordplay. As a result, the film becomes a raunchy, raw, and often hilarious exploration into the conflict of learning. The boys engage in wild and distinctly genuine camaraderie and there isn't a weak link in this casting. Barnett is heartbreaking as a baby-faced Jewish homosexual, Cooper gives a star-making performance as the cheeky rebel with the bedroom eyes, and as the self-aware Christian, Parker is endearingly fun. Clearly, the filmmakers did manage to capture some measure of lightning in a bottle. – *Toddy Burton*

★★★½ Arbor

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

D: Shawn Levy; with Ben Stiller, Carla Gugino, Robin Williams, Dick Van Dyke, Ricky Gervais, Mickey Rooney, Paul Rudd, Owen Wilson, Bill Cobbs, Steve Coogan, Jake Cherry. (PG, 108 min.)

Watching Williams as Teddy Roosevelt ogle through binoculars Sacajawea (Mizuo Peck) while she stalks around a glassed-in display like some hippie chick in a buffalo-skin straitjacket after a bad trip at Woodstock '94 makes me sad and uncomfortable. That a couple of no-names portraying an oblivious Lewis and Clark casually argue directions by pointing hither and yon – no, west is *that* way, dude – doesn't help. And why do the Wild West and Roman Empire dioramas get to come out and play, but the Mayans remain confined? Maybe I'm just getting old: I didn't complain when Beethoven freestyled on music-store synthesizers at the San Dimas Mall before getting arrested in the Carlin-and-Keanu-driven *Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure*. But *Night at the Museum* is a family film aimed at first-graders, not teenagers. It must be held to higher standards. It is formative. Unfortunately, it's also incredibly stupid. Stiller stars as Larry Daley, a would-be schemer and all-but-deadbeat dad living in Brooklyn who finds a job as a night watchman at the American Museum of Natural History so he doesn't have to move to Queens. Doing so would disappoint his son, Nick (Cherry), who wants to become a bond trader. There's your tension. On his first night, after inheriting the instruction manual from the "downsized" Cecil (Van Dyke, who looks like he's having a blast), Reginald (Cobbs), and Gus (Rooney), Larry discovers that the place goes apeshit after dark: The Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton reanimates, as do Attila the Hun, an Easter Island Moai, and the entire Hall of African Mammals. Credit Levy – who shoots everything imagination-size, larger than life, and set against amber tones – for unleashing the beasts almost immediately. Amid crummy sight gags and predictable physical comedy, scenes that sputter so awkwardly they feel like they're being

Openings

Black Christmas (R)

Dreamgirls (PG-13)

The Good Shepherd (R)

The History Boys (R)

Night at the Museum (PG)

Vajra Sky Over Tibet (NR)

We Are Marshall (PG)

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

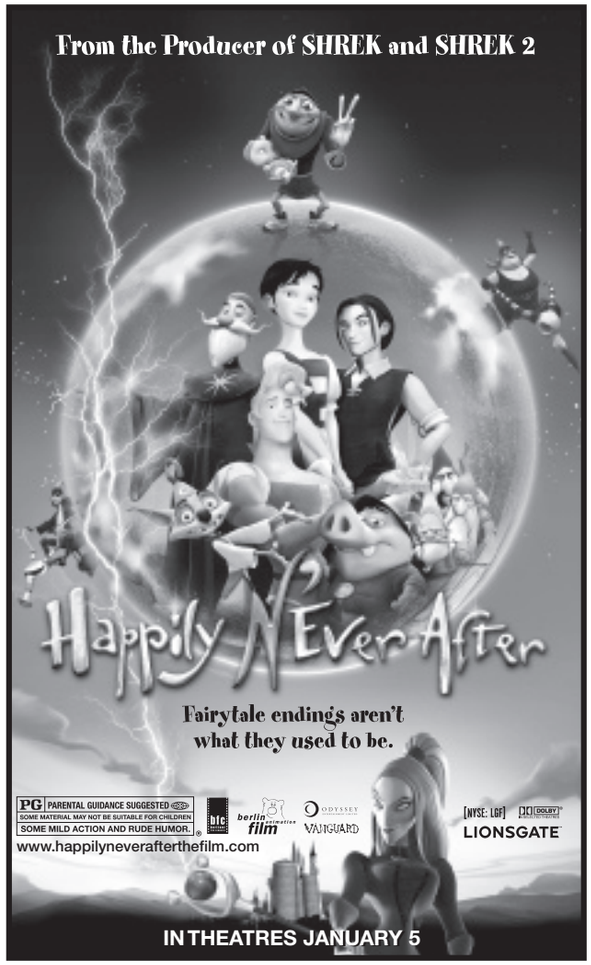


The History Boys

LANDMARK'S DOBIE
21st & Guadalupe • (512) 472-FILM
FREE PARKING IN THE DOBIE GARAGE
$6.00 Mon-Thur with college I.D.
www.LandmarkTheatres.com
GIFT CARDS ON SALE! Perfect for your favorite movie-lover!
AUSTIN FILM SOCIETY
VAJRA SKY OVER TIBET
Fri/Mon: (4:30) 7:20, 10:00; Sat: (1:30, 4:30) 7:20, 10:00; Sun: (1:30, 4:30) 7:20; Tues-Thur: 7:20, 10:00
the PURSUIT of HAPPYNESS
Fri/Mon: (4:20) 7:10, 9:50; Sat: (1:20, 4:20) 7:10, 9:50; Sun: (1:20, 4:20) 7:10; Tues–Thur: 7:10, 9:50
the Holiday
Fri/Mon: (4:10) 7:00, 9:40; Sat: (1:10, 4:10) 7:00, 9:40; Sun: (1:10, 4:10) 7:00; Tues–Thur: 7:00, 9:40
MEL GIBSON'S APOCALYPTO
Fri/Mon: (4:00) 6:50, 9:30; Sat: (1:00, 4:00) 6:50, 9:30; Sun: (1:00, 4:00) 6:50; Tues–Thur: 6:50, 9:30
SHOWTIMES FOR FRI, DEC. 22 – THURS, DEC. 28
Bargain Showtimes in ( )
©2006 LTC

HOLIDAY MOVIES GALORE!
VULCANVIDEO.COM

GIFT certificates available
VULCAN VIDEO
112 W. ELIZABETH
609 29TH ST.
13729 HWY 183 N #620
TWO FOR ONE TUES & WED!

Special ADVANCE Screening
Thursday, January 4, 7:30pm
To sign up for a chance to win a pass to this screening, go to austinchronicle.com/contests by 4pm, Tuesday, December 26.
LIONSGATE
No purchase necessary. Passes are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Seating is limited. Passes do not guarantee admission. Rated PG.
Opens Nationwide Friday, January 5
From the Producer of SHREK and SHREK 2


CHRONICLE
austinchronicle.com/contests

Showtimes

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE DOWNTOWN *409-B Colorado, 476-1320.* Seating begins one half-hour before showtime. Admission is 18 and up. AFS events are all ages.

High for the Holidays: Big *Beerfest* Sausage Feast: Tue, 9:45pm; Thu (12/28), 7:00pm
Weird Wednesday: *Confessions of an Opium Eater:* Wed, 12mid
Danielson: A Family Movie: Thu (12/28), 9:45pm
Sinus Show: *Die Hard:* Fri-Sat, 7:00, 9:45
High for the Holidays: *High:* Wed, 7:00pm
Terror Thursday: *Sinner's Blood:* Thu (12/28), 12mid
High for the Holidays: *The Wizard of Oz* With *Dark Side of the Moon:* Tue, 7:00pm; Wed, 9:45pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK *13729 Research, 219-8135.*

Bad Santa: Fri-Sat, 12mid
Déjà Vu: Fri-Sat, 12:25, 3:45, 7:25, 10:40; Sun, 12:25, 3:45, 7:25; Mon-Thu (12/28), 3:45, 10:40
The Departed: Fri-Sat, 11:45am, 3:15, 7:00, 10:30pm; Sun, 11:45am, 3:15, 7:00pm; Mon-Thu (12/28), 11:45am, 3:15, 7:00, 10:30pm
***Dreamgirls:** Mon-Thu (12/28), 11:15am, 3:05, 7:25, 10:35pm
***Eragon:** Fri-Sat, 12:35, 3:35, 7:30, 10:15; Sun, 12:35, 3:35, 7:30; Mon-Thu (12/28), 12:35, 3:35, 7:30, 10:15
***The Pursuit of Happyness:** Fri-Sat, 12:05, 3:10, 7:40, 10:45; Sun, 12:05, 3:10, 7:40; Mon-Thu (12/28), 12:05, 3:10, 7:40, 10:45
***Rocky Balboa:** Fri-Sat, 12:15, 3:00, 7:05, 10:05; Sun, 12:15, 3:00, 7:05; Mon-Thu (12/28), 12:15, 3:00, 7:05, 10:05
Stranger Than Fiction: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 3:30, 7:10, 10:35; Sun, 12:00, 3:30, 7:10; Mon-Thu (12/28), 12:00, 7:10
***We Are Marshall:** Fri-Sat, 12:30, 3:40, 7:15, 10:25; Sun, 12:30, 3:40, 7:15; Mon-Thu (12/28), 12:30, 3:40, 7:15, 10:25

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH *1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320.*

Apocalypto: Fri-Sun, 12:30, 3:45, 7:10, 10:20; Mon, 3:45, 7:10, 10:20; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:30, 3:45, 7:10, 10:20
Casino Royale: Fri, 9:40pm; Sat-Thu (12/28), 3:30, 9:40
***The Good Shepherd:** Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 3:00, 6:45, 10:15pm; Mon, 3:00, 6:45, 10:15; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:30am, 3:00, 6:45, 10:15pm
***Night at the Museum:** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:15, 7:05, 9:50pm; Mon, 4:15, 7:05, 9:50; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:00am, 1:35, 4:15, 7:05, 9:50pm
***The Pursuit of Happyness:** Fri-Sun, 1:20, 4:10, 7:15, 10:05; Mon, 4:10, 7:15, 10:05; Tue-Thu (12/28), 1:20, 4:10, 7:15, 10:05
***Rocky Balboa:** Fri-Sun, 11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:35, 10:10pm; Mon, 4:45, 7:35, 10:10; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:35, 10:10pm
Stranger Than Fiction: Fri, 7:00pm; Sat-Sun, 12:45, 7:00; Mon, 7:00pm; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:45, 7:00

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE *2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320.* Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old. AFS events are all ages.

TV Party: *Battlestar Galactica:* Fri, 12mid
Blood Diamond: Fri-Sun, 3:15, 7:10, 10:25; Mon, 7:10, 10:25; Tue-Thu (12/28), 3:15, 7:10, 10:25
Casino Royale: Sat-Sun, 12:00pm; Mon, 3:15pm; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:00pm
TV Party: *The Gilmore Girls* and *Veronica Mars:* Tue, 7:30pm
The Holiday: Fri-Sun, 12:05, 3:20, 7:05, 10:15; Mon, 3:20, 7:05, 10:15; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:05, 3:20, 7:05, 10:15
Night at the Museum: Fri-Sun, 12:15, 3:25, 7:00, 9:45; Mon, 3:25, 7:00, 9:45; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:15, 3:25, 7:00, 9:45
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
***We Are Marshall:** Fri-Sun, 12:20, 3:30, 7:15, 10:20; Mon, 3:30, 7:15, 10:20; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:20, 3:30, 7:15, 10:20

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS *9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742.* Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesdays.

Apocalypto: Fri-Sat, 11:45am, 2:50, 6:30, 9:30pm; Sun, 11:45am, 2:50, 6:30pm; Mon, 2:50, 6:30, 9:30; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:45am, 2:50, 6:30, 9:30pm
Babel: Fri-Sat, 11:15am, 3:10, 6:45, 9:50pm; Sun, 11:15am, 3:10, 6:45pm; Mon, 3:10, 6:45, 9:50; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:15am, 3:10, 6:45, 9:50pm
Blood Diamond: Fri-Sat, 12:30, 3:30, 6:50, 10:05; Sun, 12:30, 3:30, 6:50; Mon-Thu (12/28), 12:30, 3:30, 6:50, 10:05
The Departed: Fri-Sat, 11:30am, 3:20, 6:40, 10:00pm; Sun, 11:30am, 3:20, 6:40pm; Mon, 3:20, 6:40, 10:00; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:30am, 3:20, 6:40, 10:00pm
The Good Shepherd: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 12:00, 3:00, 4:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30pm; Sun, 11:00am, 12:00, 3:00, 4:00, 6:45pm; Mon, 12:00, 3:00, 4:00, 7:00, 8:00; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:00am, 12:00, 3:00, 4:00, 7:00, 8:00pm
The History Boys: Fri-Sat, 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10; Sun, 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40; Mon-Thu (12/28), 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
The Queen: Fri-Sat, 12:20, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:40; Sun, 12:20, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30; Mon-Thu (12/28), 12:20, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:40

BARTON CREEK CINEMA (CINEMARK) *Highway 360 and Walsh Tarlton, 306-1688.* Discounts daily before 6pm.

Black Christmas: Mon, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:35am, 1:55, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50pm
Borat: Fri-Sat, 11:40am, 2:25, 4:55, 7:35, 9:55pm; Sun, 11:40am, 2:25, 4:55, 7:35pm; Mon-Thu (12/28), 9:55pm
Dreamgirls: Mon, 3:15, 3:50, 6:15, 7:00, 9:25, 10:00; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:45am, 12:25, 3:15, 3:50, 6:15, 7:00, 9:25, 10:00pm
Eragon: Fri-Sat, 10:45am, 11:25, 1:30, 2:10, 4:10, 4:50, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:05pm; Sun, 10:45am, 11:25, 1:30, 2:10, 4:10, 4:50, 7:00, 7:30pm; Mon, 4:10, 4:50, 7:05, 7:30, 9:40; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:45am, 11:25, 1:30, 2:10, 4:10, 4:50, 7:05, 7:30, 9:40pm
Happy Feet: Fri-Sat, 11:15am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:45, 10:15pm; Sun, 11:15am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:45pm; Mon, 4:30, 7:45, 10:15; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:15am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:45, 10:15pm
The Nativity Story: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00pm; Sun, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:20pm
The Pursuit of Happyness: Fri-Sat, 10:55am, 11:50, 1:45, 3:00, 4:35, 6:30, 7:25, 9:25, 10:15pm; Sun, 10:55am, 11:50, 1:45, 3:00, 4:35, 6:30, 7:25pm; Mon, 3:00, 4:35, 6:30, 7:25, 9:35, 10:15; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:55am, 11:50, 1:45, 3:00, 4:35, 6:30, 7:25, 9:35, 10:15pm
Stranger Than Fiction: Fri-Sat, 7:05, 9:50; Sun, 7:05pm
Unaccompanied Minors: Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 1:55, 4:25pm
We Are Marshall: Fri-Sat, 11:30am, 12:15, 2:45, 3:45, 6:45, 7:15, 9:45, 10:10pm; Sun, 11:30am, 12:15, 2:45, 3:45, 6:45, 7:15pm; Mon, 3:45, 6:45, 7:15, 9:45, 10:10; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:30am, 12:15, 2:45, 3:45, 6:45, 7:15, 9:45, 10:10pm

FOR UPDATED SHOWTIMES, SEE
austinchronicle.com/film

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) *Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360), 306-9190.* Matinee discounts before 6pm.

Apocalypto: Fri-Sat, 10:25am, 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:45pm; Sun, 1:35, 4:30, 7:30; Mon, 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:45; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:25am, 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:45pm
Blood Diamond: Fri-Sat, 10:10am, 1:15, 4:20, 7:25, 10:35pm; Sun, 1:15, 4:20, 7:25; Mon, 1:15, 4:20, 7:25, 10:35; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:10am, 1:15, 4:20, 7:25, 10:35pm
Casino Royale: Fri-Sat, 10:20am, 1:25, 4:35, 7:40, 10:50pm; Sun, 1:25, 4:35, 7:40; Mon, 1:25, 4:35, 7:40, 10:50; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:20am, 1:25, 4:35, 7:40, 10:50pm
Charlotte's Web: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 11:00, 12:15, 1:25, 2:35, 3:45, 4:55, 6:10, 7:20, 8:25, 9:40pm; Sun, 12:15, 1:25, 2:35, 3:45, 4:55, 6:10, 7:20, 8:25; Mon, 11:00am, 12:15, 1:25, 2:35, 3:45, 4:55, 6:10, 7:20, 8:25, 9:40pm; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:00am, 11:00, 12:15, 1:25, 2:35, 3:45, 4:55, 6:10, 7:20, 8:25, 9:40pm
***The Good Shepherd:** Fri-Sat, 10:05am, 12:00, 1:30, 3:30, 5:00, 7:05, 8:30, 10:30pm; Sun, 10:05am, 12:00, 1:30, 3:30, 5:00, 7:05, 8:30pm; Mon, 12:00, 1:30, 3:30, 5:00, 7:05, 8:30, 10:30; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:05am, 12:00, 1:30, 3:30, 5:00, 7:05, 8:30, 10:30pm
The Holiday: Fri-Sat, 10:15am, 1:10, 4:05, 7:00, 8:00, 9:55, 10:55pm; Sun, 1:10, 4:05, 7:00, 8:00; Mon, 1:10, 4:05, 7:00, 8:00, 9:55, 10:55; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:15am, 1:10, 4:05, 7:00, 8:00, 9:55, 10:55pm
***Night at the Museum:** Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 10:50, 11:45, 12:30, 1:20, 2:15, 3:00, 3:50, 4:45, 5:30, 6:20, 7:15, 8:05, 8:50, 9:45, 10:35, 11:15pm; Sun, 10:50am, 11:45, 12:30, 1:20, 2:15, 3:00, 3:50, 4:45, 5:30, 6:20, 7:15, 8:05, 8:50, 9:45pm; Mon, 11:00am, 11:45, 12:30, 1:20, 2:15, 3:00, 3:50, 4:45, 5:30, 6:20, 7:15, 8:05, 8:50, 9:45, 10:35, 11:15pm; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:00am, 10:50, 11:45, 12:30, 1:20, 2:15, 3:00, 3:50, 4:45, 5:30, 6:20, 7:15, 8:05, 8:50, 9:45, 10:35, 11:15pm
***Rocky Balboa:** Fri-Sat, 10:35am, 11:35, 1:00, 2:00, 3:25, 4:25, 5:50, 7:00, 8:15, 9:15, 10:40, 11:15pm; Sun, 10:35am, 11:35, 1:00, 2:00, 3:25, 4:25, 5:50, 7:00, 8:15, 9:15pm; Mon, 11:35am, 1:00, 2:00, 3:25, 4:25, 5:50, 7:00, 8:15, 9:15, 10:40, 11:15pm; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:35am, 11:35, 1:00, 2:00, 3:25, 4:25, 5:50, 7:00, 8:15, 9:15, 10:40, 11:15pm
The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause: Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 12:50, 3:10, 5:25pm; Mon, 12:50, 3:10, 5:25; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:30am, 12:50, 3:10, 5:25pm

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK *4401 N. I-35, 1-800-FANDANGO.*

Apocalypto: Fri-Sat, 7:10, 10:25; Sun, 7:10pm; Mon-Thu (12/28), 7:10, 10:25
Blood Diamond: Fri-Sat, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/28), 9:20pm
Casino Royale: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 3:30, 6:40, 9:50; Sun, 12:15, 3:30, 6:40; Mon, 3:30, 6:40, 9:50; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:15, 3:30, 6:40, 9:50
Charlotte's Web: Fri-Sat, 10:20am, 11:30, 12:50, 2:15, 3:40, 5:10, 6:45, 7:45, 9:10, 10:20pm; Sun, 10:20am, 11:30, 12:50, 2:15, 3:40, 5:10, 6:45, 7:45pm; Mon, 3:40, 5:10, 6:45, 7:45, 9:10, 10:20; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:20am, 11:30, 12:50, 2:15, 3:40, 5:10, 6:45, 7:45, 9:10, 10:20pm
Déjà Vu: Fri-Sat, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (12/28), 9:30pm
***Eragon:** Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05pm; Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:50, 7:30pm; Mon, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:00am, 1:50, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05pm
***The Good Shepherd:** Fri-Sat, 10:45am, 2:45, 6:30, 10:10pm; Sun, 10:45am, 2:45, 6:30pm; Mon, 6:30, 10:10; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:45am, 2:45, 6:30, 10:10pm
Happy Feet: Fri-Sat, 10:15am, 12:45, 3:20, 6:50pm; Sun, 10:15am, 12:45, 3:20pm; Mon, 3:20, 6:50; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:15am, 12:45, 3:20, 6:50pm
The Holiday: Fri-Sat, 10:05am, 1:05, 4:15, 7:25, 10:35pm; Sun, 10:05am, 1:05, 4:15, 7:25pm; Mon, 4:15, 7:25, 10:35; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:05am, 1:05, 4:15, 7:25, 10:35pm
The Nativity Story: Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 1:20, 3:50, 7:05pm; Mon, 3:50, 7:05; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:50am, 1:20, 3:50, 7:05pm
***Night at the Museum:** Fri-Sat, 10:40am, 11:15, 1:30, 2:00, 4:30, 5:00, 7:20, 7:50, 10:00, 10:30pm; Sun, 10:40am, 11:15, 1:30, 2:00, 4:30, 5:00, 7:20, 7:50pm; Mon, 4:30, 5:00, 7:20, 7:50, 10:00, 10:30; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:40am, 11:15, 1:30, 2:00, 4:30, 5:00, 7:20, 7:50, 10:00, 10:30pm
***The Pursuit of Happyness:** Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 1:15, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45pm; Sun, 10:30am, 1:15, 4:10, 7:00pm; Mon, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:30am, 1:15, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45pm
***Rocky Balboa:** Fri-Sat, 11:20am, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:40pm; Sun, 11:20am, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00pm; Mon, 5:15, 8:00, 10:40; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:20am, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:40pm
The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause: Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:45, 4:45pm; Mon, 4:45pm; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:05am, 1:45, 4:45pm
Unaccompanied Minors: Fri-Sun, 10:00am; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:00am
***We Are Marshall:** Fri-Sat, 10:10am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:15, 10:15pm; Sun, 10:10am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:15pm; Mon, 4:00, 7:15, 10:15; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:10am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:15, 10:15pm

DOBIE THEATRE *2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.*

Apocalypto: Fri, 4:00, 6:50, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 6:50, 9:30; Mon, 4:00, 6:50, 9:30; Tue-Thu (12/28), 6:50, 9:30
The Holiday: Fri, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40; Mon, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40; Tue-Thu (12/28), 7:00, 9:40
The Pursuit of Happyness: Fri, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50; Mon, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50; Tue-Thu (12/28), 7:10, 9:50
Vajra Sky Over Tibet: Fri, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00; Mon, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00; Tue-Thu (12/28), 7:20, 10:00

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 *North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305.* No one under 18 will be allowed in the theatre on Fri. & Sat. after 7pm without an adult.

***Apocalypto* (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15; Sun, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15; Mon-Thu (12/28), 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
***Blood Diamond* (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30; Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30; Mon-Thu (12/28), 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
***Charlotte's Web* (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:20; Sun, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00; Mon-Thu (12/28), 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15
***Eragon* (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 12:00, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35, 11:55; Sun, 12:00, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10; Mon-Thu (12/28), 12:00, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35
The Good Shepherd: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30; Sun, 12:00, 3:30, 7:00
***Happy Feet* (in DLP digital):** 11:55am, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00pm
***Night at the Museum* (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 11:55am, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35, 11:50pm; Sun, 11:55am, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10pm; Mon-Thu (12/28), 11:55am, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35pm
The Pursuit of Happyness: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00; Sun, 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30; Mon-Thu (12/28), 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00
***Rocky Balboa* (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 12:25, 2:45, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45, 11:55; Sun, 12:25, 2:45, 5:00, 7:25; Mon-Thu (12/28), 12:25, 2:45, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45
The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause: Fri-Sat, 9:15, 11:15; Mon-Thu (12/28), 9:15pm
***We Are Marshall:** Fri-Sat, 1:50, 4:40, 7:25, 10:15; Sun, 1:50, 4:40, 7:25

GATEWAY THEATRE *9700 Stonelake, between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.* Call theatre for showtimes Monday, Dec. 25, through Thursday, Dec. 28.

Casino Royale: Fri-Sat, 11:15am, 3:15, 6:40, 9:50pm; Sun, 11:15am, 3:15, 6:40pm
Charlotte's Web: Fri-Sat, 9:40am, 11:40, 12:10, 2:05, 2:35, 4:25, 4:55, 6:50, 7:20, 9:25pm; Sun, 9:40am, 11:40, 12:10, 2:05, 2:35, 4:25, 4:55, 6:50, 7:20pm
Déjà Vu: Fri-Sat, 9:45pm
Eragon: Fri-Sat, 9:45am, 10:15, 12:25, 2:20, 2:50, 4:45, 5:15, 7:10, 7:40, 9:35, 10:05, 10:35pm; Sun, 9:45am, 10:15, 12:25, 2:20, 2:50, 4:45, 5:15, 7:10, 7:40pm
Happy Feet: Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:40, 3:10, 6:40pm
The Holiday: Fri, 3:30, 6:55, 10:20; Sat, 12:15, 6:55, 10:20; Sun, 3:30pm
***The Holiday* (open captioned):** Fri, 12:15pm; Sat, 3:30pm; Sun, 12:15, 6:55
The Nativity Story: Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50pm
Night at the Museum: Fri-Sat, 9:20am, 9:50, 11:20, 11:50, 12:20, 2:00, 2:30, 3:35, 4:35, 5:05, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45pm; Sun, 9:20am, 9:50, 11:20, 11:50, 12:20, 2:00, 2:30, 3:35, 4:35, 5:05, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45pm
The Pursuit of Happyness: Fri-Sat, 9:30am, 10:00, 12:35, 1:00, 3:20, 3:50, 7:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:15pm; Sun, 9:30am, 10:00, 12:35, 1:00, 3:20, 3:50, 7:00, 7:30pm
Rocky Balboa: Fri-Sat, 9:25am, 12:00, 12:30, 2:25, 3:05, 5:00, 5:30, 7:25, 7:55, 10:10, 10:40pm; Sun, 9:25am, 12:00, 12:30, 2:25, 3:05, 5:00, 5:30, 7:25, 7:55pm
We Are Marshall: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 3:00, 7:05, 9:55; Sun, 12:05, 3:00, 7:05

IMAX THEATRE *Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress), 936-IMAX.*

Deep Sea 3D: 1:00, 6:00
***Happy Feet:* The IMAX Experience:** Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00pm; Sun, 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00; Mon-Thu (12/28), 11:00am, 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00pm
Texas: The Big Picture: Fri-Sat, 10:00am; Mon-Thu (12/28), 10:00am

LAKELINE STARPORT *Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620, 335-4793.* Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday. Call theatre for showtimes Monday, Dec. 25, through Thursday, Dec. 28.

Apocalypto: Fri-Sat, 6:50, 10:10; Sun, 6:50pm
Blood Diamond: Fri-Sat, 10:00pm
Casino Royale: Fri-Sat, 7:20, 10:30; Sun, 7:20pm
Charlotte's Web: Fri-Sat, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:15pm; Sun, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:40pm
The Good Shepherd: Fri-Sat, 11:10am, 2:50, 6:30, 10:05pm; Sun, 11:10am, 2:50, 6:30pm
Happy Feet: Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:10pm
The Holiday: Fri-Sat, 11:40am, 3:00, 6:40, 9:55pm; Sun, 11:40am, 3:00, 6:40pm
The Nativity Story: Fri-Sat, 10:40am, 1:30, 4:00, 7:50, 10:25pm; Sun, 10:40am, 1:30, 4:00, 7:50pm
Night at the Museum: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 11:00, 1:20, 1:50, 4:10, 4:40, 7:00, 7:30, 9:50, 10:20pm; Sun, 10:30am, 11:00, 1:20, 1:50, 4:10, 4:40, 7:00, 7:30pm
The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause: Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:20pm
Unaccompanied Minors: Fri-Sun, 11:50am, 2:20, 5:00pm

METROPOLITAN *South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101.* Call theatre for showtimes Monday, Dec. 25, through Thursday, Dec. 28.

Borat: Fri-Sat, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 8:05, 10:40; Sun, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 8:00
Déjà Vu: Fri-Sat, 12:25, 4:20, 7:25, 10:30; Sun, 12:25, 4:20, 7:25
Eragon: Fri-Sat, 11:20am, 11:50, 1:50, 2:30, 4:35, 5:05, 7:10, 7:40, 9:45, 10:25pm; Sun, 11:20am, 11:50, 1:50, 2:30, 4:35, 5:05, 7:10, 7:40pm
The Good Shepherd: Fri-Sat, 11:15am, 12:10, 2:50, 4:00, 6:30, 8:15, 10:10pm; Sun, 11:15am, 12:10, 2:50, 4:00, 6:30pm
Happy Feet: Fri-Sat, 11:30am, 12:30, 2:10, 4:15, 5:15, 7:15, 8:00, 10:05, 10:40pm; Sun, 11:30am, 12:30, 2:10, 4:15, 5:15, 7:15, 8:00pm
The Nativity Story: Fri-Sat, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20pm; Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:10, 7:45pm
The Pursuit of Happyness: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 1:15, 2:00, 3:10, 4:10, 4:50, 6:40, 7:20, 7:55, 9:30, 10:15, 10:45; Sun, 12:15, 1:15, 2:00, 3:10, 4:10, 4:50, 6:40, 7:20, 7:55
We Are Marshall: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 1:00, 3:15, 4:25, 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:35; Sun, 12:00, 1:00, 3:15, 4:25, 7:00, 7:30

MILLENNIUM THEATRE *1156 Hargrave, 472-6932.* Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.

Open Season: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 2:15, 6:15pm; Wed-Thu (12/28), 10:30am, 1:15pm
The Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 4:15, 8:15; Wed-Thu (12/28), 4:15pm

ROUND ROCK 8 *2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848.* Discounts daily before 5pm.

Barnyard: The Original Party Animals: Fri-Sat, 12:10, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20; Sun, 12:10, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10; Mon, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:10, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20
Employee of the Month: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30; Mon, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
A Good Year: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 3:20, 7:20, 10:10; Sun, 12:15, 3:20, 7:20; Mon, 3:20, 7:20, 10:10; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:15, 3:20, 7:20, 10:10
Gridiron Gang: Fri-Sat, 12:40, 3:40, 7:25, 10:20; Sun, 12:40, 3:40, 7:25; Mon, 3:40, 7:25, 10:20; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:40, 3:40, 7:25, 10:20
Marie Antoinette: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 3:00, 6:50, 9:45; Sun, 12:05, 3:00, 6:50; Mon, 3:00, 6:50, 9:45; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:05, 3:00, 6:50, 9:45
The Marine: Fri-Sat, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05; Sun, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40; Mon, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05
Open Season: Fri-Sat, 11:45am, 2:20, 4:40, 7:15, 9:30pm; Sun, 11:45am, 2:20, 4:40, 7:15pm; Mon, 2:20, 4:40, 7:15, 9:30; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:45am, 2:20, 4:40, 7:15, 9:30pm
The Prestige: Fri-Sat, 12:20, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15; Sun, 12:20, 3:30, 7:00; Mon, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:20, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15

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

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

TINSELTOWN NORTH *North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville), 512/989-8540.*

Apocalypto: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 3:25, 6:40, 9:45; Sun, 12:05, 3:25, 6:40; Mon, 3:25, 6:40, 9:45; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:05, 3:25, 6:40, 9:45
Black Christmas: Mon, 2:25, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; Tue-Thu (12/28), 9:30am, 12:00, 2:25, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00pm
Blood Diamond: Fri-Sat, 12:10, 3:35, 7:05, 10:20; Sun, 12:10, 3:35, 7:05; Mon, 3:35, 7:05, 10:20; Tue-Thu (12/28), 12:10, 3:35, 7:05, 10:20
Casino Royale: Fri-Sat, 6:35, 9:50; Sun, 6:35pm; Mon-Thu (12/28), 10:20pm
Charlotte's Web: Fri-Sat, 9:05am, 11:05, 11:35, 1:40, 2:10, 4:20, 4:50, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:00pm; Sun, 9:05am, 11:05, 11:35, 1:40, 2:10, 4:20, 4:50, 7:00, 7:30pm; Mon, 4:20, 4:50, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:00; Tue-Thu (12/28), 9:05am, 11:05, 11:35, 1:40, 2:10, 4:20, 4:50, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:00pm
Deck the Halls: Fri-Sun, 9:20am; Tue-Thu (12/28), 9:20am
Déjà Vu: Fri-Sat, 6:50, 9:40; Sun, 6:50pm
***Dreamgirls:** Mon, 3:10, 6:30, 9:50; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:50am, 3:10, 6:30, 9:50pm
***Eragon:** Fri-Sat, 11:10am, 11:45, 1:55, 2:25, 4:30, 5:00, 7:10, 7:40, 9:55, 10:25pm; Sun, 11:10am, 11:45, 1:55, 2:25, 4:30, 5:00, 7:10, 7:40pm; Mon, 2:25, 4:30, 5:00, 7:10, 7:40, 9:55, 10:25; Tue-Thu (12/28), 11:10am, 11:45, 1:55, 2:25, 4:30, 5:00, 7:10, 7:40, 9:55, 10:25pm
***The Good Shepherd:** Fri-Sat, 10:40am, 2:40, 6:30, 10:10pm; Sun, 10:40am, 2:40, 6:30pm; Mon, 2:40, 6:30, 10:10; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:40am, 2:40, 6:30, 10:10pm
Happy Feet: Fri-Sat, 9:00am, 11:50, 2:30, 5:15, 7:55, 10:30pm; Sun, 9:00am, 11:50, 2:30, 5:15, 7:55pm; Mon, 2:30, 5:15, 7:55, 10:30; Tue-Thu (12/28), 9:00am, 11:50, 2:30, 5:15, 7:55, 10:30pm
The Holiday: Fri-Sat, 9:15am, 12:30, 3:50, 6:55, 10:15pm; Sun, 9:15am, 12:30, 3:50, 6:55pm; Mon, 3:50, 6:55, 10:15; Tue-Thu (12/28), 9:15am, 12:30, 3:50, 6:55, 10:15pm
The Nativity Story: Fri-Sat, 9:10am, 11:50, 2:30, 5:05, 7:45, 10:20pm; Sun, 9:10am, 11:50, 2:30, 5:05, 7:45pm; Mon, 2:30, 5:05, 7:45, 10:20; Tue-Thu (12/28), 9:10am, 11:50, 2:30, 5:05, 7:45, 10:20pm
***Night at the Museum:** Fri-Sat, 10:15am, 10:45, 11:15, 1:05, 1:35, 2:05, 3:55, 4:25, 4:55, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 9:35, 10:05, 10:35pm; Sun, 10:15am, 10:45, 11:15, 1:05, 1:35, 2:05, 3:55, 4:25, 4:55, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45pm; Mon, 3:55, 4:25, 4:55, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 9:35, 10:05, 10:35; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:15am, 10:45, 11:15, 1:05, 1:35, 2:05, 3:55, 4:25, 4:55, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 9:35, 10:05, 10:35pm
***The Pursuit of Happyness:** Fri-Sat, 9:40am, 10:15, 12:45, 1:15, 3:45, 4:15, 6:50, 7:20, 9:45, 10:15pm; Sun, 9:40am, 10:15, 12:45, 1:15, 3:45, 4:15, 6:50, 7:20pm; Mon, 3:45, 4:15, 6:50, 7:20, 9:45, 10:15; Tue-Thu (12/28), 9:40am, 10:15, 12:45, 1:15, 3:45, 4:15, 6:50, 7:20, 9:45, 10:15pm
***Rocky Balboa:** Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50pm; Sun, 10:30am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00pm; Mon, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; Tue-Thu (12/28), 10:30am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50pm
***The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause

started back up by a hand crank every time a bit of dialogue is exchanged, and the stale and watered-down talent that is Stiller in another nonsense story, *Night at the Museum* is at best a rotation of backdrops for its parade of visual effects. Take solace in those and the fact that 8-year-olds everywhere are about to discover the joy of Gervais, here in the role of bow-tied curator Dr. McPhee, not to mention Gugino as docent Rebecca in a series of low-cut sweaters. Still, they'll probably show the most love for a pugnacious Rooney – looking rather waxen and reanimated himself – whose only competition as Stiller's comic foil is a capuchin monkey. – *Shawn Badgley*

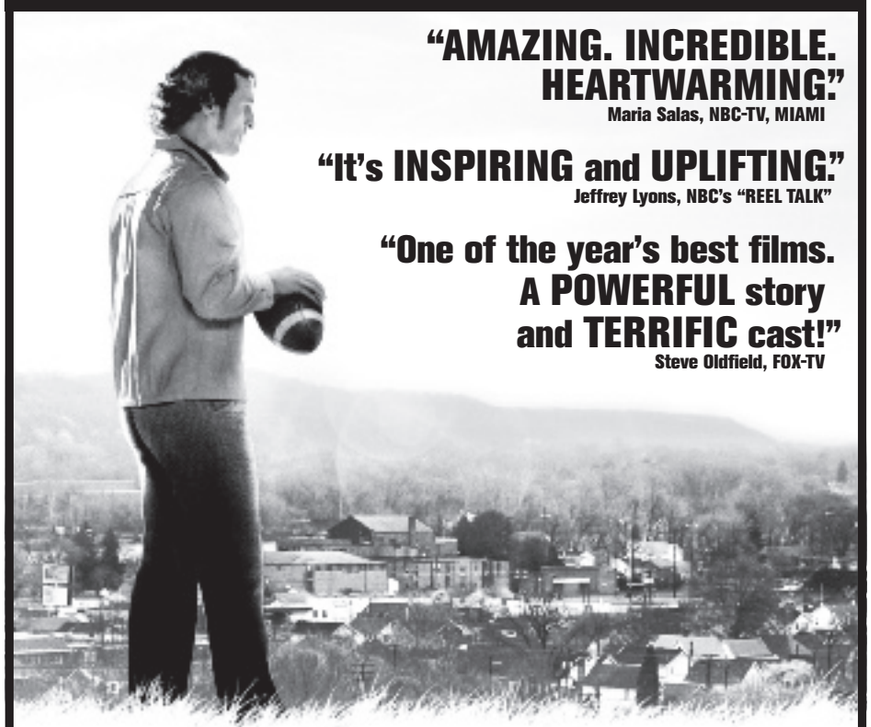
★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

ROCKY BALBOA

D: Sylvester Stallone; with Stallone, Burt Young, Antonio Tarver, Geraldine Hughes, Milo Ventimiglia, Tony Burton, A.J. Benza, James Francis Kelly III. (PG, 102 min.)

Boxing movies, truly great ones, are as rare as memorable prizefighters these days, but the genre – and it *is* a genre, beholden to its own sweaty language and too-often sappy storylines – has occasionally managed some bracing filmic glories. Even Clifford Odets, no slouch in the fisticuffs-of-the-human-heart department, threw his hat into the ring with the 1937 play *Golden Boy* (later a politically gutted film starring William Holden and Barbara Stanwyck which still later found itself echoed in Elia Kazan's more famously pugnacious tale of love and labor lost, *On the Waterfront*; perhaps not coincidentally,

"THIS HOLIDAY SEASON'S 'DON'T-MISS MOVIE.'"
Sarah Zapp, THE COMCAST NETWORK



"AMAZING. INCREDIBLE. HEARTWARMING."
Maria Salas, NBC-TV, MIAMI

"It's INSPIRING and UPLIFTING."
Jeffrey Lyons, NBC's "REEL TALK"

"One of the year's best films. A POWERFUL story and TERRIFIC cast!"
Steve Oldfield, FOX-TV

FROM THE ASHES WE ROSE

WE ARE MARSHALL

PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED
SOME MATERIAL MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN
Emotional Thematic Material, A Crash Scene And Mild Language

www.wearemarshall-themovie.com

LEGENDARY PICTURES

WARNER BROS. PICTURES ©2006 Warner Bros. Ent. All Rights Reserved

MOBILE USERS: For Showtimes - Text Message MARSHALL with your ZIP CODE to 43KIX (43549)!

STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema
ALAMO LAKE CREEK
183 & Lake Creek Pkwy
512/219-8135

Cinemark DIGITAL
BARTON CREEK CINEMA
Hwy 360 & Walsh Tarlton
512/306-1688

Regal Cinemas DIGITAL
GATEWAY STADIUM 16
Capital of Texas Hwy at 183
800/FANDANGO #366

Galaxy Theatres
HIGHLAND 10
I-35 @ Middle Fiskville
512/467-7305

Regal Cinemas DIGITAL
METROPOLITAN STADIUM 14
I-35 @ Stassney Lane
800/FANDANGO #368

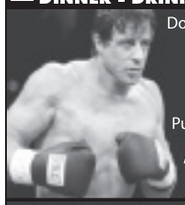
Cinemark DIGITAL
TINSELTOWN USA PFLUGERVILLE
I-35 N @ FM 1825
512/989-8529

Regal Cinemas DIGITAL
WESTGATE STADIUM 11
S Lamar & Ben White
800/FANDANGO #369

CHECK THEATRE DIRECTORIES OR CALL FOR SOUND INFORMATION AND SHOWTIMES

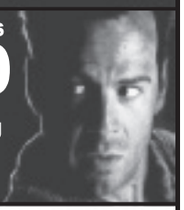
SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA
DINNER - DRINKS - MOVIES - EVENTS



Don't Just Watch The Movie, Live It.
ROCKY BALBOA
Punch a side of beef in the lobby!
Raw egg drinking challenge!
All 5 trailers before the movie!
Opens December 20!

THE SINUS SHOW presents
DIE HARD
40 stories of adventure, on a 34-story high building
Opening night Fri, 12/15 at the Alamo Downtown!



HIGH TIMES MAGAZINE presents
HIGH FOR THE HOLIDAYS!
featuring:
TUES & WEDS, 12/26 & 12/27
DARK SIDE OF THE RAINBOW
THE WIZARD OF OZ SET TO PINK FLOYD!
TUES & THURS, 12/26 & 12/28
THE BEERFEST SAUSAGE FEAST
THREE COURSES OF SAUSAGE AND MATCHING BEER!
WEDS 12/27 & MON 1/1
LARRY KENT'S HIGH
WITH BEST TRUE DRUG STORY BEFORE THE MOVIE!

GIVE THE GIFT OF BAD ASS CINEMA
ALAMO GIFT CERTIFICATES NOW AVAILABLE
AT THE THEATER OR ONLINE AT MONDOTEES.COM!

WEDNESDAY, 12/27 - DOWNTOWN
CONFESSIONS OF AN OPIUM EATER
SPECIAL HIGH FOR THE HOLIDAYS WEIRD WEDS!

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY, 1/1 & 1/3 - DOWNTOWN
PINK FLOYD'S THE WALL
SPECIAL HIGH FOR THE HOLIDAYS MUSIC MONDAY!

TUESDAY, 1/2 - DOWNTOWN
THE AUSTIN AIR GUITAR CHAMPIONSHIP
RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH AIR GUITARS!

THURSDAY, 1/4 - DOWNTOWN
THE LADIES OF THE 80S SING-ALONG

DOWNTOWN - 4TH AND COLORADO

THU, DEC 21	THE CHRISTMAS POPS! SING-ALONG ◆	7:00
	THE CHRISTMAS POPS! SING-ALONG ◆	9:45
	TERROR THURS (FREE) BLOOD BEACH	MIDNIGHT
FRI, DEC 22	THE SINUS SHOW: DIE HARD ◆	7:00, 10:00
SAT, DEC 23	THE SINUS SHOW: DIE HARD ◆	7:00, 10:00
SUN, DEC 24	CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY	
MON, DEC 25	CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY	
TUES, DEC 26	DARK SIDE OF THE RAINBOW	7:00
	BEERFEST SAUSAGE FEAST ◆	9:45
WED, DEC 27	HIGH	7:00
	DARK SIDE OF THE RAINBOW	9:45
	WEIRD WEDS CONFESSIONS OF AN OPIUM EATER	MIDNIGHT
THU, DEC 28	BEERFEST SAUSAGE FEAST ◆	7:00
	DANIELSON: A FAMILY MOVIE	9:45
	TERROR THURS (FREE) SINNER'S BLOOD	MIDNIGHT

SOUTH LAMAR - 1120 SOUTH LAMAR BLVD

ROCKY BALBOA ◆	1145*	215*	445	735	1010
NIGHT AT MUSEUM ◆	1100*	135*	415	705	950
GOOD SHEPHERD ◆		1130*	300	645	1015
APOCALYPTO		1230*	345	710	1020
PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS		120*	410	715	1005
CASINO ROYALE		330	940		
STRANGER THAN FICTION		115*	400	705	950

VILLAGE - ANDERSON LANE WEST OF BURNET

NIGHT AT MUSEUM ◆	1215*	325	700	945
WE ARE MARSHALL ◆	1220*	330	715	1020
THE HOLIDAY	1205*	320	705	1015
BLOOD DIAMOND		315	710	1025
CASINO ROYALE		1200*	315 (Mon only)	
BUFFY SING-ALONG ◆			MIDNIGHT (Fri)	
ROCKY HORROR			MIDNIGHT (Sat)	

$6.00 MATINEES BEFORE 6 PM, $6.00 STUDENTS, SENIORS, KIDS OVER 6 W/ PARENTS
SHOWS WITH * SAT, SUN, TUES ONLY · ◆ NO PASSES - GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE



ALL THREE ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LOCATIONS NOW BOOK
PRIVATE PARTIES
DOWNTOWN, VILLAGE & SOUTH LAMAR 407-9531

HIGH FOR THE HOLIDAYS COMING THIS DECEMBER DOWNTOWN!
476-1320 - WWW.DRAFTHOUSE.COM - NO INFANTS
18 & UP ALL SHOWS - BEST THEATER IN AUSTIN!

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA
DINNER · DRINKS · MOVIES · EVENTS

LAKECREEK SHOWTIMES (1300 E. LAKECREEK PARKWAY)
the PURSUIT of HAPPYNESS · eragon · DEJA VU
ROCKY BALBOA · stranger than fiction · THE DEPARTED · WE ARE MARSHALL

FOR SHOWTIMES PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE DRAFTHOUSE.COM OR CALL 219-8135

DREAMGIRLS OPENS MONDAY DECEMBER 25th

BAD SANTA 22ND & MIDNIGHT DEC 23RD



With a special giveaway of a limited # of John Waters' new Christmas album

KARLA
A DEEPLY DISTURBING TRUE STORY
PAUL BERNARDO & KARLA HOMOLKA'S DANCE WITH DEATH
JAN 12TH-14TH 7&10PM
MORE INFO @ DRAFTHOUSE.COM & KARLATHEMOVIE.NET

KILL BILL VOLUME 1 and 2 DOUBLE FEATURE FEAST
JAN 17TH
MORE INFO SOON



THE PRINCESS BRIDE
Midnight Fri & Sat
January 26th & 27th
All ages Matinee
Jan 27th @ Noon

BABY DAY
TO PLAN YOUR NEXT PRIVATE PARTY OR CORPORATE EVENT
CALL TEIGH OR (512) 219-7802
ONLINE TICKETS AND UPDATES AT WWW.DRAFTHOUSE.COM
DIGITAL SOUND! ALL SHOWS 18 & UP UNLESS WITH PARENT OR GUARDIAN
SHOWS BEFORE 6PM $6 · NO PASSES
ALL SHOWS MONDAY $5

GALAXY THEATRES

HIGHLAND 10
I-35 & Middle Fiskville Rd.
512-467-7305
100% STADIUM SEATING - ALL DIGITAL SOUND
BARGAIN MATINEES DAILY

NOTICE: No one under 18 years of age will be allowed in the theatre on Fri. & Sat. after 7PM without an adult.

★ NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM Presented In DLP Cinema (PG)
Fri. & Sat. 11:55 2:20 4:45 7:10 9:35 11:50
Sun. 11:55 2:20 4:45 7:10
Mon. - Thu. 11:55 2:20 4:45 7:10 9:35

★ WE ARE MARSHALL (PG) Fri. Sat. & Mon. - Thu. 1:50 4:40 7:25 10:15
Sun. 1:50 4:40 7:25

★ GOOD SHEPHERD (R) Fri. Sat. & Mon. - Thu. 12:00 3:30 7:00 10:30
Sun. 12:00 3:30 7:00

★ ROCKY BALBOA Presented In DLP Cinema (PG)
Fri. & Sat. 12:25 2:45 5:00 7:25 9:45 11:55
Sun. 12:25 2:45 5:00 7:25
Mon. - Thu. 12:25 2:45 5:00 7:25 9:45

★ CHARLOTTE'S WEB Presented In DLP Cinema (G)
Fri. & Sat. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15 11:20
Sun. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00
Mon. - Thu. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15

★ ERAGON Presented In DLP Cinema (PG) Fri. & Sat. 12:00 2:20 4:45 7:10 9:35 11:55
Sun. 12:00 2:20 4:45 7:10
Mon. - Thu. 12:00 2:20 4:45 7:10 9:35

★ PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS (PG–13) Fri. Sat. & Mon. - Thu. 12:05 2:35 5:05 7:30 10:00
Sun. 12:05 2:35 5:05 7:30

APOCALYPTO Presented In DLP Cinema (R) Fri. Sat. & Mon. - Thu. 1:15 4:15 7:15 10:15
Sun. 1:15 4:15 7:15

BLOOD DIAMOND (R) Fri. Sat. & Mon. - Thu. 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:30
Sun. 1:30 4:30 7:30

HAPPY FEET (PG) Fri. - Thu. 11:55 2:20 4:40 7:00
SANTA CLAUSE 3 (G) Fri. & Sat. 9:15 11:15
Mon. - Thu. 9:15

★ = Special Engagement No Passes/Coupons
Tickets available online at GALAXYTHEATRES.com

High



***High* (1967)** *D: Larry Kent; with Lanny Beckman, Astri Thorvik. (NR, 80 min.)* **High for the Holidays.** Canadian film about a couple of Montreal hustlers of sex and drugs. Banned at the time of its making, the trippy film became a cause célèbre. The evening will be complemented by a Best True Drug Story contest before the screening. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Wednesday, 7pm.

Kazan had a role in the stage version). But first-round cinematic TKOs? You can number those pug-uglies on a lone dockworker's mangled paw: John Garfield in *Body and Soul*, the Rod Serling-scripted *Requiem for a Heavyweight* (with Jack Palance on TV's *Playhouse 90*, Anthony Quinn in the film version), *Raging Bull*, *Million Dollar Baby*, anything sporting a gorgeous, young Cassius Clay or the floating, stinging conscientiously objectified Muhammad Ali. And then there's Stallone's mush-mouthed and even mushier-hearted Italian Stallion, a brawny slab of meat who, in round one, floored not only Apollo Creed but also Academy Awards voters. I was 10 years old when my parents dropped off me and a pal at a grim New York theatre during *Rocky*'s premiere engagement in 1976, but the memory lingers like an ill-stanched nick above a boxer's bony orbit. Kids love Rocky, and why not? The perpetual underdog who never says die, he's the playground equalizer gone grownup, your buddy, your pal, your bodyguard. That first *Rocky* was, and remains, sheer Palookaville genius. *Rockys II-V*, were very much less so, by degrees and occasional magnitude. Which brings us to *Rocky Balboa*, the final chapter in the saga: It's terrific. Maybe not great, like that first kiss of fist in '76, but good, solid, exhilarating entertainment of the stand-up-and-cheer variety. "I'm fallin' apart," the now-59-year-old Rocky confides to Paulie (Young, the ecstatically grizzled series stalwart). "So's the whole world, Rocco." But, yo, it's worse for Balboa, who in the interim has lost his beloved Adrian (Talia Shire, seen in flashback) to the "women's cancer;" his son (Ventimiglia, replacing Stallone's real-life offspring Sage) to the corporate world; and, most importantly, his passion for living (what he calls "the beast inside") to the unstoppable wallop of time. Enter world heavyweight champ Mason "The Line" Dixon (Tarver), who, having lost the love of the crowd to the fact that he's *too* unbeatable, goes toe-to-toe with Rocco in a Mandalay Bay exhibition match, the doughy warhorse versus the rippling, prestud stallion. Stallone infuses *Balboa* with a sense of soulful urgency not fully evinced in the character in ages, and for this reason – despite some clunky melodramatics and questionable, MTV-esque editing barrages – the film swings, stings, and sings. Like the character of Rocky, it's got heart to spare and is by turns one of the sweetest of the sweet-science pictures, as well as one of the most doleful. Fighters fight, it's what they do. And Balboa, God bless him, fights on. *– Marc Savlov*

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

VAJRA SKY OVER TIBET

D: John Bush. (NR, 89 min.)

High in the mountains of Tibet, a great religious tradition stretching back thousands of years is slowly dying on the vine. The Buddhism practiced there, with its ornate rituals, eerie throat singing, and pantheon of reincarnated lamas, has been on a respirator ever since the communist Chinese government seized control of the country back in 1949 and the Dalai Lama was forced into exile 10 years later. Since then, Buddhism in Tibet has been a movement without a leader, and that, along with the destruction of innumerable temples and texts and the systematic oppression of the faithful, has left the religion in a sad state in a country where it once thrived. One Western acolyte of these beleaguered traditions is Bush, who has created *Vajra Sky Over Tibet* (part of his Yatra Trilogy of movies, which explore the many "spiritual wonders" of Southeast Asia) to celebrate the vitality of an ancient religion and bear witness to its gradual destruction. There's no doubting Bush's heart is in the right place, and he takes great pains to capture the emotive and aesthetic power of both Tibetan Buddhist traditions and the glorious natural landscape that engendered them. His film takes us high into misty mountains and deep into the monasteries of the capital city of Lhasa, granting us access to rituals and ceremonies rarely seen by Western eyes. As an educational tool, there's really no faulting it: Anything you ever wanted to know about Tibetan Buddhism but didn't know to ask is here on display – from prayer wheels to Panchen Lamas, from laughing statues to *The Tibetan Book of the Dead* – and it's all appropriately mesmerizing and exotic and curious. The problem, however, is that Bush's reverence for the religion and his desire to see its significance and precariousness recognized by the outside world far outpace his abilities as a director and storyteller. *Vajra Sky Over Tibet* is educational without being edifying, distracting without being inspirational, and in the end it feels like a guided tour rather than a movie, like a primer or a catechism or a glorified glossary of terms rather than a work of creativity. In addition, Bush wears his affection for Buddhist philosophy and his dedication to its preservation unashamedly on his sleeve, and as a result his movie nearly drowns in solemnity and noble intentions (not to mention chanting; oh, does Bush never tire of chanting?): Any viewer not as enamored as the director may find him or herself choking on incense long before the film is over. Though Bush's aims are admirable and his ability to slip into the cracks of an ancient culture impressive, one can't shake the feeling that the tale of Tibet's struggles against communist injustice deserves the attentions of a truly great documentarian, not merely a sympathetic one. **AFS@Dobie** *– Josh Rosenblatt*

★★ Dobie

Die Hard



***Die Hard* (1988)** *D: John McTiernan; with Bruce Willis, Alan Rickman, Bonnie Bedelia. (R, 131 min.)* **Sinus Show.** Superb action movie set on Christmas Eve stars Willis as an everyman hero who is coincidentally visiting a high-rise at the same time terrorist thieves are taking it over. The Sinus gang will observe with their tongues planted firmly in their cheeks. For tickets see **www.originalalamo.com**. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Friday-Saturday, 7, 9:45.

WE ARE MARSHALL

D: McG; with Matthew McConaughey, Matthew Fox, Anthony Mackie, David Strathairn, Ian McShane, Kate Mara, Kimberly Williams-Paisley, January Jones. (PG, 127 min.)

There are football movies, and then there's this 800-pound gorilla of a gridiron weepie, which should be penalized for roughing the viewer. You may recall the full-throttle, swish-pan stylings of helmer McG (né Joseph McGinty Nichol) from the *Charlie's Angels* movies and TV's *Fastlane*, while watching the true story of a chartered-jet crash that killed all but four of the 1970 Marshall University Thundering Herd. The tragedy has been has been slavishly translated to the sports-movie formula by newbie scribes Jamie Linden and Cory Helms. As the team rebuilds its ranks the next year and prepares to take the field once more, there's a hesitant administrator (Strathairn), a Guy Who Quits (Huntley Ritter), quietly supportive wives (Jones and Williams-Paisley), and bone-crunching footage – all of it handsome – of the underdogs' training and season. More mechanical than nuanced, the movie gives us one naysayer, *Deadwood* villain McShane, who seems to be a composite character for bereft parents. Because he's a man of the earth, McShane is posed pensively against showers of steel-mill sparks in a hard hat, but the movie doesn't take his pain very seriously: He's simply the antagonist, and his job is to cause trouble for coaches Jack Lengyel (McConaughey) and Red Dawson (Fox) until he sees the light. With 75 people dead – an entire chunk of a small West Virginia town – circumspection seems appropriate, but the movie will have none of that foolishness. It wants you to pump your fist and cheer your grief away, no exceptions. Consider by comparison another movie about a small-town tragedy, Atom Egoyan's *The Sweet Hereafter* – based on the eponymous Russell Banks novel and likewise inspired by a true story. One is quiet and reflective, the other noisy and aggressively heartwarming. Pick your flavor. I'm still figuring out what to make of McConaughey, who cuts a comic figure with his plaid double-knit slacks and pomaded comb-over. As the requisite rule-breaking coach, he's far weirder than, say, the Rock in this year's *Gridiron Gang*, and his motivational tactics approach coercion. But like little else in the movie, he has the power to surprise. *– Marrit Ingman*

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

First Runs

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

APOCALYPTO

D: Mel Gibson; with Rudy Youngblood, Dalia Hernandez, Jonathan Brewer, Raoul Trujillo, Rodolfo Palacios, Morris Birdyellowhead, Fernando Hernandez, María Isabel Díaz. (R, 137 min., subtitled)

Think and say what you will about the beliefs and actions of Mel Gibson. One conclusion, however, is undeniable: He's a powerfully effective filmmaker. The films Gibson has directed demonstrate an increasingly deft understanding of epic scope, narrative mechanics, and visceral response. With his fourth feature film as a director, Gibson continues his (probably unintentional) study of the mortification of the flesh through the ages. *Apocalypto*, which emphasizes the barbarity of late Mayan culture at the expense of its accomplishments in the sciences, written language, and city-building, is rife with assaults on the body. These details have the desired visceral effect on the viewer, and when combined with Gibson's command of the film's basic story of a husband and father's heroic journey to rescue his family, *Apocalypto* becomes an absorbing drama. However, despite showcasing a civilization little seen on the silver screen, there are several historical aspects of the film that just don't jibe. *(12/08/2006)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★½ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Dobie, Highland, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

BABEL

D: Alejandro González Iñárritu; with Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett, Adriana Barraza, Gael García Bernal, Rinko Kikuchi, Kôji Yakusho, Said Tarchani, Boubker Ait El Caid, Elle Fanning, Nathan Gamble. (R, 142 min.)

The sheer volume of linguistic and societal back-spatter promises discontinuity that only ends in one of two ways: silence or babble. Working in one of the few media that resist geographic and cultural borders, Iñárritu and screenwriter Guillermo Arriaga *(Amores Perros, 21 Grams)* have woven together four disparate, interrelated stories amid this overarching theme and, in doing so, have crafted an eloquent and electrifying depiction of mankind's increasingly fractured state, where small acts of kindness are freighted with unpredictable and often disastrous repercussions and desperate hours are never more than minutes away. Exquisitely crafted from its jarring musical score (by Argentinian composer Gustavo Santaolalla) to its famous faces (here scrubbed clean of the protective veneer of the West) and legions of unknown and nonprofessional actors (revelation upon revelation), *Babel* is an incendiary piece of cinematic ordnance, backlighting incipient chaos and the random yet infinitely complex nature of human events. Arriaga confounds expectations throughout. *(11/10/2006)* *– Marc Savlov*

★★★★ Arbor

Pack a full week of ***Chronicle* Film Listings** into your **iPod**, **PDA**, or **phone**!
austinchronicle.com/ipod

BLOOD DIAMOND

D: Edward Zwick; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Djimon Hounsou, Jennifer Connelly, Arnold Vosloo, Antony Coleman, David Harewood. (R, 143 min.)

As a means to drive home its argument – that the 14-carat rock on your fiancée's ring finger might be little more than a blood-drenched byproduct of an African civil war – the stringent verisimilitude of *Blood Diamond* includes endless sequences of slaughter, bloodthirsty child soldiers, and politically motivated dismemberment, which is rough, gory stuff. You can view Zwick's action-packed take on the issue as a social critique masquerading as cineplex fodder, but in this case, the Hollywood tropes of the storyline very nearly overwhelm the subject matter. DiCaprio plays a former mercenary who now operates a lucrative diamond-smuggling trade in war-torn Sierra Leone and has a crisis of conscience that arrives in the form of Connelly's crusading Yank journalist and Hounsou's downtrodden diamond-digger. *Blood Diamond* is by turns moving, horrific, and bombastic. The film works best when it puts its social message on the back burner. *(12/08/2006)* – *Marc Savlov*

★★½ Alamo Drafthouse Village, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

BORAT: CULTURAL LEARNINGS OF AMERICA FOR MAKE BENEFIT GLORIOUS NATION OF KAZAKHSTAN

D: Larry Charles; with Sacha Baron Cohen, Ken Davitian, Anthony Hines, Peter Baynham. (R, 84 min.)

First unleashed on the world in a series of BBC comedic sketches on the Cambridge alumnus Cohen's *Da Ali G Show* and later picked up for domestic consumption by HBO, alleged Kazakh newsman Borat Sagdiyev is the ugly American (or Brit) from elsewhere: a clueless, gangly, mustachioed moron prone to anti-Semitic tirades so subversively over-the-top that the only serious reaction is giggles. This feature-length expansion of Cohen's deliciously ridiculous character is, on the face of it, a mockumentary. It follows the titular clod and his producer, Azamat (Davitian), from their backwater Kazakhstan hovels to America on an ostensible mission of discovery and cultural growth. Instead, what we witness are some of the most fearless acts of transgressive comedy in years. This is shockingly blunt comedy and shockingly funny, too. Cohen and Davitian are utterly fearless, poking fun not only at Americans but at the stereotype of the foreign Other, as well. *(11/03/2006)* – *Marc Savlov*

★★★★ CM Barton Creek, Metropolitan

CASINO ROYALE

D: Martin Campbell; with Daniel Craig, Judi Dench, Mads Mikkelsen, Eva Green, Jeffrey Wright, Giancarlo Giannini, Isaach De Bankolé. (PG-13, 144 min.)

This is the origin story wherein we get to discover, along with incoming blond Bond Craig, where 007 got his Walther PPK, his love of fast cars and suave daredeviltry, vodka martinis, and highest-stakes cardsharpery. The good news is Craig is mesmerizing; you can see Sean Connery in his future, and it looks just about spot-on. Craig carries *Casino Royale* with gutsy aplomb, and if his Bond carries more than a hint of streetwise rough trade, it only adds to the film's edgy, grim demeanor. Bond purists will rankle at this film's extended – but necessary for future character development – backstory, which until now is not a phrase I'd have used to describe 007. Unlike the other Bonds, this one feels pain, lots of it, and bleeds a lot of blood. Those who always hoped the series would morph into something approaching realism (if only cinematic) will find their wait justly rewarded. Craig, simply put, *is* Bond. *(11/17/2006)* – *Marc Savlov*

★★★½ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

D: Gary Winick; with Dakota Fanning; with the voices of Julia Roberts, Steve Buscemi, Dominic Scott Kay, John Cleese, Oprah Winfrey, Cedric the Entertainer, Kathy Bates, Reba McEntire. (G, 97 min.)

It's a dicey business bringing a much-loved book to the big screen. True believers will be hiding around every corner with a cleaver, waiting for you to slip up on even the slightest plot point. Things get particularly precarious when you're talking about a classic children's book. So it is with *Charlotte's Web*, E.B. White's brilliantly told tale of a runty pig named Wilbur (voiced by Kay) and his spider friend and savior, Charlotte (voiced by Roberts). Updated only slightly to accommodate the sensibilities of today's kids, with their affection for digitally enhanced creatures and wise-cracking sidekicks, this new version manages to lose very little of the sentimental sweetness and plainspoken nobility of the original. In fact, for modern-day kids fare, it's a remarkably temperate and quiet movie: Bathroom humor is kept to a minimum, Templeton the scavenging rat (voiced by Buscemi) never once breaks into song, and there isn't a single pop-culture reference in the entire film. And three cheers for that, because any attempt at clamorous irony would have killed this movie. What *Charlotte's Web* has always had going for it, and what I imagine kids will always cling to, is a sweet, simple, and timeless story about the power of friendship and the acceptance of loss, a story that's told faithfully here. *(12/15/2006)* – *Josh Rosenblatt*

★★½ AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

DECK THE HALLS

D: John Whitesell; with Danny DeVito, Matthew Broderick, Kristin Davis, Kristin Chenoweth. (PG, 95 min.)

When boorish Buddy Hall (DeVito) moves in across the street from mild-mannered optometrist Steve Finch (Broderick), he's unaware that his new neighbor is the local "Christmas guy." Meanwhile, Hall, who's suffering through an epic midlife crisis, comes across a Web site where one can view satellite images of one's own house – provided the house is big enough, of course, which Hall's isn't. In this omission Hall sees a cruel metaphor for his entire meaningless little life, and he decides he's going to create a Christmas light display on his property of such garish magnitude that it will be visible from outer space, thereby granting him some small recognition from the world. And so begins a yuletide battle of almost biblical proportions. *Deck the Halls* jumps clamorously from scene to painful scene without any concern for plot development or consistency, and with the single aim of scoring only the basest comedic points. *(12/01/2006)* – *Josh Rosenblatt*

★½ Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

DÉJÀ VU

D: Tony Scott; with Denzel Washington, Paula Patton, Val Kilmer, Jim Caviezel, Adam Goldberg, Bruce Greenwood, Elden Henson, Erika Alexander. (PG-13, 128 min.)

Déjà Vu links up time travel, explosive terrorist actions, and solid detective work with rapid-fire techno-jargon, dexterous visual displays, and the anchoring prowess of leading man Washington. If the science fiction in *Déjà Vu* has more to do with fiction than science, it's not as though the movie ever pauses long enough for that realization to fully take hold. This can be both a good and bad thing. The film's science has more in common with the kind seen on producer Jerry Bruckheimer's ever-popular, ever-metastasizing *CSI* TV programs. The first 10 or so minutes of the film are a taut, terrific bit of filmmaking, as is the film's climactic car chase, which occurs in both the past and the present. *Déjà Vu* has enough style and forward (or is it backward?) momentum to keep viewers aroused. It's only after you leave the theatre that your head starts to throb. *(11/24/2006)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

THE DEPARTED

D: Martin Scorsese; with Jack Nicholson, Leonardo DiCaprio, Matt Damon, Mark Wahlberg, Ray Winstone, Martin Sheen, Vera Farmiga, Alec Baldwin. (R, 149 min.)

Watching this new film by Scorsese is tantamount to falling in love with the director all over again. Scorsese was (and now confirms he still is) the most red, white, and blue filmmaker since Frank Capra washed up on Ellis Island. Which makes it all the more interesting that *The Departed* is a remake of the 2002 Chinese film *Infernal Affairs*. Working from William Monahan's deeply layered, immensely satisfying script, Scorsese's film expands on the (already excellent) original, moving the action from the director's home base to the not-dissimilar mean streets of Boston. This is a dream cast for both Scorsese and the viewer. Scorsese doesn't have much to say about the Irish mob, or how their immigrant experience echos that of their Italian counterparts in New York, but this isn't *Gangs of New York*, or even gangs of South Boston: It's Them vs. Us, with no I to speak of. *(10/06/2006)* – *Marc Savlov*

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Arbor, Tinseltown South





ERAGON

D: Stefan Fangmeier; with Edward Speleers, Sienna Guillory, Djimon Hounsou, Jeremy Irons, John Malkovich, Robert Carlyle, Garrett Hedlund. (PG, 104 min.)

Dear George Lucas: What gives with this *Eragon* jazz? I mean, gee whiz, did you seriously think that we wouldn't recognize you, the Great Man, as the guiding, um, *force* behind this dull retelling of *Star Wars*? C'mon, man, give us a little credit: An orphaned farm boy, raised by his uncle, who harbors a secret destiny as the last of a magical breed of warriors? An evil king and an imperiled princess? A sage old mentor and a cocksure sidekick? A rebel alliance, and a desperate, final airborne assault on the forces of darkness? Dude, we've been over this before. Enough, already. It's bad enough that you've cloaked your true identity behind that of 15-year-old bestselling novelist Christopher Paolini – which, frankly, is totally creeping us out – but did you have to remake *Episode IV* all over again? With friggin' *dragons*?! Trust me, the X-Wings were infinitely cooler. *(12/15/2006)* – *Marc Savlov*

★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

GUADALUPE

D: Santiago Parra; with Ivana Miño, Gemma Guilemany, Pedro Armendáriz Jr., Eric del Castillo, Sandra Estil. (PG, 112 min., subtitled)

Guadalupe is amateur hour dressed up in ecclesiastical purple: a poorly drawn, poorly directed, and poorly acted attempt at a film of weight and religious significance. This profoundly mawkish story of redemption and religious awakening flashes back and forth in time between 16th-century Mexico – a time, legend says, when a vision of the Virgin Mary appeared before a peasant in the desert and brought a new identity to the fledgling nation – and modern-day Mexico, where two archeologists have come from abroad looking for proof of the legend and end up instead finding a path to their own spiritual contentment. The filmmakers are too caught up in their own religious sentiments and educational aims to pay much mind to character or plot development, and the movie slips off the rails by the end of the first scene. Aiming to be a religious mystery along the lines of *The Da Vinci Code*, *Guadalupe* settles instead for being pure soap opera. *(12/15/2006)* – *Josh Rosenblatt*

Tinseltown South

HAPPY FEET

D: George Miller; with Elijah Wood, Robin Williams, Brittany Murphy, Hugh Jackman, Nicole Kidman, Hugo Weaving, Anthony LaPaglia. (PG, 108 min.)

Who knew that we'd turn out to be a nation hooked on penguins? *Happy Feet* treads material common to kids films and cartoons: A young animal stands out because of his inability to perform like the other animals, although he seemingly compensates for this defect by demonstrating a certain skill that sets him apart from the others, who ostracize him for his weirdness. Mumble, the young penguin, spontaneously tap-dances like, well, like Savion


The Good Shepherd



Night at the Museum

Glover (whose acclaimed footwork was filmed with motion-capture techniques and grafted onto the penguin's body). This film's prominent ecological themes steer clear of more complex questions but are refreshing nevertheless. The constant singing and dancing is charmingly presented, and the CGI re-creations are stunning. The chase sequences might prove a bit scary for some of the younger viewers, and the opening and closing sections of the film are a little bumpy. Still, you'll most probably find yourself raising your flippers in praise of these flightless fowl. *(11/17/2006)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★½ CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE HOLIDAY

D: Nancy Meyers; with Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet, Jude Law, Jack Black, Eli Wallach, Ed Burns, Rufus Sewell. (R, 138 min.)

If "talking about relationships" is equivalent to "being in love," this is the most romantic movie ever. Writer/director Meyers' follow-up to *Something's Gotta Give* mines the same go-girl terrain but is far less interesting narratively, with stock characterizations and a blandly upbeat vibe. It's cute enough, but it lacks any sort of spontaneity or surprise. Of course you know there will be a happy ending, but you also know you'll cut to a roomful of properly matched white people dancing ecstatically to Motown; freed of the crippling inhibitions and self-doubt they have discussed at length in the talky script, they will do the bump and laugh uproariously, and the camera will trickle backward out a snowy window. If this is what you want in a movie about love, the most important topic on Earth, you will not be disappointed. In any event, it's hard to find fault with the cast, who provide much-needed elements of freshness and emotional authenticity. *(12/08/2006)* – *Marrit Ingman*

★★½ Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Dobie, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

MARIE ANTOINETTE

D: Sofia Coppola; with Kirsten Dunst, Jason Schwartzman, Rip Torn, Judy Davis, Asia Argento, Marianne Faithfull, Danny Huston, Molly Shannon, Steve Coogan, Rose Byrne, Shirley Henderson. (PG-13, 123 min.)

"Dear God, guide us and protect us," whispers Louis XVI (Schwartzman) upon his coronation. "We are too young to reign." Thus does writer/director Coppola render the story of his bride, the famous Marie-Antoinette (Dunst), and her court as a sort of 18th-century teenage riot, replete with a shopping montage set to Bow Wow Wow. There's nothing terribly problematic about Coppola's anachronistic New Wave needle-dropping, which halts before the Bastille falls and the tumbrels start rolling, but for a simple excess of it. As motherhood transforms Marie-Antoinette into a more sympathetic figure, Dunst transforms as well – from a callow pleasure-hound to a grave and haunted woman. It's a fine performance, a true star turn. Don't fear the film's early reviews from Cannes, which too often slighted *Marie Antoinette* for being fluffy (it isn't, though its heroine is) or ahistorical (it isn't, though it is contemporary). *(10/20/2006)* – *Marrit Ingman*

★★★½ Round Rock

THE NATIVITY STORY

D: Catherine Hardwicke; with Keisha Castle-Hughes, Oscar Isaac, Ciarán Hinds, Shohreh Aghdashloo, Hiam Abbass, Shaun Toub. (PG, 101 min.)

Hollywood does love an epic. Try this on for size: A teenage girl learns she's giving birth to the son of God; a king so fears the coming of God incarnate that he orders the slaughter of newborn babies; and a trio of astrologers travels more than 1,000 miles to see the realization of centuries-old prophecies. Yes, it's the story of the birth of Jesus. And religious affiliations aside, the setup has potential for some badass epic filmmaking. Sadly, the tale is presented with a yawn-inducing neutrality more reminiscent of a community-center Christmas pageant than an epic story of divine humanity. Best known as director of troubled-teen movies, Hardwicke paints her picture from the perspective of young Mary (Castle-Hughes) and her new husband, Joseph (Isaac). Unfortunately, Castle-Hughes gives such a stone-faced performance, it's difficult to experience the humanity of the person. The story is good, but the execution favors the safe over the challenging. *(12/01/2006)* – *Toddy Burton*

★★ CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS

D: Gabriele Muccino; with Will Smith, Jaden Christopher Syre Smith, Thandie Newton, Dan Castellaneta, Brian Howe, James Karen, Kurt Fuller. (PG-13, 117 min.)

If you've seen the trailer for *The Pursuit of Happyness*, you've seen a better version of the actual film. Based on a true story, the movie follows Chris Gardner (Smith), a self-made success who trained as a stockbroker while homeless and raising a young son on the streets of San Francisco. Although it's clear that their situation is bad, the filmmakers are relentless in their portrait of just how awful it is. As Gardner works incessantly to keep his dream alive and his son cared for, the humanity of his character remains absent. He ceases to be a person in exchange for a goal-oriented machine. Truly, Gardner's real-life story is one of unbelievable triumph against insurmountable odds, yet the film so relentlessly pursues the character's obstacles that when hope does come, it's simply a case of too little too late. And as likable as Smith is, his character is never fleshed out beyond that of the self-made superman. *(12/15/2006)* – *Toddy Burton*

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Dobie, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE QUEEN

D: Stephen Frears; with Helen Mirren, Michael Sheen, James Cromwell, Sylvia Syms, Alex Jennings, Helen McCrory, Roger Allam, Paul Barrett. (PG-13, 97 min.)

The Queen provides a glimpse of the British monarchy at a contemporary crossroads between supreme dominance and utter irrelevancy. Frears' movie is something of a backstage palace drama, a work of speculative history in which we are privy to some of the thoughts and conversations that might have occurred in the palace's inner chambers in 1997 during some particularly chaotic and unrehearsed moments of Queen Elizabeth II's rule following the death of Diana, the "people's princess." The screenwriter, Peter Morgan, is also responsible for another movie out currently, *The Last King of Scotland*, and curiously, *The Queen* succeeds in its speculative history in ways that Morgan's Idi Amin drama never does. This story's tension derives specifically from the royal family's responsibility to show a public face at all times – a responsibility that grows ever more cumbersome and unrealistic in this electronic age. It also helps that Mirren is magnificent in the role. *(10/27/2006)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★★ Arbor

THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE

D: Michael Lembeck; with Tim Allen, Martin Short, Ann-Margret, Alan Arkin, Elizabeth Mitchell, Eric Lloyd, Wendy Crewson, Judge Reinhold, Liliana Mumy, Spencer Breslin. (G, 98 min.)

Director Lembeck, working from a script by Ed Decter and John J. Strauss, has delivered a stilted, manipulative, and altogether unfun film in this third entry in the *Santa Clause* franchise of flaccidly feel-good, winter nostrums. Nothing Ebenezer Scrooge witnessed on his black night of reckoning compares for sheer awesome dreadfulness to the sight of Short's Jack Frost cavorting and scheming against Allen's ponderous depiction of St. Nicholas. Let's mince neither words nor meat: Walt Disney Pictures is looking to lighten the family coffers with this soulless monstrosity, and parents who give in to their young charges in the interest of being good moms and dads would be far better off renting something slightly less soul-deadening, like, say, *The 400 Blows* or *Shoah*. Bah, humbug. *(11/10/2006)* – *Marc Savlov*

AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

STRANGER THAN FICTION

D: Marc Forster; with Will Ferrell, Emma Thompson, Dustin Hoffman, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Queen Latifah, Tony Hale, Tom Hulce. (PG-13, 113 min.)

Harold Crick – IRS auditor, milquetoast, and poster child for obsessive-compulsive disorder – wakes up one morning to the rather unsettling realization that he has the voice of an Englishwoman narrating his life. A good movie but not a great one, *Stranger Than Fiction* is reminiscent of the films of Charlie Kaufman *(Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind)* but lacks that writer's conceptual rigor and imaginative power. Too often the movie gets lost in the thicket of its own ideas and fails to tackle the juiciest questions those ideas raise. As Harold, Ferrell is deadpan almost to the point of lifelessness. Unable to fall back on his trademark frat-boy boorishness and chronic nudism, the former *Saturday Night Live* star retreats into somnolence. Thompson, on the other hand, is excellent, and Hoffman is clearly having a ball as the unflappable professor who helps Harold get a handle on the sudden literary significance of his meager little life. *(11/10/2006)* – *Josh Rosenblatt*

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Barton Creek

UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

D: Paul Feig; with Lewis Black, Wilmer Valderrama, Tyler James Williams, Dyllan Christopher, Brett Kelly, Gina Mantegna, Quinn Shephard, Dominique Saldana, Paget Brewster, Rob Corddry, Jessica Walter, Teri Garr. (PG, 89 min.)

The Breakfast Club in *The Terminal*? *Home Alone* meets *Planes, Trains & Automobiles*? Calling John Hughes: Former *Freaks and Geeks*ter Paul Feig has got your number. Feig, who went on to direct numerous TV episodes of *The Office* and *Arrested Development*, has now directed this holiday kids picture that's neither good enough to be an instant classic nor bad enough to disappear from video stores' seasonal rental shelves for many Christmases to come. *Unaccompanied Minors* is a pretty much by-the-numbers comedy about a half-dozen kids trapped by weather in an airport on Christmas Eve. They run amok, create havoc, share secrets, and plug Sharper Image products – all without terribly much imagination but effective execution nevertheless. *Unaccompanied Minors* isn't likely to become a frequent flyer, but it could strike a chord among children of divorce for many holiday seasons to come. *(12/08/2006)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★ CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Lakeline, Tinseltown North

Also Playing

*Full-length reviews available online at **austinchronicle.com.**

BARNYARD: THE ORIGINAL PARTY ANIMALS ★½ Round Rock

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH ★½ Round Rock

A GOOD YEAR ★★ Round Rock

GRIDIRON GANG ★★½ Round Rock

THE MARINE ★★ Round Rock

OPEN SEASON ★½ Millennium, Round Rock

THE PRESTIGE ★★½ Round Rock

THE TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE: THE BEGINNING ★½ Millennium

Check film listings online for full-length reviews, up-to-date showtimes, archives, and more!

austinchronicle.com/film

mark your calendar. bookmark ours.
CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com/calendar

5 GOLDEN GLOBE® NOMINATIONS INCLUDING BEST PICTURE
BEST ACTRESS BEYONCÉ KNOWLES (COMEDY/MUSICAL)
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR EDDIE MURPHY BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS JENNIFER HUDSON
BEST ORIGINAL SONG "LISTEN"
Written by HENRY KRIEGER & ANNE PREVEN SCOTT CUTLER BEYONCÉ KNOWLES

Rolling Stone – PETER TRAVERS
"THE PARTY OF THE YEAR!
'DREAMGIRLS' DAZZLES LIKE NOTHING ELSE ANYWHERE."



DREAMGIRLS

DREAMWORKS PICTURES AND PARAMOUNT PICTURES PRESENT A LAURENCE MARK PRODUCTION A BILL CONDON FILM
"DREAMGIRLS" WITH DANNY GLOVER ANIKA NONI ROSE KEITH ROBINSON JENNIFER HUDSON SONGS PRODUCED BY THE UNDERDOGS
MUSIC SUPERVISORS RANDY SPENDLOVE & MATT SULLIVAN BASED ON THE ORIGINAL BROADWAY PRODUCTION BOOK AND LYRICS BY TOM EYEN MUSIC BY HENRY KRIEGER EXECUTIVE PRODUCER PATRICIA WHITCHER
READ THE NOVEL FROM HARPER ENTERTAINMENT AND PICTORIAL MOVIEBOOK FROM NEWMARKET PRESS PRODUCED BY LAURENCE MARK WRITTEN FOR THE SCREEN AND DIRECTED BY BILL CONDON DREAMWORKS PICTURES
© 2006 DreamWorks LLC and Paramount Pictures. All Rights Reserved.
PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
SOME MATERIAL MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 13
LANGUAGE, SOME SEXUALITY AND DRUG CONTENT
SOUNDTRACK AVAILABLE ON MUSIC WORLD MUSIC / SONY URBAN MUSIC / COLUMBIA
DreamgirlsMovie.com
Text DREAM to 33287 for free mobile phone content. Standard messaging rates apply. May not be compatible on all carriers.

OPENS CHRISTMAS DAY!
CINEMARK THEATRES TINSELTOWN PFLUGERVILLE I-35 N @ F.M. 1825 989-8540
ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA ALAMO LAKE CREEK 183 & Lake Creek Pkwy. 512-219-8135
CINEMARK THEATRES TINSELTOWN USA I-35 N @ Stassney Ln. 800-FANDANGO Code 1136
CINEMARK THEATRES BARTON CREEK Hwy. 360 @ Walsh Tarlton 800-FANDANGO Code 1135
REGAL CINEMAS GATEWAY Capital of Texas @ 183 800-FANDANGO (366)
FOR GROUP TICKET SALES INFORMATION CALL: 1-877-PAR-GRP5

LARRY KING
"THE BEST SPY MOVIE EVER.
A brilliant look at a CIA operative and the cloak-and-dagger life."

NEWSWEEK
"SPELLBINDING. MESMERIZING.
It demands you watch it like a spy: alert, paranoid, never knowing whom you can trust, or who will stab you in the back." David Ansen

TIME
"MATT DAMON IS TERRIFIC
and so is everyone else in this intricate, understated but ultimately devastating account of how secrets...can become an illness, dangerous to those who keep them." Richard Schickel

NEW YORK POST
"'THE GODFATHER' OF CIA MOVIES.
A masterpiece. A tense epic of business and family." Kyle Smith



UNIVERSAL PICTURES AND JAMES G. ROBINSON PRESENT
A MORGAN CREEK PRODUCTION A TRIBECA/AMERICAN ZOETROPE PRODUCTION MATT DAMON ANGELINA JOLIE "THE GOOD SHEPHERD"
ALEC BALDWIN BILLY CRUDUP ROBERT DE NIRO JOHN TURTURRO MUSIC BY MARCELO ZARVOS BRUCE FOWLER CASTING BY AMANDA MACKEY CSA
CATHY SANDRICH GELFOND CSA COSTUME DESIGNER ANN ROTH EDITOR TARIQ ANWAR PRODUCTION DESIGNER JEANNINE OPPEWALL DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ROBERT RICHARDSON ASC
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA DAVID ROBINSON GUY McELWAINE HOWARD KAPLAN CHRIS BRIGHAM PRODUCED BY JAMES G. ROBINSON
SOUNDTRACK ON VARESE SARABANDE
JANE ROSENTHAL ROBERT DE NIRO WRITTEN BY ERIC ROTH DIRECTED BY ROBERT DE NIRO
R RESTRICTED UNDER 17 REQUIRES ACCOMPANYING PARENT OR ADULT GUARDIAN
SOME VIOLENCE, SEXUALITY AND LANGUAGE
For rating reasons, go to www.filmratings.com
www.thegoodshepherdmovie.com
A UNIVERSAL RELEASE
© 2006 UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

OPENS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22ND
Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar 1120 South Lamar (512) 476-1320
Cinemark Tinseltown Pflugerville I-35 @ FM 1825 - Pflugerville (512) 989-8529
Regal Cinemas Arbor Stadium 8 @ Great Hills Jollyville Rd. N of Great Hills (800) FANDANGO (684)
Regal Cinemas Metropolitan Stadium 14 I-35 @ Stassney Lane (800) FANDANGO (368)
Regal Cinemas Westgate Stadium 11 4477 S. Lamar Blvd. (800) FANDANGO (369)
AMC Barton Creek 2901 Capitol of Texas Hwy. (512) 306-9190
Galaxy Highland 10 I-35 & Middle Fiskville Rd. (512) 467-7305
Regal Cinemas Lakeline Mall 11200 Lakeline Mall Dr. (800) FANDANGO (367)
SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED
CHECK THEATRE DIRECTORIES FOR SOUND INFORMATION AND SHOWTIMES

Special Screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: **austinchronicle.com/film.**



Bad Santa

THURSDAY 21

***Blood Beach* (1981)** *D: Jeffrey Bloom; with David Huffman, Marianna Hill, Burt Young, Otis Young, Lena Pousette, John Saxon. (R, 92 min.)* **Terror Thursday.** Just when they thought it was safe to go back in the water … comes this *Jaws* knockoff. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

The Christmas Pops! Sing-Along Sing along with all your favorite pop and video stars' Christmas carols. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45.

SPACES

La Femme Nikita *D: Luc Besson; with Anne Parillaud, Jean-Hugues Anglade, Tcheky Karyo, Jeanne Moreau.* **Waterloo Video.** Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

FRIDAY 22

***Bad Santa* (2003)** *D: Terry Zwigoff; with Billy Bob Thornton, Tony Cox, Brett Kelly, Lauren Graham, Lauren Tom, Bernie Mac, John Ritter, Cloris Leachman. (R, 91 min.)* Thornton plays a thieving, degenerate Santa – the perfect antidote for the season. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 12mid; $8.

Battlestar Galactica *D: Ronald D. Moore; with Edward James Olmos, Mary McDonnell, Jamie Bamber, Katee Sackhoff.* **TV Party.** Two TV episodes – back-to-back. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

***Die Hard* (1988)** See p.94.

SPACES

***The Fearless Vampire Killers* (1967)** *D: Roman Polanski; with Jack MacGowran, Roman Polanski, Alfie Bass, Jessie Robins, Sharon Tate. (NR, 108 min.)* Free. @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1608 Barton Springs Rd.), 9pm.

SATURDAY 23

***Bad Santa* (2003)** @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 12mid; $8. (See Fri., 12/22)

***Die Hard* (1988)** @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45. (See Fri., 12/22)

***The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (1975)** *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin *Rocky Horror* fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for 30 years straight. For more info, see **www.austinrocky.org**. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

TUESDAY 26

Big *Beerfest* Sausage Feast (2006) *D: Jay Chandrasekhar; with M.C. Gainey, Paul Soter, Erik Stolhanske, Cloris Leachman, Jürgen Prochnow. (R, 110 min.)* **High for the Holidays.** The comedy *Beerfest* is paired with lots of beer and sausage. Ticket includes a three-course meal devoted to beer. See **www.originalalamo.com** for menu. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

The Gilmore Girls* and *Veronica Mars **TV Party.** New episodes. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 7:30pm.

The Wizard of Oz* With *Dark Side of the Moon *D: Victor Fleming; with Judy Garland, Ray Bolger, Bert Lahr, Jack Haley, Frank Morgan, Billie Burke, Margaret Hamilton, Charley Grapewin, Munchkins. (G, 101 min.)* **High for the Holidays.** You've heard all those rumors about the synchronicity between Hollywood's beloved *The Wizard of Oz* and Pink Floyd's 1973 musical opus, *Dark Side of the Moon*. Supposedly, if you crank up the album with the third roar of the MGM lion, you'll enter an upside-down world of hidden meanings and trippy rabbit holes. Leave it to the Alamo folks to give it a whirl. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

SPACES

***Home for the Holidays* (1995)** *D: Jodie Foster; with Holly Hunter, Robert Downey Jr., Anne Bancroft, Charles Durning, Dylan Mcdermott, Geraldine Chaplin, Steve Guttenberg, Cynthia Stevenson, Claire Danes. (PG-13, 104 min.)* Free. (*) @Spiderhouse Patio Bar, 8pm.

***Life Is Beautiful* (1997)** *D: Roberto Benigni; with Benigni, Nicoletta Braschi, Giorgio Cantarini, Giustino Durano, Sergio Bustric, Marisa Paredes, Horst Buchholz. (PG-13, 114 min.)* **Waterloo Video.** Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Jan. 5 issue is Monday, Dec. 22**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail.

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

Offscreen

2007 Winter Registration: The Screenplay Workshop Registration has begun for four-week and 10-week workshops. Each is taught by a professional screenwriter and is limited to 14 students. See their Web site for more. **www.thescreenplayworkshop.org**.

Call for Entries: Cine las Americas International Film Festival This 10th annual festival, scheduled for next April, invites filmmakers, producers, and distributors to participate. Works made by or about Latinos and native groups of the Americas are eligible to participate. See their Web site for details. Deadline: *Jan. 15*. **www.cinelasamericas.org**.

Classes at Austin School of Film? Yes: Precisely what you need to learn to get that filmic masterpiece in the can and distributed. All aspects of the industry covered and presented by professionals for your edification and artistic progress. See their Web site for details. **www.austinfilmschool.org**.

Free Sample Class: The Screenplay Workshop coaches you in screenplay story structure. For all levels of writers, beginners to professionals. See their Web site for more. *Sat., Dec. 30, 10:30am-12:30pm*. **www.thescreenplayworkshop.org**.

Indie Music Video Festival The sixth annual shindig shifts into high gear in all its cross-continent, cross-genre glory, looking for independent music videos of fewer than six minutes, on VHS, DVD, DV Codec (high res), and mini DV. (Screenings in 2006 included Vancouver, Victoria, Baltimore, Calgary, Toronto, Los Angeles, Austin, New York, Tel Aviv, London, and Chicago.) See their Web site for details. **www.imvf.com/submissions.html**.

My Gay Movie Challenge Submit your 10-minute short film with a queer sensibility, and see it on the big screen. The best films will be submitted to film festivals across the globe. Don't have a camera? Never made a movie? No problem. Take a PACT Workshop, and get filming now! Check their Web site for more. Deadline: *Dec. 22*. **www.agliff.org/filmmakers_mgm.php**.

Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a new, state-of-the-art screening room, and, lucky you, they're opening it up on a rental basis to the public, which means you can finally toss out that old Sony Watchman you've been thrusting in potential distributors' mugs for the past three years. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, a surround-sound system, and supports Super-35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Handicap accessible, restrooms – the works. They also have a "break room" suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. *322-0145*. **www.austinstudios.org**.

Seeing Film Afresh Hey, film buffs, view and discuss a film a week using fresh perspectives on the visual, audio, dramatic, and thematic aspects of movies. Led by Richard Cutler, Ph.D. *Jan. 7-Feb. 27. Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1458. $135.* **www.doughertyartscenter.org**.

The Austin Movie Show: Film Tournament 3.0 Submit your short films to the *Austin Movie Show* for possible screening on local access TV at 6-8pm on Sunday nights, with a live screening to follow. Drama, comedy, docs – you name it. For submission details, check their Web site. **www.austinmovieshow.com**.

WEDNESDAY 27

***Confessions of an Opium Eater* (1962)** *D: Albert Zugsmith; with Vincent Price, Linda Ho, Richard Loo. (NR, 85 min.)* **Weird Wednesday.** Not much is borrowed from Thomas DeQuincey's tome but the title. Price plays an adventurer who hides out for a spell in a Chinatown opium den. Guess what he does to pass the time. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

***High* (1967)** See p.94.

The Wizard of Oz* With *Dark Side of the Moon @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm. (See Tue., 12/26)

SPACES

***Black Christmas* (1974)** *D: Bob Clark; with Olivia Hussey, Keir Dullea, Margot Kidder, John Saxon. (R, 98 min.)* The original. Free. @Beerland, 7pm.

***The Hudsucker Proxy* (1994)** *D: Joel Coen; with Tim Robbins, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Paul Newman, Charles Durning, John Mahoney.* Free. (*) @Spiderhouse Patio Bar, 8pm.

***The Professional* (1994)** *D: Luc Besson; with Jean Reno, Gary Oldman, Natalie Portman, Danny Aiello. (R, 110 min.)* **Waterloo Video.** Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

Two Hundred Cigarettes *D: Risa Bramon Garcia; with Guillermo Diaz, Angela Featherstone, Janeane Garofalo, Kate Hudson, Casey Affleck, Gaby Hoffman, Jay Mohr, Dave Chappelle, Christina Ricci, Martha Plimpton, Ben Affleck, Courtney Love, Paul Rudd. (R, 97 min.)* Free. (*) @Spiderhouse Patio Bar, 10pm.

THURSDAY 28

Big *Beerfest* Sausage Feast (2006) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm. (See Tue., 12/26)

***Danielson: A Family Movie* (2006)** *D: J.L. Aronson. (NR, 105 min.)* The surprise of Aronson's debut doc – in which a sprawling, child-like musical group fond of strange arrangements, silly costumes, and screeching lead falsetto develops a hipster audience, hooks up with Steve Albini, and, inevitably, meets Daniel Johnston – isn't indie rock's (perhaps arch) embrace of a Christian family band. Rather, it's the coherence of big brother Daniel Smith's vision: an art-damaged parade of nurse uniforms, salesman schtick, and sincerity that only a great deal of faith could sustain. – *Cindy Widner* @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

***Sinner's Blood* (1969)** *D: Neil Douglas; with Stephen Jacques, Nanci Sheldon, Cristy Beal. (NR, 81 min.)* **Terror Thursday.** Bikers, LSD, and incest all come together in this rough and twisted tale. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

SPACES

***Brotherhood of the Wolf* (2001)** *D: Christophe Gans; with Jérémie Renier, Emilie Dequenne, Monica Bellucci, Vincent Cassel, Jean-François Stévenin, Mark Dacascos, Samuel Le Bihan. (R, 142 min.)* **Waterloo Video.** Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

IMAX Theatre

For ticket prices, call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM, or see **www.thestoryoftexas.com**.

***Deep Sea 3D* (2006)** *D: Howard Hall; narrated by Johnny Depp, Kate Winslet. (G, 40 min.)* Fabulous underwater footage complements this educational documentary geared toward kids. Instead of using the dog-eat-dog approach common to nature docs, *Deep Sea 3D* emphasizes the harmonious balance of the underwater ecosystem. (*) Thu. (12/21)-Thu. (12/28), 1, 6

***Happy Feet*: The IMAX Experience (2006)** *D: George Miller.* Digitally remastered version of the new animated musical. Thu. (12/21)-Sat., 11am, 2, 4, 7, 9pm; Sun., 2, 4, 7, 9; Mon.-Thu. (12/28), 11am, 2, 4, 7, 9pm

***Texas: The Big Picture* (2003)** *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as Texas is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips. Thu. (12/21)-Sat., 10am; Mon.-Thu. (12/28), 10am

2 GOLDEN GLOBE® NOMINATIONS
BEST ACTOR® (DRAMA) WILL SMITH
BEST ORIGINAL SONG



"★★★★! ONE OF THE BEST FILMS OF THE YEAR. WILL SMITH GIVES THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS CAREER."
Steve Oldfield, FOX-TV

"TWO THUMBS UP"®
Richard Roeper and Aisha Tyler,
Guest Critic, EBERT & ROEPER

WILL SMITH
the PURSUIT of HAPPYNESS
INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY.

PG-13 sony.com/Pursuit COLUMBIA PICTURES

NOW PLAYING

ALAMO
ALAMO DRAFT LAKE CREEK
13729 Research Blvd.
219-8135

ALAMO
ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR
1120 S. Lamar Blvd.
512-476-1320

CINEMARK
BARTON CREEK
Hwy. 360 & Walsh Tarlton
800-FANDANGO #1135

LANDMARK
DOBIE THEATRE
21st. & Guadalupe
512-472-FILM

GALAXY THEATRES
GALAXY HIGHLAND 10
I-35 & Middle Fiskville Rd.
512-467-7305

REGAL CINEMAS
GATEWAY
Capital of Texas @ 183
800-FANDANGO #366

REGAL CINEMAS
METROPOLITAN 14
I-35 at Stassney Lane
800-FANDANGO #368

CINEMARK
TINSELTOWN PFLUGERVILLE
I-35 North @ FM 1825
800-FANDANGO #1159

REGAL CINEMAS
WESTGATE
In Westgate Mall
800-FANDANGO #369

Sorry, No Passes Accepted For This Engagement.
For Additional Information, Call Theaters Or Check Directories.

Pack a full week of
Chronicle Listings



into your **iPod**, **PDA**, or **phone**!

CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com/ipod

"I wish this film every success." –The Dalai Lama

"The Year's Best Documentary."
–Film Threat
"An Illuminating Meditation."
–Variety

VAJRA SKY OVER TIBET
A Film By JOHN BUSH



DIRECT PICTURES www.vajrasky.com THE YATRA TRILOGY

LANDMARK'S DOBIE
21st & Guadalupe • (512) 472-FILM

EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT STARTS FRIDAY, 12/22
Fri/Mon: (4:30) 7:20, 10:00; Sat: (1:30, 4:30) 7:20, 10:00;
Sun: (1:30, 4:30) 7:20; Tues-Thur: 7:20, 10:00

AUSTIN FILM SOCIETY

THE SMASH HIT PLAY IS NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE COMEDY!

NEW YORK MAGAZINE
"BRILLIANT AND INFECTIOUS... 'THE HISTORY BOYS' IS EXPLOSIVELY ALIVE."
David Edelstein

NEW YORK OBSERVER
"ANY WAY YOU SLICE IT, 'THE HISTORY BOYS' IS A BLOOMING MIRACLE. I ABSOLUTELY LOVED IT. DEAR ALAN BENNETT: I HOPE YOU ARE ALREADY WORKING ON A SEQUEL."
Rex Reed

PREMIERE
"NOBODY WRITES ENGLISH DIALOGUE AS SHARP AS ALAN BENNETT, AND HEARING THE CAST DELIVER IT EXPERTLY IS A PLEASURE. THIS IS GRAND AND JUICY ENTERTAINMENT."
Glenn Kenny



THE HISTORY BOYS

HISTORY. IT'S JUST ONE BLOODY THING AFTER ANOTHER.

WWW.FOXSEARCHLIGHT.COM

DNA

R RESTRICTED
UNDER 17 REQUIRES ACCOMPANYING PARENT OR ADULT GUARDIAN
LANGUAGE AND SEXUAL CONTENT

DOLBY SOUNDTRACK ALBUM AVAILABLE ON RHINO

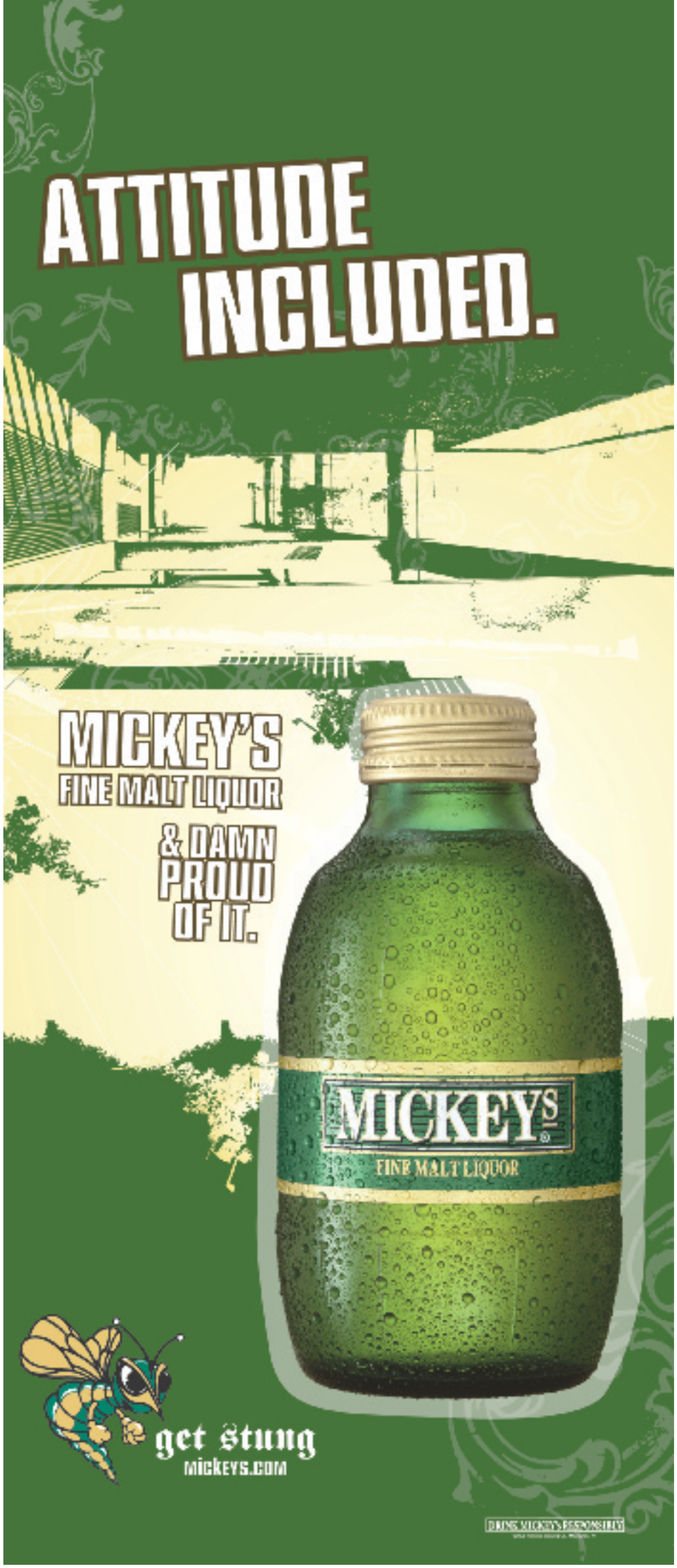
FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES
RELEASED BY TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

MOBILE USERS – FOR SHOWTIMES TEXT
HISTORY BOYS AND YOUR ZIP CODE TO 43 KIX (43549)

EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

Regal Cinemas
Arbor Stadium 8 @ Great Hills
Jollyville Rd. N of Great Hills
(800) FANDANGO (684)

CALL THEATRE FOR SHOWTIMES





JEFF TWEEDY
of Wilco

TUES., JAN. 23 & WED. JAN. 24
UT PAC'S HOGG AUDITORIUM

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
@ NOON THRU **WWW.UTPAC.ORG**

www.wilcoworld.net



FULL THROTTLE COMBAT MARTIAL ARTS
WORLD COMBAT LEAGUE
SAT–JAN 20
7PM DOORS OPEN–ACTION AT 8

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS
FRANK ERWIN CENTER

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT TEXASBOXOFFICE.COM, 1-800-982-2386 AND AT ALL TEXAS BOX OFFICE OUTLETS INCLUDING CENTRAL MARKET AND H-E-B STORES. UTERWINCENTER.COM.

CONVENIENCE CHARGES MAY APPLY. ALL INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

VISIT WORLDCOMBATLEAGUE.COM

GIVE A GIFT WITH PUNCH!

Neville Family Christmas

ANTONE'S, FRIDAY 22


Cyril Neville

AUBREY EDWARDS

For those of us from New Orleans, the Nevilles and Christmas go together like warm cookies and cold milk. Hearing Aaron Neville croon holiday standard "Silent Night" is an experience that could melt the heart of the frostiest among us. While Aaron isn't expected to grace the Antone's stage Friday night, brother Cyril sports his own version of a voice sent from heaven. Nephew Ivan, Papa Mali, and the Caesar Brothers join the proceedings. – *Robert Gabriel*

Winter Solstice Soul Party

BEERLAND, FRIDAY 22

Tim Kerr knows how to party. A local fixture with the likes of the Big Boys, Lord High Fixers, and Poison 13, Kerr now splits his time between Total Sound Group Direct Action Committee and his studio. Tonight, he hits the decks with soulful tunes. Leave the steel-toes at home for something with a slicker sole, 'cause Kerr knows a bit about fiestas, but even more about soul. – *Darcie Stevens*

Paul Ray & the Cobras

CONTINENTAL CLUB, SATURDAY 23

Start celebrating Christmas Eve eve this year, as Elana James & the Continental Two kick off the day's lively music at 3pm. Larry Lange & His Lonely Knights joust with swamp pop and other slow-danceable tunes at 9pm. By midnight, the dance floor will be ready for the smooth rhythm and blues sound of Paul Ray & the Cobras' annual holiday show. Dylan guitarist Denny Freeman returns for the seasonal event with his alma mater band headed by Ray's ever-soulful vocals. – *Margaret Moser*

Holiday Hip Hop Classic PARISH, SATURDAY 23

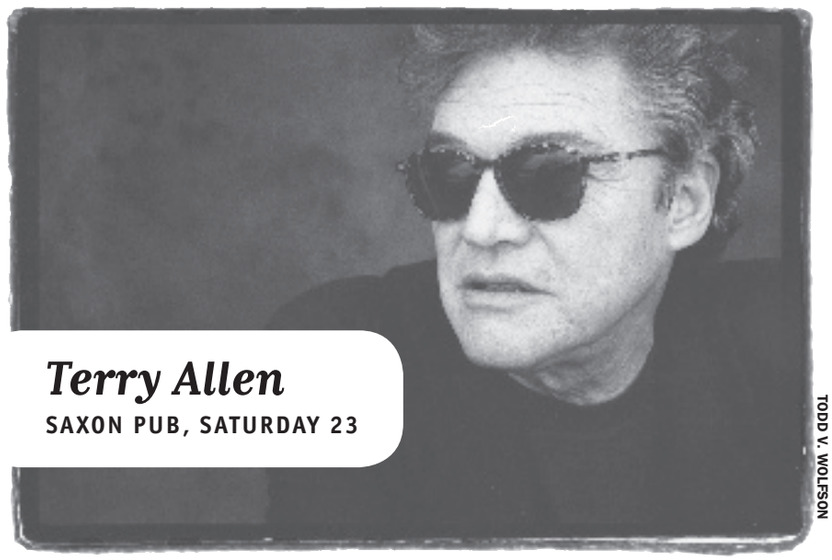
Stringing six turntables together like garland, DJs Supa Luva CG (Chicken George), Treacherous Tats, and Disco Donnie Dee decorate Christmas trees and dance floors alike with the best from hip-hop holidays past. Think Kurtis Blow's "Christmas Rappin'," Run DMC's "Christmas in Hollis," Sweet Tee's "Let the Jingle Bells Rock," or even Spyder-D's "Ghetto Santa." Hosted by Houston rapper V-Zilla, this Saturday night celebration hopes to ceremoniously transform uptight Scrooges on the wall into cold rockin' Santa's helpers. – *Robert Gabriel*

Wintershow MOHAWK, SATURDAY 23


Shearwater

MARY SLEDD

Not sure what to get your sweetie for a very-last-minute holiday gift? Try this on for wintry warmth: Bill Callahan (formerly Smog), Shearwater, and Nick Hennies of the Weird Weeds with Brian Sookram are splitting the proceeds from Saturday's show between SafePlace and the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas. Not only do you get a full day of entertainment (doors at 4pm, music at 5pm), it goes toward two great local causes. Nothing says I love you like charity. – *Darcie Stevens*



TODD V. WOLFSON

Terry Allen

SAXON PUB, SATURDAY 23

"It's not very often that we're all together in one city," declares Bukka Allen, son of Terry Allen. "All our friends and families are gonna be in town, so we're using it as an excuse to have a big blowout."

That's right, the Allen clan is taking over the Saxon for its Saturday night holiday soiree. "Joe Ely's gonna play and Ryan Bingham," adds Terry. "I just told a lot of people, so there will be a lot of musicians there. My grandson's band is gonna play one or two songs. He's 12. Just call the band We Go to Eleven, because that's the time they have to be in. It'll be quite loud and perfect."

More reason to celebrate is that local keyboardist/songwriter Bukka has just completed a new solo album with the help of guitarist Rob Gjersoe and cellist Brian Standefer, fellow Screen Door Music members. "It's not Screen Door Music; it's all my songs," he explains. "But it was produced by the band, and I pulled in a couple of different rhythm sections. I'm hoping to get it out in the next couple of months. I've been talking to different labels. We'll just see what happens."



Last year saw the release of *The Silent Majority* (Sugar Hill), Terry's greatest missed hits. As usual for the Lubbock native who's long lived in New Mexico, there's a lot of stuff on the burner, "but it's all focused on this theatre piece that I'm working on right now." *Ghost Ship Rodez*, which was performed in France earlier this year, is based on French playwright Antonin Artaud. "He was one of those people who could take the worst possible things that could happen to you and generate amazing work from it," he explains.

A true Renaissance man who works in many forms of media, the elder Allen bristles when asked about the ability to concentrate on one form over another. "Nothing's replaced anything for me," he claims. "They totally inform one another. I've always played music, and I've always done visual work. They pretty much feed one another. Music people would like me to not do the visual stuff, and the visual people would like me not to do the music stuff." He pauses and chuckles. "So I spend all my time writing." – *Jim Caligiuri*

Show starts at 8pm.

Dale Watson/Miss Lavelle White

CONTINENTAL CLUB, MONDAY 25/ SAXON PUB, TUESDAY 26


Miss Lavelle White

JOHN CARRICO

What's Christmas without Dale and Lavelle? After stuffing yourself silly, recycling torn wrapping paper, and tucking the kids in for sugar-saturated dreams of Jolly St. Nick, head down to the Continental to two-step your way out of holiday hell. Dale Watson's annual Christmas show mixes the carols with the originals (and the not-so) to usher out the day with a Lone Star and tip of the hat. On Tuesday, take a load off with the old-school soul of Miss Lavelle White at her annual Saxon Pub show. – *Darcie Stevens*

Daniel Francis Doyle, Best Fwends

BEERLAND, THURSDAY 28

Noise! Dance! Sweet ear mics! General all-around weirdness abounds tonight as little drummer man Daniel Francis Doyle pounds the skins and stuffs your stockings with lumps of hott rawk. Bacardi-hawking duo Best Fwends never fails to move the vibe-o-meter from "chillax" to "oh, shit," and there's always hope they'll drop their cover of Hall & Oates' "Out of Touch." Locals Nightmoves and Follow That Bird! cook it up first. – *Audra Schroeder*

Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

ETHAN AZARIAN, LEE BARBER, ELIZABETH JACKSON
Flipnotics, Friday 22
Acoustic nightmare before Christmas.

EAST END FOURTH FRIDAY
Victory Grill, Friday 22
With Brownout! And beernog!

BIG MOE
Spiros, Friday 22
H-Town's dreaming of a purple Christmas.

BLAZE FOLEY CD RELEASE/BIRTHDAY
Ruta Maya, Saturday 23
Gurf Morlix & Co. pay tribute to the duct-taped troubadour.

ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL
Broken Spoke, Saturday 23
Wheel Western swing.

MOJOE
Cedar Street Courtyard, Tuesday 26
Classic ghetto soul.


Slaid Cleaves

SLAID CLEAVES/ ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO
Antone's, Wednesday 27/ Thursday 28
Feel the blues movin' in.

THE NOISE REVIVAL ORCHESTRA EXPERIENCE
Trophy's, Thursday 28
Nine members, a lotta brass, and fellow revivalists Hao Chiang Chiang and Go Nova.

GALACTIC, PAPA MALI
La Zona Rosa, Thursday 28
Funk for the holidaze.

live music VENUES ▸ p.104
CLUB LISTINGS + roadshows ▸ p.106

REDRUM

401 Sabine Street, behind The Gas Pipe on 5th St
512.469.0691 — myspace.com/redrumclubaustin

Fri 12/22, 9pm
JONNY DANGER
Sat 12/23, 8pm
DEATH GOT KILLED
IN ANOTHER LIFE * DEEP ABOVE SURFACE
GIRL IN A COMA * SEVEN
Thu 12/28, 8pm
NVANE
Fri 12/29, 8pm
EXTREME TEXAS METAL NEW YEAR
Sat 12/30, 8pm
NUMERIC PLAGUE
WITHIN CHAOS * CARBIDE
SPLINTER * VERDICT OF VENGENCE
Sun 12/31, 8pm
SHRAPNEL
BANGLADESH
BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY
COURSE OF RUIN
Lounge Nights
Frightacular Sundays & Tuesdays with Prop
Mondays & Wednesdays with Jason

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE CAFÉ

Home of Hot Coffee Cool Threads & Live Music Since 1992

1601 Barton Springs
(512) 480-TO-GO
www.flipnotics.com

THUR 21 - Taylor Davis • Johnny Goudie

FRI 22
Elizabeth Jackson
Ethan Azarian
Lee Barber





SAT 23
Will T. Massey
Mandi LeBlanc

SUN 24 - Closing at 6pm
MON 25 - Merry Christmas Y'all! - Closed -
TUE 26 - Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory
WED 27 - David Hamburger
"$2 Beer Humpty Hump Night!"

THU 28 - Zipper • The Bicycats • Betty Soo
FRI 29 - Jesse Sublett (The Skunks)
SAT 30 - Twangzilla • The Fox Hunt (W. Virginia)
Jim Half Penny

Envision a future without violence.
SafePlace needs your support.

24 HOUR HOTLINE:
512/267-SAFE • 927-9616 TTY

www.austin-safeplace.com

SafePlace exists to end rape, sexual assault and domestic violence.

Happy Holidays
FROM
The Austin Chronicle

In 2006, the Chronicle *donated more than*

$500,000

in ad space to Austin area charities, nonprofits and events benefiting these organizations.

The Chronicle *celebrated its 25th anniversary this year as your independent news source for coverage on music, film, arts, and politics. We cover Austin in our pages every week and want to continue to support our community by giving back as much as we can. If it's important to Austin, it's in the* Chronicle.

CHRONICLE

austinchronicle.com

live music venues

219 WEST, 219 W. Fourth, 474-2194
311 CLUB, 311 E. Sixth, 477-1630
AGAVE, 415 E. Sixth, 469-7892
ANTONE'S, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424
ARTZ RIB HOUSE, 2330 S. Lamar, 442-8283
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR, 16410 Stewart, 266-0331
AUSTIN MUSIC HALL, 208 Nueces, 263-4146
AUSTIN'S PIZZA, 1817 S. Lamar, 445-4455
B.B. ROVERS, 12636 Research Ste. B-101, 335-9504
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB, 204 E. Sixth, 494-1335
BABY ACAPULCO'S NO. 5, 9505-B Stonelake, 795-9000
BASTROP SENIOR CENTER, 1008 Water, Bastrop, 512/321-7907
BECK'S ON CONGRESS, 1321 S. Congress, 445-4441
BEERLAND, 711½ Red River, 479-ROCK
BENNIGAN'S, 301 Barton Springs Rd., 472-7902
BLIND PIG PUB, 317 E. Sixth, 472-0809
'BOUT TIME, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339
BROKEN SPOKE, 3201 S. Lamar, 442-6189
BROWN BAR, 201 W. Eighth, 480-8330
CACTUS CAFE, Texas Union, UT campus, 475-6515
CAFE MUNDI, 1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634
CANARY HUT PUB, 11005 Burnet Rd., 837-7117
THE CANARY ROOST, 11900 Metric, 836-6360
CAROUSEL LOUNGE, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790
CATHEDRAL OF ST. MARY, 203 E. 10th, 476-6182
CEDAR STREET, 208 W. Fourth, 495-9669
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH, 4477 S. Lamar, 899-4300
CHAIN DRIVE, 504 Willow, 480-9017
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE, 119 Cheatham, San Marcos, 512/353-3777
CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO, 5406 Balcones, 454-2666
CIPOLLINA, 1213 West Lynn, 477-5211
CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR, 2200 Manor Rd., 472-9900
CLUB 973, 104 W. Carrie, Manor, 512/350-8724
COFFEE CREATOR, 9402 Parkfield, 719-4544
CONTINENTAL CLUB, 1315 S. Congress, 441-2444
COOL RIVER CAFE, 4001 Parmer, 835-0010
COPA BAR & GRILL, 217 Congress, 479-5002
COTTON CLUB, 212 E. Davilla, Granger, 512/859-0700
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE, 606 E. Seventh, 580-5988
CUBA LIBRE, 409 Colorado, 472-2822
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN, 1 Woodcreek Circle, Wimberley, 512/847-5950
DAN MCKLUSKY'S, 301 E. Sixth, 473-8924
THE DETOUR BAR & GRILL, 1113 RR 620 N., 266-2279
THE DIRTY DOG, 505 E. Sixth, 236-9800
DONN'S DEPOT, 1600 W. Fifth, 478-0336
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE, 301 E. Fifth, 472-1860
EGO'S, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091
EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE, 1302 S. First, 447-7445
EL SOL Y LA LUNA, 1224 S. Congress, 444-7770
ELEMENT, 301 W. Fifth, 480-9888
ELEPHANT ROOM, 315 Congress, 473-2279
ELYSIUM, 705 Red River, 478-2979
EMO'S, 603 Red River, 477-EMOS
EVANGELINE CAFE, 8106 Brodie #110, 282-2586
FACTORYPEOPLE, 1325 S. Congress, 440-8625
FADÓ, 214 W. Fourth, 457-0172
FINN & PORTER, 500 E. Fourth, 493-4900
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE, 605 Brazos, 478-3473
FLAMINGO CANTINA, 515 E. Sixth, 494-9336
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE, 1601 Barton Springs Rd., 480-8646
FRANK ERWIN CENTER, 1701 Red River, 471-7744
FRIENDS, 208 E. Sixth, 320-8193
GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576
GIDDY UPS, 12010 Manchaca, 280-4732
THE GINGER MAN, 304 W. Fourth, 473-8801
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON, 5434 Burnet Rd., 458-1813
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL, 730-A W. Stassney, 326-4466
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL, 2401 W. Howard, 255-8003
GREEN MESQUITE BBQ & MORE, 1400 Barton Springs Rd., 479-0485
GREEN MUSE CAFE, 519 W. Oltorf, 912-7789
GREEN PASTURES, 811 W. Live Oak, 444-4747
GRUENE HALL, 1281 Gruene Rd., New Braunfels, 830/606-1281, 830/629-5077
GÜERO'S TACO BAR, 1412 S. Congress, 447-7688
HABANA CALLE 6, 709 E. Sixth, 443-4252
HANOVER'S, 108 E. Main, Pflugerville, 512/670-9617
HEADHUNTERS, 720 Red River, 236-0188
HI-LO, 301 W. Sixth, 480-9433
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE, 617 Congress, 476-0473
HILL'S CAFE, 4700 S. Congress, 851-9300
HOLE IN THE WALL, 2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747
HOMER'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL, 1779 Wells Branch Pkwy., 251-5554
IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE, 4005 W. Parmer Ste. A, 833-5858
IT'S ITALIAN, 14735 Bratton, 252-1444
JO'S HOT COFFEE, 242 W. Second, 469-9003
JO'S HOT COFFEE, 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800
JOVITA'S, 1619 S. First, 447-7825
LA PALAPA, 6640 Hwy. 290, 459-8729
LA ZONA ROSA, 612 W. Fourth, 472-2293
LAMBERTS DOWNTOWN BARBECUE, 401 W. Second, 494-1500
LAS PALOMAS, 3201 Bee Caves Rd. #122, 327-9889
LUCKY LOUNGE, 209-A W. Fifth, 479-7700
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, 512/558-7399
MAGGIE MAE'S, 323 E. Sixth, 478-8541
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS, 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261
MEAN-EYED CAT, 1621 W. Fifth, 472-6326
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL, 14106 N. I-35
MESA RANCH STEAKHOUSE, 8108 Mesa Ste. C-100, 853-9480
THE MOHAWK, 912 Red River, 482-8404
MOMO'S, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848
MOONRIVER, 2002 N. Pace Bend Rd., Spicewood Springs, 512/264-2064
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747
MOTHER'S CAFE, 4215 Duval St., 451-3994
MULLIGAN'S, 900 RR 620 S., 263-3305
NASTY'S, 606 Maiden, 453-4349
NUEVO LEON, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097
NUNO'S ON SIXTH, 422 E. Sixth, 833-5133
NUTTY BROWN CAFE, 12225 Hwy. 290 W., 301-4648
THE OASIS, 6550 Comanche Trail, 266-2442
THE OFFICE LOUNGE, 1207 Leander Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-1137
THE OLD ALLIGATOR GRILL, 3003 S. Lamar, 444-6117
PARDNERS, 1110 Palm Valley, Round Rock, 512/244-1204
THE PARISH, 214 E. Sixth, 479-0474
THE PARLOR, 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965
PARMER LANE TAVERN, 2121 Parmer, #1, 339-0663
PLUSH, 617 Red River, 478-0099
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318
POODLE DOG LOUNGE, 6507 Burnet Rd., 465-9468
THE PUB, 1826 Mays, Round Rock, 246-8007
RACK DADDY'S, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577
RADISSON, 111 E. Cesar Chavez, 478-9611
RAIN ON 4TH, 217-B W. Fourth, 494-1150
RANCH 616, 616 Nueces, 479-7616
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE, 13450 Research, 335-5115
RED FEZ, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120
RED'S SCOOT INN, 1308 E. Fourth, 320-0004
REDRUM, 401 Sabine, 469-0691
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB, 9901 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 342-7977
RHINOS & JOCKS ROUND ROCK, 2120 N. Mays #100, Round Rock, 512/246-9444
RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132
RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT, 301 San Jacinto, 476-8300
ROADHOUSE, 1103 Wonder, Round Rock, 512/218-0813
ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN, 701 Main, Georgetown, 512/868-1300
ROMEO'S, 1500 Barton Springs Rd., 476-1090
ROOM 710, 710 Red River, 476-0997
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE, 11800 Lamar, 835-2414
RUTA MAYA, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637
SAKÉ ON SIXTH, 621 E. Sixth, 478-8788
SAM'S TOWN POINT, 2115 Allred, 280-1299
SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM, 101 E. Main, Round Rock, 512/310-1200
SAXON PUB, 1320 S. Lamar, 448-2552
SHAKESPEARE'S PUB, 314 E. Sixth, 472-1666
SHENANIGANS, 13233 Pond Springs Rd., 258-9717
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL, 9012 Research Ste. C-1, 380-9443
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 601-5 E. Whitestone, Cedar Park, 512/260-2060
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 11416 RR 620 N., 401-2060
SIX/TAP ROOM, 311 Colorado, 478-2337
SOUTH FORTY, 629 W. Ben White, 444-9329
SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017
SPIROS, 611 Red River, 472-4272
STARDUST CLUB, 11940 Manchaca, 280-8590
TAMBALEO, 302 Bowie, 472-3213
TAVERN IN THE GRUENE, 830 Gruene Rd., Gruene, 830/608-0438
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
III FORKS STEAKHOUSE, 111 Lavaca, 474-1776
TONY'S VINEYARD, 2828 Rio Grande, 476-5600
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL, 2201 College, 443-4200
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
TROUBADOUR SALOON, 503 E. Sixth, 499-0350
UNCLE FLIRTY'S, 325 E. Sixth, 473-8891
VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 804-1944
WASHINGTON CARVER MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER, 1165 Angelina, 472-4809
THE WATER TANK, 7309 McNeil, 331-9831
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE WEST, 6203 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 418-9700
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH, 600 N. Lamar, 472-5400
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WOODY'S SOUTH, 321 W. Ben White, 851-9663
Y BAR & GRILL, 7720 Hwy. 71 W., 394-0220
Z'TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355

A Parish Christmas:

timeless holiday songs
by some of Austins
finest musicians

Sponsored by
THE AUSTIN
CHRONICLE
austinchronicle.com



Thursday
December 21st, 2006

Christmas songs (old, new and original)
performed by members of
Okkervil River
What Made Milwaukee Famous
Tacks, the boy disaster
Soundteam
Voxtrot
Zykos
Shearwater
Alpha Rev
Alex Dupree
Jeff Klein
Zookeeper
and Loxsly

Featuring
Dewar's
"White Label"

Doors at 8pm
$8 advance tickets at
www.theparishroom.frontgate.com
$10 at the door

The
Parish
214 E 6th Street
Austin, TX

All proceeds go to support:
CAPITAL AREA
FOOD BANK
OF TEXAS

www.theparishroom.com www.myspace.com/theparishroom









club listings

Thu 21

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)

311 CLUB Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)

ANTONE'S Drop Trio, Groovin' Ground, Greyhounds (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Jerry Sires Band (7:30)

AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)

AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Wendy Colonna, Elana James & the Continental Two (4:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB The Rust Tones

BECK'S ON CONGRESS Brent Adair (7:00)

BEERLAND Shrew, David Israel, Woozy Helmet, Cue

BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegal (7:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes

BROWN BAR mr.ripley

CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Hummingbirds

CATHEDRAL OF ST. MARY Celtic Christmas w/ Serge Laine & Mark Stone, Austin Police Pipe w/ Heather Gilnmer, Gregory Grene, Ed Miller, Tea Merchants, Cluan, Schola Cantorum of St. Mary's (8:00)

CEDAR STREET Gaila Kenneally, Les & the Funk Mob (6:00)

CHAIN DRIVE DJ A! Right

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Rick Turcotte (5:30), Texas Renegade (8:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Paris '49; In the Club: The Explosions (6:30), Banana Blender Surprise (10:00)

COOL RIVER CAFE The Grooves (9:00)

COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)

THE DETOUR BAR & GRILL Bike Night Open Mic w/ the Wildcards (8:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)

EGO'S Walter Tragert, 2 Hoots & a Holler (8:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith, Dr. Paul White Quintet CD Release (6:00)

EMO'S Deadly Companions, Bellfuries, the Ugly Beats

FACTORYPEOPLE DJ Chicken George, Daetron Vargas (5:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA The Corto Maltese, the Authors, Paperwork, the Boxing Lesson, Promnite (8:30)

Acts are chronologically listed. Schedules are subject to change, so please call clubs to confirm lineup. Times are given where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

HELLO, CLUBS AND BANDS: Club listings deadline is Monday, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Send venue name, address, phone number, acts, and times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax 458-6910; phone 454-5766 x159; or e-mail **clubs@austinchronicle.com**.

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Johnny Goudie, Taylor Davis

GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Rosie Flores

GREEN MUSE CAFE Open Mic w/ Black Molly (8:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Fabulous Chevelles (6:30)

HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man

HEADHUNTERS Ruby's Jazz Garage, Boxspring Hogs, the Humiliators, Don't Feed the Pigs, Muchos Backflips!

HILL'S CAFE Steven Franks

roadshows

DECEMBER

THU 21

Drop Trio, Antone's

Banana Blender Surprise, Continental Club

FRI 22

Caesar Brothers, Antone's

Eleven Hundred Springs, **Two Tons of Steel**, Continental Club

Morgue City, Elysium

Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Frank Erwin Center

Big Moe, Spiros

The Cheatin' Hearts, Woody's South

SAT 23

Archer Avenue, Hole in the Wall

V-Zilla, the Parish

Two Tons of Steel, Riley's Tavern

Terry Allen, Saxon Pub

MON 25

Jo Hell & the Red Roosters, Nuno's on Sixth

TUE 26

Carley Wolf, Beerland

Mojoe, Cedar Street

Derrick Edmondson, Elephant Room

WED 27

Harry Bodine, Jovita's

THU 28

Banana Blender Surprise, Continental Club

Spoonfed Tribe, Flamingo Cantina

Bicycat, Flipnotics Coffeespace

Galactic, La Zona Rosa

The Spread Eagles, the Parlor

See **austinchronicle.com** *for complete listings.*



for your benefit

THU 21

A Very Parish Christmas, Capital Area Food Bank Benefit w/ Loxsly; Zookeeper; Jeff Klein; Shearwater; Apha Rev; Alex Dupree; Zykos; Voxtrot; Tacks, the Boy Disaster; What Made Milwaukee Famous; Will Sheff, the **Parish**

Papa Mali's Soul of South Austin Holiday Reunion Benefit for Capital Area Food Bank w/ Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers, Gospel Silvertones, Shelley King, LZ Love, Leeann Atherton, Meagan Tubb, Ruta Maya

Festival of Trees, Carver Museum Benefit w/ Pamela Hart, Dr. James Polk, **Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center**

SAT 23

Wintershow Capital Area Food Bank, SafePlace Benefit w/ Bill Callahan, Shearwater, Nick Hennies, the **Mohawk**

The Night Before the Night Before Christmas, Meals on wheels Benefit w/ Marcus T. Tharpe, Doke Ford, Kevin Smith, Tom Van Zandt, **Waterloo Ice House South**

ARCH, Front Steps Benefit w/ Lost John Casner, Jon Emery, George Ensle, Mandy Mercier, Gurf Morlix & the Beaver Valley Boys, Blaze Foley CD Release, **Ruta Maya**

TUE 26

Miss Lavelle White's Christmas Show, **Saxon Pub**

Hanovers
DRAUGHT HAUS
670-9617 Outdoor Bier Garten
TRAVIS COUNTY SMOKING ALLOWED

THURSDAY 12/21 — KARAOKE 8PM
QUALIFY FOR A TRIP FOR 2 TO VEGAS!

FRIDAY 12/22 — BRANDON RAINES 7:30PM

JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE BAND 10PM

SATURDAY 12/23 — ANTHONY EBY 10PM

MONDAY 12/25 — CHRISTMAS DAY OPENING AT 5PM

TUESDAY 12/26 — PETE BENZ 8PM & KEVIN HAVRON

SUNDAY 12/31 — NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH
PRIDE & JOY
GET TICKETS NOW

POOL • DARTS
HORSESHOES
WWW.HANOVERS.NET

Flamingo Cantina
515 SIXTH ST. 512-494-9336
15 GREAT YEARS LIVE MUSIC

THURS 12/21 - ROCK — 800 DOORS, SHOW 9
PROMNITE
THE BOXING LESSON, THE AUTHORS
PAPERWORK, THE CORTO MALTESE

FRI 12/22 - WORLD, FOLK, REGGAE - DOORS 800, SHOW 830
JABARVY
GRAHAM WILKINSON & THE UNDERGROUND TOWNSHIP
HURT STREET

SAT 12/23 - DUB/NEW GRASS - DOORS 830, SHOW 930
GRIMY STYLES
GREEN MOUNTAIN GRASS

WEDS 12/27 - NEW HARDCORE - 8:00 DOORS, SHOW 830
RAW DEAL PRESENTS
SECONDS FROM WAKING
THE FINAL RESOLVE AND MORE

THURS 12/28 - JAM/FUNK/ROCK — 830 DOORS, 9 SHOW
SPOONFED TRIBE
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS SLIDER

12/29 - Grimy Styles vs. The Grimy Selectah Soundsystem - all night! 12/30 Scorpio Rising 12/31 - Shantytown Underground, Mau Mau Chapleins 01/05 - three show w/ Household Names, Dynah 01/06 - Mr Brown 01/11 - Dominik Ascent, Steepwater Band (Chicago) 01/13 - MOSPRINT shindig 01/16 - Bass therapy w/ McPullish and friends - every Tues w/ drink specials! 01/17 - Sinai Fyah (Feat. members of Stingers and Collect All Five) - every other Wed! 01/18 - The Dirty Hearts, The Jinx 01/19 - Culture, Mau Mau Chapleins 01/25 - Trip7 01/27 - Max Bakers B-day show w/ Groovin Ground, Jabarvy, Moving Matter

WWW.FLAMINGOCANTINA.COM

The Hole in the Wall
CELEBRATING 32 YEARS OF ROCKING AUSTIN

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21
THE REAL LONG BAND 12AM
KEVIN McKINNEY 10:30PM
ALICE SPENCER & HER MONKEY BUTLERS 8PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22
THE LONESOME HEROES 12AM
THE SEAS 11PM
AMANDA CUNNINGHAM 10PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23
PATRICK GODBEY BAND 12AM
JACKRABBIT AND THE SLIMS 11PM
ARCHER AVENUE (ROADSHOW) 10PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
MIKE DUBOSE 12PM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25
DEBBIE AND RUSTY'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS KARAOKE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26
THE MESHBANES 12:30AM
WIDE OPEN SKY 11:30PM
ANGELO MORINI 10:30PM
PASSED OUT FLIERS 8:30PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27
THE BOURBON LEGENDS 12AM
TWANGUERO 11PM
ROY HEINDRICH 10PM
ROGER WALLACE 8:30PM

2538 GUADALUPE - THE DRAG
www.myspace.com/holeinthewallaustin

New Year's Eve at SPIDER HOUSE
With
RIVERBOAT GAMBLERS
BRIGANTE
AUX ARMES
&
A complimentary champagne toast at midnight

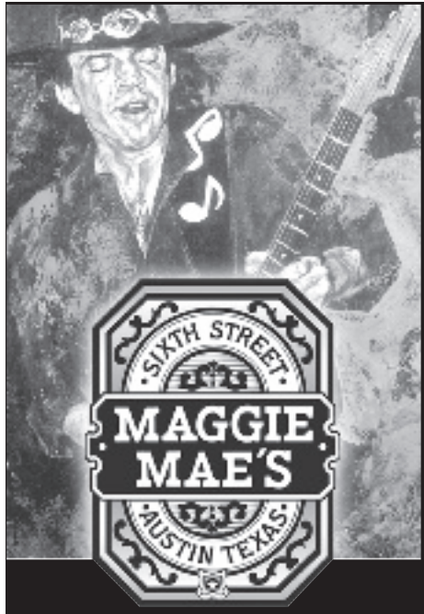
LIMITED AVAILABILITY! BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

TICKETS
$12 General Admission
Available now at Spider House

Doors open at 8 p.m.
December 31, 2006
21 and over

"Drink Texas Vodka"

Spider house pizza bar & cafe
2908 Fruth St. 512.480.9562



$2 YOU HOLLER EVERY THURSDAY
FRIDAY & SATURDAY NO COVER
DRINK SPECIALS BEFORE 11PM
$2 WELLS & DOMESTICS
NEW WEEKEND DECK
HAPPY HOUR 5-9PM

FRIDAY 12/22
7-9PM HOSEA HARGROVE
FIRST DAY OF WINTER
10-CLOSE
THE ALTAR BOYZ
BAD ASS BLUES, NO COVER

SATURDAY 12/23
10PM-CLOSE
JEFF BANKS
LIVE MUSIC, NO COVER



FRIDAY 12/29
SWEET POTATO PIE
BLUES HAPPY HOUR 7-9
THE TEXCELLORATORS
10-CLOSE

SATURDAY 12/30
FONDUE MONKS
FUNKIEST BAND IN TEXAS 10-CLOSE

SUNDAY 12/31
NEW YEARS EVE PARTY CENTRAL!
DOORS@7PM NO COVER BEFORE 8PM
ERIC TESSMER BAND ALL NIGHT LONG!
ADMITTANCE INCLUDES CHAMPAGNE TOAST AND PARTY FAVORS.

#1 COLLEGE BAR
PLAYBOY.COM – JULY '06

www.maggiemaesaustin.com
SIXTH STREET 478.8541

Two New Years Eve parties at one great location!

Copa
217 Congress Ave.
www.copabarandgrill.com

upstairs
HAVANA NIGHT
Live Salsa Music with
Cienfuegos
Complimentary appetizers
Party favors
Champagne at midnight
Doors open at 8pm -
Dress code encouraged
$20 advance/ $30 at the door

downstairs
new year's eve 2007
exotic grooves by
world renowned beat makers
DJ Manny 9pm
Govinda 10pm
Carmen Rizzo 11pm
Mike Hiratzka 12:30pm
Champagne at midnight for everyone!
Countdown cameos
Seductive temptresses
Secret agent/Spy dress code encouraged
$35 advance/ $45 at the door
www.govindamusic.com for tickets

Austin's "Original Swanky Joint"
✦Austin Chronicle's BEST OF AUSTIN WINNER SINCE '97✦
speakeasy
CALL 47-PARTY
THURSDAY, DEC. 21 JJ USHER BAND 9:30PM
FRIDAY, DEC. 22 RAYVON 9:30PM
SATURDAY, DEC. 23 LES AND THE FUNK MOB 9:30PM
TUESDAY, DEC. 26 TEXAS TUESDAYS WITH TAKIN' BACK TEXAS BAND
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27 B.A.R.E.N.Y.E. WITH BOOMBOX
412-D CONGRESS AVE. • 476-8017 (entrance in the alley) • speakeasyaustin.com
GIRARD DIVERSIFIED INTEREST





club listings ◂◂ FROM THURSDAY

HOMER'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Brian

JO'S HOT COFFEE DJ fStar

JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)

LA PALAPA Gil Breyer

LAMBERTS DOWNTOWN BARBECUE Christine Albert, Best Love in Town (5:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Aston Teague (9:00), Primm (10:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Michael Clay (7:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Ray Cashman (7:30)

MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Hamende Brothers (5:30)

MESA RANCH STEAKHOUSE Jon Emery (6:00)

THE MOHAWK The Sad Accordions, Klier Channel

MOMO'S The Hudsons, Will Dunlap, Turnstile Vertigo, Brass Bed

MOONRIVER Karaoke w/ Big Jim

MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)

THE OLD ALLIGATOR GRILL Third Coast Songwriters w/ Jon Dee Graham, Michael Fracasso, Ron Flynt, Edge City (8:00)

See **austinchronicle.com** *for complete listings.*

THE PARISH A Very Parish Christmas, Capital Area Food Bank Benefit w/ Loxsly; Zookeeper; Jeff Klein; Shearwater; Apha Rev; Alex Dupree; Zykos; Voxtrot; Tacks, the Boy Disaster; What Made Milwaukee Famous; Will Sheff (8:00)

THE PARLOR Aspen Murder; Quiet Nancy; Endingsilence; Oh God, It's Back

PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown

RADISSON Winton Reynolds Jazz Trio

RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)

RED FEZ Nuthin' New All-Stars (10:30)

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Quartet (8:30)

RILEY'S TAVERN Ryan Briggs

RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT Marshall Jones & the Frontier Phrenologists (8:00)

ROMEO'S Jacinta

ROOM 710 Sedium, Lick Lick, Manager's Choice

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Dave Jorgenson

RUTA MAYA Papa Mali's Soul of South Austin Holiday Reunion w/ Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers, Gospel Silvertones, Shelley King, LZ Love, Leeann Atherton, Meagan Tubb (7:00)

SAXON PUB Rob Roy Parnell (6:00), Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore (8:00)

SHENANIGANS Billy Dee

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Out of Phase

SPEAKEASY JJ Usher Band (9:30)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Boomer Norman Jazz Co. (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Eric Hisaw, San Marcos River Rat Brass Band

TROPHY'S Christmas Party w/ DJ Marky Mark Hutchens

TROUBADOUR SALOON Indofin (8:00)

UNCLE FLIRTY'S DJ Ashen

WASHINGTON CARVER MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER Festival of Trees, Carver Museum Benefit w/ Pamela Hart, Dr. James Polk (3:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Sean Russell (6:30)

WOODY'S SOUTH Mike Cross & Natalie Zoe w/ Laura Mordecai, Tommy Holden (7:00)

Z'TEJAS Brewer Nation (6:00)

Fri 22

311 CLUB Joe Valentine & Lynn (9:00)

AGAVE Randy Pavlock (7:30)

ANTONE'S Neville Family Christmas w/ Cyril Neville, Papa Mali, Caesar Brothers (9:00)

AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Shelley King Band, Ponty Bone & the Squeezetones (4:30)



Triple Crown

San Marcos, TX (512) 396-2236 www.triplecrownlive.com

Th 21	Eric Hisaw 6pm San Marcos River Rat Brass Band 9pm
Fr 22	Los Gallos 6pm Wasted Youth, Citadel 9pm
Sa 23	Buck Jones & the Haggards 10pm
Su 24	Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly & Nate
Mo 25	Craig Welborn 6pm Free Juke Box & Free Pool 8pm
Tu 26	Robbie Doyen 6pm Free Juke Box & Free Pool 8pm
We 27	Erickson 6pm, Free Juke Box & Free Pool 8pm
Th 28	Bruce Curtis Band 6pm King Slim Blues 9pm
Fr 29	Highly Likely 6pm Mark Jungers 9pm
Sa 30	Suicidal Failure, Raditude, Bermuda Bliss, 87 Octane 9pm

TICKETCITY.com

UT BASKETBALL TICKETS

The Lion King
Austin Rodeo
The Cheetah Girls
Red Hot Chili Peppers
Snow Patrol

BUY/SELL ALL EVENTS LOCAL/NATIONAL
VIEW ALL OF AUSTIN'S UPCOMING EVENTS:
ticketcity.com/austin
BUY ONLINE OR CALL US AT 472-TIXX

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL
EVANGELINE CAFE MUSIC SERIES

8106 BRODIE LANE·282-2586
THURSDAY DECEMBER 21 • 7PM
GEORGE ENSLE
FRIDAY DECEMBER 22 • 10PM • $5
ERIC HISAW
SATURDAY DECEMBER 23 • 2:30PM
THIERRY LECOZ, DAVID HOLT
ROCKIN' CHRISTMAS SHOW
CLOSED DECEMBER 25 & 26
MERRY CHRISTMAS!
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 27 • 6PM
COWBOY JOHNSON

THURSDAY, DEC. 21, 9PM
BILLY DEE
FRIDAY, DEC. 22, 10PM
LIVE MUSIC TBA
SATURDAY, DEC. 23, 10PM
MYSTERIOUS WAYS
SUNDAY, DEC. 24
CHRISTMAS EVE BY THE FIREPLACE
MONDAY, DEC. 25
CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY
TUESDAY, DEC. 26
ST. STEPHEN'S DAY 8PM
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27
PUB QUIZ 8PM

LIVE MUSIC 5 NIGHTS A WEEK
fadó irish pub
LIVE MUSIC 5 NIGHTS A WEEK
214 W. 4th • 457-0172
fadoirishpub.com
Irish owned & operated

directevents
directevents.net thebackyard.net theglennaustin.net austinmusichall.com lazonarosa.com

LA ZONA ROSA
612 W 4TH ST & RIO GRANDE • AUSTIN, TX 78701

NEW YEAR'S EVE @ LA ZONA ROSA
the SUBDUDES
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
BILLY HARVEY
107.1 KGSR
DEC 31 DOORS 9:00PM SHOW 10:00PM

GALACTIC
HOLIDAY RUN
with Papa Mali
NEW YEAR'S EVE EVE EVE EVE
FREE CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT
DEC 28 DOORS 8:00PM SHOW 9:00PM

SNO PRESENTS
ARMY OF ANYONE
with special guests
HURT
Dropping Daylight
JAN 20

YONDER MOUNTAIN STRING BAND
FEB 01 DOORS 8:00PM

RAUL MALO
with special guest
THE WRIGHTS
FEB 02 DOORS 8:00PM

BIG HEAD TODD AND THE MONSTERS
FEB 16 DOORS 8:00PM

switchfoot
PLUS SPECIAL GUEST
COPELAND
MAR 24 DOORS 7:00PM

AUSTIN MUSIC HALL
208 NUECES & 3RD ST • AUSTIN, TX 78701

NEW YEAR'S EVE @ AUSTIN MUSIC HALL
ROBERT EARL KEEN
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
RECKLESS KELLY
THE GOURDS
107.1 KGSR
LIMITED VIP SEATS AVAILABLE
DEC 31 DOORS 7:30PM SHOW 8:30PM

LaserSpectacular
KLBJ
PINK FLOYD
THE MUSIC OF PINK FLOYD AS YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE
JAN 12 DOORS 7:00PM SHOW 8:00PM

TO BOOK YOUR NEXT PARTY
512-263-4238

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT GetTix.NET OUTLETS, INCLUDING WATERLOO RECORDS, UT CO-OP and RUNTEX LOCATIONS. BY PHONE 1-866-i-GET-TIX FOR INFO: 512-263-4146
WWW.DIRECTEVENTS.NET

Is There Tuaca In Your Freezer?



Enjoy Tuaca icy cold straight from your freezer —

or mix it up with a great recipe!



Tuaca Blaster

1½ oz. Tuaca
4 oz. Energy Drink

Combine ingredients in a tall glass with lots of ice.



Tuaca Lemon Drop

1½ oz. Tuaca
½ oz. Triple Sec
2 oz. Sweet & Sour

Combine ingredients in a shaker with ice. Shake, strain and serve.



Tuscan Mule

1½ oz. Tuaca
Ginger Ale
2 Lime Wedges

Pour Tuaca into a highball glass over ice, fill with Ginger Ale, squeeze lime wedges into drink and mix.



For more great Tuaca drink recipes visit www.tuaca.com.

Please drink Tuaca responsibly.

Tuaca Italian Liqueur, Livorno, Italy, 35% alcohol by volume. Imported by Brown-Forman, Louisville, Kentucky ©2006. www.tuaca.com

STUBB'S

801 RED RIVER
480-8341

IN THE CLUB

FRI DEC 29
PUDGE ZEPPELIN
WITH O.A. AND ROMALICE

SUN DEC 31
NEW YEAR'S EVE



WITH SOUTH AUSTIN JUG BAND AND DERTY BIRD
TICKET INCLUDES BBQ BUFFET & CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT

FRI JAN 5
THE BLACK AND WHITE YEARS
WITH AUX, THE PAPER SOUTH AND ASTER

SAT JAN 6
SALLY CREWE AND THE SUDDEN MOVES
WITH MIDGETMEN AND JUST GUNS

SAT JAN 13
YOUNGMOND GRAND
WITH SUMMER WARDROBE AND BRENT PALMER

FRI JAN 19



CARBONLEAF

SAT JAN 20
WILL HOGE
WITH MARAH AND THE DRAMS



TUE JAN 23
RON SEXSMITH
WITH KIM TAYLOR

for private events call 444-2001
Tickets Available at Stubb's & stubbs.frontgatetickets.com



club listings ◂◂ FROM FRIDAY

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Pubcrawler

BEERLAND Winter Solstice Soul Party w/ Tim Kerr

'BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks

BROKEN SPOKE Gary P. Nunn

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Stanley Roy & the Pigsuckers

CEDAR STREET Shawn Phillips (6:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Gregg Andrews (5:30)

CIPOLLINA Cienfuegos (8:00)

CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR Chris Watkins, Hilary York, Rachel Lynn (8:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio; Club: The Blues Specialists (6:30), Two Tons of Steel, Eleven Hundred Springs (10:00)

COOL RIVER CAFE Out of Phase (9:45)

COTTON CLUB Kenny Orts & the Fender Benders (8:30)

THE DIRTY DOG Z, Bright Shadow, Phoenix Saga (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kat Edmonson (8:00)

EGO'S Honky, Jesse Dayton (8:30)

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Cerronato (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Django's Mustache, Beto y los Fairlanes (6:00)

ELYSIUM Morgue City

EMO'S Scott Adair, Hit Space, Secret Weapons

FINN & PORTER Benny Ignacio (7:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Hurt Street, Graham Wilkinson & the Underground Township, Jabarvy (8:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Lee Barber, Elizabeth Jackson, Ethan Azarian

FRANK ERWIN CENTER Trans-Siberian Orchestra (8:00)

GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE Open Mic (7:30)

GRUENE HALL Seth Walker, Bruce Robison & Kelly Willis Holiday Show (8:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Willie Jay Law (6:30)

HANOVER'S Brandon Raines, Johnny Cash Tribute (7:30)

HEADHUNTERS Corn Bone, Ese, Hell's Engine, Oklahomos, New Disaster

HI-LO DJ Honeycomb (11:00)

HILL'S CAFE David Kyle

HOMER'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Brian

IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE Jazzy Christmas (7:30)

JOVITA'S Ralph White, Friends of Big Ernie, Jerry Haggins & Fiddler Wolf, Twangzilla (8:00)

LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim (8:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)

MESA RANCH STEAKHOUSE Carl Hutchens (6:00)

THE MOHAWK Basin Alders, Crawling With Kings, Zookeeper

MOMO'S Stephen Miller CD Release, Gary Kyle & No Standards, Buster Jiggs, Homegrown (8:00)

MOONRIVER Imbibe

MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Nutty Idol Karaoke

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

RADISSON Haydn Vitera

REDRUM Jonny Danger

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Pamela Hart (8:30)

RHINOS & JOCKS ROUND ROCK Brandon Raines, Karaoke w/ Billy D. (9:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Heybale!

ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield

ROOM 710 The Urgencies, the Action Is

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE The Hackles

RUTA MAYA DJ Sky Juice, Three Shoes CD Release Party (9:00)

SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:00), Stephen James, Leo Stokes, Stephen Bruton (8:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL The Max

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Rick Hornyak

SIX/TAP ROOM DJ Skot Kees (9:00)

SPEAKEASY Rayvon (9:30)

SPIROS Big Moe

STARDUST CLUB The Stepsiders (9:00)

TAMBALEO DJ Jah Mighty (6:00)

III FORKS STEAKHOUSE Larissa (6:00)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Susanna Sharpe & Catavento (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Los Gallos, Citadel, Wasted Youth

TROPHY'S Mumpsie, the Guise, Flashback

UNCLE FLIRTY'S DJ Ashen

VICTORY GRILL Fourth Friday w/ Brownout! (7:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Jim Halfpenny

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Mark Jungers (10:00)

WOODY'S SOUTH The Cheatin' Hearts (7:00)

Sat 23

311 CLUB Joe Valentine & Lynn (9:00)

ANTONE'S Justin Brown Translation, the Alice Rose, Vallejo (8:00)

AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned, Redd Volkaert, Albert & Gage (12:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Kim & Her Blues Boys

Pack a full week of *Chronicle* Music Listings into your **iPod**, **PDA**, or **phone**!
austinchronicle.com/ipod

Riley's SINCE 1933 TAVERN

THU 12/21 RYAN BRIGGS
FRI 12/22 HEYBALE!
SAT 12/23 TWO TONS OF STEEL
SUN 12/24 CLOSED!
MON 12/25 CLOSED! MERRY CHRISTMAS!
TUES 12/26 JORDAN MINOR & SHAWN LINE
WED 12/27 BINGO WITH CASH PRIZES!



8894 FM 1102 • HUNTER, TX • 512.392.3132
WWW.RILEYSTAVERN.COM

The luxury box for serious sportsfans

FOOTBALL SEASON IS HERE
NFL SUNDAY TICKET & MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL
COLLEGE GAME DAY PLAN

$6.99 EXPRESS WEEKDAY LUNCH
HAPPY HOUR 4-7PM, MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
$2 TUESDAYS - ALL DRAFT BEERS

RINGERS
AUSTIN'S HOME FOR HI-DEF SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT
5TH & COLORADO
495.1558
RINGERSSPORTSLOUNGE.COM


TUACA
LIQUORE ITALIANO
IMPORTED
LIQUEUR
TUSCANY
ADD A LITTLE CHILL
TO YOUR NIGHT.
Drink a Tuaca chilled and straight up. Or mix it with ginger ale,
ice and a splash of lime.
Please drink Tuaca responsibly.
Tuaca Italian Liqueur, Livorno, Italy, 35% alcohol by volume.Imported by Brown-Forman Spirits Americas, Louisville, Kentucky ©2006

COMMON INTEREST
CLAUSTINCOM
KARAOKE BAR
DRINK SPECIALS EVERY NIGHT.
FREE POOL ALL DAY TUES.
HAPPY HOUR 2–8 PM M–F
8440 BURNET 453-6796
OPEN AT 11AM ON SAT & SUN FOR COLLEGE & PRO GAMES. NFL SUNDAY TICKET/ESPN COLLEGE GAMEPLAN & NTN TRIVIA
THURSDAYS ARE STEAK NIGHT!
14 OZ RIBEYE DINNER $12.95



Emo's
alternative lounging
477-EMOS
ALL AGES, ALL THE TIME
603 RED RIVER
*TICKETS ARE SOLD ONLINE AT www.emosaustin.com
OR YOU CAN BUY THEM AT WATERLOO RECORDS & END OF AN EAR RECORDS
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21
UGLY BEATS • BELLFURIES
THE DEADLY COMPANIONS
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22
THE SECRET WEAPONS
EX-16 DELUXE
HIT SPACE • SCOTT ADAIR
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23
EVERYONE KNOWS EVERYONE WINTER PARTY:
LIVE MUSIC BY
VISITORS
RORY + THE ARTIFICIAL HEART
POMPEII • MARS WARS
PLUS ART EXHIBITS BY
CARLOS ROSALES-SILVA / BEN TIPTON / CRISTINA/MANN-GARCIA / CASEY DUNN / JUSTIN COX/ YADIRA BROWN / ROBERTO AINSLIE / JAY SAUDE
SUN.-WED., DECEMBER 24-27
CLOSED
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28
THE NAUTICAL MILE • BAYTA DARELL
THE RIDE HOME • A FIVE AND DIME SHIP
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29
1986 • FOR THOSE WHO KNOW
THE PAPER SOUTH • DIMES
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30
GangGreen
HICKOIDS
CONCOMBRE ZOMBI • ROGER'S PORN COLLECTION
TICKETS AVAILABLE
LOUNGE:
TIA CARRERA
OH BEAST • THE FLASH BOYS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31
SPEND NEW YEARS AT EMO'S WITH THREE SHOWS ON THREE STAGES!
OUTSIDE
THE OCTOPUS PROJECT
STARLIGHT MINTS
BLACK LIPSTICK
TICKETS AVAILABLE
INSIDE
FLAMETRICK SUBS
WITH SATANS CHEERLEADERS
PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS
LOUNGE:
IV THIEVES
MOONLIGHT TOWERS
PLUS GUEST DJS FROM BOTH BANDS
MONDAY, JANUARY 1
CLOSED
JANUARY 2 - JANUARY 8
FREE WEEK WITH OVER 60 BANDS INCLUDING:
SIGNAL LOST • CONVERSIONS • STORM THE TOWER • THIS WILL DESTROY YOU • UME • CAMP X-RAY • YOUNGMOND GRAND • THE ATTAK (IN)FORMATION • OH, BEAST! • THE WORD ASSOCIATION • ZEALE 32 • CRASH GALLERY • AM SYNDICATE • LEMURS • THE LORD HENRY • CLAP! CLAP! • AMPLIFIED HEAT • LIONS • GRAND CHAMPEEN • QUIEN ES BOOM • THE FALL COLLECTION • AT ALL COST • WARWULF • TIA CARRERA • ZYKOS • BROTHERS AND SISTERS • THE CRACK PIPES • CUE • MY EDUCATION • HORSE + DONKEY • AWESOME COOL DUDES • AUTOMUSIK • THE TROUBLEMEN AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!!!!!
COMING SOON: 1/12 HONKY/ HAMMERLOCK (CD RELEASE) • 1/17 A HAWK AND A HACKSAW 1/19 CAUSTIC CHRIST • 1/23 SOL-ILLAQUISTS OF SOUND • 1/28 DOSH/ SOLE (ANTICON) • 2/1 PAPERCHASE • 2/2 FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS (AKA CRO-MAGS) • 2/6 METAL CHURCH • 2/7 EPITAPH TOUR: MATCHES/ I AM GHOST • 2/9 LEMONHEADS • 2/16 OF MONTREAL • 2/17 CARTEL • 2/28 ISIS/IESU • 3/3 WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS/ DR. DOG • 3/5 EXPLOSIONS IN THE SKY • 3/8 BRUJERIA • 3/9 DEERHOOF • 3/13-3/18 SXSW • 3/29 XIU XIU • 3/31 HOWLING HEX (NEIL HAGERTY) • 4/16 TRANS AM • 4/17 ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE • 5/3 MONO

club listings ◂◂ FROM SATURDAY

BEERLAND The Negatives

BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)

'BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Asleep at the Wheel

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole

CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Backsliders

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio; In the Club: Elana James & the Continental Two (3:00), Larry Lange & His Lonely Knights, Paul Ray & the Cobras Holiday Reunion (9:30)

COOL RIVER CAFE Texas Unlimited (9:45)

COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lesson w/ Cesar & Rhonda, DJ Alvaro (9:00)

COTTON CLUB People's Choice (9:00)

DAN MCKLUSKY'S Mac Bynum (7:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Nash Hernandez Orchestra

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (8:00)

EGO'S Yarmigos, Boxspring Hogs (8:00)

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Oliver Rajamani (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Brannen Temple Group (9:30)

ELYSIUM Haven w/ DJ Void, DJ the Gothfather

EMO'S Winter Party w/ Mars Wars, Pompeii, Rory + the Artificial Heart, the Visitors

FADÓ Mysterious Ways (10:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Green Mountain Grass, Grimy Styles (8:30)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Mandi LeBlanc, Brianna Sage, Will T. Massey (9:00)

GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE Amanda Piercy (7:30)

GRUENE HALL Sylvia Kirk (1:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Nelson Saga & Arma del Alma (6:00)

HANOVER'S Anthony Eby (10:00)

HEADHUNTERS Hot Karl Show, Best Love in Town, Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings

HOLE IN THE WALL Archer Avenue

IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE Heather Bishop (7:00)

JOVITA'S Bob Livingston w/ Paula Maya, Sumner Erickson & the Texcentrics (7:00)

LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim (8:00)

LAMBERTS DOWNTOWN BARBECUE Kat Edmonson, Greyhounds (5:00), Nekia & Friends, Raji World Guests (10:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Damesviolet (9:00)

MESA RANCH STEAKHOUSE Carl Hutchens (6:00)

THE MOHAWK Wintershow Capital Area Food Bank, SafePlace Benefit w/ Bill Callahan, Shearwater, Nick Hennies (4:00)

MOMO'S Derbin, Almost August, Shawn Fussell CD Release, Quickly Now (8:00)

MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (11:00 am)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Al Monti

THE OLD ALLIGATOR GRILL Jon Ward & Slo-Burn (9:00)

THE PARISH Holiday Hip Hop Classic w/ the Cold Rockin' It Crew: Rapp Master V-Zilla, DJ Donnie Dee, Treacherous Tats, Supa Luva CG

PLUSH Turntable Manners w/ DJ Tats, Dirty Harry

RADISSON Kent Mayhew

RED FEZ DJ Kurv (10:30)

REDRUM Seven, Girl in a Coma, Deep Above Surface, In Another Life, Death Got Killed

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Cienfuegos (8:30)

RILEY'S TAVERN Two Tons of Steel

ROMEO'S Kirk Hale

ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Kirk Hale (6:30)

ROOM 710 Zenith Fuzzbomb, High Cost of Living, Sabbath Crow, Duke

RUTA MAYA ARCH, Front Steps Benefit w/ Lost John Casner, Jon Emery, George Ensle, Mandy Mercier, Gurf Morlix & the Beaver Valley Boys, Blaze Foley CD Release (8:00)

SAXON PUB Lubbock Christmas w/ Terry Allen, Bukka Allen (7:00), Omar & the Howlers (11:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL The Max

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke, Open Mic (9:00)

STARDUST CLUB Holly Akins

TAMBALEO DJ Kurupt, DJ Inverse (10:00)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Jazz Giants (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Buck Jones & the Haggards

UNCLE FLIRTY'S DJ Ashen

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Beth Miner

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Clay Jeffrey Band (10:00), The Night Before the Night Before Christmas, Meals on Wheels Benefit w/ Marcus T. Tharpe, Doke Ford, Kevin Smith, Tom Van Zandt (10:00)

Pack a full week of *Chronicle* Music Listings into your **iPod**, **PDA**, or **phone**!
austinchronicle.com/ipod

Tambaleo
LIVE MUSIC & DJs NIGHTLY
MAKE YOUR HOLIDAY **EVENT** RESERVATIONS NOW.
CONTACT INFO@TAMBALEO.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.
« Monday »
Open Mic night hosted by Brad Brobisky and Calvin Russell ---- 8:30
« Friday »
Friday nights w/ DJ's Mike Swing and Esoteric ---- 10:00
$2 domestics and $3 wells until 11:00
« Saturday »
Saturday nights w/ DJ's Kurupt & Inverse ---- 10:00
$2 domestics and $3 wells until 11:00
302 BOWIE STREET 472•3213 WWW.TAMBALEO.COM

★ UPSTAIRS IN THE GALLERY ★
ART SHOW ALL THAT GLITTERS
SUE ZOLA
•THURSDAY • 10PM
BIG CITY TRIO
•FRIDAY • 10PM
DENNY FREEMAN
•SATURDAY• 10PM
MIKE FLANIGIN'S B-3 TRIO
•SUNDAY CLOSED
•WEDNESDAY• 10PM
TRUBE, FARRELL AND FRIENDS

IT'S ALL AT... CONTINENTALCLUB.COM

The Continental Club

THURS DEC 21
HAPPY HOUR
THE EXPLOSIONS



BANANA BLENDER SURPRISE

FRIDAY DEC 22
H. H. THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS
12AM



ELEVEN HUNDRED SPRINGS



TWO TONS OF STEEL

SATURDAY DEC 23
MATINEE 3-7PM ELANA JAMES & THE CONTINENTAL TWO (ERIK HOKANNEN & CINDY CASHDOLLAR)
PAUL RAY AND THE COBRAS ANNUAL HOLIDAY REUNION



LARRY LANG AND HIS LONELY KNIGHTS



SUNDAY DEC 24
CLOSED

MON DEC 25
MERRY CHRISTMAS
DALE WATSON'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOW



DOORS AT 9PM

TUESDAY DEC 26
CLOSED

WED. DEC 27
HAPPY HOUR
JAY MOELLER AND THE SOPHISTICATES



JAMES McMURTRY



12AM



10PM

JON DEE GRAHAM

THURSDAY DEC 28
H. H. THE EXPLOSIONS
ZPUDGE ZEPPLIN SSIK
(KISS TRIBUTE BAND)

FRIDAY DEC 29
H. H. THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS
TYRANT OF TX FUNK
BARFIELD
ETTA VENDETTA'S EYEFUL TOWER (BURLESQUE SHOW)
GARY CLARK JR

SATURDAY DEC 30
TONI PRICE
LEROI BROTHERS

SUNDAY DEC 31
NEW YEAR'S EVE
THE MOTHER TRUCKERS
JON DEE GRAHAM
DENNY FREEMAN
IN THE GALLERY

COMING SOON
JAN 5 & 6• ELVIS

1315 S. CONGRESS • OPEN: TUES.-FRI. 4PM • SAT. 3PM • SUN. 9PM • 441-2444
LISTEN & PREVIEW ABOVE ACTS @ EVENTJOURNEY.COM

LOVE JOYS
TAP ROOM & BREWERY



OPEN X-MAS EVE AND X-MAS DAY
FREE NYE PARTY W/ DJS. CHAMPAGNE TOAST AND MORE!
SIX-O-FOUR NECHES

THE BACK ROOM AUSTIN, TX
SPORTS BAR
2015 E. Riverside 441-4677 backrm.com

4 GIANT TV SCREENS
TWENTY 50¢ POOL TABLES
FOOSBALL, TONS OF VIDEO GAMES
& THE COLDEST BEER IN TOWN!

THURSDAY, DEC. 21
8-11PM $5 PITCHERS OF ZIEGENBOCK
$1 KAMAKZI SHOTS

FRIDAY, DEC. 22
7:30-10:30PM
$1 WELLS & $2 DOMESTIC BOTTLED BEER

SATURDAY, DEC. 23
OPEN TO CLOSE
$5 PITCHERS OF BUSCH
8-11PM $2 WELLS

SUNDAY, DEC. 24
OPEN TO CLOSE
$2 WELLS AND $1.50 BOTTLES OF MILLER HIGH LIFE AND LONE STAR

MONDAY, DEC. 25
MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL - HERE
$1 DRINK SPECIALS
DURING THE GAME

TUESDAY, DEC. 26
8-11PM
$2 WELLS & $5 PITCHERS OF ICEHOUSE

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27
8PM ON GIANT SCREEN TV
SOUL CALIBUR III TOURNAMENT
COME BEAT THE REIGNING CHAMPION
8-11PM
$1.75 PINTS OF BUD, BUD SELECT, BUD ICE, & BUD LIGHT

SATURDAY, DEC. 30
ONE LAST SHOW ON THE BAND SIDE
THE BACK ROOM'S LAST BANGERS BALL PRESENTS:
MEVYN
MANIFESTO
THE AUGUST VALENTINE
SHRAPNEL
$5 COVER • DOORS 8PM
LEATHER LISA WILL BE SELLING HER WARES
COME JOIN US FOR A FINAL BLOW-OUT
CLUB IS CLOSING 2AM, JAN. 7, 2007

FROM TEXAS' OLDEST INDEPENDENT BREWERY



SPOETZL

SHINER TOP TEN TEXAS ARTISTS
WATERLOO

1) GUY CLARK
Workbench Songs

2) DIXIE CHICKS
Taking the Long Way

3) BOB SCHNEIDER
The Californian

4) AUSTIN LOUNGE LIZARDS
The Drugs I Need

5) DON WALSER
Texas Legend

6) WILLIE NELSON
Songbird

7) JAMES McMURTRY
Childish Things

8) CARRIE RODRIGUEZ
Seven Angels On a Bicycle

9) KELLY WILLIS & BRUCE ROBISON
Happy Holidays

10) SHAWN COLVIN
These Four Walls

Shiner
THERE'S Nothing FINER!



Sun 24

AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Django's Mustache, Hot Greasy Gonzo Reunion, Texana Dames (12:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tune Session (8:00)

BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ AJ Kline

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Brian

CEDAR STREET Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH PJ Liles' Gospel Project (noon)

CLUB 973 Karaoke w/ DJ The Bigg Sho (5:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mac Bynum (7:00), Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Jon Blondell Jazz Orphans (9:30)

ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Amerykah

FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam w/ Walter Higgs (8:00)

THE GINGER MAN Marc Devine Trio (9:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON The Stepsiders

GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Ted Hall's Blues Church/Jam

GREEN MESQUITE BBQ & MORE WST Bluegrass

GREEN PASTURES Jacques Vilmain (11:00 am)

HOLE IN THE WALL Mike Dubose & Friends (10:00)

JO'S HOT COFFEE Sinner's Brunch: Tina Rose & the Jo's House Band (12:30)

LA PALAPA Chris Syler

LUCKY LOUNGE Mazel Ball (9:00)

MOMO'S Suzanna Choffel, Warren Hood & the Hoodlums (8:00)

MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Tea Merchants (9:00)

NUEVO LEON Mariachi Relampago (1:00)

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Li'l Steph, Open Mic Jam (8:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00 am)

THE OASIS The Brew

THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Mrs. K

PLUSH Car Stereo (Wars)

POODLE DOG LOUNGE Sunny Sweeney (8:30)

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

RAIN ON 4TH Hedda Layne (5:30)

RED FEZ DJ Kurupt (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen & Kim Mackenzie

ROADHOUSE Open Mic w/ Josh

ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield

SAXON PUB The Resentments, Walter Tragert, Jay Thomas (7:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Lee and Andy

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Brunch w/ the Gospel Silvertones (11:00 am)

TONY'S VINEYARD In the Pocket (noon)

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

THE WATER TANK Open Mic w/ Patrick

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE WEST Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra

WOODY'S SOUTH Jordan Price & Shad Blair (7:00)

Mon 25

ANTONE'S Christmas Night w/ Monte Montgomery (9:00)

BEERLAND Rock & Roll Karaoke w/ Nathan Black

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ AJ Kline

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke w/ Brian

CONTINENTAL CLUB Dale Watson's Christmas Show & Dance (10:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

EGO'S The Nortons (8:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE DJ Ashen

HOLE IN THE WALL Christmas Karaoke, Bruce Newman & the Barnstormers

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Jimi Lee & the Unsung Heroes, Jo Hell & the Red Roosters (8:00)

ROOM 710 Heart & Soul Soundsystem

SAXON PUB Matt the Electrician, Bob Schneider, Carolyn Wonderland (7:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Craig Welborn (6:00)

Tue 26

ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, Malford Milligan (9:30)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam

B.B. ROVERS Buster Gutbucket & Friends (7:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open Mic (7:30)

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

BEERLAND Carley Wolf

BROKEN SPOKE Debra Peters' Accordion Roundup

BROWN BAR DJ Gray (9:00)

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke w/ Brian

CEDAR STREET Mojoe, Super Fantastic Duo w/ Seela Green (6:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Vela & Jordan Minor (5:30)

Pack a full week of *Chronicle* Music Listings into your **iPod**, **PDA**, or **phone**!

austinchronicle.com/ipod

THREADGILL'S
American Food & Music Southern Style
WORLD HEADQUARTERS
301 W. RIVERSIDE DR. 512.472.9304
Gospel SUN. 12/24 @ 11AM Brunch
CHRISTMAS EVE
GOSPEL SILVERTONES
BRUNCH STARTS @ 10AM; $10.95 ADULTS/$4.95 KIDS
We are open on Christmas Day!
OLD NO. 1
6416 N. LAMAR BLVD. 512.451.5440
THURS. 12/21 @ 7PM No Cover
DAY TRIPPER
WED. 12/27 @ 7PM No Cover
AMY & THE BULLETS
WWW.THREADGILLS.COM

THE OAKS
MUSIC/BEER GARDEN
Thursday, December 21 • 7pm
SINGER/SONGWRITER
OPEN MIKE
ALL WELCOME
Friday, December 22 • 8pm
JESSIE LEE MILLER
& THE PEDERNALES PLAYBOYS
Saturday, December 23 • 8pm
ZAK PERRY BAND
UPCOMING SHOWS:
KLEPPER GEORGE, PAUL ROBERTS BAND,
GEORGE GUSMAN JR. BAND,
ZAK PERRY BAND, LOVE GONE COLD
10206 FM 973•278-8788
"Just a short drive from downtown Austin!"
www.theoakslive.com

1320 South Lamar

Saxon Pub

448-2552

www.thesaxonpub.com



Thurs. Dec. 21 & 28

Carolyn Wonderland 8pm

GEORGE DEVORE 11pm

Hhr. Rob Roy Parnell 6pm

Fri. Dec. 22

Stephen Bruton 11pm



8pm **Leo Stokes** 9:30pm

Stephen James HHr. The Regulars 6pm

$15 **It's a Lubbock Thing!** **Sat. Dec. 23**



TERRY ALLEN 9pm

Omar & the Howlers 11:30pm

8pm **Bukka Allen** $10



Sun. Dec. 24

The Resentments

w/ Stephen Bruton, Scrappy Jud Newcomb, Bruce Hughes, Jon Dee Graham & John Chipman



10pm WALTER TRAGERT 12am JAY THOMAS 7pm

$15 8:30pm **Mon. Dec. 25**



BOB SCHNEIDER

11pm **Carolyn Wonderland**

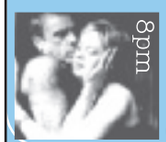


Matt The Electrician 7pm

Tues. Dec. 26 10pm



Miss Lavelle White's Christmas



8pm **Bobby Whitlock & Coco Carmel**

12am MIKE MILLIGAN & A ALL STAR BLUES SHOW

$10 **Wed. Dec. 27**



MONTE MONTGOMERY 8:30pm

HHr. Pauline Reese 6pm



Van Wilks 10:30pm 12am **UNCLE LUCIUS**

Fri. Dec. 29 9pm

THE ASYLUM STREET SPANKERS

WITH STANLEY SMITH & SPECIAL GUESTS



HHr. The Regulars 6pm

8pm $15/Doors @ 7pm **Sat. Dec. 30**



Ruthie Foster



11pm **WARREN HOOD**

Sun. Dec. 31 Together!

Guy Forsyth $20



The Resentments



Thanks for a great year!

Happy Holidays!

Tues. 1/2 - Dayna Kurtz

Jan. 11th & 12th - TOO SMOOTH

No Bad Days

Poodie's Hilltop ROADHOUSE

5 NEW TVS • HD BIG SCREENS WITH FOOTBALL SAT., SUN., & MON.

Tuesdays

The Troubadillos

Pool Tournament Night, No Cover

Wednesdays

Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones

"the Singing Bartender"

$2 Domestic Longnecks

Thursdays

$2.00 Longnecks

Ladies Night

Thursday, Dec. 21

HILLTOP CHRISTMAS W/ SANTA

WILL KNAAK

Friday, Dec. 22

PAULA NELSON & GEORGE DEVORE

Saturday, Dec. 23

MAGNOLIA BAND

ANDREA'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

Sunday, Dec. 24

OPEN 'TIL 5PM

Monday, Dec. 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS - CLOSED

Friday, Dec. 29

MOTHER TRUCKERS OPEN FOR **PAULINE REESE**

Saturday, Dec. 30

NEW YEAR'S EVE EVE JAM WITH MIKE BLAKLEY, DONNIE PRICE, WADE BURNETT AND MANY MORE

Sunday, Dec. 31

BILLY JOE SHAVER'S BAND DIAMONDBACK RATTLERS OPENER: TALENT SEARCH WINNER MEGAN TUBB BAND

Free WiFi • Home of the Best Cheeseburgers in Texas!



Hwy 71 West, SPICEWOOD

www.poodies.com

264-0318

momos

REAL LIVE MUSIC

618 WEST 6TH ST ABOVE KATZ'S 6TH & RIO GRANDE 479-8848

SMOKING PERMITTED ON OUR OUTDOOR PATIO

WWW.MOMOSCLUB.COM

www.myspace.com/momosclub

THURSDAY DECEMBER 21



THE HUDSONS 8

LOVETT & MERCADO 11:30

WILL DUNLAP 10:15

BRASS BED 12:45

FRIDAY DECEMBER 22 / $8

NATHAN SINGLETON 12:30

BUSTER JIGGS 11

GARY KYLE & NO STARNDARDS 9:30

STEPHEN MILLER 8

CD RELEASE

SATURDAY DECEMBER 23

QUICKLY NOW 12:30

SHAWN FUSSELL 11

CD RELEASE

ALMOST AUGUST 9:30

AARON BARRERA 8

SUNDAY DECEMBER 24 / $5

WARREN HOOD

& THE HOODLUMS 9:30



SUZANNA CHOFFEL 8

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

FELIZ NAVIDAD

TUESDAY DECEMBER 26 / $5

CARSON AUNE 11

LISA RICHARDS 9:30

ernie c. ernst 8

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 27 / $5



THE band of Heathens 9:30

AARON BARRERA 8

HOMEGROWN 12

UPCOMING SHOWS

12/29 A(+) MACHINES



RACHEL LOY 12/30

NEW YEARS EVE!

PATRICE PIKE



W/ GINGER LEIGH

TIX ON SALE AT WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

SHOAL CREEK SALOON
Catfish Color T.V.
909 N. Lamar 512.474.0805
LIVE MUSIC
THURSDAY DECEMBER 21
8:00
Reid Wilson
and his So-Called Friends
and
The Gunhands
Merry Christmas!
We will open at 5:00 pm on Christmas Day
TUESDAY DECEMBER 26
8:00
Redd Volkeart
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 27
8:00
AUSTIN HOWL
Smoking Room 18 and Up
Indoor Smoking
Outdoor Patio
16 Televisions
Shuffle Board
Wireless Internet
www.shoalcreeksaloon.com

mother EGAN'S irish pub
OPEN FOR LUNCH 11AM EVERY DAY!
Free Wireless Internet now available
Voted Best Irish Pub, Best Bar Menu, and Best Pub Grub by AustinCitySearch.com 2004
THU., DEC. 21
The 4 4 4 Thursday Beer Special
Fireman's #4 for $4
FRI., DEC. 22
Guinness Day $3 20-oz. imperial pints ALL DAY & ALL NIGHT
SAT., DEC. 23
Last full shopping day before Christmas. Forgotten anyone? Get a Mother Egan's Gift Certificate guaranteed to please.
SUN., DEC. 24
Christmas Eve
Mother Egan's is open at 6pm today.
MON., DEC. 25
Christmas Day - MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Mother Egan's is open at 6pm today.
TUE., DEC. 26
Boxing Day
Mother Egan's will open at 11am.
TUE., DEC. 31
MOTHER EGAN'S NEW YEAR BASH
Join us to Pipe in the Irish New Year at 6pm. No cover into bar all night. 8pm music with BRUCE BANKS AND THE HEAT on our covered, heated patio. No cover until 8pm. Free party favors and champagne toast.
No cover. Over 21. Great Beer Specials.
Mother Egan's covered deck is available for private parties on Wed., Thu., & Sat.
www.motheregansirishpub.com
Mon.-Fri. join us for Happy Hour 4-7pm
715 W Sixth 512-478-7747

club listings ◂◂ FROM TUESDAY

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Ephraim Owens Experience (10:00), In the Club: Doak Short (5:30), Toni Price (6:30), Barfield, the Tyrants of Texas Funk (11:00)

CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Open Mic w/ Bonnie & Blythe (9:00)

THE DIRTY DOG Jazz Jam (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)

EGO'S Dedringers, Zeke Kuypher (8:30)

EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE "Writers Who Rock" Songwriters Night w/ Melissa Mullins (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00), Derrick Edmondson (9:30)

ELYSIUM Sappho's Isle w/ DJ Amerykah

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh, Gene Taylor

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Deep Sessions w/ DJ Toddy B

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00)

FRIENDS Erin Jaimes & Her Bad Habits, Joe Richardson Express (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roots Day w/ the Horton Brothers

GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Open Stage w/ Cade Baccus

GRUENE HALL Dan McCoy (1:00), Bret Graham (6:00)

HABANA CALLE 6 Trey Lanshe (8:00)

HANOVER'S Pete Benz & Kevin Havron (7:30)

THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Singer-Songwriter Open Mic Night w/ Sergio Martinez (8:00)

HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Leo Stokes

IT'S ITALIAN Frankly Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

JOVITA'S Ethan Azarian, Little Mikey & the Sodajerks (6:00)

LA PALAPA Brewer Nation

LUCKY LOUNGE Boombox (10:00)

MESA RANCH STEAKHOUSE Jon Emery (6:00)

MOMO'S ernie c. ernst, Lisa Richards, Carson Aune (8:00)

THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Billy D

PARDNERS Open Mic w/ the Michael Petty Band (7:30)

PLUSH Mentalnote

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Troubadillos

THE PUB Karaoke w/ Justin

RADISSON Murphy's Inlaws

RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)

RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:00)

RED'S SCOOT INN Flip for Real! w/ DJ Fil

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Denia Ridley w/ Marc Devine Trio (6:30)

RILEY'S TAVERN Jordan Minor & Shawn Line

ROMEO'S Jacinta

ROOM 710 Vehicle

RUTA MAYA Poetry, Music Open Mic, Open Stage w/ MCO Flong (6:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon (9:00)

SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM Jim Ivy's Jinxstreet Band (7:00)

SAXON PUB Beth Black (6:00), Bobby Whitlock & Coco Carmel, Miss Lavelle White's Christmas Show, Will Sexton (8:00)

SHAKESPEARE'S PUB Penni (11:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae Rae

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Dean Seltzer

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke/ Open Mic, Karaoke (9:00)

TAVERN IN THE GRUENE Songwriters Open Mic w/ Jerry Martin & Sam Sanchez (8:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Robbie Doyen (6:00)

TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis

THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ RJ

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Will Dunlap (6:00)

Wed 27

219 WEST Kris Kimura (6:30)

311 CLUB Sindrome (8:30)

AGAVE Andy Macintyre w/ Eric Tessmer (9:00)

ANTONE'S Dedringers, Slaid Cleaves, Hayes Carll (8:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland

AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB The Rust Tones (10:00)

BABY ACAPULCO'S NO. 5 Singer-Songwriter Open Mic w/ Jimi Lee

BROKEN SPOKE Tracie Lynn

BROWN BAR DJ Manny

CAFE MUNDI Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)

Pack a full week of *Chronicle* Music Listings into your **iPod**, **PDA**, or **phone**!
austinchronicle.com/ipod

NEW YEARS EVE
at
Buffalo Billiards
• $10 Cover After 8pm
• 2 DJs Spinning Upstairs
• Late Night Buffet
• Champagne Toast
201 E. 6th St. • 479-POOL • www.buffalobilliards.com
21+ only

Do you love movies? Do you enjoy going out to bars? Do you like live music, art galleries, and poetry readings? If you answered "yes" to the above questions, then The Austin Chronicle *Marketing Internship* is for you! The Austin Chronicle is currently seeking spring interns to work in the marketing department. For more information go to **austinchronicle.com/chrontourage**.
Please submit your résumé and letter of interest subject "Spring Internship" to **scoplan@austinchronicle.com**. No phone calls please.
CHRONtourage
THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE
austinchronicle.com

RED RIVER DISTRICT

LIVE MUSIC 7 days a week



NOW OPEN EARLIER!
5PM-2AM M-F
7PM-2AM SAT & SUN

the side bar

(EVERYBODY NEEDS A LITTLE ON THE SIDE!)

602 EAST 7TH ST.
322.0697
WWW.THESIDEBARAUSTIN.COM

HEADHUNTERS

www.headhunterssclub.com

THU 12/21 > MUCHOS BACKFLIPS, DON'T FEED THE PIGS, THE HUMILIATORS, BOX SPRING HOGS (P), RUBY'S JAZZ GARAGE (HH)
FRI 12/22 > NEW DISASTER, THE OKLAHOMOS, HELL'S ENGINE (P), ESE, CORN BONE
SAT 12/23 > CHADD THOMAS & THE KRAZY KINGS, BEST LOVE IN TOWN, HOT KARL SHOW
SUN 12/24 > CLOSED - X-MAS EVE MON 12/25 > CLOSED - JESUS'S B-DAY
TUE 12/26 > OPEN - NO COVER WED 12/27 > LONESOME HEROS & LEATHERBAG, SKARIOKE (P)
THU 12/28 > REV'ED UP, ERIC TESSMER FRI 12/22 > SLEEZEUS FIST & THE LATTERDAY TAINTS
SAT 12/30 > DEYOLA, BLACKHOLICUS, PEYTON GIN, IRONCLAD
SUN 12/31 > HAPPY NEW YEAR: NEW DISASTER, SUICIDAL FAILURE (P), GENTLEMAN'S SOCIAL CLUB, MEET FIST (P), THE QUICK AND THE DEAD, DUKE (P), SABBATH CROW
MON 1/1 > BORN TO LOSE, FAR FROM FINISHED, WEST OF REALITY (P)

Bull McCabe's Irish Pub

714 Red River
478-4022

RED EYED FLY

Live Music

715 RED RIVER AUSTIN, TEXAS
WWW.REDEYEDFLY.COM

THURSDAY-DECEMBER 21
SATURDAY'S RADAR
KITSCH
AND START WEST
LITTLE TRIGGERS

FRIDAY-DECEMBER 22
THE IVORY CLASS
WHITMAN
DERBIN
ANDICE
ILM

SATURDAY-DECEMBER 23
LEAVING JULY
FIREKILLS
BETRAYED BY A KISS
SOUNDS OF THE SILENT
FIRE FROM THE GODS

SUNDAY-DECEMBER 24
WE ARE CLOSED AND WRAPPING PRESENTS
C YA TOMORROW

MONDAY-DECEMBER 25
LOUNGE OPEN
COME CELEBRATE YOUR YOUR HOLIDAY/ CAREER WITH US

TUESDAY-DECEMBER 26
LOUNGE OPEN
RED EYED FLY
CHRISTMAS/NEW YEARS PARTY

WEDNESDAY-DECEMBER 27
ARTLESS FICTION
WARM WINTER
DESPITE THE LOSS
FIRE FALL DOWN

THURSDAY-DECEMBER 28
BUILT BY SNOW
THE CIVILIANS
RIOT LIKE WORDS
WESTERN ANATOMY
SEA DOGS

FRIDAY-DECEMBER 29
HONKY
MESCALERO
THAT'S MISTER TO YOU
SECRET KEVIL HANDSHAKE

SATURDAY-DECEMBER 30
DAWN OVER ZERO
THE ADDICTONS
THE ONLYS
FRANTIC MANTRA

UPCOMING SHOWS
1.01 THE STUMBLES, FAR FROM FINISHED, BORN TO LOSE, SURFING STANDING STILL, STEAMTRAIN PUPPY
1.4 YOU'RE BLOCKIN' UP MY HOUSE, JOSEPHINE'S A KILLER, KILL THE GHOST
1.5 DIE TRICK MONKEY, KILLER CROSS OF OKLAHOMA, SMOKING GUN, MUPPETONE
1.6 FIREKILLS, CAPT. BIG CROWN & THE BLOCKHEADS, THE SCREAMS OF TRIUMPH
1.31 **DICK DALE**

for private parties and info call: 512-474-1084

Room 710

Open Everyday 7pm–2am
Happy Hour till 9pm
476-0997
Booking Thu, Fri 7–9pm
21+ Up
6 Years on Red River
room710.net
Paying the City's Crazy Price for Slum Living.

Thu 12.21
MANAGER'S CHOICE
LICK LICK
SEDIUM

Fri 12.22
THE ACTION IS
URGENCIES
BAD RACKETS

Sat 12.23
DUKE
SABBATH CROW
HIGH COST OF LIVING
ZENITH FUZZBOMB

Sun 12.24
CLOSED
BEING GOOD AND QUIET FOR BABY JESUS

Mon 12.25
HEART & SOUL SOUND SYSTEM
FREE POOL
LONE STAR $2

Tue 12.26
VEHICLE and more...
LONE STAR $2

Wed 12.27
HEART & SOUL SOUND SYSTEM
LONE STAR $2

UPCOMING SHOWS
12.28 Masonic, Peter Elliott 12.29 Pocket Fishfitmen, Dropkick, Sexy Finger Champs 12.30 Lo-Rivs, Summer of Blood 12.31 Pleasant Valley

ELYSIUM

705 RED RIVER ST.

THU SPECIAL EVENT! DEC 21
ELECTROCUTION
FNORD "White Night"
a night of electro & industrial music

FRI LIVE! DEC 22
Distempered 12am
Morgue City (Houston) 11pm
Zenith Fuzzbomb 10pm

SAT **HAVEN** DEC 23
goth, industrial, synthpop, & eurodance
DJs VOID & RALEIGH

SUN NEW YEAR'S EVE DEC 24
retro 80's
REGRESSION
DJs AMERYKAH & BOBA FETT

TUE lesbian night DEC 26
SAPPHO'S ISLE
DJs AMERYKAH & GUEST

WED NO COVER DEC 27
MID-WAVE
dark 80's retro & old school goth
DJ THE GOTHFATHER

UPCOMING EVENTS
Thu Dec 28 * *Live! Absynthesis, Zenith Fuzzbomb*
Fri Dec 29 * *Nightmare After Christmas - food, costumes, giveaways & more!*
Fri Jan 5 * *Live! Lucid Dementia, Hipnautica, Hollow*
Fri Jan 12 * *THE CRUXSHADOWS*

21+ only, doors @ 9:30 PM unless specified more detailed information available at:
www.elysiumonline.net * (512) 478-2979

BEER LAND TEXAS

Who is RiO RiTA?

th 21 — Sagittarius Birthday Show- Cue, Woozyhelmet, David Israel, Shrew, L Eugene
fr 22 — Winter Solstice Soul Party with DJ Tim Kerr
sa 23 — Negatives reunion show, Tokyo Nites
su 24 — closed
mo 25 — Christmas Karaoke 1000+ songs--no cover
tu 26 — closed
we 27 — closed
th 28 — Daniel Francis Doyle, Bwest Fwends Forever!, Nightmoves, Follow That Bird
fr 29 — The Golden Boys, The Terminals, Hex Dispensers, Black Panda
sa 30 — Best Fwends, Yellow Fever, Fancy Reast

preview bands @ eventjourney.com
711 1/2 Red River 512-479-ROCK
beerlandtexas.com 21+only

MOLOTOV LOUNGE

719 W. 6th St. www.molotovlounge.com 512.499.0600



New Year's Eve Masquerade Ball

featuring live performances by:

KING JAMES & BROWNOUT

Call For Information And Reservations

An Unforgettable Evening Of Masked Amusement!

Limited quantity of tickets available **Complimentary Shuttles Home Available**

Hi-Lo

LIVE MUSIC

Thursday
Chadd Thomas & The Crazy Kings
10:30-1:30

Open Wednesday - Saturday 8pm - 2am
301 West 6th St | 480.9433

OPEN 7 NIGHTS A WEEK
8 PM - 2 AM

SUNDAYS
VINTAGE ATARI NIGHT

301 WEST 6TH ST | 480.9433

BETSY'S BAR

RED·FEZ

NIGHTLY MUSIC

THU Nothin' New All-Stars 10:00-2:00
FRI DJ InVerse 10:00-2:00
SAT DJ Navy 10:00-2:00
SUN DJ Navy 10:00-2:00
MON DJ Jeff Jupiter 10:00-2:00
TUE Twist Up with DJ Navy 10:00-2:00
WED The Reflex 10:00-2:00

THE REFLEX
WEDNESDAYS
10:00-2:00

209 B West 5th St • 478.5120
www.red-fez.com
Visit us at MySpace.com/redfezaustin and become a friend.
Check out DJ updates, event listings and photos.

club listings ◂◂ FROM WEDNESDAY

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke w/ Nicole

CEDAR STREET Trent & Dave, Spazmatics (6:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Missoula Slim (5:30), Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (9:00)

CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Jacinta (7:00)

COFFEE CREATOR Je Renee, Cherilyn, John Wilson (8:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Trube, Farrell & Friends; In the Club: Jay Moeller & the Sophisticates (6:30), Jon Dee Graham, James McMurtry (10:00)

CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Open Mic Night

CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)

CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Jam Night w/ Dennis Lee

DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:00)

EGO'S Austin Poetry Slam (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), Tomas Ramirez: Jazzmanian Devil (9:30)

ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ the Gothfather

EVANGELINE CAFE Cowboy Johnson (6:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA The Final Resolve, Seconds From Waking (8:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE David Hamburger (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Justin Trevino (9:00)

GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier

GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Ian of Echosystemz (8:00)

GRUENE HALL Dan McCoy (1:00), Austin Collins (6:00)

HEADHUNTERS Skaraoke, Leatherbag, Lonesome Heroes

HOMER'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Brian

JO'S HOT COFFEE DJ Byrne Rock (8:00)

JOVITA'S Harry Bodine Trio (8:00)

LA PALAPA Big Frank Gomez & Friends (7:00)

LAMBERTS DOWNTOWN BARBECUE Erik Hokkanen, Bobby Perkins Experience (5:00)

LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Meridian West (10:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem

MAGGIE MAE'S Patrick Fleming (10:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Taco Wednesdays w/ Joanna Ramirez

MESA RANCH STEAKHOUSE Carl Hutchens (6:00)

MOMO'S Band of Heathens, Homegrown (9:30)

MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)

PARDNERS Kara

PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete Benz (9:00)

PLUSH Original Block Party w/ DJ Tats (10:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones

THE PUB Jam Session w/ Frank

RADISSON The Newz

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

RED FEZ The Reflex w/ DJ Honeycomb, DJ Fuckin' A (10:00)

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Trio (7:00)

Pack a full week of *Chronicle* Music Listings into your **iPod**, **PDA**, or **phone**!

austinchronicle.com/ipod

SMOKE SIGNAL

UPCOMING EVENTS @ THE MOHAWK AUSTIN

Thursday 12.21
SAD ACCORDIANS, KLIER CHANNEL

Friday 12.22
ZOOKEEPER, CRAWLING WITH KINGS, BASIN ALDERS

Saturday 12.23 DOORS OPEN @ 3
WINTER SHOW BENEFIT "Bands @ 5:00, Featuring:
BILL CALLAHAN, SHEARWATER,
NICK HENNIES, BRIAN SOOKRAM
(FOR: SAFE PLACE, CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK)

Saturday 12.30
SECRET WEAPONS, THE DIRTY HEARTS, THE POLITICS

Sunday 12.31 NEW YEARS EVE
URBAN POLLUTION & THE MOHAWK PRESENT:
THE BLOW, HAWK & A HACKSAW,
EVANGELICALS, LOXISY, CARI & JASON
(OF BELAIRE & VOXTROT), JONATHAN MEIBERG

Saturday 1.6
WINTER DANCE PARTY, Featuring
UGLY BEATS, FACELESS WEREWOLVES, DOLLY PARTNERS

Friday 1.12
ST 37 CD RELEASE, MIDORI UMI, CAVEDWELLER

Saturday 1.13
MOCKERY BIRDS, MILITANT BABIES

NATIVE. AMERICAN. MOHAWK.
THE GRIZZLY BAR APPROACHES

mohawk AUSTIN·TEXAS

COMING SOON

*UME

*shapes have fangs

*little brazil

*hotel, hotel

*cut club wednesdays

ADIOS 2006 :

New Years Eve 6 BANDS

Live Music Early ... Late Night Loungin'

lucky lounge

NO COVER • FREE SHOWS


THU, DEC. 21, 10PM

PRIMM


FRI, DEC. 22, 9PM

ASTON TEAGUE


SAT., DEC. 23, 9PM

DAMESVIOLET



SUN., DEC. 24, 10PM

6TH ANNUAL MAZEL BALL!


MON., DEC. 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS!


TUE., DEC. 26, 10PM

BOOMBOX


WED., DEC. 27, 10PM

MERIDIAN WEST


THU., DEC. 28, 10PM

ANAGEN



SUN., DEC 31, 8PM

NEW YEAR'S EVE BLOWOUT!!!

209A West 5th St. 479-7700

Call us to book your private party!

www.theluckylounge.com

THE PARISH ROOM

214 E.6TH ST., AUSTIN, TX 78701, ABOVE JAZZ KITCHEN

www.myspace.com/theparishroom

www.theparishroom.com

tix @ theparishroom.frontgatetickets.com

THUR 12.21 ..... DOORS 8PM

A PARISH CHRISTMAS

holiday songs by members of...

OKKERVIL RIVER

SOUNDTEAM

WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS

VOXTROT ZYKOS

ALPHA REV ALEX DUPREE

TACKS, THE BOY DISASTER

JEFF KLEIN ZOOKEEPER

SHEARWATER

LOXSLY and more...

proceeds to to support the CAPITOL AREA FOOD BANK

CHRONICLE Dewar's White Label

SAT 12.23 ..... DOORS 9PM

HOLIDAY HIP HOP CLASSIC

WITH THE RETURN OF THE COLD ROCKIN' IT CREW



SUPA LUVA CG

TREACHEROUS TATS

DJ DONNIE DEE

HOSTED BY RAPP MASTER V-ZILLA

FRI 12.29 ..... DOORS 9PM

www.512hiphop.com presents

NYE PRE-PARTY

w/ performances by

CREW54

LOW EYES (CD RELEASE)

MUSIC MAN MATSON a.k.a. MAESTRO

DJ S.T.A.T.I.K

COMPLETE CLOTHING & VINYL GIVEAWAYS

SAT 12.30 ..... DOORS 9PM

DREMNT THE END

THE WORD ASSOCIATION

SLIDER

ADAM MCINNIS

SAT 12.31 ..... DOORS 9PM

ROCK THE CASBAH 25

NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH

w. DJ MEL

rockin' 80's all night

midnight champagne toast

BUY TICKETS NOW!

theparishroom.frontgatetickets.com

Central Market

Central Park

under the oaks

Show times: 6:30 – 9pm

Sunday Music starts at 12:30 pm

Free Live Music

WESTGATE

Wednesdays & Thursdays 6:30 – 9pm

Sundays 12:30 – 3 pm

FRIDAY DECEMBER 22

ALBERT & GAGE

christmas show

THURSDAY DECEMBER 21

BOXCAR PREACHERS

bluegrass christmas

SATURDAY DECEMBER 23

DIALTONE RECORDS BLUES CHRISTMAS

LEO MORRIS, WILLIE SAMPSON, CLARENCE PIERCE, MATT FARRELL, EDDIE STOUT

SUNDAY DECEMBER 24

"A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES"

based on masterpiece by Dylan Thomas

SUZI STERN, ALEX COKE, RICH HARNEY, CHRIS MARESH

SUNDAY DECEMBER 24

THE GOSPEL PROJECT

blues/gospel

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 27

TEXAS EASTSIDE KINGS

blues legends

FRIDAY DECEMBER 29

W.C. CLARK

blues legend

THURSDAY DECEMBER 28

MATT the ELECTRICIAN

a unique singer-songwriter

UPCOMING SHOWS AT BOTH CENTRAL MARKET LOCATIONS

AT NORTH LAMAR:

Dec 30 - CIENFUEGOS

Jan 5 - NEW YORK MONSTERS

Jan 6 - LOS ROMANCEROS

AT WESTGATE:

Dec 31 - COMBO MAHALO

Jan 3 - AMY COOK

Jan 4 - TROY CAMPBELL

Call 512-206-1000 for details

Central Park

40th & N. Lamar

café open 7AM - 9PM Sunday - Thursday

7AM - 10PM Friday and Saturday

free music • great food

covered patio • kids playscape

Call 512-899-4300 for details

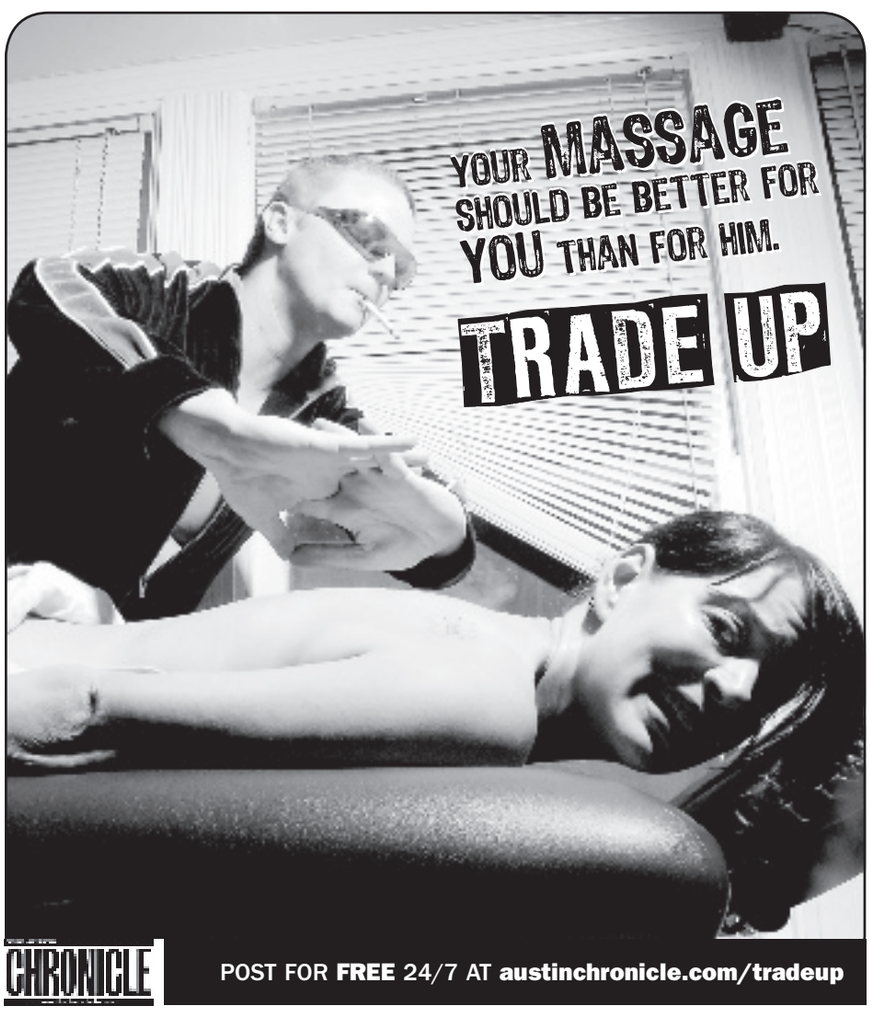
WESTGATE

4477 South Lamar

café open 7AM-9 PM Sunday-Thursday

7AM-10PM Friday and Saturday

free music • great food



CHRONICLE

POST FOR **FREE** 24/7 AT **austinchronicle.com/tradeup**



PHOTO BY M. DAPRA

3201 South Lamar • 442-6189

THU, DEC 21 CHAPARRAL W/ JEFF HUGHES
FRI, DEC 22 GARY P. NUNN
SAT, DEC 23 ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL
SUN, DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE-CLOSED-WE WISH EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS
MON, DEC 25 CHRISTMAS DAY-WE WILL BE CLOSED BOTH DAYS
TUE, DEC 26 DEBRA PETERS & THE ACCORDION ROUNDUP NO COVER
WED, DEC 27 TRACY LYNN

DRAUGHT HOUSE PUB & BREWERY

VOTED BEST PUB 2003

M 2.75 Guinness & Murphy's Pints
T 2.75 ALL PINTS
W Free Pizza
TH 2.25 House Beers
F 2.75 Independence Ale
S Free Bratwurst
S 1.75 Domestic Pints

fresh this week
SAiSON ginger

VOTED BEST PUB 2001

4112 Medical Pkwy • 452.MALT • draughthouse.com

APHRODITE'S

AN UNINHIBITED DANCE CLUB FOR ADVENTUROUS COUPLES

An elegant, sensuous evening never to be forgotten
NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL
See web for all the extravagant details.

For 2007: Best wishes for our current members and our new members to be as we bring you another year of improvement and growth.

Meet us at Sugar's Cabaret every Wednesday.
Couples' Night. No cover. $10 steak & lobster dinner.
www.aphroditesforum.com D.J. - B.Y.O.B. - 928-9876

WATERLOO Ice House

6TH AND LAMAR

Each Thursday, 6-9pm
HAPPY HOUR WITH
TROUBLESOME TRIO

MARK JUNGERS
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22
10PM, $5 COVER

CLAY JEFFREY BAND
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23
10PM

38TH AND MEDICAL PARKWAY

6PM WILL DUNLAP — EVERY TUES.
7PM PTARMIGAN — EVERY WED.
6:30PM SEAN RUSSELL — EVERY THUR.
JIM HALFPENNY — FRI. DEC. 22
BETH MINER — SAT. DEC. 23

club listings ◂◂ FROM WEDNESDAY

ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D
ROMEO'S Jacinta
ROOM 710 Shand Walton, Chris Gates & Gatesville
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Glenn Collins Open Mic
RUTA MAYA Cienfuegos (9:00)
SAKÉ ON SIXTH Get Broke Wednesdays w/ Merrick Brown
SAM'S TOWN POINT Ramsay Midwood & Friends (8:30)
SAXON PUB Pauline Reese (6:00), Monte Montgomery, Van Wilks, Uncle Lucius (8:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL LC Rocks
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke, Open Mic
SOUTH FORTY Karaoke w/ J.R. the DJ (9:00)
SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (9:15), B.A.R.E.N.Y.E w/ Dysfunkshun Junkshun (9:30)
TAMBALEO DJ Mike Swing, Tee Double
TRIPLE CROWN Erickson (6:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan (7:00)
Y BAR & GRILL Singer-Songwriter Night (6:30)
Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster & Will Sexton (6:00)

Thu 28

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
311 CLUB Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ANTONE'S Alejandro Escovedo
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Trent Turner
BEERLAND Follow That Bird!, Nightmoves, Best Fwends Forever, Daniel Francis Doyle
BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegal (7:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes
BROWN BAR mr.ripley
CEDAR STREET Gaila Kenneally, Les & the Funk Mob (6:00)
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Matt the Electrician (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Rick Turcotte (5:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Paris '49; In the Club: The Explosions (6:30), Banana Blender Surprise (10:00)
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)
THE DETOUR BAR & GRILL Bike Night Open Mic w/ the Wildcards (8:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EGO'S Walter Tragert, 2 Hoots & a Holler (8:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Liz Morphis, David Chenu CD Release (6:00)
EMO'S A Five and Dime Ship, the Ride Home, Bayta Darell, the Nautical Mile
FADÓ Patrick Fleming Power Duo (10:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Slider, Spoonfed Tribe (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Zipper, BettySoo, Bicycat (8:00)
GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Rosie Flores
GREEN MUSE CAFE Open Mic w/ Black Molly (8:00)
GRUENE HALL David Insley (1:00), Guy Forsyth (6:00)
HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man
HEADHUNTERS Rev'ed Up, Eric Tessmer
HILL'S CAFE Sam Bentley
HOMER'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Brian
JO'S HOT COFFEE DJ fStar
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA PALAPA Gil Breyer
LA ZONA ROSA Papa Mali, Galactic (9:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Anagen (10:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Michael Clay (7:00)
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Hamende Brothers (5:30)
MESA RANCH STEAKHOUSE Jon Emery (6:00)
MOMO'S The Hudsons, Will Evans Project, Bocastria, South First Band (8:00)
MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)
THE PARLOR The Spread Eagles
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
RADISSON Winton Reynolds Jazz Trio
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Nuthin' New All-Stars (10:30)
REDRUM NVANE (8:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Quartet (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Blue Diamond Shine
RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT Marshall Jones & the Frontier Phrenologists (8:00)
ROMEO'S Jacinta
ROOM 710 Peter Elliott & the Sellouts, Masonic
RUTA MAYA Teen Rock Show
SAXON PUB Rob Roy Parnell (6:00), Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy Dee
SPEAKEASY Emory Quinn & the Gulf Coast Playboys (9:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Bruce Curtis, King Slim Blues
TROPHY'S Go Nova, Hao Chiang Chiang, Noise Revival, Noise Revival Orchestra Experience
UNCLE FLIRTY'S DJ Ashen
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Sean Russell (6:30)
WOODY'S SOUTH Mike Cross & Natalie Zoe w/ Laura Mordecai, Tommy Holden (7:00)
Z'TEJAS Trés (6:00)

Pack a full week of *Chronicle* Music Listings into your **iPod**, **PDA**, or **phone**!
austinchronicle.com/ipod

Cheatham Street WAREHOUSE
Austin's far-out music hall in San Marcos
www.cheathamstreet.com

TH TEXAS RENEGADE
FR JOHN ARTHUR MARTINEZ ACOUSTIC
SU CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE AT CHEATHAM ST. W/ PONTY BONE & THE SQUEEZTONES

119 CHEATHAM ST. SAN MARCOS 512-353-3777

LIGHT 007

Book now! The best New Years every year!
RSVP 512.626.9190
512.626.9190
email: party@lightbaraustin.com
408 congress
www.lightbaraustin.com

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

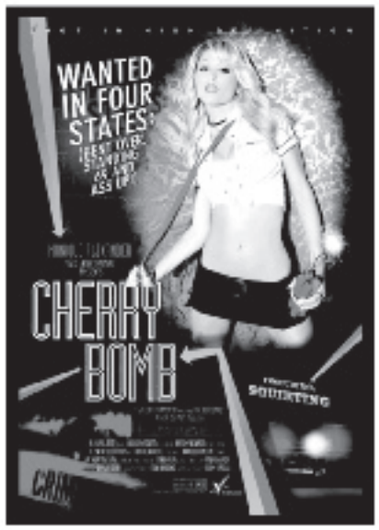
A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR THE NAUGHTY ONES...



"it's NOT you"
Cassidey
Eva Angelina
12/18/2006



Jenna Loves Justin
Jenna Jameson
Briana Banks
12/24/2006



Cherry Bomb
Monique
Alexander
12/27/2006



Rough Draft
Savannah
Sampson
1/17/2007

Vivid Feature Sale!!

Regularly $39.95 Blowout Special $19.95!!

Vivid, Red Light, Digital Playground, Evil Angel, Studio A, Zero Tolerance, Ninnworx, Private Hustler, Devil's, Digital Sin, Wicked, Diabolic, Anabolic, Mayhem, and many more!!

1000s and 1000s of titles to choose from!!

Brand New DVDs, not old, used rental copies.

1,000s and 1,000s of DVDs under $20!!

*Remember, AAA News does it first and others try to copy us. Limited quantities available. First come, first served. Limited time offer.

NORTHWEST
11657 Research
Near Duval
343-1195

HUSTLER VIDEO

New Location Opening Soon

SOUTH
2055 S. Lamar
at Oltorf
440-8626

Evil ANGEL VIDEO

XXX SUPERSTORE
15316 N. IH 35
At Marker 248
990-2144

Wicked

FAR SOUTH
6524 S. Congress
N of Wm. Cannon
445-6116

ADULT SERVICES

ESCORTS

****

HOT HOUSEWIFE
$100 SPECIAL
Extended Two more Weeks
Lonely bored and very sexy. Upscale and Discreet.
632-6557

HOLIDAY
TREAT
No Rip-Offs! Lots of Fun by Breathtaking Beauty.
Available for Body Rubs and More! In/Out 24/7.
BRITNEY 945-2525

36 D-LIGHT
PRETTY, SEXY BRUNETTE
306-0006

AALIYAHs
http://www.aaliyahsladies.com
* Always Hiring *
832-1818

*** CUTE ***
AS A BUTTON!
Gorgeous & Classy
No BS, No games, Just fun.
2PM-4AM * 789-4088 *

****GUILTY****
****PLEASURES!****
Day Specials
Back Rubs & More
24/7*740-5504

****
WANT IT - GET IT

ESCORTS
AS GOOD AS IT GETS
outcalls only
24/7 call-374-0270
****NOW HIRING****
****

HOLIDAY BLISS!
FBSM by skilled and sultry 40's female. Celebrate Life! 619-9079.

Asian Angel
South Location
www.BestAsianSpa.com
(512)848-1221

ASIA DREAM
North Location
www.EasternSecret.com
*** 512-848-3107 ***

ASIAN CANDY
IN/OUT CALLS
512.496.6584

ASIAN GIRL
NICE & BEAUTIFUL
512.698.8664

ASIAN PRETTY
NORTH LOCATION
512.563.7753

BEST TOUCH
512-573-5655

CAMELOT
Executive Retreat
"Relax in comfort..."
Sun-Thu 10-2a, Fri-Sat 10-3a
NOW HIRING **(512) 637-4219**

JASMINE
BEST ASIAN PLACE
512.300.7199

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL!!!
At ExePlaymates.com
I/O calls cc 512.339.1099
NOW HIRING!!!

ELEGANT INCALL
RAMESSES
Mon-Thu til 2am,
Wkds til 3am, Sun Noon-2am
Xmas Eve & Day Special!
Bring a Friend 1/2 Off!
Noon-Midnight
(512) 420-2271

GREEK GODDESS
MS. JAZZY (GFE ALSO)
I'M SO HORNY R U?
CALL NOW!! 905-3087

HOT HORNY DIRTY LITTLE GIRL!!!
448-9480
In/Out, 24/7, DARIA!!!

NATURAL STRAWBERRY
Upscale and Discreet
Attractive, Natural 38DD
DELL AREA
Call 491-0040 M-F 9a-6p

HOT SPECIAL
Young & Beautiful
***** 873-0113 *****

FUN AND SEXY COLLEGE GIRLS
HOT AND HORNY
I/O CALLS 512-695-2706

JASMINE Merry Christmas! Feeling lonely? I will bring cheers and lots of fun. In & Out. 934-7740 $ 150.

SWEDISH, SWEET
Light touch. Full body rub. Exquisite, Feels so good.
Tel:441-4019 In calls only

JUST TURNED 18
Real young hotties
24-7 in and out
512-552-8145

CHEYENNE 24/7 IN/OUT 447-6913

LET JASMINE MELT YOU
Rub down by pretty, sexy, petite, brunette-40's.
Dwntwn/In calls. 422-5186

Nothing N' Life is Better!
****Always Hiring*****
1-877-831-0521 in/out calls

Petite Wild Blonde Toned & Beautiful
750-4932

PRETTY HOT & TEMPTING
Young. Breathtaking Beauty available for Pure Pleasure & More. No BS. In/Out 24/7
AMBER 825-8905

Sabrina's Escorts
24/7
1-800-761-0480
* NOW HIRING *

SWEET ASIAN
(512) 323-5628
51st Street

VENUS LINGERIE
Bachelor Parties • Birthdays
8556 Research, 459-1376
ADULT FETISH MODELING
*New Inventory**
NOW HIRING
venuslingerieaustin.com

ENTERTAINMENT

#1 Escorts Sites
Escorts.com &
EscortReviews.com
Schedules, Reviews, Profiles

#1 Hotmovies.com
60,000 movies, 1400 studios
No Memberships! .08 minute
First 10 minutes Free!

TALK TO A MODEL
24 HOURS TOLL FREE
$10-$17 FOR 15 MIN.
Bev. Hills 877-208-7720
Costa Mesa 877-998-7799
Las Vegas 877-668-7766
S.Francisco 877-448-7744
Cust. Serv. 888-686-3760
http://www.uslove.com

CLOSETED LOCAL BI GUYS
Call 512-735-5000
or 800-777-8000
FREE w/ code 8904
InteractiveMale.com

Dating is Better Here
Call 512-381-0000
or 800-210-1010
Try FREE! Use code 2846

HOT LOCAL GUY LINE
CHAT LIVE!
Listen and respond to ALL ads FREE!
(512)480-8400
Free Code 5523
Or Meet by Internet
http://www.megamates.com
888-MEGAMATES

MEET AUSTIN LOCALS
Listen & Respond FREE!
(512)457-1900
Free Code 6720
or by Internet at
http://www.megamates.com
888-MEGAMATES

SINGLE?
MEET SOMEONE
Free to Browse & Respond!
STRAIGHT
(512)457-1900
GAY & BI
(512) 480-8400
Use Code 8570
http://www.megamates.com

Ladies talk to men Nationwide
1-800-856-TALK FREE!

WHERE 2 GUYS MEET
GAY & BI VOICE PERSONALS
Listen & Respond to ALL ads FREE!
(512)480-8400
Free Code 4064
http://www.megamates.com

Earn BIG $$$
Give Away Porn
www.Cash.net

Ladies talk to men Nationwide
1-512-834-CHAT FREE!
AMen call: 1-800-238-HOTT .69/min!

Hot Fun on the Phone!
Call 512-735-7000
Enter FREE code: 6389

Local Girls Go Wild
Call 512-735-7000
Enter FREE code: 6389

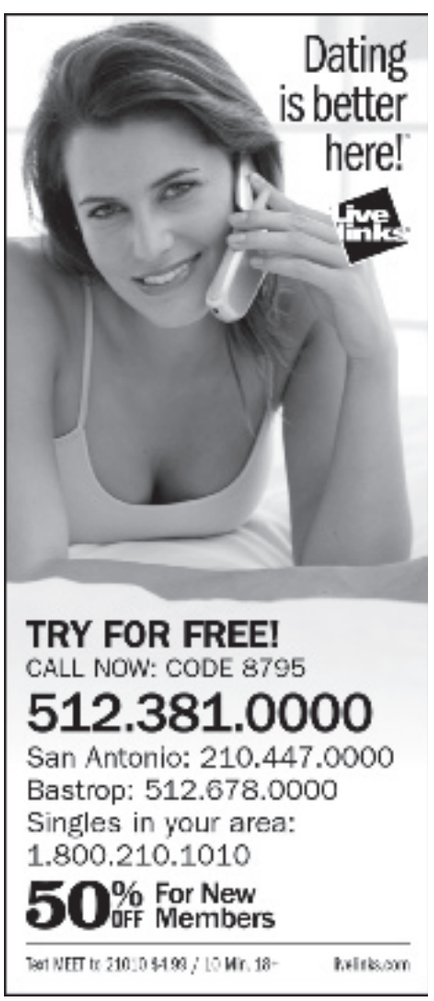
EMPLOYMENT

AUSTIN PLAYMATES
NOW HIRING!!!
Attractive Females
Established Escort Agency
EARN $2000 MORE per week with us!
Upscale clientele
719-4448

DANCERS/ ESCORTS
Needed for busy outcall service. Must be 18+
$1500 - $5K/wk
Start Today. Nationwide service looking for girls in Austin, Dallas, Houston, New York, Chicago, Atlanta, Las Vegas, NV, San Francisco, and Boston.
1-512-873-9528
http://www.4ieg.com












Where Local GIRLS Go Wild!
RedHot dateline
AUSTIN 512-735-7000
Try For FREE
Other Local Numbers 1-800-700-6666
Use FREE Code 5021
RedHotDateline.com


50% off
new members
FREE TRIAL OFFER
Austin's Premier Dating Service
512.735.0000
San Marcos 512.878.0220
Trial code: 8021 Other Cities: 1.800.300.0300
tango


YOU'LL FIND IT
HERE!
CONNECT+CHAT+MEET
Austin 512.735.5000
Find your local #:
1.800.777.8000
FREE TRIAL
CODE 1710
Text CHAT to 66466 $4.99/10min 18+


LOCAL DATELINE
CALL·LISTEN
ENJOY
Listen to 1000's of Local Singles FREE
Austin
512.457.1900
FREE Code 8937
For other cities call
(888) MegaMates
MegaMates.com
VISIT US ONLINE


GAY & BI LOCALS
CALL·CRUISE
CONNECT
SO MANY GUYS - Listen & Reply to Ads FREE!
Austin
512.480.8400
FREE Code 4329
For other cities call
(888) MegaMates
MegaMates.com
VISIT US ONLINE
MEGA phone


Make your Holidays SWING!
turn onto
EASY STREET
If you're looking for a relationship that's a bit … unconventional, you need to turn on to Easy Street. 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, you can meet real people from right here in Austin who share your interests and lifestyle. Browse ads, looks at pictures, read profiles – all absolutely free. Place a profile with a photo on Easy Street and you'll be entered to win a Forbidden Fruit prize package worth $150!
FORBIDDEN FRUIT
CHRONICLE
austinchronicle.com


XTC
cabaret
AUSTIN'S ONE AND ONLY NUDE ENTERTAINMENT
3501 ANDTREE BLVD
512.929.3558
BYOB · 18 & UP
$5 off
AT THE DOOR WEDNESDAYS AFTER 6PM
MONDAY NIGHT MADNESS
$5 DANCES 7-11pm
TUESDAYS & SUNDAYS
$10 DANCES
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
OIL WRESTLING
matches at
10:30pm & Midnight
$2.99 Steak & Fries
FROM OPEN 11AM TO 6PM DAILY
$10 cover
WITH THIS AD AND COLLEGE ID

ADULT VIDEO MEGAPLEXXX

Largest Adult DVD Headquarters!

11,000 SQUARE FEET OF ADULT FUN

1000'S OF DVD'S ON SALE EVERYDAY

DVD RENTALS
MONDAY-FRIDAY 4-7PM
Rent 1 DVD, Get 1 FREE LIMIT 6

TUESDAYS
Rent 2, Get 2 FREE

EVERY THURSDAY LADIES' DAY
20% OFF ANY ITEM IN STORE

DVDs from $8.95

MULTI-HOUR DVDS
BUY 1 GET 1 FREE

LARGEST NOVELTY SELECTION IN TOWN

BACHELOR AND BACHELORETTE PARTY FAVORS



7111 S. IH-35 • 442-5430 • www.sexysite.com

HAPPY HOUR!
4PM-8PM

$3.00 U-CALL-IT

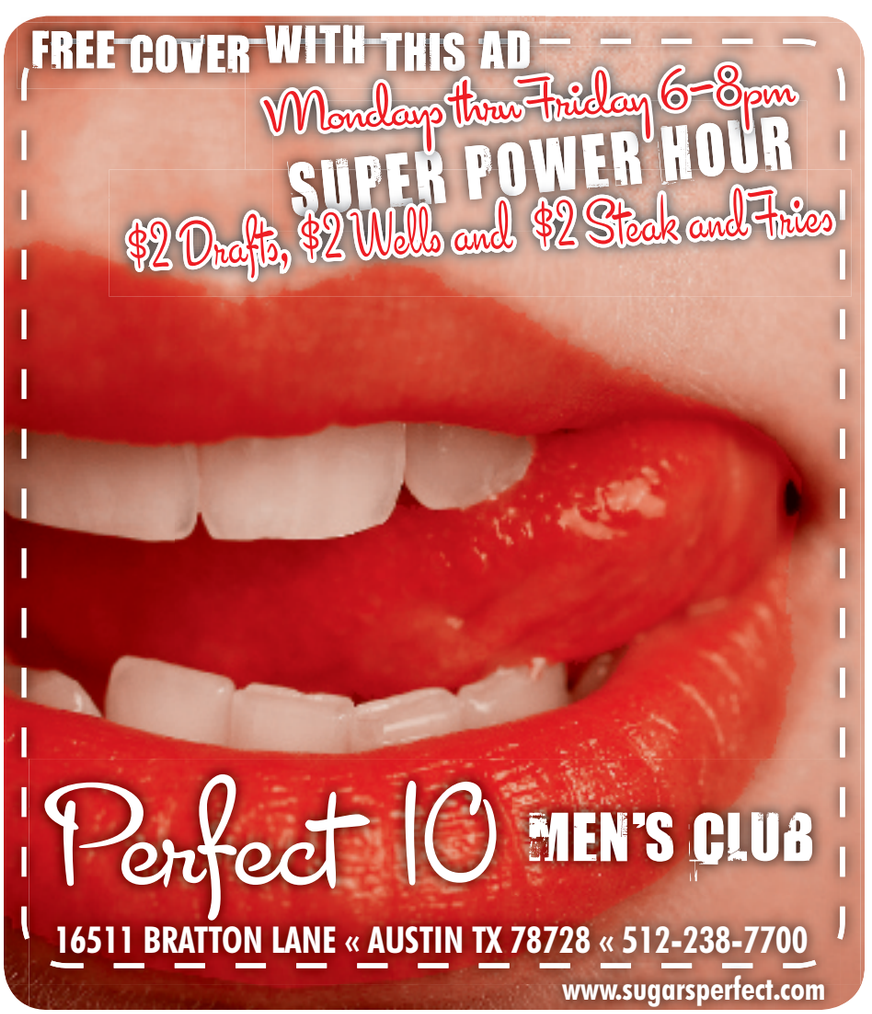
$3.00 APPETIZER MENU



Sugars™
UPTOWN CABARET
www.sugarsperfect.com
404 HIGHLAND MALL BLVD. 451-1711

FREE COVER WITH THIS AD

Mondays thru Friday 6-8pm
SUPER POWER HOUR
$2 Drafts, $2 Wells and $2 Steak and Fries



Perfect 10 MEN'S CLUB
16511 BRATTON LANE « AUSTIN TX 78728 « 512-238-7700
www.sugarsperfect.com

COMICS

How to Be Happy

by Shannon Wheeler



©2006 SHANNON WHEELER

WWW.TMCM.COM

TROUBLETOWN

HAVE A MERRY SCARY X-MAS

BY LLOYD DANGLE



©2006

THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS NEVER!



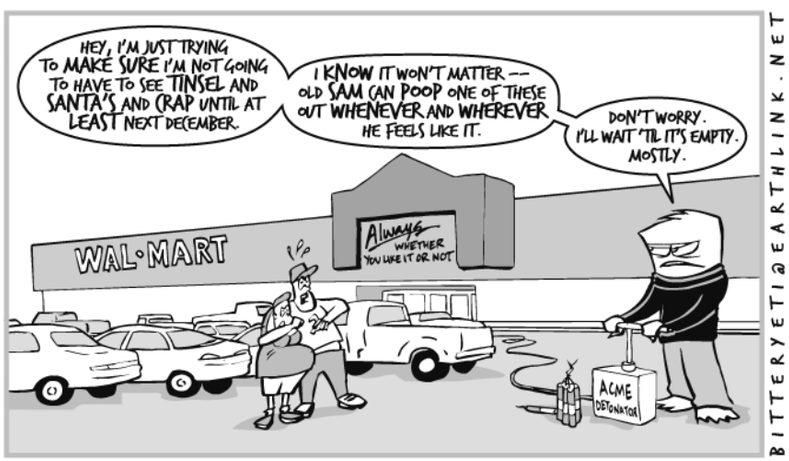






BITTER YETI IN THE CITY

JASON STOUT © 2006



MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS



In a 1970 soccer match, British traditional folk-rock group Steeleye Span beat fellow folkies Fairport Convention, 8-3.

A new study by the New England Research Institutes has found a "substantial" drop in U.S. men's testosterone levels since the 1980s.

The concept of the Yoda character being connected with Santa Claus is not as strange as it may seem. In 1981, Lucasfilm's Christmas card featured him dressed as St. Nick. In 2002, Hasbro produced a Yoda action figure in a Kris Kringle costume.

The number of Web sites in the world has passed 100 million.

In the 1920s, Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin sent an animal-breeding expert to Africa in hopes of creating an army of half-man, half-ape soldiers and laborers. Attempts to inseminate women with monkey or ape sperm and female chimpanzees with human sperm failed.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail **mrpants@austinchronicle.com.**

TRADE UP CLASSIFIEDS

454-5767

austinchronicle.com/tradeup

100 JOBS
110 Art/Design
115 Beauty/Salon/Spa
120 Entertainment/ Casting
125 General
130 Healthcare
135 Hospitality
140 Legal
145 Office/Clerical
150 Non-Profit
155 Professional
160 Research Study
165 Retail
170 Sales/Marketing
175 School/Training
180 Technical

200 HOUSING
210 Reader Notice
215 Apartment/ Condo/Townhome
220 Duplex/Houses
225 Vacation
230 Commercial
235 Roommates
240 Real Estate For Sale

300 BUY/SELL/ TRADE
310 Antiques/ Collectibles
315 Appliances
320 Baby/Kids Stuff
325 Clothing
330 Computers
335 Electronics
340 Free Stuff
345 Furniture
350 Garage/ Estate Sales
355 General
360 Jewelry/ Accessories
365 Pets/Pet Supplies
370 Recreational
375 Tickets/ Entertainment
380 Tools
385 Trades
390 Wanted to Buy

400 SERVICES
410 Business
415 Computers
420 Counseling
425 Health/Wellness
430 Home
435 Financial
440 Fitness/Training
445 Legal
450 Licensed Massage
455 Psychic/Astrology
460 Travel
465 Miscellaneous

500 NEIGHBORHOOD
510 Activites
515 Classes/Workshops
520 Discussion Groups
525 Events
530 General
535 Lost & Found
540 Volunteers
545 Legal Notices

600 MOTOR
610 Cars
615 Trucks
620 SUV's
625 Motorcycles
630 Recreational
635 Parts
640 Repairs

700 MUSIC
710 Equipment for Sale
715 Music Instruction
720 Musicians Available
725 Musicians Wanted
730 Recording Studios
735 Rentals/Services
740 Shameless Promotion

PERSONALS
Lovers Lane
Easy Street
Shot in the Dark
Messages

Please check your ad for accuracy the first time it runs. *The Austin Chronicle* is not responsible for copy errors after the first week of publication. *The Austin Chronicle*'s liability for errors is limited to the cost of the space occupied by the error, with a maximum liability of republication. Corrections must be submitted by Tuesday, 1pm.

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-6pm
Deadlines: Tuesday, 1pm
Phone: 512-454-5767
Email: classifieds@austinchronicle.com

JOBS

115 BEAUTY SALON/SPA

MASSAGE THERAPIST
NEEDED IMMEDIATELY! $28,000-$35,000 Base Salary or Commission based.
Downtown, North, West South Locations available.
•401(k) retirement plans start in 2007
•Health Care Benefits
•We prefer on-line applications
Phone: 512-391-1569
Fax: 512-391-0760
myBodyMechanic.com

MASSAGE THERAPISTS
Needed in a therapeutic massage clinic. Now hiring licensed massage therapists at several locations. Immediate client base, plus FT / PT. Contact Don at 512-971-6873 or dwright@massageheights.com

MASSAGE THERAPISTS
MASSAGE ENVY is looking for licensed RMT's for our incredibly busy massage clinics all over Austin! We are looking for gifted therapists who exude customer service. We provide everything...you provide fantastic massage! Clinics are open 7 days/week, flexible schedules,BENEFITS-available immediately. CALL NOW! 288-ENVY(3689) or email clinic0144@massageenvy.com

NAIL TECH

NAIL TECH
AT RUSS & CO.
Moving out of state.
Need excellent tech to take over clientele. Ample parking, great atmosphere, UT/ Downtown area. Receptionist provided, $425mo.
472-6961
554-5035

HAIRSTYLIST CENTRAL AUSTIN HAIR STUDIO. Build Your Business Now. Parking. Ph 576-4683.SO-LA District.

120 ENTERTAINMENT CASTING

DANCERS Actors and Models needed for upcoming club promotions. Male/Female, all types. Call (512) 797-4173.

125 GENERAL

ALL 30 individuals needed in campus area copyshop for various positions including copy clerk, binding, computer help, and cashier. From $7/hr. Call 478-0871

COPY OPERATOR High Speed Copier Operators wanted. Must have experience. 3 shifts available. Call 472-5353

HOME BUSINESS Realistic $250-500k first year potential. Call for free two min. msg. 800-897-8039

DRIVERS
$1,000 Student Sign-On Bonus
Company-Paid CDL Training
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED
Earn up to $37,000
Your First Year
P.A.M. TRANSPORT
Driver Training Hotline
1-877-825-8645
Apply online at
www.otrdrivers.com

DRIVERS Best Compensation in industry! More Hometime! Sign-on Bonus! Safety/MPG Bonus! Van, Flatbed, Heavy Haul. Need 1 yr OTR exp.
Class A CDL req.
Call Today-Start Tomorrow!
800-835-9471.

GIS ANALYST
GIS ANALYST
Job # - 20-220-061121
$35,654 - $44,568/year
Maintain and update the City's geographic information system (GIS). Ensure accurate and timely input and analyses of data. Produce maps and overlays. Interpret plans, as-builts, and plats; verify spatial accuracy of incoming subdivision parcels, zonings, and utilities. Requirements: BA/BS in geography, civil engineering, database management, GIS, Urban Planning or related field. 2+ year's exp, prefer municipal, county or state government.ty or state government.
RESUMES MAY BE ATTACHED TO BUT WILL NOT SUBSTITUE FOR A COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM. Applications available at:
100 E. Main, STE 100
Pflugerville, TX 78660.
Download application at
www.cityofpflugerville.com/ jobs. E-mail to staffing@cityofpflugerville.com.
EOE

POLICE OFFICER
Police Officer - Part-time - Job # 20-300-060605
Protects the life, property, general safety, and welfare of the general public within appropriate jurisdiction by enforcing, City, state, and federal laws and ordinances. Patrol City streets to deter crime and assist citizens as needed; note suspicious persons, activities, or establishments; take action or report the situation.
Requirements: Licensed Peace Officer or cadet in approved academy.
ATTACHED TO BUT WILL NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR A COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM; Available at:
100 E. Main , STE 100
Pflugerville, TX 78660.
Download at:
www.cityofpflugerville.com/ jobs. E-mail to staffing@cityofpflugerville.com.
EOE

TRAVEL COOL TRAVEL JOB!!! One Month Paid Training! $500 Sign on Bonus. Must be free to travel & start today. 1-800-596-0996. (AAN CAN)

130 HEALTHCARE

Dental Provider Relations
Ameritas Group Dental needs a self-motivated team player in the Austin area with excellent interpersonal skills. You will solicit, develop and maintain the high quality of our dental PPO networks. Position is based out of Austin and requires extensive travel. A 4-year degree or equivalent experience working in the managed care or dental field is pref. Detailed knowledge of dental procedures, dental and general insurance, excellent oral and written comm skills are required, in addition to typing and proficiency in MS Office apps. Send resume to: Lynette Moore, Ameritas Group Dental, 767 W. Tivoli Ln, Clovis, CA 93619. Fx :415-513-5317 lmoore@ameritas.com.

HEALTH ATTENDANT
Attention Nursing & Pre-Med majors, seeking energetic & cheerful Home Health Attendants. $11/hr. Will train, all shifts avail. Call Cindy Mon.-Fri. 8am-5pm for appt. No LATE Calls to Clinic Please.
(512) 371-3036.

LIVE-IN ATTENDENT for fun quadroplegic man; 50 yrs. Work half-week, room, board, $1600/monthly. Lifting involved. No experience required. Call 4p-7p: 472-2432.

FREE ADS Got a car you need to sell? Looking for a roommate? Want to unload that old refrigerator? Got a great idea for a band, but missing some musicians? All you need to do is go online to **www.austinchronicle.com/ classifieds** and post your ad for FREE. Make it stand out with pictures! Highlight it by making it a featured ad! You can even run it in print! Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately. After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

135 HOSPITALITY

ALL

The Crossings

•Night Auditor
•Reservations Specialist
•Housekeeper
•Dishwasher

Northwest Austin
Now Interviewing! Call
512-225-1075 ext 4149

thecrossingsaustin.com

ALL POSITIONS
Current Employment opportunities:
- **Transportation Drivers**
- **Purchasing Delivery Clerk**
- **Laundry Attds (PM)**
- **Hoststaff**
- **Waitstaff**
- **Dishwashers**
- **Spa Desk Attendant**
- **Aerobics/Spa Instructors**
- **Kids Club Attds.**
- **Night Cleaners**
- **Stewards**
- **Fitness Desk Supervisor**
- **Conference Billing Clerk**
- **Housekeepers (AM/PM)**
- **Purchasing Delivery Clerk**
- **Front Desk Supervisor**

Apply in person Monday-Friday 8:30-5PM, 8212 Barton Club Drive, Austin, Texas 78735. Email resumes to jobs@bartoncreek.com or fax your information to 512-329-4014. Website:
http://www.bartoncreek.com
Barton Creek offers a complete benefits package & competitive wages. EOE

ALL POSITIONS BABY GREENS is hiring SALAD/ WRAP ASSEMBLERS, CASHIER, FOR PM SHIFTS.
Prior restaurant exp. preferred. Must have a good work ethic, positive attitude, reliable transportation. Email: babygreensfeedback@earthlink.net, fax: 462-6096 or apply in person (M-F 3pm to 6pm) at 2316 S 1st Street.

ALL
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOME RESTAURANT COMPANIONSHIP?
Me: Single friendly restaurant, local hang-out for sports junkies and wing enthusiasts, filled with cool managers & employees.
You: Talkative, extroverted, money loving, enjoy fast-paced atmosphere.
PLUCKERS is NOW HIRING FOR ALL POSITIONS!!
Servers/Hosts/Cashier/Cooks/ Delivery Drivers welcome
No 'flair' required
Apply in person at the following locations or online at www.pluckers.net
2222 Rio Grande
West Campus
9070 Research #201-C
Crossroads Shopping Center
300 N. Mays Crossing # 300
Round Rock, TX

ALL
InterContinental Stephen F Austin
Are you in the know? Do you have what it takes to be a leader in the world's most global hotel company? If so, make it happen and apply now for a career with
InterContinental Stephen F
Austin Hotel, where a world of personal and professional opportunities exist. We
currently have openings in **F&B, Guest Services and Housekeeping.**
Apply online at **www.careers.ichotelsgroup.com.**
The Inter-Continental Stephen
F. Austin provides an
excellent benefits package, which includes Health/Dental Insurance, 401(K), Short and Long Term disability,
Worldwide Employee
Discount, Free Shift Meals, and more. Drugscreen & Background checks required.
EOE, D/V, M/F

Davidson Hotel Company is looking for a

Director of Catering & Event Planning

for its Austin, TX location to forecast departmental revenues to meet and exceed budgeted departmental profit and margin.

Requires Bachelors degree in Hospitality Management and two (2) years experience ensuring day-to-day operation of catering department and executive meeting center using Delphi guest relations system to comply with IACC standards.

TO APPLY, SUBMIT RÉSUMÉ TO
Jackie Eustice, Capitol Place Hotel,
500 North IH 35, Austin, TX 78701
IN REF. TO 001-J

WORK WITH THE BEST RECEIVE PAID BENEFITS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Austin's leading Comprehensive Child Development/ Early Education Program is accepting applications for the following positions:

EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER Degree in EC, CD or CDA. Reliable transportation. Some exp. req.
TEACHER'S AIDES High School or GED, some exp. Reliable transportation.
SPECIAL EDUCATION DISABILITIES RESOURCE TEACHER Certified Special Education Teacher for itinerant position. Exp. with young children, behavior management & community resources. Reliable transportation.
FOOD SERVICE WORKER High school diploma or GED. Reliable transportation. Some food exp. preferred.
BILINGUAL VISITING TEACHERS Bilingual, social service experience needed, some college preferred. Reliable transportation.

All applicants must be at least 18 years of age. Apply in person at **Evins Personnell, 2013 W. Anderson Lane, Austin, TX 78757 512-454-9561** EOE

InterContinental Stephen F Austin

Are you in the know? Do you have what it takes to be a leader in the world's most global hotel company? If so, make it happen and apply now for a career with InterContinental Stephen F Austin Hotel, where a world of personal and professional opportunities exist. We currently have openings in **F&B, Guest Services** *and* **Housekeeping**.

Apply online at **www.careers.ichotelsgroup.com**.

The **Inter-Continental Stephen F. Austin** *provides an excellent benefits package, which includes Health/Dental Insurance, 401(K), Short and Long Term disability, Worldwide Employee Discount, Free Shift Meals, and more. Drugscreen & Background checks required. EOE, D/V, M/F*

ALL Pluckers is heading SOUTH for the winter!!!

Pluckers is currently hiring for our new and upcoming South Lamar location. Located at 3909 S. Lamar, we are looking to open mid-February.

We are looking to fill all positions before it's grand opening and will be training all qualified applicants at our Burnet Rd. and Round Rock location.

In order to secure the best position fill out an application at any Pluckers Wing Bar or apply online today

www.pluckers.net

ALL

Bagpipes

NOW HIRING

•Servers

•Bartenders

Make up to $300 per shift.

•Hostess

Apply in Person After 9am

9070 Research Blvd. 101

183 and Burnet Rd

467-8600

www.bagpipespub.com

BARISTAS

360 Uno, a unique Italian espresso and wine-bar, is now hiring baristaff. Great income!

3801 Capital of Texas N. Hwy. N. #G100. Apply at mail@360uno.com or call 512-327-5505

BARTENDER !BARTEND! Up to $300 a day. No experience necessary. Training Available. 1-800-965-6520 x207.

BARTENDERS Many great opportunities. Part time and full time shifts available. Make $200-$300 per shift. No experience is required, training provided.

Call (877) 966-9266 ext. 1000. (AAN CAN)

COOK Dirty Martin's Hamburgers is now hiring an experienced line cook. Excellent references req. Apply in person, M-F, 3-5PM. 2808 Guadalupe.

COOK Will Cook 4 You! Authentic Cuban cuisine. Rum Cake & Carrot cake. Menudo & soups. Pick up or Delivery, call Mary, 971-6595

COOK Joseph's Restaurant in West Lake Hills is hiring experienced cooks. PT/FT, good pay and tips. 699-3242

COOKS AM/PM Line cook needed. Apply in person at The Dog and Duck Pub 406 W. 17th St.

DANCERS & WAITRESSES

The Landing Strip

MAKE BIG $$$

FT/PT, flex. sched., no exp. nec., 745 Bastrop Hwy, one mile from the airport.

385-2878.

HOSTS & SERVERS Now hiring for FT/PT. Apply in person Tues - Sat: Las Palomas, 3201 Bee Caves Rd #122 (Westlake)

ENTERTAINERS

JOY

MAKE LOTS OF MONEY!

and have lots of fun as an **Entertainer or Waitress** at Joy of Austin Men's Club. No experience necessary. Will train. Apply in person, Exit 250 IH35. 218-8012.

PIZZA DELIVERY DRIVERS/ COOK PIZZA CLASSICS: Now Hiring Delivery Drivers, Up to $15/hr. Also hiring cook. Please apply in person at 604 W. 29th after 4PM.

RESERVATION SALES

STARWOOD HOTELS & RESORTS WORLDWIDE, INC.

Begin a career with a Fortune 500 Company!

FT/PT positions available. You'll handle INBOUND calls on Starwood's 800 number, assisting travelers make worldwide hotel & resort reservations throughout the 8 different Starwood Hotel chains, including Sheraton & Westin. We offer:

•Excellent work environment

•Great benefits & pd training

•Start at $10/hr+ incentives

•Apply on line today!

www.starwoodcareers.com

EOE/M/F/D/V

SERVERS & CASHIERS Mongolian Grille Downtown, 183 North, Round Rock. Call 775-2241 / Apply In Person.

WAITSTAFF

360 Uno, an award-winning Italian cafe and wine-bar, is now hiring waitstaff. Great income!

3801 Capital of Texas Hwy. N. #G100. Apply at mail@360uno.com or call 512-327-5505

145 OFFICE/CLERICAL

GOVERNMENT JOBS $12-$48/Hr. Full Benefits/Paid Training. Work available in areas like Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife & More! 1-800-320-9353 x2001. (AAN CAN)

150 NON-PROFIT

ACTION 512-326-5655

Earth Warriors Needed

Apply Within....

Advocate for Social Change, Corporate Responsibility, Political Representation and Much, Much More!

Call Stacy, 326-5655 or Apply Online Today

www.texasenvironment.org

ACTIVISM

JOBS with the **SIERRA CLUB**

$300-$500/Week

•Stop Global Warming!

•Career opps & benes avail

•Work w/ Great People!

call Kris 479-9804

ACTIVISM

Fight Bush, make a difference. Help the Dems, HRC, Amnesty Int'l, PFAW, and others! Up to $16/hr w/ guaranteed base, Flexible PT & FT schedules.

Call 916-4001 for interviews

www.Telefund.com

155 PROFESSIONAL

TECHNICAL WRITING MANAGER

Lombardi

(Information Development) - Direct technical writing staff to define and execute advanced technical documentation utilizing specialized Business Process Management software systems. Fax resume to (512) 382-8201, or mail to Human Resources, Lombardi Software, Inc., 4516 Seton Center Pkwy., Suite 250, Austin, TX 78759. EOE

ALL

Advanced Micro Devices is recruiting for the following positions in Austin, TX:

• Design Engineer I (Job Code P28888)

• Design Engineer II (Job Code P28462)

• Design Verification Engineer (Job Code P28478)

• Device Analysis Engineer II (Job Code P23606)

• Device Technology Engineer II (Job Code P28607)

• MTS System Development Engineer (Job Code P28612)

• Principal Design Engineer (Job Code P28758)

• Product Development Engineer I (P28515)

• Product Development Engineer II (P28504)

• Software Engineer I (Job Code P28485)

• Software Engineer II (Job Code P28518)

• Sr. CAD Design Engineer (Job Code P28519)

• Sr. Design Engineer (Job Code P26264)

• Sr. Device Tech Engineer (Job Code P28603)

• Sr. Packaging Engineer (Job Code P28609)

• Sr. Process Development Engineer (Job Code P28602)

• Sr. Product Development Engineer (Job Code P28469)

• Sr. Software Engineer (Job Code P28605)

• Systems Development Engineer I (Job Code P28600)

• System Design Engineer II (Job Code P28608)

• System Software Development Engineer II (Job Code P28601)

Submit resumes referencing the appropriate job title and code to IP.Team@amd.com. AMD is an EOE

160 RESEARCH STUDY

DONOR PROGRAM

SEMEN DONORS NEEDED

Fairfax Cryobank seeks college educated men 18-39 to participate in 6 month donor program. Avg. $150 per specimen. Call today for free application or apply online at http://www.123donate.com.

165 RETAIL

RETAIL

Emeralds

Do You love shoes? Clothing? Jewelry? People? Join our award-winning customer service team. 30-40 hours per week, benefits, great teammates, one year previous retail experience required, $10/hr. Apply in person, **EMERALDS 624 N. Lamar.**

SALESPERSON Guitar Resurrection, Austin best guitar store, is looking to hire a a qualified person to do sales, with some ordering, shipping and receiving. Retail experience,references and knowledge of high end guitars and amps is preferred. Contact Jim Lehmann at Guitar Resurrection 813 Morrow Street 478-0095. www.guitarrez.com

---

WARDROBE CONSULTANT Scarbroughs is looking for a friendly, enthusiastic personality with a passion for selling fashion. Weekend and Thursday evening hours are a requirement. Experience is a plus! Please contact Cara Will at 452.4220

170 SALES MARKETING

LOG HOME DEALERS WANTED Great Earning Potential, Excellent Profits, Protected Territory, Lifetime Warranty. American Made - Honest Value. Call Daniel Boone Log Homes 1-888-443-4140. (AAN CAN)

PHONE SOLICITATION PROFESSIONAL AutoShine is searching for a phone solicitation professional. $9.00/hr. to start, 20-30 hrs./ wk. 453-0341

AUTOSHINE

www.autoshineaustin.com

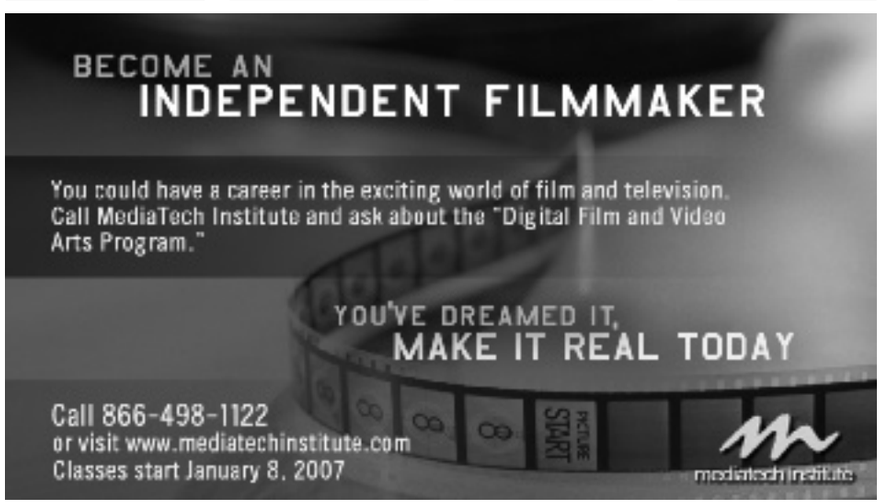
---

pluckers Wing Bar

PLUCKERS IS NOW HIRING FOR ALL POSITIONS

Servers/Hosts/Cashiers/Cooks/Delivery Drivers welcome.
NO "FLAIR" REQUIRED
Apply in person at the following locations or online at www.pluckers.net
222 Rio Grande West Campus · 9070 Research #201-C Crossroads Shopping Center
300 N. Mays Crossing #300 Round Rock, TX

Pluckers is heading SOUTH for the winter!! Pluckers is currently hiring for our new upcoming SOUTH LAMAR location. Located at 3909 S. Lamar, we are looking to open in mid-February. We are looking to fill ALL POSITIONS before it's grand opening and will be training all qualified applicants at Burnet Rd. and Round Rock locations. In order to secure the best positions fill out an application at any Pluckers Wing Bar or apply online TODAY.
IT YOU DON'T LIKE OUR WINGS, WE'LL GIVE YOU THE BIRD!



The City of Pflugerville Texas

Where Quality Meets Life

Police Officer - Part-time - Job #20-300-060605
Protects the life, property, general safety, and welfare of the general public within appropriate jurisdiction by enforcing city, state, and federal laws and ordinances. Patrol city streets to deter crime and assist citizens as needed; note suspicious persons, activities, or establishments; take action or report the situation. Requirements: Licensed Peace Officer or cadet in approved academy.

Utility I - Job #10-100-061114 Full-time, $9.51/hr., benefits.
Perform general maintenance, installation, construction and repair of public utility facilities. Repair wastewater lines, accurately reads and records meters, maintains equip, cuts grass and trims vegetation. Requirements: HS diploma/GED & TXDL; Ability to lift 100 lbs.

RESUMES MAY BE ATTACHED TO BUT WILL NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR A COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM.
Applications available at: 100 E. Main, STE 100, Pflugerville, TX 78660.
Download application at **www.cityofpflugerville.com/jobs**. E-mail to **staffing@cityofpflugerville.com**. Equal Opportunity Employer

The City of Pflugerville Texas

Where Quality Meets Life

Urban Planner I/II - Job #20-220-061001 Salary: $35,000 – $45,000 (Based on experience)
Min Req: BA/BS in Urban & Regional Planning or similar field; 0-3+ year's experience in similar capacity w/ a local government preferred. This new position is critical for both current and long-range planning functions; active involvement in/support of all city growth & development activities.

Ability to: administer annexation program, research & communicate w/ stakeholders; research, organize, inventory & meet all regulatory requirements; review plats, site development & other general planning tasks; interact w/ staff and public; provide written and oral reports of progress.

All applicants must complete a City of Pflugerville Application form.
RESUMES MAY BE ATTACHED TO BUT WILL NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR A COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM.
Applications available at: 100 E. Main, STE 100 Pflugerville, TX 78660.
Download application at **www.cityofpflugerville.com/jobs**.
E-mail to **staffing@cityofpflugerville.com**. EOE

Live The Dream!

Earn up to
$40,000 / 1st Yr

$1,000 Sign-On Bonus

Call Today
1-877-230-1444

No Experience Needed!

3 Week Paid CDL Training



AC

P.A.M. TRANSPORT

Apply Online 24/7
www.Drive4PAM.com/ASCH

Barton Creek Resort & Spa

Current Employment Opportunities:

- Golf Attds.
- Waitstaff
- Greenskeepers
- Hoststaff
- Night Cleaners
- Stewards (PM)
- Laundry Attds. (PM)
- Conference Billing Clerk
- Dishwashers
- Housekeepers AM/PM
- Kids Club Attds.
- Spa Desk Attd.
- Aerobics/Spin Instructors
- Fitness Desk Spvsr.
- Purchasing Delivery Clerk
- Front Desk Spvsr.
- Bell Staff
- Fitness Desk Attd.

Apply in person Monday - Friday 8:30am-5pm,
8212 Barton Club Dr. Austin, Tx 78735.
Résumés can be e-mailed to
jobs@bartoncreek.com
or fax your information to 512-329-4014.
Web site: **http://www.bartoncreek.com**
Barton Creek offers a complete benefits package & competitive wages.

175 SCHOOL TRAINING

ESL TEACHER (Elementary)- Responsible for teaching English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) classes in elementary school subjects. Send resume to: Austin Independent School District, Attn: M. Robinson, 1111 West 6th Street, Austin, TX 78703.

SUMMER WRITING PROGRAM Diversity in the Alternative Press: The Acad-emy for Alternative Journal-ism, established by papers like this one to promote di-versity in the alternative press, seeks talented jour-nalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid summer writing program at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. The eight-week program (June 17 - August 12, 2007) aims to re-cruit talented can-didates from diverse back-grounds and train them in magazine-style feature writ-ing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid $3,000 plus housing and travel allowanc-es. For information and an applica-tion visit http://www.altjournal-ism.org http://www.altjournal-ism.org. You may also email us at altacademy@northwestern.edu. Applications must be postmarked by February 9, 2007. Northwestern Univer-sity is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
(AAN CAN)

INDEPENDENT FILMMAKER You could have a career in the exciting world of film & television. Call MediaTech Institute and ask about the "Digital Film & Video Arts Program." 866-498-1122. Classes begin January 8, 2007 www.mediatechinstitute.com.

TEACHERS
WORK WITH THE BEST
RECEIVE PAID BENEFITS
MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Austin's leading Comprehensive Child Development/Early Education Program is accepting applications for the following positions:
- **EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER** • Degree in EC, CD or CDA • Some exp. req.
- **TEACHER'S AIDES** High School or GED, some exp.
- **SPECIAL EDUCATION DISABILITIES RESOURCE TEACHER** • Certified Special Education Teacher for iterant position • Exp. with young children, behavior management & community resources
- **FOOD SERVICE WORKER** High school diploma or GED. Some food exp. preferred
- BILINGUAL VISITING TEACHERS Bilingual, social service experience needed, some college preferred

Apply in person at
Evins Personnel
2013 W. Anderson Ln.
Austin, TX 78751
EOE

TEACHER CERTIFICATION EUROPE OR ASIA? YOU DECIDE! Certification course for teaching English abroad held in Czech Republic or China with JOB PLACEMENT! http://www.boland-china.com or http://www.boland-czech.com. Tel. 314-732-0316 (AAN CAN)

TEACHERS
THINK BIG.
BECOME A TEACHER.
Texas Teaching Fellows seeks applicants to become bilingual education, math, science, and special education teachers. No education experience required. To apply, go to texasteachingfellows.org

180 TECHNICAL

ANALYST Cordance Technologies, Inc., seeks Sr. Technical Analyst for Pflugerville, TX office, exp'd in SQL Server, SVG, JAVA, & ARC SDE (ESRI). Master's or equivalent req'd. Send resume to: Norma Chilaca, Cordance Technology, Inc., 555 W. Adams, Chicago, IL 60661.

BROADBAND TECHNICIAN Earn $1000+/wk. Broadband/Cable installers, experience preferred; will train. Truck, suv or van required. Fax 512-442-8509 or email wlasater@jaguartechnologies.com

DIR. OF CATERING
Davidson Hotel Company is looking for a Director of Catering & Event Planning for its Austin, TX location to forecast departmental revenues to meet and exceed budgeted departmental profit and margin. Requires Bachelors degree in Hospitality Management and two (2) years experience ensuring day-to-day operation of catering department and executive meeting center using Delphi guest relations system to comply with IACC standards. To apply, submit resume to Jackie Eustice, Capitol Place Hotel, 500 North IH 35, Austin, TX 78701; in ref. to 001-J

TRAINING
A new career awaits you with career training in Health Care or RHVAC field at Everest Institute - Austin.
9100 US Hwy. 290 East
Building 1, Suite 100
Austin, TX 78754
Call 1-888-647-6635
Dept. 3089, or visit us today at EverestToday.com
Everest INSTITUTE

HOLIDAY HOURS

The Austin Chronicle will be closed
MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 THRU TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26
as well as
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29 THRU MONDAY, DECEMBER 31.

Our early deadline will be
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 5PM FOR THE ISSUE OF DECEMBER 29.

Our issue of
FRIDAY, JANUARY 5
will have a regular deadline of
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1PM.

research STUDIES

Mountain Cedar Allergies



Do you suffer from cedar allergies? Do you have symptoms such as sneezing, itchy nose and/or eyes, nasal congestion or runny nose, and are at least 12 years of age? You may be eligible to participate in a research study of an investigational nasal spray for seasonal allergies. Participants will receive at no cost research related ECGs, lab work, a skin test if required, physical exams, study medication, and financial compensation for time and travel.

For more information please call 512-349-0703



Allergy & Asthma Associates — Research Department
Jay H. [illegible] Gavel, M.D.
& Bernice L. Cross, M.D.
[illegible] Far West Blvd. [illegible]
Ste. 146

HOUSING

215 APT/CONDO TOWNHOME

CEDAR PARK http://AustinCool.com "Your source for cool & unique Austin rentals." 693-7231.

CENTRAL $595 2 bedroom! Free Cable Included. 3 Minute from Downtown. Won't last long. 692-4525 www.apartmentlocating.com

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 Town Lake 2BD, big windows, near dwntwn, W/D $750 2wks free.

CENTRAL MOPAC & 45th, central courtyards, pool, gas pd, close in. 1 br $575, 2 br $675, 2 br TH $850. A+, 231-1400 Agent

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 Walk dwntwn, lrg balcony, wooded view, big dogs, 2BD $830.

CENTRAL

78741

WD CONNS
UT SHUTTLE
Hidden Gem, Fitness, Gated
1 BR $490
2 BR $700
Apartmentexperts.com
416-8100 Broker

CENTRAL NEAR ZILKER, greenbelt access, lots of trees, gated, pet park. Will prelease. From $690. A+ , 231-1400 Broker

CENTRAL

DOWNTOWN CONGRESS
RESTAURANT/SHOPPING DISTRICT
Walk to shops & restaurants.
STUDIO... $700 ABP!
LARGE 2/2... $800
TEAM LEASING
(512) 416-8333
http://www.austindowntownliving.com

TEAM LEASING

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 Town Lake 2BDRM, SoCo shops/restaurants/nightlife, $845.

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 Remodeled on lake, SoCo, kayak storage, walk dwntown, $675.

CENTRAL 3 BR ON TOWN LAKE, minutes to Auditorium Shores, granite countertops, funky layout, bills pd. 1st timers OK!! $910. A+, 231-1400 Agent

CENTRAL Arboretum!
Granite, hardwoods, yards!
Luxury 360 views! Call today!
Agent 512.241.1111
lease@aptsaus.com

CENTRAL
Properties for Lease
• Piazza Navorna
2-2 $1495 WOW!
•5623 Woodrow
Unit #21 & 23
1-1 $500
METRO REALTY
479-1300
www.utmetro.com

CENTRAL Near Seton and Central Market, small well kept community with pool. Small pets ok, 1 br $629, 2 br $799. A+, 231-1400 Agent

CENTRAL

78704

TRAVIS HEIGHTS CREEKSIDE
1-1 $635
2-2 $795
2-1.5 Townhomes
$850
ApartmentExperts.com
416-8100 Broker

CENTRAL Tarrytown - Large 2/1 Apartment, Ground floor, Lots of closets, Ceiling Fans. $895. On-site pool & laundry. Paid cable. 2600 Enfield. 451-0414.

CENTRAL

78701

404 Rio Grande St
201 Lavaca St
300 West Ave
Austin's Nicest
NEWEST DOWNTOWN PROPERTIES $1370+
apartmentexperts.com
416-8100 Broker

CENTRAL Barton Creek greenbelt condo. Direct grnbelt access. Lrg 1/1 $700, 2/2 $850. Hidden and quiet. APP 474-4900
bestaustinproperties.com

CENTRAL

DEC-FEB MOVE-INS!

Enjoy apartment living in a residential neighborhood. Close to eateries, grocery stores, sports/health centers. Walk/Bike/bus to campus. Leases through May
EFF's $440 cable/water paid
Guadalupe @ 46th
EFFs $515 gas/water paid
Guadalupe @ 35th and 43rd
EFF $525 gas/water paid (450sqft) San Gabriel @ 19th
NINE LOCATIONS.
OWNER MANAGED.
WAUGH PROP., INC
(512) 451-0988

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 New downtown highrise, views, rooftop pool, granite, hardwoods, stainless appliances.

CENTRAL

CONCRETE FLOORS! RAW & MODERN!

Warehouse-style apartments with exposed metal accents. All new appliances including Jacuzzi jet tub in each unit! Musician/Artist-friendly.
1BDRM... $569
2BDRM/2BA... $739
4BDRM... $1199
TEAM LEASING
(512) 416-8333
http://www.austindowntownliving.com

TEAM LEASING

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 Hip & cool, near Whole Foods, deck, small property, $660.

CENTRAL AUSTIN'S HOTTEST ZIPCODE, 78704. SoCo is where it's at!! W/D, parking, pool. 1br $915, 2 br $1625. A+, 231-1400 Agent

CENTRAL AVAIL NOW!
Spacious one & two bedroom apartments. Small complex w/pool in old Austin residential neighborhood. 5001 Bull Creek. 451-0414.

CENTRAL Elite Living - Elegant Interiors,concrete, hardwoods, kitchen islands $1205, 1-1 must see!Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

CENTRAL near Oltorf cheap deposit, No app fee special, water paid, Fitness, WD Conn, Large 1 BR $560 Apt Experts 416-8100 Broker.

CENTRAL ONE OF A KIND, NOT COOKIE CUTTER!!! close to downtown, the Capitol, Zilker Park, SoCo, & Auditorium Shores!! Gated, gym, pool, from $1099. A+, 231-1400 Agent

CENTRAL Hip SOCO living. Small cmplx. Minutes from dwntwn. 1/1 $670, 2/2 $830. Garden tub. APP 474-4900. bestaustinproperties.com

CENTRAL

DEC-FEB MOVE-INS!

Enjoy apartment living in a residential neighborhood. Close to eateries, grocery stores, sports/health centers. Walk/Bike/bus to campus. Leases through May.
1/1... $615 2-story
35th @ Guadalupe
1/1... $615 (600sqft)
35th near MoPac
NINE LOCATIONS.
OWNER MANAGED.
WAUGH PROP., INC
(512) 451-0988

CENTRAL 693-7231 http://AustinCool.com Downtown elegance, city-views, hardwoods. Rooftop deck, W/D.

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 Walk downtwn, hike/bike trail, wooded creek view, $690.

CENTRAL $0 Deposit! UT Shuttle. Jr.1-1 $465, 2 bedroom $775. Cheap Bills! www.apartmentlocating.com 692-4525

CENTRAL ECLECTIC DOWNTOWN LOFT, big dogs ok. A+, 231-1400, Agent

CENTRAL FAR WEST FIRE SALE! 1 Month FREE! UT Shuttle! HUGE! $675+ www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

CENTRAL lowest prices $455 + and Specials. Apt Experts 416-8100 Broker.

CENTRAL 1 Month Free! Spacious Loft. On UT Shuttle! $655 www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

CENTRAL

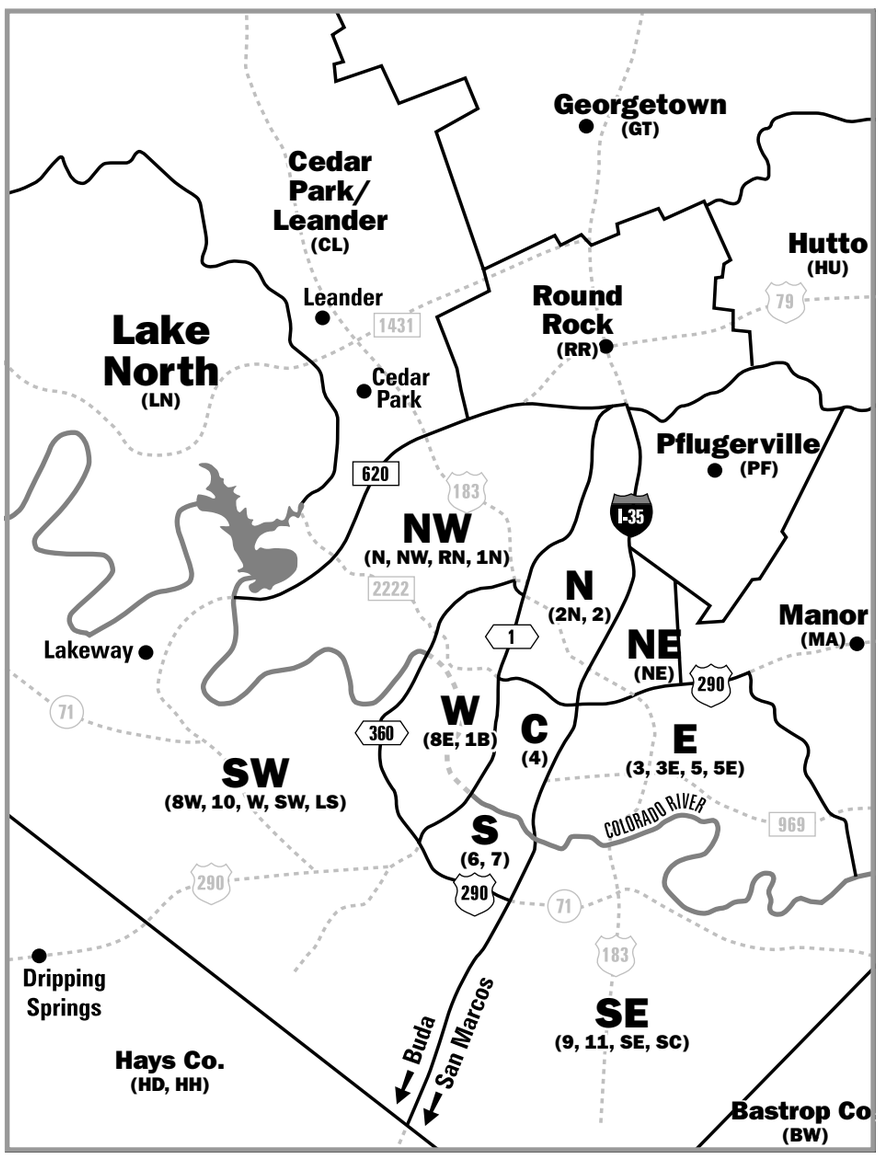
CAMPUS
• Efficiency $400, 1-1 $500
• 2-2 $639, 1010 s.f. UT Bus
SOUTH
• Studio $415, • 2 Bedroom Townhome $625. Large Patio 1-1 $465 Great Location.
• Greenbelt: 2 BD $610
Bad Credit? Broken Leases? Felonies? Big Dogs? OK!
Call Ray Day at Flat Finders
(512) 496-3725

CENTRAL 2 Bedroom Blowout! Right On Town Lake recently remodeled nice $700+ Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

CENTRAL

78704

HARDWOOD STYLE
2/2 BEDROOM SPECIAL
$649 + $200 Deposit
Apartment Experts
416-8100 Broker
ApartmentExperts.com



CENTRAL

Austin Apartment Store

SEXY DOWNTOWN LOFTS in the heart of the warehouse district, hardwoods/stained concrete floors, 16ft ceilings, great views.

See narrated video tour and pictures/floorplans for this property @ http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com or call 828-4470 for current availability.

CENTRAL creek atmosphere $199 first months rent. Prices start at 1/1 $550 2/1 $625 2/2 $720. Cable, water, waste water & trash paid.
Apt Experts Broker 416-8100.

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 SoCo 3BD, hardwoods, stainless, W/D, WiFi, walk everywhere

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 Hidden Zilker treasure, cute & quiet, patio, Barton Springs, $505.

CENTRAL GUADALUPE & LAMAR, Gated, near UT Shuttle and Central Market.
1 br $525, 2 br $805.
A+, 231-1400 Agent

CENTRAL ** CANOES, DUCKS, VIEWS! Studio $575, 1/1 $645, 2br $775, 3br$910. Agent 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

CENTRAL
Travis Height Duplex
3/2,1300sf, $1275 Dec.
JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

CENTRAL
Travis Heights 1/1 660sf
$650, 1 week UT Shuttle
JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

CENTRAL 693-7231 http://AustinCool.com Greenbelt trail at door, W/D incl, walk to shops/restaurants $665.

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 SoCo funky studio, nightlife at door, near Jo's Coffee, $700 ABP.

CENTRAL Spectacular Downtown Views! 1034 sq ft 2-2. Granite counters, W/D conn. ASAP Move-in! www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

CENTRAL **SUPER MODERN ART DECO. 5 min from DT. Call for pics and Floorplans! Agent 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

CENTRAL SUPER SWANKY LUXURY LIVING! Concrete Floors, $1100+, Call 512.241.1111 Agent.

Same Day Ray
Call Ray Day 496-3725 with Flat Finders
Call Today. Look Today. Lease Today.
FREE SERVICE
BAD CREDIT? BROKEN LEASES? FELONIES? BIG DOGS? OK!
CAMPUS: Efficiency $400, 1-1 $500, 2BDRM $650. UT Bus Route
1B $420 UT Bus Route
NORTH: Studio $589, 2B $699. Townhome 2-2 $625 month W/D connections. Fireplace. Vaulted Ceiling. 1-1 $435 W/D Connection. 1B $410, UT Bus Route. 2B $575 1 month free
NORTHWEST: 1-1 $509 Huge 2-2, 1314 sf, $729. 3BD $900.
SOUTHWEST: 1B $470, 2B $609
SOUTH: Studio $415, 2 Bedroom Townhome $625. "Large Patio" 1-1 $499. Great Location. Greenbelt: 2B $600

GREAT LOCATIONS & AFFORDABLE PRICES!
CALL NOW TO GET THE BEST RENT SPECIALS!
NW Easy Access to 183, Near Major Employers, Pool, Sundeck, 1bd $529, 2bd $729
N 1 Month FREE! W/D, Pool, 1bd $565, 2bd $745
C Wood Floors, 1bd $650, 2bd-$775
S 2 weeks FREE! Pool, 1bd $710, 2bd $820
SW Access to Mopac & 360, W/D, 1bd $595, 2bd $755
CHRIS BEE
293-7737
WWW.APARTMENTSFIRST.COM

The Taylor Company, Inc.
Residential Leasing, Management & Sales
HELPING YOU FIND THE PERFECT HOME
SOUTH - 4/3 house in Tanglewood Forest. Family room w/ fireplace. Large backyard. Avail. Now. $1250
NORTH - 2/2.5 Duplex close to Mopac/2222, $1000
SOUTH - 2/1 House close to Congress, Stassney. Hardwood floors, fenced yard $950
NORTH - 2/1 Duplex close to Anderson/Shoal Creek $875
CALL ABOUT THESE AND OTHER GREAT LOCATIONS
512-481-8600 EXT.217

CENTRAL AUSTIN DEC.-FEB. MOVE-INS!
Enjoy apartment living in a residential neighborhood. Close to eateries, grocery stores, sports/health centers. Walk/bike/bus to campus. Leases through May.
EFFs $440
Cable/water paid. Guadalupe @ 46th.
EFFs $515
Gas/water paid. Guadalupe @ 35th & 43rd.
EFF $525
Gas/water paid, 450 sq. ft. San Gabriel @ 19th.
1/1s $615
2 story or 600 sq. ft. 35th @ Guadalupe or near MoPac.
9 LOCATIONS. OWNER MANAGED.
WAUGH PROPERTIES, INC. 451-0988

CONTINUED 215

APT/CONDO TOWNHOME

CENTRAL HARDWOODS in LR, gourmet kitchen, gas range, huge floorplans, 1 br $675, 2 br $765. A+, 231-1400 Agent

CENTRAL http://Austin-Cool.com 693-7231 Walk downtown, modern kitchen, pool on lake, 2wks free $560!

CENTRAL

Austin Apartment Store

See narrated video tours and thousands of pictures & floor plans to hundreds of properties at:

http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com

- Anywhere in Austin area.
- Any price range.
- Best specials.
- Fast friendly service.
- We can email pictures & floor plans to the hottest specials in town.

Give us a call at 828-4470.

CENTRAL http://Austin-Cool.com 693-7231 Cool with downtown view, W/D, on Zilker park and trail, $795.

CENTRAL HYDE PARK JUST REDUCED!! 2 BR $850.

Location, Location, Location. Close in, near UT. A+, 231-1400 Broker

CENTRAL/SOUTH near Woodward. 2-1.5 $650, $299 1st Months Rent,

Free Cable, UT/Metro Bus Service. Apartment Experts 416-8100, Broker.

CENTRAL/SOUTH Gas Cooking, Huge square

footage, 1/1 $549. Water, waste water, trash & gas PAID. Apt Experts

512-416-8100, Broker.

METRO

luxury 1/1 South, 615sf

$675, w/d conn. ready

JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

NORTH

4/2, 1350sf North

$920, w/d conn now

JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

NORTH ACC Northridge Best Deal. 1-1 $578 2-2 from $845. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent.

NORTH Zilker townhomes w/ garages! 1, 2, 3s, call for pricing! Agent 512.241.1111

lease@aptsaus.com

NORTH Free Cable and Gas! $99 deposit. Gigantic 1-1 $595, 2 bedroom $750 www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTH

1/1 luxury 684sf, North

$599 w/d conn Dec 1st

JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

NORTH

1/1 sun rm 644sf North

$515 clean, light, spacious

JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

NORTH Awesome Value 1-1 676 sqft. with washer/dryer connections Only $500 1036 sqft. 2-2 from $665. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH Wells Branch Bargain! 1-1 $460 +$200 off 1st mth, 2-2 $685 w/d conn. www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTH

3/2 stylish North, 1110sf

$817, w/d conn, 2nd flr

JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

NORTH Bad Credit Okay 1-1 $455, 2BR $605, 3BR $680 Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent.

NORTH Huge 2 Story Townhouse.1204 sgft. Only $685 great roommate plan, screened in patio.Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH $185 MOVE IN!W/D INCL.$499, 2br $745, Agent 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

NORTH

2/2,Nearly new, North 950sf

$712, w/d conn. 2nd flr.

JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

NORTH Faux hardwoods! 2 months free! New construction, modern appliances/fixtures. Call today!

Agent 512.241.1111

email lease@aptsaus.com

NORTH Super Deal Wells Branch 1-1 from $480, 2-2 from $685 Save $250 Off 1st month rent. Apartment

Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH First month free 2 bedrooms! 1-1 $525 2-2 $825. Wood floor and new

appliances. Hike and Bike nature trail. AAL@apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTH 1 MONTH FREE! Washer/Dryer included! $499+ call today! 512.241.1111 or email lease@aptsaus.com

NORTH **GI-NORMOUS! 2 br/2 story TH! $650 Agent 512.241.1111 email

lease@aptsaus.com

NORTH Lofts & Townhouses - 1-1 $685 loft, 2-2.5 TH, huge windows $794, pool, courtyard Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH ** DREAM BIG! Studio $440, 1/1 $565, 2 BR TH $785, 3 BR $800. Agent 512.241.1111 lease@aptsaus.com

NORTH Hug A Tree. Property loaded with trees, private park, efficiency $435, $499 pergo floors. Apartment

Experts 339-4411 Agent.

NORTH FREE RENT, 1 month free. Near Mopac, gated community, huge hot tub, nice gym. W/D inc. Starts at $499, 2 br $745. A+, 231-1400 Agent

NORTH

2/2 Luxury, North 1000sf

$675,w/d conn Jan 1st

JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

NORTH Hill Top Livin'! 2 weeks Free& $0 deposit 1-1. W/D connections. www.apartment locating.com 231-9888

NORTH Old English Charm 1-1 $530 2 bedroom from $655.Pool, fitness center, gas cooking, heating, hot water paid.Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH 1st Month Free! ASAP Move-ins! 1-1 $525, 2-2 $675. Lg. Decks, Fit Center, W/D conn.

www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTH AUSTIN:

- Studio. $389. Townhome 2-2 $625 month W/D conns. Fireplace. Vaulted Ceiling.
- 1-1 $435 W/D Connection.
- 1-1 $410 UT Bus route
- 2 BD $575 1 month free

NORTHWEST

- 1-1 $509
- Huge 2-2, 1314 S.F $729
- 1-1 $520 UT Bus Route

Bad Credit? Broken Leases? Felonies? Big Dogs? OK!

"PRE-LEASE TODAY"

Call Ray Day at Flat Finders

(512) 496-3725

NORTH CENTRAL FREE CABLE, cozy courtyard

community with pool! Near Mopac and 183. 1 br $535, 2 br $625. A+ 231-1400 Agent

NORTH CENTRAL 1-1 $530, 2-2 $805, Pool, gated. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH CENTRAL Fashionaire Apartments, beautiful spacious 1/1's, concrete flooring, small complex. Large sparkling pool. $650mo. Jeanine, 452-2245.

NORTHWEST 360 - TOP NOTCH QUALITY. Ask about yards, views, hardwoods. Have it all. From $940. A+, 231-1400 Broker

NORTHWEST 2-2 Condo $699! Free W/D and Cable. Nature trails, fit. Center & Sand Volleyball. www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST No Deposit on Northwest Luxury!! Huge 1-1 $575, 2-2 $775. Amenities galore! www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST ** FREE DEC. + JAN. $620, 1,2,3s

available 512.241.1111 Agent lease@aptsaus.com

NORTHWEST $99 Move in! Plus Free Plasma TV! Beautiful Arbor area. Won't last long! www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST Lake Creek Townhomes 1-1.5 $549, 2-1.5 $659. 3-2.5 $799 Lots of Parks, hike and bike trail, pool. Apartment Experts 339-4411 agent.

NORTHWEST Lost In Space Huge Townhomes 1350 sqft. 2-2 $750, 1600 sqft. 3-3 $800 Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHWEST $639 Lake Austin Condo! 2-1 $835 W/D conn. and covered parking included. www.apartmentlocating.com

NORTHWEST Arboretum 1 Month Free.1-1 from $530 Large 2-2 $735 Washer/ Dryer connections, fitness center, pool, and tennis Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHWEST Remodeled and Nice.1st month free! New carpet, wood, new cabinets, starts 1-1 $565, 2-2 $745 Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHWEST Northwest Hills Mesa Village 2/1 with reserved parking, pool & tennis courts. Call PRE (512) 443-2526.

NORTHWEST Near Arboretum. 1/1 $455, 2bedroom $617. Gated, Gym, Spa, Covered Parking. 231-9888

aal@apartmentlocating.com

NORTHWEST Arboretum Townhouse 2-2 $799 large,tall ceilings, great for roommate.Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHWEST Breed Alert! Any breed welcome! 1-1 $565, 2 bedroom $648. W/D connections and Workout facility. www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST EASY CREDIT, low upfront costs. Quick move in. Spacious 1 br $529, 2 br $729. A+, 231-1400

Broker

NORTHWEST Large yard for Large Pets! $300 off 1st month on Arbor area 3/2 $1100

AAL@apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST Oversized TH's and Flats! $440, 2/2 $699, 3-3 $759 www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST TWO

BEDROOM CONDO $675. Near Lakeline Mall. New

appliances, w/d inc.

Basketball, gym, pool. A+, 231-1400 Broker

NORTHWEST $200 Total Move In! Hardwood Floors. W/D and Valet Trash avail.

Island Kitchen AAL@apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST Give your Big Dog a great new home! 1/1 $565, 2 bedroom $648! www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

ROUND ROCK Round Rock Duplex, nice duplex community. Close to Dell only 3-2 $895. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

SOUTH $200 Off 1st month, 1BR $509, Pool, Fitness

Center, Trash & Gas Paid, UT Shuttle/Metro Bus! Apt Experts 416-8100, Broker.

SOUTH

2/1.3, 960sf, South

only $635 on 2nd flr.

JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

SOUTH http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 Total urban living experience. Stained concrete flrs, art deco, W/D, 2/2 $739.

SOUTH

big 1/1,705sf South

$540 clean & ready

JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

SOUTH

http://AustinCool.com

693-7231

LAID-BACK ARTISAN HANGOUT

Big dogs okay!

2BD Campbell's Hole, near trails... $740!

Cool studio... $499!

SOUTH http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 Low deposit, no app fee! W/D conn, dry bar, fitness center $500, Jan free!

SOUTH

TOWN LAKE HIKE & BIKE TRAIL

Completely remodeled with ceramic tile upgrades, modern appliances and free cable! Huge 1BDRM... $545!

Large 2BDRM/2BA... $665!

TEAM LEASING

(512) 416-8333

http://www.austindowntownliving.com

TEAM LEASING

SOUTH http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 Quiet hillside nature setting. Split studio, close to downtown, $445.

SOUTH

2/2,1016sf, South,$685

Has M-I Special

JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

SOUTH 2-1 $664, 2-2 $700, Free WDs, Pool, easy access to Hwy. Richard 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH Hardwoods, black on black/stainless steel appliances! Great southwest location! $758+. Agent 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

SOUTH

http://AustinCool.com

693-7231

WOODED PARKLIKE EARTHY SETTING

Large decks, big dogs ok!

2/1... $704

SOUTH

Austin Apartment Store

See narrated video tours and thousands of pictures & floor plans to hundreds of properties at:

http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com

- Anywhere in Austin area.
- Any price range.
- Best specials.
- Fast friendly service.
- We can email pictures & floor plans to the hottest specials in town.

Give us a call at 828-4470.

SOUTH CENTRAL

HISTORIC TRAVIS HEIGHTS

Hidden Courtyard community in the heart of South Central Austin. Utilities paid.

1BDRM... $580

HUGE 2BDRM FLAT,

private deck... $750!

Units Rarely Available!

TEAM LEASING

(512) 416-8333

http://www.austindowntownliving.com

TEAM LEASING

SOUTH CENTRAL BIG DOG friendly apartments right behind Zilker Park and Barton Creek Hike and Bike Trails. HUGE private deck. 1 bedroom $669. 2 bedroom $760, http://www.austindowntownliving.com Call Team Leasing (512) 416-8333.

Properties of the Week!

CENTRAL

- Zilker park studio behind Flipnotics. Large private deck, $505.
- South Lamar near Broken Spoke. Walk to coffeehouse and shops. 1/1 $550, 2/2 $755.
- Historic Travis Heights: courtyard community, 1 bedroom $625, 2 bedroom, $710, utilities paid, huge private decks!
- On Zilker Park Greenbelt, hidden pet-friendly community, 1 bedroom $759, 2 bdrm $825, 50 ft. to trail, washer/dryer included.
- Heavily wooded hilltop 2 bedroom, huge 16 ft. private porch, oversized garden tub, $755, utilities paid! W/D connections.
- Exclusive 2-level townhouse $750 plus one month free!



SOUTH CENTRAL

- On Congress, hidden community, 1 bedroom $530, 2 bedroom flat $725, walk to everything!
- Raw modern warehouse-style apartments. Concrete floors, musician/artist friendly. 2 bedroom $739, 4 bedroom $1199.
- SoCo restaurant/shopping district studio flat, $625. No need for a car! 2 bedroom $800.
- On Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail, 1 bedroom $545, 2 bedroom $665. Ceramic tile and free cable!
- Historic Travis Heights, walk to Stacy Park, most bills paid. 1 bedroom $550, 2 bedroom $750.

416-8333
Call for Show!

TEAM LEASING
www.austindowntownliving.com

EANES PROPERTIES

Southwest

- 8606 Dandelion Trail - 4bdrm, 2.5 bath, house. Bowie High School. Fenced yard. $1250/mth, $800 deposit. Ready Now!

South

- 8006-A Westgate - 2/2 duplex with 1 car garage, fenced yard. Indoor w/d connections in utility room. $800/mth.
- Bauerie Ranch house in S. Austin. 1 year old home, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2 dining. Sprinkler system, open floor plan. Great location close to shopping. $1475/mth.

North Central

- 8139-A Ceberry - Duplex, fenced yard, 1 car garage off Mopac & Spicewood Springs. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. $1250/mth.

www.EanesProperties.com
263-7333 or 293-0276

Piazza Navona West
Campus, new luxury condo, 2/2, $1495, WOW!

5623 Woodrow, #21 & 23, 1-1, $500

2450 Wickersham, #904, 1-1, $650

1007-A Bonham Terrace, 1-1, $1000

3431 North Hills, 3/2, $1195
Avail. Jan. 07

METRO REALTY

METRO REALTY
479-1300
www.utmetro.com

PIONEER
REAL ESTATE SERVICES
SALES • LEASING
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

UNIQUE PROPERTIES AT GREAT PRICES!

100s OF IN-HOUSE LISTINGS ALL AREAS! ALL PRICES!

SOUTHWEST	NORTHWEST	CENTRAL
3/2.5/2 house Custom paint, tile, covered patio, $1095	2/1 at Mesa Village reserved parking, tennis court, pool $795	2/1 1930s house on Bouldin Creek $1295

512.443.2526

SOUTH
http://AustinCool.com
693-7231

HUGE TOWN LAKE 2/2
Large bedrooms and closets, easy downtown access, cable, $665.
(512) 693-7231

SOUTH SOCO LIVING! Walk to 1st Thursday!
$1000+ Agent 512.241.1111
email lease@aptsaus.com

SOUTH
2/1,860sf South $600
& move in special!
JOHN-659-5339, AGENT

SOUTH 1-1 $480, 2-2 $615, UT Shuttle, water paid, Free Wireless Internet 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH 1-1 771 sf. $572, Pool, Water Pd, Gated, Easy access to Hwy, 657-2314 yorkapartmenlocators.com

SOUTH
2/2,845sf Luxury South
$750,w/d conn ready
JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

SOUTH
Economy South, 660sf
1/1 only $525 ready now
JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

SOUTH
http://AustinCool.com
693-7231

3.5 ACRE QUIET ESTATE SETTING
100yr Oaks, large w/huge windows, $620.
(512) 693-7231

SOUTH 1-1, $585, close to shopping, Hwy, Greenbelt and downtown. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH 2-1's, $650, 2-2s $725, $199 covers dep, app, & admin fee. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH 1-1, 653 sf $544, 2-2 985 sf $652, UT shuttle, pool, big dogs OK, 657-2314
yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH Near SE shuttle, resort style pool + amenities. W/D, free cable + HBO. $325+, Apartment
Experts 416-8100 Broker.

SOUTHEAST
1/1 542sf SE economy
only $515 clean & ready
JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

SOUTHEAST 1-1 sunroom, 858 sf, $599, UT shuttle, gated, Covered Pkg, 657-2314. yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Beautiful 2-2s, $679 Modern Kitchens & Large BTHs, Pool, 657-2314, yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Large 2-2.5, $800, Townhome, WD, fenced yard, 657-2314
yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Large 1-1's, 725 sf. $539. Water, Gas, Trash Paid. Pool, 657-2314, yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Large 1-1, $539, WD, Concrete FLS, Pool, UT shuttle. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST 1-1, $480, 2-1, $599, 2-2, $630, 1st mth rent: $99! Most bills Pd. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Large 1-1, $530, WD conns. Water Paid. Pool, UT Shuttle, 657-2314, yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHWEST 1-1, $640, 2-2, $768, lap pool, sand V'ball, easy access hwy. 657-2314, yorkapartmentlocators.com

WEST **360 HIKE AND BIKE! 1/1 $585, 2BR$675 Agent Call 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

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

WEST **BIKE TO ZILKER**

1s and 2s available. W/D connections! Agent 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

WEST Overlook Lake Austin - Nature preserve, breathtaking custom finish 1-1 $875, 2-2 $1645 Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

220 DUPLEX/HOUSES

CENTRAL Near St Ed's/ Soco 4/2 house w/ garage. Pets Ok.$1250 per mo + dep. 5111 Greenheart. 632-7484.

CENTRAL 2013 Cullen Ave Cute, clean 2-1, recent remod. fourplex, W&D; pets neg.$750 Call Linda(ag.)423-6843

CENTRAL 4414 Dudley 3-2-2 CACH, W/D connect., fenced yard, great South Central location. Avail. Jan. '07 $1250. 1914 C Cullen ALL BILLS PAID 2-1, laundry on site. Avail. Jan '07 $750. www.cbimanagement.com 658-9493.

CENTRAL 420 W. Johana, 2/1 with 2 dining areas, built in 1935. Washer/Dryer included, large fenced yard with view of Bouldin Creek, $1,295. Call PRE (512) 443-2526.

CENTRAL CUTE! LARGE 2Br/1BA duplex near 45th & Lamar. Hardwood floors, cozy porch, CACH, yard, W/D on-site. $925/mo. 4910 Grover Ave, #B. Call 750-9904.

home GALLERY



Melbourne Homes By Reytex

CHAPARRAL CROSSING $90's to $130's

Unique condominium living with features such as **OLD WORLD STAINED CONCRETE FLOORS,** art niches, gourmet island kitchens, large patio, fenced yards, and a full appliance package with refigerator and washer dryer. **ZERO DOWN, ZERO CLOSING**

Condo's Under $900 a Month 15 Min. From State Capitol



Call Christal at 512-276-9001 www.MelbourneUSA.com

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY 12-5PM



HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS! Shadow Glen beauty with 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, formal dining, island kitchen with breakfast, family room down and game room upstairs, plus many more amenities! Only $324,990 for 3488 sq. ft. (per TCAD). For more information, call Vici at 918-1045 or Marva at 431-6390 with Lanier Realty.

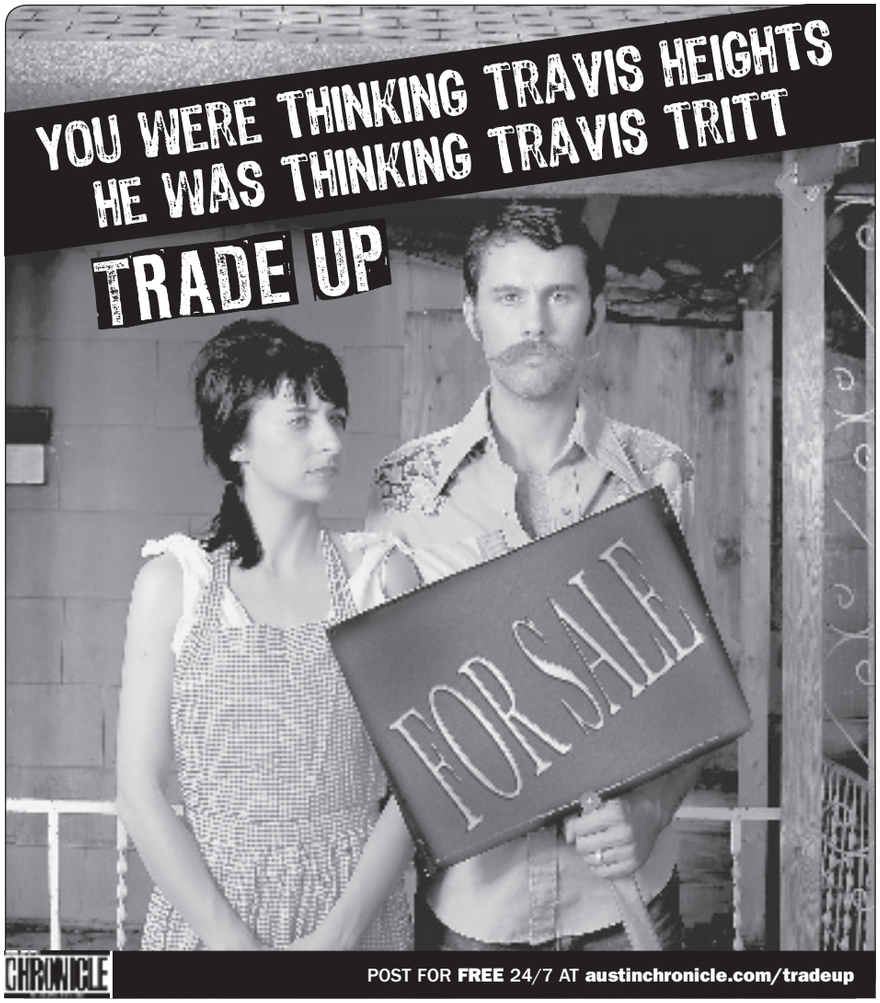
See virtual tour at www.tourfactory.com/307288



7007 LANGSTON

Completely updated 3 bed 2 bath, minutes to downtown
This meticulously maintained home has undergone major updates including new paint, carpet, tile and roof. The floor plan includes a large open living space with beamed ceiling, open kitchen, dining room & separate breakfast. The new owner will enjoy the large covered patio & large private back yard. Call for list of updates & features. $190,000

Contact *SCOTT* at **577-9232.**



Austin Real Estate Today

from **Team Dee**

"Trusted Advice, Trusted Results"



KELLER WILLIAMS

HOUSING UPS AND DOWNS

Real estate is cyclical, with continuing ups and downs. The current national housing marketing is tipping into a downswing, but it will not lead to an economic calamity, reports the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). This is largely because interest rates are remaining historically low, the overall economy is still moving ahead positively, and builders are reducing their unsold inventories.

The NAHB is now forecasting a drop in national housing starts this year. This decline in new housing should slow down to a production level of about 2 million units by 2008. On the upside, real estate in Austin and Central Texas will continue towards a seller's market due to our job growth, stable economy, relocations to the area, and other factors.

Even though the national market is heading into the downside of the cycle, real estate over the past 50 years has proven to be one of the strongest long-term investments available. The demand for real estate is always expanding, fueled by the ever-growing population and immigrating families.

With the help of your REALTOR®, you can always find a property with solid investment value in any climate.

*For information, news, and advice about buying, selling, and investing in Central Texas, visit online at **www.TeamDeeRealty.com** or call **877-832-6333** or **512-697-9140 x3300**.*

TexasRealtyBlog.com

Want the latest information, advice, property alerts, and market updates for residential and commercial buyers, sellers, and investors? Visit our top-rated real estate blog at TexasRealtyBlog.com. Subscribe to our free daily news feed!

CONTINUED

220 DUPLEX/HOUSES

CENTRAL 1/1 cottage at Mt. Bonnell, unique community. Near lake, hiking, large deck, great views. $875, Av. 2/1/07, Sandy 996.9959

CENTRAL 3-1, Ave F. Great cond. CACH, hardwoods, W/D conn, DW, large fenced yard, pets OK. Avail now. $1200/mo. 965-7322

WEBSITE Browse our classifieds section online! **austinchronicle.com**

CENTRAL
Properties for Lease
• 3431 North Hills
3-2 $1195
Avail. Jan. '07
•2450 Wickersham
#904 1-1 $650
•1007A Bonham Terrace
1-1 $1000
METRO REALTY
479-1300
www.utmetro.com

EAST Large 3-2 & 4-2 home all remod, hwd&tile, pvt fced yard,Indry rm, 2car gar $995 512-698-8599,603-957-0146

LAKE TRAVIS PACE BEND - Lakefront guesthouse w/ dock. 2/1, 850 sf, W/D.

Secluded, with deck,

overlooks springfed grotto. $725/mo. plus bills. No pets. 512-560-8380

NORTH Refurbished Duplex in the Anderson Mill Area $785- 2 bedroom/2.5 bath

with new tile and updated kitchen - great condition Call Kyle with Hillhouse Realty, Inc.512-663-2925 - www.787homes.com

NORTH 2/1 Duplex, close to Anderson / Shoal Creek. W/D incl., carport. $875. The Taylor Company 512-481-8600 ext. 217

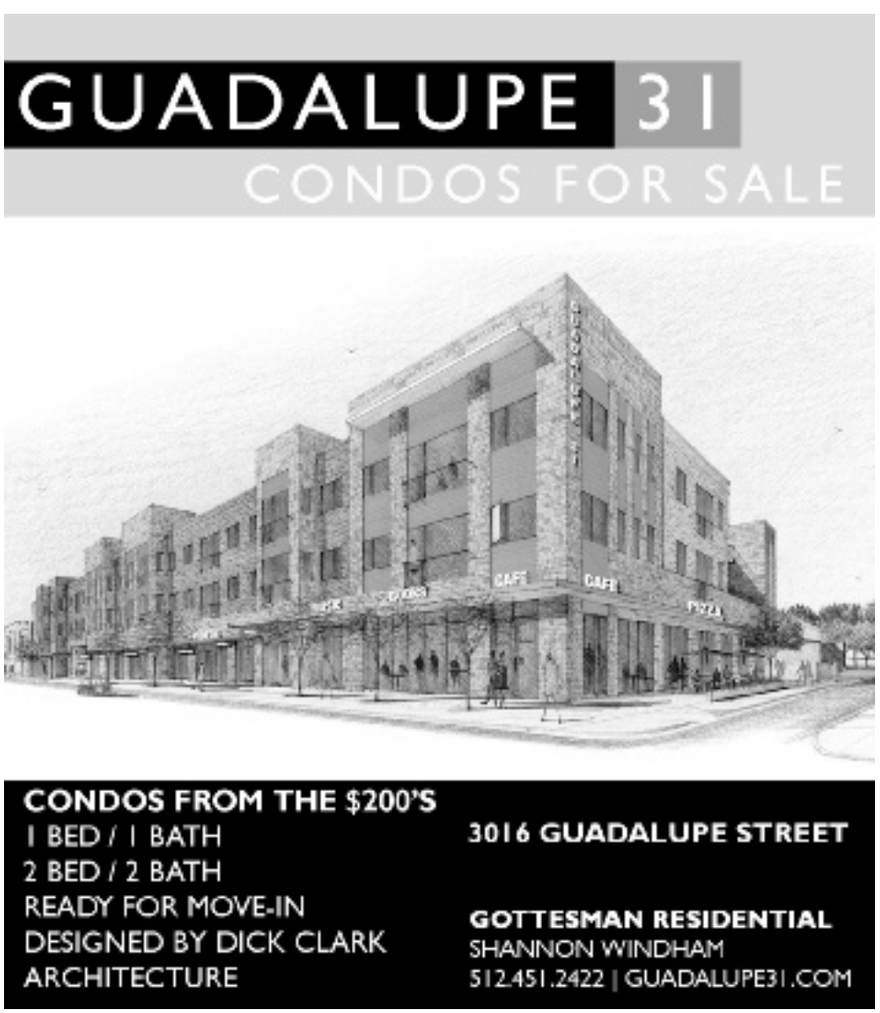
NORTH 2/2.5 duplex, close to Mopac / 222, $1000. Call the Taylor Company 512-481-8600 ext. 217

NORTH CENTRAL
EANES PROPERTIES
• 8139-A Ceberry Duplex. Fenced yard, 1 car garage. Of Mopac & Spicewood Springs. 4 Bedroom, 2 Baths. $1250.

SERVICES
Here's today's "TO DO" list: Hire movers. Install toilet. Hire designer to set up website. File taxes. Learn Spanish.

Where to start? The Austin Chronicle's Service section.





NORTHEAST Gorgeous! NEWLY REMODELED 2 + 2 ON CUL-DE-SAC. This beautiful 2 bed/2 bath unit in a newer 4-plex is located next to Walnut Creek Greenbelt. It is close to everything! Dell, Samsung, AMD, and shopping. Easy access to I35 and just 7 mins from Downtown Austin. 512-255-6181. Doug.

SOUTH
EANES PROPERTIES
• Bauerle Ranch house in S. Austin. 1 year old home.
3/2.5. 2 Dining. Sprinkler System. Open Floor Plan. Great Location, close to shopping. $1475/month

SOUTH
EANES PROPERTIES
• 8006-A Westgate. 2/2 duplex with 1 car garage. Fenced yard. Indoor W/D conn. in utility room. $800/mth.

SOUTH 2/1 house close to Congress/Stassney,

hardwood floors, fenced yard. $950, The Taylor

Company 512-481-8600 ext. 217

SOUTH 4/3 house in

Tanglewood Forest. Family room w/fireplace. Large back yard. Avail. Now! $1295.00 The Taylor Company at 512-481-8600 ext. 217

SOUTH 3/2 + study, dishwasher, W/D hookups, backyard, patio, pets ok, $1,135. James Haller Dr., 220-4160.

SOUTHEAST Perfect House for S. Austin Living! Close to Town Lake, S. Congress & Downtown. 3/2, bonus room, 2 decks, CACH. $1100,512-837-5007

SOUTHWEST
EANES PROPERTIES
• 8606 Dandelion Trail. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, house. Bowie High School. Fenced yard. $1250 mth, $800 deposit. READY NOW.

SOUTHWEST Built in 1999, 3-2 1/2-2. Custom paint, cathedral ceilings, ceramic tile, upgraded fixtures, large utility room, covered patio, $1,095. Call PRE (512) 443-2526.

230 COMMERCIAL

CENTRAL 1500 sq ft: Live/Work/Office 3 rms, bthrm w/ shower, conf. area w/ kitchen, darkroom, small warehouse (AC, track lighting) Parking. Available now. 448-3908.

KERRVILLE Integrative health office spaces. 1-5 rooms for alt practitioners, counselors in well-reputed Healing Arts Center. Contact Dr. Chene at 830-896-8090

235 ROOMMATES

CENTRAL You are looking For a room? 1000s of rooms & roommates. From $200/Mo www.easyroommate.com

CENTRAL You have a room for rent? Advertise for free on www.easyroommate.com

CENTRAL roommate to take lease 'til Aug in 3 bed/2 bath house Hyde Park. 500/month,1/3 bills. city bus and UT shuttle.512-657-3739,Jason

CENTRAL Need a ROOMMATE Fast? Austin's #1 ROOMMATE SERVICE has 1000's of listings.

WWW.ROOMMATEEXPRESS .COM. 800-487-8050

CENTRAL $600 Master bed/bath in 2/2 house, move in asap. Hardwoods, clean, 3 minutes-campus,downotwn. crybabyamy@gmail.com

CENTRAL Female roomate wanted. Avail now. Central Austin duplex. Current roommate: 36yr.old female professional Lease terms 6 months to 1 year. Rent $387.50 + half bills-$85-$100/month Deposit: $300 Pets-dog ok (max 50lbs), $200 deposit required. One friendly dog living in space. Neighborhood: Crestview/Justin Lane and N.Lamar.

CENTRAL CONDO: Room/bath/cvd parking Shuttle/bus line. W/D in unit. Roomie is RTF major at UT. $600/mo Avail Now. 713 666-8390.

METRO ALL AREAS - ROOMMATES.COM. Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: www.Roommates.com. (AAN CAN)

NORTH Hot tub, huge deck, cool prof roomies. 4/2 house, IBM (Metric/Braker) safe friendly neighborhood, all bills paid Tobin 775-4728

NORTH Parmer & Mertic area $400.00 a month,1/3 bills $50.00 deposit, Debra 507-8909 Alice 796-8874 DNorcross@Austin.rr.com

NORTH Female wanted to share 2 bed/1 bath. Near Mopac/Parmer. Washer/dryer, fenced yard. $295/month includes utilities. 497-6870

NORTH You are looking For a room? 1000s of rooms & roommates. From $200/Mo www.easyroommate.com

NORTHEAST 21 yr old female college student looking to share 2/2 apt with male or female. The rent is only 195. 404-264-0780.

SOUTH You are looking For a room? 1000s of rooms & roommates. From $200/Mo www.easyroommate.com

SOUTHWEST 3 bdrm/2bath. New Washer/Dryer, pool/hot tub, high speed and wireless internet, HDTV, Cable. $650 512-382-6846

240 REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

BASTROP Search 8K+ homes on-line! New homes, up to $30K in free upgrades. Forecolosures=Great deals. Resale homes, use grants for $0 down! 785-9157, agt. http://www.MrDreamHome.com

CEDAR PARK Search 8K+ homes on-line! New homes, up to $30K in free upgrades. Forecolosures=Great deals. Resale homes, use grants for $0 down! 785-9157, agt. http://www.MrDreamHome.com

CENTRAL 7007 Langston. Completely Updated 3 bed 2 Bath, Minutes to Downtown. This meticulously maintained home has undergone major upadates including new paint, carpet,tile and roof. The floor plan includes a large open living space with beamed ceiling, open kitchen,dining room & separate breakfast. The new owner will enjoy the large covered patio & large private back yard. Call for list of updates & features. OPEN HOUSE 11/5 NOON - 3p. $198,000 Scott Bettersworth Realty 577-9232

CENTRAL

HOMESELLERS
Find Out What the Home Down the street Sold For.
Free list w/ pics of recent

home sales & listings. Free recorded message: 1-888-

368-3511 ext. 200 PCoA

HOMESELLERS
Your Home Sold in
60days Guaranteed or I will sell it for Free. Learn more, free recorded message:1-888-368-3511 ext. 201 PCoA

CENTRAL
Fixer Uppers
These Homes Need Work!
Visit:
www.AustinAreaFixUps.com

CENTRAL
MUST SELL
Fixer Uppers
Bank Foreclosures
Company Owned Properties
Distress Sales
FREE LIST WITH PICTURES
www.AustinBankDistress HomeSales.com

CENTRAL Search 8K+ homes on-line! New homes, up to $30K in free upgrades. Forecolosures=Great deals. Resale homes, use grants for $0 down! 785-9157, agt. http://www.MrDreamHome.com

LAND FOR SALE
Utopia, TX. 10-20 acres.
Financing Available.
210-789-7497. 830-570-1121.

METRO LANDLORDS Tired of tenant destruction and late rent excuses? Visit our website @ http://www.section8bible.com
Book includes Eviction Information, Investor Lending and exact Banks we used. (AAN CAN)

METRO BANK FORECLOSURES! Homes from $10,000! 1-3 bedroom available! HUD, Repos, REOs, etc. These homes must sell! For Listing Call 1-800-425-1620 ext. H107 (AAN CAN)

NORTH Huge 2-story 1/1 off Far West. Spacious for a couple, luxurious for a single. Gated community on UT/
Metro bus. New carpet, new paint, all appliances. Perfect setup in a gated community. Asking $135,000. Call Condo Joe today 203-4100

NORTH Must Sell!
4 bed/3 bath foreclosure only $14,800!. For Listings call
1-800-544-6258, ext 1574.

SOUTH 1000SF 2/2 within 4 miles of downtown for $75,000!!! Will sell very quickly. Great split bedroom floorplan - good for roommates. All appliances. Needs cosmetics, carpet, paint. On UT shuttle too! Call Condo Joe today 203-4100

SOUTH Finally a chance to buy right! Over 1000SF 2/2 only 4 miles to downtown & UT for UNDER $90,000! Good condition, but needs someone's personal touch to make it a home. No neighbors up or down-town-home style. Call Condo Joe today 203-4100

SOUTH Search 8K+ homes on-line! New homes, up to $30K in free upgrades. Forecolosures=Great deals. Resale homes, use grants for $0 down! 785-9157, agt. http://www.MrDreamHome.com

WEST Search 8K+ homes on-line! New homes, up to $30K in free upgrades. Forecolosures=Great deals. Resale homes, use grants for $0 down! 785-9157, agt. http://www.MrDreamHome.com

Austin Chronicle 2006 Best of Austin
"...one of the smartest, most knowledgeable brokers in town"
CALL
CONDO JOE
Joe Bryson, Realtor
203-4100 cell
CondoJoe@re-al.com

We Buy Austin Houses FAST!
Have a FIXER UPPER?
Quick Debt Relief from
- *Forclosures or Preforclosure*
- *Bankruptcy OK*
- *Little or no equity OK*
- *Fast Close OK*
- *No Closing Costs*

No Realtor Commissions Ever!
(512) 785-9050

BUY/SELL/TRADE

310 ANTIQUES COLLECTIBLES

OVAL WALL PAINTINGS 3-new paintings.Decorate any wall.18.5x14.5,$33ea. 512.669.9847 See at 2301 Canterbury St.Austin,78702.

POTTERY Mata Ortiz Pottery. Gallery quality art. Each piece is one of a kind and is signed by the artist. Call 512-922-0996 to view and for pricing.

315 APPLIANCES

APPLIANCE SALE --ALL APPLIANCES COME WITH A 13 MONTH WARRANTY!- - -*SINGLES*- Standard $130. New Style $175. -*SETS*- Standard $230 New Style $350. -*FRIDGES*- Top and bottom (no ice) $175. Top and bottom (with ice)$200. www.Affordable-Appliances.com 512-581-0355

OVEN GE Profile TruTemp Double Oven, white, like new, 27", self-cleaning - $800, call 246-0681 !

STAINLESS CLOSEOUT SALE 48 inch built in side by sides with or with out ice and water in the door. 13 month warranty. ONLY $1000.ea. AWESOME CHRISTMAS GIFT!512-581-0355

WASHER DRYER Whirlpool Gold Washer and Dryer $500 for both. Excellent condition. ZombieKiller79@aol.com or (210)396-3516

325 CLOTHING

APPAREL

GOTH • PUNK • T-SHIRTS

Clothing, stickers, patches, pins, jewelry, corsets.

• 1905 S. 1st. •

• www.secret-oktober.com • 462-9217

KIDSWEAR SALE On name brand! Starting at.99 cents TIME LIMITED! Log on WWW.MAGICKIDSUSA.COM Mention Discount# MK29217

LEATHER BOOTS Women and Girls Leather Boots on sale! We have a variety of styles, colors and lengths to choose from. Our boots are genuine leather and resemble popular styles at much better prices! FREE SHIPPING and free delivery within 15 miles of downtown Austin. www.gto-shoes.com or 512/ 284-5984.

335 ELECTRONICS

BIG SCREEN HDTV 2004 65" Mitsubishi rear projection TV. Too big for our home. Perfect condition. $1000. Call Scott 844-4097

PLAYSTATION 3 60gb for sale. Call Tom at 512-773-4262 with offers.

GAME CONSOLE Hello! I've got 12 Sony playstation 3 60gig premium (USA version) with some NOKIA 8800 SIROCCO EDITION SILVER (UNLOCKED) WITH BLUETOOTH HEADSET. You can contact me on my MSN if you need one: travellinesub@msn.com Sony playstation 3 60gig premium (USA version) for just: $820 per unit Note: it's not a bundle package

JBL SPEAKERS Pair of JBL HLS820 Floor Speakers and a JBL PB10 Sub. Gr8 Speakers/Gr8 Shape. Never abused. dsopinions@hotmail.com

MOBILE PHONE EM,AIL: mobilelink_009@yahoo.com 25 HARLEY STREET, CITY: LONDON, COUNTRY:UK MOBILE:+447024035789

PSTHREE SIXTYGIG Brand new with receipt. 60 gigger.. Your probably not gonna find one in da store call at 5127862909$950 obo

RCA TV PLUS STAND 32" Tv(-02)& Stand in mint conditn.Pict like new $300 or $250/pickup. mats77@gmail.com 512-791-9595

SONY PSIII Get the perfect gift 4 ur kids this year !!a Sony ps3 20 gig. asking $850 obo don't camp out like most people. call @786 2909

TV DIRECTV Satellite Television, FREE Equipment, FREE 4 Room Installation, FREE HD or DVR Receiver Upgrade w/rebate. Packages from $29.99/mo. Call 800-380-8939 (AAN CAN)

XBOX PRO Xbox 360 premium unit for sale. $400. Includes games. Good condition. Contact-Sflopssy@yahoo.com

345 FURNITURE

BED $99 a bargain! Pillow-ortho mattress/box set new in plastic with warranty. Full set $149, Queen set $169, King set $239. Can deliver. 512-844-3158

BEDROOM SET Hardwood brm set, good condition. Q bed w/headboard mattress & bx spr side tbl dresser w/mirror. 650 obo 627-3963

BEDROOM SET 7 PIECE BEDROOM New Bed, Dresser, Mirror,

Chest, Nightstand. Warranty.

List $2,000, Now $799,

279-2281

BEDROOM SET $499 Wood Bedroom Set. 5 Piece set new in boxes, Warranty.

Other Pieces Available. 485-0901

BEDROOM SET New dresser, mirror, chest, headboard, and nightstand $330/5pcs. 281-827-6978, e-mail for pic LFE123@aol.com

BUNK BED New solid wood bunk bed with mattresses, $296, bookcase at front end of both top & bottom bunks, 207-0902, davide12345@aol.com

DINING ROOM SET Beautiful Formal Dining Room Set

Table, 8 Chairs, China

Cabinet. List $3399, Now $1399, 684-8105

DINING ROOM TABLE New Cherry DINING ROOM.

Table, Leaf, 6 chairs, China Cabinet. Worth $2,200,

Selling $899. 719-7906

HOT TUB 2007 HOT TUB, ozonater, lounger 45

hydrotherapy jets, Waterfall, etc List $6,199, Now $3499, 498-7704

KING MATTRESS Pillowtop mattress set, $175. Brand new/still packaged (512) 963-0796.

KING PILLOWTOP Brand new in plastic. Very comfortable with warranty and box springs. $399. Can deliver. 512-844-3158

LIVING ROOM New Leather Living Room Sofa and

Loveseat, Factory Warranty

Only 4 Sets Left $749, 498-9219

MASTER BEDROOM New solid wood Queen or King 9 Pieces Including: Bed, Dresser, Mirror, Chest, 2 Nightstands, TV Armoire, List $3599, Sacrifice $1499, 498-7507

MATTRESS $125 QUEEN PILLOWTOP. Mattress set. Brand new. (512) 963-0796.

MATTRESS $75 brand new full size mattress set for sale! Still packaged/can deliver (512) 963-0796.

MATTRESS SETS $69

MATTRESS SETS Full $89, Queen $99, King $149 New Sets with Factory Warranties 314-5139

MATTRESS SETS $99

PILLOWTOP SETS New

Mattress and Box!!!

Full $125, Queen $149, King $199 Warranty 681-8703

PLATFORM BED Solid wood with microfiber headboard brand new in boxes only $299. Other Pieces available. Can deliver. 512-844-3158

POOL TABLE + Delivery/Set Up 1"slate-solid wood-

Accessories Kit List $2899-Now $1399. 314-5196

PUB TABLE & BAR STOOLS $399 PUB TABLE & 4 BAR STOOLS. Solid Wood. All new in boxes. Warranty. 684-8301

SLEIGH BED $299 new Queen Cherry Sleigh Bed w/ mattress set. Can deliver. Call 963-0796.

SOFA SET New microfiber sofa & loveseat in tan suede fabric, e-mail for pic jptw123@aol.com, 207-0902

THEATER SEATS 3 PACK of THEATER SEATS only $799. Has 3 recliners, 4 cup

holders. Warranty. 498-4904

WOOD DINETTE New 42" round wood dinette table with four chairs. $199. 512-207-0902. e-mail for picture jptw12345@aol.com

350 GARAGE ESTATE SALES

ANTIQUES IMPORTS Rani's Exotic India Imports: Cotton & silk scarves & shawls, silk brocades, fancy purses, applique & embroidered bed covers, & more! ALSO: Jule's Luscious Estate Sale: jewelry, art, linens, dishes, clothing, treasures. Come enjoy last minute stress-free Holiday shopping! 1309 Meriden Lane, one block west of Mo-Pac. Fri.Dec 2,6-9, Sat.Dec 2,1-4. Come to this delightful sale! Christmas gifts with a flare! Be Here Now!

355 GENERAL

ALL

www.EBuyaustin.com

Central Texas' NEW Online Auction Service.

User-friendly! No listing Fee!! Visit us today:

http://www.EBuyaustin.com

REGISTER NOW!!!!

EYEGLASSES $9 PRESCRIPTION EYEGLASSES. Custom made to your prescription, stylish plastic or metal frame, Highindex, UV protection, antiscratch lens, case, lenscloth for only $9. Also available: Rimless, Titanium, Children's, Bifocals, Progressives, Suntints, AR-coating, etc. Http://ZENNI-OPTICAL.COM

(AAN CAN)

FIREWOOD DELIVERED FIREWOOD Split Stacked and DELIVERED for $250 a CORD or $150 for 1/2 CORD CALL 512-554-9114

FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS Flowers N' Stuff Unlimited - Fresh & Dried Home Decor Floral Arrangements www.flowersnstuffunlimited.com

GREAT ART WORK Original art work. Acrylic paintings and pencil drawings call 825-1109 or log:www.jmonbelly.4t.com

HAIR SALON Established Franchise; MOTIVATED SELLER! Serious inquiry only. AustinSalon4Sale@gmail.com (Asking 75k OBO)

HOOPS GIFT CERT $200 to "Hoops" of Austin towards purchase and install of b-ball hoop. $50 OBO. 809-5304

HUMOR BOOK The Brat Chronicles by Austin Author Michael Ritter. A humorous account of growing up on a foreign military base. $10.50 - www.literaryroad.com

NIKON BINOCCULARS Nikon "Action" 10x50 6.5 binocculars, brand new in case. $100. Great gift. 454.3503

SCRAPBOOKING DVD Scrapbooking for Beginners,a new DVD. $19.95. Visit our web site to order. www.learnfunscrapbooking.com

360 JEWELRY ACCESSORIES

LADIES GOLD WATCH Raymond Weil Fidelio. Beautiful watch. Size is 6 3/4" (small wrist). New quartz battery. $500. 743-7234

PHILIP NOEL JEWELRY With Philip Noel Jewelry you buy direct from a major U.S. Manufacturer, saving you 50-70% off retail prices. www.philipnoeljewelry.com/

365 PETS PET SUPPLIES

ADOPTION SAVE ONE DOG - SAVE THE WORLD! Wanted: Super Homes for our Super Dogs! For Adoptions call Utopia Animal Rescue Ranch 830-589-7544 or check out our dogs at :

www.utopiarescue.com

CHIHUAHUA PUPPIES. Mini/deer type. 10 wks, males. $250/each. 512-740-9819

ADOPTIONS/RESCUE

HUMANE SOCIETY SPCA of Austin

(see Pet of the Wk ad!)

Come visit our facility at 124 W. Anderson Lane, 1 block west of I-35 on Hwy 183! We have many loveable dogs and cats that need a good home! Call today:

512-837-7985

http://www.austinspca.com

AKC PUG Wonderful akc/ckc pugs for Christmas.$500 1st shots and vet check. call 325-792-9039 or email mrs_pugs@hotmail.com

BLUE HEELER 2 Female mix pups. VERY good with kids, well mannered. Listens to commands. 1 yr old. Free to good home. 394-6100

CHRISTMAS PUPPIES $120 Yorkie/Terrier pups. 6wks 2m/2f. No:Shots/s/n.Sort of potty train. 18172338270 Matt.View web ad for pics,email,etc.

COCKER SPANIEL Beautiful Cocker Spaniels Puppies. $350.00 Black and white parti color Males Call Laurie 512-845-0666

DONKEY Intact jack, stands for farrier and leads. Good guard. $125.00 OBO or trade bookings@cedarbreak.com 512-847-9113

GERMAN SHEPHERDS Solid white German Shepherd pups. $650 3F/2M. Champion bloodlines, parents on site. DOB 10/12/06 512-825-7441 goddess_austin@yahoo.com

GREAT PYRENEES Puppies $300. Amazing gentle giants bred for predator control & companionship. Parents on premises, all white, first shots. Located in Spicewood, Tx. call 817.721.5633

GUINEA PIGS Two 10 weeks guinea pigs for sale. American smooth haired breed with calico colors. Very affecionate and easy to care for. Great for the whole family! $20 each. 567-6642

KINKAJOU Want2 trade male Kinkajo & cage for a french bulldog cruelsavanah@yahoo.com

KITTENS for sale. Siamese, four months old, $100 each . Taking deposits for one week old kittens. 292-1733

PARROT CAGE Green Double Unit. 40"x30"x65". 2 enclosures in 1 unit. Brilliant Features! Sacrifice @ $325. OBO (512)934-7619.

370 RECREATIONAL

CANNONDALE BIKE CANNONDALE (CAD3) R500 Men's Road Bike - Cobalt Blue - 58cm - LT 100 Mi - Clip Pedals - $500 (512-301-2796)

CANOE PONTOON BOAT Canoe 14ft Old Town Fiberglass With paddles Lightly used $450. Pontoon boat - One person 8ft Fish Cat With pump & paddles Almost new $300. Both for $650. 512-261-8404

MUZZLELITE BULLPUP stock FOR Ruger Mini-14 w/Instruc.,sling, 30 rnd clip+100 rnds.223 ammo $150 OBO 762-4834

SEA DOOS AND TRAILER 1999 Bombardier GTX Limited. New bat, tags good thru 9/07. Run like new. Taking offers. 844-4097

SNOW SKIS Rossignol 195mm ski's, Marker M48 bindings, Scott 48" poles, travel bag, original owner- $125, call 246-0681 !

SNOWBOARD BINDINGS Technine midback bindings. All black/slightly used. Sell for $40 OBO. Call Tom 328-8571

SNOWBOARD JACKET ArcTeryx SidewinderTR hard-shell.Medium,Yellow,slightly used.$200 OBO.Tom 328-8571

375 TICKETS ENTERTAINMENT

ALL

BEST TICKETS ALL EVENTS 474-4468

...ALAMO BOWL.
..ALL NFL FOOTBALL..
*...HORNS BASKETBALL.
.ROBERT EARL KEEN..
.....LION KING.....
.....SPURS.....
*...ERIC CLAPTON.....**
....THE FRAY.....
..JOSH GROBAN.....
.WWE ROYAL RUMBLE..
*.CHEETAH GIRLS.
.OTTMAR LIEBERT..
..TRANS-SIBERIAN.....
*..INCUBUS...
..CHELSEA HANDLER...
.SAN ANTONIO RODEO
.ALL BOWL GAMES..
..DALLAS COWBOYS..
...CHILI PEPPERS.....

WWW.BESTTIX.COM

474-4468

TICKETS We "B" Tickets * Best Seats * Best Prices *

* Cheetah Girls * Chelsea Handler * Aretha Franklin * Sesame St. * The Fray * Lion King * Larry the Cable Guy * Pickup/Mail Order 448-2303

FOR SALE Your boyfriends huge neon "Miller Genuine Draft" sign not complimenting your new Pottery Barn spring floral sleeper sofa?

Sell it with The Austin Chronicle's For Sale section.

Call 512-454-5765. Call it. Today!

Pet of the Week



CINNAMON was rescued from a home that housed over 100 cats! Since her rescue, she has come to love people & is more than ready to find her forever home. She has only known love in this shelter & she deserves so much more.

Austin Humane Society

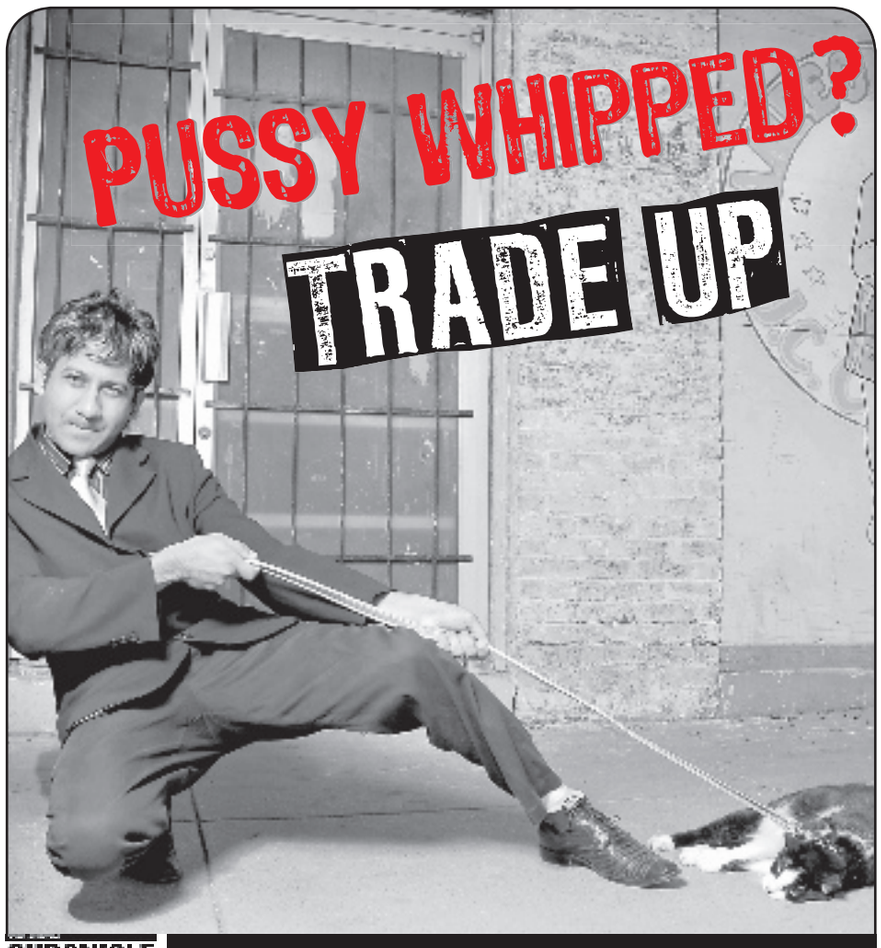
124 W. Anderson Ln. 512-837-7985



Georgie Girl is a funny girl with oodles of personality. She's medium-sized, smiley, and surprisingly strong. This joyful dog likes to sit in your lap or just stand next to you, happily thumping you with her wagging tail.

260-SPCA CALL FOR HOURS
909 S. BAGDAD RD., LEANDER, TX
CENTRALTEXASSPCA.COM

CHRONICLE



CHRONICLE

POST FOR FREE 24/7 AT austinchronicle.com/tradeup

services DIRECTORY

WANDERING BEAR
★ HOME REPAIR ★
Carpentry, plumbing, electrical, stained concrete, furniture repair, & metal working.
ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.
512•280•4677



C·P·U
• VIRUS/SPYWARE REMOVAL
• HIGH-SPEED INTERNET
• HARDWARE/SOFTWARE UPGRADES
ON SITE SERVICE OR FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY
• IN-HOME COMPUTER TRAINING
CALL 512-351-7841 randy@apexelectric.net



ROCKET'S
HANDYMAN SERVICE & GENERAL CONSTRUCTION
MAKE-READYS • DECK & FENCE REPAIR
TILE WORK AND MORE
785-6079

Hicks Moving
Residential
Commercial
Local Courier
Professional & Affordable
TXDOT 006044839C
512-217-9743
www.hicksmovingcompany.com

DRYWALL/INSULATION
Sheetrock/Tape/Float/Texture
New Work/Patchwork/Popcorn Removal
Residential/Commercial
25 years in Austin
Free Estimates
292-6184

There are more
SERVICES
ads online at
austinchronicle.com/class

Computer• Medic
Complete Service Computer
Now offering good deals on refurbished PCs, laptops, and Macintosh computers
512 • 442 • 7991
Professional service at a fair price
MC • VISA• AMEX• DISCOVER

AUSTIN APPLIANCE REBUILDERS
Scratch/dent and pre-owned appliances
W/D $249/set
Electric Stoves $99 and up
Buy and Sell
832-1100
showroom at 11704 N. Lamar

MOVERS
"Your locally-owned personal professional movers!"
From one item to the whole house!
BBB
Call Anytime!
292-6789
www.ATXmovingsystems.com

SERVICES

410 BUSINESS

PHONE SERVICE Local telephone service $7.95! Sign up today online at http://www.universalnumber.com

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS ***FREE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS Available to Households with Incomes as High as $80,000.= To learn more, apply or request FREE brochure Call 1-573-996-3333 or visit:= http://www.FreeMedicine.com (AAN CAN)

415 COMPUTERS

COMPUTER

C·P·U
• On-site Service •
• Free Pick up and Delivery •
• Virus / Spyware Removal •
• Software Install/Upgrade •
• Hardware Install/Upgrade •
• Personalized Training •
• High Speed Internet •
• Network / Server Setup •
• CAT 5 / Coaxial Cable •
• Wiring and Installation •
• Personalized Training •
512-351-7841
randy@apexelectric.net

COMPUTER REPAIR

COMPUTER MEDIC
Complete Computer Service
Now offering good deals on refurbished PCs, laptops, & MacIntosh computers.
Professional service at a fair price.
Call 512-442-7991
MC*Visa*Amex*Discover

425 HEALTH WELLNESS

ACUPUNCTURE
WESTLAKE CLINIC
ROBERT MARION,LAC.
ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE
512-327-6562
WESTLAKECLINIC.COM

HYDROPONICS & ORGANICS
GROW YOUR OWN HERBS...
Fruits and Vegetables
Year Round!
1.866.25.HYDRO
texashydroponics.com

MEDICINE WOMAN 916-4511

ORGANIC FOOD DELIVERY
GO ORGANIC! Greenling
Organic Delivery will deliver farm-fresh organic produce to your door for FREE!

FRESH ORGANIC CHRISTMAS BASKETS!

austinorganicdelivery.com

PENIS ENLARGEMENT. FDA Approved medical vacuum pumps, Viagra, Testosterone, Cialis. Gain 1"-3" permanently. Free Brochures. 619-294-7777, http://www.drjoelkaplan.com (AAN CAN)

430 HOME

APPLIANCE Austin Appliance Rebuilders. Scratch, Dent & Pre-owned appliances. Washers/Dryers $249/set. Electric stoves $99 & up. Stainless steel s/s refs, also black & white. OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK, 9am-6pm. 11704 N. Lamar, 832-1100

DRYWALL Sheetrock/Tape/Float Texture New Work/Patchwork Popcorn Removal. Residential/Commercial. 25 years in Austin. Free Estimates. 292-6184

HANDYMAN

ROCKET'S
HANDYMAN SERVICE & GENERAL CONSTRUCTION
• Make-readys • Decks
• Fences • Painting
• Floor & Bath Tile
• And More!
Call Mike at
785-6079

HOME IMPROVEMENTS
RENT-A-HUSBAND
For Home Improvements such as Remodeling, Repairs, & Small Jobs.
Free Estimates.
Financing Available.
Call 258-0378

HOME REPAIRS
Wandering Bear Home Repair.
Carpentry, plumbing, electrical, stained concrete, furniture repair, & metal working. Anything is possible. Call 280-4677

LANDSCAPING, Yard Work/Painting. Trees, Hauling, Moving, Clean-Up, handyman. Luis 243-3466 anytime.

LANDSCAPING Year round lawn and bed maintainence. Tree trimming, shrubs and beds installed. 659-7200

MOVERS "Your personal professional movers!" From 1 item to the whole house! Call anytime, 292-6789. http://www.atxmovingsystems.com

MOVING
HICKS MOVING
Residential-Commercial
-Local Courier
Professional & Affordable.
512-217-9743
TX DOT 006044839C
BBB Member.

PLUMBING
Henderson Plumbing.
Licensed Plumbing Repair & Drain Cleaning. 29 yrs. exp. Austin attitude,
Clean Personal Service.
Call 452-5963 leave message.

TILING
DESIGN ART TILE
Cutting Edge Installer
• Ceramic Tile • Granite
• Marble
Award-Winning Design
(512) 736-8700

TREE TRIMMER Scotty's Tree Service does the best work at a fair price. Call for a free estimate! 512-699-8992

435 FINANCIAL

GRANTS ****$700-$800,000 FREE CASH GRANTS!*** 2006!** Never Repay! Personal/Medical Bills, School, New Business/Home etc., Live Operators! Avoid Deadlines! Listings, Call 1-800-270-1213 Ext. 232 (AAN CAN)

GRANTS ****$700-$800,000 FREE CASH GRANTS-2006!, Personal bills, School, Business/Housing. Approx. $49 billion unclaimed 2005! Almost Everyone Qualifies! Live Operators Listings 1-800-592-0362 Ext. 235 (AAN CAN)

HOME BUSINESS 1000 ENVELOPES = $5000. Receive $5 for every envelope stuffed with our sales material. Guaranteed! Free information: 24 hour recording 1-800-785-7076. (AAN CAN)

HOME BUSINESS HELP WANTED Earn Extra income assembling CD cases from Home. Start Immediately. No Experience Necessary. 1-800-405-7619 ext. 150 http://www.easywork-greatpay.com (AAN CAN)

HOME BUSINESS MAKE $150/HOUR Get Paid Cash for Your Opinion! Earn $5 to $75 to fill our simple surveys online. Start NOW! http://www.paidchoice.com (AAN CAN)

HOME BUSINESS $20,000 MONTHLY! Working From Home! Start Earning Immediately! Guaranteed Income! PT/FT Positions Availabe Today! Register Online Now! http://www.BigPayJobs.com (AAN CAN)

HOME BUSINESS $5,000 WEEKLY GUARANTEED! Extremely Easy Work From Home! Weekly Paychecks! No Experience Necessary! Start Earning Today. Register Now! http://www.GreatMoneyJobs.com (AAN CAN)

POST OFFICE POST OFFICE JOBS AVAILABLE Avg. Pay $20/hour or $57K annually including Federal Benefits and OT. Paid Training, Vacations. PT/FT. 1-800-584-1775 USWA Ref# P4401 (AAN CAN)

SALES REPRESENTATIVE Cash paid Daily/$100-$200 avg. start tommorow call Dustin 323-2500

SETTLEMENTS $$CASH$$ Immediate Cash for Structured Settlements, Annuities, Lawsuits, Inheritances, Mortgage Notes & Cash Flows. J.G. Wentworth #1 1-800-794-7310. (AAN CAN)

450 LICENSED MASSAGE

ADVANCED BODYWORK
DAMN GOOD MASSAGE.
Call Keith 512-997-8415
MT#029059

ALTERNATIVE rmt#31534
.....??DRAPING??.....
.....THATS FOR WINDOWS.....
.....Call KAT 445-0280.....

ALTERNATIVE Customized sessions. Hours vary. Incalls & outcalls. Late appts. Call for details. 512.638.0210 - Vincent MT#100958

ALTERNATIVE STRONG GENTLE HANDS - Full body Swedish or Deep Tissue. New client/student rates. RMT#4582 Randy 695-8075

ALTERNATIVE rmt#31534
E.D. ? ? ?
Effective solution to stop taking (those pills) 445-0280

ALTERNATIVE
SOOTHING...
Long Trip, Long Flight Long Day?
Stressed, Exhausted, Sore?
UNWIND & ESCAPE
Calming bath & massage.
ANNE 444-5985
VISA/MC (RMT#13296)

Deep Tissue Massage
Shoulders Sore from Computer work?
Sports Injury & Fitness Massage
Deep Tissue Massage can Help!
Call Mike (512) 415-1620
Central Austin Location – RMT46621





licensed MASSAGE THERAPY

Quiet Mind
Quiet Body
351-5538
Mon-Sun 10am-8pm
South Austin location

NEW THERAPIST IN TOWN
IN & OUT CALLS
Specializing in Swedish, Deep Tissue, Reflexology, & Hot Stones. Coming Soon.
CALL MARK FOR AN APPOINTMENT
512 608-1356

Low Prices for the Holidays
Cedar Park Location
9am - 8pm
experience the perfect relaxation massage!
outcalls: 10am - 10pm
please allow 1hr notice
250.9655

Happy New Year!
Therapist Trained in Pampering
Mon-Thurs 10-7
Gisela 797-3171 RMT # 040147

Fabulous Massages
• Body Scrubs
• Hot Stones
• Warm Oil
In/Outcalls 9am-2am 569-7001
Se Habla Español

A Journey Beyond
Sensations by Mary Ellen
The Ultimate Experience In Relaxation
EXQUISITE!
Full Body Massage · Herbal Baths
Warm Oil · Hot Tub Massage
MC/VISA · RMT#9644 · 927-8366

MASSAGE TO TAKE YOU AWAY
ROMAN PLEASURES
512-653-3438
Anne

SWEDISH MASSAGE
$40/HR.
INCALL / $60 HR. OUTCALL
ESPECIALLY FOR MEN!
Ryan (512) 619-9433
www.freewebs.com/ryanp

Swedish Massage
by Courtney
San Marcos, Austin, and surrounding areas. Hotel outcalls. Call for an appointment.
806-679-4644
8am-12am

Ilse Rachut
Quality Massage Therapy
by strong & intuitive hands that heal
great downtown location
264-4500

SOOTHING MASSAGE
Swedish Massage
Deep and Relaxation
Full Body Massage
by appointment only
Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, In Call
372-9530
North Austin - Jollyville Rd

HOTEL OUTCALLS
IN/OUT TIL 2AM
459-3535

AWESOMETOUCH.COM
for the discriminating client
OUTCALLS AVAILABLE/DOWNTOWN
Sandy
512-326-8521

Sarah
Nurturing Intuitive Holistic
13 years experience
MT# 010471 512-983-6602
Beautiful Central Austin-Travis Heights location

Sacred Wisdom
Massage Therapy
Swedish • Hot stone • Reiki
$20 Off Your 1st Massage
Emma ~ 636-3661

Absolute Indulgence
•Deep Tissue
•Swedish Massage
•Sports Massage
New NW Location, back in town • 8am-noon • 7 Days
731-4907 RMT#025805

Relieve stress, headache, back, neck pain, sore muscles, or just relax & enjoy.
Magic Palms Therapeutic Massage. Out calls. $65/75 mins. Call 512-281-6274. RMT #45388

BEST
• Swedish & Sports Massage
• Deep and Soft Tissue
• Full Body Massage
• Hot Stone Massage
• Mon-Sat, 9am-7pm
698-1615
Bee Caves Road –Nice Quiet Office

A Gentle Touch Massage Therapy
by Julie
75 Minutes $55
1 Hour only $45
585-4752

SWEDISH MASSAGE
GUS MARQUEZ
Incalls $50 • Outcalls $75
Gentle, Firm Hands.
By Appointment • Flexible Schedule
Male Specialty. Habla Español
577-7555
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED RMT#MT059885

The Right Touch
Total relaxation massage
Hairstyling/Body Hair
Grooming Four Hands
by Jade Liu
Soothing, sensitive
804-0794

AMAZING TOUCH
TILL 1AM!
OFFICES IN AUSTIN/R.R.
OUTCALLS AVAILABLE.
SHANNON MARIE
(RMT# 22956)
567-3115

Avalon Wellness Center
Massage ~ Hot Stones ~ Reflexology
$25 Off Your First Visit
(512) 371-7124
Mon-Sat 10am-8pm
Gift Certificates Available RMT#040870

391 . 1569
$30 OFF FIRST SESSION
THROUGH THE MONTH OF DECEMBER
BODY MECHANIC WELLNESS CENTERS
MYBODYMECHANIC.COM
DEEP TISSUE
SWEDISH
SHIATSU
SPORTS
7 DAYS PER WEEK
9 AM - 9 PM
6 LOCATIONS

Get Pampered
•Swedish
•Deep Tissue
•Sports
•Chair
•Hot Stone
Rebecca
Registered Massage Therapist #031330
North Austin 183 & Anderson Mill
699.9165

CONTINUED

450 LICENSED MASSAGE

ALTERNATIVE to pain and stress. Austin's best professional therapeutic massage to relieve, relax, and revitalize. Easy access from North & Central Austin. HOLIDAY SPECIALS! 789-6278,

Nanette, MT017147

ALTERNATIVE HOTEL OUTCALL. Till 2am, Visa/MC/Amex (MT#4676) Call today, 459-3535.

ALTERNATIVE STRESSED? Relax with my massage, heated table, warm oil, warm hands, NW area, RMT#5028.

CALL KIMBERLY 417-4141

ALTERNATIVE Esalen, 25 years experience. Perfect relaxation massage. Private setting. Shower. Convenient location. $10 off. Janet, 892-8877. RMT#2271.

ALTERNATIVE CEDAR PARK Massage. Soothing, Swedish. It's easy to unwind in our rejuvenating & relaxing atmosphere! 10a-8p 7 days. 250-9655 MT042810

www.balancedbodyyoga.com

ALTERNATIVE RMT#31534

MASSAGES ARE LIKE A BOX OF CHOCOLATES, YA

NEVER KNOW....445-0280

ALTERNATIVE/PAMPERING
"THE GETAWAY

Candle light/ Soft Music/ Smell of Jasmine and a glass of wine.445-0280 rmt#31534

DEEP TISSUE New NW location. Absolute Indulgence. Swedish Relaxation, Sports Massage, Deep Tissue, Hydrotherapy. Shower available, Draping Req'd. Flexible Hours 8AM-10PM. Back in Town. Call 731-4907. RMT#029206

DEEP TISSUE Deep Tissue Therapeutic Massage. Sore shoulders from Computer work? Sport Injury & Fitness Massage. Call Mike (512) 415-1620.Central Austin.-RMT46621

DEEP TISSUE Work for gentlemen available evenings/weekends. Replenish your well being. (rmt 24006) Bob. 458-5656.

DEEP TISSUE Chair/Table Austin Massage Clinic - Open 10-7. Walk-ins OK! Same Day Appts., Out Calls & After Hrs.too! RMT 27632 Call Today! 477-3333

DEEP TISSUE BY

PERSONAL TRAINER $50 per hour. Appts til 10pm. Out/In Call. RMT#021317, 658-1946

DEEP TISSUE/SWEDISH 12 yrs. exp. Initial 1 1/2 hr $65. Nina Powers #8574 708-1970 bodyharmonymassage.com

GENERAL Let my massage relax your achy body & soothe your spirit. In/Out calls & late appointments welcome. Now accepting all major credit cards. Michael

797-3652, RMT#18894

GENERAL FULL BODY

MASSAGE by James. Incalls/Outcalls 24/7. Call 554-2248. (RMT017905)

GENERAL Full Body Massage, Relaxation/Swedish. South Austin incalls. Call Joel (TR#46779) 8am-9pm daily. Ask about senior discount. (512) 964-0851.

GENERAL Paradise found. Experienced, soothing Esalen massage. Southeast, near Austin, San Marcos, Kyle, Lockhart & Bergstrom. Mon-Thu 7pm-9pm, Sat-Sun 9am-9pm. Carole (MT3195) Call 985-5015.

GENERAL * NEW NORTH LOCATION! * The Executive Touch Massage. Specializing in Total Relaxation. Call Kim 989-0003, RMT023154

GENERAL

BODY MECHANIC WELLNESS CENTERS

Downtown, North, West and South Austin.

www.mybodymechanic. com

512-391-1569 (p)

512-391-0760 (f)

INTRODUCTORY SPECIAL

30% First Session.

GENERAL Relieve Stress. headaches, back/neck pain, sore muscles, or just relax & enjoy. Magic Palms Therapeutic Massage.Get it Now, Tues-Sun, after 11am. Out Calls $65/75 mins. Call

512-281-6274 RMT#45388

GENERAL

www.awesometouch.com

Mature clients preferred. Heated table. Sandy *** RMT# 2474 *** 326-8521 ***

GENERAL My touch, your choice. Full body massage (Deep Tissue or Relaxing) Jose (MT012529) In/Outcalls. Call 773-3457.

GENERAL NURTURING TOUCH, "Sense-sational" Heavenly Full Body Massage. A Gentleman's First Choice in Relaxation. Monday-Saturday, 10am-6pm. Linda (MT4330) 241-3619.

GENERAL Therapeutic Relief. In/Out calls, 9am-7pm daily. Eva, Call 282-4426. RMT#3830.

GENERAL SOOTHING MASSAGE. Experienced, professional. N. Austin/Jollyville Rd. M-Sat. 10am-7pm. Cash only. By appointment only.372-9530. RMT 042276.

GENERAL Treat yourself to a relaxing hot oil, full-body Swedish massage in a candle-lit, private room/

shower, 24/7, in/out calls. Clint 775-9164 - RMT# 34842

GENERAL OUTCALL MASSAGE to hotels only. Relaxing Full Body Swedish or Deep. RMT#4582 Randy 695-8075

GENERAL All stressed up and no place to go? Tony's Wonderful Massage RMT#3233, 346-6210.

GENERAL

AMAZING TOUCH

TILL 1AM!

OFFICES IN AUSTIN/RR.

OUTCALLS AVAILABLE.

SHANNON MARIE

(RMT# 24536)

567-3115

GENERAL A journey beyond sensations... by Mary Ellen. The ultimate experience in relaxation! Full Body Massage, Herbal Baths, Warm Oils, Hot Tub Massage, MC/VISA (RMT#9644) 927-8366.

GENERAL MYSTICAL MASSAGE. Experience the Peace of a Quiet Mind & Resting Heart. Centrally Located (RMT2596) (512) 799-1337 or (512) 385-5572

GENERAL NOW OPEN. Relax - Relieve - Enjoy. Swedish Massage, Deep & Soft Tissue, Full Body Massage, hot stone treatment. Bee Cave Rd, quiet office. RMT#39907. Call 698-1615 or 905-7668

GENERAL Get Pampered with a Swedish, Deep Tissue, Sports, Chair, or Hot Stone Massage by Rebecca. North Austin, 183 & Anderson Mill. Gift certificates avail. Call

512-699-9165, MT#031330

GENERAL Comfortable, quiet, considerate, careful and thoughtful. 470-6525 (RMT013588).

GENERAL $40 hour! Incall. Best Deal in Town! Clark (RMT 07398) Call 784-0929. http://www.freewebs.com/ryanp

GENERAL Experienced massage therapist seeking mature clients. Anne, MT#39649 (512) 653-3438.

GENERAL A Great Massage for Men by Bob. North location (RMT#013795) Call 9am-10pm, 7 days/week. (512) 296-4111.

READER NOTICE

The State of Texas

Department of Health

requires registration numbers for individuals who practice massage. These registration numbers are included in all ads within the therapy

section. They are as follows: TR = Temporary Registration is a temporary licensed

number which is good for six months as a registered

massage therapist in Texas. RMT = Registered Massage Therapist or MT = Massage Therapist, which is the

permanent registration

number once all state tests have been passed. ME = Massage Establishment, which is a place of business that offers licensed massage therapy and has a licensed massage therapist on site of the business establishment. MI = Massage Instructor, an individual who is a registered massage therapist an

approved by the State of

Texas to offer instruction to 1 or more students of massage therapy. Any concerns should be directed to the Texas Department of Health in Austin at 512-834-6616

RELAXATION

Quiet Mind...

Quiet Body...

Call Gayle 351-5538

RELAXATION

Private setting in S. Austin. Full body massage with warm oil by masculine guy with strong, sensitive hands.

Don, RMT #28735

585-9450

www.elmforestmassage.net

RELAXATION Strong hands for the stressed out body. Treat yourself to a FULL body swedish massage. In/out calls. Mark (512) 653-4247 RMT# 038941

RELAXATION MASSAGE FOR MEN by an experienced male masseur, call Michael Alan RMT021801 636-4200.

RELAXATION Fabulous

massages. Full body

relaxation, body scrubs, hot stones, warm oil. Outcalls, 9am-12am. 569-7001. TR#45207.

RELAXATION The Right Touch. Chinese, Swedish style. Sensitive. Call Jade Liu 804-0794 - RMT#36404

RELAXATION Massage by young college student. Call Greg for soothing massage. In/Out calls. RMT# TR19001. Cellular, 512-496-3527.

SWEDISH N.Austin. Gay Friendly. Shower available. Bruce@healtosoul.com or 673-8072 MT038417

SWEDISH MASSAGE- Call Courtney for appointment at 806-679-4644. 9am-12am, 7days, San Marcos, Austin & Surrounding Areas. Hotel Outcalls MT#037283.

SWEDISH Massage by Will $60/hr. IN/OUT Mon-Sun, Days/Nights: 351-2430 RMT#40677 Central Location.

SWEDISH Gift yourself to a luxurious massage from a recent Fine Arts UT graduate. Thanks for all your encouragement and support! Kasey Smith, MT#17406. 457-8496.

SWEDISH Full-body massage by 1 or 2 male therapists. 927-9704 or 422-0514.

mt#023969 & mt#024072

SWEDISH A Gentle Touch Massage. Experience a meditative massage to decrease stress & increase your well being. $55/75 min., $45/60 min. 10:30am-6:30 pm.. Call Julie today!. 512-585-4752. RMT#042748.

SWEDISH

DEEP TISSUE

MASSAGE & SPA TREATMENT

• Facelift Massage

• Hot Stones

Maria (MT3963) South

Visa/MC Accepted

(512) 440-7372

SWEDISH Massage Gstavo Marquez. By Appt: Flexible Schedule. Call 512-577-7555. MT032836

SWEDISH Professional Bodywork: sport-swedish-deep. Convenient dwtn.

location. In call/out call/hotel. Keith Goertz, RMT#036544. Call 512-431-9008

SWEDISH Full hour of hands on Swedish massage. $20 off your 1st massage. 636-3661. RMT #40870.

SWEDISH 13yrs experience. Nurturing, Intuitive, Holistic. Beautiful central Austin, Travis Heights location. (MT#010471) Call Sarah at (512) 983-6602.

SWEDISH/DEEP TISSUE

Massage Therapy by Gida. Swedish & Deep Tissue. In/Outcalls. Call 786-2881

North Austin. RMT#021809.

THERAPEUTIC Feel better now... Therapeutic Massage by Ilse Rachut, RMT#355386. 5 years of professional

experience. Sports, Swedish, Shiatsu, deep tissue. Central Location.

264-4500.

THERAPEUTIC New in Town. North Austin. Appts. Only! 945-4163 or 940-8262.

(MT# 046718)

THERAPEUTIC NO Outcalls. Wm. Cannon/I-35. YES! REALLY! SOUTH! Call Jen, Cell: 203-7271. RMT#7400

WELLNESS Avalon Wellness Center...where East meets West and health leads to longevity. Our hands, your health. Call 512-371-7124 for appt. LMT# 40870

455 PSYCHIC ASTROLOGY

HEALING

STUCK IN A RUT?

Intuitive healer researches

Akashic records, past lives,

karma. Soul clearing process

releases limiting patterns,

beliefs, energy distortions

blocking change. Awaken

purpose, abundance, joy!

Deborah renown clairvoyant

Phone appt. only 462-9993

http//www.streamsoflight.com

PSYCHIC READINGS Tarot or channeled writing; Austin unique. This is it. Donations only. Phone (512) 569-4767.

465 MISCELLANEOUS

DATING Tango between the sheets Try FREE! Use code: 4829 Call 512-735-0000

tangobyphone.com

NEIGHBORHOOD

515 CLASSES WORKSHOPS

BIRTH DOULA 3 day workshop in Austin, Feb 9-11 for details contact Lisa 512-289-1928 mommysneeds.com

CHI GONG Winter series: Jan - March. Mondays 7:00 -8:15 pm-Ten weeks. $175/$150 (early reg. Jan. 2). 478-4732 or go to www.drpea.com.

CLASS SPACE located in Central Austin healing center Perfect for yoga/pilates/dance/classes. Includes mats, bolsters, blankets. $30/hr. 512.322.9648

SPANISH

Someday, I'll Learn SPANISH!!??

No luck with traditional

classes and workbooks? Hate Studying? Don't have much time? Think learning can't be fun? Use your whole brain by tapping into the

extraordinary mental

capacities we all have, but seldom use, with the most advanced and enjoyable teaching and learning

method available today. 263-9944 * All Levels * Class Schedules, Fees and more at **http://www.RapidSpanish.com**

SPANISH Learn to speak Spanish. This ongoing course relies heavily on visual material, word association and games. http://www.creativelanguagecenter.com 453-8680.

YOGA WRITING Writers' League of Texas Workshop: "Moved to Write: Using Movement to Release Your Creativity" Sat., Jan. 27, 10am-4pm, St. Ed's Univ. Fee: $89 members, $139 nonmembers. Register: 512-499-8914 or email: wlt@writersleague.org INFO: www.writersleague.org

525 EVENTS

BAND AVAILABLE Check out www.whitestoneband.org for photo's, pics and music samples. Call Debbie at 512-759-9989 or 512-630-4942

FREE MOVIE SHOWING @ the Daily Grind - 16238 FM 620 - Every 2nd Saturday of each month. Come, relax and hang out!

530 GENERAL

ADOPTION PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? Talk with caring people specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. EXPENSES PAID. Toll free 24/ 7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 1-866-413-6293 (AAN CAN)

ANNOUNCEMENT NEAV - Real, Relational, Relevant 10am Sunday 301 W. Bagdad Street Round Rock, TX 78664 www.neaustinvineyard.com

535 LOST & FOUND

LOST ORANGE MALE CAT Distinct markings-circles on sides, stripes down back, "wings". Please help 512-731-7595 Manch/71/Clawson area.

540 VOLUNTEERS

DONATIONS Caseworker seeks individuals to help single mother of two purchase video game for Christmas (210) 643-5530.

MEALS ON WHEELS Volunteer training daily. Call 476-MEAL or visit mealsonwheelsandmore.org for more information.

VOLUNTEER IN AFRICA AIDS outreach, teach & community development. 14 mo. incl. training in California. Team start Feb & May! Fees/grants 510-637-9698. information@cctg.org. www.cctg.org

545 LEGAL NOTICES

398932

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 15th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered 398932, wherein Travis County, Water Control Improvement District No. 15, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Laura L. Fellman, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Laura L. Fellman are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$4,847.63** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 21, 2001.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 46, Block B, Lago Vista, Section 2, Plat No. 11/45 as described in Volume 2718, Page 259 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$4,847.63** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

463888

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered 463888, wherein Travis County, Lake Travis Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 8 and Village of Briarcliff are plaintiffs, and William E. McKemie, Jr., if Alive, and if Deceased the unknown owners, assigns, successors, and heirs of the Estate of William E. McKemie, Jr., Carolyn Ralph McKemie Loran aka Carolyn Ralph Loran, Village of Briarcliff (In Rem Only) and Briarcliff Property Owners Association, Inc. (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$9,029.13** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 18, 2004.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 512, Briarcliff, Inc. Sec. 3, Plat No. 37/36 as desc. In Vol. 5086, Pg. 2077 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$9,029.13** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

477422

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 331st District Court of Travis County, on the 8th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered 477422, wherein City of Austin, County Education District, Austin Community College, Travis County, Austin Independent School District and FM Road are plaintiffs, and William F. Zidell, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of William F. Zidell and Charles Patterson are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$15,473.80** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 331st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 12, 1997.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 22, Block 2, Chernosky Subdivision No. 9, Plat No. 4/190 as described in Volume 2272, Page 273 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$15,473.80** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

92-11563

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 299th District Court of Travis County, on the 8th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered 92-11563, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County ESD NO.1, City of Lago Vista and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Clifton E. Hall, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Clifton E. Hall and Jennifer Jean Hall aka Jeannifer Jordan Hall aka Jennifer Jean Jordan are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$6,472.46** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 299th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 18, 2002.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 1357, Country Club Estates, Section 7, Plat No.

47/42 as described in Volume 7249, Page 276 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$6,472.46** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

94-06812

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 8th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered 94-06812, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No.1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and James H. Olyniec and Lucille M. Olyniec are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$9,831.66** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 30, 1998.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 6073, Highland Lake Estates, Section 6, Plat No.

51/76 as described in Volume 9870, Page 185 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$9,831.66** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

94-07022

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200th District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered 94-07022, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Charles G. Porter, Individually & dba Porter Construction Company are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$10,895.36** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on November 7, 2000.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 1356, Country Club Estates, Section 7, Plat No.

47/42 as desc. In Volume 8974, Page 847 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$10,895.36** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit and Mixed Beverage Late Hours Permit by ABL International, Inc. d/b/a Hot Bodies Too to be located at 4134 Felter Ln, Ste A, Austin, Travis County, Texas. Officers of said corporation are Eleftherios Nikol Karamolegkos, President; Evangelos Polycrates, Vice President; and Antonios Apostolos Petropoulos, Sec/Treasurer.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ROSEMARIE CAROLINE KAMINSKI, Deceased, No. 85912 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

DANIEL KAMINSKI alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 7th day of DECEMBER, 2006, an Application to Determine Heirship and For Letters of Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ROSEMARIE CAROLINE KAMINSKI Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 7th day of December, 2006.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

County Clerk

Travis County, Texas

P.O. Box 1748

Austin, Texas 78767

By Deputy: /s/ M. C. Arzola

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF EDWIN J. TERRY, Deceased, No. 85890 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

HEATHER TERRY alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 4th day of DECEMBER, 2006, an Application for Determination of Heirship and for Letters of Administration of the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said EDWIN J. TERRY Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 4th day of December, 2006.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

County Clerk

Travis County, Texas

P.O. Box 1748

Austin, Texas 78767

By Deputy: /s/ Kaitanya L. Bush

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF BRENDA M WILLIAMS, Deceased, No. 85950 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

SAMUEL L WILLIAMS SR alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 14th day of DECEMBER, 2006, an Application for Determination of Heirship and Issuance of Letters of Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said BRENDA M WILLIAMS Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 14th day of December, 2006.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

County Clerk

Travis County, Texas

P.O. Box 1748,

Austin, Texas 78767

By Deputy: /s/ Monica Limon

GV-001112

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250TH District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-001112, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin and Travis County are plaintiffs, and Cornelius Robinson, Texas Higher Education Board (In Rem Only), Andrew Waden (In Rem Only), Patricia Waden (In Rem Only), Ted Stokley, Jr. (In Rem Only) and First National Acceptance Company (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 382017 = $3,216.48 and Tract Two: Billing Number 79107 = $3,172.32** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 27, 2003.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT ONE: BILLING NO. 382017

19.5 ft. by 40 ft. out of Lot 9, Block1, S. I. Wilson Subdivision (Olt. 13, Div. B), Plat No. 3/178, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 13295, Page 2888 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

TRACT TWO: BILLING NO. 079107

Tract B, Masonfield, Plat No. 4/205, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 12717, Page 1491 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 382017 = $3,216.48 and Tract Two: Billing Number 79107 = $3,172.32** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-100203

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-100203, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin and County Education District are plaintiffs, and James H. Givens, Vera L. Givens, MeraFinancial Services (In Rem Only) and The United States of America (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$8,672.62** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 10, 2002.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 26, Block 1, Chernosky Subdivision No. 10, Plat No. 4/200 as Desc. In Vol. 9866, Pg. 66 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$8,672.62** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-101030

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201ST District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-101030, wherein Austin Independent School District, Austin Community College, City of Austin, Travis County are plaintiffs, and US Life Title Company of Austin aka Title USA Company of Austin, Trustee aka Dallas Title Company and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 528254 = $22,696.65 and Tract Two: Billing Number 562714 = $7,600.52** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201ST District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 30, 2004.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT ONE: BILLING NO. 528254

Lot 31, Block R, Resubdivision of Lot 30, Block R, Village Park at Travis Country, Plat No. 92/206, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as being a portion as described in Volume 12111, Page 78 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

TRACT TWO: BILLING NO. 562714

3.013 of an acre out of 30, Block R, Resubdivision of Lot 30, Block R, Village Park at Travis Country, Plat No. 92/206, Travis Couty, Texas, and being more particularly described as being a portion as described in Volume 5019, Page 1681and Volume 12111, Page 78 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 528254 = $22,696.65 and Tract Two: Billing Number 562714 = $7,600.52** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-203282

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-203282, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Edward C. Martin are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$3,057.05** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on July 11, 2003.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 16236, Baar-K Ranches Plat 16, Plat No. 66/78, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Document No. 2000052824 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$3,057.05** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-302170

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 7th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-302170, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, County Education District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Larry D. Jones, Patty M. Jones, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (In Rem Only), Texas Employment Commission nka Texas Workforce Commission (In Rem Only), City of Austin (In Rem Only) and NRC, Inc. formerly known as National Resort Communities, Inc. aka Bar-K Corporation are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$4,091.80** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 3, 2004.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 16118, Bar-K Ranches Plat 16, Plat No. 66/78, Tra-

---

the COMMON LAW

by Luke Ellis, Chloë Love, and Megan Lonergan

The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

TIPS FOR BUYING ON EBAY DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Last time I bought something on eBay, I got screwed. How can I protect myself if I buy things on eBay during the holidays?

There are several things to remember when buying items on eBay. The first thing to know is that when people place a bid on an item, they are entering into a contract with the individual seller of that item. eBay is not a party to the actual transaction between you and the seller. The listing provides the conditions of the sale, and you must abide by those conditions unless they violate eBay's user agreement or are unlawful. Resist the urge to impulse shop; don't press that "Bid Now" button until you're ready to commit.

Second, if you are the highest bidder at the end of the auction and your bid is accepted by the seller, you are obligated to complete the transaction. Ordinarily, bids are binding and may not be retracted. Keep in mind, however, that bids on certain eBay auctions are nonbinding. For example, bids on items prohibited by law or the eBay user agreement are not binding. Copyright laws may be violated when sellers list counterfeit items and represent them as genuine.

Third, be sure to use a secure method to pay for the item. But before discussing secure ways to pay, it's best to highlight how not to pay for an item on eBay. If a seller ever asks you to pay with a money order or a cashier's check, beware! Once that payment leaves your wallet, it becomes extremely difficult to retrieve.

A better option is using a credit card, which gives consumers an extra layer of protection because (if problems arise) they can contest the purchase with the credit card company, as well as the – one of the most secure methods of payment for items purchased on eBay. In fact, eBay recommends that you make all your transactions through PayPal. What makes PayPal more secure is the fact that you are only giving your credit card information to one party, rather that giving that sacred information to multifarious sellers. Additionally, there are other benefits to using PayPal. Part of the PayPal user agreement provides a buyer protection policy. The policy guarantees $1000 of coverage against fraud on each qualified eBay purchase.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to **thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com**. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.

LEGAL NOTICES

vis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 10194, Page 747 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$4,091.80** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-302350

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345TH District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-302350, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Mauricio E. Villatoro, Delores (Dolores) Villatoro, and Texans Credit Union fka Texins Credit Union (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 66419 = $1,715.17 and Tract Two: Billing Number 66651 = $1,774.85** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on November 28, 2005.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT ONE: BILLING NO. 066419

Lot 16029, Bar-K Ranches Plat 16, Plat No. 66/78, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Document No. 2000136194 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

TRACT TWO: BILLING NO. 066651

Lot 10205, Bar-K Ranches Plat 10, Plat No. 63/25, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Document No. 2000136199 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas .

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 66419 = $1,715.17 and Tract Two: Billing Number 66651 = $1,774.85** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-304370

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200TH District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-304370, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Rosa Mata Moreno (In Rem Only), if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Rosa Mata Moreno, Transportes Lucano, Inc. aka Transportes Lucano, Inc., J. Guadalupe Mendez (In Rem Only), D.R. & L., Inc. dba Texas Printing (In Rem Only), General Electric Capital Corporation (In Rem Only), Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Hospital District (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 73367 = $12,348.69 and Tract Two: Billing Number 73366**

= $10,483.73 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 21, 2006.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Tract 1: Billing Number 73367

Lot 5, Block 11, Gary & Peck Subdivision (Olt. 19, Div. O), Plat No. T/273, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 13159, Page 948 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

Tract 2: Billing Number 73366

Lot 6, Block 11, Gary & Peck Subdivision (Olt. 19, Div. O), Plat No. T/273, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 13159, Page 948.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 73367 = $12,348.69 and Tract Two: Billing Number 73366**

= $10,483.73 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-400746

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250TH District Court of Travis County, on the 17th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-400746, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Sardar Ali, Shah Firoze, Bank of Overton nka Nebraska State Bank nka Security First Bank (In Rem Only) and City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista ISD, Travis County and Travis County ESD No. 1 (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$6,170.72** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 1, 2005.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 57C, Lago Vista Travis Plaza, Plat No. 39/50, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 7278, Page 19 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$6,170.72** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-400768

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Travis County, on the 8th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-400768, wherein Austin Independent School District, Austin Community College, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Coralynn Angelica Young aka Coralynn Goodman Young and Trent Miller (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$9,669.02** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on May 3, 2005.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 16, Block 1, Cedar Valley Addition, Plat No. 5/55 as described in document number 2002109689 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$9,669.02** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-401174

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 7th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-401174, wherein Austin Independent School District, Austin Community College, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Joe Martinez Hipolito, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Joe Martinez Hipolito, Rudy Hipolito and Austin Independent School District, Austin Community College, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County ESD No. 11 (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$12,190.46** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 8, 2005.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 3, Block M, Driving Park Addition (Olt. 37, Div. O), Plat NO. 2/206 as described in Volume 3230, Page 1954 and document numbers 2003019766, 2003019767, 2003019768, 2003019769 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$12,190.46** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-402568

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-402568, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Joan Auzenne are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$1,895.99** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on July 25, 2005.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 1498, Country Club Estates, Section 7, Plat No.

47/42 as Desc. In Doc. No. 2000099163 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$1,895.99** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-503307

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-503307, wherein Plaintiffs are Austin Community College, City of Jonestown, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 7 and Travis County Hospital District and Intervenor Leander Independent School District, and James E. McCormick are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs and intervenor, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 69352 = $7,182.61 and Tract Two: Billing Number 69353 = $1,979.82** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs and intervenor, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on January 13, 2006.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT ONE: BILLING NO. 069352

Lot 25, Pecan Terrace, Plat No. 53/42, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Document No. 1999139353 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

TRACT TWO: BILLING NO. 069353

Lot 27, Pecan Terrace, Plat No. 53/42, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described n Document No. 1999139353 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 69352 = $7,182.61 and Tract Two: Billing Number 69353 = $1,979.82** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs and intervenor, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE accepts LEGAL NOTICES at the low rate of $2.10 per line OR $25 per column inch (for display advertising.)

Notarized affidavits of publication and audited circulation statements are provided upon request.

Call Jessica @ 512-454-5765 ext. 168 for more info.

NO. 85730 ESTATE OF

ANTHONY LOUIS FRANZOLINO, DECEASED PROBATE COURT NO. 1 OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ANTHONY LOUIS FRANZOLINO, Deceased, were issued on December 6, 2006, in Docket No. 85730, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to Donald L. Totusek.

Claims may be presented in care of the representative's attorney to the following address:

c/o Donald L. Totusek

Francis, Orr & Totusek, L.L.P.

2550 Lincoln Plaza

500 N. Akard Street

Dallas, Texas 75201

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 13th day of December, 2006.

Donald L. Totusek, Independent Executor

NO. 85732 ESTATE OF MILTON T. SMITH , DECEASED PROBATE COURT NO. 1 OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MILTON T. SMITH, Deceased, were issued on December 6, 2006, in Docket No. 85732, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to MICHAEL KAROTKIN, PAUL F. GARDNER, and BRIAN KAROTKIN.

Claims may be presented in care of the representatives' attorney to the following address:

c/o Donald L. Totusek

Francis, Orr & Totusek, L.L.P.

2550 Lincoln Plaza

500 N. Akard Street

Dallas, Texas 75201

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 15th day of December, 2006.

Michael Karotkin, Independent Co-Executor

Paul F. Gardner, Independent Co-Executor

Brian Karotkin, Independent Co-Executor

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned motor vehicle act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off by Central Towing, 7400 FM 969, Austin, TX 78724 unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

2000 Toyota Solara 2d

Vin# 2T1CG22P4YC314671

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned vehicle motor act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1)OWNER: UNKNOWN

53' RAPID TRAILER

VIN: 1GRAA0626TB021704

2)OWNER: GUADALUPE OCAMPO

1986 LINCOLN

VIN: 1LNBP96F6GY708197

3)OWNER: ISIDRO MIRELES

1990 MERCURY

VIN: 1MEPM604XLH618729

4)OWNER: ROBERT WINFIELD

1992 MERCURY

VIN: 1MEPM6043NH614220

5)OWNER: TANYA BOEHCK

1993 MAZDA

VIN: 1YVGE22A4P5160083

6)OWNER: JOSE JOCOBO

1992 TOYOTA

VIN: JT2EL46B2N0252829

7)OWNER: THOMAS TOUNGATE

1990 FORD

VIN: 1FACP50U8LA150340

8)OWNER: CLINTON PENA

1992 VOLVO

VIN: YV1AS8801N1463987

9)OWNER: ELEANOR DALEY

1994 FORD

VIN: 2FAPP36XXRB105128

10)OWNER: BRADLEY NEVINS

1990 JEEP

VIN: 1J4FT58LXLL108216

11)OWNER: HIPOLITO DERAMONA

1995 PLYMOUTH

VIN: 1B3ES47C1SD217528

12) OWNER: WILLIAM BALSANEK

1989 TOYOTA

VIN: JT2AE92E6K3250064

13)OWNER: CHRISTOPHER JACKSON

1988 HONDA

VIN: JHMCA5540JC068011

14) OWNER: ALBERTO SIFUENTES

1995 GMC

VIN: 1GTGC33F4SF008190

15) OWNER: JOSHUA PHELPS

1992 CHEVY

VIN: 1GNCS18W7N0152653

AUCTION: December 29, 2006 @ 6:00 AM

About Town Towing

2905 W. Howard Lane

Austin, TX 78728

(512) 835-5444

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given that the City Council and Zoning Commission of Sunset Valley, Texas, will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, the 16th day of January, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. at the City Hall located at 3205 Jones Road, Sunset Valley, Texas to consider the following Special Use Application:

An application for approval of a Special Use Permit, submitted by Pet Smart, for Veterinary Services at PetSmart, Sunset Valley Marketfair, 5400 Brodie Lane, Sunset Valley, Texas.

All interested persons are invited to attend and participate in said hearing. Any person may submit testimony in person at such hearing or submit written comments filed with the City Secretary between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday prior to the hearing. All written comments must be received by 3:00 p.m., on or before Thursday, January 11, 2007. The application on the Special Use Permit may be examined at the office of the City Secretary of Sunset Valley, Texas during regular office hours.

s/ Trish Kable

City Secretary

NOTICE OF SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF TRAVIS

BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE DATED November 27, 2006, and issued pursuant to a judgment decrees of the District Court of Travis County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date in the hereinafter numbered and styled causes, and to me directed and delivered as Constable, Pct. 5, of said Court, I have on November 27, 2006, seized, levied upon, and will on the first Tuesday in January, 2007, the same being the 2nd day of January, 2007, at the Courthouse door of said County, in the City of Austin, between the hours of 10:00 o'clock A.M. and 4:00 o'clock P.M. on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Travis and the State of Texas, to-wit:

No. GV502233, Leander Independent School District vs. Debbie Hinton and CMH Homes, Inc. DBA Clayton Homes, successor in interest to Oakwood Acceptance Corporation, Lienholder (In Rem Only) a 1998 Oakwood Manufactured Home, Label NTA0785481, Serial HOTX08807732, located on Jonestown Mobile Home Park, Space 12, Travis County, Texas

No. GV502728, Leander Independent School District vs. Leslie Garzonie, Litchfield Financial Corporation, Lienholder (In Rem Only), Green Tree Servicing, L.L.C. (In Rem Only) and Conseco Finance Servicing Corporation (In Rem Only)

Lot 185, South Cherry Hollow Estates, (Cherry Hollow Court) Travis County, Texas and a 1994 Southern Energy Mobile Home, 16 Feet X 76 Feet, Label #TEX0509384, Serial #SSETX00381 being that property more particularly described in Volume 12966, Page 3358 and Volume 83, Page 95B of the Deed Records, Travis County, Texas,

No. GV500650, Leander Independent School District vs. Debbie Yates and Bank One, N.A., Lienholder (In Rem Only)

1.929 Acres being Lot 14, Block E, Long Canyon I-A Subdivision, (5800 Gibbs Hollow Cv.) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in Document 2003000427 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

No. GV501907, Leander Independent School District vs. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

0.59 Acre being Lot 156, South Cherry Hollow Estates, (21418 Creekside Dr.) Travis County, Texas and a Mobile Home, Label PFS612927 being that property more particularly described in Document 2002133022 of the Deed Records, Travis County, Texas,

No. GV503233, Travis County and Leander Independent School District vs. R-BAR-B Properties, Inc., A Texas Corporation and New Life Corporation of America (In Rem Only)

29.85 Acres out of the A.F. Hoffman Survey 194 and the Abstract 436 of the W.A. King Survey, (FM 2769) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in Volume 11468, Page 229 and Volume 12096, Page 83, SAVE AND EXCEPT those portion as described as Tract 1 and Tract 2 in document number 2004009845 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas (Leander ISD Tax Acct# T261100000010050)

155.35 Acres out of Abstract 80 of the Charles Cornea Survey and Abstract 101 out of the Michael Cody Survey, (FM 2769) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in Volume 11468, Page 233 and Volume 12096, Page 83 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas (Leander ISD Tax Acct# T01570000003058)

3.761 Acres out of Abstract 436 of the W.A. King Survey and Abstract 194 out of the A.F. Holman Survey, (Twin Creeks Club Dr.) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in document number 2004009845 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas (Leander ISD Tax Acct# T04710000001E058)

35.360 Acres out of Abstract 101 of the Michael Cody Survey, (FM 2769) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in Volume 11468, Page 223 and Volume 12096, Page 83 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas (Leander ISD Tax Acct# T219000000030051)

16.960 Acres out of Abstract 101 of the Michael Cody Survey, (FM 2769) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in Volume 11468, Page 233 and Volume 12096, Page 83 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas (Leander ISD Tax Acct# T219000000040051)

17.01 Acres out of Abstract 101 of the Michael Cody Survey, (FM 2769) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in Volume 11468, Page 233 and Volume 12096, Page 83 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas (Leander ISD Tax Acct# T21900000004A051)

THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY HELD IN TRUST BY THE COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON, TEXAS IS OFFERED FOR SALE PURSUANT TO SECTION 34.05 OF THE TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE

Tract 1 - Lot 49, South Cherry Hollow Estates, (Ridge Rim Dr.) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in Volume 12113, Page 1883 SAVE & EXCEPT that property described in Volume 12863, Page 1601 of the Deed Records, Travis County, Texas.

Tract 2 - Lot 50 South Cherry Hollow Estates, (Ridge Rim Dr.) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in Volume 12113, Page 1883 SAVE & EXCEPT that property described in Volume 12863, Page 1601 of the Deed Records, Travis County, Texas

Tract 3 - Lot 53, South Cherry Hollow Estates, (Ridge Rim Dr.) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in Volume 12113, Page 1883 SAVE & EXCEPT that property described in Volume 12863, Page 1601 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

Tract 4 - Lot 54, South Cherry Hollow Estates, (Ridge Rim Dr.) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in Volume 12113, Page 1883 SAVE & EXCEPT that property described in Volume 12863, Page 1601 of the Deed Records, Travis County, Texas as

Tract 5 - Lot 55, South Cherry Hollow Estates, (Ridge Rim Dr.) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in Volume 12113, Page 1883 SAVE & EXCEPT that property described in Volume 12863, Page 1601 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

or upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion thereof to satisfy said judgment for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interest and costs of suit and sale; subject, however, to the right of redemption, the defendants or any person, having an interest therein, to redeem the said property, or their interest therein, within the period of time and in the manner provided by law, and subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interested therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interest rendered in the above styled and numbered cause, together with interest thereon and costs of suit and sale, and the proceeds of said sale to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

DATED November 27, 2006, at Austin, Texas.

By Bruce Elfant

CONSTABLE Prec. 5, Travis County, Texas

/s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

You may contact the Plaintiff's attorney at 512-943-1645

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING A CLAIM AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ALLIE GLEN WESSON STOELTJE Deceased, Cause No. 85,849; In Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. On December 12, 2006 Joe E. Stoeltje of Austin, Texas qualified as Independent Executor without bond and administration of the estate of Allie Glen Wesson Stoeltje has commenced. All persons having claims against the estate of Allie Glen Wesson Stoeltje are required to present those claims to Bradley Seals, counsel for the executor, at the address shown below before the estate is closed and within the time prescribed by law. Bradley Seals, Barron & Newburger, 1212 Guadalupe, Suite 104, Austin, Texas 78701.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF HERNDON C. BAILEY, JR., DECEASED The administration of the estate of HERNDON C. BAILEY, JR., Deceased has been commenced by the issuance of original Letters Testamentary to HERNDON BRANDON BAILEY, whose address is P.O. Box 1994, Georgetown, Texas 78627 on December 13, 2006 by the Travis County Probate Court No. 1, acting in Cause No. 85868, styled IN RE: ESTATE OF HERNDON C. BAILEY, JR., DECEASED, in which Court the matter is pending. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby notified to present them within the time prescribed by law, addressed to the representative of the estate at the address shown above.

Dated this 22nd day of December, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

LAW OFFICE OF JOHN F. CAMPBELL, P.C.

1601 Rio Grande, Suite 405

Austin, Texas 78701

(512) 476-6036

(512) 478-8919 (Fax)

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ARPHONELL G. ANDERSON, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ARPHONELL G. ANDERSON, Deceased, were issued on December 12, 2006, in Cause No. 85865 pending in the Probate Court Number 1, Travis County, Texas, to:

ROBERT LYNN ANDERSON

The residence address of the Independent Executor is in Taylor County, Texas, and the mailing address of the Independent Executor is:

c/o Nelson M. Davidson, Jr.

Attorney at Law

P.O. Box 529

Dripping Springs, TX 78620

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 15th day of December, 2006.

Nelson M. Davidson, Jr.

Attorney at Law

/s/ Nelson M. Davidson, Jr.

Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF DAVID G. VAN NOY, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. 85719, styled Estate of David G. Van Noy, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on November 28, 2006, to Carol M. Van Noy.

Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representative of the estate in care of her attorneys at the following address:

c/o Graves, Dougherty,

Hearon & Moody

A Professional Corporation

Attn: Kevin Holcomb

P.O. Box 98

401 Congress, Suite 2200

Austin, Texas 78767-0098

All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 1st day of December, 2006.

GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY

A Professional Corporation

P.O. Box 98

401 Congress, Suite 2200

Austin, Texas 78767-0098

(512)480-5627 Telephone

(512)478-5827 Telecopier

By: /s/ Kevin Holcomb

State Bar ID No.: 09824000

ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BENJAMIN VILLAREAL MOYA, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Benjamin Villareal Moya were issued to Juanita Moya, on December 14, 2006, in Cause No. 85,734, now pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, Sitting in Matters Probate.

The residence of Juanita Moya is 243 Mulberry Street, Uvalde, Uvalde County, Texas 78801. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED December 14, 2006.

WALKER ARENSON, Attorney for Juanita Moya 512.327.4422

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Frances B. Fabish, Deceased, were issued on December 13, 2006, in Docket No. 85826, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Richard A. Fabish.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims shall be addressed to: "Representative, Estate of Frances B. Fabish

c/o John W. Brodnax

John W. Brodnax, P.C.

1202 Lakeway Dr., Suite 1

Lakeway, Texas 78734"

(512) 261-0101

DATED the 13th day of December, 2006.

JOHN W. BRODNAX

ATTORNEY FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 294 of the Texas Probate Code that original letters testamentary for the ESTATE OF

VERONICA A. RUTHERFORD, deceased, were issued on December 12, 2006, in Cause Number 85,781, ESTATE OF VERONICA A. RUTHERFORD, deceased, pending in Probate Court Number One Sitting In Matters Probate, Travis County, Texas, to CECIL H. RUTHERFORD, Independent Executor. The address is: CECIL H. RUTHERFORD, Independent Executor, c/o Rob V. Robertson, Attorney at Law, 13740 Research Blvd., Suite J5, Austin, Texas 78750-1832. All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED: December 13, 2006.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Donald K. Gray, Deceased, were issued on December 12, 2006, in Docket No. 85825, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to:

Daryll Jean Gray.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims shall be addressed to: "Representative, Estate of Donald K. Gray

c/o John W. Brodnax

John W. Brodnax, P.C.

1202 Lakeway Dr., Suite 1

Lakeway, Texas 78734"

(512) 261-0101

DATED the 12th day of December, 2006.

/s/ John W. Brodnax

ATTORNEY FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Jason Brooks, Deceased, were issued on December 12, 2006, in Docket No. 84,607, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Denice Brooks. The address of the Independent Administrator is in Del Valle, Travis County, Texas, the mailing address is: c/o Scofield & Scofield, PC., 1411 West Avenue, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78701-1537.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 12th day of December, 2006.

Scofield & Scofield, P.C.

Attorneys for the Estate

By: /s/ Sam D. Colletti

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mary Thompson, Deceased, were issued on December 14, 2006, under Docket No. 85762, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to Yvonne Thompson.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:

Representative, Estate of Mary Thompson, Deceased

c/o Lawrence J. Morgan

1145 West 5th St. Suite 201

Austin, Texas 78703

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated: December 15, 2006.

LAWRENCE J. MORGAN

1145 West 5th St., Suite 201

Austin, Texas 78703

(512) 391-0950

(512) 391-0952 (fax)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Bruce Perrin Baugh, Deceased, were issued on November 28, 2006, in Cause No. 85767, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to:

Judith Ann Baugh

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law:

c/o: Law Offices of Ellen

Martin, PLLC

4210 Spicewood Springs Road, Suite 106

Austin, Texas 78759

DATED the 18th day of December, 2006

/s/ Ellen Martin

Attorney for Judith Ann Baugh

State Bar No.: 00784531

4210 Spicewood Springs Road, Suite 106

Austin, Texas 78759

Telephone: (512)258-0500

Facsimile: (512)794-3999

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
IFB NUMBER: B070118-RV

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for HVAC Equipment Replacement Phase 2 (Heman Marion Sweatt Courthouse) located in Austin, Texas, will be received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, at the Travis County Purchasing Office, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701 until 2:00 P. M., CST, January 17, 2007, then publicly opened and read aloud. Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office, will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of bids.

A copy of the Project Manual may be obtained by visiting our web site: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp and downloading it, or by visiting the TRAVIS COUNTY PURCHASING OFFICE. A refundable deposit of $100.00 in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County" will be required for each set of bid documents that is obtained directly from the Purchasing Office. The deposit will be refunded if the drawings and specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening. Copies of plans and specifications may be viewed free of charge in the Travis County Purchasing Office. In addition, plans and specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms indicated in Exhibit 1.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID

AV0104 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY. THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.
I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

JANUARY 4, 2007 @ 10:00 AM @ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 4308 TERRY-O LANE, AUSTIN, TX 78745

063391027	1993	DODG	4DR	UNK	FL	2B3ED46T2PH594620
065063950	1984	JEEP	LL	M17KSG	TX	1JCNJ15N8ET089057
065063953	1986	PLYM	4DR	921LBJ	TX	1P3BM18C1GD206464
065063956	1997	MAZD	4DR	H16DDB	TX	1YVGE22C3V5615147
065063968	1992	MERC	4DR	J34ZJB	TX	2MECM74W3NX691282
065064105	1988	CHRY	4DR	Z27YTB	TX	1C3BC56E7JF155454
065064364	1988	FORD	4DR	X56KKP	TX	1FABP57U7JA125296
065064365	1996	CELE	BT	1620HT	TX	CEC11756E696
065064365	1996	ROAD	TRAL	96VKVF	TX	96030762
065064366	1991	CADI	4DR	XHK20K	TX	1G6CD53B8M4311527
065064367	1992	DODG	VN	934CRG	TX	1B4GH44R3NX237813
065064371	1987	HOND	4DR	070LCF	TX	1HGEC4633HA041056
065064374	1995	CHEV	4DR	811BSM	TX	2G1WL52M3S1166446
065064379	1974	CHEV	PK	4988PL	TX	CCV144F366044
065064380	1977	CHEV	PK	9CXNT	TX	CCL447F517506
065065234	1991	MAZD	2DR	ZPF36C	TX	1YVGD31B0M5125510
065065238	1989	HOND	SD	Y04KRT	TX	2HGED6351KH507977
065065239	1978	FORD	PK	UN4639	TX	SGTBTK79882
065065240	1993	PONT	2DR	K81JDJ	TX	1G2NE14N0PM566699
065065244	1997	VOLK	4DR	195CRS	TX	3VWSA81H4VM019614
065065252	1992	HOND	2DR	281LYM	TX	2HGEH2353NH008003
065065253	1984	DATS	4DR	S21FDD	TX	JN1PB11S3EU614218
065065254	1990	GEO	4DR	114HXD	TX	1Y1SK7162LZ052658
065065260	1983	TOYT	2DR	B99VLW	TX	JT2AE72C1D2058157
065065261	1994	FORD	PK	8VWJ61	TX	2FTJW35M0RCA29357
065065265	1982	TOYT	2DR	V55PZD	TX	JT2TE72DXC0202252
065065266	1996	DODG	2DR	VNX54S	TX	4B3AU52N0TE267242
065065267	1992	FORD	VN	505BBX	TX	1FMCA11U1NZA94423
065065268	1992	INFI	4DR	T77WSY	TX	JNKNG01CXNM204247
065065271	1985	TOYT	4DR	858BBX	TX	JT2SV12H4F0296421
065065276	1990	OLDS	4DR	V90DPV	TX	1G3WH54T6LD316021
065065288	1995	STRN	4DR	V76JPJ	TX	1G8ZH5285SZ268504

Car TALK

by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

THE LOGIC BEHIND BACK-IN PARKING

Dear Tom and Ray:

Here in the nation's capital, we have some streets or parking lots with signs that say "back-in parking only." I was ticketed when I overlooked this requirement. My question: What's the advantage of requiring drivers to back in to a parking space? The spot where I was ticketed was on a wide two-way street. I can't see how backing in is safer than backing out. What am I missing? Or is this just to make it easier for the ticket writer to access your windshield? – *Carroll*

TOM: It actually *is* safer, Carroll. By the way, we're talking about parking spaces that are perpendicular, or at an angle, to the curb – not parallel-parking spaces.

RAY: These are spaces that require you to drive past the parking space, stop and then back in.

TOM: The primary advantage is that it's not terribly dangerous to back in to a space – because the cars behind you can see you stopping and signaling – and it's a lot safer to pull *out* going forward.

RAY: Look at it from the other point of view. If you park in the traditional way, you've pulled hood-first into an angled space. Now, when you back out, your trunk goes out first. Where are you? You're at the front of the car. While your car's butt is sticking out into traffic, you can't see if there are cars coming because your view is blocked by the passenger compartments of the cars or SUVs parked next to you. Also, the cars coming down the street have no real warning that you're about to back out. All of a sudden, your trunk starts lurching out into the road.

TOM: Whereas when you back into a space and then pull out, you pull out hood-first, so you are quickly in a position to see over the hoods of the cars next to you and see if any traffic is coming before pulling out onto the road.

RAY: So, believe it or not, Carroll, you have discovered evidence of intelligent life in our nation's capital. Congratulations.

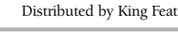
* * *

You want to buy a used car, but how do you find a good one? Tom and Ray can help! Order "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send $4.75 (check or money order) to Used Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

* * *

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at **www.cartalk.com**.

Tune in to *Car Talk* each Saturday at 9am on



©2004 by Tom & Ray Magliozzi and Doug Berman
Distributed by King Features Syndicate

CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON AT 10:00 A. M., CST, January 3, 2007 AT THE TRAVIS COUNTY PURCHASING OFFICE, 314 WEST 11TH STREET, SUITE 400, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701.

A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one-hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds $25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one-hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds $100,000. Bidder should use lump sum pricing.

Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards.

The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened.

**Preston J Inc,
Preston Dugas,
President, Preston**

**Dugas Jr, Director,
Jacqueline Dugas,
Director DBA Wine
Styles is Making
Application with
the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine
and Beer Retailer's
Permit On the Address of 4301 W.
William Cannon,
Blg B Suite 190,
Austin, Travis
County, Texas.**

SECTION 00010

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to Taylor Woodrow Communities/Steiner Ranch, Ltd. for furnishing all labor, materials, equipment, and performing all work required for the construction of Steiner Ranch, River Dance Phase Four A Water, Wastewater and Drainage Improvements and South Quinlan Park Road Lift Station Improvements will be received at the office of: Bury+Partners, Inc., 3345 Bee Caves Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78746 until 2:00 p.m., January 16, 2006. Bids will be opened publicly and reviewed by the Owner. Any proposal received after the closing time will be returned unopened. Proposals shall be plainly marked with name and address of the BIDDER and the following words:

PROPOSAL FOR Steiner Ranch, River Dance, Phase 4A WATER, WASTEWATER AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND SOUTH QUINLAN PARK ROAD LIFT STATION IMPROVEMENTS.

The STEINER RANCH, RIVER DANCE, Phase 4A Water, Wastewater and Drainage Improvements and South Quinlan Park Road Lift Station Improvements proposal includes ±3,200 LF Right of Way Preparation; ±2,700 LF of 18"-30" Class III RCP storm sewer with inlets, headwalls, manholes, and drainage appurtenances; ±4,000 LF of 8"-12" water line with fire hydrants, valves and associated appurtenances; ±3,500 LF of 8"-12" gravity wastewater sewer lines with manholes and wastewater appurtenances; ±2,300 LF of 2"-8" wastewater forcemain, cleanouts, valves and associated appurtenances; 1 lift station with associated equipment; temporary erosion controls, improvements to the existing South Quinlan Park Road Lift Station and all necessary appurtenances for the proposed water, wastewater and drainage improvements. All work must conform to State of Texas, City of Austin, County of Travis and Water Control and Improvement District #17 rules and criteria.

Copies of the Plan, Specifications, and Bidding Documents will be on file at the office of Bury+Partners, Inc., 3345 Bee Caves Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78746, where they may be examined without charge. Copies may be examined or obtained from the ENGINEER on or after 1:00pm, December 28, 2006, for a non-refundable fee of $100.00 per set. Checks for Plans and Specifications, and Bidding Documents shall be made payable to Taylor Woodrow Communities/Steiner Ranch, LTD.

A Cashier's Check, Certified Check or acceptable BIDDER's Bond payable to Taylor Woodrow Communities/ Steiner Ranch, Ltd. in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the Bid must accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the Contract, the BIDDER will enter into a contract and execute bonds within ten (10) days of award of the Contract. Performance and Payment Bonds shall also be executed on the forms furnished by the OWNER and shall specifically provide for "Performance" and for "Labor and Materials Payment". Each bond shall be issued in an amount if one hundred percent (100%) of contract price by a solvent Surety company, authorized to do business in the State of Texas and acceptable to the OWNER.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any and all bids to waive any and all technicalities and formalities in bidding. The OWNER reserves the right to determine which bids are lowers and best, and to aware the Contract on this basis. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after opening of the bids. If a submitted bid is withdrawn within said period, bid guaranty shall become the property of the OWNER, not as penalty, but as liquidated damages, or OWNER may pursue any other action allowed by law. A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on January 4, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. in the Taylor Woodrow Office at 3405 Grimes Ranch Road, Austin, Texas 78732. Prospective bidders are encouraged to visit the project site.

X96-06464

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, on the 7th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered X96-06464, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and George D. Cosby and Janice M. Cosby are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$5,417.48** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on July 17, 2000.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 3235, Bar-K Ranches Plat 3, Plat No. 57/15 as described in Volume 7658, Page 268 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$5,417.48** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X96-10959

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200th District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered X96-10959, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and Herman Susilo are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$6,093.09** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 29, 1998.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 58C, Lago Vista Travis Plaza, Plat No. 39/50 as desc. In Vol. 7276, Pg. 259 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$6,093.09** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X98-11966

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY

DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53RD District Court of Travis County, on the 17th day of November, 2006 in a certain cause numbered X98-11966, wherein Travis County, Austin Independent School District, Austin Community College, Travis County Hospital District and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 5 are plaintiffs, and O.V. Grubert are defendant(s), in favor of

said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 191866 = $2,763.09, Tract Two: Billing Number 192266 = $3,530.56, Tract Three: Billing Number 192265 = $3,502.48, Tract Four: Billing Number 192267 = $3,514.78, Billing Number 192275 = $2,023.49** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53RD District Court of Travis County, Texas, on January 13, 2006.

I, on the 27th day of November, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of January, 2007, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT ONE: BILLING NO. 191866

A tract shown as Green Belt, Arroyo Doble Estates, Section 1, Plat No. 70/71, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as being a portion as described in Volume 4345, Page 312 of the Travis County Deed Records

TRACT TWO: BILLING NO.: 192266

Lot 17, Arroyo Doble, Plat No. 59/66, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as being a portion as described in Volume 4296, Page 2211 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

TRACT THREE: BILLING NO.: 192265

Lot 16, Arroyo Doble, Plat No. 59/66, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as a being a portion as described in Volume 2546, Page 454 and Volume 4296, Page 2211 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

TRACT FOUR: BILLING NO.: 192267

Lot 18, Arroyo Doble, Plat No. 59/66, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as being a portion as described in Volume 4296, Page 2211 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

TRACT FIVE: BILLING NO.: 192275

The Eastern portion of that tract shown as Onion Creek, Arroyo Doble, Plat No. 59/66, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as being a portion as described in Volume 2546, Page 454; Volume 4296, Page 2211 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 191866 = $2,763.09, Tract Two: Billing Number 192266 = $3,530.56, Tract Three: Billing Number 192265 = $3,502.48, Tract Four: Billing Number 192267 = $3,514.78, Billing Number 192275 = $2,023.49** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 30th day of November, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

909 Prairie Trail • South of Kramer, west of Lamar.
836-9767, Mon- Fri 8am-6pm • 294-2885 off hours
www.autodepotaustin.com

Thanks, Austin - Again #1

Voted Best of Austin 4 times
.....
#1 Repair Shop
.....
#1 Used Cars

FREE OIL CHANGE W/ COUPON ON REPAIR OVER $250

special cars of the week:

2000 Civic EX 2 door coupe, AT, 122K, 6 mos/6000 mile warranty. Nice car that drives perfectly with new timing belt. $6950.

1998 CRV Honda with 126K. Looks, runs, drives perfectly. 6 mos/6000 mile warranty. $6850.

1996 Chevy Silverado Xcab pickup. Loaded, leather. $4950.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All.

auto depot

Had an accident? Need AC? Drive axles? A Clutch? Fixing your car is a bummer. We'll save you money.

MOTOR

610 CARS

2001 GMC JIMMY S15
Clean. $9,988.
www.PavilionLM.com

2003 BMW 325i
39K, New Condition
www.PavilionLM.com

2003 LEXUS ES
Leather, sunroof,
41,000 miles. $23,888
www.PavilionLM.com

2005 SATURN VUE
31K, Nice!! $14,988
www.PavilionLM.com

AUTOMOBILES
CENTRALTXAUTOS.COM
Find your next car here

2006 FORD MUSTANG
Convertible, Leather,
15,000 miles. $20,788
www.PavilionLM.com

AUTOS $500 POLICE IMPOUNDS, Cars from $500! Tax Repos, US Marshal and IRS sales! Car's, Truck's, SUV's, Toyota's, Honda's, Chevy's and more! For Listings Call 1-800-298-4150 ext. C107 (AAN CAN)

BUY AUTO Don't lose money before you trade in or sell. We buy; Cars, Trucks, & SUVs (used or not running). Call 512-442-4444
topdollarspaid.com

CADILLAC DEVILLE 1990 One owner. Has new radiator, runs great, working AC,.Needs pwr brake unit, has some very minor body damage, pwr windows and locks work but need a tune up. Car is Champagne color paint and interior. Must see. Asking price is $3,500.00 OBO. 512-447-0581

CADILLAC 1991 Deville. 4dr, 76K miles. Lt Grey/Lt grey. Very nice. As-is. $3000
Sammy: 512-925-6921

FORD CROWN VICTORIA LX 1992 Paid 3900.00. Sacrifice. Loaded. Needs AC work and fan/heat controller. 1500.00 cash. 448-9659.

HONDAS From $500!
Police impounds for sale.
Chevy's, Jeeps, etc. For listings 800-544-1092 ext 7032

MINI COOPERS
5 to choose from. 2003-2005 starting at $16,988.
www.PavilionLM.com

NISSAN 300ZX 1986 114K miles. Very nice condition. 2nd owner. Alex 636-3360

615 TRUCKS

TRUCKS
CENTRALTXAUTOS.COM
2500+ Local Vehicles

620 SUV'S

CHEVROLET SUBURBAN 1988 88 Chev. Suburban, 2 wheel drive, 1/2 ton, runs $1400 OBO. Cash only ph. 512-836-0824

INTERNATIONAL SCOUT II 1976 has hard top and a lot of work done. please email seasonb@gmail.com with offer

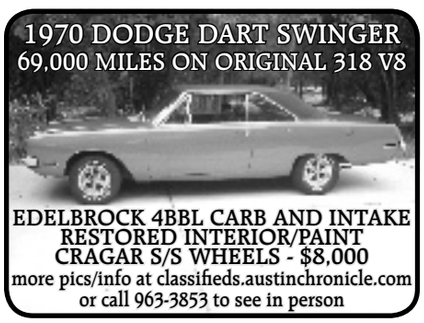
MITSUBISHI MONTERO LS 1995 Car in good condition by KBB standards. A/C; PW/PD; recent oil change. 512-769-9882

630 RECREATIONAL

JEEP 1978 CJ-7, NEW AMC 360, rebuilt tranny, ox-locker, mickey thompson tires, too much to post.13,500 903-819-7487

MINI TRUCK 1992 Honda ACTY $5,600 Free Delivery within 60 Miles of Austin. http://www.ddlequipment.com

TRAILER RENTAL Salem Trailer sleeps 6 www.firstchoice-autodetail.com





MUSIC

710 EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

AUDIO CONSOLE Behringer Eurodesk 24 Channel mixing board.Call Will 512-771-1913.

AUDIO INTERFACE M-Audio Delta 66. New. $160 obo wshngmchne@yahoo.com

GUITAR



Hand Crafted
Classical Guitars
by
Kenny Hill
Alejandro Cervantes
Francisco Navarro
Pete Barthell

Acoustic Haven
Guitars of Austin
By Appointment
www.acoustichaven.com
512-697-9371

DISTORTION PEDAL Keeley DS-Ultra: Modified Boss DS-1 Like new. $90 Call 905-4659

DRUM SET 3pc Set-BLACK. Ages 2-5yrs.Brand New,Still in Box!Call Adam 409-719-6348

DRUM SET 6 Piece Pearl Export Series drum set w/ pacific pedals, double base pedal, full double winged rack, crash, ride, splash & high hat symbols all included. Originally $1200, asking $595, OBO. Scott, 803-0137.

GUITAR Alvarez Acoustic/Elect Nylon RC20SC Cutaway. $250.00 obo. (512)415-0405

PIANO FOR SALE! Beautiful, Solid, Dark Walnut. 512-394-1230.

STUDIO MICROPHONE Neumann TLM103 $650Barely used. Call Joe (480)200-6064

715 MUSIC INSTRUCTION

ACCELERATED MUSIC LESSONS Fast Learning Method. Guitar, bass, voice, mandolin, music theory; by ear or notes. 244-3935.

BASS LESSONS
STRUM MUSIC SCHOOL
Electric and Upright
All styles of music
www.StrumAustin.com
512-328-5878

DRUM LESSONS IN the northwest Austin, Lakeway, and Cedar Park areas. Dave 965-7542

DRUM LESSONS
NICK'S DRUM STUDIO
Drum set lessons for professionals and students that want to be professionals.
512-255.1786
www.nicksdrumstudio.com

GUITAR First lesson free. All styles and levels accepted. Specialty in beginners and children. 25 yrs experience. N. Austin location. Hugh Chandler. 832-6068

GUITAR
GUITAR & BASS LESSONS
STRUM MUSIC SCHOOL
Experienced teachers
Fun and relaxed environment
Rock, Blues, Country, Jazz, Classical, Metal, etc. Theory, technique, ear training
Rhythm & lead - Acoustic & Electric. **Learn to play your favorite songs or create your own music.**
www.StrumAustin.com
512-328-5878

GUITAR INSTRUCTION GTR Lessons Beginner -- intermediate only. Acoustic/electric, rhythm/lead, rock, blues, metal, finger style, alternate tunings. Learn songs or playing styles. 23+ years playing experience, knows music theory, perfect pitch, built two guitars. $25/hr. South Austin. 426-6296.

GUITAR LESSONS
STRUM MUSIC SCHOOL
Acoustic and Electric
All styles of music
www.StrumAustin.com
512-328-5878

GUITAR LESSONS Experienced pro. 20+ years in the business. UNT, GIT Grad. Beginners, advanced players welcome. Reasonable rates. LEARN WITH THE CURLYMANN! 512-445-2694

GUITAR LESSONS
Great teacher, fun enviroment. Any age, level & style. BA in Music. 10 yrs exp. Aaron 775-4169

GUITAR LESSONS Berklee College of Music grad, professional environment, one-on-one, Marcus 694-6067

HARMONICA Michael Rubin michaelrubinharmonica.com
619-0761

PIANO VOICE GUITAR FLUTE Pignotti Music Studio. Exp. professionals. All ages, all levels. 11106 Sage Hollow Dr. 873-8309 Austin.

VOCAL Instruction & Coaching for singers, aspiring singers & songwriters. All ages, All levels. With experienced teacher & acclaimed singer/songwriter. 386-9428
www.lisarichardsmusic.com

VOCAL -CONTEMPORARY Training. Build range, power & fix difficulties with exp.
degreed expert. All styles: rock to classical. 419-9905

VOCAL INSTRUCTION
STRUM MUSIC SCHOOL
Find your OWN voice.
Increase strength & stamina
www.StrumAustin.com
512-328-5878

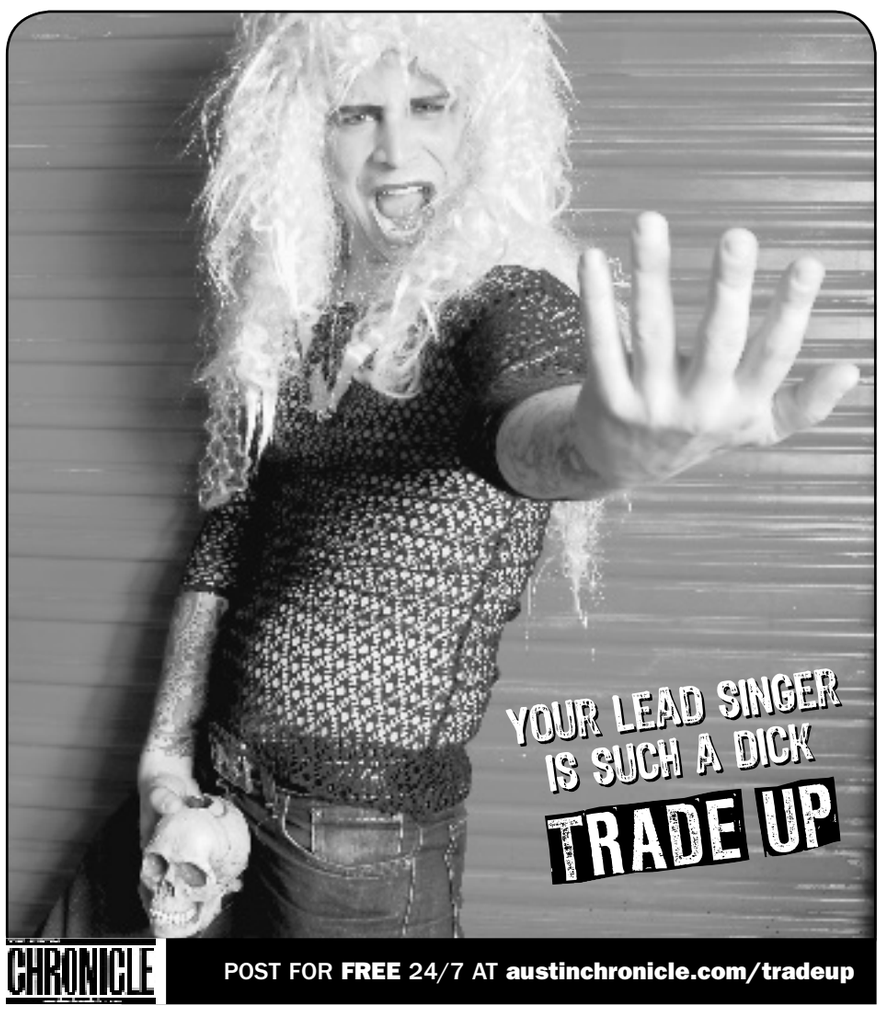
VOICE LESSONS for singers of all ages. All experience levels welcome. Professional recording studio on site. Call Emily Bem at 784-7728.

VOICE TRAINING Technique of the Stars. Certified Speech level singing.
www.OctaveHigher.com

WEBSITE
Vocals? Check. Guitar player? Check. Keyboards? Check.

Still looking for that magic drummer to make your dreams come true? They might be online...check out **austinchronicle.com/classifieds.**





720 MUSICIANS AVAILABLE

BASS Strg Voc/Bass/gtr/Front Man -25+ yrs exp-Ctry/Americana/Ctry Rock-Austin area only No drugs ttracy@austin.rr.com

DRUMS/PERCUSSION Seasoned drummer seeks band to play classic rock tunes (70's/80's) for fun (1-2 gigs/month).VERY dependable w/ place to practice in N RR.Call Craig, 512-740-8998 or cgeurin@austin.rr.com.

GUITAR ist available for paid gigs. Lots of experience. Pro equipment. Reliable. Greg: 448-2011

GUITAR ist looking for post rock/instrumental band ala mogwai, explosions. lots of f/x+loud amp=wall of sound. dj_line6@yahoo.com

MUSICIANS available Drummer 40+ years playing exp. Seeking to collaborate with other musicians of any age. Who like to improvise w/ their instruments w/ complex, dense musical structures, i.e jazz, math rock, cartoon soundtracks. Sequencing, tape loops, and samplers a big plus. Call 707-0825.

OTHER Drummer Available Jan 1st.BNA&WarnerBros,more.. Steve Tenpenny-on myspace-Luke Ayres(615)3088383

VOICE Looking for band! I sing, scream, play guitar, bass, drums, keys. Songs and contact at caalma.com and www.myspace.com/caalma

VOICE Vocals, rhythm guitars, harmonica, songs, professional. Country, blues, rock & roll. www.myspace.com/stevepowertx

725 MUSICIANS WANTED

BASS F Vox Violin Percsn-Music's ethereal & emotional-Must hve equipmt & transptn. Contact "i" 512-257-7197

BASS ist needed for Austin based 70% cover act (mostly classic/modern rock/r&b)w/booking agent. contact: (512)288-9287

BASS Southern Rockers unite! Ma Ferguson seeks experienced drummer and bass player to complete their line up! Vocals a plus! Skynyrd, Allmans, Blackfoot etc. covers and some originals, exp. only please! Jay 569-5238

BASS ist wanted for working band.Pro only. Classic rock based. call for website (512)927-9874

BASS Stand-up bass needed for psycadellic folk band. 524-0390 www.myspace.com/theloversaustin

BASS Needed for orig. Hard Rock/Metal - tunes at myspace.com/housewreckermusic

BASS eBandBuilder.com FreeSite4Musicians-hundreds of local profiles-totally free. Musician Network Developed by musicians

BASS singer/songwriter w/ original material seeks drummer & bassist. Infl: Pearl Jam, Beatles, Ben Harper. Call Chris @ 680-5004.

DRUMS/PERCUSSION RainSliver seeking new drummer. Must love to play and be reliable. tony@AustinHardRock.com

DRUMS/PERCUSSION Drummer wanted,start up killers/post-punk cover band.avail. nights, weekends.br78752@yahoo.com

DRUMS/PERCUSSION drummer for rock/pop/ambient band. 24-32 y/o ;infl:pearl jam,incubus,zep,beatles tympanicband@yahoo.com

DRUMS/PERCUSSION Starting an indie electro band! Need dedicated, enthusiastic musicians. Sounds like the Sounds, Shiny Toy Guns, Depeche Mode, Metric, the Cure, Cyndi Lauper. Need female vocals, synth, and drums. email: tmontgomery@berklee.net

DRUMS/PERCUSSION myspace.com/atoneaustintx hard rock/alternative band. Drummer wanted, call WAZ 512.577.8285

DRUMS/PERCUSSION GUITAR LOOKING 4 DRUMS TO JAM HARDROCK. HALF SERIOUS. MATT912-9899

DRUMS/PERCUSSION needed for spiritual original afrosoulfunk. folk reggae world jazz LOVE. singing praise. clean. 928-2281

GUITAR F Vox Violin Percsn-Music's ethereal & emotional-Must hve equipmt & transptn. Contact "i" 512-257-7197

GUITAR Seeking guitarist. Influences:Incubus/Rage/Puya/Mars Volta.ect Members: Singer,Bass,Drums,D.J. & Percussionist. 512-740-8854

GUITAR Lead/Rythym wanted for 60's rock/British Invasion project. Vocals a BIG plus. Dependable & mature eagle_i_56@yahoo.com

GUITAR (exceptional,reliable,fun)join artist for cd/gigs.soulful music.for peace.$ rehersals.

GUITAR lead wanted for est. Austin country band. Origs/covers, 8 gigs/month $100 avg. Some local travel, Pros only countryband77@yahoo.com

KEYBOARD Equipped for anything. Good gear; MIDI skillz, 20yrs exp. Looking for 5-8 shows/mo. player_mode@yahoo.com

KEYBOARD F Vox Violin Percsn-Music's ethereal & emotional-Must have equipmt & transptn. Contact "i" 512-257-7197

KEYBOARD Killers/postpunk cover band intermed. level needs keyboardist.free rehearsal space. br78752@yahoo.com

MUSICIANS WANTED Hiring background vocalists for recording project. Male and female. Country, rock, funk, reggae, and blues. Wade 917-8147.

OTHER Online Talent Search for Best New Artists/Bands in Pop, Rock, Hip Hop, Country, R&B and Comedy. Submit your performance video now at www.famecast.com to compete for fame and $10,000.

OTHER Practice Space/Recording Studio + available control room. Private entrance. $500 a month + $100 deposit. 512-294-3829

OTHER Asylum Street Spankers seek talented multi-instrumentalist: fiddle, madolin, banjo, accordian, clarinet, trombone, etc. Must be willing to tour. 512.402.0320

OTHER Drummers, Bagpipers wanted, Capitol City Highlanders band; free instruction. Nick Classen, 512-346-3123.

VOICE Lead vocalist needed for recording project. Must be exp. & talented. Rock, blues, & funk covers & originals. Call Scott 512-658-6006.

VOICE Established Metal band seeks killer scream and melodic singing. Pros. Do whatever it takes to make it. 767-5725. Killswitch, Trivium

WIND F Vox Violin Percsn-Music's ethereal & emotional-Must hve equipmt & transptn. Contact "i" 512-257-7197

730 RECORDING STUDIOS

ALBUM Experimental production for concept records. Custom recording packages for any project. http://www.jacketweather.com or call 512-731-6094.

AUDIO

Upcoming demo project? Flexible day and per-song rates. Estb. studio. Past work posted at myspace.com/jacketweatherrecords

Call Brandon 512-731-6094

AUDIO

ALTA VISTA RECORDING

8 hrs/$150

Great drum sounds.

512-326-5490

AltaVistaRecording.com

****IGNITING EXCELLENCE****

CD DUPLICATION MUSIC LAB 100 cd deal for $135. 50 cd deal for $100. Deals include:

Duplication, 1-color print on CDs and jwl case.

http://www.musiclab.net Call 326-3816 for more info

DUPLICATION/GRAPHICS

Complete Services Under One Roof

Graphics, Printing & Manufacturing. Great service from people who care!

454-8324 or 800-880-0270

RECORDING STUDIO

BRAIN MACHINE

Recording Special!

thebrainmachine.com

(512) 836-3100

RECORD MIX MASTER

Great rates, fast turn-around! THEBRAINMACHINE.COM

(512) 836-3100

RECORDING

Learn the Art of Recording!

Start Your Career in the Entertainment Industry Today!

From the technical and creative know-how to hands-on training by industry professionals, our world-class multi-studio recording school in Austin teaches you all the skills you need to succeed in the entertainment industry. For more info and to tour our Recording Studios, call our toll free number.

866-498-1122

mediatech institute

www.meditechinstitute.com

Austin • Dallas • Houston

RECORDING STUDIO

singular audio

singularaudio.com

myspace.com/singularaudio

512-524-5252

GET A RECORD 'DEAL'

DOLLAR A DAY DEMO only $365

- 7 hours track/mix/master
- 100 printed + cased CDRs

ROCK STAR DEMO only $1666

- 16 hrs track/mix/master
- 1000 retail ready CD's

Sound like you want it! VISA/MC/AMEX/DISC

RECORDING STUDIO Need a great studio? 2,500 sq ft. big rooms, high ceilings, major lable credits. low rates 219-9053 www.austintoboston.com

RECORDING STUDIO

LoungeActsStudio.com

Great rates. Call 659-6741.

STUDIO

Studio Illusions

- **48 Channel Studio**
- **Neumann Vocal Mics.**

New Years Demo Special

5 songs/$350

Mastered and Recorded

258-9100 or 806-438-8037

STUDIO $99 Solo Recording Package. 5 studio hours for recording and mixing up to three songs. Call anytime 835-8735 www.audiomoxie.com.

STUDIO

Live Digital Recordings.

On sight duplication.

Pre printed packages.

Check out audio samples @

www.affordablesound.com

459.5253

STUDIO NOISE FARM AUSTIN'S ROCK & METAL STUDIO 512-284-0242

www.noisefarmstudio.com

735 RENTALS SERVICES

CD/DVD MANUFACTURING

EMA Disc Manufacturing

Now offering short runs

1 copy & up

50 full color laser posters $45

Jewel cases, digipaks, wallets, & stickers

Call 388-1998 or toll free 800-678-1998.

www.cdmaker.com

PROMOTION

12" x 18" GLOSSY POSTERS!

100 - $79!!!

Advertise your shows

512-459-5253

www.affordablesound.com

REHEARSAL SPACE Low monthly/daily rates.

Band Co-op. 339-1276 or DP 473-5050

STICKERS FOR BANDS 500 FULL-COLOR STICKER SPECIAL ONLY $139.

Call 873-9626 or www.theBumperSticker.com

740 SHAMELESS PROMOTION

HEAVY METAL KIDS CD "The Big Bang!" by Rockosaurus Rex. Rock/Metal versions of 21 Classic Kids' songs.Buy at Waterloo & Moxie in Austin or online at cdbaby.com & amazon.com www.rockosaurusrex.com

HONKYTONK DAD Funniest Blog on the Web? newwest.net/bobwire. Spinal Tap meets Hee-Haw as Bob Wire serves up big steaming ladles of life.

SUPER PARTY EKE4@ EMO'S-SAT. DEC. 23-MUSIC: VISITORS, RORY+THE ARTIFICIAL HEART & POMPEII. ART: CARLOS SILVA, BEN TIPTON, CASEY DUNN, JUSTIN COX+more & DJ BRIAN TWEEDY.

ZEEGRASS 2 Russian bands Zeegrass and Repa Sat Dec 23 at Mood & Food - 10601 Ranch Road 2222, (512) 266-7979 7-10pm keep Austin weird and international

1000 Retail Ready CDs $999.

100 Retail Ready CDs $295.

100 Promotional CDs $125.

12X18 Color Posters $.79ea

est. 1997 A/S BBB

LEAVE IT TO THE PROS

AFFORDABLESOUND.COM

459.5253

YOU NEED IT WE GOT IT

MUSIC LAB

REHEARSAL AND RECORDING STUDIOS

CD Specials at Oltorf

100 for $125

50 for $90

Full Service Rehearsal Rooms

Hourly, Monthly, Lockout Capability

Full Storage for Gear

Complete Rental and Backline Department

Full Recording studio, and Digital Video Editing

TWO LOCATIONS

1306 W. OLTORF / 500 E. ST. EUMO

512-916-9816 512-707-0550

SRI

SOUND RECORDERS, INC.

Professional Quality Proven Results

CDs, DVDs, CD-ROMs, Cassettes, Mastering, Graphic Design, Printing, & Packaging

(512) 454-8324

(800) 880-0270

4031 Guadalupe, Austin, TX 78751

www.soundrecordersinc.com

DISCOVER VISA COMPACT DISC DIGITAL AUDIO SONIC SOLUTIONS

Do You Want to MAKE A RECORD?

AUSTIN RECORDS CAN HELP!

- Professional Production and Facilities -
- A Beautiful Hill Country Studio Setting -
- Impressive Clientele -

Call or email for more information

AUSTIN RECORDS INC

830-798-2181

info@austinrecordsdirect.com

FREE Pro Audio/Recording Seminars Every Wednesday!

---> PRO-TAPE SYSTEMS <---

SALES • RENTALS • SERVICES • TRAINING

Adobe • Apple • Audio-Technica • Avid • Canon • Denon

Digidesign • JVC • Panasonic • Sennheiser • Sony • Tascam

Authorized Apple & Pro Tools Sales-Service

Rent or buy the gear OR let us do the job FOR you!

CD & DVD DUPLICATION-PRINTING

Highest Quality Thermal Printing • Fast Turnaround

VIDEO, AUDIO AND DATA TRANSFER

Mini DV • VHS • Betacam • CD • DVD • Data Files

www.pro-tape.com • 443-3911

4120 Commercial Center Drive, Suite 500

Learn the Art of Recording

Start Your Career in the Entertainment Industry Today!

From the technical and creative know-how to hands-on training by industry professionals, our world-class multi-studio recording school in Austin teaches you all the skills you need to succeed in the entertainment industry. For more information and to tour our Recording Studios, call our toll free number.



mediatech institute

www.mediatechinstitute.com

Dallas • Austin • Houston

Toll Free: 866-498-1122

Easy Street



free! CREATE A PROFILE AND BROWSE MORE ADS ONLINE!
austinchronicle.com/easystreet

YOUNG SEX FIEND
Just got out of a relationship and looking for some hot fun. Well endowed gentlemen a plus. I'm up for almost anything. Trust me, you'll keep cumming back for more. **missJ**, 19, 📷, **#119914**

BIG BREASTED BOMBSHELL
Looking for a man who appreciates an hour glass figure and big, beautiful all natural breasts for play, discreet encounters, or a relationship. Big, muscular guys are a turn-on! **DDarling**, 33, 📷, **#119360**

LIBRARIAN LOVER
In an open marriage. Not looking for a relationship. More like a rainstorm; a fun and honest lover. Please no christians or republicans Must love films and libraries. **LucifersWaitress**, 26, 📷, **#119103**

IT'S PLAYTIME BOYS
I'm looking for a man that's sweet and caring but i get bored easily so he needs to be full of surprises so that i never get bored. **austinpartygurl1985**, 21, 📷, **#119045**

BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY
Masturbation is okay, but I miss sex. I like 'em tall, athletic, attentive, creative/romantic, intelligent/philosophical. I/you live centrally and exercise daily. Looking to enjoy life/safely satisfy my sexual cravings. Peace! **she_bop**, 38, ☎, 📷, **#118419**

ROMANTIC NERD
I am a big nerd, I enjoy intellegent debate, gaming and a little romance. I love cuddling and long makeout sessions. I am always looking for new adventures in bed. **AmbyRhodes**, 19, 📷, **#115371**

LETS PLAY
Im a 35 year old ,BBW who is married with kids , who is looking for someone to play with on the side. Must be fun, single, and open minded. **Angel_Love71**, 35, 📷, **#101147**

FUN AND ORGASMS
Open-minded,intelligent people who love to laugh.She's a BBW,so another smart, curvy girl would fit in perfectly. We also both have a fantasy of finding that special T-Girl to get to know. **Tx24u**, 35, 📷, **#119936**

DAMNHIPPIEPERVS
my girlfriend and I are looking for some playmates. we like all types as long as youre down for fun and have an open mind and imagination. **rocknzac**, 22, ☎, 📷, **#119519**

COUPLE SEEKING FEMALE
We are looking for a bi female that is openminded and is interested in great feel good sex. Someone that is not afraid to explore sexual fantasies. And creative also. **EroticCupl**, 30, 📷, **#119517**

THICKN SEXY CPL
Fun couple,him husky she plus sized. Love thick confident women. seeking single female to join with him, play with her, if onlyw/him she must watch couples also.must be kind, cleanand,discreet. **FunThickloving-Couple**, 26, 📷, **#119274**

READY FOR FUN!
Just looking for fun...can you deliver? **freak69ntxxx**, 38, 📷, **#119240**

THREE'S COMPANY
Attractive and adventurous couple seeks another woman to join us for one evening of play. Playful, passionate and looking for same. This is in Austin, the last weekend in October. **VinnyandFrankie**, 23, 📷, **#119236**

ISO CUTE GIRL
Attractive couple ISO a cute girl. She is 5'4 120, He is 6'0 160. We go to downtown with you, flirt, makeout, party... **Want_sum_fun**, 27, 📷, **#118971**

COUPLE LOOKING 4FUN....
Fun-loving couple, confident in their relationship. Looking to expand our sexual relationship. She is bi-curious and ready to experience new things. He wants to come along for the ride. **nikki32aus**, 33, 📷, **#118935**

CUTE COUPLE
Sexy latin couple: She 28,5'O'' 120 pounds, He, 33, 5'7'', 170 pounds, looking for bi o couriours ladie for first time 3some, she is not bi, just couriours. No plays. **latinking**, 33, 📷, **#101212**

FIESTY LITTLE THING
i may be fat but let me tell you i can ..... **lilome**, 24, 📷, **#118488**

OH MY HEAVENS
We are an attractive, well-educated couple looking for bi-sexual women/couples (man and woman) for discreet encounters. We are relatively inexperienced, and seek attractive, height/weight proportionate parties interested in no-drama fun. **Pollette**, 25, 📷, **#117341**

ADVENTUROUS, DISCRETE, FUN
Experienced couple that loves to play with adventurous couples . Select bi, single males and females welcome. We are very clean, DDF, and expect the same. We require extreme discretion. **kulcpl**, 38, ☎, 📷, **#116581**

BICURIOUS MINUS 'CURIOUS'
I am a bi-curious 21 year old female who is looking for the perfect girl to experiment with for the first time. Send me a message.

VOYEUR SEEKS COUPLE
SWF average build voyeur seeks mm or ff couple to view. Also seeks m or f for discreat sex/play. Disease free, please. **PantsConquistador**, 18, 📷, **#119714**

BI-GIRL WANTS PLAY
I'm looking for nice, fun, ddf & clean playmates. I'm friendly, chubby, fun, smart and very sexual. I'm not looking for a relationship, just friends. With benefits, of course. **miasola67**, 39, ☎, 📷, **#119279**

SMALL TOWN GIRL
small town girl looking for someone to show her the ways in the bedroom. Very curious and want to explore. **smalltown**, 25, 📷, **#118623**

WANTED: KINKY GIRL
I'm adorable and I hope you are too! I would be happy to cater to your kinkiest, darkest and weirdest fantasies. Would you help me with mine??? **KinkyDoll**, 19, 📷, **#117573**

DAGUYINBLU
Hey im a young guy looking for action.. and looking for dat sugardaddy, wanting to experience new things.. **daguyinblu**, 18, 📷, **#119820**

YOUNG CURIOUS GUY
Young college guy looking for some new experiences and some fun. More dominant than submissive. **Curiousjoe**, 19, ☎, 📷, **#119359**

HOTGUY LOOKING FOR
Hispanic Bottom, looking for a discret encounter and a relationship with a Top guy. I am discret Open to new things with guys around my age or youngers.46yrs. **antonio_3638**, 42, 📷, **#118402**

CANGO15HOURS
looking for a woman that will do anything twice and loves to have sex for hours.anything goes the first two times at least. **butterlicious**, 36, 📷, **#119955**

SURPRISE PACKAGE
I'm a quiet gugy - I get the looks but havent done enough about it until now! Looking for a friend for some discreet mutual fun... **jamiesdog**, 28, 📷, **#119683**

POLYAMOROUS BISEXUAL TIGER
Raconteur, entrepreneur. Fit, attractive, bright, witty, creative cat about town seeks couples or singles who feel sex should be a lighthearted form of play. Join me in my hot tub! **cheshirecat**, 42, 📷, **#118817**

LOOKING FOR PLAYMATE'S
A shy guy jest looking for someone to play with. Willing to try anything!!! Some ladies have said my tongue is my best feature. HintÔhintÔ. **doggy**, 36, 📷, **#117769**

THEHEATISON
Looking to meet girls/guys(orgroups) to get together for dinner and drinks and see whats what. Basically attractive healthy people that want to have a good time, i'm up for anything! **mrcoffeeman81**, 25, 📷, **#116510**

UP4ALMOSTANYTHING
im very open minded and welling to try new things.. very well endowed n DDF. i have photos to exchange. **up4almostanythingg**, 26, ☎, 📷, **#116083**

HAPPY STICK
Hello, this is a laid back Bisexual male looking to make friends or just have a good time. Love to do many things. Looking for the same. **realmann77**, 29, ☎, 📷, **#115825**

CROSSDRESSER ISO GIRLFRIEND
I am a very passable and kinky crossdresser. I am bisexual, but prefer women. I'm primarily looking for a girlfriend, but occassional play partners and friendships are good, too. **kinky_violet**, 25, 📷, **#120083**

SEXY TS
iím a very sexy, very hot passable transsexual. iím 5í10ĩ 145 pounds with sexy hormonally induced breasts. iím very classy, too, and dress very provocatively. iím 28 years old. **nicole_anais**, 29, 📷, **#115140**

NEW KINDA GIRL
For a New Year, "Take a walk on the wildside" with me. Im a hot Transexual interested in sexy fun with guys who like Chicks with something extra. no strings. **BlondeHottie**, 32, ☎, 📷, **#101055**

CROWD PLEASER!
I am adventurous and sexual and looking for those that are equally fun - making out, body contact, massages, oral pleasures, passionate love making, animalistic sex, bondages, dom/sub play, exhibitionism. **AustinFun25**, 25, 📷, **#120079**

JAMACIANS DO-IT BEST!!!
just moved to austin from new york and not much fun ...yet!!! what do u suggest? am try-sexual..... i'll try anything once and if your nice maybe twice..... **windianking**, 25, 📷, **#120062**

SOUTH AUSTIN
sexy, young artist in south austin looking for fun time...eager to please... let me explore your body and perhaps you will model for my artwork? **dsaustin**, 22, 📷, **#120060**

OLDER WOMEN LOVER
SWM 5í10ĩ Well endowed seeks sexy older women/couples for fun. Iím mature, and very open minded. I understand being discreet is important. Older women are so sexy to me. **AnonymousGuy**, 26, 📷, **#119986**

EAGER 2 PLEASE
Looking erotic explortaions in all fashions!!!! Open to almost anything!! Aim 2 please indeed. **mnw1980**, 26, 📷, **#119970**

FANTASIES
i m looking for full fill my fantasies as well as yours..i m very dominating and love role play... **charmingaustinguy**, 31, 📷, **#119966**

2GOOD 2MISS
If you're a hot girl, energetic, unique and bright I'm interested so speak up! I expect quality conversation too so it will help if you've traveled or matured since school. **Aquaman**, 28, 📷, **#118277**

NEEDING COMPANIONSHIP IMMEDIATELY
I am an honors law student, employed in the private-sector legal profession. I'm seeking someone nice for regular dating and discreet encounters. It's been too long since I had sex! **119739**, 36, 📷, **#119739**

MUSCULAR DEVIANT ANGEL
Seeking a female Twin-of-FIRE. (YouYin)+(IYang)= Passionate, Neapolitan Flavored, Non-vanilla, Spontaneous, Loyal, Excellent Communicators, Fitness Buffs, Honoring, Respectful, Explorers, Empowering, Sexual Deviants, Possess extraordinary left-right brain hemispheres, Degreed, Artists, Lovers-of-life. **SirDeviantAngel**, 40, ☎, 📷, **#119779**

NEED NEW TRICKS
All American Boy looking for BBW's. Married but looking for discrete fun. I am looking for mature women (35-50), thick or chubby, for sexual exploration and rendezvous. **dragonslayere24**, 38, 📷, **#119775**

SEXUAL DAREDEVIL SEEKS...
Evel Knievel of sexuality seeks death defying erotic encounters. Married man looking for discrete encounters involving BDSM, Dom/Sub play, Toys, etc. Wife shows no interest, looking elsewhere. **tafka**, 35, 📷, **#119772**

austinchronicle.com/easystreet

BROWSE these ads and more online for **FREE**.

ENTER your own profile for **FREE**.

RESPOND by e-mail directly through our site with a membership.

This icon 📷 indicates that a photo is posted online.

This icon ☎ means there is a voice message you can listen to. With a membership, you can listen and respond to as many voice messages as your heart desires. There are no 900 #s or per minute fees. Regular long distance charges may apply.

VOICE RESPONSE: 520.547.4259

membership is simple:

EASY STREET

1 day pass	$10.00
7 day pass	$20.00
30 day pass	$30.00
90 day pass	$60.00

Each pass gives you all-access, unlimited searching, browsing, e-mailing, calling, and responding.

Unknown

SOULMATE/SEXMATE?

I have an insanely high sex drive- looking to fall in love with future dominant master (only in bedroom)-if you "think" you might be able to dominate me- then you probably can't- you must know that you can and do so in a way that makes me yours. I love a Deep sexy voice that can talk me out of my clothes.

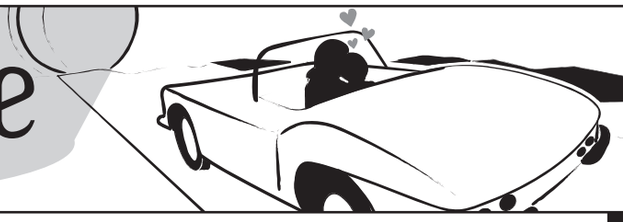
read the rest of UNKNOWN's profile or enter your own profile for FREE online at austinchronicle.com/easystreet

THE LUV DOC

Armadillo Christmas Bazaar • Austin Music Hall
208 Nueces • www.armadillobazaar.com

If Abercrombie and Fitch wanted to really be controversial, they would put up a huge billboard next to I-35 featuring Santa's shirtless, unripped, extruded pink torso in some red denim hip huggers with the fly unzipped…just enough to expose his snowy white treasure trailhead, but not enough to free the salty Cyclops, as it were. *That*, would be controversial. That would be a billboard worth getting rear-ended under (pause here, meditate on your compulsive need to pop off with some sort of anal sex bon mot). Instead, this holiday season A&F has taken the high road, pushing well-defined, shirtless torsos; taut, hairless, bas relief renditions of the type of fundamental abdominal musculature we all possess, albeit under several inches of luxurious adipose insulation. Kudos to A&F for focusing on what's really important: our similarities. Instead of adopting a divisive "we-are-all-snowflakes" marketing mentality like other companies, A&F is saying, "Regardless of all the cellulite, hair, stretchmarks, moles, and poorly thought out tattoos, deep inside we're all the same … we're all ripped." Genius. Ralph Lauren must be suicidal for not thinking of it first. Just because you almost never see a shirtless, svelte twentysomething pimping an unzipped parka, doesn't mean it couldn't happen. This is Austin. We may be a little light on parkas, but any town where Matthew McConaughey routinely parks his trailer is ripe for shirtlessness. Give A&F some credit: they could have gone for some slick, CGI animation of bare, bloody musculature, but instead they went classy and used only slightly photoshopped models with smooth bronzed skin, smoldering, steely eyed gazes and perfectly round, tiny brown nipples. If you can't see yourself in an A&F model, maybe you aren't looking hard enough, or maybe you need to look somewhere else entirely. How about the Armadillo Christmas Bazaar? Anywhere you go shopping during the holidays you're going to encounter a disturbing cross-section of humanity, but the Bazaar boasts a disturbing cross section of old Austin hippie humanity, which though wrinkly and long-winded is at least colorfully noncorporate. Plus you get the classic Austin reach-around of live music. Christmas Eve features Django's Moustache, a Hot Greezy Gonzo Reunion, and the Texana Dames. Admit it, you weren't planning on doing your shopping until then anyway, were you?

Lovers Lane free!



CREATE A PROFILE AND BROWSE MORE ADS ONLINE!
austinchronicle.com/loverslane

women SEEKING men

HORNSFAN, EDUCATED, BEER-DRINKER
I'm really not all that delightful. People either love me or hate me. I enjoy hanging out with foreign friends over quality booze and food. You should like the same. **venividivici**, 28, #120038

TXBORN TXRAISED
looking for fun!!! Someone who knows how to have a good time, watching movies or partyin it up. Someone who knows what they want. Someone not out to bullshit!! **eellis_star**, 20, #119894

SARCASTIC 20-SOMETHING
accompany to the dog park, to zilker, barton springs, etc. i'm pretty laid-back and looking for the same. **ilikemydog**, 24, #119858

ECCENTRIC NUCLEAR-PLANT ADVENTURER
I will laugh at all of your jokes if you'll hang out with me and do idiotic things in public with me and make out with me. **evilheifer**, 18, #119811

SOUTH AUSTIN GIRL
Im just regular person that wants to meet someone fun loving. My favorites thing to do is go to Alamo drafthouse and watch movies. **utwombat**, 34, #119697

SILLY, SERIOUS, INTERESTING
it's nice to meet folks that i can giggle with. i'm single after 13 years, so while i'm not looking for anything serious, i'm willing to let things evolve naturally. **surgngnl**, 30, #119687

SEEKING SUGARDADDY
Make no mistakes, I'm seeking a wealthy, lonely man, preferably 50-65, for a mutually beneficial relationship. Absolutely no sex. Intelligent conversation and a thoughtfully appreciative/lovely ear provided on my end. **echinatebutloveable**, 22, #119655

CUTE CREATIVE CHICK
Looking for someone who shares my likes: [all things cute] [bedtime stories] [boxer shorts] [caffeine] [cartoons] [daydreaming] [fried rice] [hand-made gifts] [holding hands] [individualism] [knowledge] [quiet moments] [radical ideas] [words]. **Jezebel**, 34, ☎, #119646

LITERALLY LOSTIN AUSTIN
music junkie, coffee addict, and in-somniac. Fairly new to Texas and need a tour guide/escort. **SMuDge**, 26, #119607

CURVY GAL SEEKING
Creative small BBW seeking man to make me laugh till I cry, dance in the rain and make general fools of ourselves while growing together. Surprise me. **SusieQ7855**, 23, #115413

SERIOUSLY CRAZY....
Looking for a unique man that will appreciate my strong will without trying to quelch my passion-if you are a crazy, secure, worldly MAN -I can't wait to meet you. **Kali**, 34, #119518

NO MUNKI BREATH
just a laid back chick lookin for tha same ina dude, unconventional, open minded, and free spirited... **munkiluva**, 22, #119150

CULTURE, ETHNICITY, SPONTANEITY
Open-minded, spiritual, silly, person who loves good music, art, books. I want to try new things with new people. No sex. I just want good friends, good company, good conversation. **gloriagracia**, 23, #119415

CHUSE A RANDOM
Chuse Love that's Honest, Nichomachean. SWF friendly, cultured and carefree professional; zest for life, number one in fun. A thinker with a sharp wit; reflective soul. **Beaucoup**, 27, #114872

ARTICULATE, COOKS TOO!
True blue sane American girl looking for other honest, well-adjusted people for company and fun excursions. I like turning over rocks and new leaves, mindfulness, exploring and expanding the truth. **geminieye**, 31, ☎, #118855

MANY MORE ADS ONLINE!
austinchronicle.com/loverslane

DECENT GUY WANTED
Exceptional SWF seeks Unattached Decent Man for friendship/ltr Only serious minded gents need reply Single mother with no time for drama Your response and picture gets mine. **truetexaslady**, 34, #119457

UNSUSPECTED MAN KILLER
I am mysterious yet candid. Honesty is my best trait. I am not afraid to hear what people have to say. You learn from the way others react to situations. **LOTUSpetal1983**, 23, #119439

THIS IS EXHAUSTING.
i've got a wry sense of humor & a good head on my shoulders.love austin but wish it had four seasons. i'm a loud laugher n love 2 be outside. **Guesa**, 28, #119353

FUN LOVING GIRL
I'm a sweet sports loving girl that's looking for a guy that loves to have a good time and knows how to keep me on my toes. **downtoearthaustingurl1985**, 21, #119046

CUTE FUN GIRL
I'm very busy but I have time on the weekends to have fun with someone special. Funny, cute, tall, energetic, happy, and ready to meet someone different! **fortuna83**, 23, #117774

men SEEKING women

GOOD OL' BOY
I'm a good dancer, easy going and love to have fun, even if it's sitting on my porch drinking beer and playing guitar with my friends. **CenTexRiverRat**, 40, #120085

YOU NEVER KNOW
New Austinite looking for someone who likes to laugh, try new things, and have fun. A pretty smile and a good sense of humor are musts :). **Lustom**, 27, #114565

COMPASSIONATE HUMAN MALE
mellow, quiet, introspective, humble, artistic male in search of friendship/relationship with single, athletic, artistic, intellectual female seeking same. **voivod2001**, 39, #120000

U FOUND THE1
I consider myself a charming fun loving person who is very down to earth and can make people laugh.I like to go out with friends&PartY but also like stay in. **texasniceguy69**, 26, ☎, #119996

PROM QUEEN WANTED
I enjoy Harley rides and seeing the Longhorns lose.Love good steak and a good bourbon.I support the President and the war on teeror.That should make the left wing wackos cringe. **maidenfan**, 40, #119992

MR. WRONG
I'm a drummer / graphic designer / lighting designer that just recently moved to town. I wanna go out and explore the town. **Cbyars**, 25, #119965

HAPPY HOUR
I enjoy live music, travelling, dining out and in. **texman_2706**, 44, #119960

BLUE-EYED BUILT&BRAINY
I'm active, intelligent, and need a lady superhero to help me keep my cape from snagging on tree branches. I'm a great lead - want to dance? **dbs**, 34, #119949

MALE SEEKS COUNTERPART.
I'm-a-romantic-at-heart-but-I-know-that-we-all-have our-needs_Sometimes-you-just-need-to-fulfill raw passions and desires that are part of everyoneís nature_I like to make connections on all levels of the playing field and while lím-looking-for-someone to-hit-it-off-with_lím-not-opposed-to-having-some fun-with-great-women-along-the-way. **Im_what_you_want**, 21, #119931

CHECK IT OUT
I currently am in the home business opportunities industry, with the rest of my time I relax. If u wanna know more shoot me an e-mail here. **kilgorekyle**, 22, #119902

CLASSIC HUMAN
boring, angry, closed-minded, excitable racist junkie senator type, considerate, generous, tidy slam-dancer seeks company of sexy pirate for racquetball and doing it after racquetball. **notsketch**, 24, #119866

JAZZZZZZZZ...
Do you like Michael Jackson? Aside the pedaphelia of course, that's no bueno... If you dig MJ you're alright with me... Everything else we'll just have to leave to chance. **stereomc**, 31, #119873

I'M FREE
I'm a fit HM going through a divorce as we speak. My wife hated me, but she loved my patience, the extended foreplay, and my attention to detail. **johngirl**, 42, #119853

JUST MOVED HERE
I'm an open-minded, honest, funny, crazy mutha-f*%&er. People say I'm intelligent, creative and have excellent people skills. I don't know if that's true, but that's what those crazy bastards say. **irishinaustin**, 28, #119851

FUN GUY LOOKING
Just ASk and i will tell. **shaun1021**, 27, ☎, #119725

MELLOW
I'm new to town/singlehood and love it. Seeking friend with benefits, but friend first. I'm educated but not always smart, can laugh at myself and create laughter from thin air. **Monkeyfun**, 30, ☎, #119816

POOR TWISTED ME
Big very fit male seeks neurotic,self absorbed beauty queen/princess currently in some sort of therepy.OOPs, man, old habits. I meant I want the opposite of that. **kingnothing**, 41, ☎, #119748

FUNNY, DECISION MAKER,
I am looking for a nice, confident, beautiful woman who enjoys my company; who is not afraid to be their self, and one who shares my interests and loves laugh. **nbusmc1**, 28, ☎, #119767

women men SEEKING women men

IT'S TIME
I'm the- dreamer that keeps you awake love song you yearn to sing whisper who captivates thoughts pedastal who holds your fantasies Desire more Uncover treasures Loves scent never fade. **romanticheart**, 38, #119921

REVIVIFY
I'm ultrafem and worked at Sidekicks, the lesbian/bi scene left a bad taste in my mouth, someone want to prove me wrong? Please? Looking for someone equally fem for fun! **TheWhitness**, 23, #119711

JAM BAND GROUPIE
i love the outdoors, a sense of humor, honesty, and live music.I believe laughter and live music can cure the soul.I enjoy discussing politics and environmental activism. **maryjane**, 19, #119698

ADVENTUROUS, OUTGOING, PROFESSIONAL
Freespirited,easygoing, and laid back, I'm interested in meeting a woman who enjoys spontinaity, outdoor life, and animals. You are soft tomboyish type, emotionally and financially free. hight/weight proportionate. Lets cocktail. **119662**, 40, #119662

SPUNKY GIRL, BICURIOUS
I am very open and honest, I want to find a nice girl, am bi curious and want a nice girl to casually date. **Spunkynm**, 20, #119558

SMART IS SEXY
Me: soft fem, free spirit, love animals, music, photography, travel, no red meat, wine and much more. You: fem to soft butch, fit and most of the above but more. **maybeelwill**, 35, #119110

ASSERTIVE, SPORTY FEMININE
Busy,professional,female looking for the same.Go with the flow but stand your her ground as well.Friends are good,friends with beni's are better. Wittyness is key.Must be sexualy confident.Lets play,shall we? **Mindspank629**, 39, #118416

SWEET BOIDYKE
I have a passion for life...most living beings close to me included. I'm silly and don't take myself too seriously but do get my shit together when it's important. **ohboiohboi**, 20, ☎, #117646

COMING OUT GIRLS
Hey my name is Bre, I am 18 I am a I am SUPER shy, sweet I have been with only 1 girl. I am looking for friends or more. **xxxxbre03xxxx**, 19, ☎, #117700

LIKE TO WATCH
Looking for younger guys for an occasional hook-up, dining partner or cuddle buddy. Very straight acting, not out. Enjoy videos. Love to watch others. **Trebor1159**, 39, ☎, #120022

HIDDEN JEWEL
Gregarious, intellectual, professional, world traveller that loves a flare for life and living. Honest, sincere and loyal with a touch of class. **Fede**, 41, #119762

REFRESHING AND QUIRKY
I'm a fun and free-spirited person. I love experiencing new things, meeting new people, and living life to the fullest. If this sounds like you, we'll get along quite nicely. **nightblindness**, 23, #118639

SHOW STOPPER
I'm a young adult. I'M a freshman at ACC planning on transfering to Texas Tech. I'm 5'11", weight 180, brown hair and brown eyes. I'm mixed with white and mexican. **derrick2006**, 18, #119156

HOW I ROLL....
Irish teddy bear in heat needs a man who has a firm yet tender hand. Bring the whips and chains though, cause thats just how I roll. **Andrew**, 25, #118487

ISO S-DADDY
WM, 19, 5'9", 198, Br, Br. ISO S-DADDY to pamper, spoil and treat me. You won't be disappointed. **boytoy19**, 20, #117212

SMALLVILLE GUY
Can you be a real friend first and then if it's right, let it become more? Prefer someone spiritual who will help me grow stronger in that area as well. **Levi8135**, 42, ☎, #118430

SLIGHTLY SCHIZO ARTIST
buddhist lost on the path to nirvana. a mess of a man.9yrs celibate and ready to come out of my cave. more fun than you can shake a stick at. **riotchild**, 41, ☎, #118067

HANDSOME,EMPLOYED,SANE
I'm new to Austin and I like the outdoors best, naked is better...Hippie Hollow is my favorite place,but like private pools also. Love to fish,camp,backpack...Like masculine men,adventurous,faithful, good looking and uninhibited. **jessmonster**, 42, #117696

DOG LOVER
I'm a sincere, warm-hearted, animal rights guy who would like to be the vegan meat in a Matt Damon and Joaquin Phoenix sandwich. **doglover**, 40, ☎, #116160

SoftSkinFixation

YOU'RE BEING REALLY UN-DUDE.

My name is Rocio, I'm 19 and I have been in Austin for a little over a year. I am studying nursing and trying to decide if I want to continue with it or switch to political science / teaching. I was raised in El Paso, Tx. and am definitely happy to be out of that city. I absolutely love Texas, though I was not born here. If I were to move anywhere, it would be Oregon. I have a 2 year old niece that means the world to me. I'm extremely easy to get along with, so talk to me.

read the rest of SOFTSKINFIXATION's profile or enter your own profile for FREE online at
austinchronicle.com/loverslane

austinchronicle.com/loverslane

BROWSE these ads and more online for **FREE**.

ENTER your own profile for **FREE**.

RESPOND by e-mail directly through our site with a membership.

This icon indicates that a photo is posted online.

This icon ☎ means there is a voice message you can listen to. With a membership, you can listen and respond to as many voice messages as your heart desires. There are no 900 #s or per minute fees. Regular long distance charges may apply.

VOICE RESPONSE: 520.547.4265

membership is simple:
LOVERS LANE

1 day pass	$5.00
7 day pass	$10.00
30 day pass	$20.00
90 day pass	$40.00

Each pass gives you all-access, unlimited searching, browsing, e-mailing, calling, and responding.

ENTER TO WIN! Place a **FREE PROFILE** on Lovers Lane with your photo and you could win **a ROMANTIC DINNER for TWO** at **DOÑA EMILIA'S**!

austinchronicle.com/loverslane



JUST friends

DARE TOBE REMARKABLE!
I am a shy, but easy going femme. Looking for friendship. Looking for females to join me for games, movies, foot rubs, and dinner. Please be open, honest and funny. **Looking4SomethingNew**, 24, , **#119938**

KRAZY SEXXY KEWL
I'm from SC,I like Austin.I haven't met young ppl 2 hang w/ I like to be honest and upfront with people that's what I would want. **AnjelliaSC_ATX**, 19, , **#119924**

NEW TO AUSTIN.
Not your average chick. My friendship dream would be complete if I could find a nice gay man for a friend and a great woman for a friend with benifits. **funnyface**, 35, , **#119871**

NOT LOVESICK
Seeking a fit female for fitness partner. All sports, activities are acceptable to me, whether gym based or outdoor only. Yes, I'm that cool. Sound good? Send a message! **Chango**, 28, , **#119867**

END TO BOREDOM
I'm a grad student new to austin. I'm not looking for marriage just fun people to hang out with. I am a relaxed guy up for pretty much anything. **TheICW**, 25, , **#119720**

WITH GOD-GIVEN
I'm a potato-peelin', free-wheelin', poetry dealin', fish-reelin', identity concealin', cashmere feelin', dude. **thenazz**, 22, , **#119661**

QUIP-RIPPER
Right now I'm mostly looking something platonic. Me: Shy but easy going. Him: Friendly, sweet, all-around good-guy (meaning: doesn't have to be the brightest crayon in the box)Should be big-O-teddybear! **wYndEEEcity**, 28, , **#119638**

BE YO' SELF
Alien gal seeks one with goofy sense of humor who loves dogs to spend some time (drinks?), get outdoors (kayak, hike), see local art, dance and listen to live music. **wallabee**, 37, , **#119492**

PHOTOGRAPHER
I had the great idea to get out and meet all those who post "shots in the dark" and fascinatingly strange friend finding adds, so I may photograph you. **photographer**, 21, , **#119441**

messages

MY LITTLE LOON - I think you hung the moon! Love you forever, Goon

DOES ANYONE KNOW JOHN C. COOK and how to contact him, old bandmate

I LOVE YOU, Vicki... Miss you so much...Merry Christmas

MERRY XXX-MAS TO my sexy wee lovely.i love you sweetheart. -BIG STINKY

ALWAYS LONGING, WRONG direction, IM RIGHT HERE, from my HEART

HOPE YOUR HAPPY from the bottom of my heart I will always Love you. Love Dylan

I'M READY FOR all this to be over with. Just let it end and be quietly forgotten.

I LOVE YOU, Vicki...

AMAZING AURORA, AWESOME aspects, always anoyded Alast chance

NAJ! WISH I was there to help you move, slash make out while packing.

DOUBLE 0 - you are the very best boyfriend this whole wide world! <3 me

RICHARD ALEMAN SHE Loves You Always

REGINA DEJESUS, MERRY Christmas! Paul

WOODNYMPH69 WHERE ARE you?

a Shot in the Dark

TOWNLAKE RUNNER/TRIATHLETE
I passed you on the townlake trail right past the mopac bridge. You turned to show me your usat shirt matching mine. Let's go running sometime! **When: Monday, December 18. Where: Townlake jogging trail. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901337**

PHILLIP MCW, VOICEMAIL.....
Would love to get back in touch, DH has been ill.....thats why I didn't call back immediately. Your friend T from Dolphin Apartments. **When: Monday, January 1, 2001. Where: dolphin apartments. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901336**

KNOCK ON WOOD
You: OCD photographer, Me: former bartender. We shared a bottle of champagne at your apt, you told me 18 things you wouldn't tell your mother. Move in with me? **When: Monday, December 18. Where: House party. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #901335**

CAFETERIA LINE
I was behind you in the cafeteria at Seton hospital Monday evening. Your friend bought your coffee. If that was a look we shared can I buy your next cup? **When: Monday, December 18. Where: Seton cafeteria. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901334**

FRAT PARTY FALLOUT
we met at 80s themed frat party, got compliments on my costume which were my clothes. i got kicked out. youre fun. you never came to my potluck, im bummed. **When: Tuesday, October 10. Where: delta gamma. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #901333**

RED DRESS SIDEBAR
Side Bar Christmas Party- Asian, prettiest woman there, in a red dress. Haven't seen you in sometime. You were a total knockout. You made my Christmas. **When: Wednesday, December 13. Where: Side Bar Chistmas Party. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901332**

ON 6THST. HA!!!!!
You, outsideParish. Me, outsideSpilt wearing long skirtyskirt. I showed my moves, you showed yours("HOT MOVES"). What moves do you have off dance floor? Don't be afraid to leave a message. **When: Thursday, December 14. Where: outside the Parish. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901331**

MEANEYE CAT THURSDAY
Attractive blond, you were sitting next to juke box Thursday talking to your friend on the left. You kept catching my eye. Want to grab a drink at MEC sometime? **When: Thursday, December 14. Where: Mean Eye Cat. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #901330**

SARA @ CASINO
You playing pool with your girlfriend, wearing a red top, looking stunning. You sat on the pooltable, got barked at @ Casino-el-Camino before I knew what happened.....Same time same place? **When: Friday, December 15. Where: Casino-El-Camino. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901328**

NEAR PALMER EVENT
Nice looking man kept staring at our table in front of you. You full of grey, me grey, brown, black. Wanna have coffee sometime? **When: Friday, December 15. Where: restaurant close to bennigans, Threadgills. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901322**

FAMILY THRIFT SCARF-TALK
saturday 4pm i talked with you and your friend (blonde) about the scarves. i got a big scarf and left without asking your name. i would like to know you. **When: Saturday, December 16. Where: family thirft store. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901321**

MY THOUGHTS ARE...
I would love too. You can use my scarf if you like. My new favorite word is rendezvous,see you again Tuesday same place same time? **When: Tuesday, December 12. Where: The hideout. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901320**

BODY CHOIR
Body Choir, Friday December 1st. You: cat eyes on your shirt, dancing alone like it was the end of the world. Me: stricken, enchanted. **When: Friday, December 1. Where: Body Choir. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901319**

GOTME WORKEDUP SOSEXUAL
you:little asian beauty dancing around in your leopard shoes alone in the back at theFaint. me:another desperate guy wanting to buy you a drink but stunned speechless. youre beautiful. maybethistimeicanworkupsomecouragetoaskyou? **When: Tuesday, December 12. Where: the faint la zona rosa. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901308**

MAYA AT HEB/41TH
Friday night, 8pm. I asked you about Tamari almonds. Now I feel like a nut for not getting your number. You were absolutely gorgeous. Coffee? **When: Friday, December 15. Where: HEB at 41st. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901318**

ACC RGC FREETIBET
No idea who you are- man or woman. You posted a "Boycott Made in China" sign on the bulletin board in the annex. I'd like to meet you. **When: Tuesday, December 12. Where: ACC RGC. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901305**

GIRL WITHTHE GREENGLASSES
Your ethereal grace your wit more illuminates your face your moves are Solid Gold (80s) my breath you have a strangle hold who could yoube with such chiseled offbeat beauty **When: Wednesday, December 13. Where: Side/Beauty Bar, pinata place. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901311**

MET ABOUT 1988
i lived in austin we met in a way that was different i said you want to get married.been trying to find you **When: Tuesday, June 5, 2001. Where: back in 1988.at red lion. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901304**

LIKE NEVER BEFORE
Tall,curvy brunette with two Claddagh rings in produce at Central Market Westgate.You were squeezing things,I kept wishing you were squeezing me.Tried to think of a conversation starter, but I stalled. **When: Tuesday, December 12. Where: Central Market Westgate. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901317**

TAVERN VIXEN
We were watching the Seahawks unceremoniously lose to the 49ers. I believe you were eating a Turkey Club Sandwich. Your hazel eyes are beautiful and your hair- magnificent! Marry Me? **When: Thursday, December 14. Where: The Tavern. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901315**

YOU TOOK MY
We met briefly at the bookstore on south IH35. You are tall and thin and big. Would like to meet again. You? **When: Friday, December 15. Where: Bookstore south IH35. You: Man. Me: Man. #901325**

STEALIN MEALS-ON-WHEELS
Wanted to make a normal move, but this is not a normal situation. If we did, no one would ever know. You can have both. Send me a text. **When: Thursday, December 14. Where: Coffee on oltorf. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901313**

ENCHANTED ROCK SINGER
Tuesday Dec 12, Enchanted Rock park. Two girls walking a dog. Me hanging on a rock. I sang a song. drop me a line, I promise I won't sing again **When: Tuesday, December 12. Where: Enchanted Rock. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901312**

I'M AN IDIOT.
You:Adorable redhead with white slipons studying with friend. Me:Boy with white shirt and maroon jacket studying alone. Shared a few smiles, but i chickened out. Can i get another chance? **When: Wednesday, December 13. Where: Metro. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901310**

12/14, MAGNOLIA, CONGRESS
Noon,12/14,Congress,Magnolia Cafe. Seemed to take efforts from both to cease back-n-forth gazes. You: adorable,Gorgeous eyes,short dark hair,smiles,with 2 friends,Wearing Little Italy shirt. Me:Tattoos,wheels,black shirt,short brown hair. Sitting w/2 coworkers. Coffee,beers,conversation,music,food? Hopefully **When: Thursday, December 14. Where: Magnolia Cafe, South Congress. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #901316**

NERVES OF JELLO
On the boat I asked if I could take your picture because you looked like my brother. I lied. You are just the hottest guy I've ever seen. **When: Friday, December 8. Where: On a Carribean cruise. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901309**

WHOLE FOODS LUNCH
I was the girl with red hair, eating lunch outside. You were the cute guy meeting with your friend who works there. Yes, you caught me checking you out. **When: Tuesday, December 12. Where: Whole Foods. You: Man. Me: Woman. ☎ #901307**

WHISKY/BEAUTYBAR DANCING QUEEN
just like want you to know that you are my most favorite dancer in the whole wide world. never stop, so amazing! hope to see you again on the dancefloor! **When: Thursday, December 14. Where: Whisky Bar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901314**

I FIGURED OUT...
my favorite word: coffee. we could brew our own and take it to the trail of lights and have a roaring good time with scarves and everything, if you like. **When: Tuesday, December 12. Where: the hideout. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901306**

HERBOLOGIST_AT_HAI-KAI
I_was_shy_but_couldn't let you get away. Didn't get your number, forgot your name but thoughts of your beauty still linger in my minds eye nostalgically. What herbs have you_for_an_aching-heart. **When: Monday, December 11. Where: Hai-Kai off of Oltorf. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901303**

ALSO ONLINE:
MORE **Shot in the Dark!**

Now with photos so you can see who saw you. Search by When, Where, and Keywords. **FREE!**

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Brezsny for December 22 - December 28

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): Happy Holy Daze, Capricorn! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gift for you. What symbolic offering might inspire you to be in closest alignment with the cosmic currents in 2007? I've decided on Ed Anger's book *Let's Pave the Stupid Rainforests & Give School Teachers Stun Guns*. Not because I agree with his assertions, but simply because his outrageousness might push you to dream up wild solutions to your same old boring dilemmas; his rowdy spirit may fuel your own rebellious flights of imagination that will inspire you to fight back against the numbing insanity of the loony bin known as "reality."

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): You should and could be the zodiac's premier networker in 2007. The connections you foster and the deals you broker can save the world – or at least your local segment of the world. In order to pull it all off with maximum effectiveness, you should also be the zodiac's premier fun-maker. Throw parties, tell jokes, and constantly invite people to play harder and take themselves less seriously. What can you do to prepare for this destiny? Start by getting yourself holiday gifts that will help you fulfill your assignments. How about installing a backyard water park, for instance? (Neiman Marcus offers such a thing in its Christmas catalog.) Or about some comedy lessons from a person like the humor coach in the film *Borat*? Happy Holy Daze, Aquarius!

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Happy Holy Daze, Pisces! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gift for you. What symbolic item might stimulate you to take maximum advantage of the cosmic currents in 2007? I've decided on a ladder. This power object will signify two important themes for you: 1) Your potential to climb to a higher level of excellence and clout, giving you a more expansive view of your surroundings. 2) The need to make this ascent carefully and deliberately (not quickly and sloppily), with the aid of simple tools (not with the metaphorical equivalent of an elevator), and with trustworthy assistance (for example, with someone to hold the ladder steady).

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): Happy Holy Daze, Aries! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gifts for you. What might inspire you to take maximum advantage of the cosmic currents in 2007? Here's my answer: a plane ticket to an exotic playground where your mind will get blown and your emotions aired out and your instincts educated. Another gift I'd love you to have would be a pilgrimage to a spot where you lived once upon a time. There you could take advantage of Nelson Mandela's counsel: "There is nothing like returning to a place that remains unchanged to find the ways in which you yourself have altered."

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Happy Holy Daze, Taurus! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gift for you. What item might inspire you to take maximum advantage of the cosmic currents in 2007? I've decided on *Winning With Integrity: Getting What You're Worth Without Selling Your Soul*, a book by sports agent Leigh Steinberg. It'll help you be both smart and heartful as you navigate your way through the negotiations you'll be called on to do in the coming months. Here's a taste of Steinberg's advice. 1) Align yourself with people who share your values. 2) Learn all you can about the other party. 3) Create a climate of cooperation, not conflict. 4) Learn to listen. 5) Convince the other party you have an option, even if you don't.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Happy Holy Daze, Gemini! I've been thinking about the perfect holiday gift for you to give yourself. Considering the cosmic currents in 2007, what offering would be most appropriate? The answer is a magic mirror. Why? Because I think you should look at your reflection more often in the coming year. Gaze more deeply into your own eyes, and try harder to find out who's really there inside you. Talk to yourself pointedly while you're in front of your magic mirror; ask yourself probing questions. And every now and then, press up close to your reflection for a kiss.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): Happy Holy Daze, Cancerian! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gift for you. What symbolic offering might put you in the right mood to deal proactively with potential problems in 2007? I've decided on a set of those specially designed clothes-storage bags that allow you to suck all the air out, compressing your sweaters and pants so that they take up significantly less space in your luggage or closet. Hopefully these bags would inspire you to come up with creative applications of the "less is more" principle, which will be a recurring theme for you in the coming months.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): Happy Holy Daze, Leo! In 2007, I predict that you'll experience a metaphorical version of something that's rare in nature: a gentle birth. There'll be a big new addition to your life, in other words, and its arrival won't hurt a bit – may even feel downright ecstatic. Here's some more mysterious good news: In the coming months, you will have the power to learn from the moon, converse with the dead, and remember your ancient origins. And get this: The adventures that amuse you most could involve foam rubber, distant bells, smoke rising from manholes, plums from Damascus, and exotic trophies. One more thing, Leo: In 2007, brand-new bedtime stories will be mandatory.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): Mytho-poetic scholars say that honey symbolizes emotional maturity. When it appears in your dreams or reveries, it may mean you're expanding your capacity to experience feelings that are positive and healthy for you. It suggests you're ready to shed distorted psychological patterns that you unwittingly absorbed as a child and replace them with new imprints that are in harmony with your highest values. Since 2007 will bring opportunities for you to do these exact things, Virgo, I suggest that you give honey an honored place in your life. Maybe buy some of the best stuff on the market, put it in a fine decanter, and keep it on an altar in your bedroom. Happy Holy Daze!

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): Happy Holy Daze, Libra! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gift for you. What symbolic offering might inspire you to be in closest alignment with the cosmic currents in 2007? I've decided on the book *Power Unseen: How Microbes Rule the World*. In it, author Bernard Dixon praises bacteria, viruses, fungi, and protozoa. Without them, he says, we'd be nothing. They're instrumental in providing our food, purifying our drinking water, and processing our sewage. If you keep *Power Unseen* in a prominent place in your home during the coming months, it might constantly remind you to be reverent toward and grateful for the little things – which is exactly what the astrological omens suggest you should do. Maybe the book will also inspire you to be alert for invisible helpers and inconspicuous allies.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): Happy Holy Daze, Scorpio! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gift for you. What symbolic offering might inspire you to be in closest alignment with the cosmic currents in 2007? I've decided on Elvis Presley's favorite midnight snack: a peanut butter and banana sandwich deep-fried in butter. Why? Because like the King, you should aggressively pursue the unique experiences that will reliably give you comfort and sustenance. Like the King, you should feel no guilt about doing unusual things that you know in your heart will help you perform at your best.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): Happy Holy Daze, Sagittarius! My gift for you is the following oracle: A breakthrough you were blessed with in 1995 will be coming back around in 2007. How? Three possible ways: 1) You'll be inspired to make changes to whatever sprung from that original breakthrough 12 years ago. 2) You'll be visited by a new version of that breakthrough, on a higher octave this time. 3) You'll attempt a quantum leap that resembles the original but happens in a different area of your life.

Go to **RealAstrology.com** to check out Rob Brezsny'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.

•GOTH •PUNK •T-SHIRTS
Clothing, stickers, patches, pins, jewelry, corsets. 1905 S. 1st • www.secret-oktober.com • 462-9217

WWW.EBUYAUSTIN.COM
Central Texas' Online Auction Service

**** MIDTOWNE SPA ****
A PRIVATE MEN'S HEALTH CLUB
5815 Airport Blvd. • 302-9696
Mondays/Wednesdays- 1/2 price rooms!
Tuesdays/Thursdays- 1/2 price lockers!

23rd STREET ARTISTS' MARKET
at Guadalupe is one of the oldest continously running outdoor artists' markets in America. Offers only items designed, handcrafted & sold by the actual artists. Open every day. Artists: www.austinartistsmarket.com

AMATEUR FEMALE MODELING
QUICK CASH! Professional photographer. $300-$600 per shoot. Attractive, females 18-25 and 35-50 for glamour figure modeling. Natural girls, too. 257-0484

ANTONE'S RECORD SHOP
CDs-VINYL-GIFT CERTIFICATES
T-SHIRTS-DVDs-POSTERS
2928 GUADALUPE - (512) 322-0660
WWW.ANTONESRECORDSHOP.COM

CATCH THE WAVE
LOMI LOMI * HAWAIIAN BODYWORK
An extraordinary experience 220-6880 (RMT#44052)

HELP US TEST OUR WEBSITE
GET DINNER AND A MOVIE
austinchronicle.com/survey

BELLYDANCE CLASSES
Ongoing, for all levels.Zein's Dance Studio
533-9227 or WMDproductions.com

SEMEN DONORS NEEDED
$150 per specimen. Healthy college educated males, 18-39 years old. For an application visit http://www.123donate.com

LOCAL PHONE SERVICE
http://universalnumber.com

FOUND PETS!!!
Austin's Animal Shelter, the Town Lake Animal Center receives over 2000 lost and unwanted cats & dogs a month. Could one of them be yours?
www.ci.austin.tx.us/tlac

WWW.POETICAH.COM
Art, Poetry, Free T-Shirts!

Custom Graphic Design
Logos, CD & Poster Art, Menus, Advertising & Signage. $69/hr. The Bumpersticker • 512-873-9626

DEEP EXPLORATION OF SACRED SEXUALITY
Classes for Men, Women and Couples
http://www.intimatewisdom.com
512-374-4447 (rcd. msg.)

EGG DONORS NEEDED
$3,500-$5,000
(877) EGG-DONOR * www.spct.org

HAWAIIAN SALE!
Up to 75% off in-store merchandise, fashion, jewelry! Hawaiian Tiki Imports, 1500 W. Ben White 440-7171

HO HO HO
Organic Christmas Baskets, Fresh Organic Produce Delivered to your Door for FREE
WWW.GREENLING.COM

HOT *MERMAIDS* TUBS
762-0577 Open at 3PM
Private Hot Tub Rentals-By The Hour

HOT LOCAL DATELINE
BROWSE & RESPOND FREE!
(512) 457-1900 Straight
(512) 480-8400 Gay & Bi
Use FREE Code 7006, 18+



JEFF RYDER'S DRUM SHOP
BUY * SELL * TRADE
PARTS - SERVICE - MUSIC LESSONS
West Anderson Lane & Mopac
*** * * 512-371-1550 * * ***

MORNING STAR TRADING COMPANY
WOW!
MASSAGE TABLE PACKAGES FROM $199!
1919 S. First 476-1727
http://www.morningstarcompany.com

RAPID SPANISH
Cutting Edge technology makes learning Fast, Fun, and Effective.http://www.RapidSpanish.com
512-263-9944.

MOTORBLADE POSTERING
Fliers put up 100+ legal spots • $55 first wk • 323-5457

MOVIE EXTRAS, ACTORS, MODELS!
Make $100-$300/day. No Exp. Req., FT/PT All looks needed! 1-800-799-6215. (AAN CAN)

NOW SERVING DINNER!
Sun-Thur til 10pm, Fri & Sat til mid.
BYOBeer for now, Quack's Maplewood

PERMANENT MAKEUP SPECIAL $50 OFF!
Visit www.pmubylauren.com or call 743-7234

PIANO FOR X-MAS!
Beautiful Solid Dark Walnut $1335 512-394-1230

PISS SHIT AND VOMIT.COM
Life is filth. Take a whiff.

ROLFING ®
Take your body to a higher level in 2007!
Allison Hubbard, Certified Rolfer (512) 441-4001.

SPEAK SPANISH NOW!
Small Groups, Affordable, Native Instructors
453-8680 http://www.creativelanguagecenter.com

THE GIFT OF DANCE!
Looking for a unique gift for the holidays?
Give them a gift they won't forget! DANCE!
Go Dance (512) 339-9391 www.godancestudio.com
2525 W. Anderson Lane #530 @ Northcross Mall

TURN AN UNPLANNED PREGNANCY INTO A MIRACLE!
25 families are waiting for your call. Be a part of your child's life if you so choose. Medical, legal, and living expenses paid. Please call Dede at our agency at 1-800-966-4673.

VENUSLOVEHELP.COM
@ Chocolate Truffles @Blue Genie. 944-0200

VIDEO GAME DESIGN
Get in the Game! Learn programming, art, and design, skills in ACC Video Game Development Program. FREE info session Jan 10. Call 223-7662, or visit: www.austincc.edu/techcert/Video_Games

WE MAKE STICKERS
Stick with us! 500 Full-Color Sticker Special only $139
THEBUMPERSTICKER.COM • 512-873-9626

AUSTIN MODERN VINTAGE
HAS REOPENED! 50s, 60s & 70s Modern Design
306 E. 53rd (512) 419-0488 Fri-Mon 12-7PM
WWW.AUSTINMODERN.COM

877TipPool.com
****WAITERS****
Do you share your tips with kitchen staff, management, dishwashers, or other non-service employees?
Contact us for a free evaluation.
877.TIP.POOL
(877.847.7665)
Debes Law Firm
Robert R. Debes, Jr.
17 S. Briar Hollow Lane, Suite 302
Houston 77027
www.877tippool.com

Besttix.com 458-9700


ALAMO BOWL
CHEETAH GIRLS
LONGHORN BASKETBALL
ERIC CLAPTON • LION KING
COWBOYS • ROBERT EARL KEEN

Texas Hydroponics & Organics
Grow Your Own Herbs... Fruits and Vegetables... Year Round!
1.866.25.HYDRO
South Austin | Central Austin | Deep Ellum
5126 Burnet Rd. Austin, TX 78756 (512) 458-4769
5400 Elm St. Dallas, TX 75226 (214) 744-4769
Opening Soon in Houston!
www.texashydroponics.com

AFFORDABLESOUND A/S COM
CD\DVD DUPLICATION
CUSTOM PRINTING
MASTERING\RECORDING
459.5253