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VOLUME 28 ★ NUMBER 7 OCTOBER 17, 2008



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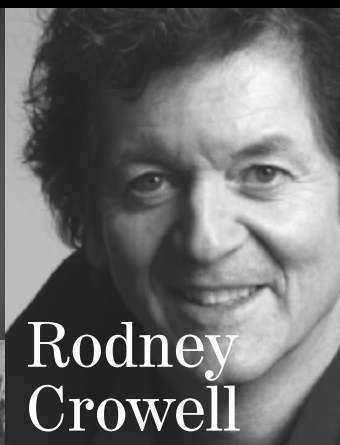
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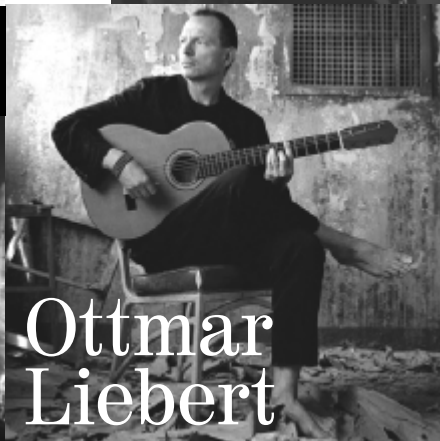


Rodney Crowell

Jerry Jeff Walker

Christopher Cross

Gary Hoey

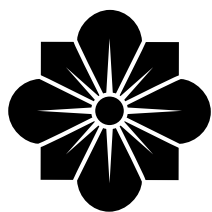


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The Rippingtons



Michael Martin Murphy



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George Duke

Strunz & Farah



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2/6/09	The Sax Pack
2/7/09	Shawn Colvin
2/11/09	Duncan Sheik
2/13/09	Tango Fire
2/15/09	Earl Klugh
2/20/09	Vienna Teng
2/27/09	California Guitar Trio
2/28/09	Judy Collins
3/27/09	Najee
4/5/09	Arturo Sandoval
5/1/09	Eddie Palmieri
5/8/09	The Rippingtons
6/5/09	Craig Chaquico
8/7/09	Ottmar Liebert

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Newsdesk gets all up in the **PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION** > Film Fight III is on, and **THE GLOVES ARE OFF** > Earache's got **LIVE REVIEWS APLENTY** > The Score celebrates the **HORNS' NO. 1 RANKING** > **ELECTION CENTRAL** has it all

BLOGS > VLOGS > TUNES > GALLERIES > COMMENTS + FORUMS > BALLOTS + POLLS > GUIDES > CONTESTS > DAILY LISTINGS > BREAKING NEWS > + 455,000 PAGES THAT DON'T FIT IN PRINT



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

'POSTMARKS' online – updated (almost) daily > **ASK MR. SMARTY PANTS** – sooner or later, he'll answer > 'SOCCER WATCH' online – updates from everywhere



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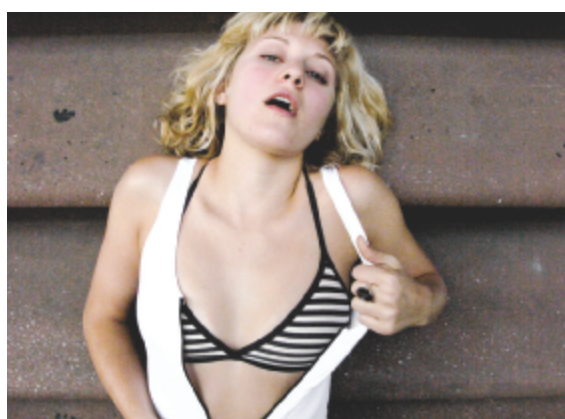
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'Chronicle' Endorsements Nov. 4 General Election



President: Barack Obama-Joe Biden

While it's unsurprising that we're endorsing Barack Obama for president – he's the only chance we have of the U.S. turning away from the disastrous domestic and foreign policies of the last eight years – the reasons for doing so have become increasingly urgent in the last weeks of the campaign. The spreading economic crisis requires a broad approach that does not rule out, on ideological grounds, direct government intervention, and the Bush administration is dithering and delaying – and John McCain promises more of the same. We need a broad and deep voter mandate for the end of the occupation of Iraq and a straightforward and efficient withdrawal – and McCain threatens only more of the same. Whatever one thinks of the limits of the Democratic Party, or even of electoral politics, we need a broad and strong message from voters in support of progressive change, and the only immediate means at hand is a widespread activist vote for Barack Obama. We urge all our readers to spread the word and to get out and vote.

U.S. Senate: Rick Noriega

After nearly six years as a staunch supporter of President Bush's failed policies, Republican Sen. John Cornyn now has the gall to run ads claiming that he'll be an agent of change. Houston state Rep. Noriega isn't exactly a revolutionary, but electing the Democrat would mark a welcome new direction. He wants to end this immoral and illegal war in Iraq, he's opposed to a border wall, and as a lieutenant colonel in the National Guard, he has firsthand knowledge of both border security and foreign policy. As a state legislator, he voted to expand the Children's Health Insurance Program, unlike Cornyn. While we'd like Noriega to be bolder in certain areas, a Sen. Noriega would on balance certainly be better than Cornyn and, in the untoward event of a McCain presidency, might help give the Democrats a veto-proof majority.

U.S. House, District 10: Larry Joe Doherty

What we said about John Cornyn above applies equally to Rep. Michael McCaul – he's little more than a rubber stamp for President Bush's warmongering, pro-corporate policies. Attorney and former TV personality Doherty is chomping at the bit to return District 10 to the progressive, populist tradition it had under Lyndon Johnson, Homer Thornberry, Jake Pickle, and Lloyd Doggett. First and foremost, he's sick of the Iraq war and recognizes its immorality. He also supports universal, single-payer health care and effective re-regulation of a freewheeling Wall Street that has spun out of

control. Having lawyered in Houston, lived near Brenham, and now residing in Austin, he understands all aspects of this diverse district. It's time to root out "Congressman Clear Channel" and let Doherty represent people, not money.

U.S. House, District 21: James Arthur Strohm

We'll confess – we're less than enthusiastic about Libertarian Strohm. In general, we think libertarian economic ideas are mostly abstract exercises in free-market fundamentalism, of little use in the current economic crisis. But Lamar Smith has been little more than a cog in the ruinous Republican machine of the past 7½ years (longer, if you recall the Newt Gingrich Congress), and we're embarrassed that the focus of his career has been beating up on immigrants. At least we agree with Libertarians on issues such as the Iraq war and drug legalization, and we're willing to check Strohm's name as a protest against a destructive regime.

U.S. House, District 25: Lloyd Doggett

There's a good reason Rep. Doggett has no formidable opposition (his Republican opponent, Fayette Co. rancher George Morovich, is a flat-tax and anti-immigrant enthusiast, and his Libertarian opponent is pro forma). He's one of the most progressive and hardest working congressmen on the Hill, and he has served the people of Austin and Central Texas with distinction, courage, and forthrightness for many years. He hardly needs our endorsement, but we're very proud to provide it.

Railroad Commissioner: Mark Thompson

Thompson faces an uphill battle against Railroad Commission Chair Michael Williams, but we welcome his committed effort to take on an incumbent whose campaign is fueled by the oil and gas industry he's supposed to regulate. Thompson, a disabilities rights advocate, calls for agency reforms and tougher enforcement of laws intended to protect the little guy. Can't argue with that.

Supreme Court, Chief Justice: Jim Jordan

Supreme Court, Place 7: Sam Houston

Supreme Court, Place 8: Linda Reyna Yañez

In recent years, the state's highest civil court has become a rubber stamp for corporate defendants, for whom it votes unanimously much of the time, with little regard for the legal rights of ordinary citizens nor even the necessity of balance and fairness. Moreover, the current incumbents are finding it increasingly difficult even to manage their dockets, as cases disappear into endless delay and consequent denial of justice. It's time to swing the pendulum back in a progressive direction:

The *Chronicle* editorial board (News staff, News editors, and publisher) offer the following select recommendations to our readers for the general election to be held Nov. 4; early voting runs Oct. 20-31. As a rule, we endorse only in contested races on the Travis County ballot, although we reserve the right to speak on other selected Central Texas races. We offer these endorsements to our readers equally as information and recommendation; our strongest endorsement is that you all take seriously your right and responsibility to vote.

Jordan and Yañez have distinguished judicial records, and Houston is an accomplished civil attorney. We urge our readers to support them.

Court of Criminal Appeals:

Place 3: Susan Strawn

Place 4: J.R. Molina

Place 9: Cathy Cochran

Changeover is perhaps even more necessary at the Court of Criminal Appeals, where Chief Justice Sharon Keller has presided over an increasingly "Hang 'em high!" court, out of step with either progressive criminal justice or sometimes even rational court procedure, barely managing its docket let alone delivering impartial decisions. This is an outcomes-based, right-wing activist court, determined to rubber-stamp harsh prosecutions with little regard for fairness or justice, let alone mercy. Democrats Strawn and Molina would bring both experience and fairness to the CCA and deserve voters' support. No Democrat is running in Place 9, and Libertarian William Bryan Strange III appears to have filed purely out of partisan ideological conviction. GOP incumbent Cochran has shown fairness and a judicial temperament – she was livid at Keller's notorious 5pm closing on a death penalty appeal – and she has earned another term.

Texas House, District 46: Dawnna Dukes

We've had some differences with Dukes – notably over her support for House Speaker Tom Craddick – but she's better than the Libertarian running against her.

Texas House, District 47: Valinda Bolton

By concentrating her agenda on the two hallmark issues for most Texans – education and health care – Bolton is keeping to the heart of a state rep's responsibilities. While a baseless smear campaign has tried to target her as soft on sexual offenders, Bolton's national reputation and practical experience as an expert on sexual and domestic abuse was invaluable when she stepped with little fanfare into the quagmire of the Texas Youth Commission scandal to help legislate essential abuse counseling services. It is hard to see GOP challenger Donna Keel's candidacy as more than vendetta politics, with an agenda that does not relate to the real concerns of the district. Moreover, putting the sister-in-law of Speaker Tom Craddick's parliamentarian (and former HD 47 incumbent) Terry Keel in the House would be a re-enforcement of Craddick's dictatorial style. We strongly endorse Bolton for a second term.



NOV. 4 GENERAL ELECTION

(EARLY VOTING OCT. 20-31)

You may vote at any early-voting location, as long as it's in the county in which you are registered. On Election Day, voters must vote in their precincts. Get a list of precinct locations by calling 238-VOTE or visit www.traviscountyelections.org.

For Williamson County info, go to www.wilco.org/elections.

EARLY-VOTING LOCATIONS

Early-voting polls are open Monday-Saturday, 7am-7pm, and Sunday, noon-6pm, unless noted otherwise.

TRAVIS CO. MEGA SITES

NORTH: Travis County Offices, 5501 Airport

SOUTH: West Tower Village, 4534 West Gate Blvd. #115

CENTRAL

Travis Co. Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe

Fiesta Mart, 3909 N. I-35

University of Texas, Flawn Academic Center Lobby, West Mall

Howson Public Library, 2500 Exposition (Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., closed)

Washington Mutual Bank, Hancock Center, 1000 E. 41st (Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-1pm; Sun., closed)

SOUTH

Travis Co. Juvenile Probation Department Annex, 2501 S. Congress

Randalls, 2025 W. Ben White

SOUTHEAST

Dan Ruiz Public Library, 1600 Grove (Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., noon-6pm)

Fiesta Mart, 5510 S. I-35

NORTH

Ben Hur Shriners Hall, 7811 Rockwood

Round Rock ISD Performing Arts Center, 5800 McNeil Dr.

SOUTHWEST

Randalls, 6600 MoPac S.

Randalls, 9911 Brodie

NORTHEAST

MT Supermarket, 10901 N. Lamar, Bldg. G at Chinatown Center, (Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., noon-6pm)

County Tax Office, 15822 Foothill Farms Loop, Pflugerville

Goodwill Industries, 1015 Norwood Park

NORTHWEST

Randalls, 10900-D Research

H-E-B, 7301 FM 620 N.*

EAST

Parque Zaragosa Recreation Center, 2608 Gonzales (Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., noon-6pm)

Northeast Health Center, 7112 Ed Blue-stein (Springdale Shopping Center)

Carver Complex, 1161 Angelina (Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., noon-6pm)

WEST

Randalls, 3300 Bee Caves Rd., West Lake Hills

Randalls, 2301 RR 620 S., Lakeway

Bee Cave City Hall, 4000 Galleria Pkwy.

* Temporary building in parking lot

MOBILE VOTING

MONDAY, OCT. 20

Winters Building, 701 W. 51st, 8am-6pm
Conley-Guerrero Senior Center, 808 Nile, 8-10am
Grace House, 11825 Bee Caves Rd., 8-10am
Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird, 9am-6pm
Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Rd., 10am-6pm
Park Bend Health Center, 2122 Park Bend Dr., noon-2pm
Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, 500 E. Seventh, noon-4pm
Brighton Gardens, 4401 Spicewood Springs Rd., 4-6pm

TUESDAY, OCT. 21

Travis Building, 1701 Congress, 8am-6pm
Parsons House, 1130 Camino la Costa, 8-10am
Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird, 9am-6pm
St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 9am-6pm
Gus Garcia Rec. Center, 1201 E. Rundberg, 10am-8pm
Loyalton of Austin, 5310 Duval Rd., noon-2pm
Heritage Pointe, 1950 Webberville, 4-6pm

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22

Dell Children's Medical Center, 4900 Mueller, 8am-6pm
LBJ Building, 111 E. 17th, 8am-6pm
Stephen F. Austin Building, 1700 Congress, 8am-6pm
RBJ Residential Tower, 21 Waller, 8-10am
Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird, 9am-6pm
Summit at West Lake Hills, 1034 Liberty Park, noon-2pm
Heartland Health Care Center, 11406 Rustic Rock, 4-6pm

THURSDAY, OCT. 23

Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, first floor, 8am-6pm
Central Services Building, 1711 San Jacinto, 8am-6pm
Brackenridge Hospital, 601 E. 15th, 8am-6pm
Lakeside Senior Center, 85 Trinity, 8-10am
Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird, 9am-6pm
Conservatory at Wells Branch, 14320 Tandem, noon-2pm
Park at Beckett Meadows, 7709 Beckett, 4-6pm

Texas House, District 48: Donna Howard

Former critical-care nurse Howard has unsurprisingly taken a lead on many health-care issues, including putting her name to the Texas Hospital-Based Nursing Education Partnership Grant Program, which will help relieve the statewide hospital staff shortage. While other legislation, such as extra protection for hospital whistle-blowers, died in committee, Howard's commitment to these pivotal issues is undeniable. So is her ability to forge strong working relationships with House Republicans without excessive concessions. Republican Pam Waggoner is running on an education platform, but her tax proposals would further hamstring school funding, and making illegal immigration her No. 2 issue is straight from the GOP playbook and a diversion from real state problems. Libertarian Ben Easton's blanket opposition to public education outweighs any potential good in his platform. We strongly endorse Donna Howard.

Texas House, District 49: Elliott Naishtat

Naishtat is unopposed, but we wanted to give him a shout-out anyway for years of dedicated service to Austin and Texas. Keep up the good work!

Texas House, District 50: Mark Strama

During the revolt against Speaker Craddick last session, Strama could have shrunk into the background like some other members of his caucus pegged as Craddick Ds. Instead, he delivered a clear legal argument that dismantled Craddick's claims that he who wields the gavel wields absolute authority. His package of proposals to create an independent redistricting committee, to expand campaign finance reform, and to improve ballot access could make him a major factor in political battles before the 2010 redistricting. In addition, his authoring of effective green legislation and creating funding that bridges the gap for veterans going to college are solid policy. Republican Jerry Mikus' proposal to shift all state revenue to sales taxes defines "regressive tax," and Libertarian Jerry Chandler has done little to promote his agenda.

Texas House, District 51: Eddie Rodriguez

Rodriguez has represented his district and Austin well, with particular attention to Eastside residential concerns and those of everyday working people. He has also been an independent mind on the House floor and a calm temperament who understands how progressive action gets done, a piece at a time. Libertarian Arthur DiBianca is an earnest fellow who's doing what he can to build his party, but Rodriguez has fully earned the voters' support.

Texas House, District 52: Diana Maldonado

Attempts by the Williamson County GOP to paint Round Rock Independent School District trustee Maldonado as a single-issue education candidate seem galling when compared to Republican Bryan Daniel's close connection to the agriculture political action committees. An establishment Republican whose generic policy platform would restrict

CONTINUED ON P.10



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spending when even some of the more fiscally conservative House members are worried about the state’s bare-bones budget, Daniel seems a backward step for a changing district. Maldonado, who arguably has far better links to the Central Texas business community than Daniel, will also bring an often-missed voice for Hispanic-owned and female-owned businesses and coalitions, and her hands-on understanding of the legislative and budget traumas facing school districts can be an essential addition to the next session.

3rd Court of Appeals, Chief Justice: Woodie Jones

The incumbent is Justice Kenneth Law, who won his seat on a fluke with little experience and has grown less worthy in the job. Recently he and his former business lobbyist colleague Alan Waldrop ruled that “checks” are not necessarily “cash,” in a transparent attempt to exempt disgraced former Rep. Tom DeLay from prosecution for campaign finance violations. Shortly thereafter, Texans for Public Justice filed civil and criminal complaints against Law for apparent campaign finance violations. By contrast, former 3rd Court Justice Jones has both an exemplary reputation and still more judicial experience than Law, and he will help restore the reputation of a court that has disgraced itself with right-wing partisanship.

District Judge, 427th Judicial District: Jim Coronado

Last spring, for the Democratic primary, we described Coronado as “an experienced attorney, court officer, and legal activist who has been centrally involved in social-justice issues in and out of court for many years ... [who] has the length of service and the breadth of legal and community experience” to earn our endorsement. Melissa Goodwin, appointed by Gov. Rick Perry for the newly created court to provide incumbency in this campaign, has served only a few months, with prior experience primarily as a justice of the peace. We believe Coronado has the broadest range of experience and the temperament to best serve in this seat.

Travis Co. Sheriff: Greg Hamilton

Although incumbent Hamilton has recently been criticized for allowing too-generous jail access to federal immigration authorities, he has otherwise held hands off on immigration enforcement, saying it would detract from fighting crime, and he has in general continued and expanded the better traditions of local law enforcement in recent years. Specifically, his office quickly adopted the “cite-and-release” option for minor offenses made available under state law while the Austin Police Department was still dragging its feet – and he no doubt had an influence on the larger department to get with the program. Republican challenger Raymond Frank is 83, carries a few old skeletons from his Seventies-era tenure, and would undoubtedly be entertaining; when he ran in 1996, he told the *Statesman*, “I realize I’m 70, but so is B.B. King, and so was Picasso when he did some of his best work.” A dozen years later, Frank is bucking GOP orthodoxy by promising to renounce Tasers and to work for marijuana decriminalization, but his candidacy is largely a diversion, as is the token filing of Libertarian David McDaniel.

Travis Co. Tax Assessor-Collector: Nelda Wells Spears

Some good ideas have been raised as to how the Tax Assessor’s Office could be improved – but those suggestions came back in the Democratic primary from challenger Glen Maxey, not from her current Republican opponent. Even Maxey’s suggestions couldn’t convince Dems to end the 17-year tenure of Spears, who has rightly earned praise as an effective, competent public servant in her roles of tax collector and voter registrar. Libertarian-oriented Republican Don Zimmerman’s candidacy borders on the cartoonish and offers no evidence he could defeat her in any case.

Travis Co. Commissioner, Precinct 1: Ron Davis

Davis has been a reliable progressive vote on the Commissioners Court and an effective advocate for his northeast district. He well deserves another term.

Travis Co. Commissioner, Precinct 3: Karen Huber

We’ll give incumbent Republican Gerald Daugherty the same credit we gave him back in 2002: We appreciate the fact that he says what he believes, not just what he thinks people want to hear. Unfortunately, what he believes is sharply at odds with our vision for the western portion of Travis County that he serves. His longstanding prioritization of road-building ahead of mass transit and opposition to increased county powers over development have not served this county well. Within county lines, alas, there isn’t much left of the Hill Country to save, but we believe Huber’s business background mixed with her strong conservationist bent will help protect what remains of a formerly (and in some places, still) beautiful part of the county.

Travis Co. Constable, Precinct 2: Bob Vann

This is not the first time we’ve endorsed Vann, a Republican, for this seat, but he has served in this office since 1996, and it would be nice to see a viable Democrat making a run for this seat. The Democratic candidate in this race is Adan Ballesteros, but we couldn’t bring ourselves to endorse him (or for that matter his opponent, Paul Labuda) in the Democratic primary, and we find no reason to endorse him now. Voters in this district are better off sticking with a known quantity like Vann.

Travis Co. Constable, Precinct 3: Richard McCain

In his first term, McCain worked hard to raise the profile and funding level of this little-known southwest Travis Co. office in one of the fastest-growing areas of the county. The incumbent, who faces Republican Mike Varela and Libertarian Joe Edgar on the ballot, already has a proven record that is unmatched by his competitors. He deserves a second term.

Travis Co. Constable, Precinct 5: Bruce Elfant

Incumbent Elfant has been a stalwart of both constabulary efficiency and progressive action for many years and is a local moral anchor among officials sometimes more inter-

ested in self-advancement than serving the people. We welcome the opportunity to praise and endorse Elfant.

City of Austin, Proposition 1: YES

Shall the City Charter be amended to provide that city council appoint a city auditor for a five-year term, during which term the city auditor may only be removed by a vote of three-fourths of the city council, and at the conclusion of the term, by a majority of the city council?

Proposition 1 (which originated from a council proposal) is designed to insulate the city auditor – who investigates wasteful spending and fraud and conducts more general administrative reviews – from political pressure by making the position a fixed, five-year term and requiring a council supermajority (at least six of seven, currently) to remove the auditor. The point is to insulate the auditor from outside pressure should uncomfortable questions emerge from the auditor’s office. As the auditor’s office has occasionally been subject to political or managerial arm-twisting in the past, Proposition 1 is a commonsense way to better government at little cost.

City of Austin, Proposition 2: NO

Shall the City Charter be amended to prohibit the City from entering into future agreements to provide financial incentives in connection with the development or redevelopment of property that includes one or more retail uses, and to stop the City from providing financial incentives under certain existing agreements in connection with the development or redevelopment of property that includes one or more retail uses?

An amendment to the City Charter – the municipal equivalent of the federal Constitution – is a serious decision that requires all the reflection and due diligence voters can muster. While we were not unanimous in our opposition, as an editorial board we’re recommending

**Nov. 4
Joint
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and
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Elections**

**Travis Co.
Sample Ballot**

(Contested races only.
Actual races on your ballot
will vary according to the
precinct in which you live.
Some issues in outlying areas
of the county not included.)

Sample Ballot

President

John McCain/Sarah Palin (R)
Barack Obama/Joe Biden (D)
Bob Barr/Wayne A. Root (L)

U.S. Senator

John Cornyn (R)
Richard J. (Rick) Noriega (D)
Yvonne Adams Schick (L)

U.S. Rep, District 10

Michael T. McCaul (R)
Larry Joe Doherty (D)
Matt Finkel (L)

U.S. Rep, District 21

Lamar Smith (R)
James Arthur Stroh (L)

U.S. Rep, District 25

George L. Morovich (R)
Lloyd Doggett (D)
Jim Stutsman (L)

Railroad Commissioner

Michael L. Williams (R)
Mark Thompson (D)
David Floyd (L)

Supreme Court Chief Justice

Wallace B. Jefferson (R)
Jim Jordan (D)
Tom Oxford (L)

Supreme Court Justice, Place 7

Dale Wainwright (R)
Sam Houston (D)
David G. Smith (L)

Supreme Court Justice, Place 8

Phil Johnson (R)
Linda Reyna Yañez (D)
Drew Shirley (L)

Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 3

Tom Price (R)
Susan Strawn (D)
Matthew E. Eilers (L)

Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 4

Paul Womack (R)
J.R. Molina (D)
Dave Howard (L)

Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 9

Cathy Cochran (R)
William Bryan Strange III (L)

State Rep, District 46

Dawna Dukes (D)
Allen Hacker (L)

State Rep, District 47

Donna Keel (R)
Valinda Bolton (D)

State Rep, District 48

Pamela Waggoner (R)
Donna Howard (D)
Ben Easton (L)

State Rep, District 50

Jerry J. Mikus Jr. (R)
Mark Strama (D)
Jerry Chandler (L)

State Rep, District 51

Eddie Rodríguez (D)
Arthur DiBianca (L)

Chief Justice, 3rd Court of Appeals

Ken Law (R)
Woodie Jones (D)

District Judge, 427th Judicial District

Melissa Goodwin (R)
Jim Coronado (D)

Travis Co. Sheriff

Raymond Frank (R)
Greg Hamilton (D)
David McDaniel (L)

Travis Co. Tax Assessor-Collector

Don Zimmerman (R)
Nelda Wells Spears (D)
Mike Burris (L)

Travis Co. Commissioner, Precinct 1

Ron Davis (D)
Fancy Fairchild (L)

Travis Co. Commissioner, Precinct 3

Gerald Daugherty (R)
Karen Huber (D)
Wes Benedict (L)

Travis Co. Constable, Precinct 2

Bob Vann (R)
Adan Ballesteros (D)
Arlo J. Pignotti (L)

Travis Co. Constable, Precinct 3

Mike Varela (R)
Richard Theodore McCain (D)
Joe Edgar (L)

Travis Co. Constable, Precinct 5

Bruce Elfant (D)
Michael M. Holt (L)

City of Austin Prop. 1

Shall the City Charter be amended to provide that city council appoint a city auditor for a five-year term, during which term the city auditor may only be removed by a vote of three-fourths of the city council, and at the conclusion of the term, by a majority of the city council?

City of Austin Prop. 2

Shall the City Charter be amended to prohibit the City from entering into future agreements to provide financial incentives in connection with the development or redevelopment of property that includes one or more retail uses, and to stop the City from providing financial incentives under certain existing agreements in connection with the development or redevelopment of property that includes one or more retail uses?

Austin ISD Tax Ratification

Proposition 1: Approve the ad valorem tax rate of \$1.2020 per \$100 valuation for the current year. A rate that is \$.0390 higher per \$100 valuation than the rollback tax rate.

Round Rock ISD Bond Election

PROPOSITION NO. 1: \$156,565,000 of school bonds to build and equip schools and their sites, including building three new elementary schools and a transportation facility, buying buses and technology equipment, and levying the taxes to pay for them.

PROPOSITION NO. 2: \$137,375,000 of school bonds to build and equip schools and their sites, including renovations and additions to existing facilities, security improvements, buying buses and technology equipment, and levying the taxes to pay for them.

a “no” vote on this broad amendment that rejects any and all retail development incentives. We’re doing so because punishing the Domain – the North Austin mixed-use development that Proposition 2 targets – is not worthy of a charter amendment of unknown general consequences. Equally important, the potential damage to the city’s reputation and the murky amendment language itself will likely generate negative consequences. This amendment is a risk we don’t need to take.

Certainly we sympathize with the impulse to protect local businesses by forbidding the kind of subsidies provided to the Domain and reining in city largesse to commercial developers and national chain stores. In hindsight, the 2003 deal the city of Austin made with the Domain’s original developer, Endeavor, gave away too much (up to \$25 million in subsidies, in 2003 dollars) while asking for too little in return. But the city did get the benefits that council contractually demanded in exchange: a redesign as a mixed-use, New Urbanist project planned for mass transit, with some affordable housing and a complement of local businesses.

Voters need to clearly understand that this amendment will not affect only the Domain. With some exemptions, it would eliminate incentives – including, for example, affordable housing buy-down grants – for any project that includes a retail component. Used well, incentives of various kinds have been a valuable tool for positively shaping developer behavior and mixed-use projects. Yet the full amendment (not visible on the ballot) would broadly “restrict the use or expenditure of tax revenues or other resources of the city to provide subsidies, financial benefits or advantages for development of real property that includes one or more Retail Uses” (emphasis added) – whatever the extent or kind of those uses and regardless of the community goals the subsidy might achieve.

In particular, the amendment would affect the Mueller neighborhood, another project

subsidized in part by its own sales taxes. The inability to make grants from the city’s Affordable Housing Fund could also negatively affect the Green Water Treatment Plant redevelopment, as well as mixed-use projects too small for tax-increment financing (exempted from the amendment) yet crucial to the redevelopment of inner-city neighborhoods.

The current council has already enacted a new policy that forbids future Domain-style subsidies. Unlike a charter amendment, that policy can be changed at will without waiting on another charter election. While we understand and respect the frustration of proponents who want to end large-scale retail subsidies and who don’t trust City Hall to hold the line of its own accord, most of us believe this charter amendment is not the right solution.

AIISD, Tax Ratification Election: YES

Even in the face of dire economic times and after the Austin Independent School District bond election in May, the real no-brainer on this ballot is the 3.9-cent property-tax raise for education funding. Tying the teachers’ pay raise to the tax increase may seem like extortion, and Education Austin made a sensible argument that the district should have asked for the maximum 13 cents allowed by the state, saving it from having to come back, cap in hand, next time it has any additional expenditure. (Despite rises in property value, additional collections do not benefit AISD but are “recaptured” by the state for other districts.) The reality is, until someone in the Legislature has the spine to separate school funding from the political kick ball of property tax, the staff and students of AISD should not be penalized for a flawed funding system. We strongly endorse the tax increase and implore legislators to make school finance again a prime issue in the next session. ■



To read the city ordinance mandating the Proposition 1 and 2 charter amendments, including the ballot language and the full amendment proposals, see the endorsements online at austinchronicle.com.



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The Best of Austin

A concept in search of an author; characters in search of a form; memory in search of meaning **BY LOUIS BLACK**

TWO WEEKS IN ANOTHER TOWN:

A Silent Film Serial in Many Chapters (projected at the correct speed, accompanied by a small orchestra, with appropriately colored tints)

Chapter One

You Play the Red and the Black Comes Up; J'accuse and Remember; Reminisce and Accuse

[Against a gray morning sky, a Model T drives up to the top of a hill. A dog jumps out to run across a field.]

September and October have long been “the Rocking Horse Winner” months here at the *Chronicle*, breeding the “Best of Austin” out of an already sapped staff, with nothing left to give, still giving. It is a quiet hum but always there. It is a hum of hunger demanding to be fed by a constant tabulation going on, a hum insisting it be fed by content – content to be decided on, thought about, researched, written, proofread, corrected, fact-checked, designed, printed. It is a hum of worrying – never shouting, always urgently whispering to all that they go quicker, do more, finish entries, vet sections – a hum of concern that time is fleeting. Without changing sound levels, it gets louder and louder. No longer just in the walls, it enters into the head and the blood.

There are no explosions, no detonation, usually little outrageous conduct, but the hum is 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

All the time in Austin, there is the unrelenting drizzle of lament – of voices recalling, dismissing, celebrating, singing, and accusing – of voices torn with pain. Neither geological nor structurally permanent, the intellectual, social, and political swift-moving violent white-water rapids of conversation, discourse, and disagreement rip through the city, defining it daily. Guiding it without directing. Dominating dangerous mirages of illusion, weather and emotion, metaphoric

and real, poetic and bland. City veterans love the thrill; novices often are swamped and nearly drowned.

Any citizen here for not much longer than 24 hours soon spices his or her conversation with the true vernacular incongruities and accents of the Hill Country. They slip into pot, beer, barbecue, Mexican food, harder drinks, and beginning too many sentences with the most classic River-City-polite phraseology, “You should have been here when ...”

They talk of the loss of the magic city of Oz past. They note how much better the city used to be when the Armadillo was open or KUT-FM was when the population was so much smaller and John Aielli was on for stretches of 24 or 48 hours or more. They bemoan the present’s lack of quality, waxing nostalgic for how good ... *Austin City Limits* TV show, cable access, Joe Ely’s band, Güero’s tacos, Esther’s Follies, Ruby’s barbecue, Threadgill’s chicken-fried steak, and Curra’s whole menu ... used to be, about how easy it was to park, that the summers were never so hot, and sometimes in the winter it even snowed.

They recall the good old days when Guy Juke’s and Micael Priest’s posters were everywhere, the Butthole Surfers were dangerous, all the people were decent, pot was inexpensive, traffic was always light, and more often than not the cost of living was so cheap that landlords would be paying rent to the tenants. They reminisce how great KLBK-FM was when Dale Dudley and Bob Fonseca were on in the morning or the KGSR-FM glory days with Jody Denberg and Bryan Beck, when Antone’s and the Continental Club were cool, Ann Richards was governor, Raul’s was open, South by Southwest was hip, and the *Chronicle* relevant and interesting.

When Clifford Antone, Janis Joplin, Danny Young, Townes Van Zandt, and Doug Sahm were all alive, and Stevie Ray Vaughan, years away from becoming a statue, played the Rome Inn most weekends.

One of *Mad Magazine*’s most legendary features was published some number of decades back, a riff on advertising that continually insists that products are currently at their very best! Consumers are assured that now these products are newer, stronger, cheaper, healthier, more powerful, better-tasting, and better for you. Imagining some consistency in advertising, the magazine offered parody prior to ads of products – declaring that the taste was off, the cleaners ineffective, ingredients weak, that they weren’t healthy, and indeed couldn’t do much at all.

In Austin, it is rare to hear a positive comment about anything local except if it is in the past tense. One of my recent columns was about Austin as it is now. It was not advocating change but arguing that change had happened. Some were so obsessed by what has been lost that they were missing the wonders still here.

Some chastised me for acquiescing so easily and not resisting. Resist we had; this was not advocacy but acceptance. The *Chronicle* has fought and continues to fight one of the longest rear-guard actions in history. The column was simply describing where this city is now, finding it still outstanding though different. The choice is not to change back – that is not an option. The choice is to embrace it or not.

The “Best of Austin” issue brings home the changes and the resulting losses as well as the ongoing and newly added strengths.

[Characters that will appear throughout this teleplay are now introduced:

Jean Pierre Melville – a traveling minstrel
Humpty Dumpty – a philosopher
Eddie Romero – a Filipino film director
Women in Cages – The Patton Family Singing & Dancing Sisters
Ann Savage – Ann Savage
Supplying the voice of the madman relative kept prisoner in the third tower that could only be reached by going through the always-locked red door on the third floor – Harry Langdon
Alaskan Oil – Fuzzy St. Gabby, a prospector
Weather People – The cast of Cats, in costume]

Chapter Two In Dreams Begin Responsibilities. Ed Lowry Teaches Us Everything.

[There are broad plains. Men on horses ride across them. A long line of Model Ts drives off into the distance.]

The “Best of Austin” issues feature readers’ and critics’ opinions. Each one is part of the greater story of Austin. Run together over the years, the “Best of Austin” issues offer a vast four-dimensional picture of Austin, of so many of the places, people, and businesses that define the city.

Hundreds of items are already here, additions and suggestions are always welcome.

Some would rather tear down than build, insult rather than praise. This column in past “Best of Austin” issues has talked of Bob Cole resurrecting restaurants, of C3’s aesthetic and logistic brilliance, of Waterloo Records, Zilker Park, and good bread.

[Teaneck, N.J., 1955. Griggs Avenue. A 5-year-old boy sleepwalking leaves his home through the back door. Later he is awoken by a policeman in an unfamiliar living room.]

In Austin the topic of Whole Foods Market can attract such electricity, it makes lightning rods look inhospitable. Opinions abound based on everything from ideology to cuisine, from attraction to quality, to an obsession with economic class concerns.

Unfortunately, once you begin to eat organic fruits and vegetables and free-range chicken rather than skin-wrapped flesh and water, you can easily become addicted. It is not ideology or politics but taste.

Discussions often narrow focus. One of the realities we are privileged to live with is how Whole Foods has changed the supermarket landscape all across the country. In many, many communities where good food was once nearly impossible to find, now all kinds are readily available.

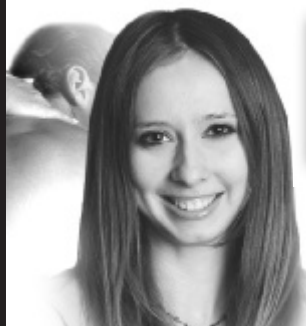
[President Bush and Vice President Cheney – the Ritz Brothers
The Bush daughters – Thelma Todd & Zazu Pitts]

CONTINUED ON P.14

page
two

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Chapter Three Lies Sneak In on Little Cat's Feet

[Violent storms are stretched across the evening sky.]

Only three weeks until the election, the wild pre-election storms of wind and sand swirl about crazily – whacked-down streets, racing through schools, even though they lack substance and are without gravity, they still cover everything with dust.

The idea now is innuendo. Obama is chastised because of his past “relationships.” This is not guilt by association, we are assured. No, the problem is the way he shared information about them.

If he had talked about them differently, then that would have been the problem. The idea is to attack and discredit and not to present an idea or anything that looks or comes across as one. The idea is the bucket of pigs’ blood at the end of *Carrie* to be anonymously dumped on Obama again and again. Baptizing him, drowning the Democrats.

I knew some Weather Underground folks in Boston and in Vermont. During the summer of 1968 in Peekskill, N.Y., Jeff Jones and I got into an intense, ugly argument.

I never much liked the Students for a Democratic Society in general; the Weather Underground were worse. They quite unattractively combined a sense of privilege (because of their race and class) with an arrogant self-righteousness. They offered a very simplistic political, social, and ideological agenda.

Still, what drove them was not terrorists’ hatred of the United States but rather the deep disillusionment and desperation of those who loved this country but were horrified by what was happening in Vietnam and Southeast Asia. The idea was not to destroy the U.S. but to right its course.

Twenty years or more after their brief heyday, when Obama met them (i.e., William Ayers), they were not on the run but were integrated legal members of the society.

The Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now hires folks to go out to register people to vote. They pay those that sign them up a rate per person signed. Not surprisingly, some of these folks got quite creative at generating voters.

This is not a top-down conspiracy. It is not really massive voter fraud until the registered noncitizens show up to try to vote. Don’t expect much of that, because for the most part they won’t show up at the polls. This is

why the GOP is pumping it up now to capture the excitement before it implodes on itself.

I’m not sure how it works exactly, but it doesn’t seem likely that an independent organization that registers voters can have much discretion over what voter registration forms it turns in and which ones it doesn’t.

Think about it.

Now if only the blowhard, dishonestly disingenuous, hard-right pundits who now insist this blatant corrupting of the electoral system hurts them in their constitutionally pristine hearts had shown any but the most base partisan commitments to the integrity of the electoral system in Florida and Ohio, think how different things might have been.

President Bush sings a medley of songs about tax-cutting, insisting that he is cutting taxes for all Americans because it will stimulate the economy. The hard-right pundit gang trip over themselves explaining how American families will each save an average of \$1,000 in taxes.

Some were just up to their usual tricks, kicking back into the sweet old dishonesty that brays about its own integrity while turning tricks on street corners. Casually condemning as worthless all who disagree with them, their staccato cadence lulls listeners into not objecting to their absurd claims that

members of a racially mixed, nationally organized political party should be branded as racist because they simply bring up the idea of race in politics.

There is nothing quite as amusing as two or three relatively clueless cable news Anglo talking heads weighing in on racism, when they really have precious little idea as to what they are talking about, with some of them undoubtedly thinking the topic of race is related to the Triple Crown.

Later, as the lies go out into the night on little cat’s feet, Sarah Palin shoots them dead.

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[A dam bursts. It rains. A bank closes.] ■

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VENTURA, DO THE RESPONSIBLE THING

Dear Editor,

Please Mr. "Frankenstein" ["Letters at 3am," Oct. 10]: Michael Ventura, pay off your debt; quit living above your means. You are severely damaging the many millions of American citizens who actually do live responsible and accountable lives. Pay off those two credit cards so that the rest of us who have managed our debt and stayed out of debt will not have to. Remarkably, we do know who to blame; the predictable results of this credit binge have been publicly discussed for our entire adult lives, and we knew that the accounting would come before we retired. I guess you weren't paying attention, so sell your most prideful possession – your damn stupid car – and pay down your debt. Do the responsible thing, and pass the word on to any others that you know that bought more house than they can afford and lived lifestyles they couldn't afford. I know too many people who for all the right reasons were not enjoying this wild roller coaster of rising home appreciations and the dislocations that it cost them and their families in this city.

Please quit deceiving yourself with your semi-intellectual philosophical outlook.

Michael Cosper

PLAY FAIR, 'CHRONICLE'

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed the listings of restaurants, and quite a few of my suggestions made your follow-up article, but your "our game, our rules" thing is just wrong ["Landmark Eateries," Food, Sept. 12]! You've included establishments in Driftwood, Bee Cave, and Lakeway/Lake Travis, but you don't consider equally close establishments because of your "rules." You should do a follow-up article with the most logical, commonsense rules – consider any place in any area that gets copies of *The Austin Chronicle*. That includes San Marcos, for example. Why tell your readers and your advertisers in those areas that they don't count because they're not "Austin" – and then bend the rules for selected favorites? Come on, *Austin Chronicle*, play fair! Respect all of your readers in this greater Austin area and do another comprehensive follow-up!

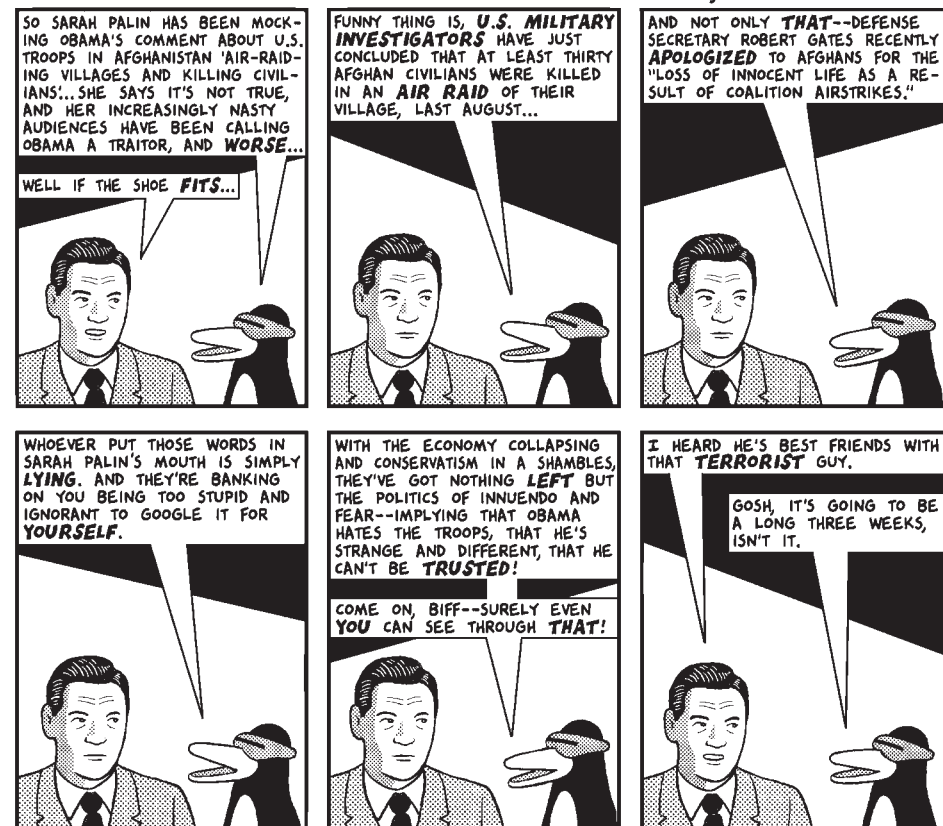
Barry Popik

[Virginia B. Wood replies: Barry, I read all of your online posts and want to thank you for all the time and effort you put into researching restaurants in San Marcos and Round Rock that you felt should be added to the list. However, the main focus of the story was dining landmarks in Austin. The list of 25- to 49-year-old places was a byproduct of research on the main story ("Austin Landmarks on the Menu," Food, Sept. 12) and was only included as an interesting sidebar, at best. I've reread the main

CONTINUED ON P.18

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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BRETT MORGEN

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feature and my follow-up column, and I still can't find the section where I've told readers or advertisers in surrounding towns they "don't matter" – it's just that Austin was always the main focus of the story, as is the majority of all of our regular coverage. As Food editor at The Austin Chronicle, part of my job is the allocation of time, resources, and page space when assigning stories for our Food section. While your dissatisfaction with the parameters set for this particular piece is unfortunate, the story is finished, and we've moved on.]

BUY LOCAL DURING ECONOMIC CRISIS

Dear Editor,

There's something that hasn't been talked up much in the current economic crisis. People are hanging on to their money, with good reason. They aren't spending it, which means businesses aren't getting it – national chain businesses, Internet businesses, and, more importantly, local businesses.

Personally, I care a lot more that places like Kerbey Lane, Vulcan Video, and BookPeople stay in business than I do that places like Netflix and Amazon make their profits. This is the time for us to buy local – to spend our dollars here in Austin, with Austin businesses, and not on the Internet.

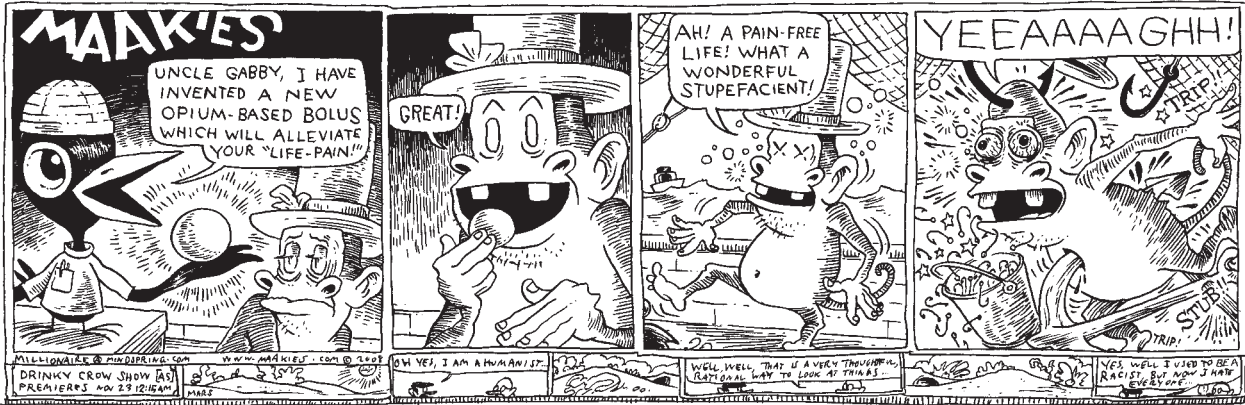
If we don't, these priceless local businesses may not be there when this crisis passes. We have to buy local – now – if we want a "local" to be there to buy from later.

Tom Davis

GUNS AREN'T FUNNY

Dear Editor,

Re: The Oct. 3 *Austin Chronicle* cover: I can pretty much imagine that people who would laugh at a picture of this would also claim to believe in God, as I do, too. However, most "Christians" don't bother, for some reason, to express any respect for *all* of God's creatures. If you think this pic is funny, then there is something wrong with you; seriously. Sick people are out there assuming that animal cruelty is OK, and y'all that laugh about it contribute to non-Christian values. Guns aren't funny;



they are designs of human stupidity, not intelligence. Thanks Timothy Verret for being a voice of reason ["Postmarks," Oct. 10].

Randy Oakes

FINANCIAL FUDGERY

Dear *Austin Chronicle*,

On the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization agenda Monday, Oct. 13, in item No. 7 is an agreement between CAMPO and the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority to skip doing a formal market valuation on tolled 290 East and instead come to some sort of agreed-upon valuation for this road. The reason the substitute valuation is being proposed is that the preliminary market valuation on this roadway came in showing negative financial numbers, putting this project in the red.

This sort of financial fudgery is just exactly how our nation got into the economic mess we are in right now. It may seem somehow like a good idea to override the negative financial data from the initial valuation in order to get the road built, but it is not. Subprime lenders ignored negative financial valuations to get people into homes they could not afford, and the snowball effect

has nearly brought our country to its knees. CAMPO should not override the red flags the initial market valuation is raising.

The CTRMA wants to overlook the financials on this road and build it. The CTRMA wants to use shaky toll revenue from 183-A to secure toll bonds for 290 East because bond insurers like AIG are no longer able to insure these risky projects. And the CTRMA wants to use scarce taxpayer resources to build a toll road in an economically challenged part of town in a time of shrinking discretionary incomes from which they expect tolls to be paid.

The CTRMA is getting further and further out on a limb, and as we have recently seen in the U.S. and world economies, limbs break.

The CTRMA should perform a true market valuation using up-to-date figures to reflect current market and economic conditions to determine if it is in the best interest of the community to build this tolled design.

I'm not sure who is following transportation for the *Chronicle* right now, but please give this your attention. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Beki Halpin

[Editor's note: At its Oct. 13 meeting, CAMPO postponed action on this proposal and related matters until next month.]

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31-Day Reduced Fare Pass	N/A	\$9.00	\$18.00	N/A
Day Pass	N/A	\$1.50	\$3.00	N/A
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Stored Value Card	Good for \$15 worth of rides			\$12.00
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Austin City Council



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news

Headlines

- **Early voting** begins Monday, Oct. 20. For early-voting info and *Chronicle* endorsements, see p.8, and for election coverage, see p.24. And vote!
- The **stock market** rallied Monday after the U.S. and European nations announced plans to inject capital directly into major banks – a plan favored by several economists, including **Paul Krugman**. *The New York Times* columnist won the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences on Monday.
- The City Council meets today (Thursday) and will consider making a proposal to buy **Lions Municipal Golf Course**, scheduled for potential redevelopment, from UT. It's not clear if UT is taking the council's calls. See "City Hall Hustle," p.22.
- They do do windows: Embarrassed by bad national publicity and the likelihood of free-speech lawsuits, **University of Texas** officials backed down on **banning political signs** in dorm windows.

Naked City

- **DESIGNING THE NEW CENTRAL LIBRARY** If you're interested in the design of the new central library, you'll soon have the chance to see presentations by the three finalist teams vying for the job of architect when they present to City Council on Thursday, Oct. 23, at 2pm. (Names of the finalists will be announced Oct. 17.) Following at about 6pm, the Library Commission and Austin Public Library Foundation will host a **meet-and-greet social** with the design teams in the City Hall atrium; comment forms and laptops for online comments will be provided. Council expects to make a final selection in two weeks. The library will include numerous community spaces of special interest. In selecting finalists, city staff gave extra weight to the architects' skill with community involvement and communication – even amending the selection criteria to more heavily weigh the teams' experience with Austin issues. Next March and April, a series of community forums will provide opportunities for design input. Active design work will begin May 2009; construction is expected to start in late 2011, with a grand opening in 2014. For more info, to see the finalist presentations (after Oct. 23), or to submit comments to council, visit www.cityofaustintn.org/library/newcentlib.htm. – Katherine Gregor



COURTESY PLATIA PRODUCTIONS

- **FUELING THE FUTURE** The fabulous cars of the future will be on display this weekend at the **Austin Energy AltCar Expo & Conference**, a free event this Friday and Saturday, 10am-5pm, at the Palmer Events Center. Attractions include a hands-on ride-and-drive area and the region's largest presentation of **alternative-fuel vehicles** and innovative transportation options. Friday's events feature technology and policy discussions and in-depth talks about topics such as climate change and the auto industry, battery technology, and the vehicle-to-grid (aka, V2G) technology that will enable plug-in hybrid vehicles and potentially decrease gasoline demand by an estimated 71%. On Saturday, guests can hear a no-holds-barred

CONTINUED ON P.22



JOHN ANDERSON

Four months after the historic Gertrude Jones House was bulldozed along with some nice shade trees, neighbors are questioning the wisdom of the city rushing to approve the demolition of the home (over the opposition of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association), when all that's left is a vacant eyesore on this leafy Avenue F street. Emrobri Homes had initially planned to build a new home on spec, but with home sales down 20% over last year, the homebuilder decided to first nail down a buyer before turning dirt. Sale price: \$799,000.

Unpropped

Prop. 2 is about much more than a vote against the Domain

BY MICHAEL KING

It's not a "no-brainer."

That slogan, adopted by the Proposition 2-supporting Stop Domain Subsidies campaign, is both misleading on its face and an insult to Austin voters. However you choose to vote on Prop. 2, please take the time to consider both the intended and unintended but likely consequences of an attempt to ban any and all "financial incentives [for any development] that includes one or more retail uses." If you've read this week's editorial board endorsements, you're aware that, we've come down (although not unanimously) against Prop. 2 as an inappropriate attempt to reject one particular city agreement by amending the charter and also as what one of us called "using a sledgehammer where a scalpel would be appropriate." We're not happy to be on the opposite side of an argument embraced by many activists we respect, as well as by numerous local businesses and political groups. But after reviewing the amendment in full (not possible on the ballot itself) and talking with people on both sides, most of us concluded that Prop. 2 is a well-intentioned but bad amendment that will likely backfire in its principal goal (ending subsidies to the Domain) and, even more likely, cause municipal headaches and unnecessary expense over other projects, while eliminating a useful city tool that can and has worked well when used judiciously.

point
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I'm tempted to write "a pox on both their houses," since either way the vote goes, bad results are possible. A yes vote will invite lawsuits, require the city to violate a legal contract, damage the city's credibility, and undermine good projects; a no vote will be interpreted in some quarters as authorizing retail subsidies without conditions. But as the public consensus remains highly skeptical and the current council is on record as opposing such subsidies, I'm less worried about the latter outcome. We elect public officials to make decisions, and sometimes they make poor ones; but this proposition campaign is yet another Austin demonstration of the folly of government by petition.

In brief, voters are being asked to amend the City Charter – the fundamental structural document of city government – to punish a single developer and a previous City Council and then to wait two years (until the next available charter election) while the unintended effects are sorted out (some likely by courts) and other quite worthy and progressive city projects are derailed or delayed. That doesn't strike me as a good deal nor a rational way to make city policy. Supporters insist that the proposition targets only the Domain. If it's that simple, then why rewrite the City Charter for a policy obstreperously aimed at a single property and project?

CONTINUED ON P.23

QUOTE of the WEEK



"A funny thing happened to me this morning ..."

– What Paul Krugman wrote on his blog the day it was announced that the liberal international financial theorist had won the 2008 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences – the Nobel Prize for economics.

debate held among experts representing electric vehicles, hybrids, plug-ins, natural gas, propane, ethanol, biodiesel, and hydrogen. Also that day, national luminaries will talk about sustainable public transit and cleaner, greener ways to reduce vehicle miles traveled. Saturday also features film screenings, including shorts on Portland, Ore.'s multimodal transit success and Paris' ambitious Vélib' public bike rental program. Reservations are required for Friday's conference. For a full schedule, see www.austinenenergyaltcar.com. — *Daniel Mottola*

► **FIXING AUSTIN'S ANIMAL SHELTERS** On Oct. 17 at Austin City Hall, the Central Texas Animal Alliance, FixAustin.org, and Austin Siamese Rescue will sponsor a **Road to No Kill Austin** forum featuring Nathan Winograd, founder of the No Kill Advocacy Center in Oakland, Calif. Winograd is a national figure in no-kill sheltering and runs a consulting business that implements his "No Kill Solution" in individual animal shelters. He has made a name for himself for marshaling shelter "regime" changes for a fee, at times involving the toppling of shelter officials and mass firings. When last in town, Winograd condemned Karen Medicus of Austin's Mission: Orange in a report slamming the relocation of Town Lake Animal Center; he referred to her emphasis on the collaboration model as "ignorant." (See "Does Austin Need Fixing? Ask Reno." Aug. 8, for more.) — *Patricia J. Ruland*

► **NEW FACES AT KVUE AND KXAN** Two of the local TV news operations have hired new lead anchors. KVUE-TV, the local ABC affiliate, is replacing **Christine Haas**, the blond anchor babe from Minnesota, with **Terri Gruca**, a blond anchor babe from Minnesota. Gruca is currently at WCCO-TV in Minneapolis, where she's the consumer reporter, in addition to her news-reading chores. Before Minnesota, she clawed her way up through the minor leagues of TV news, with stops in Spartanburg, S.C.; Knoxville, Tenn.; and Raleigh, N.C. Meanwhile, NBC affiliate KXAN has hired a familiar face, **Leslie Rhode**, formerly Leslie Cook, to replace the recently departed **Michelle Valles**. Rhode spent six years at KXAN before jetting off in 2003 to Washington, D.C., where her husband took a job with the Bush administration. Rhode will team with Robert Hadlock, beginning Oct. 27, just in time for the November sweeps; Gruca won't start at KVUE until Dec. 8. — *Kevin Brass*

► **REPLACING THE GAS TAX** If everyone shifts from gas-guzzling vehicles to more efficient cars, tax revenues that fund roadway maintenance and construction could take a huge hit — that's why Austin is part of a new federally funded **road-user study** about shifting from the gas tax to a per-mile charge. The project, which involves installing a computer into private vehicles, proposes to find out if the metering equipment is "reliable, secure, flexible, user-friendly and cost-effective [and] to find out why vehicle operators accept or reject the system." The city is one of six field-test sites selected for this University of Iowa research study (along with San Diego, Baltimore, Boise, Eastern Iowa, and the North Carolina Research Triangle). Volunteers willing to take part for eight months in this two-year pilot project can apply online at www.roaduserstudy.org. — *Richard Whittaker*



NEWS

PUTTERING AROUND

When the going gets tough ... let's go golfing, dude

BY WELLS DUNBAR

Gramps was a golfer. The Hustle would often find clubs, tees, and — most enticingly — books of golfing jokes lying around Grandpa's. One joke especially stuck. As rediscovered online:

Robert goes golfing every Saturday. One Saturday, he comes home three hours late.

His wife asks him, "What took you so long?"

The guy says, "That was the worst game of golf I've ever had. We got up to the first tee, and Charlie hit a hole in one and immediately dropped dead of a heart attack."

The guy's wife says, "That's terrible!"

The guy says, "I know. Then, for the rest of the round, it was hit the ball, drag Charlie, hit the ball, drag Charlie, hit the ball, drag Charlie ..."

Right now, the city's a little bit like Robert, caddying all manner of baggage for the **University of Texas**, in the wake of UT's decision to redevelop its West Austin **Brackenridge Tract** — a process in which UT's been about as (characteristically) helpful to Austinites as a corpse. That may be changing — at least on one side. On Tuesday, Council Members **Lee Leffingwell**, **Mike Martinez**, and **Laura Morrison** held a press conference at the **Lions Municipal Golf Course** — cradled in the Brack Tract — announcing their intention to hold on to the greens. That item surfaces at today's council meeting; Leffingwell says council's directing the city manager "to evaluate the possibility of land swaps," in tandem with "a voter-approved bond per-haps." Fore!

LOCAL SLOWDOWN?

But will putters still hit the links with the economic uncertainty gripping the country? Maybe we'll know more after a presentation, slated for council at 2pm today, detailing the potent impact of the **national downturn** on local government. Specific topics should include the effects on sales-tax and property-tax revenue; city staffing levels; bond programs, plus other capital improvement projects; the city's bond ratings and debt service; plus pension costs and more. "It sounds like a lot to put together," says Leffingwell, "but staff has been looking at this themselves, as they should be."



Another topic I hope will be addressed is the effect on potential add-backs to city services; having just passed a budget cutting library hours and parks maintenance, is hope for additional funding lost? "Add-backs, I think, are gonna be made more difficult," says Leffingwell. "It's gonna be more problematic whether you can add." He says it largely depends on the city's future revenue streams; while property tax "is pretty much set for this budget cycle," new sales-tax numbers arrive monthly. "For example, we had programmed this underlying assumption on sales-tax revenue, that we would see an average of 3 percent growth in sales tax for the year," he says, that 3% having already shrunk from earlier, more optimistic numbers. "And I think if there's a severe economic downturn, that number could be affected substantially, it could even go negative like it did in 2002, 2003." Also, while the city should be "pretty much fully reimbursed by [the Federal Emergency Management Agency]" for its **hurricane expenses**, Leffingwell says, "Sometimes you have to wait a little while to get it," and it can be "a matter of months, not a matter of days."

For Leffingwell, the intent this week ain't to spook the public. "Hopefully there will be an element of reassurance involved in this. Because I think for years the city's had pretty sound fiscal policies and good-sized reserve funds to deal with crises like this, as long as they're not super-long-term."

PERSONAL BEST

It's that time of year: time for the Hustle's own "**Best of Austin**" accolades for all things City Council related.

Best Council Accommodators: Laura Morrison and Randi Shade, who appeared at Sunday night's Better Austin Today fundraiser at Scholz Garten. The Hustle was in the house recording interviews for the new episode of HUST-FM, our new political audiocast exclusively available at austinchronicle.com. We spoke with Morrison and a couple of other characters who would love to join her on the dais come May — all-but-announced mayoral contenders **Bill Spelman** and **Jackie Goodman**. Listen in Thursday for the whole hustle, ya dig? ■

Teed off? E-mail wells@austinchronicle.com.

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FOR MORE DETAILS AND EVENTS, SEE **COMMUNITY LISTINGS, P.130.**

THURSDAY 16

ACC CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY & POLITICAL STUDIES FUNDRAISER features a lunch-time talk on the upcoming elections from ABC political commentator **Matthew Dowd** (pictured). 11:30am. UT Alumni Center, 2110 San Jacinto. www.policyaustin.org.



ANTI-WAR VETERAN CAMILO MEJÍA reads from his Iraq war memoir. 7pm. UT campus, Garrison Hall, Rm. 0.102. www.resistingempire.org.

BLACK AUSTIN DEMOCRATS MEETING 6pm. Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th, 902-5057.

IMAGINING THE NEXT CITY: DO PUBLIC INCENTIVES WORK FOR AUSTIN? Liveable City hosts this panel discussion featuring economist **Michael Oden** and others. 6-8pm. Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto.

U.S. SENATE DEBATE NO. 2 Watch Dem candidate Rep. **Rick Noriega** in the last of two debates against incumbent **John Cornyn**. 8pm. KLRU-TV (Cable Channel 9, air Channel 18).

FRIDAY 17

1491: LANDSCAPES OF THE AMERICAS BEFORE COLUMBUS Charles C. Mann will explain how pre-Columbian Americas were more sophisticated than previously thought. 4pm. UT campus, University Teaching Center, 21st & Speedway, Rm. 2.112A. Free. www.utexas.edu/cola/college_events/current/charlesmannevent.

AUSTIN ENERGY ALT CAR EXPO Glimpse a transportation future free of gas-guzzling cars, and don't miss the unveiling of AE's new "Smart Charging" prototype for electric vehicles (see "Naked City," p.21). Fri-Sat., 10am-5pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. Free. www.austinenenergyaltcar.com.

THE ROAD TO NO KILL AUSTIN A public-policy forum and silent auction hosted by FixAustin.org. (See "Naked City," above, for more.) 6-8:30pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second. www.fixaustin.org.

SATURDAY 18

FIGHTING FOR A FAIR TRADE FUTURE Register online for this afternoon of Fair Trade panels, workshops, and speakers. 1-5pm. Conley-Guerrero

Senior Activity Center, 808 Nile. Free. www.oxfamut.org.

SUNDAY 19

ABRAHAM PEACE WALK

An afternoon of discussions and activities for Christians, Muslims, and Jews who want to explore the common ground among their faiths — features a special appearance from **Judea Pearl** (pictured), father of slain journalist Daniel Pearl. 2-6pm. Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart. www.jcaonline.org.



GRASSROOTS MEDIA JUSTICE TOUR brings to town two days of special events celebrating the independent media, beginning today with an afternoon of free skill-sharing workshops led by media experts. 1-7pm. Space 12, 3121 E. 12th. Free. www.skillshareaustin.org.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM Quorum Report Editor **Harvey Kronberg** gives us his take on the Texas elections. 11:30am. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 413-0286. Free.

MONDAY 20

CAP CITY COMEDY CAUCUS A purely political comedy night featuring talented local performers and maybe you, too: You could win a \$50 prize for the best Obama or McCain joke or the best Sarah Palin impression or \$100 for Best Overall Political Comedy. (To participate, prepare two minutes of material and e-mail Margie for details: margie@capcitycomedy.com.) 8pm. Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. \$5.

EARLY VOTING BEGINS! Can you believe it's finally here? See p.8 for endorsements, voting locations, and more. www.cityofaustin.org/election.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS DISCUSSION Learn more about the issues likely to be facing the next president. 7pm. ACC Eastview, 3401 Webberville, 223-5173. Free. blea@austinctc.edu.

GRASSROOTS MEDIA JUSTICE TOUR CONTINUES (See Sunday.) 7pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop. www.skillshareaustin.org.

MASS COMMUNICATION WEEK features lectures, discussions, and symposiums on mass media and culture. Highlights include a Tuesday

Playing Community Dominoes

We don't even have to go far to discover already unintended consequences. The ban on all subsidies for any project that includes any retail use will certainly affect the Mueller neighborhood development – generally acclaimed as a local and national model – for which sales taxes from the commercial sector subsidize the project's infrastructure. Jim Walker of the Mueller Neighborhood Coalition, who has heroically devoted years of volunteer time to make Mueller successful, is understandably trying to keep Mueller out of the campaign argument. He insists that if Prop. 2 passes, people on all sides – city, neighborhood, and developers – should be able to work out solutions for Mueller. "There are plenty of creative people and creative lawyers associated with the project," he told me, "who should be able to find a solution." But in fact a solution isn't readily apparent – the amendment would also prohibit not only tax rebates but using "other resources of the city" to replace the sales taxes.

Walker isn't rude enough to ask, but I am: Why should a well-functioning project at Mueller have to be renegotiated and restructured because some people want to thumb their hipster noses at Neiman Marcus? Said Walker of the possible effects on Mueller, "We don't want to unravel the thing, and nobody's trying to do that, but it's going to take an ongoing community conversation to keep the project going."

That's one major project already placed in jeopardy. What of the planned Green Water Treatment Plant redevelopment, which will certainly contain retail uses and in theory also affordable housing, transit access, and other features that will likely require city subsidies to make economically viable? Unknown – perhaps Green will be large enough to use tax-increment financing, mysteriously exempted in the amendment as somehow purer than a sales-tax rebate. In a similar hypocrisy, the amendment would

exempt subsidies underwriting renewable energy or more efficient water use – if we're going to ban all retail subsidies, why should an environmental exemption rank above all other city priorities and community values?

Enter the Sledgehammer

I certainly admire the sheer doggedness of the Prop. 2 supporters, especially that of Brian Rodgers of SDS, who has sunk years of his time and much of his own money into this single-minded campaign against the city's 2003 decision to subsidize the Domain, a deal that in retrospect was too sweet for the developers, too sour for the city (although in fairness, the full good or bad results will not be known for years). But I think the whole argument has become entirely too personal, style-based, and shortsighted. Several prominent Prop. 2 supporters – a couple even featured in

SDS campaign videos – have privately told me that while they won't go on the record, they

believe that amending the charter is the wrong way to change this city policy.

That's just great – I get to be the party pooper. So be it – voting "against the Domain" is so much easier than understanding what's more broadly at stake in community initiatives. I understand the frustration of proponents who want to end large-scale retail subsidies, and I fully respect their intentions. But good intentions won't enable the next progressive mixed-use, mixed-housing, transit-based development from being hamstrung or prevented by the inability of the city to participate directly, as it sometimes should.

Walker noted that while the Prop. 2 campaign clearly reflects "an erosion of trust between the citizens of Austin and city officials," it shouldn't just become a personal argument about people's attitudes toward the Domain. "I don't think the charter's the right place for that kind of thing," he concluded.

Amen. ■



See the ordinance enabling the charter election and the full charter amendment with this column at austinchronicle.com.

appearance from former Bush press secretary **Scott McClellan**. Mon.-Thu., Oct. 20-23. Texas State University, San Marcos and Round Rock. Free. www.txstatemcweek.com.

TRAVIS CO. COMMUNITY PLAN PUBLIC FORUM 8:30am-noon (register by Fri., Oct. 17). Travis County Counseling & Education Services, 5501 Airport. vennie.davis@co.travis.tx.us.

TUESDAY 21

SUPERWOMEN'S DAUGHTERS LECTURE A discussion by author **Courtney E. Martin** on "the legacy of perfectionism and exhaustion in female leadership." 5:30-7pm. Carver Museum and Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina. \$25. www.genaustin.org.

WEDNESDAY 22

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FORUM features a discussion on the appraisal process. 9-10:30am. City Hall, 301 W. Second.



ALTERNATIVE AUSTIN ENERGY Austin will be deriving 30% of its energy from renewable resources by 2020 – but how much of that will be wind vs. solar vs. biomass vs. nuclear? That's for you to help decide, beginning with tonight's meeting, the first of several public forums planned over the next few weeks. 6:30pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second. www.cityofaustin.org.

CENTRAL WEST AUSTIN LAND USE PLANNING WORKSHOP 6:30-9pm. LCRA Red Bud Facility, 3601 Lake Austin Blvd., 974-2857. Free.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, WORKERS DEFENSE PROJECT! Help celebrate WDP's six years of fighting for workers' rights. 6:30-9:30pm. Mercury Hall, 615 Cardinal, 391-2305. \$25. www.workersdefense.org.

NEW CENTRAL LIBRARY MEET AND GREET (See "Naked City," p.21.) 6pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second. www.cityofaustin.org/library/newcentlib.htm.

TRAVIS CO. COMMUNITY PLAN PUBLIC FORUM No. 2 (See Monday.)



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Staking Out the Senate

A few Dem wins could temper Republican majority's agenda

BY RICHARD WHITTAKER

With no state Senate race on the Travis Co. ballot, it's hard for Austinites to get too excited about what's happening in races for the upper chamber. But while Democrats need five more seats to flip the House, a couple of Senate wins could have a huge impact on the next legislative session.

Last session, Republicans held the Senate 20-11, and this year, 16 seats are up for election. Democratic Senate Caucus leader Sen. **Leticia Van de Putte** argues that even a minor shift in the balance will boost the Dems' agenda. "It'll make my life easy as caucus chair for those moments when I needed all 11 on the floor all the time," she said. Compared to the more bitterly partisan House, she argues, it's easier for moderate Republican senators to break party ranks. "They would know the pendulum is swinging," she said. "Members see how their districts are changing, and they would think about families who are concerned about education and health affordability."

None of the six incumbent Democrats on the 2008 ballot faces significant opposition. But of the nine Republican incumbents up for re-election, four face Democrat challengers, and one Republican-vacated seat is up for grabs. It's not impossible for Dems to take the Senate, but breaking the nine-seat GOP majority requires a clean sweep, and two Democrats face what could generously be described as uphill struggles. **Rain Levy Minns**, an attorney and community activist, faces the well-funded and entrenched Transportation & Homeland Security Committee Chair **John Carona** in Dallas' Senate District 16. And in SD 9, retired military veteran **Melvin "Bloody" Willms** is challenging Sen. **Chris Harris**, the ranking Senate Republican, with no money. But three seats are in the Democrats' sights:



Chris Bell



Joan Huffman

SENATE DISTRICT 17

Chris Bell (D), Stephanie E. Simmons (D), Austen Furse (R), Grant Harpold (R), Joan Huffman (R), Ken Sherman (R), no incumbent

Six Democrats plus nine Republicans equals 15 incumbents on the statewide ballot: Race No. 16 is a bonus, a special election that Democrats hope to see break their way. Harris County's Sen. **Kyle Janek** only made it two years into his second term before resigning in May. Now four Republicans and two Dems want to replace him, including Democrat **Chris Bell**. Because it's a special election, it tops the ballot – ahead even of the presidential race.

In Austin, Bell may still be best remembered as the 2006 gubernatorial candidate who didn't get Gov. Rick Perry out of office. But his campaign is hoping that the district remembers him as the **Houston City Council** member who made his reputation in campaign finance and ethics reform. He parlayed that into a victorious 2002 U.S. congressional run and brought a successful ethics complaint against Tom DeLay. Bell campaign consultant Jason Stanford shakes off his candidate's failed run against Perry, muddled as the field

was by the populist independent campaigns of Kinky Friedman and Carole Keeton Strayhorn. "There was a pervasive confusion about that race, but the issue was simple: If Democrats had voted for the Democrat, Chris Bell would be the governor," he argued.

Stafford suggests the crowded field this time around benefits Bell, since the huge district makes it challenging for his opponents to distinguish themselves from the pack. "Kyle Janek had 50 percent name recognition among likely voters," said Stafford, "but Chris Bell has better recognition than [U.S. Sen.] John Cornyn in the district." This, Stafford argues, makes him the incumbent-in-waiting. "His opponents can't open their mouths without talking about [him]," he added. It doesn't hurt that, with \$457,749 in his war chest as of Oct. 6, Bell has more cash on hand than all five opponents combined.



Mike Jackson



Joe Jaworski

SENATE DISTRICT 11

Mike Jackson (R, incumbent), Joe Jaworski (D)

Next door in SD 11, former Galveston Council Member **Joe Jaworski** suspended his campaign against GOP incumbent **Mike Jackson** after **Hurricane Ike**: not out of political expediency, but because his

Senate Races

COMPETITIVE

- SD 10: Kim Brimer* (R), Wendy R. Davis (D)
- SD 11: Mike Jackson* (R), Joe Jaworski (D)
- SD 17: Chris Bell (D), Stephanie E. Simmons (D), Austen Furse (R), Grant Harpold (R), Joan Huffman (R), Ken Sherman (R)

NO-HOPERS

- SD 16: John Carona* (R) Rain Levy Minns (D)
- SD 9: Chris Harris (R), Melvin Willms (D)

EFFECTIVELY SUSPENDED:

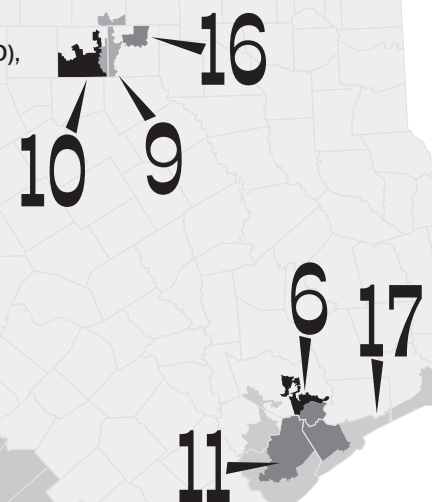
- SD 6: Mario Gallegos* (D), Gilbert Pena (R)
- SD 21: Judith Zaffirini* (D), Louis H. Bruni (R)

*Incumbent

Galveston home was flooded out. "You could call this a Senate District 11 hurricane," he said ruefully about Ike's track. "No one was interested in hearing stump speeches, and no one had TV, so it was appropriate to concentrate on relief efforts, both for other people and for yourself." With his campaign staff safely relocated to Houston, Jaworski helped relief efforts on the island. "After eight days of cleaning my house," he explained, "someone tapped me on the shoulder and said, 'By the way, you've got a campaign to run.'"

While many Democrats worry Galveston's evacuation would devastate voter registration and "get out the vote" efforts, Jaworski argues that Ike has changed voter priorities. Prior to landfall, he recalls, voters asked him about transport, pollution from oil refineries, and education. Now there's one issue: storm insurance. "What was a talking point ... has resonated across the district," he said. Accusing the insurance companies of using a playbook called "1,000 Ways to Say No," Jaworski argues that coverage "used to be black and white. You paid your premium, and you were in, and you didn't, and you were out. Now it's all scales of gray."

While no one can be blamed for the hurricane, Jaworski blames incumbent Mike



Jackson for failures in coverage. Last legislative session, Jackson threatened to filibuster House-backed reforms to the **Texas Windstorm Insurance Association** (the state's insurer of last resort for storm damage). Jaworski holds him responsible for leaving the pot incapable of paying all claims.

He's put correcting that, as well as protecting the vital University of Texas Medical Branch facility in Galveston, at the top of his legislative priorities. Fearing a repeat of the insufficient support for areas hit by Hurricane Rita in 2005, he said: "It's three years later. We can't let it happen to Galveston, and we never should have let it happen to East Texas."

Jackson has also made some heavily criticized tactical decisions, such as snubbing an Oct. 7 meeting with UTMB staff and skipping the Oct. 8 recording of a televised debate with Jaworski on the Houston PBS show *Red, White and Blue*. According to show staff, Jackson confirmed 30 days prior to recording that he would be attending. On the day, his staff announced he was busy campaigning in Freeport. An empty seat was left on stage, and co-host Gary Pollard (an establishment conservative with deep connections that stretch right to the president) made it clear this was not an excused absence.

SENATE DISTRICT 10

Kim Brimer (R, Incumbent), Wendy Davis (D)

The third must-win seat for Democrats is also targeted by a former City Council member: former Fort Worth Council Member **Wendy Davis** challenging 20-year incumbent **Kim Brimer**, famous for wielding a fat cigar like a pointer in committee. At first, her council position was used

against her, as Brimer's supporters and then Brimer himself filed lawsuit after lawsuit to get Davis off the ballot, claiming that she hadn't quit the council in time to file for Senate. Now that the 5th District Court of Appeals has ruled that it's too late to remove her, Davis sees her council experience as all positives when voters concentrate on pocketbook issues. "There's no better training ground for representing people than starting at a local level," she said. "You're experiencing day to day what their concerns are, and you learn how to communicate and transfer those concerns into your representation."

While she doesn't see a Democratic groundswell in her district, she does see sweeping discontentment with Republican

hegemony. With education, transportation, and insurance this year's hot-button issues, Davis argues, Brimer faces the incumbent's challenge. "All of these things are broken, and my opponent has had 20 years to fix it," she said.

Even if only one or two of the three take their seats, Van de Putte expects a sea change in the Senate. Certain issues will face steeper challenges ("When you think about the passage of the margin tax, it passed 16-15. How many more of those other close votes will there be with a couple more

Democrats in the Senate?" she mused), and some will be off the table (she predicts a quick death for school-voucher legislation). Even a marginal increase in seats will give Democrats a bigger presence off the floor in the all-important Finance Committee and the Sunset Advisory Commission. She concluded, "It will increase our breathing room and increase our skill set to become real leaders for not just the Democrats but for the Senate."

— Richard Whittaker



Ken Brimer



Wendy Davis

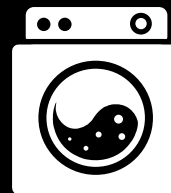


JANA BIRCHUM

A Thrilling Wynn

Mayor Will Wynn did his best zombie impression last week to show how quickly anyone can learn the **Michael Jackson "Thriller" dance** (Wynn learned the "hip-roar turn" all by himself in less than 45 minutes!) — but why, you ask? Because Austinites will have two chances this month to break the *Guinness World Record* for most people performing the dance all in one place at the same time (not to be confused with the other "Thriller" record-to-beat: most people zombie-dancing *all over the world* at the same time). Austin gets one chance to break both records (Saturday, Oct. 25, at the Long Center) and a second chance to break the first (Saturday, Nov. 1, Downtown — Day of the Dead, of course). Event organizers hope to attract 1,000 participants, as L.A. is rumored to have at least 500 lined up for the competition. Clearly, it's Austin's civic duty to dance. For rehearsal times, M.J. sing-along info, and more, see www.thrilltheworldaustin.com.

— Nora Ankrum



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DEMS BUILDING SERIOUS WAR CHESTS

Money may not buy happiness, but it can certainly improve one's negotiating position. So state Democrats must be happy about the latest campaign finance reports and the edge they may give them in winning some House races. In the 27 most highly watched seats, between July 1 and Sept. 25, Democrats outraised their Republican opponents by \$1.2 million, outspent them by \$400,000, and still have a little more than \$1.2 million extra cash on hand for the final sprint to Election Day. Powerful Democratic political action committees such as **Blue Texas** and **Annie's List** have pumped more money than ever into the equation, but it's worth noting that these aren't the final numbers. There's another month of fundraising and spending left, and in prior election cycles, big Republican PACs (such as the Tom Craddick-affiliated **Empower Texans PAC**) and major conservative donors such as Houston builder **Bob Perry** and San Antonio hospital-bed tycoon **James Leininger** wait until the last days of the election to dump cash into close races. Here's a look at the campaign money in Travis County and beyond:

House District 47 (Travis Co.)

Valinda Bolton* (D) raised \$118,764, spent \$64,462 (cash on hand \$125,448).
Donna Keel (R) raised \$54,224, spent \$35,068 (cash on hand \$36,778).

Since the beginning of the year, Keel's family has boosted her coffers by \$26,500, including \$12,500 in cash and services in this latest report. Add to that \$16,000 from the Republican Party of Texas and \$6,525 from the Travis Co. Republican Party. Bolton, on the other hand, picked up \$25,000 from Annie's List and nearly \$16,000 from the House Democratic Campaign Committee, while much of the rest of her donor list looks like a who's who of Austin politicians and activists.

HD 48 (Travis Co.)

Donna Howard* (D) raised \$40,113, spent \$146,740 (cash on hand \$53,822).
Pamela Waggoner (R) raised \$7,530, spent \$5,060 (cash on hand \$13,032).

Keeping up the same monthly pace that she managed in the first half of the year, Howard performed strongly among unions and medical PACs. Waggoner has depended on small individual donors, and money from Republican groups has dried up this quarter.

HD 50 (Travis Co.)

Mark Strama* (D) raised \$62,965, spent \$46,955 (cash on hand \$69,795).
Jerry Mikus (R) raised \$8,604, spent \$5,209 (cash on hand \$1,566).

Small as the war chest for Mikus' home-grown campaign may be, \$6,275 came straight from Travis County Republican Party coffers. Meanwhile, Strama himself got the Dells to double down, with \$5,000 apiece from Michael Dell and the Dell PAC. He's still also carrying \$85,000 in campaign loans.

HD 17 (Bastrop, Lee, Burleson, Colorado, Fayette counties)

Donnie Dippel (D) raised \$94,305, spent \$23,012 (cash on hand \$79,254).
Tim Kleinschmidt (R) raised \$106,715, spent \$102,528 (cash on hand \$28,989).

After a slow start, Dippel gained momentum with \$25,000 from the House Democratic Campaign Committee and a series of donations from incumbent reps. With \$20,000 from the Associated Republicans of Texas Campaign Fund and \$37,600 from Texans for Lawsuit Reform, Kleinschmidt hasn't been hurting for out-of-district money. But after huge outlays, he now has less than half the remaining funds that Dippel commands.

HD 52 (Williamson Co.)

Bryan Daniel (R) raised \$84,874, spent \$74,831 (cash on hand \$19,142).
Diana Maldonado (D) raised \$227,294, spent \$79,997 (cash on hand \$278,368).

The big shock result: Daniel picked up cash from his old sponsors in the agriculture PACs and Texans for Lawsuit Reform, but the big gun Democrat donors weren't going to let the No. 1 target seat in Central Texas slip away. Maldonado got \$20,000 from the Texas House Democratic Campaign Committee, \$31,500 from Annie's List, and \$50,000 from Blue Texas. Take those sums out, and she's still beating her Republican opponent.

HD 82 (Midland)

Tom Craddick* (R) raised \$177,572, spent \$556,756 (cash on hand \$3 million).
Bill Dingus (D) raised \$126,315, spent \$116,284 (cash on hand \$37,376).

Not surprisingly, the former Midland City Council member who dared challenge Speaker Craddick's seemingly bottomless treasury got pulverized in the money race. While he edged close to Craddick in contributions, the speaker outspent him last quarter by more than \$400,000 and still barely touched his savings. If this makes Dingus' run look like a costly fool's crusade, Texas Democratic Party spokesman Hector Nieto explained the upside for Dems statewide: "It forces Craddick to file a report so that way we can see where money is being spent in his race and other races too. It keeps him tied up in his district, and it stops him from campaigning outside his district." Craddick's finance reports are filled with big donors and some big contributions from commercial PACs (\$10,000 from ExxonMobil PAC of Texas and \$5,000 from GlaxoSmithKline PAC) and some interesting expenditures (including, in a local connection, \$19,600 to Keel Systems, the computing firm owned by Thornton Keel, husband of HD 47 candidate Donna Keel and brother of Craddick parliamentarian Terry Keel).

— Richard Whittaker

Source: Texas Ethics Commission

* Incumbent



Tom Craddick

JOHN ANDERSON

Craddick's speakership, he added, "It depends on the election in November and depends on how many Democrats can be won over."

Margo sits on a \$195,189 war chest, including \$40,000 from GOP sugar daddy **Bob Perry**, the Houston home builder and Swift boat financier;

\$25,000 from Craddick's **Stars over Texas PAC**; and \$10,000 each from **Texans for Lawsuit Reform** and **Texans for Rick Perry**. His

Democratic opponent, **Joe Moody**, has \$103,111 cash on hand, which includes \$40,000 from the **Blue Texas PAC** and \$10,000 from **Don Henley**. Yes, the Don Henley — lately of California but born in Gilmer, Texas — who under "Principal occupation" writes, "Founding Member of the Eagles."

— Richard Whittaker

Quorum-Buster Ponders Craddick's Fate

While House Democrats watch to see if that chamber flips, it's not hard to imagine there's another group keeping an eye on things: the Republican incumbents who opposed Speaker **Tom Craddick** and were then purged during their party's primaries. Take Rep. **Pat Haggerty**, R-El Paso, who led the quorum-busting Craddick-baiting walkout during the closing hours of the last session and was defeated in a well-funded primary challenge by **Dee Margo**.

Any surprise that he suffered such savage retribution? "After my speech last session, it was a foregone conclusion, I'm afraid," he said. As for whether there will be enough votes to end



Don't Vote on Election Day! (Vote Before.)

If you're one of those old-school types who always saves your vote for **Election Day**, Travis Co. Clerk **Dana DeBeauvoir** begs you: Toss aside tradition this year, and get to the polls early.

DeBeauvoir says that typically, about half of Travis County's voters wait until Election Day to cast their ballots, and of those,

about half "have a bad habit — they wait until after 4pm." Given that the county

now has 590,039 registered voters — of whom a "conservative estimate" of about 440,000 are expected to vote — that could obviously create quite the bottleneck in the voting booth leading up to the 7pm poll-closing time.

The expected increase of voters — up from 355,708 in the 2004 general election — "is wonderful," says DeBeauvoir. "It's like nothing you've ever seen. ... There are lots of young voters, lots of new voters."

But she's worried that if some of those voters show up at the polls right after work on Election Day, they'll suffer long lines. Or worse, they might actually be dis-

couraged by the crowds and decide not to vote at all.

In fact, she doesn't even want you to wait until the end of early voting — the last day is Oct. 31, aka **Halloween**, when parents and partiers all over the county will have other concerns besides casting a ballot.

To handle the crush, the county is making early voting even easier than in past elections — in addition to the usual 24 early-voting locations and dozens of mobile-voting sites around Travis, DeBeauvoir's department has created two "mega sites" which will have at least 35 voting booths each at the beginning of early voting and even more as machines are gradually pulled from the mobile sites. The two mega sites — one north at 5501 Airport (in the building that formerly housed the Chair King business) and the other south at 4534 West Gate Blvd. (West Tower Village #115) — will also have extended hours on the last three days, Oct. 29-31, staying open until 9pm.

"We normally see a 50-50 split between early voting and Election Day," DeBeauvoir said. "We would prefer to see 60-40."

— Lee Nichols

See complete early voting info on p.8.



For election news and blogs, early-voting info, endorsements, Hail to the Hustle, and more, see austinchronicle.com/election.

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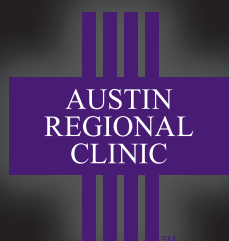
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CORNYN VS. NORIEGA TALK REALLY FAST

The most remarkable feature of the first televised debate between Texas' candidates for U.S. Senate last week was its utter uselessness. By confining incumbent Republican **John Cornyn** and his challengers, Democrat **Rick Noriega** and Libertarian **Yvonne Adams Schick**, to one-minute answers and 30-second responses, the Houston debate's format guaranteed little more than well-practiced sound bites and virtually no discussion. Hopefully, tonight's (Thursday) debate in Dallas – which, like last week's, will be broadcast locally on KLRU-TV (Channel 18, cable Channel 9) – will allow for more explanatory answers and some actual exchanges.

That said, there were some highlights. The two major-party candidates defined the \$700 billion Wall Street bailout bill as a major point of difference. Noriega slammed Cornyn for supporting it: "It did not have the regulatory means in there to tighten up or fix the problem, to fix the hole in the roof while the house was flooding. It didn't have the accountability to put cops on Wall Street like we need cops on Main Street. Quite frankly, we need to see that the people would go to jail that got us into this mess. John Cornyn received \$4 million from those that got us into that mess."

"It's not a sufficient answer to stand by and watch the house burn down and take out the entire neighborhood," Cornyn replied. "Strong leadership means acting in a time of crisis and not just [standing] there and [allowing] the worst thing that could possibly happen to the retirements, savings, and mutual funds of Texans, just go to ash." Cornyn agreed that those responsible should be punished, but, "I can't just say I'm mad and not come up with an alternative. Not to mention the \$4.5 billion in tax relief also included in the bill that goes to victims of hurricanes Ike, Dolly, and Gustav."

"I think we just heard Sen. Cornyn say that people of Galveston would not have received relief if it had not been for the \$700 billion bailout that we gave to the Wall Street people that got us into that mess," Noriega rebutted. "That's just wrong, Senator."

On another issue – one that has fallen from the headlines lately – Noriega said that he would support a special prosecutor to investigate the reportedly politically motivated firings of Justice Department attorneys. Cornyn disagreed, but with a nonanswer that was possibly forced by the limited time constraints: "I don't think we need more lawyers and lawsuits to figure out what happened. ... I don't think it's appropriate, as a former attorney general of our state, to have politics mixed up with the investigation and prosecution of crime. But I have to tell you that Washington is a pretty ugly place sometimes, and I've seen a lot of really good people chewed up by that ugliness and their reputations destroyed. We need to change Washington not by contributing to that rhetoric but by changing it."

Cornyn accused Noriega of misrepresenting Cornyn's record on health care ("I looked over at Rep. Noriega to see if his nose was growing") but then fired back with his own misrepresentation: "Noriega served in the Texas Legislature for 10 years and allowed 800,000 [eligible] children to not be covered by Medicare and [the Children's Health Insurance Program]." Cornyn failed to mention that it was Republicans who led the way in the 2003 Lege by reducing the CHIP enrollment term from one year to six months, a move (since reversed) that made it more difficult for families to keep getting the insurance and effectively slashed the rolls.

– Lee Nichols



DOUG POTTER

"IS HE DEAD?"

Great Works of Political Fiction

The obvious desire of anyone attending a political forum is to glean some bit of information previously unknown about a candidate. The Oak Hill Association of Neighborhoods forum last week certainly provided a shocker: Republican House District 47 candidate **Donna Keel** and House Speaker **Tom Craddick** are total strangers. That made some jaws drop. "I don't know him," Keel said, when asked if she would support Craddick in his bid for re-election to the speakership in January. "I don't know any of the candidates that are running for speaker yet. I have not pledged for any." The speaker is elected at the start of each legislative session by the House membership.

This would be the same Donna Keel whose brother-in-law is former District 47 Rep. **Terry Keel** – who became Craddick's parliamentarian in 2007 after the previous one resigned over Craddick's rather creative (not to say dictatorial) position on whether he had to recognize a motion for his removal. This would also be the same Donna Keel whose

husband, **Thornton Keel**, is the treasurer of Craddick's **Stars Over Texas** political action committee. Thornton's Keel Systems business has been paid \$19,660 by Stars Over Texas and \$66,295 by Craddick's campaign since August of last year, mostly for accounting work.

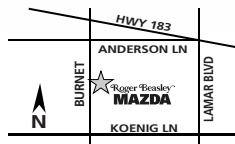
"It's pretty clear that my opponent does know Tom Craddick," replied Keel's opponent, incumbent **Valinda Bolton**. "Tom Craddick is one of her husband's biggest clients. It's pretty clear that given her personal financial interest and her family's ties that she in fact knows Tom Craddick." At that, Thornton Keel interrupted the proceedings and yelled at Bolton, "You just lied about that," only to be told by the moderator, "You do not have the floor." Thornton later declined to comment on what was inaccurate about Bolton's statement, saying the Keel campaign has a policy against talking to the *Chronicle* because the paper "had an article that we didn't think was done properly."

– Lee Nichols

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Dear Friend:

Proposition 2 is about **responsibility, fair play and protecting our economy** in this time of uncertainty. I hope you will stand up for these values and, like me, vote **NO** on Prop. 2.

If approved by Austin voters, Prop. 2 would force the City of Austin to **break its word** and terminate two legally-binding commitments made nearly five years ago with the developers of the Mueller neighborhood (the old airport) and The Domain.

These two agreements were crafted to help kick-start job creation, boost tax base and change land use where we needed it, all in a time when Austin was in a major economic slump. Both projects have since lived up to **everything** that was asked of them.

Indeed, the City's partners at Mueller and the Domain have delivered exactly what they said they would in writing, and more. Enormous sums of money have been invested, thousands of jobs have been created, and we've seen the creation of **affordable, transit-oriented, mixed-use development** – exactly the kind we want, precisely where we wanted it.

In fact, every performance criteria at Mueller and the Domain has been met or exceeded – all as promised. Now, the proponents of Prop. 2 want to undo these agreements without fair cause, which I believe would have **serious consequences for Austin taxpayers and the future of our city**.

If Prop. 2 passes on November 4, we can no doubt expect to see lawsuits filed against the City of Austin over the terminated legally-binding agreements - **expensive lawsuits** that Austin taxpayers would have to pay to defend against.

We can also expect to see the national bond-rating agencies re-examine Austin's municipal bond rating. During my term, we've finally achieved a Triple-A bond rating the highest possible. A single downgrade, especially during these turbulent times in the financial markets, **could cost taxpayers millions**.

Perhaps most importantly, we can expect Austin's hard-won reputation for **honesty and fairness** to suffer. Prop. 2 would tell people everywhere that they can reasonably expect Austin to cross our fingers behind our back as we're shaking their hand. **That's not good for anybody**.

The fact is, Prop. 2 puts us all in a position of risk that we just can't afford.

That isn't the Austin I know and love, and it's just **not right**. In my view, Prop. 2 does **not** reflect our values as a City. Does it reflect **your** values as a citizen? **I hope your answer, and your vote on Proposition 2, will be NO.**

Sincerely,

Will Wynn
Austin Mayor

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Drug Laws Are So Fifties

Advocacy group calls for a return to the Seventies on sentencing

BY JORDAN SMITH

As they say, the more things change, the more they stay the same.

Take, for example, the use of mandatory-minimum prison sentences to punish, and supposedly deter, drug crimes. The U.S. first tried this approach in dealing with the “drug problem” in 1951 with the passage of the **Boggs Act**, named for Louisiana Dem Rep. Hale Boggs, which imposed prison terms

of two to five years for a first offense, including for simple possession. And, as a new report released late last month by

Families Against Mandatory Minimums points out, the Boggs Act “made no distinction between drug users and drug traffickers for the purposes of sentencing.” Fifty-seven years ago, lawmakers passed the Boggs Act in part because they believed that “drug addiction was a contagious and perhaps incurable disease and that addicts should be quarantined and forced to undergo treatment,” FAMM’s report explains.

But the Boggs Act (and its successor, the **Narcotics Control Act** of 1956, which increased Boggs Act penalties) did little, if anything, to control drug use. Instead, during the 1960s, drug use increased; by the end of the decade, criminal justice officials were increasingly expressing their opposition to the man-min sentencing scheme which did little except explode the prison population. By 1970, with the backing of President **Richard Nixon** and with bipartisan congressional support, the Boggs Act was repealed.

By the mid-1980s, lawmakers did not still believe (at least not openly) that drug addiction was contagious, but they’d clearly forgotten the lesson imparted by the failure of the Boggs Act. So lawmakers donned blinders – blinders made from crack cocaine. Again demonstrating little understanding of the drug or its effects (such as failing to recognize that crack and powder cocaine are the same drug and that

the differences in effect on the user have more to do with the delivery system – usually snorting for powder and smoking for

crack – than the chemical makeup of the drug itself), lawmakers rushed headlong into a solution to the “crack problem,” imposing a new set of draconian man-min sentences. In so doing, Congress ushered in the modern era of the man-min, which (until very recently) codified a 100-1 sentencing ratio, powder-to-crack cocaine. Under current federal law, possession of just 5 grams of crack would net a five-year prison term, while it would take possession of 500 grams of powder cocaine to pull the same sentence. (And five years *means* five years in the federal system, where there is no parole.) After years of urging Congress to take action to fix the sentencing disparity, the **U.S. Sentencing Commission** late last year took matters into its own hands, revising the sentencing guidelines to create parity in sentencing for crack and powder coke offenders. Congress did not move to stop the action.

Amazingly, the 1980s man-min sentencing scheme was drafted by lawmakers and

passed into law in less than a week, says Eric Sterling, president of the **Criminal Justice Policy Foundation**, who served as counsel for the House Judiciary Committee when the man-min law was passed. Lawmakers “didn’t even ... consult with federal judges,” with prison officials, or with the Department of Justice in creating the new sentencing statute, Sterling said during a press conference last month. As a result, the law was written in about 48 hours and without any hearings. In sum, he said, the “historic ineffectiveness of this [approach] was disregarded.”

It is time now to remember the past and to correct the mistakes of the 1980s, says FAMM. And most Americans agree, according to a new poll commissioned by the group, which advocates for the end of man-mins. Fully 60% of those polled oppose mandatory-minimum sentences for non-violent offenders, FAMM found, and roughly 80% said judges are best qualified to determine sentencing. Moreover, nearly 60% said they would vote for candidates who opposed man-min sentencing. What does this tell the folks at FAMM? “The public is ahead of the politicians on this,” said FAMM President Julie Stewart. “People believe in individualized justice.”

As such, FAMM is calling for Congress to act as it did in 1970 and repeal the man-

min sentences – bringing us out, again, of the 1950s. “In light of Congress’s lack of deliberation when it created the current mandatory minimums, it is not surprising that the laws have failed just like their predecessors,” staff attorney Molly Gill wrote in FAMM’s September report. Like its predecessor laws, the current man-min scheme

has not curbed drug use or trafficking. In fact, small-time users are all too often caught in the federal man-min web, at times because they have little if any information on kingpin dealers to use as leverage, leading to an explosion in prison population, which in turn has had a devastating impact on thousands of families. The “hill of evidence” against mandatory minimums “has grown into a mountain,” writes Gill. While the federal statutes remain, the FAMM report points out that states have begun to explore other options for dealing with drug offenders – including the intro-

duction of drug courts to deal with nonviolent drug offenders. (FAMM’s report gives props to Texas Gov. Rick Perry for supporting such endeavors.)

“Congress is now in the same position it was in 1970,” Gill said. “There is a theory in politics that you can only get tougher and tougher on crime. That you can’t go backwards. And that just isn’t true.” ■

Timeline of Changes in Drug Laws

1951 Passage of Boggs Act

1956 Passage of Narcotics Control Act

1963-64 Commutations of drug offenders

1969 Richard Nixon calls for new drug policy

1970 Nixon sends proposed law to Congress, signs repeal of Boggs Act

1984 Creation of U.S. Sentencing Commission

1986 Election-focused Congress reinstates mandatory minimums for drug crimes



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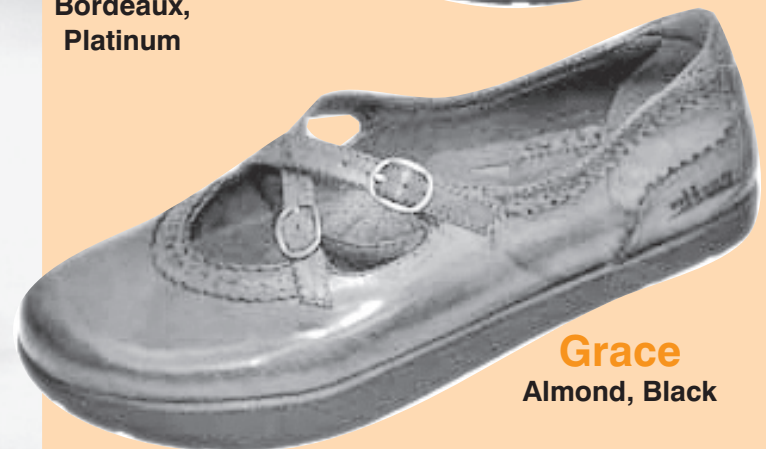
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NEW PLAN AIMS TO HEAL INSURANCE ILLS OF SMALL BIZ

It's no news to anybody that our country is in a major health-care crisis. It may be news to some, however, that Texas tops all other states in the nation with our number of **uninsured residents**: According to the state demographer, one in four Texas residents are without health insurance. Why aren't these people running out and buying insurance, those other three out of four might wonder? Well, it's the same reason most people aren't running out and buying new SUVs: They can't afford to. The way the system is set up now, most people have health insurance through their jobs, and if you aren't enrolled in a group plan through your employer, you alone are left to foot the weighty bill. Time for more news: According to the **Texas Department of Insurance**, 41% of Central Texas businesses do not offer health insurance to their employees. And guess why not? They can't afford it, either.

"We struggle because we just don't have the wallets that the big companies do," says **Mike Wilke**, who started **CFO Advantage Inc.**, a part-time accounting and consulting firm, last March. He now employs two people, to whom he does not offer insurance. "I employ college-educated, experienced people, and for them, offering health insurance can be a deal breaker. I need to be able to offer standard benefits to get qualified people interested in working here." For his part, Wilke doesn't necessarily want the federal government swooping in and trying to solve the problem. "Frankly, I'd like to see the private sector and local interests take a crack at this instead of Washington. We need affordable insurance, not more red tape."

Sharon Mays, who owns the South Austin restaurant Baby Greens, agrees. "I don't particularly like the federal government poking around in my business affairs, either. Given our current economic situation, I just feel like anything they touch turns into a clusterfuck." That said,

Mays believes every citizen, regardless of his or her employment status, should have access to affordable health care. "It shouldn't be a benefit, like days off. This is real life we're talking about. People get sick, they get hurt, and they deserve to be able to go to the doctor." Mays doesn't have health insurance herself, let alone feel flush enough to be able to offer it to the 12 people in her employ. Just the other night, as she lay awake in her bed at 3 in the morning, her throat closing from allergies, she knew she ought to get herself to the emergency room. "But as I was lying there, practically asphyxiating, all I could think about was how I couldn't afford to go to the emergency room," she recalls. "Meanwhile, I own a successful business. It's crazy."

Enter the **Central Texas Regional Health Coverage Project**, a nascent nonprofit corporation hoping to ease the pain, somewhat, for a portion of Texas' working uninsured. By offering a basic, low-cost health plan for small employers (ideally, the premium payments would be from \$70 to \$228 per month per employee, depending on age and gender), the

Health-Care Help

Uninsured? Underemployed? There are people out there who believe that you deserve access to medical care, believe it or not. Here is a list of resources to help get you in the examining room.

- **Project Access** provides volunteer physician care, hospital care, and diagnostic services for uninsured people who are at or below 150% of the federal poverty level. (For an individual, that is set at \$10,400 annual salary.) More information about Project Access can be found at the Travis County Medical Society's website, www.tcms.com.
- **Insure-a-Kid** helps you navigate the maze that can be Medicaid and apply for Children's Health Insurance Program for low-cost health insurance. www.insureakid.org.
- **People's Community Clinic** offers primary care for the underinsured, as well as the uninsured: www.austinpcc.org.

group's goal is to get at least 10,000 of those currently uninsured folks covered by 2011. Both Mays and Wilke participated in a focus group, along with 30 other local business owners, to offer their opinions on exactly



Baby Greens owner
Sharon Mays

JOHN ANDERSON

what kind of coverage they'd like to buy for their employees. Also, Mays volunteered her staff for an employee focus group, to better determine the kind of coverage they would like to receive. "Most of my employees were like, 'Podiatry? Who goes to a podiatrist?' They want coverage for prevention and stuff like chiropractic care. Meanwhile, I'm like, 'Let's also make sure we have emergency coverage, because there sure are a lot of knives in that kitchen.'"

"The plan is more focused on prevention than anything else, though there is emergency coverage," says former state Rep. **Ann Kitchen**, who is heading up the project as part of her role as the executive director of **Integrated Care Coalition** (formerly Indigent Care Collaboration), the nonprofit that helped bring us programs such as Medical Assistance Program and Project Access.

Kitchen, who has a long history of working to grant Texans access to affordable health care, says that under the proposed project plan, Mays' midnight run to the emergency room would have been covered, and she'd only have to fork over a \$250 co-pay instead of the roughly \$1,000 it would have cost her

currently. Also, she'd be able to see an allergist to help identify the trigger that caused her allergic reaction. The goal of the plan, which Kitchen hopes will launch in January, is actually to keep people out of the hospital and emergency rooms by allowing them to go to a doctor for regular checkups. "But the plan has sufficient coverage to pay for the procedures most people end up in the hospital for, like broken bones, pneumonia, chest pain, normal childbirth, heart attack," Kitchen explains. Given a potentially catastrophic diagnosis such as cancer, Kitchen admits that the plan "will not get you all the way," explaining that "hospital coverage has a limit that would cover some, but not all, of the cost for complicated illnesses like significant trauma [i.e., reattaching an arm], heart bypass surgery, or cancer. For example, a total mastectomy [would be] covered but not all chemotherapy."

Another thing Kitchen admits the Health Coverage Project plan does not do is anything to weaken the bind between insurance and employment. But, she adds, rather convincingly, "It's a whole lot better than nothing." So, to the folks employed by a small business here in Texas, this is good news for you. And for the folks who aren't, well, stay healthy.

— Diana Welch

For a full breakdown of the CTRHCP plan and its benefits, see www.healthcarecentraltexas.com.

More Reasons to Shed Tears for TIERS

The price tag and timeline on the state's integrated benefit enrollment system continues to balloon — it's now up to \$1 billion upon implementation — with no clear idea of when we can actually flip the switch on the software.

The **Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System** software — which has been in development for nine years now and has seen multiple rollout delays — is supposed to expedite the application process for Texans seeking aid through health and human services programs. Travis and Williamson counties have served as the pilot areas for the software, but the honor has yet to yield consistent benefits to low-income Central Texas families. What can be said, out of the latest monitoring audit from the State Auditor's Office, is that there's always good news and bad news when it comes to TIERS.

The good news is that the **Health and Human Services Commission** continues to make progress on TIERS in incre-

mental ways. According to the audit, metrics have been added. Fewer "workarounds" — tricks or added steps that workers need to use to make the system perform as expected — are needed. HHSC has worked to stabilize its work force, acknowledging that outside contracted workers simply couldn't get the job done with the same accuracy as tenured state employees.

And the bad news? The system still doesn't work well. And the price tag to make it work is growing. And those who follow the system's program say the TIERS software doesn't even match up to the old green-screen DOS-based **SAVERR** program, which was the enrollment workhorse for years.

"It sounds like they've done a fair job responding to some of the concerns raised in last year's audit, but I am wondering how the projected budget grew from \$574 million through 2010 to \$1 billion through 2011," said **Center for Public Policy Priorities** senior analyst **Celia Hagert**. "Also, the bottom line is, TIERS is

still a slower system than SAVER, which is causing massive delays in application processing when compared to SAVER."

The budget issue is a touchy one for the Health and Human Services Commission, even more so than the fact that the rollout has slipped from 2010 to some undetermined date, according to last week's audit. HHSC spokeswoman **Stephanie Goodman** stresses the difference between the cost of the software and the cost of the capacity to deploy the software, which remains lacking, according to the audit. If asked to deploy TIERS today, HHSC would have the technological capacity to serve about a quarter of the state.

So has the cost of TIERS grown substantially? Goodman argues that the initial \$574 million did not include the cost of technology infrastructure and deployment strategies. It also doesn't account for the savings that may eventually materialize from shedding workers once enrollment programs finally and truly are integrated. The bottom of the balance sheet — \$1 billion or no — is still not clear.

— Kimberly Reeves



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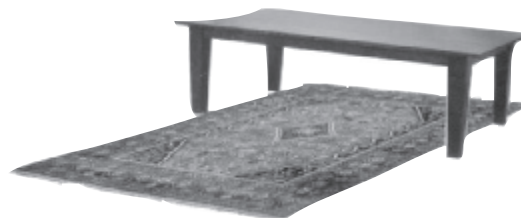
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NEWS

Nukes Not So Nice for Texas Groundwater

Despite what appears to be a growing number of Republican leaders who can't pronounce the word, nuclear power is on the rise in Texas and nationwide. Eight new reactors have been proposed around the state, adding to the four already in operation. Nukes are touted as a clean and carbon-free source of electricity, but aside from the unresolved problem of handling their toxic waste and the plants' voracious use of water, Texans are increasingly up in arms over groundwater pollution linked to the mining of uranium used to fuel the reactors.

In a press conference at the state Capitol last week, a group of South Texas residents who live near former and proposed uranium-mining sites called for strengthened rules to protect water quality. The group, the **Alliance of Texans for Uranium Research and Action**, presented a report by Austin-based **Southwest Groundwater Consulting**, which found that the uranium-mining industry in Texas has historically failed to restore water quality to premining levels, while the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality** has routinely relaxed water-quality standards by failing to enforce initial requirements and by weakening restoration levels.

According to an ALTURA press release, "Before mining begins, the uranium exploration process disturbs the aquifer, rendering surrounding drinking water wells unusable."

Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District staffer **Art Dohmann**, a member of the county-appointed **Uranium Research Advisory Committee**, said that since exploratory drilling began in 2006, "we have had a continuation of problems with the same wells, and additional wells have started to have problems that have never had problems before."

Last year, some Goliad-area residents reported clogged, radioactively contaminated wells following exploration drilling. Three nearby wells were said to contain high concentrations of **radium-226**, a radioactive carcinogen. Dohmann explained that the mining and restoration process "withdraws large amounts of groundwater, a percentage of which is contaminated and must be disposed of in deep injection wells. One small mining area will dispose of billions of gallons of water from start to finish." At the end of the process, ALTURA argues, TCEQ allows uranium-mining companies to amend and lessen their cleanup levels.

Uranium Energy Corp. took over decades-old uranium exploration operations in Goliad Co. in late 2004 and plans to open a uranium mine there by early 2010. They deny that their test wells have contaminated groundwater, noting that no violations were issued following a **Texas Railroad Commission** investigation last year. They were, however, issued a violation in March 2007 for "incorrectly marking

and plugging exploratory boreholes," according to the Railroad Commission. In a pending federal lawsuit against Uranium Energy Corp., locals allege that storm water seeped into the open wells and contaminated groundwater. TCEQ issued the corporation a draft mining permit this June for the site, which must still undergo technical review. According to the Railroad Commission, which regulates uranium exploration, 17 active exploration permits are in effect statewide. There are currently four active uranium mines, according to TCEQ. One additional new draft mining permit has been issued to **South Texas Mining Ventures** in Duval County.

The **Lone Star Sierra Club** has joined ALTURA in calls for uranium-mining reform. Citing poor coordination between the three organizations overseeing mining — the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**, the Railroad Commission, and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality — Conservation Director **Cyrus Reed** said, "It's time to put a stop to uranium mining until we have one agency charged with regulating this activity, until we have true baseline testing before exploration, and no get-out-of-jail-free card through continual amendments to the restoration standards." For more information and to read Southwest Groundwater Consulting's full report, see www.uraniuminfo.org and www.uraniumenergy.com. — Daniel Mottola



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the hightower report

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

THE MYTH OF GEORGIAN DEMOCRACY

I've got Georgia on my mind. Not the Peach State but the Republic of Georgia.

This nation gained its 15 minutes of international fame in August when it briefly got into a territorial war with Russia, its powerful northern neighbor. Georgia quickly got routed but not before U.S. politicians – especially the Bush White House and John McCain – leaped into the fray with a fusillade of red-hot rhetoric. They worked themselves into a froth condemning Russia while also praising Georgia as a plucky, Western-style democracy that deserves America's full support. Indeed, Bush and McCain immediately pledged a billion of our tax dollars to Georgia and hailed its president, Mikheil Saakashvili, as a combination of George Washington and Rocky Balboa.

Back home, however, people snickered at the idea of Saakashvili being a democratic model. Running a semiauthoritarian state, he routinely unleashes his thuggish police forces to suppress his opposition, attack protesters, and repress the media.

Georgia's independent, human-rights watchdog, for example, says that "a free press is the main myth created by [Saakashvili] that the West has believed in." He bluntly reports that "the government is so afraid of criticism that it has felt compelled to raid media offices and to intimidate journalists and bash their equipment."

What Saakashvili can't achieve by bashing he gets by cronyism and censorship. Staff members and even owners of media outlets have been forced out, replaced by government allies. And the news director of Georgia's most popular TV station says she was under so much government pressure to alter stories that she finally resigned on the air.

Beware of the Bush-McCain line that Georgia is a flower of democracy. Once again, our leaders are trying to commit America financially and militarily on false pretenses.

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown – visit www.jimhightower.com. You can hear his radio commentaries on KOOP Radio, 91.7FM, weekdays at 10:58am and 12:58pm.

MCCAIN, THE ANTI-MAVERICK

John McCain keeps calling himself "a maverick" and is even calling the McCain-Palin ticket "Maverick Squared."

Puh-leeze. It's been my privilege to know some genuine mavericks, and I can tell you that McCain is not one of them. A 26-year Washington insider, the senator is now running as the trusted candidate of America's corporate establishment. He's such a reliable conformist to the corporate agenda that, at last count, 177 lobbyists for Big Oil, Wall Street banks, telecommunications giants, and other industries form the very core of his campaign, including every position from campaign manager to fundraising chairman.

Meet the original maverick: An early Texas land baron and political leader, Samuel Augustus Maverick was an independent-minded rancher who refused to brand his cattle. As a result, any unbranded steer wandering the range became known as a "maverick," a term that soon entered the vernacular to describe people who wore no one's brand – rebels, iconoclasts, nonconformists, and dissenters.

A grandson of the old rancher took this proud independent streak into politics during the Great Depression. Maury Maverick defeated the moneyed establishment of San Antonio to become a two-term member of Congress, then became the city's mayor, using both offices to battle the entrenched corporate powers on behalf of regular folks. His son, Maury Jr., carried the feisty spirit forward, battling the oil and gas barons as a state representative, then spent four decades as a brilliant American Civil Liberties Union lawyer. He represented – often for free – such outsiders and freethinkers as civil rights protesters, labor activists, McCarthyite victims, atheists, and conscientious objectors.

That, Mr. McCain, is a maverick. And you – being hoisted toward the presidency on the beefy shoulders of corporate lobbyists – are the exact opposite.

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ICON AFTER ICON

Welcome to the 2008 'Best of Austin'

BY KATE X MESSER

This is our 19th year of presenting to you your favorites and ours. We are pleased as pudgy puppies to have TV stars Arcie and Shasta Cola and their new pal Carmy the Carmadillo grace our "Best of Austin" cover this year. But instead of you having to read me yakking it up about them, we've decided to let them do the talking. Check out the interviews here, as well as full, even juicier versions online. Also, new for this year, we are opening up our blogs for some behind-the-"BOA"-scenes fun. Check austinchronicle.com/chronic for details on how we make this edition happen, pictures from this year's party for the winners, as well as winners and nominees from this year's new Wild Card category.

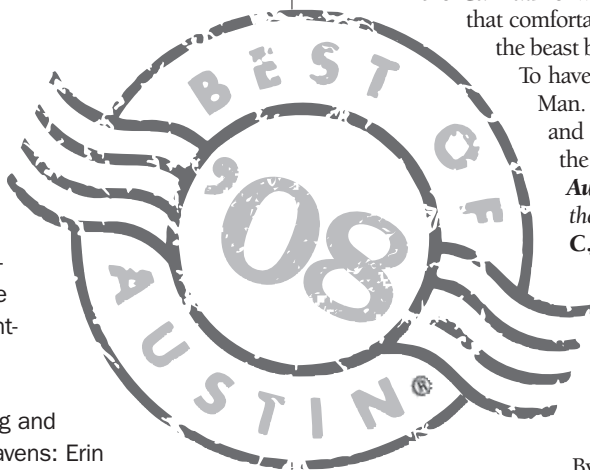
Enjoy!

The people behind this year's "BOA":

Assistant editors Richard Whittaker and Meghan Ruth Speakerman. Personal editorial support: Squeezeeee and Mr. MCK III, without whom... Database/Web gurus Brian and Karen Barry. Our proofreaders: Sarah Jean Billeiter, Mark Fagan, Darcie Stevens, Kristine Tofte, and Anna Toon. Front-desk staffers: Samantha Jenkins, Fernando Martinez, and Cassandra Pearce. Creative Director Jason Stout and art team Liz Osting and Chris Linnen. Promotions and marketing mavens: Erin Collier, Dan Hardick, and Logan Youree. Shout-out to the diligent production crew, ad staff, and editors on call. And most importantly, the interns who keep us young: Angela Armstrong, Meredith Greenwood, and Monica Riese.

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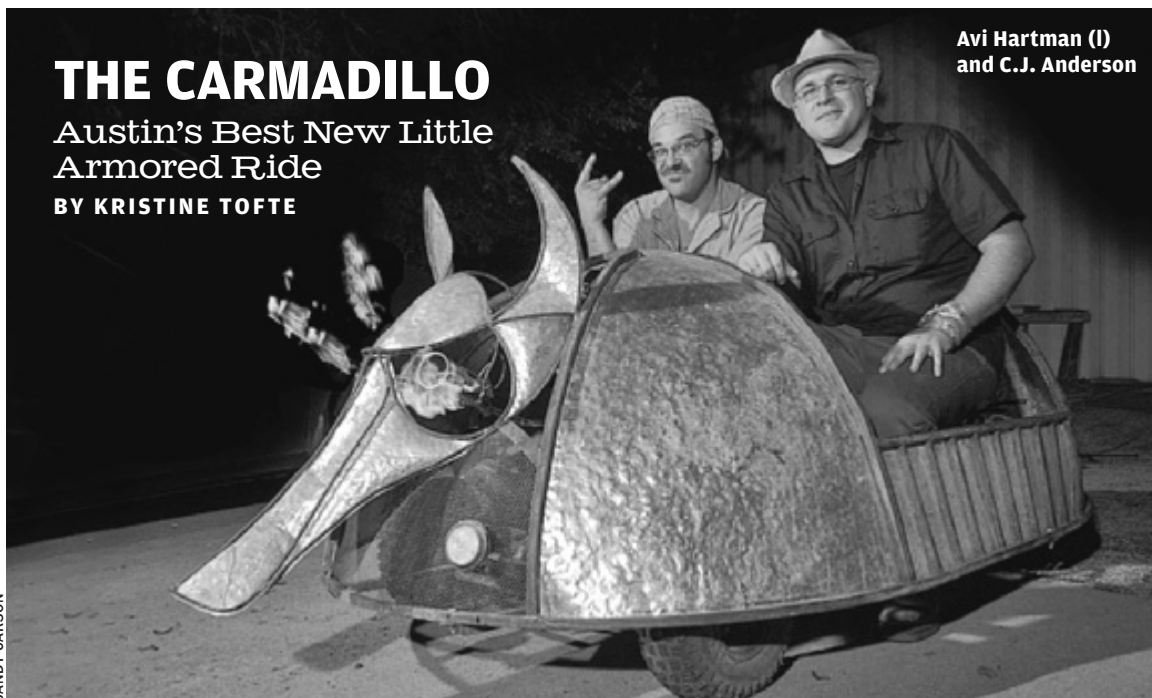


THE CARMADILLO

Austin's Best New Little Armored Ride

BY KRISTINE TOFTE

SANDY CARSON



Avi Hartman (l)
and C.J. Anderson

His body was sculpted by hammer and hand, his mean little face crafted with love. Built from the ground up by C.J. Anderson, Avi Hartman, and Kate Bower, this Carmadillo is rigged to shoot flames out of its eyes while going 30 mph. A short ride around the block garners stares of awe; some even bow.

Bower and Anderson met at Burning Man in 2001 and got married there two years later. They moved to Austin in 2004 and now call it home. They wanted to show their newfound Texas pride, and with help from their friend Avi, the Carmadillo was born, a mini metal art car that comfortably seats two. Construction on the beast began earlier this year. The goal? To have it debut at this year's Burning Man. We sat down with Carmadillo and family after their return from the festival in September.

Austin Chronicle: How long did the beast take to come to fruition?

C.J. Anderson: Kate and I hatched the idea one night three years ago. Avi did a drawing for us. However, it was not until this past January, when I decided to will the beast into existence, that the project really began.

By the end of March, we had a rolling chassis and the body frame built. The whole process took approximately 400 work hours over roughly six months.

AC: Flaming eyes. Whose idea?

Anderson: Mine. Just picked it up watching some of the flame effects at Burning Man.

Avi Hartman: It's entirely necessary, because if you don't have fire, you're nothing.

AC: What is the Carmadillo's purpose?

Hartman: The Carmadillo's entire purpose is awesome, making the world just a little bit radder than it was yesterday. I'm not doing this for the money. I'm not doing it for the girls. I'm doing it for fun, and that's good enough. That's the Austin I grew up in. As far as I'm concerned, that's what I'm representing Austin as. This is a town where fun is actually regarded as a worthwhile pursuit.

Bower: People work really hard at doing their own thing here, and it's absolutely respectful.

AC: How is the Carmadillo perceived outside of Austin?

Hartman: People think it's an aardvark.

Bower: The looks we got on the road on the way to Nevada and the looks we got on the street driving around here were very different. People around here were completely ignoring it. But we were on the interstate going through California, and people's looks were a combination of just totally skeptical and horrified, especially seeing Carmy's face poking out the back of the trailer.

AC: What sort of complications arose when you first started working on it?

Hartman: Lots of learning on the fly. There's quite a bit of redneck engineering on this thing.

AC: Did you have any prior training?

Hartman: I know how to weld. And I wanted to drive an armadillo.

Anderson: I've never touched a go-kart in my life. We totally taught ourselves what we were doing as we were doing it.

Bower: Somehow I know what a torque converter is and what it does, same thing with the centripetal clutch. I managed to learn a whole lot just by hanging out and drinking beer at Avi's shop and asking ignorant questions.

AC: Carmy is still pretty young, but what is your fondest memory so far?

Hartman: We did our first real test drive around the block after we had the head attached. I stood in the driveway and watched him come around the corner, and I was like, "Okay, I'm fucking in love."

Anderson: It's really the ultimate Sunday-drive vehicle.

Hartman: It's really for the kids. ... And they don't ask a question other than, "Can I drive?" They don't need any explanation; they're just like: "Yes! Just what I wanted!"

AC: When and where is the next appearance?

Anderson: Carmy's next scheduled appearance will be at the Alternative Softball League playoffs to cheer on BookPeople's Filthy Animals. He also frequents regional Burning Man events, builder events like Maker Faire, voter-registration drives, and really anything Austin-focused where a little more weird is needed.

See the Carmadillo's "Best of Austin" award on p.92.

CONTINUED ON P.38

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"They're so sexual, those retards." – Shasta Cola

Public access television beckons conspiracy theorists and colorful, rhinestone-clad characters alike, citizens ambitious enough to fill out the forms and start their own TV shows. This year, our readers have selected *Cookin' Good With the Cola Sisters* as Best Public Access TV Show.

Arcie and Shasta Cola – like two Southern, Sunday church ladies on acid, chitchattin' over spiked coffee and homemade meatloaf – bring their deliciously amusing East Texan personas to the tube. They've conversed their hearts out for the past four years, spreading their fan base like a glob o' jam over Austin, all while presenting one recipe per show, cooked in real time. Famous for "being themselves" (i.e., never appearing out of character), Austin's own hick Hilton sisters shamelessly serve up words of wisdom while ranting about the Man and rustling up some mighty fine grub.

We sat with Arcie and Shasta in the very same Jesus-happy kitchen where so much of the magic happens. That's when the Cola hit the fan.

CONTINUED FROM P.36

THE COLA SISTERS SPEAK

Arcie and Shasta's Best Public Access TV Show

BY MEGHAN RUTH SPEAKERMAN

Austin Chronicle: Tell us about your beginnings.

Shasta: We are half sisters, and we have different daddies.

Arcie: Well, um ... I guess we got started when our mother fucked different men. Our mother was very creative with her names, and all of her children have Cola names that could also mean other things. Like my name's Arcie Cola, and you think about RC Cola, but it's actually A-R-C-I-E, which is short for Arciella, which means Dawn in Spanish. Well my middle name is Dawn, so my name is really Dawn Dawn ... but I like Arcie.

Shasta: There is also a Shasta Cola that is a very well-known celebrity, um ... what do they call it, drag queen. So that's not me.

AC: What is your hometown?

Arcie: Coldspring, which is in East Texas.

Shasta: It's very woodsy, and there's vampires there.

Arcie: Rolling hills.

Shasta: Bigfoot.

AC: What is your guiding cooking philosophy?

Arcie: That it's easy. That anybody can do it. It's just heat and food.

Shasta: I think that's *Cooking With Marie's* slogan.

Arcie: But it's true!

Shasta: Yeah, I know, but I don't want her to get mad. Maybe you should come up with something else.

Arcie: All right, that it's ...

Shasta: So easy a caveman can do it [laughter].



Read the entire Cola Sisters interview with this piece at austinchronicle.com.

Arcie: I want to differentiate myself for a minute. The most important thing is to eat fresh, healthy, organic food that is minimally processed, because otherwise you're eating nothing but chemicals the Man is trying to feed you so that you will die. But not before spending hundreds of thousands of dollars in medical bills 'cause you get the cancer.

AC: Which came first, the comedy or the cooking?

Shasta: Well, I really thought it was going to be ... well, first of all, I thought it was gonna be a porn.

Arcie: I think the cooking came first, 'cause it is a cooking show. I don't think we set out to be funny.

Shasta: I don't think that's what our fans want. I think they want to see glamour and just more of, like, our butts and our boobs.

AC: What's this we hear about an upcoming DVD: Toning for the Tribulations?

Shasta: It's our exercise video. It's a system for surviving the end times after

the collapse of civilization.

Arcie: You're into all that stuff; I dunno.

Shasta: It's good for all different things, but it's basically getting yourself ready to survive.

Arcie: Get strong, 'cause the only way you can get back at the Man is by not dying, 'cause he would like nothin' more than to kill you off. So it's like training for the revolution.

Shasta: Yes, it's a wearing down of the Man slowly with our Fabrice beings.

Arcie: Raaaaaght.

See the Cola Sister's "Best of Austin" award on p.82.

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Best New Building (Past Five Years)

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Winning Best Architecture or Best New Building for five years now, the Frost Bank Tower has reached its term limit for that award. We are proud to bestow this honor a final time to the building that has brought Austin architecture into the 21st century. Though no longer Austin's tallest building, it remains a standard-bearer for the future of Austin's skyline.

401 Congress, 473-4343.

www.frostbank.com.

Best Austin Landmark

UT TOWER

For many years after it was built in 1937, the Tower at the University of Texas was the tallest building in Austin and could be seen from just about any place in town. The years have shrouded the iconic structure in a forest of skyscrapers, but to anyone who has ever driven the upper deck of I-35, it is a symbol of Austin. After being closed to the public for many years, the observation deck is once again open for guided tours.

2400 Inner Campus Dr., 475-6633; 877/475-6633.

www.utexas.edu/tower.

Best Public Space

ZILKER PARK

Green grass. Wide open spaces. The gleaming skyline backdrop behind our beloved central park is the only clue that this lush oasis is smack-dab in the middle of a bustling urban center. From the Barton Springs Pool to the soccer fields, from Austin City Limits to Blues on the Green, even the simplest picnic or piñata party makes Zilker Park Austin's eternal fount of fun.

2100 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700.

www.cityofaustin.org/zilker.

Best Architectural Trend

GREEN BUILDING

Because turning the lights off will only do so much good. A really eco-conscious household or business is one where energy-saving is built into every switch and every fitting is recycled and recyclable, and Austin's progressive building community, backed by Austin Energy Green Building, is ready to design a sustainable future.

Austin Energy Green Building, 721 Barton Springs Rd., 482-5300.

www.austinenenergy.com/Energy%20Efficiency/Programs/Green%20Building/index.htm.

TODD V. WOLFSON

Best Public Art

AUSTIN GUITARTOWN

Benefiting the Health Alliance for Austin Musicians, the Austin Museum of Art, American YouthWorks, and the Austin Children's Museum, Gibson Guitar's Austin GuitarTown dazzled us with its launch in November 2006 from multiple locations touting 35 10-foot-tall guitar sculptures and 30 smaller guitars, embellished by artists and celebs of all kinds. Truly capturing the artistic temperament of Austin, the exhibition, in total, raised \$589,000.

Public art with a public interest. Viva Gibson!

Penn Field, 3601 S. Congress Ste. G-400.

www.austinguitartown.com.

Best Interior/Best Bathroom

THE DRISKILL HOTEL

Duck into the cool, dim hush of the Driskill, and be transported to a time when a gunfight in the lobby was not unheard of. These days, the watchful gaze of Col. Driskill from his truly enormous portrait on the grand staircase still reminds us to be civilized as we relax under the famous stained-glass skylight. When not being used for photo shoots, the women's room at the Driskill stands ready to comfort everyone from a lady with the vapors to a tourist in need of comfort. Its famous pink marble floors and individual "vaults" are presided over by huge pink calla lilies in stained glass, making it a destination of its own.

604 Brazos, 474-5911.

www.driskillhotel.com.



SANDY CARSON

Best Billboard

ADULT SWIM

Perched high at the intersection of MLK and Guadalupe, this visual declaration of All Things Awesome is the ultimate pimp of Cartoon Network's nightly programming block of animé, comedy, and innovation that's made Adult Swim a cultural phenomenon. Proudly taking a long residence at one of the most obvious and well-trodden corners, this billboard morphs from brilliance to brilliance, continuously reminding us there's still something on television worth staying up late for.

Over the 7-Eleven at MLK & Guadalupe.

www.adultswim.com.

CONTINUED ON P.42

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STAGE 1 Clap Your Hands Say Yeah The National Atmosphere Minus The Bear St Vincent Black Angels ...And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead Deerhoof Rival Schools Islands The Annuals Bishop Allen Centromatic Sleepycar Frightened Rabbit Spinto Band Parts and Labor Colourmusic Experimental Dental School 27 Black Joe Lewis Till We're Blue or Destroy Paul Green's School of Rock Ume **STAGE 2** Tim Fite Magnetic Morning (Adam Franklin of Swervedriver, Sam Fogarino of Interpol) Kevin Seconds (of 7 Seconds) The Cynics Ugly Beats Walter Schreifels (of Quicksand, Rival Schools, GB, YOT) Neil Hamburger Pepi Ginsberg Frank Smith Spot The Revival Tour with Chuck Ragan (of Hot Water Music) Tom Gabel (of Against Me!) Ben Nichols (of Lucero) Tim Barry (of Avail) Tim and Eric Awesome Show Dragon Boy Suede Golden Arm Trio Grampall Jookaboo Spot & Albert Coldtowne Comedy Hour Altercation Punk Rock Comedy Hour Matt Bearden Chris Fairbanks **STAGE 3** Bad Brains ALL Dead Milkmen (Reunion/only show) Municipal Waste Adolescents Integrity Bouncing Souls Swingin Utters DOA Killdozer Cromags (jam) Scared of Chaka Young Widows Leftover Crack Trash Talk World Burns to Death Krumbums Mammoth Grinder Cute Lepers Bitter End Camp X-Ray High Tension Wires Born to Lose **STAGE 4** Clipse Z-trip Dan Deacon Grupo Fantasma Kool Keith/Dr. Octagon Dengue Fever Octopus Project j*davey Brownout! Franki Chan Toxic Avenger (Paris) Hawmay Troof Starlynx/Bigface terp2it zeale & phranchyze Richard Henry YACHT

Dewar's.12 Tickets available at End of an Ear, Sound on Sound Records, Prototype Vintage, Waterloo Records and all Front Gate ticket outlets.

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READERS POLL

Architecture & Lodging

CONTINUED FROM P.40

Best Sign

EL ARROYO

Like a page from a big Rolodex full of pithy quotes and witticisms, El Arroyo's message board has been eliciting grins down on West Fifth for many years now. It continues to win the hearts of "BOA" voters with that patented Austin self-expression, which is so tenderly encouraged here in our fair city, at all costs. (For example, on Perry's second term: "Fo mo fo Mofo.") Are you a wisdom seeker? Head to the Ditch. 1624 W. Fifth, 474-1222. www.ditch.com.

Best Window Display

BLACKMAIL

Year after year, Gail Chovan and her band of merry ruffians make us ecstatic that black is the new black. If you're thinking that every original idea must have surely come and gone, go directly to the front window of Blackmail. Always inspiring and sometimes controversial, these displays set an inarguable design standard. 1202 S. Congress, 326-7670. www.blackmailboutique.com.

Best Hotel

Best Hotel/Motel Pool

HOTEL SAN JOSÉ

Exceeding its former glory with a massive overhaul in 2000, the San José quickly won accolades and capacity reservations for sleek design and comfort. Even locals who simply drop in for drinks in the lush courtyard swear they've been on vacation afterward. Regular guests also know about the serene little concrete pond (and some say hangover cure) that awaits on the other side of the garden. With enormous fluffy towels galore and plenty of chaise real estate, we'll trade our wine glasses for plastic and check in. 1316 S. Congress, 444-7322. www.sanjosehotel.com.

TODD V. WOLFSON

Best Motel

AUSTIN MOTEL

It's the 1938 tourist court that underwent the makeover that sparked the SoCo renaissance. If you don't have a reason to stay at this local lodging landmark, make one up. Storming this category for eight years running, it remains a nostalgic haunt for some, and for others, the unique, individually decorated rooms are a new discovery. Many regulars reserve favorite rooms by name, so book well in advance. 1220 S. Congress, 441-1157. www.austinmotel.com.



CONTINUED ON P.44

Best Cheap Motel

THE HEART OF TEXAS MOTEL

This bighearted motor lodge was opened in 1966 by the Dye family; the Osbon family owned and ran it from 1981 until selling the motel in 2004. In 1984, the Coen brothers set part of their neo-noir classic *Blood Simple* on the grounds. Nestled between big roads and the city's southwestern urban expansion, the Heart of Texas is a good old-fashioned motel, a beacon of the days when people weren't afraid to stop and say howdy. 5303 Hwy. 290 W., 892-0644. www.heartoftexasmotel.com.



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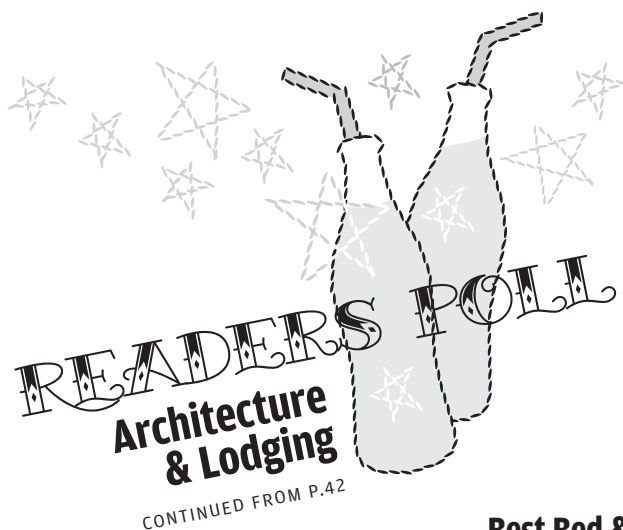
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Best Historic Site

TEXAS STATE CAPITOL

Here's a building that knows a thing or two about fires. The ever-growing demands of governing an ever-growing state are still contained within its august Renaissance revival corridors. Just a shame there will be all those politicians clogging the place up in the new year.

1100 Congress, 305-8400.

www.capitol.state.tx.us.

Best Bed & Breakfast

AUSTIN FOLK HOUSE BED & BREAKFAST

This is its fourth appearance in "Best of Austin." You love it – you really, really love the Austin Folk House. This affordable (\$95-225) and cozy, centrally located bed & breakfast offers high-rent amenities with down-home comfort. Notable for its divine breakfasts, the Folk House serves up quality and sincerity as it proves once again to be among Austin's best.

506 W. 22nd, 472-6700.

www.austinfohhouse.com.

CELESTA DANGER



Best Hotel/Motel Staff

FOUR SEASONS HOTEL

Famous for its Sunday brunches, luxurious digs, stunning cuisine, and celebrity regulars, the Four Seasons is also quite beloved in Austin for how it treats its guests. The standards here are high, with touches of Texas friendly. Rigorous training? Quality control? Perhaps the staff at this four-star hotel is as hospitable and professional as our readers say, and perhaps it's because they simply love what they do.

98 San Jacinto, 478-4500. www.fourseasons.com/austin.

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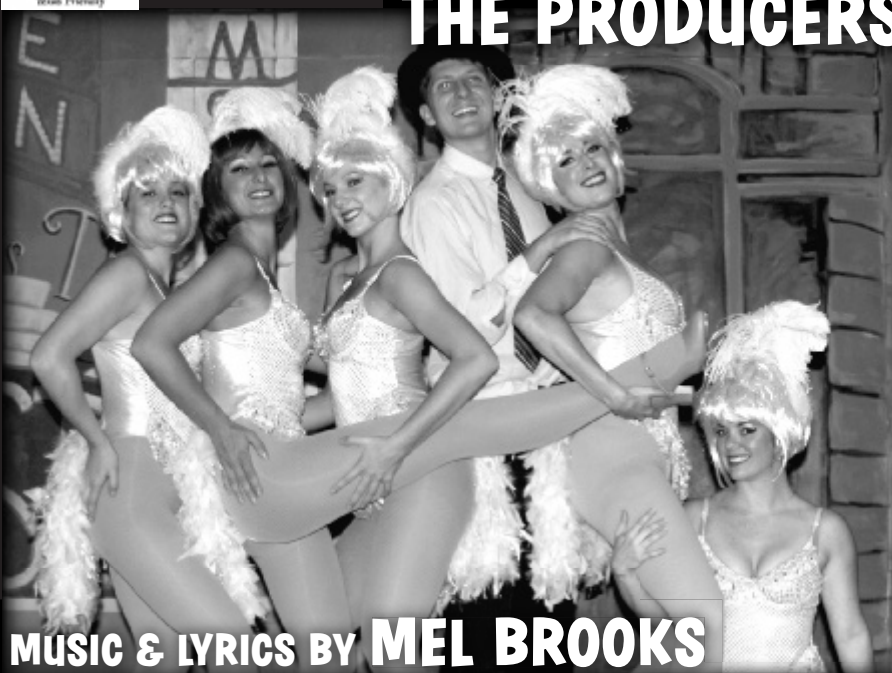
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tapestrydancecompany

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

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of 2007 Austin Critics Table Awards

BEST OF AUSTIN 2008

CRITICS PICKS

Architecture & Lodging

Best Room for Listening **DELL HALL AT THE LONG CENTER**

Sure, Dell Hall is easy on the eyes – all that warm cherrywood paneling and those dusky green seats are so soothing to look at – but the concert venue is absolute ecstasy on the ears. The care with which the Long Center designers and acoustician Mark Holden of JaffeHolden constructed the hall allows every sound, even a *pianissimo* note from an unamplified violin, to be heard in its farthest reaches. Vents that let sound pass through the balconies, banners, baffles, Venetian plaster, and, yes, that lovely wood work together to channel whatever kind of music is being made – classical, rock, bluegrass, you name it – to you with such fullness and clarity that you feel you're in the midst of the musicians instead of far away from them. What was the old THX tagline? "The audience is listening." In Dell Hall, they certainly are and loving it like never before.

701 W. Riverside, 482-0800.
www.thelongcenter.org.

Most Excellent Expansion **CASA MARIANELLA**

This modest shelter for Central American refugees and immigrants has added a second house across the street from its first homey casa. At peak times in the season of migrant work, people sleep on the floor in the bunk rooms, kitchen, living room, and office. With a second building, Casa Marianella now has classroom space for teaching English as a second language, a children's play area, and overflow for sleepers.

821 Gunter, 385-5571.
www.casamarianella.org.



KATE X MESSER

Best Dead Zone in a Fly Zone **DAVIDSON- LITTLEPAGE CEMETERY**

Blink, and you might miss this curious plot of Texas history, located just a whisker north of Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. This small cemetery, host to dears departed circa the mid-19th century, finds itself at the crossroads of progress. The Texas Highway Department respected the peace of its inhabitants when it carved out the current traffic configuration during last century. Three roadways converge at this final resting place, but for the past 50 years or so, the preserved landmark has been holding true in the swale.

1200 Bastrop Hwy., at Highway 71 & 183.
www.austintxgensoc.org/cemeteries/davidson.html.

Best Structural Update **STAN HAAS FOR THE LONG CENTER**

The former Lester E. Palmer Auditorium overlooking the shores of the former Town Lake has shed the cocoon that age has bestowed upon it and emerged as the sleek and contemporary Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Center for the Performing Arts overlooking the shores of Lady Bird Lake. Keeping the original stage house (the largest in Central Texas) and original circular support system, award-winning architect Stan Haas and his Nelsen Partners recycled 65% of the existing structure. Of the 44 million tons of debris, 95% of that was recycled, and Haas' creation rose like a dazzling phoenix with an outdoor terrace that offers some of the most spectacular views of our city.

1011 San Jacinto #411, info@teamhaas.com.
www.teamhaas.com.



JOHN CARRICO

Best Philosophical Guidance by an Apartment Complex **WEST ANNIE APARTMENTS**

We recognize the need for apartment complexes to use their signage to attract new tenants ("If you lived here, you'd be home by now!"), but there's something refreshing – and quintessentially Austin – about a complex that encourages us all to stop and smell the roses. "Enjoy being," reads the sign at the West Annie Apartments. Not "Enjoy being here," just "Enjoy being." It's a philosophical directive worth taking, and it cheers us up every time we happen on it, making us appreciate all the more the tree-lined streets of the Bouldin Creek neighborhood, this city, its people, and our place in it.

211 W. Annie, 479-6776.

Best Proof of Austin's Non-Hippie Heritage **ATOMIC AUSTIN: MID-CENTURY MODERN TOUR**

Before it was cosmic cowboy central (and waaay before it was condo central), Austin was the Gay Place – a fertile field of boho intellectualism, full-on politics, and midcentury style filtered through a Hill Country lens. Last spring, the Heritage Society of Austin shined a light on some of that era's surviving gems, including those by ATX architectural notables such as Charles Granger, Arthur Fehr, and A.D. Stenger. The modestly elegant scale, bomb shelter, and docents in aprons made us want to throw out what's left of our tie-dye and get back to the Japanese-influenced, minimalist garden.

Heritage Society of Austin, PO Box 2113, Austin, 78768-2113, 474-5198.
www.heritagesocietyaustin.org.

CONTINUED ON P.48

Best View From a Fast-Food Joint **SCHLOTZSKY'S ON SOUTH LAMAR**

No VIP lounge, no valet waiting for a tip, just you, one of Schlotsky's famous Originals, and one of the best views of our changing skyline. Grab your food, and make a beeline for the outside stairs to a vine-covered patio with a view that extends over South Lamar, the river, and on to the towering and glowing condos that pepper the skyline. Scientifically proven to aid in digestion.

218 S. Lamar, 476-2867.
www.schlotzskys.com.



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Kehinde Wiley, *Elcias*, 2008, Oil on canvas,

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The Austin Museum of Art is funded in part by Art Alliance Austin, Museum Trustees, Members, and Patrons. Additional support is provided by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and the Texas Commission on the Arts.



CRITICS PICKS

Architecture & Lodging

CONTINUED FROM P.46

Best Architect Changing the Face of Austin

JAMIE CHIOCO

Jamie Chioco is among those changing the face of Austin's urban space. A former associate with Dick Clark Architecture, Chioco's more public works can be seen everywhere, from the futuristic Galaxy Cafe that looks like the Jetsons may be dropping in at any minute to both By Georges to the AMLI's Royal Blue Grocery Downtown. His residential work has a spare quality offset by the lushness of nature incorporated into it, and his commercial imprint is in demand and becoming easy to recognize.

3423 Guadalupe, Bldg. A #200, 706-4303.
www.chiocodesign.com.



TODD V. WOLFSON

Best Futuristic Skyscraper

360 CONDOMINIUMS

Like the sparkling spires rising from the Emerald City of Oz, the 360 glances back on an art-deco past while steadfastly steering Austin into the future. Currently our tallest building, the "green" 44-story 360 is home to many of Austin's elite but also surprisingly offers some of the most affordable new Downtown living. And, as in the Emerald City, 360's residents can curl up in their pied-à-terre and know for a fact that there's no place like home.

360 Nueces, 477-0360.
www.lifesurroundsyou.com.

Best Patio View for an Afterwork Drink

OPAL DIVINE'S PENN FIELD

Yes, yes, yes, we all know about Opal Divine's divine Cracked Pepper Fries, but Opal Divine's Penn Field location in SoCo knows how to beat the Texas heat by offering a patio decked out with fans, misters, and shady trees. High above the street, the sunsets are golden, and the rest of the world seems far away. One of our best spots for people-watching, Wednesday nights are Texas beer nights, with every local brew priced at \$2.50.

3601 S. Congress, 707-0237.

www.opaldivines.com.

Best Bar Interior

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN

Gold Rush funeral home meets Tamale House. What if your great-great-uncle died while you were watching *Deadwood*, and later, as his favorite bluegrass band plays the wake and drinks bathtub gin inside and his widow finally acknowledges the true love of her life, a *bajo sexto* player whose mariachi band plays on the patio outside while his cousin serves homemade tamales from the Airstream by which the now-unburdened couple plans to escape shortly after the funeral services? You, by the way, are the thick-haired hipster in skinny jeans texting under the peeling, harlot-house wallpaper in a dark corner, waiting for Gerard Cosloy's DJ set to start.

1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200.

www.eastinns.com.

Most Surprising Local Design Events

DESIGN WITHIN REACH

Unless you live in a Downtown loft, the last place you expect to find that comfy block-party feeling is the Design Within Reach showroom, but there it is. Art divas who eschew aspirational materialism for personality cults/reverse snobbery go largely unmissed at DWR's popular events, which embrace the locals and lubricate the mix with hard liquor and a complete lack of wardrobe expectations. Past happenings include an endearing Peka Kucha (a sort of design slam), Modern Design Function (a local furniture design contest/exhibit), and a cross-stitch class. Next they're collaborating with the Blanton on a Birth of the Cool event; get over yourself, and go.

200 W. Second, 472-7200.

www.dwr.com.

Best Monument to Solar-Powered Sustainability

THE HARDEN-SOLAR DUPLEX

Named for original owner Minnie Harden, this flamingo-pink Eastside duplex is the result of 3,500 volunteer hours over three years under the leadership of community activist Bo McCarver. It'll soon house a low-income family and features two wheelchair-accessible gardens and two 400-gallon rain barrels. The back half is an experimental solar home with rooftop solar panels, a solar water heater, and an assortment of sustainable materials. The project was spearheaded by the non-profit Blackland Community Development Corp., which received assistance from Shelter With Spirit, a local nonprofit providing grants for renovations utilizing green-building technology. Shelter With Spirit, PO Box 153130, Austin, 78715-3130, gcitron@shelterwithspirit.org; Blackland Community Development Corp., 2005 Salina, 474-6009.

www.shelterwithspirit.org, webtrain.austincc.edu/~rcarroll/capstone/home.php.



JOHN CARRICO

Best Resort Homage to Austin

HYATT LOST PINES

Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort & Spa offers so much more than the escape of horseback riding, golf, waterslides, live music, s'mores parties at the fire pit, or simply laying out on a chaise under a heavenly canopy of perfect Texas sky. It offers culture: our culture. We're not talking about some banjos and cowboy boots stuck to the wall. Thank the developer's veep, Cami Hardee, who took an academic and openhearted approach to the project: Dozens of the resort's generous suites and public atria are deeply researched micromuseums honoring Central Texas topics such as Lone Star Outlaws, Tejano Tradition, Dance Halls & Last Calls, and Texas Swing, as well as specific artist tribute rooms dedicated to folks as varied as sculptor Elisabet Ney, jazz master Hannibal Lokumbe, and rock photog Burton Wilson. Every inch of Lost Pines pays tribute to Austin's place in the creative lexicon, proving to visitors and old-timers alike: There's no place like our home.

575 Hyatt Lost Pines Rd., Lost Pines, 512/308-1234.
www.visitlostpines.com.

Best Preservable Artifact

THE RATS MURAL FROM THE RAUL'S PUNK ERA

After being hidden by boards for more than 22 years, the fabled rats of Raul's mural re-emerged only after the closing of the Showdown and just long enough to be documented by the Museum of Popular Culture before disappearing into the walls again. Painted in 1979 over the period of exactly one night by Sarita Crocker and Claire LaVaye with \$125 of house paint and acrylic, the 10-by-20 work has overseen the dance floor during such legendary shows as Patti Smith sitting on the floor of the stage singing "You Light Up My Life," the first 1979 show with the Skunks and the Violators (featuring future Go-Go Kathy Valentine), and Roky Erickson's resurrection under the punk rock banner. Neither gone nor forgotten, the rats once again live behind a wall ... and in our memories.

samopc@gmail.com, 440-8318.

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GARDEN...

LET'S GO
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check out austinfilmfestival.com for admission information

Gardenburger
www.gardenburger.com

Artwork by Melinda Beck

BEST OF AUSTIN 2008 READERS POLL Arts & Entertainment

Best Art Gallery

THE BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART

Garnering regular awards since 2006, the Blanton has continued its affair with Austin by adding yet another extension to its complex, the Edgar A. Smith Building, home to its new museum shop and cafe (opening Nov. 16). Its collection is vast, and it would take many more buildings to show it *all* off. As it stands, and as evidenced by this award, Austin has continued its love affair with the Blanton, as well.

MLK & Congress, 471-7324.

www.blantonmuseum.org

Best Museum

BOB BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM

We Texans love Texas history, and the Bob Bullock Museum is a testament to that love: Costly and sumptuous, the exhibits are visually stunning, as well as painstakingly researched and brilliantly curated. The dynamic story of Texas practically reaches out and grabs you, and if that isn't thrilling enough, there's an IMAX theatre, too!

1800 Congress, 936-8746.

www.thestoryoftexas.com

Best Scenester/Mover & Shaker

TIE: STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSE; DIANE 'KITTY' MURRAY

These prodigal siblings may not realize they were cut from the same cloth, born of the same womb: the belly of the dishy diva. Prodigal? Both Stephen "Your Style Avatar" MacMillan Moser and Diane "Kitty of Foodies" Murray lived opulent and crapulent lives back in those fabled Austin Eighties, then left Texas to find themselves (Moser to New York and Seattle to design fashion and Murray to work both coasts in the film biz), and later returned, bigger and badder than ever. Our readers love these community juggernauts and trust them to lead the way: for Moser, every week in the pages of this newsweekly and for Murray, organizing events for women who love women ... who sometimes eat food.

Stephen MacMillan Moser, The Austin Chronicle, 4000 N. I-35, 454-5766; Diane "Kitty" Murray, beatsagogo@aol.com, austinchronicle.com; www.myspace.com/foodies_kitty



KATE X MESSER



SANDY CARSON

Best Performance Space

LONG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

With the pristine acoustics of the 2,400-seat Michael & Susan Dell Hall matched by few in the world, along with the flexibility of the Debra and Kevin Rollins Studio Theatre and the glorious outdoor City Terrace, the Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Center for the Performing Arts has given Austin a versatile world-class venue for international talent and regional groups alike. Recycled from a large part of the old Palmer Auditorium, the literal groundbreaking on this masterpiece ushered in a new era of groundbreaking Austin art.

701 W. Riverside, 482-0800.

www.thelongcenter.org

Best Place to See Local Art

TIE: AUSTIN CITY HALL; THE ENCHANTED FOREST

The city could have gone the safe, boring route of lumpen political portraits, but through the People's Gallery program, it opened itself up to works from the representational to the surreal, somber, playful, and even fuzzy, all from local artists. The Enchanted Forest provides a safe haven for creators to build magical, unique, large-scale installations. Now if City Hall and the Forest could just talk to each other ...

Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 974-2220; the Enchanted Forest, 1412 W. Oltorf, 296-1866.

www.cityofaustin.org/cityhall; www.austinenchantedforest.com

Best Visual Artist

JEAN GRAHAM

Artist Jean Graham enacts the ancient art form of mosaic on both the visual and community levels. Tiny pieces (neighbors) come together to make a shimmering whole (community) that tells a story (giving our best and working together for peace and beauty). Her murals are "of the people, by the people, for the people," located around Austin at Brentwood Elementary School, the Crestview Shopping Center, and other locales. Graham is both an inspiring leader and a gracious midwife of public art.

www.violetcrownfestival.com



JOHN ANDERSON

Best Theatre Director

DAVE STEAKLEY

His Best Theatre and Best Stage Director awards date back more than 10 years. Dave Steakley has grabbed the Austin theatre scene by the vocal cords and has issued peals of joy. Whether adding a special musical twist to an old favorite (such as his post-hurricane take on *Porgy & Bess*) or presenting fresh, new material (*Keepin' It Weird*), the groundbreaking productions under this Zach stalwart are sometimes hilarious, sometimes chilling, sometimes tender, or sometimes heartbreaking, but they're always gripping, riveting productions that keep our theatre scene among the best.

Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541.

www.zachscott.com

CONTINUED ON P.52



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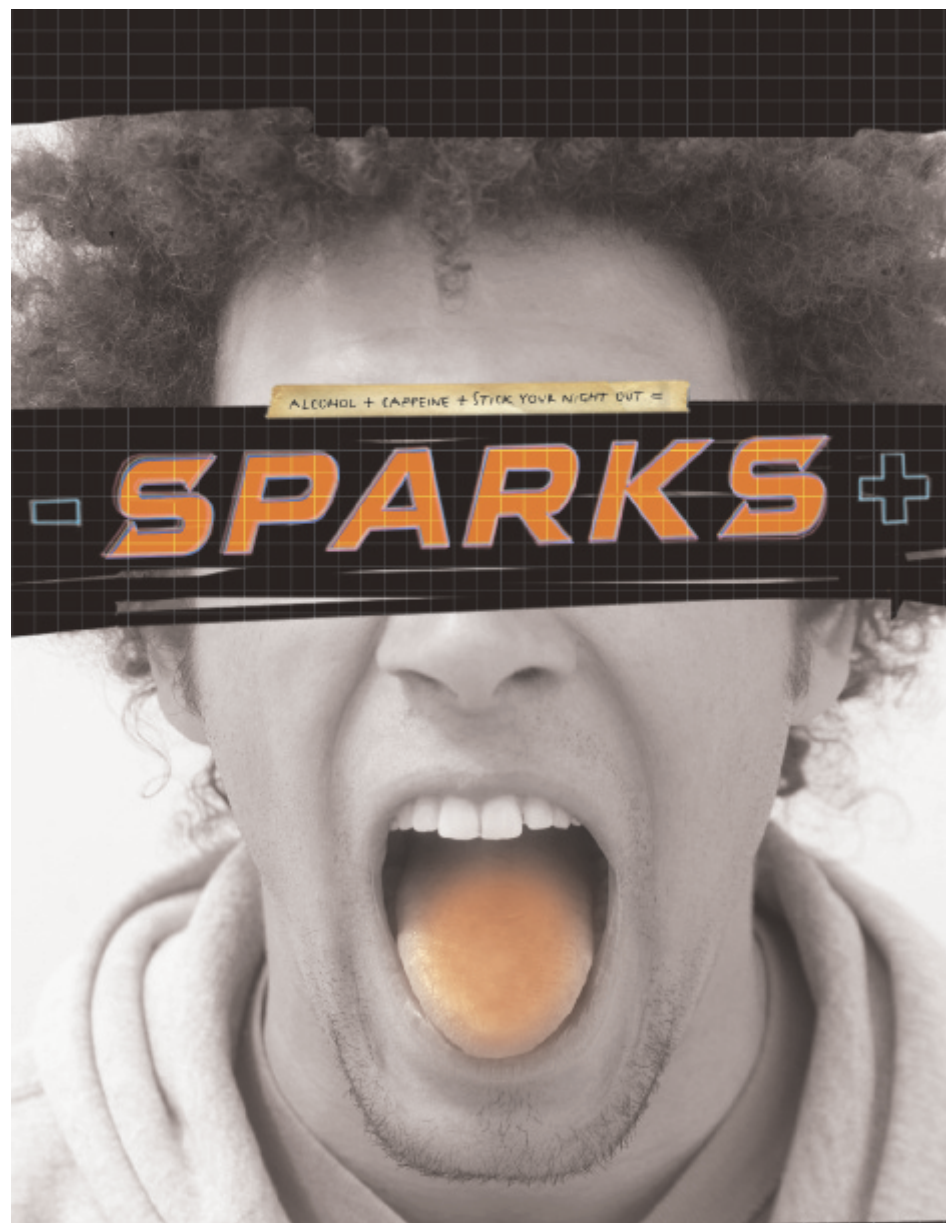
DELBERT McCLINTON

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READERS POLL

Arts & Entertainment

CONTINUED FROM P.50

Best Comedy/Improv Troupe

COLDTOWNE; MASTER PANCAKE THEATER; ESTHER'S FOLLIES

Lucky Austinites have been riding the resurgence of improv and comedy troupes, and facing this kind of comedic talent, how could you choose just one? Ever since ColdTowne relocated home base from NOLA to AusTex, it's brought the laughs with notable aplomb and genius. Blown out of the creative nostrils of Mr. Sinus Theater, Master Pancake Theater is the new-comer to this category combining heckling, live performance, and film. Esther's Follies has been a longstanding mainstay of Texas and political humor, walking the fine line between faithful favorites and innovative new sketches. Three cheers to these masters of comedic timing – this year, times three.

ColdTowne, 4803 Airport, 524-2807; Alamo Drafthouse, 2700 W. Anderson, 459-7090; 13729 Research, 219-5408; 1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262; 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320; Esther's Follies, 525 E. Sixth, 320-0198.
www.coldtowne.com; www.drafthouse.com; www.esthersfollies.com.



Best Karaoke

AUSTIN KARAOKE STUDIO

Last call at bars is 2am, but that doesn't mean you have to go home. Oh no. Especially not when there's a microphone with your name on it at Austin Karaoke. It's open as late as 5am on some nights and has private rooms, making this place a hit with groups of pals who are looking to belt out classics such as "I Want It That Way" and "Copacabana" as they fully take advantage of the BYOB policy.
 6808 N. Lamar Ste. B-120, 323-9822.
www.austinkaraoke1.com.



TODD V. WOLFSON

Best Actor/Actress

BARBARA CHISHOLM

We always knew we'd lose her to a more adoring audience. Babs has been a regular contributor to this paper for years, but her true love is the stage. She's certainly carved her place as a *grand dame* of Austin theatre – possibly our most fitting heiress to the role of *the grand dame* since the passing of her dear friend Karen Kuykendall. Barbara Chisholm is a director's dream in a siren's body. With talent to burn, this effervescent performer has proven to be one of the greats due to her kaleidoscopic roles, driven dedication, and an enduring association with Dave Steakley that showcases her talents like the setting on a Tiffany diamond.
 236-0500.

www.colliertalent.com/BARBARA.CHISHOLM/chisholm.htm.

Best Comedian

MATT BEARDEN

Perfect delivery, flawless audience interaction, biting commentary, and truly interesting anecdotes with hilarious, brilliant payoffs make Matt Bearden the Best Comedian in Austin. And we know it's only a matter of time until he's recognized as one of the best comedians in the country. Until that happens, we'll be front row center at all of his local shows, admiring his sweet, sweet handlebar 'stache.

www.mattbearden.com.

Best Composer

GRAHAM REYNOLDS

The brilliance Reynolds captures in notes and melodies for projects both grand and small has affixed him as an integral lightning rod for so many of Austin's musical endeavors (as well as occasionally writing for the *Chronicle*). Whether wearing his Golden Arm Trio hat or lending orchestral magic to reels, live performance, Richard Linklater's *A Scanner Darkly*, or off-Broadway glory, his inspired multi-instrumentalist approach to composing as a drummer, pianist, bandleader, and collaborator continues to leave audiences awestruck.

3010 E. 14^{1/2}, 773-4653.

www.grahamreynolds.com.

Best Dance Company

BALLET AUSTIN STUDIO

They caper; they twirl; they arabesque; they pas de ciseaux and fondue: Ballet Austin expands ballet's vocabulary and Austin's artistic mastery anew each season. Its stark, riveting interpretation of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, with music by Philip Glass, is an example of its top-quality innovation in contemporary ballet.

501 W. Third, 476-9051.

www.balletaustin.org.

Best Movie Theatre

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE

We're spoiled, and it's almost unanimous: Austinites would rather not see a movie at all if they can't watch it with a bucket of beer and a Godfather pizza. The very best in innovative and original programming, great community events, world-class menu-movie pairings, and film-geek staff all make this home-grown movie theatre the best in this city and, according to *Entertainment Weekly*, the very best in this whole damn country.
 2700 W. Anderson, 459-7090; 13729 Research, 219-5408; 1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262; 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320.
www.drafthouse.com.

Best Emergent Local Filmmaker

BOB RAY

Bob Ray was in the right place at the right time when he began filming some friends starting a Roller Derby league. But it was his tireless efforts, taking his documentary *Hell on Wheels* to every film festival and skate rink that would have him, that got him and his movie the fame they deserve.

www.crashcamfilms.com.

Best Film Series

PARAMOUNT SUMMER CLASSIC FILM SERIES

When the Texas heat threatens to keep Austin seared, nothing beats melting the summer days away in the belly of the nearly century-old theatre, lost in the magic of Hollywood. Film-history buffs can break down cinematography and art direction in the Hitchcock and film noir pairings, while Eighties-o-philes can revel in the the guilty pleasures of *Flashdance* and *Dirty Dancing*.

For 33 years, the Paramount Summer Classic Film Series has kept Austin cool, screening the movies that made Hollywood sizzle.
 713 Congress, 472-5470.

www.paramountsummerfilms.com.

Best Place to People-Watch

BARTON SPRINGS

No wonder we all wear dark sunglasses. We're all scanning the crowd. That tan 40-year-old man in the red banana-hammock riding his 10-speed or the European topless crowd toward the back or even the class-skipping share, looking for a solar cure for last night's dorm-room tequila. Barton Springs' true scenery is the people. Keep your eyes on the swimsuit-clad masses in search of the way to jump in without losing their breath to the brrr.
 2101 Barton Springs Rd., 476-9044.

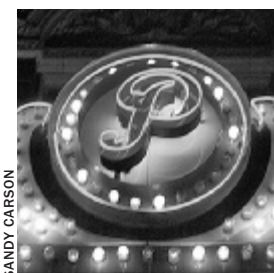
www.cityofaustin.org/parks/bartonsprings.htm.

Best Clothing Designer

CHIA

Another win for this Austin designer and more love from our readers, as Chia snags Best Clothing Designer three years in a row. Chia has established herself as perhaps the most visible of local designers, and her cheap, chic, and simple designs continue to charm her fans and public. Chia is a critical cog in the Austin style machine.
 457-9456.

www.chiahats.com.



SANDY CARSON

CONTINUED ON P.54



HEAD-TO-HEAD ANALOG v. DIGITAL BATTLE

32 DJs and Laptop Musicians.

1 head-to-head competition.

180 seconds to conquer or face elimination.

Welcome to Ai180.

The Art Institute of Austin is calling all DJs and Laptop Musicians to come flex their skills at our First Annual Ai180. In five head-to-head rounds, contestants will have three minutes each to wow the judges, and move the crowd.

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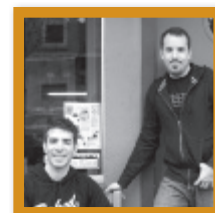
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The Brass Sisters
Martha Hall Foose
Betty Fussell
Scott Gold
Amanda Hesser
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Matt Lewis and Renato Poliafito
Cheryl and Bill Jamison



Art crop: *Sunflowers, Thistles, and Fruit III*, David Bates, 1999, 40"x30" Oil on panel, Photo of art by Tom Jenkins

FESTIVAL UNDERWRITER





Best Gay/Lesbian Hangout

THE: RAIN ON 4TH; OILCAN HARRY'S

Oilcan's is back in the running again after an absence of a few years due to the opening of Rain. With "Best of Austin" awards dating back to 1994, Oilcan's has long ruled the gay scene, until the upstart, Rain, hijacked its throne in 2005. Winning continually ever since, Rain finds once again that its formidable opponent was only taking a breather and is back once again, packing a punch and drawing the crowds. Duke it out, boys, but Austin loves you both equally. Rain on 4th, 217 W. Fourth, 494-1150; Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.

www.rainon4th.com; www.oilcanharrys.com.

Best Drag Show

THE: CHARLIE'S AUSTIN; THE UNITED COURT OF AUSTIN

With the likes of Kelly Kline, Jame Perry, Rachel Blackstone, Nadine Hughes, Erica Andrews, and Vanessa Gordon shaking their groove things at Charlie's on Sundays, appearances by the United Court of Austin and its bevy of royal beauties are somewhat rarer ... but every bit as entertaining. There is a vibrant drag scene in Austin, and both Charlie's and the United Court of Austin are responsible for a great deal of it. Seek, and ye shall find.

Charlie's Austin, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481; the United Court of Austin, PO Box 2567, Austin, 78768, 750-2100.

www.charliesaustin.com; www.unitedcourtofaustin.org.

Best Place to Dance

ELYSIUM

Tease your hair to its highest heights, and strap on your brightest leggings, because Sundays at Elysium present serious Eighties awesomeness. On other nights, this repeat "Best of Austin" offender rocks with live bands and DJs pumping out industrial, Nineties, and more. And as Austin's goth central, you know this is the place for All Hallow's Eve. 705 Red River, 478-2979.

www.elysiumonline.net.

Best Jukebox

CASINO EL CAMINO

Triskaidekaphobia? Pssssh! Dominating the tunes for the last 13 years, Casino el Camino's jukebox gets more traffic than the intersection where it lives. Even while we were in line checking out the latest batch of CDs, the guy behind us was impatiently fidgeting, in need of his Bad Brains fix. In honor of those 13 years, we recommend these picks: 69/01, 25/06, 11/11, 23/08, 58/07, 63/04, 74/02, 37/10, 17/02, 35/04, 52/04, 51/01, and 87/01.

517 E. Sixth, 469-9330.

www.casinoelcamino.net.

Best Live Club/Party DJ

TODDY B

What makes Austin Music Award-winner Todd Burgener more than just a DJ? He doesn't just play at a party; he is the party, understanding that the success of an evening at a club or party is essentially in his hands. He's not just a master behind the turntables but a master emcee as well, whipping the crowds into frenzies with his energy and skill. On the radio or live in person, the B in Toddy B stands for Best. www.myspace.com/toddyb.

Best Party of the Year

SXSW

It's the biggest industry party in the world. Cutting-edge multimedia technology and focus on the newest developments in the video-game industry? Mm-hmm. The best and brightest filmmakers, plus all aspects of the art and business of indie filmmaking? Oh yeah. Panels people talk about for years and music so cool you won't hear about it until next month? You'd better believe it. And who else would deliver all this over 10 days? South by Southwest. You love it. For more than 20 years now.

PO Box 4999, Austin, 78727, 467-7979.

www.sxsw.com.



PHOTOS BY TODD V. WOLFSON

Best New Club

THE: BLACK & TAN; RUSTY SPURS

It's about time we gave the masses a new direction to stumble. Seventh Street. The new Sixth. On one hand, we have Black & Tan. Ask a hipster, and you may hear it called "the new Beauty Bar." Oy. Ask the owners about it, and they just want to play good music and find the best DJs in town and definitely aren't about "starting a scene" but rather "just having a good time." Brilliant. Right next door is a vastly different format, Rusty Spurs. While B&T is sleek and loungey, RS is like *Midnight Cowboy* meets Elton John meets a mess of gay country & western dancers who are serious about their two-step. And their belt-buckle collections. The kind of place with peanut shells on the floor and a tip jar that's a boot.

Black & Tan, 405 E. Seventh; Rusty Spurs, 405 E. Seventh, 482-9002.

www.blackandtanaustin.com; www.therustyspurs.com.



CALLS TO VISUAL ARTS PROFESSIONALS

The City of Austin Art in Public Places (AIPP) program seeks artists or artist teams to submit qualifications to create permanent artwork for two remodel and expansion projects.

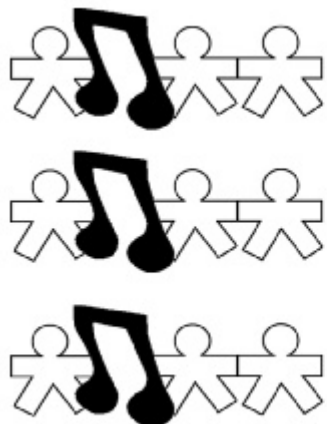
STATEWIDE CALL - Artist/team to create an environment which provides a transition from the exterior to the interior of the **Northwest Recreation Center**, in dialogue with the proposed architecture and facility's programs.

Budget \$47,000. Deadline: Oct. 19

NATIONAL CALL - Artist/team to conceptualize and create artwork for the new **Austin Energy System Control Center** including digital or satellite components that may extend from the site for increased public access. Budget \$284,000. Deadline: Nov. 17

To read the full Requests for Qualifications and apply online, go to www.cityofaustin.org/aipp





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BEST OF AUSTIN 2008

CRITICS PICKS

Arts & Entertainment

Best DJ to Rally the Rumpshakers **DJ ORION**

Between beat-boy dance-offs to “Can We Kick It” and sweaty group sing-alongs of “Baby Got Back,” this little trickster rallied the rumpshakers to the sounds of cumbias and *vallenatos*. Homegrown DJ Orion, resident DJ at Creekside Lounge this summer, opened up our sonic palates, inciting one and all to grab a partner and infuse moves with some fiery Latin passion. Admittedly, there were some awkward hip motions to dodge and an increased risk of spinning bodies colliding, but there was laughter! Smiles and giggles! Unabashed people moving their feet outside of their comfort patterns and having a good time. DJ Orion, who spent the better part of last year touring with Yo Majesty, has ratcheted up the dance scene here in the ATX. No more “Dancing With Myself” – let’s get a little closer, swerve those hips, and spin, baby, spin.
info@djorion.com.
www.djorion.com.



SHELLEY HIAW

Best Freak Show **999 EYES FREAKSHOW**

The last, or maybe just the newest, traditional touring freak show in America. What’s that you say? “Freak” is a bad word? Then how about weird, marvelous, awesome, inspiring, educational, historic, entertaining, and even a little risqué? A glorious rebellion of biomorphic diversity in a world of physical orthodoxy.
999eyesfreakshow@gmail.com.
www.999eyes.com.

Best Local Champions of the Lush Life **LOVEY AND LOVEY**

When ColdTowne Theater’s Tami Nelson and Michael Jastroch get to channeling the likes of Nick and Nora Charles in their tippie-happy sketch comedy Lovey and Lovey, even teetotalers in the audience get a little drunk on the brash badinage and gin-soaked barbs the hilarious couple unleashes. Hell, if they could just get Arthur Simone’s Buddy to dress up as a wirehaired fox terrier, they’d be even better than the originals.
4803-B Airport, 524-2807.
www.coldtowne.com.

Best Street-Party Fundraiser **KLRU’S BLOCK PARTY**

KLRU’s annual fundraising Block Party is one of the biggest, splashiest, and most far-reaching events in Central Texas. The party really began about 20 years ago as the *Austin City Limits* Gala but has morphed into the Block Party, with more than 800 attendees and top-name entertainment such as Robert Randolph, Los Lonely Boys, and Brad Paisley. As a fundraiser to manifest the planned ACL Studio Theatre in the Block 21 development across from City Hall, its success goes without saying ... but as a party, it is immaculately conceived and executed.
2504-B Whitis, 471-4811.
www.klrutv.org.

Best Ambassador and Choral Director **HANNIBAL LOKUMBE**

There’s a whole town just east of us giving that old truism “learning at the foot of the master” some legs ... and some voice. Jazz master and Smithville native son Hannibal Lokumbe (né Marvin Peterson) came home to Central Texas to settle in Bastrop after Hurricane Katrina. For the past two years, the Grammy-nominated trumpeter/composer has led that entire community in some fantastical bursts of cross-cultural exploration and improvisation in two glorious citywide New Orleans New Years celebrations which featured area school students pumping out some seriously fine holy modal jazz, a community choir of everyday folks tackling rhythm and harmony and sounding like angels, honored guests such as Irma Thomas, Dr. John, the Treme Brass Band, and more. This year, Africa Comes to Bastrop is not only the name of the holiday celebration slated for late December but what is going to go down, as Lokumbe and the entire city welcome West African master drummer Moussa Diabate and the 14-member Djeli Kunda drum and dance ensemble on the last Saturday of this year.
hannibalokumbe@sbcglobal.net.



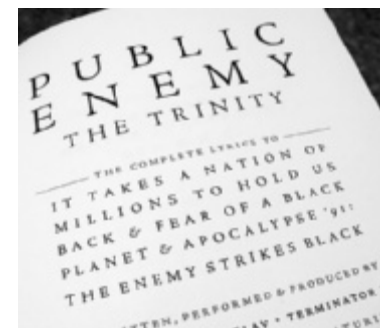
TODD V. WOLFSON

Best ‘If You See the Lights on, Come on In’ **VICTORY GRILL**

Dropping by to hear a sizzling set of blues at this legendary club can be a hit-or-miss prospect these days. Sometimes it’s open, sometimes it’s not, or sometimes just for special events. Though a new mural – honoring Lavelle White, Austin’s own queen of soul, and Johnny Holmes, who founded the Victory Grill in 1945 – has recently appeared on the west wall, the Victory seems threatened by development all around it. So catching it open can be rare – like finding a diamond glittering in the sand.
1104 E. 11th, 902-5057.
www.historicvictorygrill.org.

Best Lyrical Dream Yet to Be Realized **RYAN WILLIS’ PUBLIC ENEMY : THE TRINITY**

Designer Ryan Willis had a dream and built a mind-blowing book: lyrics of three Public Enemy albums presented with the aesthetics of a medieval Bible. Line numbers like a hymnal so you can reference Chuck D by verse and chapter. On fine hand-laid paper with the revolutionary verse of Public Enemy, this book is set in Adobe Jenson, based on a Venetian old-style text face cut in 1470. Now all Willis needs to do is get a publication contract going and have this book mass produced so we can all “Fight the Power.”
ryan@flatcrabs.com.
www.flatcrabs.com/p/public_enemy.



CONTINUED ON P.58

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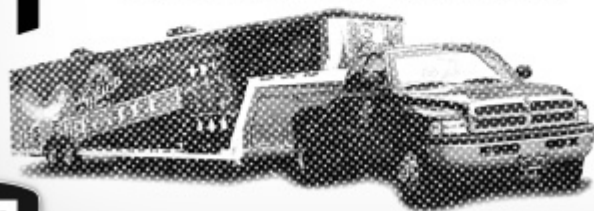


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CRITICS PICKS

Arts & Entertainment
CONTINUED FROM P.56

Best Keeper of the Fosse Flame **ROBIN LEWIS**

The reason we revere Bob Fosse wasn't *just* the slinky, sexy moves that were his choreographic signature; it was how he could slip all that jazz into a show and make it come alive in ways that thrilled and captivated us. Robin Lewis mastered Fosse's moves on Broadway in the tribute show *Fosse*, but what makes him such a splendid heir to the dance legend is the way his steps – which can range from Fosse's serpentine slides to chorus-line kicks to hoe-down stomps – always animate the action and lift it to new heights. And that's true whether he's setting steps on professionals at Zach Theatre, students at UT or St. Edward's, or kids at TexARTS, the arts company he co-founded. He has a gift for generating excitement in anyone who can move their feet, and the results never fail to dazzle-dazzle us. TexARTS, PO Box 342263, 78734, 852-9079. www.tex-arts.org.



BRET BROOKSHIRE

Best Fundraiser to Keep You on Your Toes **BALLET AUSTIN'S ANNUAL FETE**

Ballet Austin's biggest fundraiser of the year is a glittering trip to fantasyland. From the White Nights of Imperial Russia to an evening of Frank Sinatra tunes, the themes for the fete are varied and diverse but always pulled off with tremendous style. Previews of the upcoming season, cocktails, dining, and dancing draw the bigwigs of Austin, but anyone can attend for the price of a ticket. 501 W. Third, 476-9051. www.balletaustin.org.

Best Secret Place to Party **THE BEAST HOUSE**

Did you guys know that there is a slammin' place to party above Emo's Lounge on Sixth? It's true. The Beast House is only open for special events a few times a month and is sponsored by Camel, but the parties are always free, with killer DJs, live entertainment, and free grub. As if that weren't enough, the phat decor, free Pac-Man, and gorgeous pool table will make you feel like that video audition you sent to the *Real World* production office really did pay off. 604 E. Sixth, second floor, tpearson@bfgcom.com.



SEABROOK JONES

Best Place to See WMD (Wigs of Mass Destruction) **UNITED COURT OF AUSTIN'S ANNUAL CORONATION**

If it's true that "the higher the hair, the closer to heaven," then the cross-dressing participants in the United Court of Austin's annual coronation festivities are virtual goddesses. Once a year, the tall gals whip out their most elegant finery, most exotic make-up, and highest heels and top the ensemble off with hair. That's Hair with a capital "H." Hair like cumulus clouds; hair like sparkling waterfalls; colored hair; ratted hair; hair that is bangled, tangled, spangled, and spaghetti. Must-see hair. PO Box 2567, Austin, 78768, 750-2100. www.unitedcourtofaustin.org.

Most Beloved Burlesque Performer **CARDINAL CYN**

Austin's burlesque scene is filled with glittering starlets like a sky full of sequins, all of whom rallied around Cardinal Cyn when she broke her leg earlier this year. That scarlet hair. That alabaster skin. A dash of Tempest Storm, a splash of Rita Hayworth, and possibly the only woman alive that can sashay on crutches. Like the fundraising T-shirts say, "Cardinal Cyn shall shake again." www.cardinalcyn.com.

Best Remixing Renaissance Man **FRANCIS PREVE**

Taking another's work and restructuring it can be a dicey proposition, but when remixer Francis Preve takes on electronica, he handles the task deftly and with thrilling results. But is that all that Preve does? No way. In addition to remixing and sound designing, he's also a teacher, journalist, author, and editor. Preve may not become a household name, but in the world of DJs and remixers, he's a maestro of the mixing board, a sultan of the CD, and one of the best things about Austin. fap7info@austin.rr.com. www.fap7.com.

CONTINUED ON P.60

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CRITICS PICKS

Arts & Entertainment

CONTINUED FROM P.58

Best Imitation of Frenchie Cinephilia Circa 1968 AUSTIN CINEMATHEQUE

We love this repertory cinema founded a few years ago by a couple of crazy college kids who were inspired by the legendary Cinémathèque Française of Henri Langlois and Austin's own pioneering Cinematexas program of the Seventies. Monday nights at the Texas Union Theatre, the Cinematheque introduces a whole new generation to classic cinema – from the silents and Kurosawa's samurais to film noir and French New Wave – and all for free. *Vive le ciné!*
Austin Cinematheque, kincannon@gmail.com; Texas Union Theatre, UT campus, 476-6666.
www.austincinematheque.com.

Best Museum Muse LEE A MECHLING

Behind every great group of artists, you'll find someone who cracks the whip. At the quirky South Austin Museum of Popular Culture (much as she did at the Armadillo World Headquarters), it's Leea Mechling who prods the museum board, balances the books, oversees the mailings, coordinates the schedule, helps curate the exhibits, writes the program notes, does all the detail work including catering for the receptions, and still makes sure there's toilet paper in the bathroom. Not exactly a glam job, but she fits it all in around her day job, which has included raising a family with artist Henry Gonzales.
South Austin Museum of Popular Culture, 1516-B S. Lamar, 440-8318.
www.awhq.com/austintatious.

Best Hot-Rod King MERCURY CHARLIE

In the metal-flake and lacquer world of cars, Mercury Charlie reigns as one of the hot-rod monarchs, having won the John D'Agostino Kustom D'Elegance Award at the 2008 Sacramento Autorama. He was also profiled in the book *Hot Rod Kings*, has been featured in six car magazines, and interviewed on the Travel Channel. Since opening his North Austin shop last year with Nadine, his award-winning '51 Mercury showpiece, he's welded his status as a legend with stellar work and a down-to-earth attitude.
6819 McNeil Dr., 552-2425.
www.mercurycharlie.com.



TODD V. WOLFSON

Best Dance Mobilizer ELLEN BARTEL

"Strength in numbers" is a truism that applies as well to dancers as political movements and labor unions, and no one in Austin grasps that better than Ellen Bartel, who has spent almost as much of her time here bringing dancers and choreographers together as creating work for her own Spank Dance Company. Thanks to her tireless organizing, the city now has the Austin Independent Choreographers e-mail list, which shares information among those in the dance scene, and, best of all for fans of modern dance, showcases for local dance makers such as Dance Carousel in FronteraFest, Hot September Flurries, and the new Big Range Dance Festival. We're grateful that she keeps us all in step.
spankdance@hotmail.com.
www.spankdance.com.

Best Sunshine on a Stage JILL BLACKWOOD

"Radiant." "Lustrous." "Luminous." "Resplendent." Writers have worn out their thesauri coming up with words to describe Jill Blackwood on stage. The willowy, winsome actress is just so, well, sunny that a comparison to Sol invites itself. Blackwood is naturally that way – lively, cheerful, perpetually flashing that million-watt smile – but in a show, it's magnified a thousandfold so that she seems to be giving off more light than the ones beaming down on her. That's not to diminish the other qualities that make her such an invaluable performer on the local scene: a dazzling voice, a shining sense of comedy, brilliant comic timing, incandescence ... see, there we go again. Suffice it to say that dark clouds and gloom don't stand a chance when this Jill hits the boards.
blackwoodjill@hotmail.com.
www.colliertalent.com/JILL.BLACKWOOD/blackwood.html.

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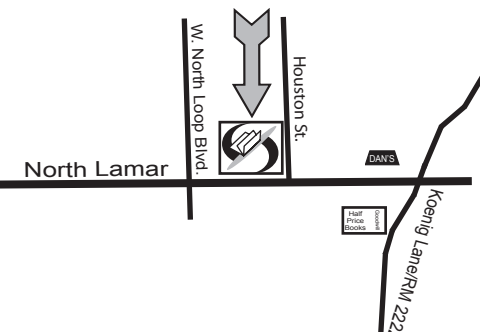
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www.greenling.com.

Best Food Event 'AUSTIN CHRONICLE' HOT SAUCE FESTIVAL

Yeah, yeah, keep Austin weird, we know. Well how 'bout an annual festival in the middle of the sweltering Texas summer centered around hot sauce? That's just plain crazy and, for the past 18 years (way before weird), tremendously popular. The array of colors, textures, and variations in spicy ingredients dares attendants to be their own critics as they battle the many incoming heats with water and beer. And chips. Lots of tortilla chips. The lines are packed but move quickly through the different areas: green salsas, red salsas, weird salsas.
4000 N. I-35, 454-5766.
austinchronicle.com.

Best Cheap Date TIE: HOME SLICE PIZZA; ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE

Only in Austin can two of the hippest hometown places to grab a beer and a slice of pie or canoodle during a flick also be the most economical date places. Home Slice, with its delectable pies by the slice and cold brews by the pitcher, holds the title for when you want to see and be seen. The Alamo Drafthouse Cinema is perfect for when the lights are low and being seen isn't as important as what you're seeing. The potential “cheap date” label incurred by such economical lifesavers as beers by the bucket and big bowls of popcorn (to accidentally brush hands in) is lost among the immeasurable coolness factor.
Home Slice Pizza, 1415 S. Congress, 444-PIES (7437); Alamo Drafthouse, 2700 W. Anderson, 459-7090; 13729 Research, 219-5408; 1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262; 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320.
www.homeslicepizza.com; www.drafthouse.com.



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

Best Sweets/Goodies TIFF'S TREATS

Hot, fresh-baked cookies and brownies made to order and delivered all across town. What an ingenious idea! Add-ons such as miniature milks (chocolate and regular) and birthday balloons are the special touches that make this Austin favorite a gorgeous, chocolaty mainstay. Tiff's superfriendly staff (now, at two locations!) is standing by the phone and Internet, ready to serve up sweet sugar to make your tummy smile.
1806 Nueces, 473-2600; 11011 Research, 349-2200.
www.cookieelivery.com.

Best Business Dining

TIE: EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE; ROARING FORK

Inviting atmosphere, sophistication, not too formal or stiff: These establishments have just the right ambience for the Austin business crowd. And they're both centrally located. So the only real question is whether you and your associates prefer the savory flavors of seafood or wood-fired American classics.
Eddie V's Edgewater Grille, 301 E. Fifth, 472-1860; 9400-B Arboretum Blvd., 342-2642; Roaring Fork, 701 Congress, 583-0000.
www.eddiev.com; www.roaringfork.com.

Best Lunch Delivery

JIMMY JOHN'S GOURMET SANDWICHES

There are fast sandwiches that are just OK, the kind you eat when you're hungry and in a rush. And then there are those sandwiches that are so packed with yum that you wait with bated breath, counting the seconds until they arrive. Luckily, this speedy shop has as much of a handle on efficiency as it does on flavor. And its lightening-fast delivery is pedal-powered, leaving so much less of a carbon aftertaste.
601 W. MLK, 478-3111; 3203 Red River, 499-0100; 515 Congress, 457-4900; 6317 Bee Caves Rd., 327-6500; 2937 W. Anderson, 465-9700; 10900 Research, 340-0050.
www.jimmyjohns.com.

Best 24-Hour/Late

TIE: MAGNOLIA CAFE; KERBEY LANE CAFE

It should come as no surprise that these two tied – asking a group what it deems the best late-night dining joint is bound to start a shouting match split between Kerbeyans and Magnolians. And rightfully so: Both offer tasty food at all hours of the night, which is a blessing when you're jonesin' for a cheeseburger and a short stack of blueberry pancakes at 4am.
Magnolia Cafe, 1920 S. Congress, 445-0000; 2304 Lake Austin Blvd., 478-8645; Kerbey Lane Cafe, 3704 Kerbey, 451-1436; 12602 Research, 258-7757; 2700 S. Lamar, 445-4451; 2606 Guadalupe, 477-5717.
www.cafemagnolia.com; www.kerbeylanecafe.com.



CONTINUED ON P.64

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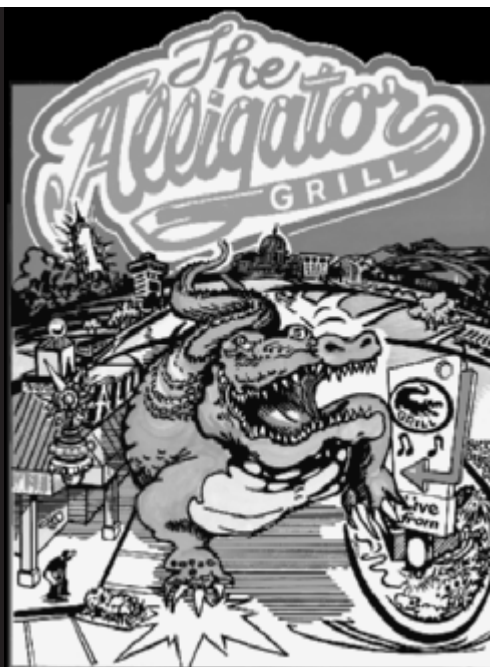
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Best Restaurant When Someone Else Is Paying UCHI

Uchi's well-earned reputation precedes it, and its menu is so tempting that somewhere between the mesmerizing Uchi Shot (quail egg yolk and sea urchin) and the Tako Pops (octopus on a stick), your date will finally come out of the cuisine-induced haze to realize that the evening will cost more than a car payment. After savoring all that seafood flown in that day from Tokyo's Tsukiji Market, you, however, will be warmly sated and still be able to make rent. 801 S. Lamar, 916-4808. www.uchiaustin.com.



JOHN ANDERSON

Best Intimate Dining WINK

A proud practitioner of the international Slow Food movement – which does not mean that your food will crawl out of the kitchen, but rather that your meal will be derived from as many local sources as possible – Wink wholeheartedly embodies this theory of cooking in its chicly intimate dining and wine-bar settings. The ever-evolving daily menus are unique and sentimental, but be careful not to eavesdrop; it's easy to do in this li'l goldmine of a bistro. 1014 N. Lamar Ste. E, 482-8868. www.winkrestaurant.com.



JOHN ANDERSON

Best Place to Take a First Date ROMEO'S

Grapevines hanging from the roof and a thousand cupids peeking out of corners beckoning in love, sweet love, make this Italian dining place a perfect first-date location. Gorgeous varieties of wine, music tinkling from the piano keys, lovely pastas, and lighting just dim enough to see the twinkle in your sweetie's eyes. Add to that the option of alfresco patio dining and a nonintrusive waitstaff, and you know why Romeo's is synonymous with romance. 1500 Barton Springs Rd., 476-1090. www.austinromeos.com.

Best Outdoor Dining SHADY GROVE

When the Texas weather turns mild for a few months in the spring and fall, nothing feels more like Austin than dining alfresco under the pecan trees along the Barton Springs Road strip. Shady Grove's combination of good Texas roadhouse food, cold beer, and people-watching makes everybody feel like somebody. 1624 Barton Springs Rd., 474-9991. www.theshadygrove.com.

Best Farmers' Market SUNSET VALLEY FARMERS MARKET

Saturday mornings are the time to begin planning your meals for the week by picking the foods that are in season at the market. We all know that buying fruits and vegetables direct from the farmer is the best way to ensure quality and freshness, but the Sunset Valley Farmers Market is so much more. Local vendors provide a wide variety of other goods from breads to candles, massage, and live music. It's a weekly fair for foodies, and we all like to eat. Toney Burger Activity Center, 3200 Jones Rd., 443-0143, 280-1976. www.sunsetvalleyfarmersmarket.org.

Best Neighborhood Grocery WHEATSVILLE FOOD CO-OP

What's not to love about our friendly neighborhood co-op? Knowledgeable and enthusiastic employees, tasty treats for full-on vegans and meat-and-dairy lovers alike, an excellent deli for hungry lunchers, a wide variety of organic and natural foods, and more locally produced food products than you can shake a stick at. 3101 Guadalupe, 478-2667. www.wheatstville.com.

Best-Kept Secret FRICANO'S DELI

What made our readers reveal their best-kept secret? Is it the handcrafted sandwiches or home-made cupcakes and cookies? No, it's that place where they say your name to say hi and shake your hand goodbye. That's why this tiny eatery with the big heart has enchanted Hyde Park and the North Campus area: It's just how mama used to make it – with love. 104-C E. 31st, 482-9980. www.fricanosdeli.com.

Best Tea Selection TEA EMBASSY

A British accent might find its way past your lips after you step into this beautiful store dedicated to the art of teatime. A formidable array of tea sets greets you at the door, along with goodies such as stone-ground, South American Taza chocolate (an amazing organic cocoa creation only found here in Austin). Bulk teas are where it's at, and the staff is eager to turn customers on to brews never before imagined. 900 Rio Grande, 330-9991. www.teaembassy.com.

Best Tea Room THE STEEPING ROOM

With more than a hundred varieties of superior loose-leaf tea, carefully selected from producers throughout the Orient, the Steeping Room is an exceptional tea shop, as well as Austin's finest tearoom. Here you will find stellar-quality baked goods, innovative salads and sandwiches, and superb teas (both hot and iced) served in just about the most civilized atmosphere imaginable. 11410 Century Oaks Terrace #112, the Domain, 977-8337. www.thesteepingroom.com.



TODD V. WOLFSON

Best Bar Ambience THE BELMONT

The Belmont continues to hold sway over the sophisticated set, despite a rash of more-recent club openings that haven't fared as well. Matt Luckie and Daryl Kunik are the guys who can turn straw into gold and have their fingers on the pulse of Austin's nightlife like no other bar owners in town. Among their many successes, the Belmont is poised to lead the pack for a very long time. 305 W. Sixth, 457-0300. www.thebelmontaustin.com.

Best Wine Selection VINO VINO

As the condos rise, so must our cultural cachet. Pinkies up darlings, your palate is thirsting for a well-guided tour of the world's grapes. The oenophiles at Hyde Park's Vino Vino are ready to share the nuances of their passion, offering hundreds of wines by the bottle. Chances are if you can't pronounce it, it's pretty good, and most of the wines on their extensive list are a challenge to say. 4119 Guadalupe, 465-9282. www.vinovinotx.com.

CONTINUED ON P.66

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Best Cocktails/Cocktail Menu

THE: 219 WEST; THE BROWN BAR

From the Brown Bar's jaw-slacking list of specialty martinis to 219 West's mouthwatering Southern cocktails, both watering holes have enjoyed our readers' attention in the "Best of Austin" but never before in a tie. Both offer scrumptious appetizers (and then some), but each has its own take on hospitality served alongside the colorful, exotic cocktails.

219 West, 219 W. Fourth, 474-2194;

The Brown Bar, 201 W. Eighth, 480-8330.

www.219west.com;

www.thebrownbar.com.

Best Beer On Tap/Best Beer Selection

THE GINGER MAN

The outdoor patio! The comfy couches! The darts! Oh, oh, ohhh, and all that beer! So, so much great beer. So much on draft to choose from, so many countries represented. USA, Germany, Ireland, Belgium, Beerzistan. It breaks our heart that the Ginger Man will soon be moving to make way for more condos, but there's no doubt that the new location – opening at 301 Lavaca, possibly by the end of the year – will be a whole new level of beertastic.

304 W. Fourth, 473-8801.

www.gingermanpub.com.

Best Beer/Wine Prices

SPEC'S

It's not enough to have a literal warehouse stocked with every imaginable spirit from the ends of the world. It's not enough to offer an amazing deli for gorgeous nibbles and an international selection of treats. It's not enough to have a staff superknowledgeable about the liquidities encased on the shelves. No, they have to be unbelievably economically priced, as well. Discounts for cash purchases, weekly specials, and a frequent shopper program, to boot.

5775 Airport, 366-8300; 4960 Hwy. 290 W., 366-8260;

10515 MoPac N., 342-6893.

www.specsonline.com.



JOHN ANDERSON

Best Bar Staff

MOLOTOV LOUNGE

Maybe it's just the Cold War talking, but you'd think a Russian-inspired bar would be stiff, strict, banal, formal, even mean. Rocky IV bias? Perhaps. But the fact that all the bartenders at Molotov seem to be genuinely nice, warm, efficient, and the type to make conversations unforced, easy, like two friends catching up, well, it makes the happy hours even happier. Don't forget to tip.

719 W. Sixth, 499-0600.

www.molotovlounge.com.



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FEATURING

Executive Chef Alisa Vilasvoratarn

ALISA'S MENU:

- Summer Rolls with Hoisin/Sriracha Sauce
- Woonsen - Thai chicken noodle soup with transparent noodles
- Shrimp Saute - stir fry of mixed veggies and shrimp in garlic oyster sauce
- Red Curry - spicy curry blended with red Thai chiles, bamboo shoots and basil served with Jasmine Rice

2013 Wells Branch Pkwy, Suite 109, Austin, TX 78728
October 20, 2008 - 6:30-9:00 PM
Contact: (512) 797-5403

Proceeds will go to support Keep It Healthy, a local nonprofit focused on reducing the incidence of diabetes and obesity among families living in underserved communities.
www.keepithealthy.org



JOHN ANDERSON

Best Neighborhood/Dive Bar

NOMAD

Tucked away in a strip center in the Windsor Park neighborhood, this new kid on the block is the coolest new hangout in the area. Nomad specializes in cocktails, beers, and wines from around the world, as well as coffee. The service is friendly and fast, and it's never too crowded to find a table. The patio sports as many tables as inside. And even on the hottest of summer days, this dog-friendly bar keeps the patio cool with misters and plenty of shade. Stop by on Sunday for all-day happy hour – Bloody Marys to die for and \$3 mimosas. Get there early at 11am for all-you-can-eat brunch.

1213 Corona, 628-4288.

www.myspace.com/nomadbar.

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BEST OF AUSTIN 2008

CRITICS PICKS

Food & Drink

Best Community Asset Chef (Male)

JACK GILMORE OF Z'TEJAS

Whether this Z'Tejas founding chef is spearheading the Operation Turkey Day event that serves up a sumptuous Thanksgiving meal to 400 Fort Hood soldiers and their families or rounding up fellow chefs to participate in the annual Share Our Strength gala to fight hunger, Jack Gilmore's a guy who regularly puts his cooking and organizational skills to work to better our community. Our favorite Gilmore story, however, has to be the one about how he took a cross-country road trip to Alabama to fry fish at the homecoming party of a former Fort Hood soldier and big Z'Tejas fan. The soldier's wife wrote Z'Tejas asking for its zesty Z'Jalapeno Tartar Sauce recipe to serve at the party – what she got instead was the working chef, the tartar sauce, and Gilmore's gratitude for her husband's service in Afghanistan. 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355; 9400-A Arboretum Blvd., 346-3506; 10525 W. Parmer, 388-7772. www.ztejas.com.

Best Community Asset Chef (Female)

QUINCY ERICKSON OF FÊTE ACCOMPLI

In addition to raising a family, running a business, and donating countless hours and hors d'oeuvres to charity, chef Quincy Adams Erickson is a founding member of the local chapter of women's culinary service organization Les Dames d' Escoffier. This past executive board member of the Texas Hill Country Wine & Food Festival not only donates her presence and her sophisticated, French-inspired comestibles to local benefits; she's also been known to throw fundraising dinners in her own home (Project Transitions) or to put together successful benefits in the homes of clients (Ann Richards School birthday benefit at Lowell Lebermann's). 917 W. 12th, 478-3383. www.feteaustin.com.

Best Cheap Tacos Out of a Window

TAQUERIA ALAYNA'S

Manor Road has some great choices for tacos to go. Some of the most underrated, tastiest, and undeniably cheapest are available at Alayna's unassuming little window next to the R&C Laundrymat in a small strip center just east and up the street from other flashier taquerias. Here, breakfast tacos, including migas and chorizo, are just \$1.75. Lunch tacos, featuring picadillo, barbacoa, and chicharon, a mere \$2. Burritos are only \$4 and plates \$7. You get the idea. They only serve food, delicious food, so the proximity of the nearby convenience store loaded with a variety of imbibables is a handy asset. 2611 Manor Rd., 524-0860.



Most Ridiculously Friendly Staff

EMERALD CITY PRESS

A visit to Emerald City Press is not unlike walking into a bar full of friends that are just so happy to see you. "Hey, how was your weekend?" "Girl, that dress is cute! Where'd you get it?" "Ugh. I had a date from hell last night." The line between customer and server is indeed blurred at this hoppin' North Lamar joint, which only adds to its laid-back Austin charm. At just 7 months old, the drive-through/walk-up coffee shop/newsstand offers an ever-growing menu of top-notch drinks (try the agave lemonade and their famous soft serve with a shot of espresso), pastries, and tacos, as well as fresh flowers and gifts, but the staff is the heart, and it's all made with love. 915 N. Lamar, 970-3100.

www.emeraldcitypress.com.

Best Homegrown Remedy for Wartime Gas Prices

BIOGARDENER'S HOME FOOD GARDENS

A tomato bought at the local supermarket is likely to have traveled more than 1,000 miles by airplane or truck. A tomato grown in our own yard will travel just the distance to our salad. BioGardener helps homeowners design, build, and sustain food gardens in their own yards. Eat better, inspire neighbors, drive less, and save money! Lawns are so last year.

PO Box 6253, Austin, 78762-6253,
jeremy@bio-gardener.com,
www.bio-gardener.com.

Best Hoes

HOOVER'S HOECAKES

It's said that the origin of the name "hoe-cake" is from the field-hand method of pouring cornmeal-heavy hotcake batter onto the blade of a hoe and cooking it over a fire. We just know that we are total ho's for the hoecakes at Hoover's Cooking, celebrating 10 years in their popular Manor Road location. Like so many things Southern, chef Hoover Alexander knows his hoes: The perfect balance of sweet and savory, smooth and grit, these crispy-

edged, tender treats sop up syrup and make bacon a sidekick like nothing else.

2002 Manor Rd., 479-5006; 13376 Research #400, corner of Anderson Mill & 183, 335-0300. www.hooverscooking.com.

Best Intersection of Health Food & Cocktails

DAILY JUICE MEETS THE BELMONT

"Healthy" and "cocktail" are two words that rarely find themselves in the same sentence – until now, that is. So what do you get when you muddle one part juice expert, one part fresh-squeezed fruit juice, and a dash or two of exotic superfoods (Himalayan crystal salt, fresh coconut water, goji berries, raw cacao) and shake it all together with premium liquors? Tasty, refreshing, healthy cocktails handmade by local juice-master Matt Shook of the Daily Juice, that's what. Shook prepares delectably indulgent libations such as Coco Love on a Beach, Pineapple Popeye, and Rambling Rose at the Belmont from time to time by special invitation, and it's worth your time to be there when he does.

Daily Juice, 1625 Barton Springs Rd., 480-9501; 2307 Lake Austin Blvd., 480-9501; the Belmont, 305 W. Sixth, 457-0300. www.dailyjuice.org, www.thebelmontaustin.com.



TODD V. WOLFSON

CONTINUED ON P.70

CRITICS PICKS

Food & Drink

CONTINUED FROM P.69

Best Saviors of Local Dining Landmarks

BOB COLE & PARTNERS

When we were researching a story on Austin's landmark restaurants recently, an interesting coincidence emerged. Three of the 19 restaurants featured in the story had been reborn (Hill's Cafe), revitalized (the Tavern), or successfully relocated (the Frisco Shop) because of the intervention of local radio personality Bob Cole and his fellow investment partners. Cole and his friends recognize a good opportunity, appreciate Austin's history, and are doing their part to preserve it.

The Tavern, 922 W. 12th, 320-8377; *Hill's Cafe*, 4700 S. Congress, 851-9300; *the Frisco Shop*, 6801 Burnet Rd., 459-6279.

www.austintavern.com, www.hillscafe.com, www.thefriscosshop.com.

Best All-Day Mexican Breakfast

CURRA'S GRILL

This South Austin neighborhood favorite is well-known for its authentic Interior Mexican fare. All day, every day, Curra's offers 12 different Mexican breakfasts, including migas, huevos *motulenos*, huevos *sucios*, *chilaquiles*, huevos *rancheros*, and breakfast tacos. When you add in their robust, vanilla-kissed blend of Oaxacan coffee, full bar, and fresh juices, Curra's Mexican breakfast can't be beat.

614 E. Oltorf, 444-0012.

www.currasgrill.com.

Best Local Corner Store

LIVE OAK MARKET

Live Oak Market's laid-back style and welcoming staff make patrons feel like they are part of the neighborhood. The former 7-Eleven now contains a wealth of corner-store foodie goodness. Its shelves are stocked with local drinks and snack products from goat-milk ice cream to homemade kombucha, gourmet sandwiches, and an excellent selection of international beer. Grab and go, or sit back and enjoy the free Wi-Fi.

4410 Manchaca, 416-0300.

Freshest Bubble Tea Brew

MOMOKO

Poor decision-makers beware: This Japanese tearoom-cum-gift shop might blow your mind. The menu, full of teas flowery, fruity, black, spicy, and otherwise, is so extensive it's housed in a binder. And you must also choose embellishments of fruit, tapioca pearls, or milk. But once that tea is brewed and sweetened to perfection, you'll take one sip and confess your love for the taste of a Junky Raccoon or a Coco Baby or a Sunburnt Zebra.

705-A W. 24th, 469-0232.

www.momoko-gifts.com.



TODD V. WOLFSON

Best Healthy Grub Downtown

WEFUSE

Eating Downtown during the day can be like working Downtown during the day: monotonous. The options for 9-to-5ers have been as droney as the hum of the computers we stare at day in and day out. Then a glimmer. Tucked under the glacier-esque Frost Tower, WeFuse has come to revitalize our spirits with fresh Asian fusion fare. Build your savory bento box with seared ahi, grilled shrimp, roasted salmon, chicken, or tofu and an array of tasty sides such as a roasted yellow-pepper-and-leek salad with avocado or a tomato-and-goat-cheese salad. And can we talk about the vegetarian dumplings? Surely they are stuffed with cure-alls for the soul-sucking caused from working the grind.

2025 Guadalupe #152 (Dobie Mall, first floor), 236-0207; 120 E. Fourth, 236-1011.

www.wefuse.net.



SANDY CARSON

Best Hangover Preventative

KEBABALICIOUS

Sure, you could scarf down a slice of pizza or a greasy brat in a drunken 2:15am haze, but you're just gonna be hungry in an hour when you stumble into your darkened house fumbling for the bong. There, in the dead zone of Seventh, between Trinity and Neches, sits the blue van known as Kebabalicious. They offer "Turkish-style wraps" filled with beef/lamb and chicken, but it's the fresh-made falafel (with spinach-artichoke hummus, please) that really soaks up the sauce. (Don't worry, Kebabalicious tastes good when you're sober, too.) They're open Wednesday-Saturday until 3am, so ya better ask for a punch card, you boozehound you.

Seventh Street between Trinity and Neches, 468-1065.

www.austinkebab.com.

CONTINUED ON P.72



Austin's premier event space in the heart of the entertainment district is now taking reservations for weddings, receptions, birthday parties, corporate events, holiday parties and more.

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restaurant guide

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austinchronicle.com/guides/restaurant

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TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION: www.texaswineandsong.com

CRITICS PICKS

Food & Drink
CONTINUED FROM P.70

Most Satisfying Ice GOLDEN CHICK ON AIRPORT

For a devoted ice aficionado (or fiend or addict – call us what you will), the frozen water at Golden Chick is superior. This ice crumbles like a gently broken Grecian column. It's tubular, not cubed, and chomps easily into smaller crystals with no dental trauma. A 64-ounce cup can last half a day in the triple-digit temperatures of summer and feels like chewing on freshly fallen frosty snow.

1144 Airport, 927-1000.

www.goldenchick.com.

Most Seductive Queso TORCHY'S TACOS

Austin is committed to queso. We love a late-night seduction after a night of dancing and carousing. We love a reason to get out of bed on a lazy Sunday. *Queso!* Our insatiable queso-craze has spawned a competitive playing field of melty goodness clamoring for our taste buds. Torchy's green-chile queso has captured the desire of crispy tortilla chips far and wide. The roasted, smoky undertones of New Mexican green chiles are enough to elicit swoons. And when those little devils at Torchy's decided to top the whole affair off with generous amounts of guacamole, queso fresco, and their fiery habanero Diablo sauce, what could we do but to become addicted ... er, fall in love?

2801 Guadalupe, 494-8226; 2809 S. First, 444-0300; 1311 S. First, 366-0537.

www.torchystacos.com.

Best Fusion of Tea and Chocolatey Goodness STORTINI RISTORANTE ITALIANO

Oh! The deep and creamy cocoa dances a cold, cold tango with the faintest traces of the Earl's most excellent brew to bring this level of tongue heaven to your mouth. Doesn't matter what sort of meal you've preceded it with, Eastside Italian eatery Stortini's homemade Earl Grey-and-dark-chocolate gelato will quiver your taste buds with a gustatory orgasm that would break the Richter scale.

1917 Manor Rd., 391-9500.

www.stortini-austin.com.

Best Texas Team at the Smithsonian DAWN ORSAK & PAT JASPER

Pat Jasper and Dawn Orsak honed their chops for years putting on events together for the local nonprofit Texas Folklife Resources. Dawn's passion is for Texas food ways, while Pat tends to specialize in the many forms of Texas music. Together, they made the perfect team to curate the monthlong "Texas: A Celebration of Music, Food, and Wine" exhibit at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., this past summer. Jasper and Orsak invested almost a year assembling a program to showcase the diverse

Best Culinary Sisterhood LES DAMES D'ESCOFFIER

The Austin chapter of this international women's culinary service organization boasts the membership of the crème de la crème of entrepreneurs, chefs, pastry chefs, winery owners, chef educators, public relations experts, and food writers – working together for a better Austin and providing scholarships and mentors for young women to follow in their footsteps.

Whether they are preparing meals for ailing members of their own group, donating their time and talents to myriad charity events, mentoring students, or coordinating food donations for a church homeless outreach program, these gifted sisters are doing it for the whole community, all in a day's work.

328-3935.

www.ldei.org.

and fascinating aspects of Texas music, food, and wine, and their exhibit attracted capacity crowds of tourists visiting the nation's capital. These ladies put on a show that made Texas look great – and we applaud them for it.

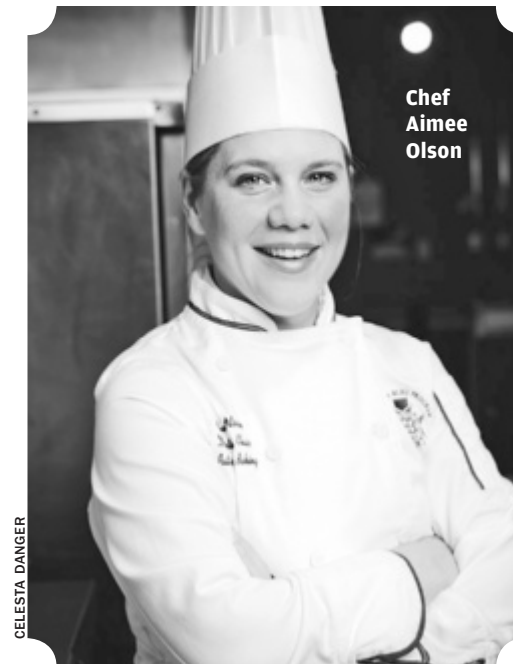
Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage,
Smithsonian Institution, 202/633-6440.
www.folklife.si.edu/festival/2008/Texas/index.html.

Best Filling, Healthy Salads LEAF

At Leaf, the quickest salad-tong-wielding employees in the South will mix a bevy of fresh, local ingredients into a massive bowl of green goodness. Inside, think Subway, only a stratosphere healthier. Choose from more than 30 farmers' market ingredients to create your own salad to be assembled by your very own "saladsmith" – whom we can only assume will unionize as we go greener in the near future. The sheer size of the salads at Leaf is rumored to have forced grown men to ask for to-go boxes. But have no fear! – there is no Styrofoam here. The containers are as green as their contents, and even the forks are made from potato starch.

419 W. Second, 474-5323.

www.leafsalad.com.



Chef
Aimee
Olson

CELESTA DANGER

Best Asian Street-Style Food LULU B'S VIETNAMESE SANDWICHES

Lulu B's does the Vietnamese equivalent of the taco truck. Sister co-owners have brought Vietnamese flavors from the West Coast and onto the south side of town, alleviating the taste buds of patrons who are tired of driving to the north side for a decent bowl of vermicelli noodles. Lulu B's is known mostly for its *bánh mì* – Vietnamese sandwiches served on crusty French baguettes – but also offers those succulent aforementioned noodle bowls and fresh summer rolls (with choices of meat, tofu, or avocado). In true trailer tradition, it's cash only, as well.

2113 S. Lamar, 921-4828.

www.myspace.com/lulubssandwiches.

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early Eighties and used it as the foundation for a very successful artisan food company that produces yogurt, tofu, tofu products, and seitan. White Mountain yogurt has long been acknowledged as the best yogurt on the market, and now it is the base for some of the healthiest and most delicious frozen treats for sale in Austin. Try the natural, low-fat frozen yogurts at Piccomolo Ice Cream and Mambo Berry, and congratulate yourself for making such a healthy refreshment choice. 3301 E. Fifth, 385-4711. www.whitemountainfoods.com.

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Plunked almost improbably in the epicenter of the circus that is Sixth Street, Parkside is a calming, classy oasis of oysters, ingenious apps, and perfectly grownup drinks (no Flaming Dr Peppers here, thank you very much). They've got all kinds of \$3 drink specials to soften the blow of the beginning of another work week, but we love the Dirty Tito's martini the best. Classy and cheap? Another round, please. 301 E. Sixth, 474-9898. www.parkside-austin.com.

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ORIGINAL ALE



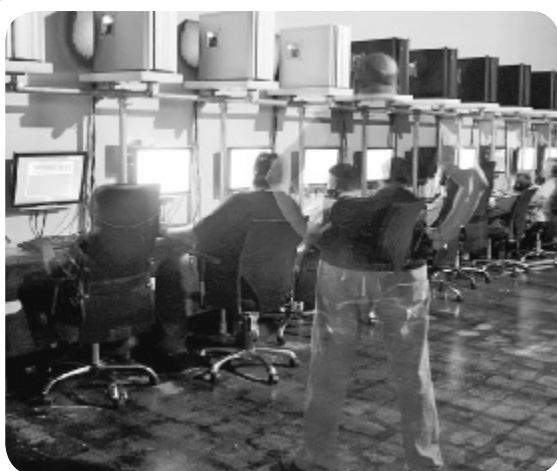
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BEST OF AUSTIN 2008 READERS POLL Kids



TODD V. WOLFSON

Best Arcade/LAN

TEK REPUBLIK

The latest video games? Check. Comfy chairs? Check. Dark relaxed environment? Check. Tek Republic is one of Austin's last great public-gaming centers for gamers and geeks alike. And with an all-day pass costing only \$20, how could you *not* afford to "pwn noobs" all day? 5310 Burnet Rd. #106, 459-2244. www.tekrepublik.com.

Best Bookstore

BOOKPEOPLE

Where have you registered your child? Being able to set up a must-read list for baby is just one of the ways that BookPeople keeps young readers engaged. Whether it's story time or literary day camp, Austin's biggest independent bookstore makes reading fun – and keeps it that way. 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

Best Clothing

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

Basic play duds and special-occasion extravaganzas, every shade of the rainbow and then some. This place has options galore, and if the staff weren't so helpful, we could almost be overwhelmed. But they are, so you can find all: cuter-than-thou threads for every little one, from baby's day one to chic preteen gear. 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-8989; 1006 W. 38th, 454-5437.

Best Haircut

BIRDS BARBERSHOP

Birds has a fanatical following among the hip crowd, which doesn't care to spend the outrageous prices charged by many other salons. But mainly it has salons cool enough for young men who would rather play *Guitar Hero* than read *GQ*. Birds knows what its customers want (even the young ones) and has carved out a very successful niche.

2110 S. Lamar, 442-8800; 6800 Burnet Rd., 454-1200. www.birdsbarbershop.com.

Best Shoes

SANDY'S SHOES

Austin's mini-Carrie Bradshaws know the spot to find those hot Ninas for kids to complete that perfect outfit. Seriously, these boots would fit right in on SoCo! Your kicks are like windows to your uh ... soles? No! Self-expression, dude! How about a sweet pair of Keds to show off a bodacious ollie on your skateboard? Or a pair of mod, stylish Stride Rites to tap into his budding intellectual? Or perhaps you simply wish to blow minds with the wall of Crocs in every color of the rainbow, plus fake fur?! Winning year after year for its attention to style and personal service, Sandy's has got the hottest, the latest, and the raddest. Holiday hint: Sandy's has toys! 2438 W. Anderson Ste. C-4, 452-8697.

Best Toys

TERRA TOYS

Good luck tearing your child (or yourself) away from Terra Toys. Once inside the expansive, well-organized store, there's not much hope of getting out — the only thing that could make this place any better is if the dragon outside breathed free \$100 bills instead of smoke. Find a toy here for any age, kid or adult.

2438 W. Anderson Ste. C-1, 445-4489. www.terratoy.com.

Best Restaurant

PHIL'S ICEHOUSE

From its aptly named neighborhood burgers to those scrumptious sweet-potato fries to the ever-so-Texas Frito pie — this restaurant has quickly moved from a great burger joint to an Austin institution. When you add to all that the wonderful play-scape, pint-sized menu for the kiddos, and a fantastic selection of ice-cold brews for the grownups, you have the fittings for a perfect Austin family outing.

5620 Burnet Rd., 524-1212. www.philsicehouse.com.



BRET BROOKSHIRE

Best Nature Day Trip

AUSTIN ZOO

Tigers, tortoises, goats, emus, and more live out their glory years at this charming rescue zoo tucked in the West Austin hills. It's a pint-sized place, small enough for a kiddie choo-choo train to circle every half hour but big enough to win the hearts and the votes of Austin families year after year.

10807 Rawhide Trail, 288-1490. www.austinzoo.org.

Best DVD Selection

VULCAN VIDEO

It's not just about having what came out two weeks ago. It's about having two stores filled with decades of classics from around the world to help build up the next generation of Kael's, Ebert's, and Knowleses.

609 W. 29th, 478-5325; 112 W. Elizabeth, 326-2629. www.vulcanvideo.com.

Best Video-Game Rental/Purchase

GAMEFELLAS

Remember when you found that indie book or record store that, despite its wide selection, also had the best prices? Now, imagine that the store sold video games and was actually doing well for itself but still retained its independence. That would be GameFellas. With great deals on new games and an expansive collection of classic ones, GameFellas is the best place to buy, sell, or trade with the "L337."

13770 Hwy. 183 N. #134, 302-3021; 5510 S. I-35 #240, 441-4412. www.gamefellasentertainment.com.



TODD V. WOLFSON

CONTINUED ON P.76

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10.27.Liz Morphis Duo
10.18. Rob Greenfield, Wayne Duncan, and Brad Hauser

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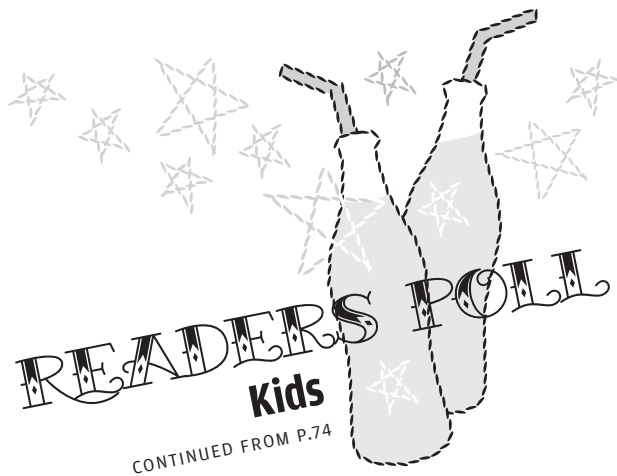
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\$2.00 Drafts (Fat Tire, Shiner Bock, XX Lager, Bud Light)	\$2.00 Brisket Quesadilla
	\$2.00 Chicken Empanada
	\$2.50 Stuffed Queso
\$2.00 Patron Kami Shot	\$3.00 Shrimp and Avo Ceviche
\$1.00 Spinach Empanada	\$5.00 Tender Taco Maki
\$1.00 Bean and Cheese Empanada	

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VISIT: RIOAUSTIN.COM

RIO GRANDE
Mexican Restaurant



Best Teen Hangout

BARTON CREEK SQUARE

OMG, when your parents are being totally lame and that dude down the street is being a creeper, there's only one option: Text your BFFs, get someone's cool/mysterious older brother to drive, and just hang out – “chillax,” if you will – at Barton Creek Square mall. A movie theatre, a food court, Hot Topic – there's no better teen hangout.

2901 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 327-7040.

Best All-Ages Music Venue

EMO'S

The Red River scene may change, but no condos can put the kibosh on Emo's and its teen-loving ways. Whether the act is local electro or Sweden's best exports, Emo's keeps the neons lit, the doors open for all three stages, and the water coolers full. Just don't try to use your fake, because the wall of shame beckons.

603 Red River, 477-3667.

www.emosaustin.com.

Best Cheap Thrill

BARTON SPRINGS

Two dollars. Two hundred pennies. And a swimsuit. That's for the teens. For the wee ones, it costs a mere buck to roll in the spacious green lawn (watch out for the sunbathers!), to make a splash off the diving board, and to giggle and frolic in the ice-cold, revitalizing water. For those really low on dough (or with a furry friend), there's the supercheap (as in free) part of the springs just to the east of the fence.

2101 Barton Springs Rd., 476-9044.

www.cityofaustin.org/parks/bartonsprings.htm.

Best Texas Amusement Park

SCHLITTERBAHN

This summer's heat was relentless. No duh, we're in a drought. According to this vote, many of you found an excellent option to extinguish the heat: Pack up the car with family or friends, and take a trip down to New Braunfels to spend the day at a wet wonderland called Schlitterbahn. For those who know the Central Texas park inside and out and are looking for a new place to chill out: Their parks in South Padre and Galveston (currently closed for assessing Ike damages) offer the same summer relief.

381 E. Austin St., New Braunfels, 830/625-2351; 33261

State Park Road 100, South Padre Island, 956/772-7873;

2026 Lockheed St., Galveston, 409/770-9283.

www.schlitterbahn.com.

Best Sports/Rec Program

WEST AUSTIN YOUTH ASSOCIATION

Once again our readers give a nod to West Austin Youth Association's programs. But this place isn't only about sport: WAYA's “positive coaching” principles mean that kids learn more than just how to win a game. And they can participate (almost) as soon as they learn to play – kids can take Sportball classes starting at 16 months (yes, 16 months!).

1314 Exposition, 473-2528.

www.waya.org.

Best Birthday Cakes

LUCY'S CAKES

Awesome adventures in sugar and flour have won Lucy's Cakes 30 years of accolades. A cake is an edible work of art as well as a catalyst for celebration. In their hands, you can experience cake as record player, cake as butterfly, cake as cowboy ... cake as anything you can imagine. The three generations of one family that run Lucy's are true craftspeople: People of the Cake. Wouldn't you like to join their tribe?

5320 Bee Caves Rd., 347-8585.

www.lucyscakes.com.

Best Party Place

WEST LAKE BEACH

No chlorine, no filters, just sweet running water, ready for your kids to splash in with or without swim shoes: West Lake Beach is an award-winning family-owned secret. A modest entry fee grants access to this unspoiled party place, which also offers volleyball courts, grills, picnic tables, and a horseshoe pit. Everyone from toddler to grandpa can have fun. For a truly divine time, the whole beach is rentable. (Mermaids make great babysitters, by the way.)

2509 Westlake Dr., 327-9004.

www.westlakebeach.com.



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Frank & Angie's might just be the pie enthusiast's best bet; its great thin crust version is accompanied by reasonably priced, classic home-style dishes named after famous Italians and served with a bit of nostalgic attitude, making it great for a casual date especially those on a budget. - Zagat

Friendly staff and quick service are especially good given the volume of business this pizzeria does. What shines at Frank & Angie's is the pizza. The sauce is made daily, the crust is thin and crisp, toppings are fresh, and the cheese blend is delicious, a bit salty, and caramelized beautifully at the edges. Don't miss the cannoli for dessert. It's one of the best in town. - **Fearless Critic**

Beautifully baked, thin, chewy crust holds sauce and mozzarella cheese packing incredible flavor. Forks up. One of the "Standouts of Austin's Best Pizza." - Dale Rice, *American Statesman*

If you think pizza parlors should be low-key, colorful - and, of course, have great pizza - you've come to the right place. - **Frommer's**

Frank & Angie's is the closest you can get to Brooklyn in Austin. From great pizza and excellent pasta to the Sinatra memorabilia on the walls, this place is bellissimo! - *Insite Magazine*

In defiance of the Austin area's college-fueled pizza saturation, Frank & Angie's has fought its way to the top of the pack with its unique, New York-style pizza, ingredient-intensive calzones, and a general Brooklyn-esque atmosphere. - **City Guides**

Great freakin' pizza! - Tibetan Monks

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BEST OF AUSTIN 2008

CRITICS PICKS

Kids

Best Blackboard Jungle for Budding Auteurs

AUSTIN SCHOOL OF FILM

Austin is a city rich in arts and culture and offers a wide variety of opportunities for up-and-coming visionaries. When it comes to filmmaking – especially for children – there are a number of venues that offer classes here and there, but when you compare variety and quantity, Austin School of Film stands out. Its award-winning youth program, which has been in existence since 1999 as the Center for Youth Cinema, offers small classes for ages 10 to 19 in live-action film, computer animation, and more. Small classes ensure personal attention and encourage group collaboration in all facets of filmmaking, including screenwriting, visualization, developing narrative, and the entire production and postproduction process. 906 E. Fifth #106, 236-8877. www.austinfilmsschool.org.

Best Way to Turn a Kid Vegan

CELESTE'S BEST

Parents! It's cool! Those peanut-butter cups and chocolate-chip cookies are A-OK! Of course, we can all agree that sweet treats are only acceptable in moderation, especially for hyperactive kiddos, but Celeste's Best treats are made with vegan goodness and without the stuff that gives indulgence a bad reputation. You can find Celeste's Best at local coffee shops and cafes around Austin. Your young ones will never know the difference, but you will. 689-3745. www.celestes-best.com.

Best Way to Guarantee Nap Time

RADIJAZZ PLAYNASIUM

Kids who come to this 9,000-square-foot indoor wonderland don't get bored – they get exhausted. Their parents, on the other hand, get to relax. There's a story stage, slides, a giant purple alligator made of foam, and a volcano with foam lava cubes. It's the perfect place to bring kids 7 years old or younger. 6406 N. I-35 #2200, 302-JAZZ. www.radijazz.com.



PHOTOS BY BRET BROOKSHIRE



Best Johnny- or Janey-on-the-Spot Child Care

TREE TOPS LEARNING CENTER

At first glance, Tree Tops might seem like your everyday kid-care haven. But what sets it apart from the rest is its glorious drop-in service. You read right: drop-in child care. Day and night, Monday-Thursday, 6:30am-12mid; Friday, 6:30am-2:30am; and Saturday, 8am-2:30am. So if you have an itch to take your sweetie out for dinner and a show but don't wish to make it a family affair, let your child revel in the company of other kids while enjoying organized activities led by a sweet and caring staff. And you get a night off. 1700 W. 32nd, 467-8500. www.treetopslarningcenter.com.

Best Empowerment for Families

ANY BABY CAN

The programs at Any Baby Can aren't just for babies or new mommies. Kids and adults of all ages benefit from the awesome free offerings of this Eastside nonprofit – from literacy classes to teen-parenting workshops to childhood cancer support groups. An especially admirable program called Comprehensive Advocacy and Resources for Empowerment is for families of children up to age 12 who have developmental delays or chronic illness and helps coordinate access to social services for the whole family. We feel CAREd for! 1121 E. Seventh, 454-3743. www.abcaus.org.



Best Kids Photographer

LYNDSAY STRADTNER

After losing her home and family photos in Hurricane Katrina, Lindsay Stradtner was driven to capture new memories. Since moving to Austin, Stradtner has been rebuilding her life with her husband and three children – whom she documents beautifully and honestly in her blog – while at the same time building an impressive portfolio as a child photographer. Stradtner has a knack for making photo shoots fun for little ones – and for amazing their parents when they see the results.

lstradtner@mac.com.
www.lifeinmotionphotography.com.

Best Place to Walk or Run Outside After Dark

BUTLER DISTRICT PARK

Head to Butler District Park – just west of the Palmer Events Center, between Riverside Drive and Barton Springs Road – when you or the kids need a safe outdoor location to walk, jog, or bike after dark. The broad, paved walkways with scads of bright lighting make it ideal. Enjoy a beautiful park setting, a great night view of the Downtown skyline, and evening colored-light shows at the splash fountain. Restrooms and limited parking are by the Dougherty Arts Center on Barton Springs Road. 1000 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700. www.cityofaustin.org/parks/butler.htm.

Best Way to Channel Your Inner Child **JOE MCDERMOTT & THE SMART LITTLE CREATURES**

They're songs for kids! Who doesn't love songs for kids? Commie pinkos, that's who! Okay, it ain't Mr. Waffles, but it is communicative in a way that isn't pandering or condescending, which makes McDermott's kiddie ditties quite satisfying for the chronologically adult set. Skip yoga, put the tunes on the stereo, and posture around your living room the way you did when you were 8 – you remember what that was like, right?

339-9528.
www.joemcdermottmusic.com.

Best South by Southpark **THE GROVE AT SOUTHPARK MEADOWS**

Where can you order a California roll while your other half noshes on a burger and beer and all the while your tyke plays on a killer playscape? The Grove at Southpark Meadows, of course! Gone are the days of our angsty youth watching Smashing Pumpkins and the like in the sprawling South Austin outdoor music venue. Southpark Meadows, specifically the Grove, is now replaced with a grownup food court (with mostly local serveries), a jumping water-fountain thingy, and – did we mention? – a playscape. And for those of you who are sentimental, it still possesses a handful of large trees and green grassy hills (sans the crushed plastic beer cups and Doc Martens boot prints).

Slaughter Lane & I-35, spencer@inlandgroup.com.
www.southpark-meadows.com/thegrove.htm.

Best Kid-Friendly Coffeehouse **JUNGLE JAVA**

Jungle Java is Mom and Dad's dream: Grab a triple espresso, and enjoy some much-deserved time to yourself while Junior runs off to play basketball, climb a wall, or fly down one of the five slides. Free Wi-Fi, a decent food menu, a special area just for toddlers – this jungle has it all.

1400 E. Old Settlers Blvd., Round Rock, 512/494-4258.
www.junglejavaplay.com.

Best Kids Water Park **ROCK'N RIVER FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER**

Round Rock's Rock'n River makes the rather mundane municipal pool into an endless playground of water-oriented activities that will keep both kids and their parents joyful and, perhaps more importantly, cool. With crazy slides and water cannons, an aquatic jungle gym, tunnel showers, and floor geysers, parents' wistful memories of adolescent summer days at water parks will return. Meanwhile, the gleeful little ones won't know the difference.

3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock, 512/671-2737.
www.sportscapitaloftexas.com/attractions.php?id=189.



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BEST OF AUSTIN 2008 READERS POLL Media

Best Journalist

JOHN KELSO

Forget your fancy journalism degrees and chasing down stories. Professional contrarian Kelso works his cranky corner to pick up stories and has established his role as a fixture on bar stools and in eateries of South Austin to formulate his triweekly column. As the man himself told his readers, "I've decided to stay on forever and keep making your life miserable." Austin American-Statesman, 305 S. Congress, 445-3500. www.statesman.com.

Best Sportswriter

KIRK BOHLS

With 90,000 fans in the stands, the last thing the Horns need is one more cheerleader. Kirk Bohls knows it. He calls it like he sees it, win, lose, or draw. Thirty years of sportswriting bring a lot of knowledge, including detailed analysis – be it around player stats, strategy, rankings, or an opponent's history. Burnt-orange fans might not always agree with Bohls' commentary, but *Chronicle* readers have shown once again that they sure respect it. Austin American-Statesman, 305 S. Congress, 445-3500. www.statesman.com.

Best Photographer

TODD V. WOLFSON

What an eye. This master behind the lens captures things in his subjects quite possibly unseen even by themselves. As a mainstay contributor to *The Austin Chronicle*, Wolfson continuously reminds us of the heights of quality work and distinction that can be brought to subjects, from local celebrities to national rock legends. Each shot is distinctively his own, and we're proud, so proud, to call him one of ours. Todd V. Wolfson Studio, 5405-A Joe Sayers, 452-9051. www.toddvolfson.com.

Best Local Author/Poet

OWEN EGERTON

This local funnyman may have cut his teeth as part of the fabulous Sinus Show, but his literary persona has since grown wings. Encapsulated in both novel and short-story form, his biting wit and spin on the world make for intelligent humor and foreshadow a long career in the written, spoken, and comedic worlds. Lucky for us, we can lay claim to him now and graciously do so with edge-of-our-seat expectations for what lies in store for the future. www.owenegerton.com.



TODD V. WOLFSON

Best TV Anchor

MICHELLE VALLES

"Michelle, ma belle. These are words that go together well, my Michelle." The gorgeous evening newscaster and savvy reporter has earned popularity through her hundreds of public appearances for charity. Austin adores her. Though her run at KXAN is over, she is still, not surprisingly, everywhere. Accessible, compassionate, and always on the ball, Valles is an Austin icon. PO Box 161085, Austin, 78716-1085.

Best Music Station

KCSR 107.1FM

Maybe you love them because they give you a reason to drink wine on a blanket in the park listening to blues. Maybe you love them because they celebrate singer-songwriters, with an ear tuned to true Texas tunes. Maybe you love them for bringing it back to when saying you were rock & roll actually meant something. Whatever your reason, the dials are all fixed on 107.1 (and Texas rock rules). 8309 N. I-35, 832-4000. www.kcsr.com.

Best Media Personality/Best Radio Music DeeJay

JASON DICK, 101X

According to his MySpace page, 101X's Jason Dick believes, "Stalkers + Internet = MySpace." Surely the popular morning-show host is used to these things by now, but at 26, he's among the youngest of the hit voices on the airwaves. His morning show (with British Deb) is loud. The music is rock & roll. The jokes are lewd. And his poor wife has to play along with sex joke after sex joke. But, the kicker is, he's actually funny. Unlike the other stations you jostle for too much talking, his segments entertain the mind (albeit, the dirty part of it) all the way to work, while you continue to chuckle at a fart joke slipped in for good measure. 101X FM, 8309 N. I-35, 832-4000. www.krox.com.

Best Radio Talk/News Host

DAVID KOBIEROWSKI, KOOP

Got a story the dreaded mainstream media is ignoring? Just go to any progressive event, and look for the tall bald guy carrying the bundle of papers. That's Kobierowski, KOOP Radio's own speaker of truth to power, whose *Texas Politics Today* tag team with Deece Eckstein specializes in holding political feet to the fire. KOOP 91.7FM, 3823 Airport Ste. B, 472-1369. www.koop.org.

CONTINUED ON P.82



SANDY CARSON

Best Non-'Chronicle' Publication

OAK HILL GAZETTE

Since 1995, this weekly has been bringing the news to Southwest Austin. Between the coverage of elections, local business, community news, civic meetings, district school news (and sports!), and columns about nearly all of the above, its crew keeps busier than a weatherman in a tornado. Southwest Austin appreciates all that busy. 7200 Hwy. 71 W. Ste. B, 301-0123. www.oakhillgazette.com.



SANDY CARSON

Sampaio's
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when I pulled
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- Ken Langston

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Best Talk/News Station

KUT 90.5FM

Whether you like your news tight and hard or loose with attitude, the local NPR affiliate is the place to which readers flock come rush hour. The University of Texas-operated station dominates the airwaves with international news, national stories, and local profiles. It's 90.5 KUT, where *Texas Music Matters*.

2504 Whitis, 471-1631.

www.kut.org.

Best Morning Radio Show

'THE MORNING X'

Ah, the return of the *The Morning X!* A bracing, irreverent wake-up call with the ever-popular Jason and Deb! Mornings on 101.5FM are guaranteed to make you smirk and snicker, especially when the two listen to Jason's complaints and recount whatever adventures they've been up to. This includes the usual embarrassing personal experiences, but Deb's recent pirate-themed birthday party at Chuck E. Cheese's takes the, er ... pizza.

101X FM, 8309 N. I-35, 832-4000.

www.krox.com/morningx.

Best Locally Produced TV Show

'AUSTIN CITY LIMITS'

Like the old-timer showin' them young'uns how to do it right, *Austin City Limits* has been around the block and knows all the turns. It has grown up with Austin these past 32 years and continues to evolve, presenting Austin and the world with the best in music, time after time. Can't teach an old dog new tricks? Well, maybe the dog's doing the teaching.

KLRU, 2504-B Whitis, 471-4811.

www.klru.org.

Best AM Radio Station

KLBJ 590AM

On the 69th birthday of our local news-and-talk radio station, we celebrate its enduring intellectual friskiness. KLBJ-AM offers diverse views, provides whip-smart commentary, gets us out of bed hyped to go, and puts us to bed with food for thought.

8309 N. I-35, 836-0590.

www.590klbj.com.



PHOTOS BY SANDY CARSON

Best Local TV News

KVUE

Watching Tyler, Olga, Mark, and Mike on the evening news is like settling down with old friends and catching up on the latest ... every night. We trust and depend on our pals at the ABC affiliate to keep us up to the minute, and they're always there when we need them. Isn't that the definition of friendship? The KVUE news team knows how to make us feel at home and reliably delivers the news when we get there.

3201 Steck, 459-6521.

www.kvue.com.

Best TV Reporter

QUITA CULPEPPER

Considering her streak of winning this award, we wonder what would ensue if she worked more than the three days a week she anchors the "Weekend Daybreak" news? World media domination? Culpepper's been at KVUE since 1998, making intrepid reporting her schtick. It's her put-me-in-coach attitude that gives her that poise, that eloquent character, it's what makes her the constant we look for in times of crisis, such as hurricanes and election years.

KVUE, 3201 Steck, 459-6521.

www.kvue.com.

Best Sportscaster

ROGER WALLACE

Since joining KXAN (Channel 36) more than a decade ago, sports anchor Roger Wallace has delivered many a smooth sportscast, replete with the necessary info on local and national sports figures. This year, he put a lot of that knowledge to good use for 25 days, following and covering Texas athletes at the Beijing Olympics. His every-guy congeniality and sports savant smarts keep him in our readers' sights for the third year in a row.

KXAN, 908 W. MLK, 476-3636.

www.kxan.com.

Best Local News Website

KXAN

Sometimes you want a fancy website with lots of bells and whistles. Not when you are trying to get your news. You want it quick and dirty, a simple format that's easy to peruse in a hurry, with information instantly, videos to give it to you visually, and the top stories (not only of the city but of the whole country) at your fingertips. Literally. For ease and a simplistic design made specifically for convenience, no one does it better. It's local news at its best – as a website.

908 W. MLK, 476-3636.

www.kxan.com.

Best Local Blogger

TIE: RUTH PENNEBAKER; EILEEN SMITH

Admittedly, Eileen Smith, aka Pink Lady (aka ILLIN), is too loud for book clubs. She drinks too much, and you'd have to cover your kids' ears every other word. True. But her blog is funny as hell. Let her blow off steam, rant, rave, hurl insults at Starbucks employees on her way to her desk job at *Texas Monthly*. Irreverent, self-deprecating, but smart as a whip. Your workday just got breezier. In a different demographic, the Fabulous Geezersisters is the blog of Ruth Pennebaker and Poland-residing Ellen Diott. The two are sisters, in their 50s, far from each other, but both amped by the written word. Thus, their blog. As Ruth leaves her law days behind for a career in writing and Diott teaches English in Poland, they have wise words, sage advice, and just normal human reactions, explaining their own investment confusions and neuroses in a frank next-door-neighborly way. Cookies and milk.

www.geezersisters.wordpress.com; www.inthepinktexas.com.



Best Weatherperson

JIM SPENCER

Congratulations, Jim, on your 10th "Best of Austin" win. The people have spoken once again in favor of KXAN's chief weathercaster. He always gives it to us straight and has a sixth sense about what Mother Nature might bring on his "First Warning Weather." Let's just hope the local NBC affiliate and Time Warner Cable sort out their quarrel so we can get Jim back on air soon.

KXAN, 908 W. MLK, 476-3636.

www.kxan.com.

Best Public-Access TV Show

'COOKIN' GOOD WITH THE COLA SISTERS'

Sexy, sassy, and one of a kind (except that there are two of them, plus the omniscient and close-up-happy cameraman), the Cola Sisters jumped on to public-access television just a few years ago and have been riding it hard ever since. As the hostesses of our readers' favorite ChannelAustin TV show, *Cookin' Good*, the Cola Sisters rant about the man, do shots of hot vodka, cook up recipes in real time, advocate for organic/buy-local practices, and offer chicken nuggets of true wisdom ... with sauce.

PO Box 302102, Austin, 78703, 782-HEAT.

www.myspace.com/arciecola, www.myspace.com/shastac.

Best Local Blog/ Best Local Entertainment Website

AUSTINIST

Like a box of candy at our sides, *Austinist* is easy to reach into and pick out a piece or two ... or three or four. Though part of a chain of "ists," *Austinist* knows Austin, and *Austinites* love it for its bite-sized news of local events, food, art, and entertainment.

www.austinist.com.



Austinist Editor
Allen Y. Chen



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BEST OF AUSTIN 2008

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Media

Best Way to Keep Your Southbound Frequency Modulated

KVRX/KOOP 91.7FM TO KTSW 89.9FM TO KSYM 90.1FM

Make your southbound drive corporate-free and brain-sane: Keep it locked on college and community frequencies all the way to San Antone. Start off in Austin at your No. 1 preset, KVRX/KOOP 91.7FM, and hear community talk and free-form programming during the day and college craziness at night. Once you hit Kyle, the signal starts to fade, so keep one of your B-tier presets locked on 89.9FM, and switch it over to KTSW, student radio for Texas State to enjoy indie rock, Bobcat-style. Then, once you get south of New Braunfels, when that signal starts to fade again, hit 90.1FM, and check in with the kids at San Antonio College's KSYM. Traffic is stressful enough. Let these alternative radio stations keep you tuned into sanity.

KVRX 91.7FM, PO Box D, Austin, 78713-7209, 471-5106; KOOP 91.7FM, 3823 Airport Ste. B, 472-1369; KSYM 90.1FM, 1300 San Pedro Ave., San Antonio, 210/733-2787; KTSW 89.9FM, 601 University Dr., Old Main Rm. 106, San Marcos, 512/245-3485.

www.kvr.org, www.koop.org, www.accd.edu/sac/ksym, ktsw.txstate.edu.

Best Web Source for Soul Citizens

SOULCITI.COM

SoulCiti.com began in 1998 as a modest electronic mailing list reaching out to African-American Austinites with once-a-week dispatches of news tidbits and entertainment listings. These days, it's hard to imagine going without SoulCiti six out of seven days of the week. It has evolved into a valuable daily Web resource for a historically underserved part of Austin's community, boasting hundreds of local, user-submitted events, from spoken-word and hip-hop shows to happy hours and professional mixers to church retreats and yard sales. Rounded out with featured news, movie reviews, and weekly polls asking questions like, "Should Obama match the McCain team and go negative to defend his campaign?" the little listserv that could has truly come into its own. Happy 10th anniversary, SoulCiti!

info@soulciti.com.
www.soulciti.com.

PHOTOS BY CELESTA DANGER



Smoothest AM on the FM

'KGSR IN THE MORNING WITH BRYAN BECK'

Veteran deejay Bryan Beck knows what his listeners want to hear and gives them exactly what they expect: that smooooooth, soothing baritone and the tunes that define KGSR's Texas triple-A reign. The station's "Radio Austin" sound is due in large part to Beck's tenure, which began in 1987. Beloved by his fans and colleagues, Beck makes Austin's mornings that much brighter and that much more easier to bear.

8309 N. I-35, 832-4000.
www.kgsr.com.

Best Reason for TV News

JIM SWIFT, KXAN

Last year was the television storyteller's 30th year at KXAN-TV, an almost unheard of tenure in a business known best for empty sound bites and staff market-climbing. Swift has kept faith in his own personal narrative style – rooted in Central Texas (he's a homeboy) – that grows from the details of a story and the people who make it live. Too much of TV news is bluster or fluff; we've got a newsman who still understands that true-to-life stories explain why things happen and what they mean.

KXAN, 908 W. MLK, 476-3636.
www.kxan.com.

Most Eco-Friendly IRA

THE BUTLER BROS.

This past year, Adam and Marty Butler, brothers and principals of this Eastside advertising agency, wanted a way to promote ecology and healthy living. After talking about how biking to work could help solve many of the ecological problems our country faces today, they wanted a way to promote this idea, in-staff. So they launched an employee program for all their salaried workers at the time. Get this: For every day an employee rode his or her bike to work, the agency dropped \$5 into that employee's retirement fund. Five bucks, every day they chose two wheels and a little bit of sweat over rush-hour standstill and pollution. Mother Nature would be proud, brothers.

2401 E. Sixth #1002, 482-8043.
www.thebutlerbros.com.



Best R&B Dream Come True

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KAZI started as the dream of University of Texas professor Dr. John Warfield 26 years ago. Austin's oldest community radio station thrives under the guidance of Steve Savage, with a small staff and a team of volunteers who keep jazz, hip-hop, reggae, and gospel music alive and well in the ATX, digging deeper than your average commercial playlist: Where else do Raphael Saadiq, Estelle, Angie Stone, Sam Cooke, A Tribe Called Quest, and Honey Brown share the air? KAZI also keeps us plugged into the real world with independent news via Amy Goodman's *Democracy Now!*, and it broadcasts Austin City Council meetings, making local goings-on accessible to us all.

8906 Wall #203, 836-9544.
www.kazifm.org.

CONTINUED ON P.86



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CRITICS PICKS

Media
CONTINUED FROM P.84



TODD V. WOLFSON

Best Roving Reporter **AMY HADLEY,** **NEWS 8 AUSTIN**

How much do we love Amy Hadley? Let us count the ways. Whether engaging in outré acts of physicality for her "Fit for Friday" series, popping up in any number of unique Austin locations for her morning segments, or tugging heartstrings in her "Forever Families" series, this plucky, porcelain-skinned goddess among newsies handles each segment with grace, élan, and luminosity. *News 8 Austin*, 1708 Colorado, 531-8000.

www.news8austin.com.

TODD V. WOLFSON



Best TV Reporter Who Can Write **ELISE HU, KVUE**

The sound-bite world of TV news can make the on-camera talent look a little superficial, but that's just image. When KVUE's Elise Hu isn't skillfully trimming down policy nuance for the idiot box, she's raising hell in her sometimes scathing, take-no-prisoners Political Junkie blog. She writes so well that she's good enough for print. (Just don't tell her she looks like former Council Member Jennifer Kim. She hates that.)

KVUE, 3201 Steck, 459-6521.

www.kvue.com.

Best Urban-Development Echo Chamber

MIKE DAHMUS, **SHAWN 'SHILLI'** **SHILLINGTON, AND** **CHRIS BRADFORD**

While you may not always agree with them, these three local bloggers – Mike Dahmus of M1EK's Bake Sale of Bile infamy, Austinist Urban Development Editor Shilli (né Shawn Shillington), and Chris Bradford, aka the Austin Contrarian – bring a refreshing, sometimes contrary perspective to Austin's ongoing development discussion, airing thoughts and facts sometimes contrary to developers, neighborhoods, and the *Chronicle* itself. (But we're big enough to take it!)

M1EK's Bake Sale of Bile, mike@dahmus.org; *Austinist*, editor@austinist.com; *Austin Contrarian*, chrisbradford@sbcglobal.net; mdahmus.monkeysystems.com/blog, www.austinist.com, www.austinzoning.typepad.com.

Best Lunchtime Company

'THE CHARLIE HODGE **HALF-TIME SHOW,' KLBJ**

Best known as one-third of the three-man main show on KLBJ's long-running *Dudley & Bob Morning Show*, Charlie Hodge added a few more hours to his überearly rise this year to host the new midday, hourlong *Half-Time Show*, from noon to 1pm. Hodge expands his presence as the *Morning Show* third man (time to upgrade his rank?) into a whole hour of undiluted, and largely unscripted, Hodge brain fart. Sure, the show could use a producer to rein in Hodge's tendency to wander into the verbal jungle, but he usually manages to squeeze out a laugh. Take our word for it, and tune in now, before the Hodge is tamed out of him.

8309 N. I-35, 832-4000.

www.klbjfm.com.

Best Sci-Fi Chum **'SPACE SQUID'**

Squishy, the official mascot of Austin's only hybrid science-fiction and humor zine, wants to know: Got chum? If you're lacking in the chum department (who isn't?), getting your fix – along with a healthy helping of Squid Grrrls, comics, and short stories – can be done by getting your tentacles on a copy of this ultra-nerdy and oh-so-smart and -funny zine, sold for the bargain price of \$1 at BookPeople, MonkeyWrench Books, and the Dragon's Lair.

squishy@spacesquid.com.

www.spacesquid.com.

Best Neighborhood Newspaper **'SLAUGHTER CREEK** **REPORTER'**

Though it sometimes depends on syndicated filler, Ken Vargas' Friday biweekly keeps a broad area of southern Travis County neighborhoods informed, inside and outside of the city. With an emphasis on politics and the area's growth spurt, as well as near-to-the-heart topics like high school football, SCR is becoming the dependable voice of the new South Austin. *PO Box 1602, Manchaca, 78652, 512/280-2637.*

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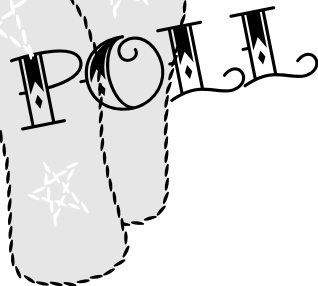
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CHRONICLE

BEST OF AUSTIN 2008 READERS Outdoors & Recreation



Best Local Team

UT LONGHORNS

With the University of Texas bringing home the hardware in this category, one could safely assume the “team” referred to here would be the Colt McCoy-led juggernaut known as Longhorn football (which this entire town revolves around), but don’t forget about their nationally respected soccer, track & field, swimming, softball, baseball, et al. programs. *University of Texas Athletics: Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium, 2100 San Jacinto, 471-3050; Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 471-7744; Disch-Falk Field, 1300 E. MLK, 471-5732; Mike A. Myers Stadium, 707 Clyde Littlefield Dr., 471-7568. www.texasports.com, www.uterwincenter.com.*

Best Scenic View

MOUNT BONNELL

More than 200 feet above the city, Austin’s favorite “mountain” offers spectacular views of the Colorado River and Lake Austin as it winds through the cedar-covered hills. It’s a steep climb up the stone steps, but once you’re there, you’re on top of the world. *3800 Mount Bonnell Dr., 974-6700. www.cityofaustin.org/parks.*

Best Place for a Picnic

ZILKER PARK

Lay a blanket down, and revel in all the room you’ve got to throw a stick to your pooch or a Frisbee to your dreadlocked friends. Someone smell patchouli? If space is what makes your special picnic a romantic getaway right here in the city, then Zilker is your park. There are haunts by the water, tiny hills for secret kisses, trees to climb, and remnants of the ACL foot traffic, memories left behind. Just put your head on a patch of bushy green, and the sky is all yours. *2100 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700. www.cityofaustin.org/zilker.*

Best Place to Skate

PLAYLAND SKATE CENTER

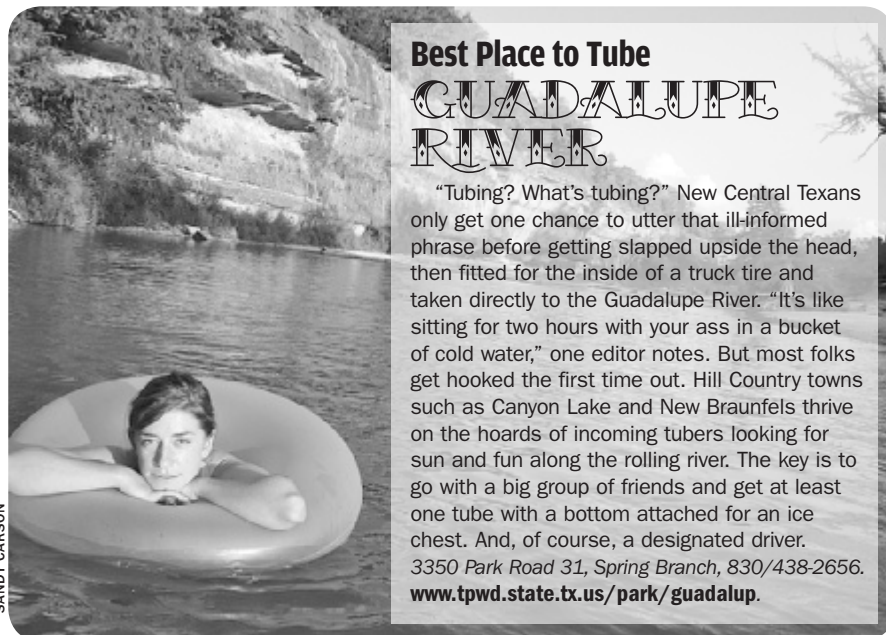
There are good reasons why both the local flat-track derby league and the Texas Speed Club make their home under the big, sparkly skate. With lessons and times for every age and ability, and maybe a Texas Rollergirl to give you the odd tip about toe-stops, everyone can get eight wheels under them. *8822 McCann, 452-1901. www.playlandskatecenter.com.*



Best Annual Event AUSTIN CITY LIMITS MUSIC FESTIVAL

SANDY CARSON

We’re lucky to have a festival of this size right in the heart of our own city – no camping, no long drives. It may be hot and dusty, but we can still shower and sleep in our own beds every night (following the afterparties, of course). The wide range of acts and local flavor (of both artists and food!) have our readers selling out the festival year after year. We’re right there with them – eagerly lining up at the gates waiting for the *Star Wars* theme song to signify the start of all that rocks. *C3 Presents, 478-7211. www.aclfestival.com.*



SANDY CARSON

Best Place to Tube

GUADALUPE RIVER

“Tubing? What’s tubing?” New Central Texans only get one chance to utter that ill-informed phrase before getting slapped upside the head, then fitted for the inside of a truck tire and taken directly to the Guadalupe River. “It’s like sitting for two hours with your ass in a bucket of cold water,” one editor notes. But most folks get hooked the first time out. Hill Country towns such as Canyon Lake and New Braunfels thrive on the hoards of incoming tubers looking for sun and fun along the rolling river. The key is to go with a big group of friends and get at least one tube with a bottom attached for an ice chest. And, of course, a designated driver. *3350 Park Road 31, Spring Branch, 830/438-2656. www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/guadalupe.*

Best Solitude & Quiet/ Best Bike Ride

LADY BIRD LAKE

Whether you’re walking, running, or biking, the beauty and serenity of Lady Bird Lake is entrancing. The fish, nutria, swans, geese, ducks, and turtles are a constant reminder of this glorious natural gift bestowed upon us. But if we close our eyes just a little bit, we can go to a place that is a calm oasis amidst our busy lives – a place so restful, so peaceful, and so delightful to the senses that it seems to be a million miles away. Don’t ask where it is, because you already know. *Colorado River between Tom Miller Dam and Longhorn Dam, 974-6700. www.cityofaustin.org/parks.*

Best Gear/Sporting Goods

REI

For practically everything you could do outside, REI should be your first stop for gear, instruction, clothing, edibles, and electronics. Camping? The store can fit you in the gear you need whether you’re sleeping in a cabin or “digging your own hole”-style roughing it. Skiing? Accessories, skis, boots, snowboards, and racks to keep it all together. Canoeing? Same bet, only wetter. This is every adventurer’s one-stop shop for all of his or her needs, big or small, novice or expert. *9901 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 343-5550; 601 N. Lamar, 482-3357; 201 University Oaks Blvd., Round Rock, 512/255-1938. www.rei.com.*

Best Place to Camp

PACE BEND PARK

Adventurous campers dive into Lake Travis from the high limestone cliffs, and families bring their pets and barbecue on the more mellow flats on the opposite side of the

loop. Since the park is only 30 miles west of Austin, Pace Bend is the perfect weekend getaway and a reminder of just how beautiful Central Texas is.

2011 N. Pace Bend Rd. (RR 2322), Spicewood, 512/264-1482.

www.co.travis.tx.us/tnr/parks/pace_bend.asp.

Best Swimming Pool

DEEP EDDY POOL

Swimming lanes cover one half and free-swimming the other; the best of both water worlds can be found at Deep Eddy. Whether you’re a splashing kid, a splashing adult, or wishing simply to escape the heat, the free-swim side is no-holds-barred. For structured swimmers and newbies alike, the lanes are wide open and welcoming. It’s the oldest pool in the state of Texas, and Austin is its home. *401 Deep Eddy Ave., 472-8546. www.deepeddy.org.*



BRET BROOKSHIRE

Best Day Trip - Dry

ENCHANTED ROCK

This ancient lump, once completely underground, eroded away to become the giant, beloved granite stone it is now. Enchanted Rock is one fierce batholith and is consistently one of Central Texas’ most popular sites. With its tendency to awe and inspire, this day trip destination challenges all adventurous visitors. Can you make it to the top? *16710 RR 965, Fredericksburg, 325/247-3903. www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/parkguide/rgn_hc_009.phtml.*

CONTINUED ON P.90

Halloween Party Checklist

- ☒ Costume
- ☒ Decorations
- ☒ Sweets from Lux Bakery & Cafe!

10% off Halloween Treats

Our hand-decorated ghosts, pumpkins, and bat cookies are the hit of the party! Hand-decorated eyeball cupcakes and Rice Krispy eyeballs will have everyone talking. All 10% off with this coupon!

Offer expires Oct 31, 2008.

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Best Day Trip - Wet

THE: HAMILTON POOL; SCHLITTERBAHN

It's hot as hell in Austin. Luckily, we Texans have a few options to combat cerebral meltdown. Pack a car full of friends, and flip a coin. Heads if you're in the mood for slippin' and twistin' across miles of slides and tunnels. Tails if you're ready for jaw-dropping nature at its best. Schlitterbahn's got water under a spell, mastering millions of gallons of the stuff to propel your hot mess of a mass up a curvy slide in one sweet gravity-defying swoop. Hamilton Pool's cove and waterfall echo the magical backdrops of fairy tales and faraway lands. Take a floaty and a picnic, and you're set for a day of soul revival. Clock both spots at about an hour's drive away. Feel miraculously refreshed any way you cut it.

Hamilton Pool, Highway 71 West to FM 3238. Thirteen miles to the entrance. Dripping Springs, 264-2740; Schlitterbahn, 381 E. Austin St., New Braunfels, 830/625-2351; 33261 State Park Road 100, South Padre Island, 956/772-7873; 2026 Lockheed St., Galveston, 409/770-9283.

www.co.travis.tx.us/tnr/parks/hamilton_pool.asp;
www.schlitterbahn.com.

Best Swimming Hole

BARTON SPRINGS

It will knock the wind right out of you, the average 68 degrees year-round. But go ahead, jump in. And just try to catch your breath.

2101 Barton Springs Rd., 476-9044.

www.cityofaustin.org/parks/bartonsprings.htm.

Best Pool/Billiards

BUFFALO BILLIARDS

This Sixth Street delight has been around for years, which means it's got to be doing something right. It's the pool, says it right there in the name: "Billiards." Take the Wild West and give it more than a dozen pool tables, all shiny green and seriously well-kept; a prime locale that spans more than 22,000 square feet; and a full bar to get you looser than the pockets, and there you have it. It takes balls to do what Buffalo Billiards does. Good thing it's got 'em. 201 E. Sixth, 479-7665.

www.buffalobilliards.com.

Best Basketball Court

ENFIELD PARK

The proximity to swimming doesn't hurt, but it's the crowd that makes this the place to get down, street-ball style. You know, with players who do that whole around the back, between the legs kinda thing, schooling one another, in one another's eyes and such. As sleek as outdoor hoops can get. It's groomed nicely, but take your eye off the ball too long, and you'll get a real close look at that landscaping. 2008 Enfield.

www.cityofaustin.org/parks.

Best Tennis Court

SOUTH AUSTIN TENNIS CENTER

Let's face it. Getting to the gym to burn those tacos off is not that easy. Putting some snazzy short-shorts and sweatbands on to thwack tennis balls at your friends, however, can be a little more inspiring. Noah Rippner and Brie Rippner-Parsons, brother-and-sister founders of Rippner Tennis at South

Best Fitness Classes

AUSTIN ADVENTURE BOOT CAMP

BRET BROOKSHIRE

Austin Tennis Center, which they now manage, have created a tennis haven with a loaded schedule of activities, including youth classes, cardio group lessons, and Express Lunch Workouts for the more ambitious. Why go to the gym when, for a few bucks, you can send bright-yellow balls sailing, grunt like Seles, and settle your scores on the courts? 1000 Cumberland, 442-1466.

www.rippnertennis.com.

Best Bowling Alley

DART BOWL

An addictive pastime, bowling embodies good, clean, all-American fun. First bowlers are sure to get hooked by the charm of these classic lanes. The Dart Bowl cafe serves up some serious truck-stop enchiladas and munchies; there's also a full bar. Be sure to check out the sweetest deal on Mondays: \$1 everything! Shoes, lanes, even nachos are only one buckaroo. Get there early; it fills up fast.

5700 Grover, 452-2518.

www.dartbowl.com.

Best Dance Classes

GO DANCE

The proof is in the step, ball, change. The proof is also in the more than 500 students Go Dance teaches every week:

When you can't tell a bicep from a baguette, it's time to make a quality-of-life upgrade. The five-days-per-week camps can be spotted on the shores of Lady Bird Lake breaking records in log-lifting, jump-roping, and the group sprint. Whether your core is quivering Jell-O or rock solid, the sergeants at Austin Adventure Boot Camp will make a hard body out of you.

4301 W. William Cannon Ste. B-150, 626-0504.

www.atxbootcamp.com.

those trying out salsa, swing, country & western, the foxtrot, waltz, rumba, bolero, tango, or simply preparing for their wedding dance. They cover it all, with 20 dedicated instructors who move what momma gave them. And teach you to do the same. 2525 W. Anderson, 339-9391.

www.godancestudio.com.

Best Golf

LIONS MUNICIPAL

"Old Munny," as most Austin golfers affectionately refer to the city course in Old West Austin, has challenged hackers and duffers, as well as some of the legends of the game, since 1928. The 18-hole course isn't the most difficult, the easiest, nor the prettiest. It doesn't have the fairest greens nor the greenest fairways. But it does have character and history that can't be replicated. It's just the best. It's a golf thing. You wouldn't understand.

2901 Enfield, 477-6963.

www.cityofaustin.org/parks/lions.htm.



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Photos are of an actual patient of Dr. Jeneby.



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BEST OF AUSTIN 2008

CRITICS PICKS

Outdoors & Recreation

Best Soccer Player **MIGUEL GALLARDO**

Playing for the Under-23 (amateur) Austin Aztex, Gallardo was tabbed as Goalkeeper of the Year in the 67-team Premier Development League; immediately after the season ended, he became the first signing for the Aztex pro team that will start play next season in the United Soccer League's First Division. The 23-year-old native of Torreón, Mexico, attended Westwood High in Round Rock and, after a stint with Tigres in the Mexican first division, has been a fixture on several top amateur teams here in his adopted hometown. He's an acrobatic shot-blocker, dangerous at starting attacks with long outlet passes, but his biggest asset, particularly on a young team, may be his commanding, vocal presence in the back. Even from the stands, it's easy to tell who's in charge on the field. *Austin Aztex, 13359 Hwy. 183 N. #401, 335-8881. www.austinaztex.com.*

Best Get-Fit-Quick Scheme **GO FIT**

Whether you're bikini-bound or looking to shave some time off of your mile, this coed, three-week intensive boot camp is all you need to achieve your goal. Relying on no tools but the willing body and the beautiful backdrop of Lady Bird Lake, these encouraging trainers whip you into a blissful exhaustion that has never felt so fulfilling or fun. If Lady Bird Lake is a stretch, two other locations and three time slots exist to fit your scheduling and geographic needs. 350-6339. www.gofitaustin.com.

Best New Little Armored Ride **THE CARMADILLO**

Created in the art-car tradition, this fire-breathing armadillo is the child of husband-and-wife team C.J. Anderson and Kate Bower, with conceptual assistance from friend Avi Hartman. So, the fire actually comes out of the Carmadillo's eyes, and it's more of a go-kart than a car. But both are moot points, because

it's really the most rad ride around. Carmy's mean, little face and shell were hand-molded by Hartman. Scary as the beast may be at first glance, Bower says their art car is adored by the kiddos. You can find the Carmadillo at Alternative Softball League games, "regional Burning Man events, builder events like Maker Faire, and really anything Austin-focused where a little more weird is needed," says Anderson. It can be rented for any event for rides only; Carmy's two dads, Anderson and Hartman, are the sole operators.

*Undead Metals, 461-4463.
www.myspace.com/armadillo_car,
www.undeadmetals.com.*

Best Creepy Lakeside Serenity **OPOSSUM TEMPLE AND VOODOO PEW**



Consecrated in 1993, this shaded inlet along the north side of the Trail at Lady Bird Lake is easy to miss. Don't, because the ornate temple scaffolding – now grown over with vines – and the clay-colored Voodoo Pew provide a beautiful view of the water and the occasional possum. Artists T. Paul Hernandez, Robert Phillips, and Lars Stanley created this calm, if mildly spine-tingling, respite from the trail. *The Trail Foundation, PO Box 5195, Austin, 78763, 733-3989. www.thetrailfoundation.org.*

Best Place to Cool Your Heels on a Saturday Night **CARPENTER FOUNTAIN, WELLS MEADOW, AND SAHM HILL**

More precisely a family section of the newly designated Butler District Park, the area features a meadow, a circular climb (or run!) observation hill overlooking Lady Bird Lake and Downtown, and a magically programmed fountain which plays with children (and braver grownups) like a whimsical home sprinkler system designed by Willy Wonka. For the scholarly, it comes with its own homemade history: The fountain is named after writer and Lady Bird confidant Liz Carpenter, the meadow for local Negro League Baseball Hall of Famer Willie Wells, and the observation hill for Texas music legend Doug Sahm. When the kids are blissfully soaked and exhausted, you can tell them all about Liz, Willie, and Doug. *1000 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700. www.cityofaustin.org/parks/butler.htm.*



PHOTOS BY SANDY CARSON

Best Place to Bocce **BOCCE COURTS AT THE TRIANGLE**

Though you can play bocce ball just about anywhere there's a stretch of grass, we've been waiting for some real bocce courts to show up in town and take their rightful place among the shuffleboards, pool tables, and other classic games we like to play with our friends when we're out and about and feeling especially coordinated due to, uh, beer. The Triangle has more than delivered, with not one but two Astroturf-covered courts available for anyone to play – bring your own playing set, or borrow one from the nearby Flipnotics. *4700 Guadalupe. www.triangleaustin.com.*

Best Island **RED BUD**

If all dogs do go to heaven (which we're pretty sure man's best friend does), heaven better live up to Red Bud Isle. When a mutt (and his or her person) needs to hit the "paws" button on the hustle and bustle of the city, it's just a strain of the lead down Lake Austin Boulevard to the Tom Miller Dam: Hello, outdoor recreation, doggy-style. The water is cold and clear for lapping or leaping, the ruff trails provide plenty to sniff, and there's ample room for a game or two of fetch. Pure canine bliss. *3401 Red Bud Trail. www.redbudisle.org.*

Best Ladies' Day Shoot-Out **RED'S INDOOR RANGE**

Ladies, get your guns! Monday nights are for the girls at Red's Indoor Range. As if free gun rental and half off the hourly rate weren't

incentive enough, the extremely courteous and knowledgeable staff sure gets us fired up. Learn the sport, or practice for your own defense. The staff patiently explains your weapons of choice and helps you during target practice. Shoot 'em up! *6200 Hwy. 290 W., 892-4867; 1908 W. Pecan, Pflugerville, 512/251-1022. www.redsguns.com.*

Best Runner Training Facility **ROGUE**

If you could imagine what the secret love child of RunTex and Bettysport would look like, it would most likely resemble Rogue Equipment. The store specializes in all things that aid runners, especially those who are participating in one of Rogue's running training programs (they get a 15% discount in the store). Located in a colorful, airy corner of a refurbished warehouse on the Eastside, the store often hosts early-morning runs through Downtown to the hike-and-bike trail, teasing the coming development plans for a hike-and-bike that may one day loop all of Austin. *500 San Marcos, 493-0920. www.roguerunning.com.*

Best Pingpong Room **LA ZONA ROSA**

One of the most popular sports in the world (thanks, mostly, to China) has finally found a cozy underground club to call home in Austin. (Could it have anything to do with the spate of terrible pingpong movies over the last year?) Early in the week, three tables, located in the no-man's-land between La Zona Rosa and the Backstage Bar, allow everyone, from the casual date to the "loser buys the next round" crowd, to experience the wonder that is poor man's tennis. If you think you've got game, beware: There are always hustlers lurking. *612 W. Fourth, 263-4146. www.lazonarosa.com.*

Best Walk in the Park **BRIGHT LEAF**

Minutes from Downtown, this West Austin wilderness opens to the public at 9am on the second Saturday and Sunday of each month for guided tours. The hike winds through woods along the Balcones Fault uplift, providing the docents plenty of stories to tell about the geology, plants, fauna, and natural history of old Austin.

Between MoPac and Highway 360, bordered by 2222 and Crestway Drive, 459-7269.

www.brightleaf.org.

Best Day Trip **LA GRANGE**

An hour east of Austin, La Grange has all of the elements for a weekend minivacation. Anchored by the historic Fayette County Courthouse, the town square is lined with shops including the oldest continuously operated drug store in Texas and an Internet cafe selling custom-made coffee drinks. Take the kids to the Jersey Barnyard, a working dairy farm and the home of Belle, Blue Bell's singing cow. For lunch or dinner, try Fishes & Loaves Family Restaurant for a home-cooked meal. Adults will enjoy playing dominoes at Friendly's Bar and Tavern, touring the Monument Hill & Kreische Brewery State Historic Sites, or driving the scenic back roads to the painted churches. Get back to town in time for the evening concert at the Bugle Boy, where songwriters play to small crowds in a relaxed, family atmosphere. Then curl up for the night in one of the 20 bed & breakfasts. *La Grange Chamber of Commerce, 171 S. Main, La Grange, 979/968-5756, 800/524-7264.*

www.lagrangetx.org.

Best Starry-Eyed Dream **AUSTIN PLANETARIUM**

Never heard of the Austin Planetarium? That's probably because it doesn't exist – yet. Believe it or not, Austin is the largest city in the U.S. without a planetarium. Hopefully, things are about to change – and they will, if the Friends of the Austin Planetarium have

anything to say about it. The nonprofit, started by a group of stargazers, incorporated in 2003 to bring a world-class planetarium to Austin. Since then, it's been spreading the word and raising funds. Stargazers rejoice! If all goes well, the group will soon ink a contract for a 9-acre tract of land near the intersection of Highway 290 and SH 130, with plans to open the planetarium as soon as 2010. *1001 Capital of TX Hwy. S., Bldg. L #200, 961-5333.*

www.austinplanetarium.org.

Best Conflict Resolution on Wheels **NOT YOUR USUAL BIKES**

Your kids have issues they gotta work out? Your staff just not cooperating to get stuff done? There is no “I” in team, people. Who can bring us all together? At last, somebody in Austin can offer help for far less cash than a therapist. Not Your Usual Bikes offers tours on its seven-seater Conference Bike that require everyone to work together to get anywhere. Just like life. Team building, anyone? Load your crew on this puppy, and those creative juices will start pumping in no time. *740-7504.*

www.notyourusualbikes.com.

Best River Shuttle **CORNER TUBES**

Sure, there are tons of tube rentals all along the Comal and Guadalupe rivers. Some even offer shuttle services to get you back to your car when you are through lazily floating the day away. But did you know that a shuttle bus will pick up you and your group of friends all the way in Austin and all along the I-35 corridor? Corner Tubes, located in New Braunfels near the Hinman Island Park, the Prince Solms Tube Chute, and Schlitterbahn, offers door-to-door service all the way to Austin, as well as back and forth to local campgrounds. Their bright-yellow buses – the largest fleet along the Comal – run all day, 9am-7pm. They are even available, with driver, for private-party rental. *120 S. Liberty Ave., New Braunfels, 830/626-6687.*

www.cornertubes.com.

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Best Place to Start a Bike Trip **MELLOW JOHNNY'S BIKE SHOP**

In a town with more than its fair share of great bicycle shops, it isn't enough that Lance Armstrong, the most famous American cyclist in the world, is the owner. Named for the French pronunciation of “yellow jersey,” the shop takes full service a step beyond the usual with a cafe, repair shop, clothes, classes, group rides, rows of brand-name cycles, lockers and showers for commuters, and a friendly staff that is excited about sharing cycling with the world – even the beginners. *400 Nueces, 473-0222.*

www.mellowjohnnys.com.



BEST OF AUSTIN 2008 READERS POLL Politics & Personalities

Best News Story/Best Scandal GOVERNOR'S MANSION



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

No, Rick Perry didn't lean his shiny coif too close to the tanning lamp. A broken motion sensor, only one trooper on duty, and a Molotov cocktail. Alone, these don't amount to much. Together, they resulted in catastrophic damage to a 152-year-old state treasure. This blaze was reportedly the result of a lone arsonist, someone who authorities believe was "angry" with the government. Someone really should have told that guy Dubya moved out eight years ago. 1010 Colorado, 463-0063. www.txfgm.org.

Best Elected Official/Best City Official WILL WYNN

As a member of the City Council, he worked hard enough that we elected him mayor. After his deft handling of the influx of Hurricane Katrina survivors, we elected him again. Smart, insightful, sophisticated, handsome, and successful, this Democrat has sidestepped many partisan issues in favor of leading Austin as a unified city. His development plans, an anathema to some, have raised an accessible, inviting Downtown area, revitalizing the center of our city. Wynn thrives on challenges, and Austin presents many. Did we mention he does a spot-on "Thriller" dance? Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 974-2220. www.cityofaustin.org/cityhall.

Best Council Member MIKE MARTINEZ

This chrome-domed crowd-pleaser comes from the rough and tumble world of the Austin Firefighters Association, but as a council member, Martinez has displayed real political savvy on when to tread lightly and when to bore fully ahead. The result has been consistent, solid leadership on matters like public safety and City Hall reform. Martinez's straightforward, no-BS style makes him an effective council member – and may likely serve him well in larger future pursuits. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 974-2220. www.cityofaustin.org/cityhall.



JOHN ANDERSON

Best Local Issue

TIE: TRAFFIC; TRANSPORTATION

Is that best pronounced "most intractable"? Want soaring gas prices or underfunded public transport? Is that an essential rail-link or a white elephant boondoggle? Meanwhile, the pro- and anti-toll-road forces draw more blood, and developers argue that mixed-use is the future. The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is attempting to get all of the region's cities and counties to sign on to what is arguably our best long-range plan to beat sprawl. The stick: You can't get roads or rail transit unless you grow densely and sustainably. CAMPO Transit Working Group, 505 Barton Springs Rd. #700, 974-2275. www.campotexas.org/comm_twg.php.



PHOTOS BY JOHN CARRICO



CELESTA DANGER

Best Austin Booster EUGENE SEPULVEDA

Talk about doing Austin a favor – a really, really big favor – Eugene Sepulveda just seems to give and give and give. As a professor at UT's McCombs School of Business, he prepares his students for the rewards and pitfalls of modern business. As a philanthropist, he teaches Central Texans how to give. As a community activist, he gives us hope and strength. With a high tech background and an innate sense of dedication to others, Sepulveda has conquered virtually every obstacle in his path ... and that makes it easier for all of us. Entrepreneurs Foundation of Central Texas, PO Box 684826, Austin, 78768-4826, 482-8894. www.givetoaustin.org.

Best State Legislator KIRK WATSON

It could have become Watsongate, but the laconic former mayor laughed off his little slipup on MSNBC's *Hardball With Chris Matthews* to become the Tito's Vodka-sippin' hero of the Texas Democratic Convention. But beneath the bonhomie is the sharp political mind that is already making a mark in the Texas Senate. Watson, Bishop, London & Brophy, 106 E. Sixth, 479-5900.

Best Public Service TRAVIS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

None of this "blue dot in a red sea" nonsense. The Travis County Democratic Party has seen a state that is going from purple to crimson, and the party is spreading out across Central Texas to help other county parties perform what many Democrats see as the biggest public service: taking back the House. 1311 E. Sixth, 477-7500. www.traviscountymetrodemocrats.org.

CONTINUED ON P.96

FILM FIGHT III

WRITERS IN THE MOVIES

Film Fight pays tribute to the unsung hero of moviemaking -
the screenwriter.

Ben Geisler
Look, you confused?
You need guidance?
Talk to another writer.

Barton Fink
Who?

Geisler rises and throws his napkin onto his plate.

Ben Geisler
Jesus, throw a rock in here, you'll
hit one. And do me a favor, Fink:
Throw it hard.

Join *Austin Chronicle*
Film critics Kimberley Jones
and Josh Rosenblatt as they
battle-blog royale,
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at
austinchronicle.com/filmfight.

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READERS POLL

Politics & Personalities

CONTINUED FROM P.94

Best Job

TEACHER

Every one of us had one that stood out from the rest. The teacher who pushed us harder, made us wonder, and had a very significant hand in making us who we are today. In a mostly thankless profession, with heavy responsibilities and little accolades and pay, these tried-and-true heroes are the keys to unlocking the future of this country and our world. Whether it's first-grade spelling or AP physics, each one of them deserves so much more than this grateful thank you.

Education Austin, 316 W. 12th #202, 472-1124; Texas State Teachers Association, 316 W. 12th, 877/275-8782.

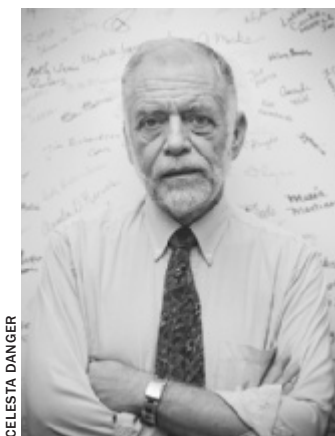
www.educationaustin.org, www.tsta.org

Best Unsung Behind-the-Scenester

JAMES HARRINGTON

Why is TCRP's director so unsung? Because he's usually too busy representing clients and causes to beat his own drum. Fighting back against corporate interests and government abuses, he proves that civil rights, due process, legal representation, and that strange old concept of justice aren't just for people who can afford it.

Texas Civil Rights Project, 1405 Montopolis, 474-5073.
www.texascivilrightsproject.org



CELESTA DANGER

Best Nonprofit Group

TEXAS FREEDOM NETWORK

It seems pretty simple. Church? You go over here. State? You stay over there. While the religious right tries to bundle them together, the Texas Freedom Network fights back to protect each from the other because it (and its many pious and nonbelieving members) values the independence of thought in the classroom and the state House.

PO Box 1624, Austin, 78767, 322-0545.

www.tfn.org

Best Local Politics Blog

BURNT ORANGE REPORT

If political blogs aren't worth the paper they're printed on (think about it), then why do so many politicians keep refreshing the page at BOR? Proudly partisan, fiercely combative, and well-connected enough to beat a lot of "real" journalists to the punch.

www.burntorangereport.com

Best Local Politics Blogger

EILEEN SMITH

What happens when a blogger joins the accursed mainstream media? In the case of Eileen Smith, InthePinkTexas.com's own delightfully dissolute Pink Lady turned TexasMonthly.



JOHN ANDERSON

Best Activist

MARY ARNOLD

Take any neighborhood in Austin, and you can probably find the sweet green fingerprints of activist Mary Arnold on it. Where Austin is human-sized and lovely in a homegrown way, Arnold has likely researched, written, and testified mightily for it to be that way. At age 72, she is our living treasure of civic justice. Thank you, Mary, for reminding us of the good things we're capable of.

West Austin Neighborhood Group, PO Box 5722, Austin, 78763, 459-9460.

www.deepeddy.com/wang

com editor, it just means more outlets to let that gloriously acid tongue lash incoherent vice presidential candidates and illiterate baristas with equal relish.

www.inthepinktexas.com

Best Grassroots Movement

TEXANS FOR OBAMA

Where were you on Feb. 23, 2007? If you were with 20,000 other Austinites on Auditorium Shores, watching Barack

Obama before he was even a serious front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination, thank Texans for Obama. These determined activists saw the hunger for change and have fought tirelessly to keep that campaign energy high.

www.texansforobama.com



Best Environmentalist

BRANDI CLARK

A human switchboard for all things sustainable, Clark earns Austin's respectful adoration for the fertility of her imagination and the durability of her projects. Austin CarShare, Austin EcoNetwork, Citizen Gardener, and the soon-to-exist One Earth Bank are all founded by this supercharged mitochondria of green.

Austin EcoNetwork, PO Box 684641, Austin, 78768, 939-9776.

www.austineconetwork.org

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MARK WAHLBERG

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HURRICANE IKE EVACUEES

These dogs were left behind in Austin when their "rescue group" returned to the coast



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November 17 – January 14

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THE CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com/hustle

BEST OF AUSTIN 2008

CRITICS PICKS

Politics & Personalities

Easiest Donations

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How has Charitable Auto Recycling been able to donate more than \$4 million within the last six years to local charities? By turning trash into treasure. The Niederwald auction shop has figured out how to get the highest possible dollar value for donated vehicles, then turn that around into generous cash flow for local public-service groups. Auto donors can choose from a list of groups, such as Alzheimer's Association, the Wright House, El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission, Hospice Austin, and Any Baby Can, among others. And it's simple. Just call them up. No fees. No hassle. Just your car towed away for the benefit of others.

12253 Camino Real, Niederwald, 512/398-5995, 866/398-5995.
www.carstrucksandboats.com.

Best Midwives Tale

ST. DAVID'S NORTH AUSTIN MEDICAL CENTER

Nurse midwives and their advocates are thanking their lucky stars for Dr. Christina Sebestyen, an ob-gyn doc at St. David's North Austin facility, who moved mountains to give midwives a very real presence at the medical center – now the only local hospital that employs the collaborative Midwives Model of Care. That's what we call an exceptional delivery of services.

12221 MoPac N., 901-1000.

www.std Davids.com/sdnamc.aspx.

Best Law-Abiding Law Enforcers

SHERIFF GREG HAMILTON AND THE TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Under newly enacted House Bill 2391, Sheriff Greg Hamilton and the TCSO have speedily implemented the cite-and-release law for various misdemeanors, thereby saving citizens unnecessary jail time and the taxpayers mucho administrative and incarceration dollars. We applaud the county forces for understanding the importance of the law and applaud their willingness to take appropriate action.

5555 Airport, 854-9788.

www.tcsheriff.org.

Best Spark on the Electric Utility Commission

SHUDDE FATH

"I like to do things that have relevance," this 91-year-old South Austin gal told us 10 years ago. A true believer in all things progressive, Shudde (pronounced "shoo-dee") is still running on her own brand of alternative energy: She recently marked her 31st year serving in her appointed position on the city's Electric Utility Commission.

City of Austin Electric Utility Commission, 721 Barton Springs Rd., Toy Goodson-Collins, Austin Energy, Government Relations, 322-6450.

www.cityofaustin.org.

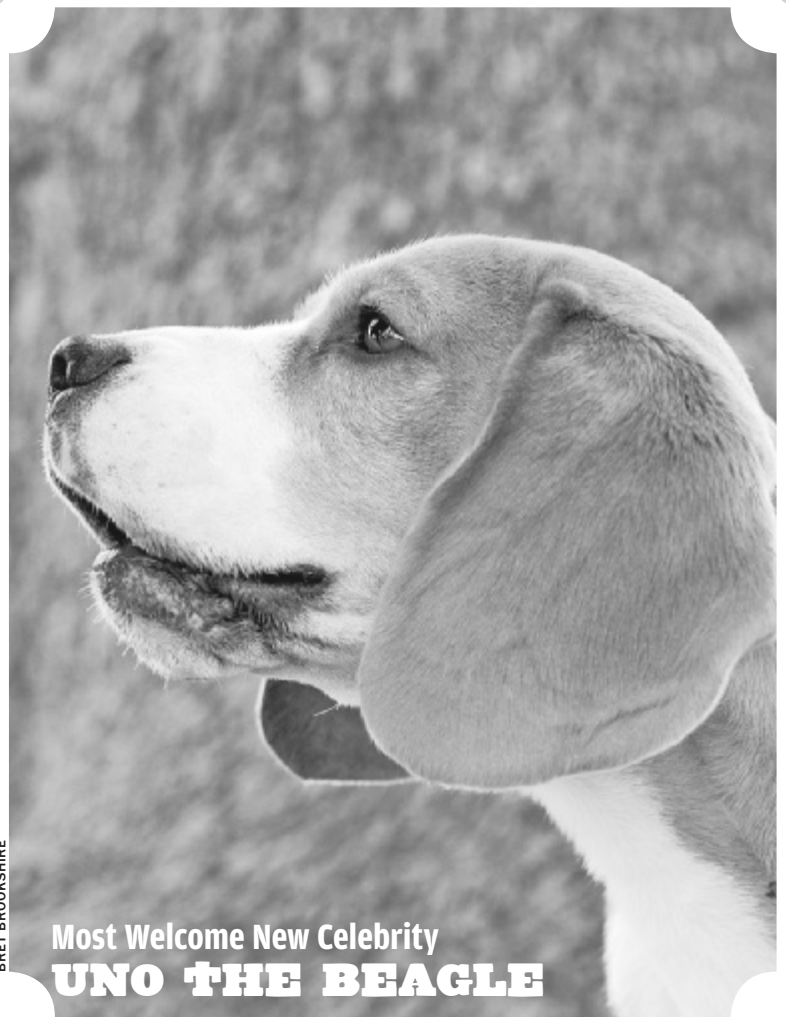
Best Resource for Surviving the Future

THE RHIZOME COLLECTIVE

The Rhizome Collective's Scott Kellogg and Stacy Pettigrew have spent years figuring out how to provide basic needs – food, water, waste management, energy, and shelter – through affordable, environmentally sustainable systems that not only have a *Mr. Wizard*-esque wow factor but will actually help city dwellers someday survive a future in which energy and food are less easy to come by. In doing so, Kellogg and Pettigrew have helped turn Rhizome into a busy hub of scientific experimentation, community organization, and education. And as if that weren't enough, they've now written a book, *Toolbox for Sustainable City Living*. If you don't have time to attend Rhizome's Radical Urban Sustainability Training workshop – where you learn, among other things, how to run your car on veggie diesel, cook with solar power, recycle human waste, and even construct your own wetland system to filter your washing-machine water – this new "Do-It-Ourselves Guide" is the next best thing.

300 Allen, 385-3695.

www.rhizomecollective.org.



BRET BROOKSHIRE

Most Welcome New Celebrity

UNO THE BEAGLE

Unpretentious, irreverent, and a bit of a ham – is Uno a typical Austinite or what? Technically he lives in Leander, but it's not like we're going to run into the pooch formally known as "Ch K-Run's Park Me in First" at the vet, right? We're just proud the insanely charismatic 2008 winner of the Westminster Kennel Club's Best in Show, perhaps with a little help from one of his longtime owners, Austinite Caroline Dowell, decided to settle down in our neck of the woods. Long may he bay.

Dowell Ranch, 282-1467.

www.westminsterkennelclub.org.

Best Fugitive

THE CARGO PANTS LONGHORN ARSONIST

Although there is a host of (mostly bad) official theories, nobody knows the identity of the man (men?) in the cargo pants and Longhorn gimme cap, who in June joined the long list of Texas outlaws by burning down the Governor's Mansion. What if you send a message and nobody knows what it is? We invite this year's favorite dipshit to turn himself in at the "Best of Austin" party, and we'll make certain he not only receives his reward but he gets a chauffeured drive to the hoosegow.

Best Christmas Warriors

ENVIRONMENT TEXAS

A year ago, the Christmas Mountains were just a scrap of scrubland in far West Texas. But when the General Land Office tried to sell the property to private buyers, it was Environment Texas that first shook the branches, raised a firestorm of public protest, and made caring about public lands an act of Texas pride again.

815 Brazos #600, 479-0388.

www.environmenttexas.org.

CONTINUED ON P.100



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CRITICS PICKS

Politics & Personalities
CONTINUED FROM P.98

Best Defenders of Habeas Corpus NATIONAL SECURITY & HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC

Forget empty rhetoric in vacuum-sealed classrooms: This UT grad course puts students to work defending not just Guantánamo Bay detainees but the U.S. Constitution itself. Taking high-profile cases and real defendants all the way to the Supreme Court, this clinic's challenges of the Detainee Treatment Act and the Military Commissions Act are reminders that constitutional freedoms must be defended. Smeared as unpatriotic, its staff and students are passionate reminders of Ben Franklin's words: "They who can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

727 E. Dean Keeton, Kristine Huskey, 232-3657.

www.utexas.edu/law/academics/clinics/nationalsecurity.

Best Blogger Aptly Reppin' Austin's Bodacious Bike Culture

JASON ABELS, ATXBS.COM

There's never been a shortage of commentary online and off from Austin's bombastic bike community, but not until this year's debut of the blog Austin Texas Bike ... Stuff, or ATXBS.com, did local pedal pushers have a forum focusing on the

Best AIDS Fundraising Couple MARK ERWIN & STEPHEN RICE

Here, there, and everywhere, these two can be spotted at virtually every HIV-and-AIDS-related event in Austin, either on the boards, committees, or just as generous supporters. From the Octopus Club's Octo Tea Dance, ArtErotica, and Oscar and Rubber Ducky parties to AIDS Services of Austin's events (Erwin is a board member) such as the Red Ribbon Dinners and Viva Las Vegas to Project Transitions' Guess Who's Coming to Dinner and the Holiday and Texas Swings, Stephen Rice and Mark Erwin work hard for those who can't.

sriceaustin@gmail.com;
markerwinaustin@gmail.com.



Mark Erwin (l)
and Stephen Rice

wild side of biking in Bat City. The clean-lined blog is a treasure trove of timely listings for stuff like Critical Mass rides, nighttime group cruises, underground alley-cat races, and pub crawls. Blogger Jason Abels doesn't just talk the talk, either. He's a fixture at most local cruises and guerrilla rides, typically supplying jams via a custom, bike-mounted sound system or a bigass boom box in tow. Abels, a tattoo-laden techie, is also quick with wry, insightful words on bike politics, from building better infrastructure to avoiding accidents with asinine motorists. In short, ATXBS is the best blog on two wheels.

holla@atxbs.com.
www.atxbs.com.

Best Family-Friendly Septuagenarian PLANNED PARENTHOOD

This year marks the 70th year of operation for Austin's Planned Parenthood (also known as Planned Parenthood of the Texas Capital Region) – and as much as things have changed (Have you heard? Birth control is legal now!), boy, they're a lot of the same (Have you heard? Some women have been refused birth control by their local pharmacists!). As such, it's nice to know Planned Parenthood is still around – here's to another 70 years for the group known for providing comprehensive family planning and reproductive health services to the women of Austin.

201 E. Ben White, 276-8000; 1823 E. Seventh, 477-5846; 9041 Research #250, 331-1288.

www.ppaustin.org.

Best Steward of Downtown Green Space CHARLIE MCCABE

As the executive director of the Austin Parks Foundation, Charlie McCabe knows balance is key. From overseeing improvements to Austin's ever-expanding trail system, the acquisition of land for park space, Republic Square enhancements, and Downtown park master-planning to the fundamental challenge of creating a symbiotic relationship between green space and urban space, it's heavy responsibility. Lucky for us to have just the right advocate to meet the task. Our trees, feet, bikes, dogs, tourists, and children are in responsible, honorable hands.

Austin Parks Foundation, 701 Brazos #170, 477-1566.

www.austinparks.org.

Best Evil Genius WHURLEY

Credit Whurley – also known as William Hurley, a visionary systems theorist, skateboarder, and self-proclaimed evil genius – with leading the efforts to form a community among Austin tech geeks. The chief architect of open-source strategy at BMC Software and the man behind BarCampAustin, Whurley is all about connecting people and encouraging involvement in collaborative projects so great things can happen.

788-5353.

www.whurley.com.

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Best Cabbie With a Cause **HANNAH RIDDERING**

You may have spotted this politically savvy woman of long, curly salt-and-pepper locks behind the wheel of her hybrid-fueled Yellow Cab or perhaps on the TV news, advocating for the transit rights of blind and disabled residents, who make up a good chunk of her customer base. There's a reason for that. Hannah goes the extra mile to make sure her special-needs fares get the most humane, efficient service that they deserve.

Yellow Cab Austin, 10630 Joseph Clayton, Bldg. A, 452-9999, 434-7700.

www.yellowcabaustin.com.

Best Citizen Communicator **PAUL ROBBINS**

The publisher of the Austin Environmental Directory, Paul Robbins is a consistent force for progressivism in the city. A fixture at City Council's citizen communications, nearly every week this self-described consumer advocate and environmental activist challenges council members intelligently and directly in the three minutes he's allotted. Give 'em hell, Paul.

Austin Environmental Directory, 447-8712.

www.environmentaldirectory.info/Austin.

Best Sleep-Deprived Volunteers **THE LOVE OF FOOD CATERING STAFF**

Every Sunday, 6am, for the past three years, Lynne Samuelson and members of her catering crew have been feeding the homeless at the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless with good food that is not

CONTINUED ON P.102

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CRITICS PICKS

Politics & Personalities

CONTINUED FROM P.101

only nutritional but truly made with love. The menu often features protein-packed gumbo, stews, casseroles, and chili, served hot and in portions generous enough to fill hungry stomachs. Remember, catering often involves late Saturday nights! These sleep-deprived volunteers really give from the heart. This is their own personal form of church.

401-B Orchid, 476-2880.

Best Museum Muse

LEE A MECHLING

Behind every great group of artists, you'll find someone who cracks the whip. At the quirky South Austin Museum of Popular Culture (much as she did at the Armadillo World Headquarters), it's Leea Mechling who prods the museum board, balances the books, oversees the mailings, coordinates the schedule, helps curate the exhibits, writes the program notes, does all the detail work includ-

ing catering for the receptions, and still makes sure there's toilet paper in the bathroom. Not exactly a glam job, but she fits it all in around her day job, which has included raising a family with artist Henry Gonzales.

South Austin Museum of Popular Culture, 1516-B S. Lamar, 440-8318.
www.awhq.com/austintatious.

Sweetest Santas on the Scene

ALAN GRAHAM AND MOBILE LOAVES & FISHES

When Hurricane Ike ravaged the Gulf Coast last month, one of the first nongovernmental relief crews on the scene was Austin's Mobile Loaves & Fishes, with catering trucks loaded down with provisions and dozens of bighearted volunteers eager to get relief into the hands of the people. No surprise. This is old hat to this group, one of the first to transcend barricades and get on the ground in post-Katrina New Orleans in 2005. Now, the title of this award was easy. MLF's founder and the fella who serves as Big Kahuna on so many of their road trips is Alan Graham, who doesn't even need to don red to be mistaken for that Claus dude. Like Santa, Alan also serves as a symbol, as Mobile Loaves & Fishes, with its weekly homeless outreach and its ongoing efforts to clothe and feed the world – one Austin corner at a time – represents a whole sleigh full of selfless Santas.

5524 Bee Caves Rd., Bldg. M, 328-7299.

www.mlnow.org.



KATE X MESSER

Best Way to Get in a Celebrity's Mouth

BE A GARRIOTT CHEEK SWAB

So, the world is ending, and our only hope is to send DNA samples of Earth's best and brightest to space in the hopes of being cloned. Maybe not, but that didn't stop NCsoft honcho Richard Garriott from busting through the stratosphere in a Russian commercial space flight last week armed with genetic material from the likes of Stephens Colbert and Hawking, Harry Knowles, and Patrice Pike, among others. What we wouldn't give to be one of those cheek swabs.

6801 Capital of TX Hwy. N., Bldg. 1 #102, 498-4000.
www.operationimmortality.com.

Best Situation Room

CTECC

Flash to any command center from the silver screen, and what comes to mind? Basically the streamlined, flat-screen-flanked Combined Transportation Emergency & Communications Center, as it's acronymically known. Housed in a certified green building, the CTECC coordinates city, county, and transportation responses to major events – as they ably demonstrated once hurricanes Gustav and Ike made landfall earlier this year. And who even knows what they have underground?

5010 Old Manor Rd. #330, 974-0450.

www.cityofaustin.org/oem.

CONTINUED ON P.107

Austin Co-Op
Music Festival

Featuring
White Ghost Shivers

PONG

Clyde & Clem's Whiskey Business

Presented by the
UT Inter-cooperative Council

Clyde & Clem's Whiskey Business 6pm
7:30pm
White Ghost Shivers 9pm
\$5.00 AT THE DOOR

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6PM-10PM
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AUSTIN, TX

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5-7am

FOX 7 AUSTIN

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myFOXaustin.com

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SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

ROBOTICS

SUSTAINABLE LIVING

FUN FOR KIDS

MUSIC & FIRE

HANDY
PULL-OUT
EVENT
GUIDE!

"A wondrous thing: the gathering of folks from all walks of life who blend science, technology, craft, and art to make things goofy and grand."

—New York Times



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for schedules, special
announcements, details
of the Makers & more!

SO MUCH TO
SEE, YOU NEED
TWO DAYS
TO SEE IT ALL!

Saturday 10am–10pm
Sunday 10am–6pm

Oct 18 & 19 Travis County
Expo Center

MakerFaire.com



» **Amazing:** Dr. Bleep's Noisemakers, Wii-mote Mods, Human-powered Viking Boat, Pinball Machine Cake, and Austin Modders.

» Meet the editors of **MAKE** magazine including Mark Frauenfelder and Phil Torrone.

ROBOTICS

» "How to Build a Combat Robot" by Dave Calkins, president of **Robotics Society of America**.

» Local student teams representing **FIRST**, **Capitol BEST**, and **LASA Robotics**.

» Explore a multitude of projects from Austin's acclaimed **Robot Group**, including Ponginator, Sand Drawing Machine, and Peanut Butter Monster Detector.

» **Therm:** Turbine-engine-powered fire sculpture robot and more.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING

ALTERNATIVE VEHICLES & SOLAR CARS

» **Hybrid Plugs, Inc.:** Watch a live lithium-ion conversion of a Toyota Prius.

» **Austin Area Electric Vehicle (AustinEV):** See, drive, and talk to the folks who convert gas-powered vehicles to electricity.

» **Soleta:** Check out the remote-controlled, solar-powered cart.

» **UT Solar Vehicle: Samsung Solorean:** Meet the UT Solar Vehicle team and check out their latest project.

» **Austin Bike Zoo:** Large pedal-powered rides from recycled and found materials, including the 80-foot-long, 6-rider rattlesnake.

GREEN HOW-TO ACTIVITIES

» **Green, Cost-Effective, DIY Extravaganza:** Learn to make several sustainable projects — a solar oven, low-cost DIY graywater system, indoor gardening setup, a DIY pedicab, and more.

» **Solar Still:** Learn how to make a device that distills water using solar energy.

» **Sculpt Your Own Earthen Oven:** Learn how to build your own earthen oven using natural materials.

» **The Down and Dirty of Green Cleaning:** Make your own natural cleaning products and take them home.

FOOD MAKERS

» **Edible Austin Food Maker Pavilion:** *Edible Austin* magazine hosts this special showcase of local food makers, artisans, and growers. Over 25 food makers and farmers will be on hand with samples, products for sale, and useful advice on how they make their wares.

FUN FOR KIDS

» Visit the kids' area organized by **Austin Children's Museum**:

■ **MakerKids Showcase:** Local kids will be showcasing their inventions and creations.

■ **Celebrate National Chemistry Week:** Hands-on experiments for the entire family. **SATURDAY ONLY**



■ Plus **Penny Parachutes**, **Woodworking**, **Kite Making & Halloween Activities**.

» **Puppet Shows, Juggling, and DIY Games.**

MUSIC

Over 20 bands from Austin and beyond will be performing, representing a wide range of musical tastes all within the DIY (Do-It-Yourself) realm.

» **Foot Patrol**, the world's premiere funk act dedicated to, of all things, the foot. Funny, light-hearted, and funky.

SATURDAY, 3PM, FIRE TRUCK SOLAR STAGE

» **Southern Drama** indie rockers playing their eclectic blend of sultry and sour vocals. **SATURDAY, 6PM, FIRE TRUCK SOLAR STAGE**

» **El Tule**, an Austin favorite, with influences of cumbia, Latin jazz, Afro-Cuban, rock, merengue, salsa, and reggae. Sure to be a hit amongst the backdrop of flames and fireballs. **SATURDAY, 8PM, FIRE TRUCK SOLAR STAGE**

» Shipwrecked gypsy punk **WinoVino**: Don't miss this 8-piece acoustic act featuring accordion, upright bass, violin, guitar, washboard, found-object percussion, clarinet, and trumpet. **SUNDAY, 3PM, FIRE TRUCK SOLAR STAGE**

» **Mucca Pazza** is the marching band that thinks it's a rock and roll band. What better way to end Maker Faire than with a collection of no less than 30 shameless band nerds marching around the fairgrounds. **SUNDAY, 5PM, FIRE TRUCK SOLAR STAGE**

» Plus: ■ **Supersonic Uke** ■ **Angeliska + Arpadelamar** ■ **The Hero Cycle** ■ **THAT Damned Band** ■ **Belaharr** ■ **Automusik** ■ **The Dialtones** ■ **Sideshow Tramps** ■ **Delphi Rising** ■ **Walter Ehresman** ■ **The Tastydactyls** ■ **Operation Playmate** ■ **Wax Museum Pandemonium** ■ **7 Seals and The Wingless Angels** ■ **Esmerelda Strange** ■ **Painful Leg Injuries** ■ **Alexander's Dark Band** ■ **Girls Rock Camp** presents **Guy Incognito**



ARTS & CRAFTS

» **Bazaar Bizarre:** A juried craft fair of over 50 quality indie crafters.

» **Swap-O-Rama-Rama:** Bring old clothes and work with local designers to create something fresh and fashionable.



» **Weavers and Spinners Society of Austin:** See live demonstrations of weaving and spinning, plus felting and braid making.

» **Tech Fashion:** Learn to work with conductive thread.

» **Metalworking, Welding, and Blacksmithing:** See bats cut out of steel drums and Austin Metal Authority.

» **Art of Texas:** Jewelry, glass beads, free-form casting.

» **Learn:** How to make jewelry, hats, dolls, plus workshops on crocheting and serging.

» Meet Tina Barseghian and editors of **CRAFT** magazine.

DIY SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

» **Fabrication:** See demos of ShopBot, a CNC robotic tool. Learn how to use laser cutters, 3D printers, and other digital fab tools.

» **DIY Electronics:** Learn to explore a new world of LEDs and sensors.

» **Science in the Movies:** Live demonstration revealing how science is used to create spectacular movie stunts and special effects. **SATURDAY, 1:30PM & SUNDAY, 2:30PM, TESLA THEATER**

» **Trebuchets and Catapults, Oh Ya!:** See Mongo hurl large objects up to 300 yards.

» **Texas LEGO User Group:** A train/town and space-themed layout featuring working trains and other motorized creations.

» **Mice'Pace Maze:** Find your way through a maze that uses sound as the walls.



Phil Torrone



Mark Frauenfelder

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

» Electrifying! **ArcAttack's Musical Tesla Coils** perform in the Arena's Tesla Theater.

» **Mister Jalopy**, contributing editor for **MAKE**, presents "Authentic Innovation." [SATURDAY, 3PM, MAKER STAGE](#)

» **Mechanical Confections:** Artist Gina Kamensky is known for her kinetic art and animation projects.

» **It's a Blast!** With Austin Rocketry Group, build and fly your very own model rocket.

» **Eco-Modding:** Join the Illuminati Motor Works Team, an official Automotive X-Prize Contender, for daily eco-modding workshops as they focus on how to get better mileage and improve performance on the Hyundai Genesis.

» **Jaw-dropping Art Cars:** The Sashimi Tabernacle Choir Art Car features over 250 Billy Bass singing fish bolted to a Volvo and singing opera.



» **Daily Parade featuring White Snake:** 80-foot-long, 6-rider rattlesnake ride from Austin Bike Zoo.

» **Austin Metal Authority:** Live forging demonstration of blacksmithing and metalworking techniques including sculptural and functional projects.

» **Arduino Hacking:** Learn more about this open source hardware platform. "Why We Love Arduino" session with *Making Things Talk* author Tom Igoe.

[SATURDAY, 1PM, MAKER STAGE](#)



» **Meet the Hungry Scientist:** Author of a new book, Patrick Buckley demonstrates how to make ice cream with liquid nitrogen.

» **Ring of Fire:** Pyrotechnics on the hour from several Austin-based fire artists.

SATURDAY ONLY

» **Kluge:** NYU Professor Gary Marcus will talk about his new book on the haphazard construction of the human brain. [SATURDAY, 2PM, MAKER STAGE](#)

» **King of Fling Catapult Contest:** Local contestants bring their "Maker Made" catapults and compete to be "King of Fling."

» **Refashioned Fashion Show and Swap-O-Rama-Rama Fashion Show** [SATURDAY, 6PM, MAKER STAGE](#)

SUNDAY ONLY

» **Col. Joe Kittinger:** In 1960, Col. Kittinger jumped from a hot air balloon at the edge of space and fell for 20 miles, becoming the first man to break the sound barrier — without an airplane. A true American hero whose story will make you stand and cheer. [SUNDAY, 3PM, MAKER STAGE](#)

» **Bill Gurstelle's Barrage Garage,** talks about designing the ultimate Maker Space. [SUNDAY, 5PM, MAKER STAGE](#)



FIRE ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL

» By day, check out the flame effects in the **Ring of Fire**. See the propane-powered interactive sculptures from **Jason Mika** and **David Umlas**. **Therm's** robotic sculptures act as instruments that shape the flame.

» At night, experience the full intensity of the flames and fireballs with live music:

■ **Carmadillo**, a fire-breathing armadillo on a go-kart chassis, will be on the move.

■ In the arena, we'll have **Combat Robots** fighting fire with fire.

■ **The Boiler Bar Theater** not only showcases Jon Sarriugarte's fine metalwork, attention to detail, and experience with fire accoutrements, but they also provide a setting for several talented performers headed by **Kyrsten Mate**. The Bar is a fantasy of metal, rivets, and fire.

■ The evening concludes with a performance by **Sangre Del Sol** starring **Sage**, a spectacle of flame and fluid movement.

Attractions



■ RoboGames Texas Cup

The best fighting robot competitors from the U.S. and Canada will be at Maker Faire to smash, bash, crash, and trash their way to victory inside a 1,600-square-foot bulletproof battle arena!



■ Life-Sized Mouse Trap Game

The unique design of this giant, Rube Goldberg-style contraption was cleverly gleaned from the memories of childhood, twisted out of scale, then stretched beyond life sized.



■ EepyBird's Diet Coke & Mentos Fountains

Help the original EepyBird guys build their amazing Mega-Fountain using Diet Coke and Mentos! Soda practically explodes as carbon dioxide rapidly escapes from the bottle.



» **HOURS** — Rain or shine!
Sat, Oct 18th, 10am – 10pm
Sun, Oct 19th, 10am – 6pm

More program details
and schedules at:

www.makerfaire.com

» **LOCATION**

Travis County Expo Center
7311 Decker Lane, Austin, TX

Pets are not allowed, for their safety.

» **TICKETS Available Now at**

Discounted Pricing! Avoid lines
on-site and save money by pur-
chasing your tickets in advance.

Save \$5-\$10 per ticket!

» Go to Whole Foods Market
Downtown or The Austin Chil-
dren's Museum for the advanced-
price tickets up until the 17th!

» Tickets available online at
makerfaire.com and on-site at
Travis County Expo Center
(cash or credit).

Adults \$25 (\$35 with Make or
Craft subscription)

Students \$15 (age 13-21, with
valid student ID)

Youth \$10 (age 4-12)

Children 3 and under are free.
**SUNDAY ONLY Military & Vet-
eran Discount: \$10 per person**
(limit 4) with valid ID.
*Re-admittance OK with
stamped hand.*

» **DIRECTIONS TO TRAVIS
COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**

From the intersection of I-35 and
US 290 East in north Austin, go 6
miles east on 290 until you come
to the intersection of 290 and
Decker Lane (a stop light). Turn
right onto Decker Lane and go 3

miles to the front gate of the Expo
Center, which will be on your left.
Map for the event site available at:

makezine.com/go/austinmap

» **FREE PARKING AT TRAVIS
COUNTY EXPO CENTER**

Parking is **FREE** and available at
the Travis County Expo Center.
Public entrances are at Gate 1
and Gate 3. You will be directed to
designated parking areas.

» **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**
Capital Metro Bus Route #37 will
drop off at Wentworth and Loyola.

The Expo Center and Fairgrounds
is about an 8-block walk from
the drop-off spot. The bus runs
approximately every half hour and
the cost is 50¢ one-way. For a map
of the route from downtown at 6th
and Brazos see [www.capmetro.org/riding/current_schedules/
maps/rt037_sb.pdf](http://www.capmetro.org/riding/current_schedules/maps/rt037_sb.pdf)
For specific route information,
contact 512-474-1200.

» **RECYCLING AT MAKER FAIRE**
We have teamed up with Ecology
Action and CLIF Bar to offer recy-

cling options. In the public areas
we will be collecting aluminum
cans, plastic cups, plastic bottles,
and glass bottles and jars. These
bins will have blue tops and be
scattered throughout the area.

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A division of O'Reilly Media, Maker Media is devoted entirely to a growing community of resourceful people who believe that if you can imagine it, you can make it.

Best Sports Executive **PHIL RAWLINS, AUSTIN AZTEX**

With the 40-acre behemoth looming, Austin's always been a tough town for professional sports. And soccer? Well, football means one thing to the rest of the civilized world, but it means gridiron in Texas, and previous attempts in building amateur soccer here had ranged from optimistic to embarrassing. So Phil Rawlins had at least two strikes against him when he announced last year that he was bringing in not just one but two teams: an amateur development team (which started play this past summer) and a full pro team (kicking off next spring). So far, the Aztex president has made all the right moves: He assembled a deep and talented team on the field and in the front office, brought together various sides of Austin's fractious youth soccer community, hired a couple of world-class coaches in Wolfgang Suhrholz and Adrian Heath, won the toughest division in the 67-team Premier Development League, and drew a healthy crowd for home games. His position as part-owner of the Stoke City Pottery in the English Premier League paid off big time, as the 145-year-old franchise was promoted this year to the English Premier League for the first time. *Austin Aztex, 13359 Hwy. 183 N. #401, 335-8881.*

www.austinztex.com.

Best Birthday Boy **LBJ IS 100!**

"All the way with LBJ" said the campaign buttons our Sixties Democratic counterparts wore. More than 40 years after LBJ stepped down as president of the United States, Texas couldn't agree more. With the 100th anniversary of Johnson's birth, Central Texas pulled out all the stops: basking in the national congressional resolution marking the day; remembrances at his alma mater, the Texas State Teachers College (now Texas State University); a special exhibit at the LBJ Museum of San Marcos; commemorations, of course, at the ranch in Stonewall, just west of Johnson City; a 70-minute oration in Dallas focusing on a single day of his presidency; UT's LBJ Library's 100th birthday bash with barbecue and peach ice cream, which drew well more than 1,000 attendees; the lights in the UT Tower lit up to say 100; and the presidential library's exhibit outlining LBJ's contributions to the space program. Particularly on our minds due to his beloved Lady Bird's recent passing, the man who put the Texas stamp on the U.S. presidency is near and dear deep in this heart of Texas.

Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum, 2313 Red River, 721-0200; LBJ Museum of San Marcos, 131 N. Guadalupe, San Marcos, 512/353-3300; LBJ Ranch, Highway 290, 14 miles west of Johnson City, Stonewall, 830/868-7128.

www.lbjlib.utexas.edu; www.lbjmuseum.com; www.nps.gov/lyjo/planyourvisit/visitlbjranch.htm.

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**CAPITAL AREA
FOOD BANK
OF TEXAS**

AUSTINSTATEFAIR.COM

The Austin State Fair, along with Majic 95.5, Mix 94.7, and The Austin Chronicle will offer a special \$1 admission on Tuesday October 28th to each person bringing a donation of healthy, non-perishable food items with intact, un-opened, consumer or commercial packaging, items with non-breakable packaging (no glass please) and food within the expiration date on the packaging.

Benefits the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas

BEST OF AUSTIN 2008 READERS POLL Services

Best Health Services

PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY CLINIC

Health care shouldn't be confined to the rich or insured. Since 1970, People's has been the bedrock of nonprofit medical service, and as such, Austin holds these volunteer doctors and nurses in high esteem. Let's repeat that: volunteer doctors and nurses. To them, people are not numbers, consumers, or the bottom line – just people with basic human needs, and the People's Community Clinic is always there to help fill them. 2909 N. I-35, 478-4939.

www.austinpcc.org

Best Barbershop

BIRDS BARBERSHOP

Hipster than thou and cheaper than dirt, Birds wins again in the Battle of the Barbershop. With a menu of cuts and chemical treatments that are easy to digest, Birds is casual and fun without a hint of salon prissiness, and both convenient locations bring clean lines, good looks, and low prices to the people. 2110 S. Lamar, 442-8800; 6800 Burnet Rd., 454-1200.

www.birdsbarbershop.com

Best Tattoo Artist

KAREN SLATTER

There is no shadow. There is just Karen Slatter, whose reputation precedes her, making it about a month and a half before you can even get into her chair. Pretty rad for an art that is usually a boys' club. The wait's well worth it, though, not just for the name, no, but for the lines, the attention to detail, and the way she cocks her mouth to the side, concentrating, fully in focus on giving you the most kickass tat she can bring to life. No wonder she's owned this award for four years now. (She was our cover girl last year.) This lady can ink.

Resurrection Tattoo, 2108-D S. Lamar, 851-8288.

www.reztattoo.com

Best Spa

LAKE AUSTIN SPA RESORT

Austin shows its love for the Lake Austin Spa Resort – not just by going there but by voting it Best Spa again and again. The spa packages are truly divine and make fabulous gifts (note to foodies: consider enrolling in its Culinary Experience, an interactive cooking school with visiting chefs from around the country). From the grounds to the services to the food and hospitality, this spa offers it all in a beautifully manicured package. As a destination, it is unbeatable. As an asset in Austin, it is priceless.

1705 S. Quinlan Park, 372-7300.

www.lakeaustin.com



PHOTOS BY TODD V. WOLFSON

Best Hair Salon

URBAN BETTY

In a short time, this 26 Doors salon with the funky Fifties flair has fomented a fiercely fanatical following. With an array of stylists, each with a wide range of experience, Urban Betty can handle just about any hair issue under a hat. In a town with very creative hairdressers, this vote of coiffure confidence proves the talent behind these chairs is a cut above the rest.

1206 W. 38th St. #1201, 371-7663.

www.urbanbetty.com

Best Laundromat

ECOCLEAN

Just one in a long line of entrepreneurial successes for John Dorgan and Conrad Bejarano, the owners of ... that whole block it seems (I Luv Video, Spider House). But this section of their domain is special, a way to do laundry that's better for the environment, safer for your family, and less harmful for your clothes. It's like clean laundry that's really clean. Get that toxic crud out of your washers, and do it right. Or John and Conrad will come after you.

2915 Guadalupe, 236-8645.

www.ecocleanaustin.com

Best Pedicure/Manicure

AZIZ SALON & DAY SPA

Once spring had sprung, Aziz made sure our digits – all 20 of 'em – were trimmed and gleaming. It saw us through the rough times of a parched summer, and now that fall has fallen, it will keep our hands and feet soft and winterized. Getting a mani/pedi can be a chore, but Aziz makes it an experience that we look forward to.

710 W. Seventh, 476-4131.

www.azizsalon.com

CONTINUED ON P.110



Best Dry Cleaner

TIE: REID'S CLEANERS & LAUNDRY; WESTBANK DRY CLEANING

Dry cleaners are dry cleaners, right? Cut and dried. Unless you really use them. If you do use them, Reid's has a sterling reputation for excellent service and has been a "Best of Austin" winner since 2000. But wait! Is that an upstart we hear on the horizon? What's its name? Westbank? Hardly an upstart, Westbank Dry Cleaning has had a rabid, devoted following for more than 15 years. But the secret's out, and Reid's better batten down for a fight – Westbank's here to stay.

Reid's Cleaners & Laundry, various locations; Westbank Dry Cleaning, various locations.

www.reidsdrycleaners.com; www.westbankdrycleaning.com





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2008

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15 LOCATIONS NEAR YOU 350 N. Guadalupe, Ste. 130..... 3652 Bee Caves Rd..... 7435 Burnet Rd., Richcreek..... 110 North I-35, Ste. 250..... 5324 Cameron Rd..... 13492 Research Blvd..... 600 William Cannon..... 409 W. Front St. #100, Hutto..... 850 N. Bell #304..... 11126 Jollyville Rd..... 920 B. N. Austin Ave..... 12218 N. 620..... 4005 W. Parmer Lane, Unit C, Silver Creek Center..... 8400 Brodie Lane #101, 78745..... 3810 Gattis School Road #102, 78664.....	San Marcos..... (Same center as Twin Liquor)..... Round Rock..... (Same center as Gage Furniture)..... (183 & Anderson Mill Rd.)..... Cedar Park..... (at Balcones Woods Dr.)..... Georgetown.....	(512)392-6130 327-6846 454-7425 (512)244-4363 452-2200 258-8181 462-3868 759-4300 (512)258-4990 346-8845 (512)930-0666 257-0057 339-0401 291-1588 244-3733
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WORKSHOP: Saturday, Oct 18th, 1:30 - 3:00pm
Intro to the Yoga Rope Wall



Learn how the yoga rope wall can enhance your yoga experience. We'll work with the wall in standing, seated, inverted and backbending postures. Minimum of 3 months yoga experience required. For students with no major therapeutic issues. Space is limited, so register early. \$30-members (\$35-non).



Call JoyMoves to pre-register
328-4440

2501 S. Capital of Texas Hwy, Austin, Texas 78746 • www.JoyMoves.com

Hair & Photo © Avant





“Best Salon & Spa”
 Austin Chronicle 15 Times, CitySearch, InStyle, Elle

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downtown - 472-6357, gateway - 502-8268, southpark - coming soon

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JOHN CARRICO

Best Florist

BEN WHITE FLORISTS

Nothing could brighten up a Congress commuter's traffic-congested drive home more than flower petals leading to Ben White Florist other than, perhaps, the flower shop's sunflower sign and blue bicycle-wheel fence. This florist does more than just encourage folks to buy local, it does it itself by stocking Wimberley-grown Texas blooms. Check out its weekly carryout specials and its MySpace page.

3200 S. Congress, 447-3577.

www.benwhiteflorist.com,

www.myspace.com/benwhiteflorist.

Best Auto Service/Repair

FLAMINGO AUTOMOTIVE

A rumble, a grumble, a squeak from your trusty jalopy? Park under the pink and purple awnings of Flamingo Automotive, and bask in the personal care of these engine experts. It's the most stylish garage in Austin, with mod Miami decor and staffed by hunky and honest mechanics. Vroom!
3512 Guadalupe, 459-9917.

Best Car Wash

GENIE CAR WASH

With a little TLC and lots of soapy concoctions, the hardworking Genie Car Washers thoroughly lather up, vacuum out, and wax off your baby, all in a speedy and professional manner. Best part? They have killer coupons in darn near every publication this side of the Mississippi.
1311 S. Lamar, 444-9274; 7320 Burnet Rd., 451-9274; 1021 W. William Cannon, 416-9274.



Best Tailor

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Take it in; let it out; raise this; lower that; fix this; replace that. With Ace Custom Tailors at your back, you need never feel uncomfortable or self-conscious about your ill-fitting clothes again. From wedding gowns to bathing suits, Ace isn't happy with the fit unless you are happy with the fit ... and that's a service not even advertised on its menu.

2901 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 329-0523; 3720

Far West Blvd. #106, 345-7688; 916 W. 12th,

478-9965; 3801 Capital of TX Hwy. N. Ste. C-160, 732-2231.

www.acetailors.com.



Best Computer Repair

LOGIC APPROACH

Where geekiness is godliness, Logic Approach is the best place to upgrade the old or recapture data once thought completely lost. They work hard-drive miracles, dole out sage advice, and stock an unprecedented amount of spare parts. Fast, economical, convenient, professional miracle workers for today's digital needs.

2500 S. Lamar, 444-4443.

www.logicapproach.com.



Best Shoe Repair

AUSTIN SHOE HOSPITAL

The name says it all – and whether you wear Skechers or Manolos, the Austin Shoe Hospital will give your tired footwear a new lease on life. With complete services and product lines for shoe care, ASH's multiple locations ensure that your feet will never have to go too far without the best.

3106 Windsor, 477-6515; 720 Congress,

477-5078; 3300 Bee Caves Rd., 329-8104;

1911 W. Ben White, 440-8788; 8211 Burnet Rd.,

453-1961; 5114 Balcones Woods Dr., 345-8663;

6781 Hwy. 290 W., 288-6386.

www.austinshoehospital.com.

Best Appliance/TV Repair

MR. WIZARD'S ELECTRONICS

The greenies forgot an "R" before reuse: as in repair (not replace!). If that broken appliance served you well until it ... well, broke, then don't give up on it yet. Take it to the wizards instead, and get it another lease on life. Beats shovin' it in the back of a closet. Or a landfill.

1507 W. North Loop, 454-1137.

CONTINUED ON P.112

Best Printer/Copies

GINNY'S PRINTING

It all started back in 1971. Through the offset Seventies and the Xerox Eighties, Ginny's served as Austin's versatile and speedy one-stop print shop. (Ahhhh, we remember afternoons constructing many a gig flier at her convenient locations!) But as the industry has changed, so has nimble Ginny's. Last year, it merged with the Lithoprint Co., a large Austin trade printer, thereby redirecting efforts exclusively to the commercial front. Its wisdom was in learning to grow with its clients. Gone are the self-serve copiers and counter service, and in their stead has emerged some of the most informed and conscientious print-job customer service in the biz.

8410-B Tuscany Way, 454-6874.

www.ginnysprinting.com.





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evelyn@handaustin.org

READERS POLL

Services

CONTINUED FROM P.110



Best Recording Studio

MILLION DOLLAR SOUND

When Kurtis Machler opened this studio on the south side in 1999, it was with fingers crossed. Now, with credentials stretching from Hunt Sales to Jesus Christ Superfly and then some, Million Dollar Sound has a third home off South First and Stassney with more rooms, better sound, and a view of the greenbelt. Who could ask for more?

217 E. Alpine, 416-7600.

www.myspace.com/milliondollarsound.

Best Landscape Services

SOUTHWEST KEY MAINTENANCE

PHOTOS BY JOHN CARRICO



We all like having someone to call when a lawn or garden crisis strikes at 3am. A subset of the larger Southwest Key nonprofit group, Southwest Key Maintenance may well be the only landscaping and cleaning company with 24-hour emergency service. Its affordable annual package delivers 30 visits a year for less than \$30 each. This enterprising public service program is a successful example of social entrepreneurship: Its mission to create job growth is backed up by tidy landscapes all over town.

6002 Jain, 767-5534.

www.swkeymaintenance.com.

Best Contractor/Home Service

TIE: ROOM FU; HANDYCHICKS

This tie goes to two local, female-owned companies that have the foresight to meld innovative design ideas with the sweat and labor to implement them. Room Fu has design consultation and interior design for almost any budget and taste. Whether you're looking for modern and eclectic or cozy and accessible, Robin Callan's design guru eye can nail down your vision with clarity. And speaking of nailing, the women at Handyicks are more than adept at nailing, painting, construction, plumbing, electrical, and lawn work. They offer everyday general services while keeping the costs reasonable, the expectations high, and the level of service several notches above dependable. Both of these companies are turning Austin's residences into well-designed, well-kept, and well-working abodes.

Room Fu, 797-5821; Handyicks, 1916 Cannonwood, 441-1038.
www.roomfu.com; www.handyicks.com.

Best Movers

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be stressful and scary. Thankfully, this team of consummate professionals has the heart to make the transition an attentive, secure, and respectful one.

12201 Roxie Ste. B, 340-0551.

www.heavenlycaremoving.com.

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517 S. Lamar, 477-3472; 10947 Research, 345-7460.

www.bicyclesportshop.com.

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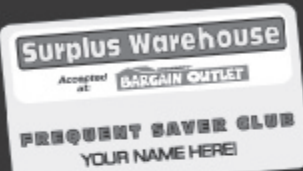
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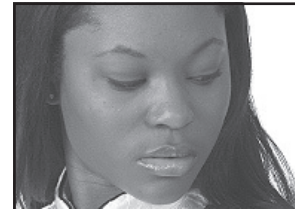
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BEST OF AUSTIN 2008

CRITICS PICKS

Services

Best Hungry Lawn Guy

STARVING ARTIST LAWN CARE & LANDSCAPING

For most creative-class types, there's a pretty clear distinction between making a living and living one's dreams. In Austin, the line gets a bit thinner, as so many folks in this town are invested in our creative culture. So when a local musician names his yard-mowing biz Starving Artist Lawn Care, it strikes a chord. And in the interest of allowing local guitarist, saxman, and vocalist Jason Benford to make enough dough so he can continue to "strike chords" in the clubs at night: Hire him. He's enterprising, efficient, and inexpensive. Why not support local music while you pretty up your hood?

751-6198.

www.starvingartistlawncafe.com.

Best Stylist for Curly Hair

RON KING AT BÔ SALON

We love curly hair – but don't always love the responsibility of it. Fortunately, there are masters who are trained to tame, and when it comes to curly hair, Bô Salon's founder, Ron King, has some of the best hands in the business. From the catwalks of New York to the pages of *Vanity Fair*, Ron's take on beauty and styling is definitely not for the faint of pocketbook ... but service from a top-notch pro rarely is.

2004 S. Congress, 448-0060.

www.bosalon.com.

Best New Eastside Evolution

SOMA VIDA

Soma Vida is the brainchild of three visionary single mothers who transformed a beautiful old Eastside house into a wellness center and hub of community energy. With yoga, acupuncture, psychotherapy, herbal medicine, child care, massage, coaching, a community gardening project, a co-working space, and various classes, Soma Vida offers an ideal place to contemplate balance, health, and purpose.

1210 Rosewood, 628-1580.

www.somavidaaustin.com.



BRET BROOKSHIRE

Best Effort to Close the Austin Health-Care Gap

PROJECT ACCESS

We can earn 200% of the federal poverty guidelines and still be poor ... but not poor enough for Medicaid. That's where Project Access steps in. No more trips to the emergency room with a false name and address to get health care. No more staying at a crappy job just in case you get a health plan one day. Project Access links up generous doctors who donate their services to the uninsured working people of Austin. What a visionary way to help bridge the health-care gap!

PO Box 4679, Austin, 78765, 206-1164.

www.projectaccessaustin.com.

Best Reasons to Spread 'Em

TIE: MONTANA AT MONTANA SKIN AND JESSICA AT MILK + HONEY AND ESTY

For the brave, daring to go fully bare, down there, it's off to the oft-feared Brazilian waxer. Thankfully, Jessica at Milk + Honey and Esty spas and Montana at Montana skin-care studio have perfected the craft of making you feel comfortable in the most uncomfortable positions. The pain is (as much as it can be) fleeting, their professionalism stellar, and the fear of the 3-2-1 count is soothed by the calmness and the serenity of the day-spa surroundings. In addition to hair removal, both salons can help you with your skin, nails, or stress. Want a pick-me-up? Leave it to these top-notch glamour gals.

Montana Skin, 1211 Parkway, 535-1475; Milk + Honey, 204 Colorado, 236-1115; Esty, 1919 S. First, 903-8225.

www.montilly.com; www.milkandhoneyspa.com; www.estyspa.com.

Best Small Imprint Broker

ROCKET SCIENCE REALTY

Cynthia Riley Loera is improving Austin one house at a time. She believes strongly that the way we live makes or breaks communities. Her goal as a Realtor/broker is to support clients through life's changes while steering them toward the best option for the environment, Austin's neighborhoods, and one's stress threshold. Her company, Rocket Science Realty, specializes in small-imprint living. If you are looking for a house bigger than 3,000 square feet, she's not your gal. She's a straight shooter and a breath of fresh air in Austin's housing-market madness.

415-5616.

www.rocketsciencerealty.com.



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301-0722.

www.betterbatterbakery.com.

Best Neighborhood Cleaners

CATHY'S CLEANERS & ALTERATIONS

Keeping pleats pressed and buttoned-up wearables starched, this neighborhood dry cleaners is family-owned and -operated and well-steeped in the Downtown tradition of friendly, fast efficiency. Coupons, frequent-patron cards, and an honest smile every time are what keep the regulars happy. Quick turnarounds and quality service are what make newcomers stay.

231 W. Third, 320-8111.

www.cathyscleaners.net.

Best Farm-to-Table Initiative

JOHNSON'S BACKYARD GARDEN

We all know that locally grown, organic, in-season produce is the best kind to grace our tables. How about the added benefit of directly supporting a local farmer to boot? That's what community-supported agriculture is all about, and Johnson's Backyard Garden shines brightly among the lot. With convenient neighborhood pickups located all around this fair city and weekly or biweekly options, it's a surefire way to get your greens, save some green, and keep a local farming family working their land.

9515 Hergotz Ln., 386-5273.

www.johnsonsbakerygarden.com.

CONTINUED ON P.116

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CRITICS PICKS

Services
CONTINUED FROM P.114

Best Place to Cure Your Road Rash BUMPER SCUFFS PLUS

We dinged our baby – *bad*. A cannonball-sized dent in the back of its shiny red bumper. First three places turned us down flat; fourth one wanted to replace the whole shebang for more than \$1,000. Then we found Bumper Scuffs Plus. Matt explained our options then worked his magic while we waited. Forty minutes and a mere \$95 later, our bumper was gorgeous again (and not in the landfill). Fast, honest, cheap, locally owned ... what better place to cure your road rash? 8308 Research, 454-3330. www.bumperscuffsuplus.com.

Best Response in a Crisis TIE: AMERICAN RED CROSS OF CENTRAL TEXAS; CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK

It's not their job. That's the first fact that everyone should remember when thinking about how the volunteers with these two charities stepped up to help the Hurricane Ike evacuees. It was the Red Cross that staffed shelters and the Capital Area Food Bank that handed out emergency supplies to those that had fled the coast. This award is not as much for the institutions as for the people that sacrificed their time and energy to help those in need – and will again. American Red Cross of Central Texas, 2218 Pershing, 928-4271; Capital Area Food Bank, 8201 S. Congress, 282-2111. www.centex.redcross.org; www.austinfoodbank.org.

Most Austintatious Outdoor Commode AUSTIN OUTHOUSE

Whether or not these mobile handy cans are named for the defunct music venue of the same name, Austin Outhouses ain't your poppa's porta-potties. Colored eye-popping pinks and blues, built with a little extra elbow room, and even coming with optional hand-washing stations, these convenient latrines make construction sites and outdoor festivals a little more comfortable. 5910 Johnny Morris Rd., 448-2699. www.austinouhouse.com.



PHOTOS BY BRET BROOKSHIRE



Best Reason Not to Frame It Yourself CONTESSA ART GALLERY & FRAME

Kerbey Lane's oldest business is also perhaps its most inconspicuous. Ex-Marine reservist and East Austin native Alex Calderon bought the little white house across from the all-night eatery in 1969 and set out across Texas to find moldings ranging from vintage Vatican to metallic pink. His three boys, Alex Jr., Ray, and Mark, inherited their father's magic eye for locking in an image, whether it be a framed Lance Armstrong jersey, a note from Lady Bird Johnson, or all those rock & roll posters so popular in the live music capital. *Ay carumba!* 3705 Kerbey, 454-5119.

Best Reason Not to Drive CAPITAL METRO

As gas prices skyrocket, eco-awareness rises, and traffic congestion becomes a total drag, a lot more Austinites (including *Chronicle* staffers) have been hopping on the bus at 3,000 stops around town. With positive 2008 changes such as the upcoming MetroRail, new buses, expanded service, simplified 'Dillo routes, and new regional partnerships, Cap Metro deserves kudos this year (even factoring in the reasonable fare hikes). Making a big, positive difference for regional planning are Doug Allen, the new executive vice president and chief development officer, and Todd Hemingson, vice president of strategic planning and development. Reading, Web-surfing, or napping while commuting – it sure beats swearing at idiot drivers. 2910 E. Fifth, 389-7400, Go Line: 474-1200. www.capmetro.org.

Best High Tech Co-op CONJUNCTURED

Remember how being your own boss looked cool until your home office became more office than home? Don't feel like shushing that coffeehouse poetry slam just because you've got a client calling? Where other business service centers just have rules and cubicles, this pet-friendly commercial hothouse brings small entrepreneurs together in both physical space and online community to flourish and cooperate. 1309 E. Seventh, 524-4296. www.conjunctured.com.

Best Pet Whisperer DR. KATHRYN VAN WINKLE

Dr. Kathryn Van Winkle, one half of the two-vet team that is the Barton Creek Animal Clinic, may be the closest thing to a dog whisperer that Austin has. And that's a great thing when your pooch or puss ain't feelin' so good. Van Winkle and her team are smart, kind, and gentle. Whether your pet needs annual shots or just a weekly acupuncture session, Van Winkle's got you covered. 4201 Westbank Dr., 327-8300.

Best Cut & Dye SALON INTUITIONS

We've named Salon Intuitions, the hip hairdo joint at the Triangle, Best Cut as an homage to their oh-so-talented staff, former Toni&Guy hairdressers who dared to dream and decided to cut ties with the mall chain to manifest their own vision. Salon Intuitions reflects everything these daring folks imagined having in their own salon, and that realized concept is something clients no doubt appreciate. So what about the Dye part in this award? Well, in addition to giving fabulous 'dos, they're just really damn good at coloring hair. 4616 Triangle Ave. #401, 323-0880. www.salonintuitions.net.

Best Stress-Free April 15 FOUNDATION COMMUNITIES' FREE TAX CENTERS

Foundation Communities offers relief from tax-preparation anxiety in the form of this free program that runs mid-January to mid-April. Nine different locations, staffed by countless volunteers, make it more than convenient. Instead of dropping a bill at large corporate tax centers, taxpayers earning within certain limits can take care of their yearly pain through this local nonprofit. 3036 S. First #200, 447-2026. www.communitytaxcenters.org.

Best South South Austin Computer Repair THAT COMPUTER STORE

So why would you look way out Manchaca Road for computer repair? Because it's so affordable waaaaaay south in the county. Owner Dave Davis keeps his in-store crew busy with reputable repair services and legit, registered program installations. Plus, as the sign says, no city sales tax! 11629 Manchaca Ste. D, 441-8100. www.thatcomputerstore.com.

Best Reunited Barbers PHYLLIS AND PETE AT GAITAN'S

It was a sad day when Phyllis Nunez left Gaitan's Barber Shop. We even commemorated her new location with a "Best of Austin" back in 2006, just so loyal fans from the landmark Hyde Park shop could find her. The very week the issue came out, however, Phyllis excitedly called to tell us she had moved back to her old digs on Duval Street. Now the tried-and-true team is reunited, and it feels so good: buzzing razors, sharing the latest gossip, and taking a little off the back, just the way it should be. 4224 Duval St., 453-9855. www.sharoos.com.

Best Breath of Fresh Air TEXAS GREEN AIR

Lots of life-forms thrive in the silver ducts of central air-conditioning systems: dust and dander, mold and microbes. Texas Green Air sucks 'em all up with a giant snaking vacuum cleaner, washes down the interior of the air handlers, kills mold spores, and cleans out your dryer vents for good measure. This young mom-and-pop company is run by the Naim family, who offers fast, friendly, infant- and pet-safe services to make everybody's lungs happy. 779-2913. www.texasgreenair.com.

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MO ROCCA *Daily Show* Veteran!

FRI. OCTOBER 24, 8PM

Find out what this political satirist (*or imp as he likes to call himself*) thinks about the race for the White House including McCain, Obama and, of course, Sarah Palin. All this just *days* from the election!



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CHRIS BOTTI

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Trumpeter Chris Botti is a gifted instrumentalist, a talented composer, and charismatic performer who has become a virtual genre-of-one in the realm of contemporary jazz.



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Diavolo has redefined dance, redefined theatre, and redefined thrills. Diavolo takes movement, athleticism and risk to the extreme and creates surreal, sometimes Dada-esque tableaux in which the imagination thrives. If you love Pilobolus, you'll love Diavolo.

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KELLY WILLIS & BRUCE ROBISON HOLIDAY SHOW

THU. DECEMBER 11, 7PM

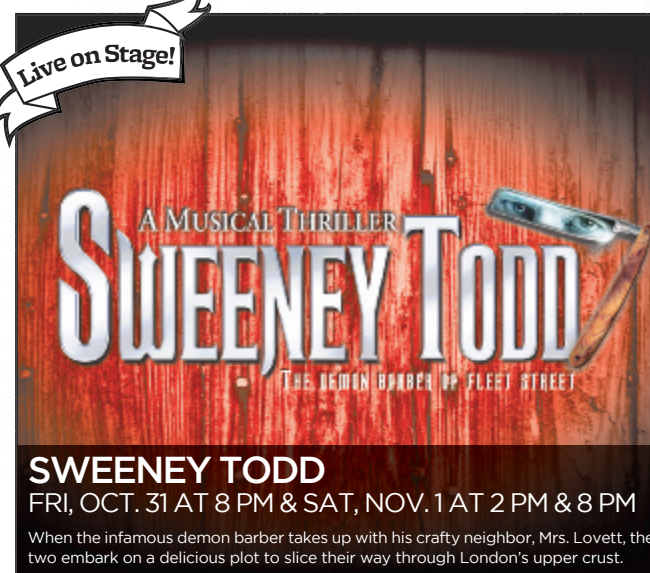
Join Texas country music's favorite couple for their fifth annual holiday show at the historic Paramount Theatre.



CHRISTMAS WITH AARON NEVILLE & HIS QUINTET

THU. DECEMBER 11, 7PM

Celebrate the Holidays with members of New Orleans' First Family of Funk — brothers Aaron and Charles Neville!



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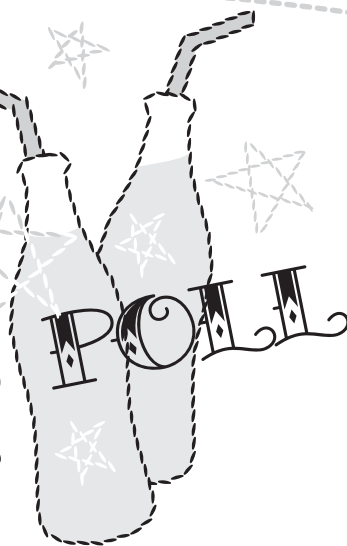
This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division, by a grant from Texas Commission on the Arts, and is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

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BEST OF AUSTIN 2008 READERS Shopping



Best Fashion Accessories

FLIRT

Bat those eyelashes, girl. Toss that hair. You're shopping at Flirt, basking in its third year as a "BOA" winner. This popular UT-area favorite presents signature lines such as Necessary Objects handbags, Lucca, LA Made, and Matt & Nat, among others. Their 30%-off happy hour every third Thursday and a newly expanded goddess shopping space is sure to keep fans up on the latest trends. 2405 Nueces Ste. H, 472-4440. www.flirtinaustin.com.

Best Shoe Selection

NORDSTROM

Ever since its debut in Austin, Nordstrom's fabled shoe department has delighted customers with the most desirable lines of shoes on the market. But what's a shoe store without attentive service? You'll never find out at Nordstrom – the staff's expertise in fit and knowledge of styles is just as legendary as the selection of shoes ... for men, women, and children. Barton Creek Square, 2901 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 691-3500. www.nordstrom.com.



SEABROOK JONES

Best Clothing

STRUT

Strut owner Javier Hernandez is a real Austin success story. A retail clerk as of just a few years ago, he is now owner of four Strut stores (three in Austin and one in San Marcos) noted for their trendy yet affordable selections of women's clothing, shoes, and accessories. Legions of ladies swear by Strut, and as it continues to branch out, we may be watching an empire in the making. 3100 S. Congress, 707-1523; 2208 S. Lamar, 326-2303; 3500 Guadalupe, 374-1667.

Best Thrift Store

GOODWILL

It's not just about getting great prices on used goods and color-coordinated selections of gently worn clothes (though that certainly is part of its charm); it's also about retraining and rehabilitating those less fortunate than ourselves. Everyone wins when you shop at Goodwill!

Various locations.
www.austingoodwill.org.

Best Vintage

ROOM SERVICE VINTAGE

The gang at Room Service knows what you want – from the quirky to the sublime – long before you do. It could be the exact Knoll coffee table you've dreamed of; an original acid-washed official *Dirty Dancing* jacket (still with tags!) that you missed out on the first time; that stunning Marimekko in the window; or a perfect copy of *Dynamite* like the ones from the Scholastic Book Club before mom threw away all your Shaun Cassidy. Whatever the treasure, Room Service is a great place when you're looking for something specific ... or when you're shopping for something you didn't know you needed. 1701 S. Lamar, 383-9898; 107 E. North Loop, 451-1057. www.roomservicevintage.com.

Best Antiques/Collectibles

UNCOMMON OBJECTS

Nothing common here – just an extraordinary time capsule of extraordinary finds: clothing from bygone eras, architectural elements, estate jewelry, 19th century books, and just about anything you can (or can't) imagine. Uncommon Objects is not your mom's thrift store; it's a labyrinthine journey through time, with hundreds of items begging you to take them home. 1512 S. Congress, 442-4000. www.uncommonobjects.com.

Best Furnishings/Home

IKEA

Swedish design, modern utility, economical bonanzas, and gorgeous little meatballs – ever since that happy blue-and-yellow box opened its doors to us two years ago, our apartments, dorm rooms, houses, and homes have been better for

Best New Local Business

THE KNITTING NEST

Yarn never had it so hip. When the Knitting Nest set up shop in South Austin, its bright, colorful new digs were welcomed by local crafters and newbies alike. It offers classes and personal instruction, a knitting lounge, and a friendly, personable staff. Carrying the largest supply of Cascade Yarns in the Southwest United States, employing world-class knitters, and sporting – let's face it – one of the cutest Westies in all of Austin as its mascot, this place has set itself up to be one of our faves for years to come. 160 W. Slaughter #200, 291-8866. www.theknittingnestaustin.com.



BRET BROOKSHIRE

it. Chairs, bookshelves, linens, closets, lamps, rugs, kitchenware – all with the added touch of European sensibility and chic splashes of bold color – make welcome additions to our home decor.

1 IKEA Way, I-35 exit 256, Round Rock, 512/828-4532.
www.ikea-usa.com.

Best Local Hardware Store

BREED & CO.

The success of this local treasure in a big-box world, opened in 1970 by Truman and Ann Breed, may be its butch/femme appeal. Go to one side of the store for door hinges and bulldog hooks, then meet your companion on the other side to approve selections of Jay Strongwater and crystal stemware. Tip: Try browsing the nursery while munching on fine, dark chocolate. 718 W. 29th, 474-6679; 3663 Bee Caves Rd., 328-3960. www.breedandco.com.

Best Gardening Store

NATURAL GARDENER

Chemicals schmchemicals – that's what these guys say. You don't need to use gross toxins to keep insects off your plants. Do it the organic way. They'll show you how. Their grounds are amazing, everything you could ever want to discover: vegetable gardens, an herb garden, an orchard/vineyard, a butterfly garden, xeriscape, and even a labyrinth and a tepee for the more adventurous. You can even pet a jackass. Now, this is organic living. 8648 Old Bee Caves Rd., 288-6113. www.naturalgardeneraustin.com.

Best Pet Store

BARK 'N PURR PET CENTER

One trip to this pet palace, and you begin to remember what retail used to be like. Established in Austin more than a half-century ago, Bark 'n Purr offers exceptional customer service for both you and little Muffin, along with a complete line of pet-care products, accessories, and pet food. Austin loves local: Who needs the big, national outlets to tell us how it's done? Bark 'n Purr doesn't. Just ask little Muffin (or Brutus or Tinkle or whatever). 4604 Burnet Rd., 452-3883. www.barknpurr.com.

CONTINUED ON P.120

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THE 817



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READERS POLL

Shopping

CONTINUED FROM P.118

Best Car Dealership

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Howdy Honda wants nothing more than to make you happy and to make you feel welcome – its name says so. Whether you prefer an upfront car salesman or one who does the five-hours-long dance with you or one who will know when to just back off, they're happy to accommodate. Fill out an online financing form, and they'll call you to offer a hand to hold as you go down the car-buying path. 5519 E. Ben White, 443-4300, 888/665-9466. www.howdyhonda.com.



JOHN CARRICO

Best Green Business

ECO-WISE

Austin loves green, and Austin loves Eco-Wise, because it colors us that way. From building supplies and housewares to personal-care items, baby clothes, and pet care, Eco-Wise has it all for smart shoppers who really care about themselves, their children, their homes, and the future of the planet we call home. Eco-Wise: made in Austin (and we wouldn't have it any other way!). 110 W. Elizabeth, 326-4474. www.ecowise.com.

Best Liquor Store

SPEC'S

Like H-E-B with beer goggles on, Spec's rocks its many bright, white aisles with so many choices in every department of alcohol consumption, you could slur your words just lookin' at 'em. The larger-than-life selection includes liquors from every color of the rainbow, beers, wines, and killer keg services. Spec's brings it up a notch with its amazing deli and fantastic wine tastings going on throughout the week. 5775 Airport, 366-8300; 4960 Hwy. 290 W., 366-8260; 10515 MoPac N., 342-6893. www.specsonline.com.

Best Local Bookstore

BOOKPEOPLE

Doesn't it say something when an author announces a signing in Austin and the automatic presumption is it'll be at BookPeople? Two stories of literature, proving that the downfalls of both the independent bookstore and the printed word have been exaggerated. 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

Best Drugstore/Pharmacy

PEOPLES RX

If you moved here because you like it weird but you're still standing in line like a robot in those big chains, please step over to Peoples. The good folks at this independent pharmacy

Best Naughty Business

FORBIDDEN FRUIT

Where most places would say that sex sells, here, sex excels. With costumes to dress up or smack down, toys for the most intimate of playthings, props, accessories, tasty edibles, and world-class service and advice, this is the holy grail for seekers of that delicious forbidden fruit. Its workshops syllabi run the gamut from stripping to pole dancing to BDSM, making for the best boudoir extra credit of any class ever. 512 Neches, 478-8358; 108 E. North Loop, 453-8090. www.forbiddenfruit.com.



TODD V. WOLFSON

live by that Tom Edison quote: "The doctor of the future will give no medicine, but will instruct his patients in the care of the human frame, in diet, and in the cause and prevention of disease." The friendly team of pharmacists and health counselors includes nutritionists, naturopaths, and homeopaths. How's that for a local cure?

4018 N. Lamar, 459-9090; 3801 S. Lamar, 444-8866; 13860 Hwy. 183 N. Ste. C, 219-9499; 4201 Westbank, 327-8877. www.peoplesrx.com.

Best Comic-Book Store

AUSTIN BOOKS

In a year when comic-book movies were bigger than ever but local comic-book stores closed like old issues, Austin Books thrived by doing what it does best: carrying a huge selection of not just the big name titles but the indie, the obscure, the limited run, and the rarely seen.

5002 N. Lamar, 454-4197. www.austinbooks.com.

Best Fantasy/Gaming Store

DRAGON'S LAIR COMICS & FANTASY

Fantasy gaming isn't just about level-seven elf mages, cloak-ing spells, and summoning ... things. It's about participating in a socially constructed narrative. That's why Dragon's Lair isn't just a store, it's a community – a community preparing

CONTINUED ON P.122

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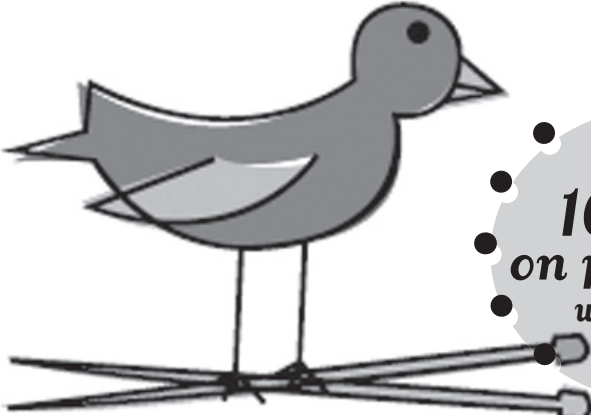
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Viva on Lamar
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Austin, Texas 78704
(512) 472-2256

READERS POLL

Shopping

CONTINUED FROM P.120

an assault on Overlord Zarkknon's crystal redoubt deep within the Blood Realm of Dimension XII.
6111 Burnet Rd., 454-2399.
www.dlair.net

Best Record/CD Store

WATERLOO RECORDS & VIDEO

With record stores all over the country dropping like flies, Waterloo Records is the mirage in our vinyl and polycarbonate desert. We love how the bins aren't separated by genre but color coded by stickers, making the selections easy to peruse. And we can count on getting turned on to great music in the listening stations and live at the in-stores. Staffed by local musicians (Bill Jeffery, DJ Mel, etc.) among other knowledgeable music nerds, Waterloo leaves our ears enriched, informed, and happy.
600-A N. Lamar, 474-2500.
www.waterloorecords.com

Best Music Gear

GUITAR CENTER

You know how you and your buds broke it down to "Pour Some Sugar on Me" with the cutlery and the glassware at Magnolia the other night (much to the chagrin of your server)? It's high time you guys started that monster rock group. Pile into your tour bus, and stock it up with all the essentials – drums, guitars, keys, basses, synthesizers – to get the groupies lining up. (Sorry, no hair extensions sold here.)

2525 W. Anderson #200, 419-1717; 5300 MoPac S. #103, 891-0297.
www.guitarcenter.com

Best Small Record/CD Store

END OF AN EAR

From Ratatat to Rat at Rat R. From rare Prince to Bonnie "Prince" Billy. From Shearwater to Bongwater ... oh, hell, we could do this all day. But for the best in a human-scaled record store, lend an ear to our readers. This win says a lot in a town that has experienced a small record-store renaissance within the last few years. Yeah, yeah, back to the fun stuff: From King Kong to King Kahn. From the Box Tops to Voxtro ...

2209 S. First, 462-6008.
www.endofanear.com

Best DVD Rental/Purchase

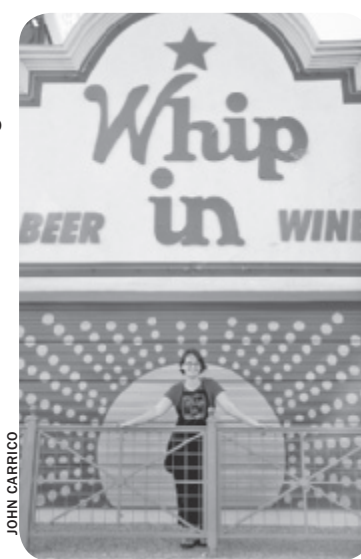
VULCAN VIDEO

Vulcan Video manages to effortlessly kick the collective asses of all the national chains, largely due to its outstanding staff. Friendly and helpful in spite of their penetrating depth of cinematic erudition, they can guide you skillfully through Vulcan's comprehensive inventory. They will also let you bring your dog in and may even pet him.
609 W. 29th, 478-5325; 112 W. Elizabeth, 326-2629.
www.vulcanvideo.com

Best Convenience Store

WHIP IN

One visit to Whip In, and you'll be in love. If the impressive selection of beer, wine, snacks, and cigars isn't enough to make you swoon, speaking with any one of the knowledgeable, friendly employees will have you down on one knee, ready to propose.
1950 S. I-35, 442-5337.
www.whipin.com



Best Computer Store

APPLE STORE

Step into the bright, white light of the Apple Store; smile at fellow Mac buddies; and check out the latest version of the iPod. We love the clean, simple designs that mimic Apple's user-friendly details. And whenever your iWhatever or gWhatever gets sick, you can count on the Genius Bar to serve up a fix.
2901 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 347-7888; 11410 Century Oaks Terrace, 691-4800.
www.apple.com

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BEST OF AUSTIN 2008

CRITICS PICKS

shopping

Best Day to Buy Dickies

TUESDAYS AT TODAY'S STYLE

Every day's a good day to buy Dickies, you say? Well, you may want to rethink that once you learn that Today's Style hosts its 15% Off Everything (except stuff already on sale) Sale on Tuesdays. Don't let the modest size of its two convenient locations fool you – their inventories are huge. With their rainbow of Dickies flavas, kicks, urban wear, and cheap alterations, Today's Style gives life to the day before Hump Day and a reason to make that paycheck last past the weekend. 1915 E. Riverside, 447-0000; 4631 Airport #104, 300-2772. todays-style.tripod.com.

Best Subterraneans

BRAVE NEW BOOKS

Is it any coincidence that this bastion of constitutionalists is as far as possible from big government breeding ground the LBJ School and still next to the UT campus? Proudly subversive, literally and spiritually underground, this is the one-stop literary shop for every conspiracy-loving (and dreading) reader. After all, what other bookstore has a "Ron Paul's Recommended Reading" section?

1904 Guadalupe Ste. B (downstairs), 480-2503.
www.bravenewbookstore.com.

Best Locally Designed Cosmetics

RAE COSMETICS

Whether trying to achieve the sublimely exotic or sun-kissed freshness, Rochelle Rae's palette of colors offers a stunning range of cosmetics, custom-made for the Austin climate. From foundations and concealers to eye and lip colors, Rae says it's "a mineral make-up line created to take the heat, like the women who wear it." Judging from her devoted following of acolytes, she's right on the money.

1206 W. 38th #3102, 320-8732.
www.raecosmetics.com.

Best Place to Dig for Vintage Treasures

OUT OF THE PAST

Step inside Out of the Past, and take a deep breath – don't you dare call it a room full of junk. Every square inch of the store is piled high with vintage treasures, and many require intricate excavation to be discovered. From old plates to stuffed E.T. dolls to wacky paintings, classic toys, records, and retro furniture, Out of the Past has enough inventory to satisfy even the hard-to-please vintage connoisseur.

5341 Burnet Rd., 371-3550.

www.myspace.com/outofthepastcollectibles.

Best Synergistic Block Revival

BOOKWOMAN & RUTA MAYA

First BookWoman moved up North Lamar. The strip was drab but had potential. Now Ruta Maya's headed to the block in 2009. Bringing old-skool dykes and feminist grrrls into contact with world-class world musicians, Rasta families, and the varied folk who populate Ruta Maya can only increase world peace. No one is free until everyone is free, so let's dance and read great books together!

BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. A-105, 472-2785;

Ruta Maya, 707-9637.

www.ebookwoman.com; www.rutamaya.net.

Best Books to Change the World

MONKEYWRENCH

MonkeyWrench Books has a brain-watering selection of materials – from Howard Zinn's lesser-known narratives of history to the Rhizome Collective's how-to for urban permaculture – including everything anyone needs in order to bone up on politics, social theory, and alternative lifestyles. The volunteers who run this nonprofit DIY info shop are committed to educating, motivating, and uniting the public. Whether you are interested in joining the revolution or just learning about one, this is a great place to start. In addition to books and zines, MonkeyWrench hosts film screenings, book talks, activist lectures, and gatherings.

110 E. North Loop, 407-6925.

www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.

Best Place to Shop European in Your Own Town

PAT MONROE ANTIQUES

For Austinites who like a little Old World blended into their own world, this place is a firecracker. You'll find an 18th century French sword among intricate tapestries, exquisitely carved wooden tables, and daintily painted serving trays. Such variety is surprising, but it's no accident: Owner Pat Monroe scours France to find these treasures, so every item is hand-picked.

1009 W. Sixth, 789-4775.

www.patmonroeantiques.com.

Best Eastside Wine Fix

BREAD BASKET

Don't let the facade of "convenience store" fool you. Tucked inside this Eastside secret is an astonishingly good collection of wines. No place in a 3-mile radius can boast a better selection of fermented grapes at better-than-expected convenience-store prices. It's also stocked with a surprisingly varied collection of organic varieties and local growers.

2150 E. Seventh St., 480-9514.



TODD V. WOLFSON

Best Naughty Guilty Pleasure

SHOPPING AT THE BAZAAR

Just a skip off of I-35 is the coy, stylish boutique known as the Bazaar, where women have guiltlessly dropped dough to feel sexy and accessorized. Right next door is the Bazaar costume annex, which not only carries every type of disguise (Santa suits, wigs, facial hair, tiaras, etc.) but also great cover for any demure lady, secret exotic dancer, or regular Josephine (or Joe, for that matter) shopping for her naughty bits.

The Bazaar, 1605 E. Riverside, 448-1079; Bazaar Back Stage, 1609 E. Riverside, 448-1079.

Best Combination of Crafts and Double Dutch

STITCH FASHION SHOW & GUERRILLA CRAFT BAZAAR

Originally the brainchild of Austin designers Jesse Kelly Landes, Tina Sparkles, Karly Hand, and Jennifer Perkins, last year's fifth annual Stitch fest – complete with a full bar and a cafe outfitted with sewing machines for the compulsively creative – brought arts and crafts to a whole new deliriously frenetic level that left us inspired long thereafter. Ninety-plus vendors from around the country showed up, including folks from Etsy.com, as well as Project Runway's Bradley Baumkirchner and Cleveland-based theatre/dance/jump-roping troupe Double Dutch Will Take You Higher. It sure took us higher. Crafts + alcohol + jump ropes = DIY heaven.

www.stitchaustin.com.

Best Mother-Daughter Design Team

BUDDA HILL & CHIA

We were devoted fans of Kathryn Davis' cute custom aprons fashioned from retro-print cottons and hand-embroidered antique pillow cases long before we discovered the delightful creations of her equally talented daughter, Chia Guillory. Nimble fingers and an eye for both form and function certainly run in the family. Now Kathryn's darling aprons and Chia's adorable and practical sun hats are our handmade gifts of choice for all the women and girls of our acquaintance.

Chia, 457-9456; Buddha Hill, 461-1399.

www.chiahats.com.

CONTINUED ON P.126



How does Birds Barbershop create some of the most stylish email campaigns in town?

They use Emma.

Meet Jayson and Michael. As co-owners of Austin's hippest salon and venue, Birds Barbershop, they're using email to keep their growing list of well coiffed clients in the know about their latest promotions, concerts and awards. And they're doing it in style, with Emma's one-click send-offs, real-time response tracking and intuitive features. It's easy, it's affordable, and it's helping 15,000 fine organizations just like Birds create, send and track their email newsletters and campaigns in style. In between football matches, of course.

What's new at Birds Barbershop? Join their email list at www.birdsbarbershop.com and be among the first to know.



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CRITICS PICKS

Shopping

CONTINUED FROM P.124



CELESTA DANGER

Best Designer Bags

BALLISTIC SWEATER GIRL

When we found ourselves in need of unique baby gifts earlier this year, craft designer extraordinaire Wendy Irwin whipped out signature, one-of-a-kind diaper bags that really hit the spot. Unfortunately, she no longer makes the roomy baby bags, but we were happy to be introduced to her line of purses, wallets, and reusable grocery totes. Irwin's use of durable retro upholstery fabrics and clever adornments renders each bag a personal and functional work of art – the kind of thing your baby, or even your baby daddy, will carry with pride.

217-3141.
www.ballisticsweatgirl.com.

Best Clothes for the College Budget

SOLA

With the newest location subtly located in the not-so-subtle Triangle, SoLa's clothing, jewelry, and sunglasses draw the many young, beautiful women from around Austin with senses of artistic urban chic – and for reasonable prices (or at least reasonable enough that it won't stand out on daddy and mommy's credit-card bill). The original location on South Lamar carries more candles, cool knickknacks, and in-store charm, but the clothes – and, parents take note, prices – are the same on each side of town.

2005 S. Lamar, 441-7370; 815 W. 47th.
www.solastyle.com.

Best Asian Market Experience

MT SUPERMARKET

Who hasn't been in need of cow tongue, a few duck hearts, or even a pig uterus for an evening meal? Now, finally, MT Supermarket is the one-stop shop for all of the above. Boasting 55,000 square feet of truly authentic Asian cuisine, this megamart may be the crown jewel of the new Chinatown Austin. A wide swath of Asian culture is represented here – Chinese, Vietnamese, Japanese, Indonesian, Korean, Filipino – offering fresh fish, authentic noodles, and samples of what some consider the most exquisite teas in the world. By checkout, MT Supermarket provides more than just groceries: It offers education in both food and culture – and maybe even the possibility of finally making that pig uterus recipe you've been sitting on.

10901 N. Lamar, 454-4804.
www.mtsupermarket.com.

Most Daliesque Redneck Wear

ZZZTHREADZ

Leave it to Lubbock-damaged punk rock stalwart Jimmy Bradshaw (Squat Thrust, Passed Out Flyers) to find a way we can cherish his talents long after our hearing is done for – namely by creating (what else?) really twisted Western wear. At first glance, ZZZThreadZ shirts look like standard-issue embroidered vintage – until you notice that one baseball dude decapitating another baseball dude with a line drive. Other lunacies include fleshless cowboys, drunk armadillos, and “bad eagle bring back my baby.” Look for him on South Congress on weekends, buy a bundle, and be prepared for questions (“Is that a Sasquatch on your shirt? Is it wearing a watch?”), as well as incredulous compliments.

South Congress, between Vespaio and Austin Art Glass on the weekends, zzzthreadz@gmail.com.
www.myspace.com/zzzthreadz.

Best Vintage Shopping (South of Ben White)

GOODBYE HELLO

If the spike in housing has forced you into the boonies, fret not. Head out on Manchaca Road past William Cannon and Slaughter Lane to Goodbye Hello Consignment & Resale, the coolest consignment shop in South South Austin. The emphasis in clothing is closer to classy than kitschy but all high quality. The furniture rarely stays around long enough to gather dust, and when owner Victoria Bounds puts on a sale, the stock flies out of the store.

10030 Manchaca, 554-1862.

Best Way to Find Your Perfect Fit

HEM JEANS

Let's face it: Austin is a denim-wearing town. Don't try to change it. (Seriously, don't; you'll only embarrass yourself – too often by revealing yourself a transplant.) Jeans are comfortable and practical, and, damn, they can look hot, too. That is, of course, if you have a pair that fits right for your body. Under the kindly scrutinizing eye of Hem's Allison Ryan, there is no doubt you'll walk out of the 12th Street store with at least one pair of jeans that not only make your butt and waist look good but that, more importantly, make you feel confident and are as comfortable as your favorite flip-flops. What could be more Austin?

908-B W. 12th, 478-5326.
www.hemjeans.com.

Best Little Greenhouse in Austin

BARTON SPRINGS NURSERY

Widely known for carrying one of the largest collections of native plants in Central Texas, Barton Springs Nursery is a homegrown favorite. And it's no wonder: Seeds, shrubs, pottery, herbs, grasses, roses, and gardening gifts – they stock all this along with the advice and direction to start every aspiring organic gardener on the right track.

3601 Bee Caves Rd., 328-6655.
www.bartonspringsnursery.net.

Best Place to Stock Up on Fairy Castles

HAPPINESS

Elena Bailey, owner of Happiness, warned us the first time we stopped by her garden shop, “Once you get your first succulent, you'll be an addict.” Well, check us into rehab, then: After buying our first Fairy Castle, a small cactus appropriately named for its charming appearance, we've been back for more every week or so, never tiring of browsing the expansive and gorgeous outdoor store. Bailey generously dishes out plant-care advice, making it easy for green-thumb wannabes to get started on creating their own Happiness.

2213-B S. First, 440-8600.
www.happinessaustin.com.



CELESTA DANGER

Best Metallurgy

ENCORE RECORDS & VIDEO

Lubbock son Charles Lokey started a video store in Garland in 1984, expanded it to include music at Austin's Arboretum in 1988, and 20 years later continues both on Anderson Lane with Austin's best selection of heavy metal discs, stickers, and Ts. Full-service video rental and music one-stop never takes a back seat to the sprawling emporium's sweet in-store stage or the new website, but if Dangerous Toys/Broken Teeth frontman Jason McMaster endorses Encore by working there, you know it's old-school, hardcore, and heavy.

1745 W. Anderson, 451-8111.
www.revolutionnumber9.com.

Best Reinvention of a Convenience Store

HYDE PARK MARKET

The sign still reads Sunrise Super Stop, but Hyde Park Market, Deli & Organic Grocery is a serious upgrade from your everyday gas-and-sip establishment. In addition to supercheap gas, Boar's Head meats, Mediterranean eats, and frozen Amy's pizza, this convenience store proudly claims to stock “8,162” options for your wine, beer, and tobacco pleasuring. And did we mention this family-owned business has just about the smilingest staff in town? This new Hyde Park mainstay isn't just convenient – it's kind of warm and cuddly, too.

4429 Duval St., 420-0222.

Best Big Boozy Expansion

TWIN LIQUORS

When Old Navy and its sales racks moved out of the Hancock Center, it was enough to make the *Chronicle* offices turn to drink. Now Twin Liquors is moving from its much smaller current home in the mall and turning the 15,000-square-foot Old Navy site into a medley of liquor store and palate education emporium. At least we know we'll be sipping on the good stuff.

1000 E. 41st, 451-7400; Seventh & Red River, 476-9982; 8030 Mesa Dr., 346-1861; 3652 Bee Caves Rd. #400, 327-0315; 5408 Balcones Dr., 323-2775; Highway 183 & Highway 1431, Cedar Park, 512/335-4244; 12400 Hwy. 71 W., 402-0333; 505 E. Seventh, 476-9974; main office: 107 W. Stassney, 442-8395.
www.twinliquors.com.

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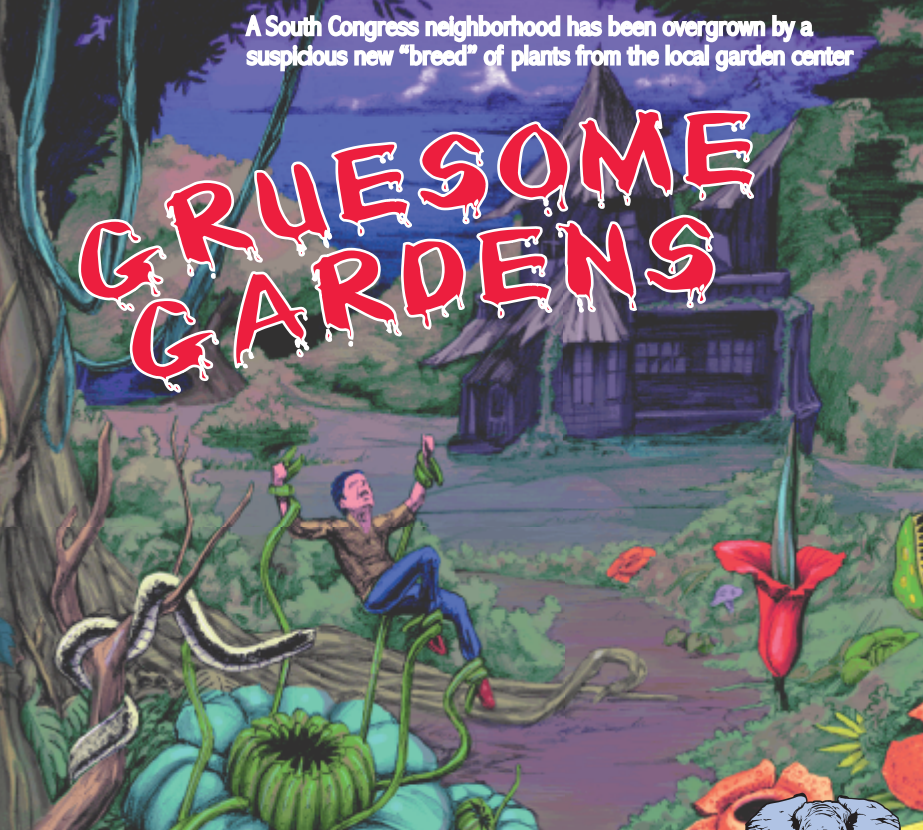


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WHERE WE'LL BE THIS WEEK:
► Find out every Thursday at
austin360.com/alist

premiered the new "Transformers" movie by showing old-school "Transformers" cartoons... [READ MORE | VIEW PHOTOS](#)

right (it was in full effect) at The Parish. The Scion showcase, which included the amazing... [READ MORE | VIEW PHOTOS](#)

6/30: 'Everyone ...' [Everyone Knows Everyone's at](#)

5/29: Soundcheck party [The problem with an rock used to be](#)

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NEW OF the WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



Sarah Lavelly opened Sarah's Smash Shack in downtown San Diego this summer, inviting people who are angry at someone or something to slam ceramic plates, vases, and glass pieces (such as framed photographs of an ex) against walls in special rooms (15 minutes, 15 plates, \$45).

LEAD STORY

The world's most extensive array of animal "rights" took effect in Switzerland in September. Dog owners must take, at their own expense, classes in pet care (and anglers must take a class in humane treatment of fish). Animals listed as "social" (including goldfish, hamsters, sheep, goats, yaks) must be kept with or near another of their species. Goldfish must have some "privacy," e.g., no completely transparent tanks, and can only be killed humanely (never flushed alive). Even mud-loving pigs are entitled to showers. Yet, Swiss animal rights activists complained that the country still permits trading in cat fur (supposedly a pain-reliever for rheumatism) and that some new protections (for example, for rhinoceroses) are still inadequate.

BETTER SEX LIVES THAN YOURS

In August, two British couples were given sanctions by local councils because their loud, long sex sessions disturbed neighbors. Steve and Caroline Cartwright were issued a noise abatement order by the Sunderland City Council (Caroline: "I do admit I scream and make lots of noise"), and Kerry Norris was fined by the Brighton and Hove City Council for violating a previous sex-noise order with her boyfriend Adam Hinton (a neighbor said their headboard bangs against the wall until 6am). Also in August, a neighbor of a swingers' party house in Des Moines, Wash., told a *Seattle Times* reporter that cries of ecstasy from the house sometimes sound "like a raccoon dying."

Also, Some Animals Have Good Sex Lives:

Officers responding to a neighbor's report of domestic violence in a subdivision near Payson, Ariz., in September decided that the "fight" the neighbor heard was the high-pitched mating scream of a male elk. And an August police search near Linz, Germany, was called off after the "bloodcurdling" screams reported as a woman in distress were actually the mating cries of a badger. And officials at the Bristol Zoo in England promised neighbors they would temporarily house gibbons inside during the night because of their loud mating duets.

FAMILY VALUES

Wealthy advertising executive Robert Schwartz died in 1997 and left a sizable estate, including a special "party trust" for his relatives, but with one condition: They must all celebrate Schwartz's birthday every August for at least 10 years with a posh party in Naples, Fla., with all expenses paid, and people missing two straight, or two in five years, would forfeit their inheritances. *The Naples Daily News* reported in September that each adult relative would receive up to \$2,500 per party attended, and a final party trust accounting is now in the hands of a judge.

David Norris never knew his father, who left home when Norris was 5 months old. Now 22, Norris is serving a minimum 12-year sentence for killing a man after an earlier rape conviction and is housed in Peterhead prison, which is the primary lockup for Scotland's sex criminals. Soon after arrival, according to a *Scottish Daily Record* report, Norris ran into

David Gilles, 39, serving life for the kidnapping and sexual torture of a young woman, and realized that Gilles is his dad.

Michelle Cossey pleaded guilty to one count of child endangerment in September in Norristown, Pa., admitting that she had bought her son Dillon, 14, a rifle and gunpowder (which prosecutors say Dillon was planning to use in a Columbine-style attack on former classmates at Plymouth Whitmarsh High School). Michelle said she had no idea of his plans but only wanted to help boost Dillon's "self-esteem," since he is severely overweight and had left school after the seventh grade because of bullying.

BRIGHT IDEAS

Wendy Brown, 33, was charged with identity theft in Green Bay, Wis., in September after she enrolled at Ashwaubenon High School pretending to be her 15-year-old daughter (who actually lives in Nevada). Though Brown has a "history" of identity-theft issues (according to a school official who spoke with Brown's mother), one motive in this case was to fulfill a longtime dream of becoming a cheerleader, and she had been attending practices and had made the squad, according to school officials, even though some people had noticed that she looked a little older than the other girls.

Entrepreneurs: Australian Wool Innovation recently introduced, for the Japanese executives' market, a washable business suit that can be cleaned in an ordinary shower and will dry overnight, virtually wrinkle-free (and, in a pinch, can even be worn in the shower).

THE CLASSIC MIDDLE NAME (ALL NEW!)

Arrested recently and awaiting trial for murder: Nathaniel Wayne Lee, Attalla, Ala. (September); Michael Wayne Wood Sr. (arrested in Michigan in August as a fugitive from a 2005 Oklahoma murder warrant); Jeffrey Wayne Riebe, Myrtle Beach, S.C. (August); Barry Wayne Kaalund, Durham, N.C. (August); Joseph Wayne Keeler, Largo, Fla. (August). Captured after escaping while serving time for murder: Marlow Wayne Reynolds, Rosharon, Texas (September). Fugitive warrant issued: suspected murderer Larry Wayne Brucke Jr., Lenoir, N.C. (September).

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

Not Ready for Thugdom: 1) Police in Wilmington, N.C., arrested Anthony Mallette, 30, and Capria Rouser, 28, in September, driving a stolen car, after they had allegedly tried to extort money from the owner for its return. They wanted \$40. 2) Two men attempted an armed robbery of the Brighton Mini Mart in Chicago in August, and when it was over, the man with the gun had accidentally shot himself in the foot and was stabbed in the back by the 61-year-old store owner. The pair fled, but the wounded man was arrested in a hospital waiting room.

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

Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com.
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THURSDAY **16**

AUSTIN FILM FESTIVAL See Special Screenings, p.154, for more. Oct. 16-23. 478-4795. \$42, film pass; \$9, individual tickets. www.austinfilmfestival.com.

BIPOLAR FOUNDATION HOSTS TERRI CHENEY See the author of *Manic*, a memoir of her experience with the disorder. 6-9pm. Texas Capitol, Extension Auditorium. Free. www.bipolarandme.com.

BLACK AUSTIN DEMOCRATS MEETING Every third Thursday, 6pm. Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th, 902-5057. www.blackaustindemocrats.net.

CAMILO MEJÍA, ANTI-WAR VETERAN reads from his Iraq war memoir. 7pm. UT campus, Garrison Hall, Rm. O.102. Donations accepted. camiloinaustin@yahoo.com, www.resistingempire.org.

ESPERANTO FOREVER Join in and speak the universal language. Not love, Esperanto. Learn the linguistic basics and find out about resources to further your studies. 7pm. Faulk Central Branch Library, 800 Guadalupe, 974-7400. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

EVILFEST Evil bands, evil DJs, and the Museum of Mutanstrosities await you on Red River. See Club Listings, p.166, for more on this doomed evening. 9pm-2am. Room 710, 710 Red River, 476-0997. \$6. www.room710.net.

GOBLIN TAVERN PUPPET SHOW This half-hour show combines *Labyrinth* with fractured fairy tales. The PG version of the show runs several times an evening with two G-rated matinees on Sunday. Fairies, goblins, dragons, and just enough interaction with the audience to keep the kids engaged in the Halloween-tinged story. *Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays through Halloween*. Geppetto Dreams Puppet Company, 501 Pedernales, Unit E (behind Peacock Lounge), 720/255-5632. \$15. www.geppettodreams.com/goblins_are_coming.htm.

KISSIN' COUSINS High-energy shows filled with original "Southern-rockin'" soul" have earned **Nakia & His Southern Cousins** this residency on Sixth Street. It's been a big year for the band – and things just keep getting better. *Thursdays, 10pm*. Momo's, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848. www.nakia.net.

LA DOLCE VITA If a bit of excess is in order, this wine- and food-fueled event might be just the ticket. Live music and a Bacchanalia Lounge for scotch and cigars. 6-9pm. Austin Museum of Art – Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 495-9224 x223. \$100. www.amoa.org/ladolcevita.

LARAMIE PROJECT BENEFIT FOR THE Q Come bolster the boys at ASA's Q community center with the 10th-year commemoration of the life and tragic death of Matthew Shepard. Six shows run through mid-October. *Thu.-Sat., Oct. 16-18, 7:30pm*. Boyd Vance Theatre at Carver, 1165 Angelina, 420-8557. \$15, \$10 (*student*), \$20 (*reserved seating*). www.qboyz.org.

U.S. SENATE DEBATE WATCH PARTY Senate Democratic nominee Rick Noriega takes on John Cornyn, and you can watch with other Dems. 7:30-9:30pm. Rabbit's Lounge, 1816 E. Sixth, 473-3771.

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THURSDAY, OCT 16 TO THURSDAY, OCT 23

calendar

BY JAMES RENOVITCH

WINE, CHEESE, & ASTRONOMY Vino, cheese, and gelato, followed by an astronomy presentation to make the night complete. 7-9pm. Wine Cellar, 2700 Barton Creek Blvd. \$40 (\$27, advance). www.austindetours.com.

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN Second Youth Family Theatre presents this *Peanuts*-based classic in all its musical exuberance. *Through Oct. 19. Thu.-Fri., 7pm; Sat., 11am; Sun., 2pm*. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. \$15 (\$8, ages 1-12; free, infants).

ZOMBIE FEST BOOK CLUB features *World War Z* by Max Brooks. 7pm. University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola, 929-0551. Free. www.myspace.com/aplzombiefest.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

(See Film Listings.)

"Writ Writer" @ Mexican American Cultural Center, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Evil Fest Room 710
Opeth, High on Fire, Baroness
Monarch Event Center

FRIDAY **17**

ALTERNATIVE RADIO has an all-new interview with diplomatic historian Andrew Bacevich, whose new book is *The Limits of Power: The End of American Exceptionalism*. 2pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

AMERICAN LANDSCAPE BEFORE COLUMBUS Charles C. Mann discusses just how livable the pre-Columbus continent might have been. That whole Columbus debacle just gets worse and worse. 4pm. UT campus, University Teaching Center, 21st & Speedway, Rm. 2.112A. Free. www.utexas.edu/cola/college_events/current/charlesmannevent.

AUSTIN ENERGY ALT CAR EXPO shows what your local utility is doing to accommodate plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. While you're there, check out the alternative-fuel and sustainability demos. Will Wynn and other green politicians will be in the cheering section. 10am-5pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 404-4500. Free.

BLACK & WHITE BALL Enjoy a gourmet dinner and silent and live auctions this evening to benefit the **Texas Advocacy Project**, which provides free legal services to domestic violence and sexual assault victims. 7pm. Four Seasons Hotel, 98 San Jacinto, 255-9596. www.texasadvocacyproject.org.

KICKOFF PARTY FOR BIKE PARADE Sign up, and join the Rio Grande Green Team as it gears up for the next day's Tour de Fat bike parade. "Gearing up" entails music, food, and booze. 6-11pm. Rio Grande Mexican Restaurant, 301 San Jacinto, 476-8300. www.rioaustin.com.

PEOPLE UNITED features a live conversation with Chie Abad of Global Exchange, Judith Rosenberg of the American Friends Service Committee, and Cristina Tzintzun of the Workers Defense Project on fair trade and international labor. 1pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

ROAD TO NO-KILL AUSTIN This public-policy forum discusses ways to reduce the number of companion-pet shelter killings. 6-8:30pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second. Free (donations appreciated). www.fixaustin.org.

THANK GOODNESS I'M BI The ambisexualerous happy hour that gathers on the first and third Fridays of every month. Look for the telltale bandannas! 7pm. Opal Divine's Freehouse, 700 W. Sixth, 730-9573. www.main.org/binetaustin.

UNITED SOUNDS OF AUSTIN This multicultural charity concert features Tejano music pioneer Little Joe Hernandez. See Club Listings, p.166, for a complete lineup. 7pm. Austin Music Hall, 208 Nueces, 845-6458. \$15. www.unitedsoundsofaustin.com.

GOBLIN TAVERN PUPPET SHOW (See Thursday, 10/16.)

LARAMIE PROJECT BENEFIT FOR THE Q (See Thursday, 10/16.)

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN (See Thursday, 10/16.)

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

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
U2 3D @ IMAX Theatre, 9pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Blaze-O-Rama Ruta Maya
Nachtmystium Red 7
Charlie Louvin Cactus Cafe
The Wedding Present Mohawk
Wanda Jackson Continental Club

SATURDAY **18**

24-HOUR COMICS DAY This global marathon challenges participants to create a 24-page comic in 24 hours. It won't be easy with all the distractions Dragon's Lair is planning: visits from local comic artists, *Warhammer* tournaments, a mini painting class, and more. 10am. *Dragon's Lair Comics & Fantasy*, 6111 Burnet Rd., 454-2399. www.dlair.net.

ABRAKADOODLE presents *Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs* by Judy Barrett. Make your own pretend spaghetti and meatballs using sculpture materials! 11:30am. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN & BOYS CONFERENCE Everyone's welcome (that means you too, ladies) to this conference encouraging kids to keep their eyes on the prize of individual responsibility and education. Keynote speakers will be followed by workshops in small groups. 10am. Connally High School, 13212 N. Lamar. Free. www.aambharvestfoundation.com.

ARABIC BAZAAR ANNIVERSARY PARTY A day of belly-dance performances and classes, henna tattoos, and shopping, followed by an evening party with Middle Eastern entertainment and cuisine (\$15 a plate). 10am-10pm. Arabic Bazaar, 5013 Duval St., 533-9227. Free. www.wmdproductions.com.

ARTS IN THE COMMUNITY MEETING Local artists and community leaders are invited to brainstorm about bringing art initiatives to their neighborhoods. 2-5pm. Texas Folklife Resources Office, 1317 S. Congress. Free. www.shared-advantage.com.

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe, 974-6700. Free. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.

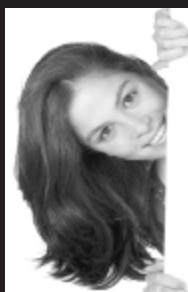
AYURVEDA OPEN HOUSE Talk to faculty, and get a basic grasp of the art and science of Ayurveda at this yoga school open house. 4-7pm. Austin Yogaveda, 709-A W. 34th, 923-4643. www.austinyoga.org.

BAMBOO LOGIC SEMINAR Learn all about bamboo today, whether you're interested in landscaping with it, containing it, or safely getting rid of it. 10am. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 350-8505. \$20. www.bamboo-logic.com.

BLOG-IT-OUT Teen girls are encouraged to write about the issues that affect them. 10:30am. St. John Branch Library, 7500 Blessing. Free. www.latinitasmagazine.org.



| L - R: TOUR DE FAT (SAT., 10/18) | MAKER FAIRE (SAT., 10/18) | 'CAROLINE, OR CHANGE' (ARTS, P.138) | 'W.' (FILM, P.144) | WEEZER (MUSIC, P.156)

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October 19

\$35 includes all activities, a decorative glass jar, refreshments, and water

Bring with you drums, blankets, hula hoops, a happy heart and open mind, an eating bowl, and utensils.

We invite nonattendees to participate in the meditations at 9am and 6pm for the purpose of connecting womb energy around the globe for the power of Wamn*

Join us from 6-10pm for a celebration of music and dance as **Global** performs live with **DJ Kid Slyce** spinning all styles of music and aspecial performance by the **Bgirls of the ATX**
Presented by **Freshy Movement** and **Blitzfreestyle**

Event parking is not available. Please be considerate and do not park in the neighborhood! Walk, run, bike, or take the bus (Route 338 is close!). Call Phoebe at (512) 479-0638 for questions.

*Wamn-scientific culmination of Arabic letters describing the feminine gender: pronounced Woman (singular or plural)

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AT FIESTA GARDENS
ON THE SHORES OF LADY BIRD LAKE

NOV. 1ST & 2ND

11AM-8PM

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

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD *daytrips*



This list of the best weird places around Texas makes you wonder why someone would go to all that trouble, but you're sure glad they did.

Best Fins in the Sky: The Cadillac Ranch doesn't ask you to understand art, just to enjoy it. The tails of 10 automobiles poking out of the High Plains west of Amarillo along I-40 are the ultimate in head-scratching art. We have Stanley Marsh 3 to thank for this roadside attraction, plus other installations in the area. For more of Marsh's crazed handiwork, drive RR 1061 west of town, and you can see the top of a mesa that seems to float in air thanks to a reflective metal band around its midsection.

Best Salute to a Fruit: The Orange Show, 2402 Munger St., in Houston was built out of found objects and initially competed with AstroWorld for theme-park-lovers' attention. The corporate theme park is gone, but the Orange Show Center for Visionary Art remains as Jeff McKissack's vision of a place where visitors would have fun and learn about fruits and vegetables. This is a great place to begin an expedition to the Beer Can House, the Flower Man house, and other Southeast Texas cathedrals of folk art. The Orange Show people are the same ones who host the Art Car Parade every May.

Best Imitation of a World Heritage Site: Stonehenge II, off FM 1340 west of Hunt, began a couple of decades ago when two buddies dropped off some large rocks left over from a construction project. The circle grew until it was 60% the height and 90% the length of the English original. Then the artists added two replicas of the famous Moai statues of the Easter Islands wearing sombreros.

Best Natural Light Show: The Marfa Mystery Lights have been amazing travelers since 1883. The orbs of light hover, race, and bounce across the horizon of the desert along U.S. 90, nine miles east of Marfa. I'm sticking with the explanation that the distant lights are the ghosts of ancient Apache chiefs teasing their conquerors.

Best Bridge to Nowhere: The Rusk Footbridge used to connect a neighborhood with downtown when the creek would flood. In the late 19th century, before all-weather roads, the wooden bridge was a vital link for the community. Now it goes from one stand of trees to another. At 546 feet, it is believed to be the longest footbridge in the U.S.

Best Place to Hang a Cowboy Hat: Paris, Texas, once claimed to have the second largest Eiffel Tower in the world at 60 feet tall. Now it's behind several other replicas including ones in Las Vegas (540 feet); Paris, Tenn., (70 feet); and the original (984 feet). It is still the only Eiffel Tower in the world sporting a big red cowboy hat. Makes you want to yell, "Yeehaw."

Best Daytrip: See p.93 for that honor.

902nd 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.

outoftown

TEXAS JAZZ FESTIVAL brings more than 50 bands to the coast for one of the most diverse jazz programs in the state. *Fri.-Sun., Oct. 17-19. Heritage Park, 1581 Chaparral St., Corpus Christi, 361/883-4500. www.texasjazz-fest.org.*

KYLE FAIR & MUSIC FESTIVAL has a little something for everybody with a long list of goings-on: live music, cook-offs, a carnival, arts & crafts, a poker tournament, food, and games for the kids. *Fri.-Sun., Oct. 17-19. Gregg-Clarke Park, Kyle, 512/262-3939. Free. www.kylefair.com.*

CZECH FESZT celebrates the music, culture, and foods of Texans whose roots go back to the Slovak lands in Europe. *Sat., Oct. 18. Temple, 254/298-5610. www.chmgc.com/czechfeszt.html.*

CHOCOLATE LOVERS FESTIVAL embraces all things chocolate from cooking contests to samples to pie-throwing and -eating contests and more. *Sat., Oct. 18. Lexington, 979/773-4337. www.chocolateloversfestival.com.*

LONE STAR GOURD FESTIVAL showcases all of the items that can be made with locally grown gourds from birdhouses to baskets, fine art to purses. *Sat.-Sun., Oct. 18-19. Gillespie County Fairgrounds, Fredericksburg, 830/990-8080. www.texasgourdsociety.org.*

HERITAGE FESTIVAL Relive history with demonstrations, music, food vendors, arts & crafts, and antiques. *Sat., Oct. 18, 10am-5pm. Courthouse Square, Llano, 325/247-5354. www.llanochamber.com.*

BRIGHT LEAF FALL OPEN HOUSE All ages are invited for guided hikes of this 216-acre natural area, ranging from 30 minutes to two hours long. *9am-1pm. RR 2222, between MoPac & Highway 360, 459-7269. Free. www.brightleaf.org.*

CHINESE TEA CEREMONY Make your reservations, and learn to make tea the kung fu way. *7pm. Formosa Art & Tea, 200 E. Pecan #5, Pflugerville, 512/989-8678. www.drinkarttea.com.*

CHRISTINE AND ETHAN ROSE conjure up their young-adult fantasy *Rowan of the Wood*, a book fans of HP and Eragon will happily devour. Dress up for their costume contest, and stay after the reading for dancing and yummy Halloween treats. Highly recommended. *3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.*

CONQUERING FEAR THE SPIRITUAL WAY Learn the techniques that work best for you. *2pm. Austin Eckankar Center, 223 W. Anderson Ste. 206-B, 453-0331. Free. www.eckankar-texas.org.*

CREATIVE SPIRIT UCC Rip it up with this radically inclusive, progressive community of faith. No hellfire. No brimstone. Just music, art, and inspiration. Aaaaamen. *Every Saturday, except the first Saturday of the month, 5pm. 1122 S. Lamar, next to the Alamo Drafthouse South, 527-4455. cheatham@austin.rr.com, www.creativespiritucc.info, www.creativespiritucc.wordpress.com.*

DREAM DINNERS BLOOD DRIVE Register to let some blood at www.inyourhands.org, and get a free dinner. What are you gonna do with all that blood anyway? *11am-3pm. Sunset Valley Homestead Shopping Center, 5207 Brodie, 358-8833. www.dreamdinner.com.*

EVENING OF CELEBRATION Come bid in the silent auction or listen to some live music, and help out the United Christian Church. *7-9pm. United Christian Church, 3500 W. Parmer, 218-8110. Free. www.uccaustinauction.org.*

FALL PLANT SALE This two-day fest not only has nearly 300 species of hardy native plants on sale but also offers guided walks from the Wildflower Center's seasoned gardeners, booksignings, and workshops for children. Bring a wagon (for transporting your loot) and your 4-inch and 1- and 5-gallon plastic pots (for recycling). *9am. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse, 232-0100. \$7 (\$3, ages 5-12). www.wildflower.org.*

FIESTA GALA CELEBRATION Celebrate Latin culture with music, dancing, food, and a live auction. *7:30-11pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St., 477-3796 x215. \$60 (\$50, advance).*

FIGHTING FOR A FAIR TRADE FUTURE Panels, workshops, and speakers give you the straight story of fair trade here at home and abroad. Register online. *1-5pm. Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center, 808 Nile, 478-7695. Free. www.oxfamut.org.*

FOOD ADDICTS INFO MEETING *10am. Tarrytown United Methodist Church, 2601 Exposition, 800/884-0369. Free.*

FREE FITNESS CLASSES Check out the schedule online for classes ranging from dynamic yoga to Latin dance fitness. *Every Saturday in October, 10am-3pm. Dance Institute, 6612 Sitio del Rio, 346-6612. Free. www.danceinstitute.com.*

GHOST STORIES IN THE PARK Bring a blanket, dress in your costume, and prepare to make a decision. Come for the family-friendly stories during the first half, or stay for the later, darker tales. *7pm. Zilker Park Hillside Theater, 2206 William Barton Dr. www.centraltexastellers.org.*

GREENGIRLS ADOPT-A-STREET CLEANUP helps beautify a segment of North Lamar. Bring some food for the potluck, and sign up to aid this grassroots group. *9am-1pm. Pease Park, 1100 Kingsbury. www.greengirls.net.*

IMPERMANENT COLLECTION TOURS Come see the curiosities this collection of all things random and odd has to offer. *Saturdays, 1-4pm. Museum of Natural & Artificial Ephemerata, 1808 Singleton, 320-0566. \$4 suggested donation. www.mnae.org.*

LIGHT THE NIGHT WALK Proceeds of this celebration and commemoration of lives touched by cancer benefit the Central Texas Chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Illuminated balloons of varying colors represent participants and survivors, but every person helps. *6-9pm. Dell Children's Medical Center, 4900 Mueller Blvd., 491-6610 x30. www.lightthenight.org.*

MAKER FAIRE This two-day, family-friendly event is for those with the heart of an inventor, the spirit of an explorer, or the mind of an engineer. Expect robots of varying sophistication, a life-sized mousetrap, a bike zoo, Diet Coke and Mentos fountains, and so much more DIY excitement. See their ad on p.103 for a complete schedule. *Sat., Oct. 18, 10am-10pm; Sun., Oct. 19, 10am-6pm. Travis County Expo Center, 9100 Decker Lake Rd., 707/827-7074. \$25, adults; \$15, students; \$10, youth; 3 & under, free. www.makerfaire.com.*

MEDITERRANEAN FESTIVAL means a day of Mediterranean foods, cooking demonstrations, wine seminars, and classes (for kids and adults). Enter the pizza-throwing contest or the *saganaki* (Greek flaming cheese) race if you're feeling adventurous. *11am-3pm. Texas Culinary Academy, 11400 Burnet Rd. #2100, 339-2665. Free (\$10, wine-tasting seminar). www.tca.edu.*

MOMMY WORKOUT & PLAY DATE Kids and moms get to work up a sweat with fitness competitor Monica Brant, who will be filming the event for her upcoming DVD. Call to RSVP *9:30-11am. Fountains at Butler Park on Auditorium Shores, 428-5673. Free. www.totalmommyfitness.com.*

NATURE WALKS AT MUELLER The biggest, baddest redevelopment in town is showing off its assets. Southwest Greenway is the area's newest green space, and the experts want to show you just how green it is. Meet on the trail at Zach Scott and Tom Miller streets. *9am. 703-9202. Free. www.muelleraustin.com.*

RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEM Learn about all the latest in rainwater collecting and storing devices from the very people who could sell them to you. Maybe after buying a rain barrel, it might actually rain. *7-9pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2535. Free. www.designbuildlive.org.*

SAHAJA YOGA MEDITATION aims to help you achieve balance, inner peace, and resistance to stress, depression, and anxiety. *Saturdays, 11am-noon. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek Blvd., 828-0129. Free. www.austinsahajayoga.org.*

SALSA & CHA-CHA LESSONS Dance International shows you the steps. *6pm. Starbucks near the Arboretum on Great Hills Trail, 323-2623. Free. www.dancein.org.*

STEWARDS OF CASA DE LUZ Join other community-minded green thumbs to do some small repairs, weeding, pruning, and trimming on the grounds of this local eatery. Tools, tea, and snacks will be provided, and volunteers earn a free meal token. *8am. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 350-8505.*

TIME EXCHANGE MONTHLY POTLUCK Share your skills with like-minded people. Who needs money when you have helpful friends like this? *6-8pm. Soma Vida, 1210 Rosewood, 207-0598. Free. www.austintimeexchange.org.*

TOUR DE FAT This daylong celebration of two-wheeled, human-powered machines has no shortage of eye and ear candy. Register before 10am for the bike parade, and get warmed up for the treacherous slow-ride competition at 11:45am. Live music and other performances follow at noon. Then brace yourself for the emotional roller coaster of the Copocalypse Now funeral as one lucky(?) volunteer trades his car for a bike. By the end, you might be jumping on that two-wheeled bandwagon. *Fiesta Gardens, 2101 Bergman, 480-8318. Free. www.tour-de-fat.com.*

WATERLOO COUNSELING'S UNCORKED Swirl, sniff, sip, swalla! After 25 years of providing mental-health counseling services to the GLBTQ community, Waterloo knows how to unwind. Music, dancing, food, auctions, and enough wine to put you in need of some counseling. *7-11pm. Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart, 444-9922. \$60 (\$50, advance). www.waterloocounseling.org.*

WOMEN AND SELF-ESTEEM is a workshop in the Empowerment Series for Women offered by SafePlace and St. Andrew's SafePlace Ministry Team. Sandra Molinari, Life Skills Coordinator at SafePlace and author of *Choices Versus Chances: Tools for Empowered Living*, leads this series. *9am-noon. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 14311 Wells Port, 251-0698. www.staopen.com.*

YOUTH BIRDING CAMP Sponsored by the Travis County Audubon Society, for kids ages 8-12. *8am-4pm. Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory, 2210 FM 973 S., 300-2473. \$40. www.travisaudubon.org.*

AUSTIN ENERGY ALT.CAR EXPO (See Thursday, 10/16.)

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 **GOBLIN TAVERN PUPPET SHOW** (See Thursday, 10/16.)
 **LARAMIE PROJECT BENEFIT FOR THE Q** (See Thursday, 10/16.)
 **YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN** (See Thursday, 10/16.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Position, Art Palace, Real Gallery, Super! Alright!

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
The Rocky Horror Picture Show
@ Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid
U2 3D @ IMAX Theatre, 9pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
MC Terroristic CD Release Room 710
Tristan Perich, the Loud Objects Ceremony Hall
The U18 Austin Music Showcase
Threadgill's World HQ

SUNDAY 19

ABRAHAM WALK FOR PEACE brings Christians, Jews, and Muslims together as the children of Abraham. Tents representing each religion will be available for discussion and activities. The event concludes with a talk from Dr. Judea Pearl, father of slain *Wall Street Journal* reporter Daniel Pearl, about reconciliation between Jews and Muslims. 2-6pm. *Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart, 735-8034.*

 **AIDS WALK IS HERE** Lace up your kicks. Do your stretches. Join a bunch of other bighearted literal movers and shakers Downtown. Panels from the Memorial Quilt will be on display to get you in the fighting spirit. 8:30am. *Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 406-6157. www.aidswalkaustin.org.*

 **CAGED BIRDS SING** Rob Faubion and his lovely "ladies" bring La Cage, voted the Best Female Impersonation Show in Texas. Thank goodness. Chers and Whitneys and Barbaras done up with ridiculous flair. *Sundays, 9:30 & 11:30pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.*

 **CHASE THEM CHUBS** Just to ensure that the chubs stay chub, RCC offers a free lunch buffet and \$1 drafts at its weekly **Chub Chaser Bear Cub Experience**. Free food! Here, Chubby, Chubby, Chubby! *Sunday, 1-9pm. Rainbow Cattle Co., 305 W. Fifth, 472-5288. www.rainbowcattleco.com.*

CITY BALLET FUNDRAISER The Austin City Ballet hosts this fundraiser for their production of *The Nutcracker* with food, drinks, and a fiesta theme. 2-5pm. *Chez Zee, 5406 Balcones, 989-3363. \$20.*

DOWNTOWN LIVING TOUR Learn all about those new condos you've been complaining about with guided tours of these behemoths. Happy hour at the Belmont follows at 5pm. *Noon-5pm. Monarch Residences, 800 W. Fifth, 417-3919. \$15. www.downtownaustin.org/DLT.html.*

ETHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTIN discusses the state of religion in Turkey. 10am. *Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 835-9008. Free. www.esoa.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 Oct. 31 issue is Monday, Oct. 20.** 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.

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

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

 **FAMILY FUN FEST** Help support the Clarksville Community Development Corp.'s affordable housing program. It's easy. Just enjoy the music, food, pet parade, vendors, contests, silent auction, or kids activities. An outdoor movie will be screened at dusk. 1-10pm. *Sweet Home Baptist Church, 800 Deepwood, Round Rock, 512/657-5289. www.historicclarksville.org.*

 **FLYING THEATER MACHINE** This interactive performance featuring games and stories provides kids ages 4 to 10 with an early introduction to improv comedy. *Sundays through Dec. 14, 2pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 971-3311. \$5 (free, babies). www.flyingtheatermachine.com.*

GRASSROOTS MEDIA JUSTICE TOUR As the Grassroots Media Justice Tour comes through town, Skillshare Austin and MonkeyWrench Books present this day of media experts sharing their skills and knowledge. It doesn't get much more grassroots than that. 1-8pm. *Space 12, 3121 E. 12th. Free. www.skillshareaustin.org.*

HOME MOVIE DAY Bring your home movies of yore, be they 8mm, 16mm, or Super-8, and you might see your kin on the big screen. Local film experts will be on hand to talk about the importance of the films and how to protect them. Play Home Movie Day Bingo, and let the kids get a good look at predigital moving images. 2-5pm. *Harry Ransom Center's Prothro Theater, 300 W. 21st, 495-4691. Free. www.austinhomemovieday.org.*

HURRICANE IKE BENEFIT Bring donations for the Central Texas Red Cross, Capital Area Food Bank, and the Bridge City Fire Department, and get rewarded with music from Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces, Erik Hokannen, Ruby Jane, James Hand, and more. 3-9pm. *Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar, 206-1000.*

PAWSTOCK This annual music event for Thundering Paws Animal Sanctuary features the sounds of the Therapy Sisters, the Summer Wardrobe, Chris Gates, Marc Gunn, and more. 3-8pm. *El Arroyo, 12432 Bee Caves Rd. \$15 suggested donation. www.thunderingpaws.org.*

PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM Harvey Kronberg, editor of *The Quorum Report*, gives us his take on the Texas elections. 11:30am. *First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 413-0286. Free.*

RAINWATER CAPTURE & PURIFICATION Dr. Jody Grenga discusses her book *A Year of Drinking Berkey Purified Rainwater* and discusses how to collect rainwater for your household needs. 2pm. *It's About Thyme Nursery, 11726 Manchaca, 423-1050. Free. www.docjody.com.*

TEXAS WINE & SONG FESTIVAL Enjoy the sounds of the Gourds and Carolyn Wonderland among others. Meanwhile, sample local food and wines, or learn from the experts how to pair the two. Admission gives you 10 tickets for samples. 3-10pm. *Copper Tank Brewing Co., 750-6541. \$35. www.texaswineandsong.com.*

WARBLER WORKDAY Join the Austin Parks Foundation today for some trail repair projects along Turkey Creek. Call to RSVP 9:30am-1pm. *Turkey Creek at Emma Long, 1600 City Park Rd., 263-6443. www.cityofaustin.org/water/wildland/online/registration/ecowebevents.cfm.*

WE DON'T LIKE IKE HURRICANE RELIEF CONCERT Raffles, auctions, and enough country music to have your boots worn out by the end of the evening. See Club Listings, p.166, for a complete lineup. Proceeds go to the American Red Cross and Radio Free Texas. *Noon-10pm. Hill's Cafe, 4700 S. Congress, 851-9300. \$5-10 suggested donation.*

 **FALL PLANT SALE** (See Saturday.)

 **MAKER FAIRE** (See Saturday.)

 **YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN** (See Thursday, 10/16.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Home Movie Day @ Harry Ransom Center's Prothro Theater, 2pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Deer Tick Emo's
The Ting Tings The Parish
Danny Roy Young Tribute Austin Music Hall

MONDAY 20

AWAKEN YOUR FERTILITY This six-week series presents the holistic options for fertility. Carrie Contey and Sadie Minkoff help get your life in balance and focused on fertility. *Mondays, Oct. 20-Nov. 24, 6:30-8:30pm. Central Family Practice, 801 W. 34th, 968-2605. \$350. www.centralfamily.com.*

 **EARLY VOTING BEGINS** For voting location information and our list of endorsements, see p.8. www.cityofaustin.org/election.

 **FOODIES GET A BRAZILIAN** Ouch! No, not down there, over here. Hey ladies, come to this sultry evening of private patio dining, Foodies-style. Limited seating, so RSVP with your name and phone number required. 6:30pm. *Sampaio's Brazilian Cuisine, 4800 Burnet Rd., 469-9988. beatsagogo@aol.com.*

FOREIGN AFFAIRS DISCUSSION Local policy wonks and foreign affairs nerds invite the public to join in the conversation about what issues will be facing the newly elected president in November. 7pm. *ACC Eastview, 3401 Webberville, 223-5173. Free. blea@austinctc.edu.*

 **MANTIE MONDAYS** Get your undies in a wad: Lobo presents the Wet Underwear Contest. Kelly Kline hosts and the Manwatch Dancers set the standard for the competition. Monday, Monday ... so good to me. *Mondays. Charlie's Austin, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481.*

QI GONG Give your life force a boost through the ancient Chinese art of moving very, very slowly. *Mondays, 9:30am. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free, donations appreciated. www.rutamaya.net.*

COMEDY (See Arts Listings.)
Cap City Comedy Caucus *Cap City Comedy Club*

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
All Together Now @ Highland, 5, 7, 9pm
Secrecy @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm
The Order of Myths Advance Screening @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 6:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Girl Talk Emo's
Weezer Frank Erwin Center

TUESDAY 21

BUSINESS STARTUP ORIENTATION RSVP to this city-sponsored event, and learn all you need to know to start your own small business. 9-10:30am. *Clarion Inn & Suites, 2200 S. I-35, 974-7800. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/sbdp.*

GIRLSTART FOR GROWNUPS Learn to safeguard your family online. 11:30am. *Girlstart Tech Center, 1400 W. Anderson, 916-4775. \$50. www.girlstart.org/workshops/adult-workshops.asp.*

 **MEOW!** Black Cat storytime! Read *Slinky Malinki*, and purr along with other very feline stories. 10:30am. *BurrPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.*

 **MR. JOHNNY'S KIDS NIGHT** Johnny and Sharon sing old and new songs for the kids. Parents can get a good meal in while the kids are distracted by the playscape. *Tuesdays, 6pm. Freddie's Place, 1703 S. First, 494-1411. Free. www.mrjohnny.com.*

BY KATE GETTY AND KATE X MESSER

MORE PRIDE COALITION FUN (Continued from last week.) A press release from Austin Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce earlier this week clears up a lot of things. Sort of. For the first time, the Pride Coalition is specifically referred to as the **AGLCC Pride Coalition**. Back when the mysterious Pride Coalition was first announced, we asked some AGLCCers if it was an AGLCC committee or project. At that time, they told us no. The launch of that "organization" is now, however, more confusing than ever.

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

 **NETWORKING HAPPY HOUR** with AGLCC: Austin's Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. Two hours to booze & schmooze. 6pm. *Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823. www.aglcc.org.*

RESPIRATORY CARE WEEK EVENT Have questions about sleep apnea or your child's asthma? Need help quitting smoking? Maybe you just need a free respiratory-health screening. This is the event for you. 11am-3pm. *Seton Medical Center, 1201 W. 38th, 656-0970. Free.*

ROTARY CLUB OF EAST AUSTIN meets today for lunch and a special presentation from Kathryn Brewer of Austin Partners in Education. Visitors are welcome and encouraged. *Noon-1pm. Nuevo León, 1501 E. Sixth, 845-8719. www.main.org/rotary.*

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

 **STORY-BUILDING AT MUELLER** Mueller isn't just a bunch of dead grass anymore; people actually live there. Bring the kids to check out the new parks while they learn some unique storytelling techniques including theatre, dance, and yoga. *Thursdays in October, 5:30pm. Mueller Lake Park, outdoor amphitheatre, 703-9202. Free. www.muelleraustin.com.*

SUPERWOMEN'S DAUGHTERS LECTURE Author Courtney E. Martin discusses a new paradigm for female success and how "the legacy of perfectionism and exhaustion in female leadership" will lead to ruin. 5:30-7pm. *Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina, 841-4093. \$25. www.genaustin.org.*

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Design for Living @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm
Loud and Clear Film Festival @ Alamo Drafthouse Village, 6:30pm
Secrecy @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm
Star Crash @ Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm

WEDNESDAY 22

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FORUM Join in on this gathering of experts to discuss the trends of affordable family housing. This week's forum focuses on property taxes. 9am. *City Hall, 301 W. Second, 974-3121.*

AUSTIN SMART ENERGY The city has a plan to produce 1,000 megawatts of power from a mix of sources by 2020. Help them decide what that mix should be, and learn what the city and you can do to help. 6:30pm. *Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 974-2220. www.austinsmartenergy.com.*

CENTRAL WEST AUSTIN LAND-USE PLANNING WORKSHOP If you live or work in or around Tarrytown, Deep Eddy, Bryker Woods, or Pemberton Heights, tonight's your chance to provide feedback about future development in your neighborhood 6:30-9pm. *LCRA Red Bud Facility, 3601 Lake Austin Blvd., 974-2857. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/zoning/central_west_austin.htm.*

gayplace

So, to clarify. Apparently, there is no independent Pride Coalition. When **Equality Texas** handed the reins of Pride over to the Pride Coalition earlier this summer, they were essentially handing over control of all Pride assets, responsibilities, liabilities, and resources to AGLCC. We think. Why didn't ET just say that in the first place? It's still confusing. We're sorry for any confusion to which we contributed. However, Gay Place still stands by our initial response to the news of the Pride hand-off: Consolidating Pride without any sort of independent oversight group is a bad idea. See our blog for more details: austinchronicle.com/gayplaceblog.

Fall Plant Sale & Gardening Festival

Saturday and Sunday, October 18 and 19
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Nearly 300 species of native plants
Guided walks and tips from experts
Artists and authors on site



Sponsored by **KLBJ**
NEWS RADIO
590 AM

4801 La Crosse Avenue
512.232.0100
www.wildflower.org



International Kick Butt Comedy Tournament Comedy Octagon

Saturday, October 18th, 8:08pm
Hosted by Erik Collins

Special Guest Celebrity Feature:
Joy Gohring
(no cover with drink purchase)



Austin's Locally Owned
Espresso Lounge
that Kicks Butt!!!

Espresso, Chai, Smoothies,
Fresh Baked Cookies, Sandwiches,
Herbal Tea, Beer, Wine, Cocktails,
Full Bar, Wi-Fi, stage, booths,
a flat screen, nunchucks and
a Wii.

512-454-KICK

KickButtCoffee.com

Weekly:

Mon. 8pm - Comedy Improv
Wed. 8pm - Comedy Open Mic
Thurs. 7pm - Music Open Mic
Fri. 9pm-2am - Blues Dance
Sat. 2pm - Kathi Nordone
Sat. 6pm - **Comedy Sportz™**
Sun. 7pm - Poetry Open Mic

Monthly:

JAZZ JAM - 1st Tues. 8pm-11pm
Jeff Lofton JAZZ - 2nd Sat. 11pm-2am
Say Anything Youth Open Mic - 2nd/4th Sat. 4pm
BELLY DANCING LIVE DRUMMING - Last Sat. 8pm-11pm

THURSDAYS

Text2Win
Fabulous Prizes
10:30-11:30pm

STUDENT
BODY
STRIP OFF
at Midnight

Oilcan Harry's 211 W. 4th St. 512.320.8823 oilcanharrys.com

Amigos

Amigos de las Américas



photo by Ashley Yuki

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN

Making a difference in the world ♦ Developing exceptional leadership skills ♦
Experiencing different cultures and customs ♦ Improving language skills ♦
Acquiring a deeper understanding of our Latin American neighbors

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR
UPCOMING ORIENTATION MEETING**

October 28th and 29th | 7-9 PM
Visit austinamigos.org for locations

For more information about Amigos de las Américas, please visit austinamigos.org

Matthew Shepard Foundation Q Tonic Ventures AIDS SERVICES Austin Center for Photography

Moisés Kaufman's Directed by Joe Solis

The Laramie Project

A PLAY ABOUT HOPE, HATE, FEAR AND COURAGE.
A TRUE STORY.

October 9 - 18, 2008 7:30 pm
Boyd Vance Theatre
1165 Angelina Street
Austin, TX

Ticket information
www.QBoyz.org
www.ASAustin.org

512.420.8557
QTonicVentures@gmail.com

FIT FOR THE CURE Get a professional bra fitting and sign up for a yearly e-mail reminder for a breast exam, and \$2 will go to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure foundation. *Noon-6pm. Dillards Highland Mall, 5901 Airport, 452-9393.*

LIVE AT THE DRIVE Austin's hunky leather bar hosts free live music on Hump Day, featuring supercheap drinks and the best in bootstrappin' indie rawk. This week: Illinois' Mykel Boyd and Winters in Osaka. *10pm. Chain Drive, 504 Willow, 480-9017. Free. www.myspace.com/1chaindrive.*

METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB This week, retired FBI agent Thomas G. Ruocco discusses what impact the reorganized bureau has had on the business community. *7am. Darrell K. Royal Memorial Stadium, UT Club, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman, 479-9460. \$15. www.mbcAustin.org.*

MIDWEEK AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET This growers-only market features fresh food, chef demos, kids activities, live music, and more every week, rain or shine. *Wednesdays, 4-8pm. The Triangle, 46th Street, between Guadalupe and Lamar. Free. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.*

MOST INTERESTING SHOW IN THE WORLD The Dos Equis promo team brings together aerial performers, robotic dancers, acrobats, fire jugglers, and French burlesque dancers (truly the best kind of burlesque dancer) for your inebriated pleasure. *8pm. Antone's, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424. Free. www.dosequis.com/mostinterestingshow.*

THE COLOR OF FALL Read Leaves and more heart-warming stories in celebration of these lovely shades! *10:30am. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.*

WORKERS DEFENSE PROJECT ANNIVERSARY RSVP by Oct. 20 for this evening of food, fun, a silent auction, and live music from Seu Jacinto. *6:30-9:30pm. Mercury Hall, 615 Cardinal, 391-2305. \$25. www.workersdefense.org.*

YOGA AT MUELLER This new development is pulling out all the stops to impress the neighbors. And nothing brings Austinites together like free yoga. *Wednesdays through October, 6pm. Mueller Central Information Center lawn, off Aldrich Street, 703-9202. Free. www.muelleraustin.com.*

YOU'VE GOT MAIL Send a sassy text to your club crush, and see it displayed on the club's multitude of plasma screens at Club Popular, the every-Wednesday dance party. OCH presents Mailbox 2.0 to connect new-millennium-style. Hi-NRG, special guest celebs, and prizes? Oh, that's why they're popular. *Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823. www.oilcanharrys.com.*

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) *The Comet* @ Mexican American Cultural Center, 8pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Talkdemonic Mohawk
Carrie Rodriguez Cactus Cafe

THURSDAY 23

DAY OF THE DEAD MASTER BAKER Jesus Becerra of La Mexicana Bakery offers samples of his seasonal sugar skulls and meets and greets his fans. *7-9pm. Mexic-Arte Museum, 419 Congress, 480-9373. Free. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.*

DIAMONDS & DENIM BENEFIT Benefiting Family Eldercare, this event honors the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature which helps senior citizens become involved in the legislative process. Celebrity journalist Rona Barrett and local news anchor Judy Maggio will speak. *6-9pm. Caswell House, 1404 West Ave., 483-3579. \$75. www.familyeldercare.org.*

DRINK PINK FUNDRAISER Sports Center Physical Therapy is hosting this evening of drinking, schmoozing, and being charitable. Join their team for the November Race for the Cure, or just drink up and a portion of your pink-margarita tab will go to the Susan G. Komen for a Cure foundation. *6-9pm. Santa Rita Tex Mex Cantina, 1206 W. 38th, 206-0433. Free. www.sportscenteraustin.com.*

FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT Literacy activities for your pre-K to sixth-grader abound including discussions, activities, character appearances, and storytellers. Teach 'em just how fun reading can be. *6:15pm. Mathews Elementary, 906 West Lynn, 414-4406. Free.*

NATURAL SOLUTIONS TO ALLERGY PROBLEMS Learn to dump the pills and detoxify your way to sneezeless seasons. *5:30pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 892-3366. Free. www.nhcaustin.org.*

OMG LOL FOR SAFEPLACE features comedy, music, and spoken word, all with a Christian bent and all for a good cause. *7-10pm. Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina, 472-4809. \$10 or a donation of diapers to SafePlace. www.omgolevents.com.*

POTENTIAL FOSTER/ADOPTIVE PARENT MEETING The folks from Helping Hand Home for Children teach you the ropes. *6pm. Helping Hand Home for Children, 3804 Ave. B, 459-3353 x142. Free. www.helpinghandhome.org.*

GOBLIN TAVERN PUPPET SHOW (See Thursday, 10/16.)

KISSIN' COUSINS (See Thursday, 10/16.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Dismember the Alamo Zombie Film Festival @ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek
Michael Jackson: Thrill the World Sing-Along @ Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
MSTRKRFT La Zona Rosa
Teeners, Dikes of Holland, the Stuffies Beerland
Carrie Rodriguez Cactus Cafe

now

CENTRAL MARKET COOKING SCHOOL Whether you need to brush up your knife skills or throw together a romantic Thai dinner for two, these guys have you covered year-round with an eclectic array of classes spanning all skill levels. *Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar, 206-1000. www.centralmarket.com/cm/cmClasses.jsp.*

ADVENTURING OUTDOORS Austin's gay and lesbian group for making the nature scene. Minimal dues, maximum fun! *236-7176. www.main.org/adventuring.*

GAYRIBBEAN HALLOWEEN CRUISE Just one more week to pull together that perfect costume for all the perfect parties aboard (and ashore) for this spooky autumn (and oh so gaaaay) cruise. Update: Now departs from Houston instead of Galveston. *Sun., Oct. 26-Nov. 2. Sail from Houston aboard Carnival's Conquest to Montego Bay, Grand Cayman, and Cozumel, 877/560-8318. From \$568. www.gayribbeancruises.com.*

POINSETTIA & HOLIDAY CARD SALE You can preorder your holiday cards and poinsettias (in pink, white, or red) with all proceeds benefiting the **Austin Children's Shelter**. Call 499-0090 or visit www.acsguild.org to place your order. *Through Nov. 15.*

VOTEXAS.ORG Got questions about voting in Texas? This new website will help you figure out what to do if you've recently moved, are a first-time voter, have special needs, or simply aren't sure where your polling place is. Check it out: www.votexas.org.

CROWSFEET CLUB A social group for lesbians ages 35 to 78.4, or older, who meet monthly for fun, frivolity, and frolic. *The third weekend of every month. Free. crowsfeetclub@yahoo.com.*

NAME THAT SCHOOL The Austin Independent School District needs a name for its new middle school on Slaughter Lane. Submit your ideas on the AISD website or send them to 1111 W. Sixth, Austin, TX 78703. Nominations are due by Oct. 26. www.austinisd.org.

MEALS ON TWO WHEELS This volunteer opportunity is good for three reasons: exercise, the environment, and karma. Help out those who are too fragile to cook for themselves, but forgo the car. Jump on one of Meals on Wheels' bikes. Call or go online to sign up. *Meals on Wheels and More, 3227 E. Fifth, 476-6325. www.mealsonwheelsandmore.org/volunteer/bike.*

HEALTHY WOMEN, HEALTHY FAMILIES This coalition is collecting info and stories about the state of women's health in Texas. Go online, and take the survey or share a story about a health-care challenge you've faced. The group hopes to take these stories and figures to the Legislature to raise awareness of Texas women's health issues. www.healthywomenhealthyfamilies.org.

FREE COUNSELING FOR VETERANS The Samaritan Counseling Center offers free counseling services to those who've served in Afghanistan or Iraq, as well as to the parents, children, siblings, spouses, and partners of servicemen and women. Call or e-mail for details. *Samaritan Counseling Center, 5425-A Burnet Rd., 451-7337. hopeforheroes@samaritan-center.org. www.hopeforheroestexas.org.*

DOG FENCE VOUCHERS In an effort to keep dogs off chains and tethers, the Austin Dog Fence Fund has vouchers for \$200 of fencing materials for low-income households. Keep your dogs safe and happy. Applications for vouchers are available through Nov. 15. *923-8881. www.chainfreeaustin.org.*

LAW BASICS WORKSHOPS The Greening Law Firm offers introductions to everything from living trusts to retirement funds to Medicaid throughout the year, and most of them are free to the public. Go online or call for a schedule of classes and their locations. *476-0888. www.greeninglawfirm.com.*

GHOULS' NIGHT OUT More than 200 women showed up at last year's All Hallow's gourrrl-fest to benefit Equality Texas. Scary? Relax, you'll be in costume. *Fri., Oct. 31, 8:30pm. Private residence, call for location, 474-5475. \$25 (early ghoul tix, \$20). www.eqfed.org/eqtx/events/shannonmckinney_oct31_austin/details.tcl.*

HOME ENERGY SURVEY UT graduate students need your input about current energy use and your hopes for future energy policies. Gather some old energy bills, and go to www.surveygizmo.com/s/68524/energysurvey to help out.

INPUT ON BOARDWALK TRAIL Check out the proposed plan for a trail along the south side of Lady Bird Lake on either side of the I-35 bridge, connecting trails already in place. If you're inclined, take the online survey and add your two cents. www.cityofaustin.org/boardwalk.

NOMINATIONS FOR ENDANGERED HISTORIC PLACES are now being accepted. The National Trust for Historic Preservation compiles this annual list of threatened cultural and architectural heritage. The deadline for nominations is *Fri., Dec. 5*, so call or go online for more info. *202/588-6141. www.preservationnation.org/issues/11-most-endangered.*

EXPLORE LOCAL AUSTIN The city of Austin Small Business Development Program unveils this resource to connect locals with equally local businesses. www.explorelocalaustin.org gets you connected to the little guys that know keeping it weird means keeping it local.

DONATIONS FOR WINTER SEASON With cooler temperature rising, it's time to remember those without protection from the elements. New or gently used blankets, jeans, and coats are needed. Go online or call for more info. *Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, 500 E. Seventh, 305-4174. Free. www.frontsteps.org.*

&later

TREE PLANTING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to plant trees on the median along Northcross Drive between Anderson and Burnet Road. This January event needs committed volunteers now to get the OK from the city. *452-6623. bluegeckoyoga@aol.com.*

TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE Submit your prose, poetry, music, visual art, and other luv expressions to become part of this year's Transgender Day of Remembrance at City Hall. The deadline has been extended to this Friday. *Deadline: Fri., Oct. 17; event: Thu., Nov. 20. tentdor@gmail.com, www.transgenderdor.org/?page_id=58.*





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The time to create your holiday wine is now!
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AUSTIN

SKIERS

Austin Skiers has chosen ten destinations for the 2008-2009 season, from skiing in France and Colorado to bathing in the sun in Panama.

Sign-up soon to guarantee your place
at these affordable rates.

Visit us online to learn more about the club's frequent local social activities, details about our trips and the sign-up process for them.
www.austinskiers.org



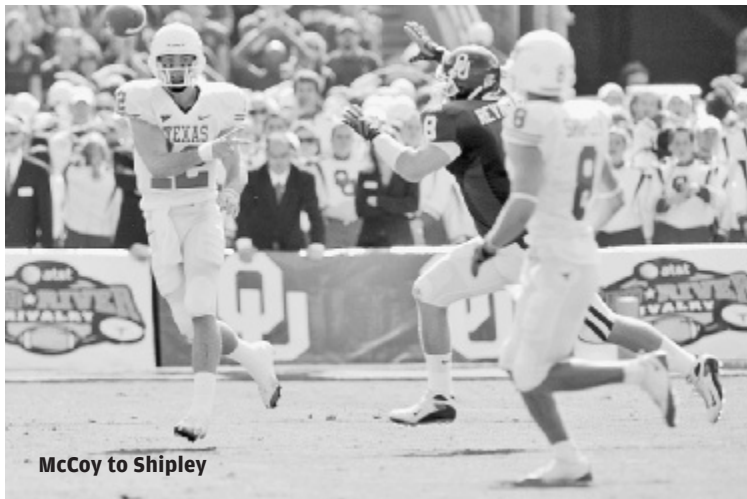
FEELING BRAVE?

If you can't wait for next week's Halloween and Día de los Muertos listings, go to austinchronicle.com/halloween to find a regularly updated list of creepy events for the kids and seriously scary parties for the vampire-aged.

sports

BY MARK FAGAN

listings



McCoy to Shipley

COURTESY OF UT

BY JOE O'CONNELL *playing through*

No. 1.

So sudden. So decadent. So heady. So lone-some. So utterly true and bone-shakingly a sham.

Turn the Tower's orange Klieg lights to the blinding setting, and shout it to the world.

Or ask **Bob Stoops** and the boys from Oklahoma. They had it all: the perfect Heisman Trophy candidate at quarterback, a defense on the rise, huge linemen on both sides of the ball, and a ground game that was, well, insignificant.

No. 1 is a curse. A target on your back. Bang! The Sooners roll to the turf. **Colt McCoy's** boys are behind, but he threads ball after ball just past the outstretched hands of myriad OU defenders. McCoy's childhood pal (and current roommate/pitch-and-catch partner) **Jordan Shipley** lopes down the field for a 96-yard kickoff return for a touchdown. **Earl Thomas** (who?) pulls down an interception from OU's godlike QB **Sam Bradford** (387 yards passing in a loss?). **Chris Ogbannaya**, the spark plug to a dormant UT running game, hits the ignition for 62 yards to seal a 45-35 Texas win. Done.

Meet the new boss, somewhat like the old boss. Texas is No. 1. A Heisman Trophy candidate at quarterback. A defense on the rise under smoldering co-defensive coordinator **Will Muschamp**. A running game that is, well, uncertain. Here, Texas, catch the No. 1 hot potato. Longhorn coach **Mack Brown** shakes his head and says, "If I was voting, I would've [picked]

Alabama at Number 1." Why would he want a title that comes without a flak jacket?

Ten football teams remain undefeated at the season's half-way mark. Texas will take on two of them in coming weeks: No. 7 Texas Tech and No. 8 Oklahoma State. First they must get past the wounded Tigers of Missouri, who were supposed to be No. 1 this week. They felt it in their bone marrow. It was theirs until crazy **Mike Gundy's** Oklahoma State Cowboys bitch-slapped them 28-23 at home.

No. 1 Longhorns, meet the No. 11 Tigers. They've got a Heisman Trophy contender in quarterback **Chase Daniel**, whose high school coach was former UT QB **Todd Dodge**. He leads a potent offense that, save this past weekend, reels off more than 50 points a game without pity. They are bruised, bloodied, and angry. How does No. 1 feel, Texas? The last time you were here in midseason, **Ronald Reagan** was in office, and the World Wide Web was something **Spider-Man** weaved in comic books.

Savor the moment. You played the most exciting game since the last time you beat a No. 1. When was that again? Hazy memories. A guy named **Vince Young** dancing into the end zone against USC. No. 1 forever. Make us believe again. Pretty please.

THE MAIN EVENT

★ TEXAS STATE FOOTBAG TOURNEY

Commonly referred to as Hacky Sack, the nation's best footbag players are flocking to Austin for some fearsome foot-flailing action. Events include footbag freestyle, footbag net, and footbag golf. *Sat.-Sun., Oct. 18-19. Palm Park, Third and I-35, 358-4491. Free.* ironcladben@footbag.org, www.footbag.org/events/show/1216849705.



THE HOME TEAMS

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY Volleyball Vs. Prairie View A&M: *Thu., Oct. 23, 6:30pm* **Women's Soccer** Vs. Norwood University: *Thu., Oct. 23, 3pm.* *St. Francis, 300 E. Huntland Dr.* **Men's Soccer** Vs. Norwood University: *Thu., Oct. 23, 1pm.* *St. Francis, 300 E. Huntland Dr.*

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Softball Vs. Western Texas College: *Wed., Oct. 22, 7pm.* **Women's Volleyball** Vs. Missouri: *Fri., Oct. 17, 6:30pm.* *Gregory Gym, 2101 Speedway.* **Women's Soccer** For more on Longhorns soccer, see "Soccer Watch." Vs. Oklahoma: *Fri., Oct. 17, 7pm.* Vs. Oklahoma State: *Sun., Oct. 19, 1pm.* *Mike A. Myers Stadium, 707 Clyde Littlefield Dr.* **Football** For more on UT football, see austinchronicle.com/sports. Vs. Missouri: *Sat., Oct. 18, time TBA.* *Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium, 2100 San Jacinto.* **Baseball** Vs. Rice: *Sun., Oct. 19, 1:30pm.* *Disch-Falk Field, 1300 E. MLK.* www.texassports.com.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY For more on Hilltoppers' soccer, see "Soccer Watch," right. **Women's Soccer** Vs. Dallas Baptist: *Thu., Oct. 16, 4pm.* Vs. UT-Permian Basin: *Sat., Oct. 18, 1pm.* Vs. St. Mary's: *Wed., Oct. 22, 4pm.* **Men's Soccer** Vs. UT-Permian Basin: *Sun., Oct. 19, 4pm.* **Women's Volleyball** Vs. Dallas Baptist: *Thu., Oct. 16, 7pm.* Vs. UT-Permian Basin: *Sat., Oct. 18, 2pm.* Vs. St. Mary's: *Thu., Oct. 23, 7pm.* www.stedwards.edu/athletics.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Women's Volleyball Vs. Centre: *Fri., Oct. 17, 2pm.* Vs. DePauw: *Fri., Oct. 17, 6pm.* Vs. Sewanee: *Sat., Oct. 18, noon.* Vs. Austin College: *Sat., Oct. 18, 4pm.* **Cross Country** Southwestern University Open: *Sat., Oct. 18, time TBA.* southwesternpirates.cstv.com.

RECREATION & FITNESS

NFL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S KLAYS FOR KIDS will feature skeet shooters in four-person teams competing with a former NFL player at each station. All proceeds will benefit the **Court Appointed Special Advocates** of Travis County (CASA). *Fri., Oct. 17, 8:30am.* *Capitol City Trap and Skeet Club, 8707 Lindell, 459-2272.* \$1,000-2,500 per team of four. www.casatrayvis.org/other_events.html.

THE CLUBCORP CHARITY CLASSIC GOLF TOURNEY will raise funds for several charities including the **Muscular Dystrophy Association**. More than 140 golf clubs across the nation are taking part in this event including: *Hills of Lakeway, 26 Club Estates Parkway, 261-7200; Lost Creek Club, 2612 Lost Creek Blvd., 892-1205.* *Fri., Oct. 17.* www.clubcorpcharityclassic.com.

THE SCORE Your Base on Balls
austinchronicle.com/sports

★ BARK IN THE PARK DOG OLYMPICS

The fun run and walk get started at 9am, an animal blessing will be held at 10am, costume contest and pet tricks at 11am, all leading up to the dog races at noon. *Sat., Oct. 18, 9am.* *Cypress Bend Park, 503 Peace Ave, New Braunfels, 866/686-8520.* www.humanesocietynewbraunfels.com.

TEXAS STATE MIXED BOWLING TOURNEY

Hosted by the Texas State USBC Bowling Association, this tourney features approximately 3,000 bowlers who will compete over five weeks. *Through Nov. 9. Dart Bowl, 5700 Grover, 452-2518.*

IRON ROCK RACEWAY Austin-Bergstrom International Airport is expanding their terminal which means it's time for IRR to find a new home. Come down to the track for one last kart-racing thrill at this location. *Mon.-Sat., through Oct. 24.* *Iron Rock Raceway, 10320 Hotel Dr., ABIA Building 7390, 530-RACE (7223).* www.ironrockraceway.com.

TWIN CREEKS COUNTRY CLUB GOLF TOURNEY, in its fifth year, raises funds for Cedar Park youth in need of recreational life-enhancement programs. *Mon., Oct. 20, 11am lunch, 1pm shotgun start.* *3201 Twin Creeks Club Dr., Cedar Park, 512/401-5500.* \$100 and up. www.cedarparktx.us.

PFLUGERVILLE ROTARY CELEBRITY GOLF TOURNEY

Participants include former UT and NFL running back **Roosevelt Leaks**, Grammy winner **Ruben Ramos**, and local musicians **Shelli Coe** and **Gabe Nieto**. Stick around for Deutschen Pfest sausages, an awards ceremony, and a silent auction following the tourney. *Thu., Oct. 16, 1:30pm (shotgun start).* *The Golf Club at Star Ranch, 2600 FM 685, 585-5442.* www.pflugervillerotary.org.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

GET YOUR GUTS IN GEAR is a three-day, 210-mile cycling event being held to raise awareness about Crohn's disease and colitis. Bikers will begin in La Grange, roll through the Lost Pines, along the Guadalupe River, through the Hill Country, and finish the trek in Austin. *Fri.-Sun., Oct. 17-19.* *La Grange to Driftwood, 866/944-6848.* \$85. www.ibdride.org.

OUTLAW TRAIL 100 CYCLING TOUR

This is a fun, noncompetitive ride with cyclists choosing between rides of 10, 25, 40, 50, or 100 miles across eastern Williamson County. *Sat., Oct. 18, 8am.* *Old Settler's Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd, Round Rock, 512/218-5540.* www.roundrocktexas.gov/home/index.asp?page=635.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Oct. 31 issue is Monday, Oct. 20.** 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:

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

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

BY NICK BARBARO *soccer watch*

Beat OU again! It always amazes me how fast the college season goes by. The **UT Longhorns** host their next-to-last home games of the season this weekend: **Oklahoma**, 7pm Friday night, then No. 18 **Oklahoma State**, 1pm Sunday (\$3 Web coupons at www.texassports.com/ot/bevo-bargains.html). The Horns split a pair last weekend, losing 1-0 at Colorado, then beating Texas Tech 1-0 in Lubbock; at 9-2-2, but only 2-2-1 in the Big 12, they need to find some scoring spark as the season heads toward tournament time.

St. Edward's women play their last home games of the season this week as well. A grueling stretch of four in nine days, Oct. 16-24: Dallas Baptist this Thursday, 4pm; UT-Permian Basin, Saturday, 4pm; St. Mary's, Wednesday, 4pm; Newman, Friday, 1pm – all Heartland Conference games that will go a long way to deciding whether the Hilltoppers earn a postseason bid. They were good last week, thumping TAMU-International, 12-0, and earning a scoreless draw against nationally ranked Incarnate Word.

St. Edward's men won a pair of conference games this week too, getting a second-half winner from Austin Aztex alum **Jorge Vega** to move to 4-0 atop the Heartland Conference and up to No. 12 nationally; they're at St. Mary's on Friday, then host Incarnate Word at 1pm Sunday, Oct. 19.

In **World Cup qualifying**, the **U.S.** breezed into the final qualifying round by beating Cuba Saturday, 6-1; two Cuban players defected the day before.

European Champions League play continues Tuesday-Wednesday, Oct. 21-22. ESPN2's games of the week are **Juventus-Real Madrid** on Tuesday, 1:30pm, and **Atletico Madrid-Liverpool**, Wednesday, 1:30pm.

CONCACAF Champions League play resumes those same days; the **Houston Dynamo** can take over first place in their group by beating Pumas at home Wednesday, Oct. 22 (9pm, Fox Soccer Channel).

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

arts listings



Metaphor at its most potent ceases to be metaphor. Instead, it becomes an explosive close-up on life. In the case of *Caroline, or Change*, pocket change is not a metaphor for tragedy;

pocket change is the tragedy – one threading together potent narratives from the 1960s through to this very moment. Zach Theatre's production is that rare work that engages the heart, the mind, and the funny bone.

The musical revolves around Noah Gellman, a young Jewish boy, and Caroline Thibodeaux, an African-American maid who toils in his home's basement – the only one in Louisiana according to the song "16 Feet Beneath the Sea." It is the throbbing stage on which many dramas are set: the death of Noah's mother, the emotional retreat of his father, the poverty of Caroline and her children, the relative liberalism of Noah's stepmother from New York. And hovering at the edge of these stories are the civil rights movement and the assassination of JFK. It feels as if every aspect of love and life is covered in this single piece of theatre. Noah greatly admires Caroline, often referring to her as "President Caroline," but she is the essence of inertia, resisting change, resisting joy, resisting hope, wanting only to sit down for a night that lasts forever. Their stories come to a head when Noah's stepmother tells Caroline to keep any change that Noah forgets to remove from his pockets. Caroline doesn't want to "take pennies from a child," but her weekly salary of \$30 just isn't enough. The deep sorrow in the show is offset by its glittering imagination, bringing to life inanimate objects such as the Radio (a girl-group trio), the Washing Machine (a glamorous, chiding observer of Caroline), and the Dryer (an Elvis-like entertainer).

Caroline, or Change is a brilliant opening to Zach's 2008-2009 "season of change." The production, directed by Dave Steakley, is immaculate and does justice to Tony Kushner's words and Jeanine Tesori's music

at every turn. Derek Whitener's costumes are luscious. Michael Raiford's set creates a rich, multidimensional world. Jason Amato's lighting will take your breath away as a bus comes to deliver the news of JFK's death or as salt slowly buries the basement. Veteran performer Janis Stinson and young Matthew Moore anchor the production with ferocity. Shavana Calder is captivating as Caroline's daughter. Meredith McCall injects a great deal of heart into Noah's stepmother. Sarah Yvonne Jones creates two very distinct characters in the Washing Machine and Dotty, an African-American woman going to night school. The Dryer and the Bus, as played by Frank Viveros, are vivid and heart-wrenching. Every aspect of the show is finely tuned, from the music to the design to the performances. Zach is a gem of a regional theatre, bringing important contemporary works to Austin, staging them in accomplished and entertaining productions, and providing excellent roles for women and minorities.

There is a prophetic quality to *Caroline, or Change*, which Kushner completed in 2003. Before Hurricane Katrina. Before the nomination of Barack Obama. Yet it's as if he is speaking directly to those profound events. Indeed, the show feels so relevant that he might have been writing it backstage. As our country barrels toward the possible election of our first African-American president, it faces another in the eternal series of choices between tolerance and intolerance. *Caroline, or Change* should be required viewing for anyone who wants to be not just a citizen but a participant in this many-throated nation. One of the show's refrains sums it up best: "Change come fast and change come slow, but change come." – Hannah Kenah

theatre

OPENING

THE STRIP CULT PRESENTS A NIGHT WITH CHARLIE MANSON Right, you piggies, time for a little fun or something, yes? The show's heavy on the music but at least theatrical enough for a blurb in this section – in case you're browsing these listings and wanting a rock & roll refresher course in cold-blooded hippie killer history. Well, are you? *Thu., Oct. 16, 9:30pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. \$5. www.rutamaya.net.*

POLITICAL THEATRE Out in Bastrop, here is Sorcha Blaine's world premiere of a fictitious meeting between Mary Baker Eddy and John Wilkes Booth with asides by Abraham Lincoln, as directed by Chester Eitze. *Oct. 17-Nov. 22. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Bastrop Opera House, 711 Spring St., Bastrop, 512/321-6283. \$7-10.*

THE MOST INTERESTING SHOW IN THE WORLD is where beer-maker Dos Equis, like the Medicis so long ago, trumpets its brand by way of patronage of the arts. Specifically, with the singular artists in this traveling variety show (hosted by **Jim Rose**, no less), including aerial performers, Japanese robotic dancers, acrobats, fire jugglers, Russian dancers, and French burlesque singers. Some damned hot stuff going on here, uh huh. *Wed., Oct. 22, 8pm. Antone's, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424. www.dosequis.com/mostinterestingshow.*

NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD Weird City Theatre shambles onto the scene to present this live version of the George Romero zombie classic, as adapted by John Carroll. All together now: Braaaaaaaaaaaaaains! *Oct. 22-Nov. 2. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Special show: Fri., Oct. 31, 11pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 745-2636. \$20. www.weirdcitytheatre.com*

THE WAR OF THE WORLDS Here's a Transit Theatre Troupe adaptation of Orson Welles' adaptation of Herbert George Wells' original science-fiction narrative about invading Martians. Directed by Austin Alexander and Jarrett King. *Oct. 22-31. Tue.-Sat., 8pm. Fleck Hall, Rm. 305, St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress. Free.*

CLOSING

AMADEUS Austin Playhouse starts its new season with this Peter Shaffer classic, directed in all its intricately costumed machinations by Don Toner and featuring Rick Roemer as Salieri and David Gallagher as Mozart. *Through Oct. 19. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$26-30. www.austinplayhouse.com.*

PROOF ACC presents David Auburn's Pulitzer Prize-winning play about a young woman's struggle to discover how much of her father's mathematical genius, and his madness, she may have inherited. Directed by Shelby Brammer. *Through Oct. 19. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. ACC Gallery Theatre, 12312 Rio Grande, 223-3240. \$6.*

THE LARAMIE PROJECT These performances will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the murder of Matthew Shepherd, with proceeds from ticket sales going to the "Q" program, a service of AIDS Services of Austin's Prevention Department. *Through Oct. 18. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm. Boyd Vance Theatre at Carver, 1165 Angelina, 974-4926. www.qboyz.org.*

ONGOING

DUG UP Austin Playhouse presents this world premiere play by Austin's own Cyndi Williams, directed by Lara Toner and featuring Jude Hickey, Jessie Tilton, and Liz Fisher in a story about an inn in the Louisiana bayou. An inn where the owner, whose dead sister may be returning, is living like an animal in the courtyard. And the inn's newest guest may have just killed her husband before checking in. *Through Nov. 2. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$20 (\$10, students). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

THE CASKET OF PASSING FANCY Rubber Repertory says, "This is the show that will destroy our brains and drive us to ruin," and they may be right, as directors Josh Meyer, Matt Hislope, and Rebecca Beegle present a night where each of the **only 30 audience members each night** gets to choose from among 500 offered sensory experiences. You may win, or you may lose, depending on which offer you pick,

while the Duchess regales the crowd with stories of faded glory and your fellow theatregoers vanish one by one into the depths of the Blue Theater, there to intimately encounter unique delights or unnerving squickiness or some things you'd never want to tell your mama about. This is a show for adults only, and it's waaaaaaaaaay recommended; make your reservations early. *Through Nov. 1. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale, 927-1118. \$15-25. www.rubberrep.org.*

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS Coffee is for closers, but this David Mamet classic about the cutthroat world of real estate salesmen is for anyone who appreciates rat-a-tat-tat dialogue and the extremes of greed, scheming, backstabbing, and middle-aged angst. Well, let's see how well the City Theatre ensemble, under the direction of Andy Berkovsky and Charles P. Stites, renders the contentious drama. *Through Oct. 26. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5:30pm. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D, 524-2870. \$15-20 (\$12, students; pay what you wish, Thursdays). www.citytheatreAustin.org.*

CAROLINE, OR CHANGE Dave Steakley directs this Tony Award-winning musical (script by Tony Kushner, music by Jeanine Tesori) about a woman "working as a maid for a southern Jewish family and struggling to keep afloat emotionally and financially, while the young son of her employer seeks solace in her company following the death of his mother." This powerful show's not one of your bubbly musical-lite numbers, no. Starring Janis Stinson among a fine supporting cast and set in 1963 Lake Charles, La. Recommended. (See review, left.) *Through Nov. 9. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$20. www.zachtheatre.org.*

DINNER THEATRE

HOW TO MURDER A MILLIONAIRE The Capital City Mystery Players present this interactive murder-mystery takeoff on several past and present iterations of the reality/game-show genre, a night of sleuthful and wacky comedy that lets you twirl your vermicelli (or divide your veal Parmesan or what have you) while trying to figure out whodunit. *Sat., Oct. 18, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$29.95. www.capcitymystery.com.*

AUDITIONS

WARPSTAR SEXYSQUAD is an original sci-fi action-adventure musical, and, of course, it's coming from the frenetic and unfrowsty Yellow Tape Construction Company and will be directed by Jonathon Morgan. Needed: actors, singers, and hysterical performers of all ages and types. Auditions will consist of readings from the script; also be prepared to sing four to eight bars of anything similar to contemporary musical theatre music. *Sun., Oct. 19, 6-9:30pm. Krav Maga, 118 E. Alpine (next to Ruta Maya). www.yellowtape.org.*

THE LAST FIVE YEARS Michael McKelvey, set to direct this Jason Robert Brown musical for Austin Playhouse, is looking for a male with good singing in the tenor range (age 22-33) and a female with extended belt (D) or good belt/mix (age 22-33). Audition with a 32-bar cut of a song, preferably from the show. He wants you to be good actors, too: You will be compensated. E-mail for appointment. *Oct. 18-19. Sat., 10am-1pm; Sun., 2-4pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. mikeem@stedwards.edu.*

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Oct. 31 issue is Monday, Oct. 20.** 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.
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Ric Williams, litera. **litera@austinchronicle.com.**

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

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

MISS WITHERSPOON Different Stages is casting this Christopher Durang play, to be directed by Karen Jambon and presented in January of next year. Rehearsals around Thanksgiving and Christmas, please note. Looking for men (ages 25-60) and women (ages 25-60), and one of the women needs to be African-American; another needs to be East Indian. Get it? Call for appointment. *Mon.-Tue., Oct. 20-21, 7-9pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 565-2297. www.main.org/diffstages.*

THEATRE CALL BOARD

AUSTIN SCRIPT WORKS: TRANSGRESSING FORM Sharon Bridgforth leads this workshop focusing on the process of creating interdisciplinary theatre. Poets, dancers, spoken-word artists, and hip-hop artists interested in translating their work for theatre are welcome. *Sat., Oct. 18, 10am-12:30pm. State Theatre, 719 Congress, 454-9727. \$25 (\$15, ASW members). www.scriptworks.org.*

comedy

IN THE CLUBS

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

Robert Hawkins Late of Fox's TV show *Titus*, this nationally touring comedian's got funnier chops than a clown in a butcher shop. (Insert rimshot here.) No, really, he's good – he calls his website "The Hawk Nest"; he must be some kind of *super-hero* – and **Geoff Tate** opens. *Oct. 21-25. Tue.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

Cap City Open Mic This gig ranges from "Who let these dipshits onstage?" to "Wow, this guy is awesome!" And, hey, it could be you up there, dear reader, slaying your friends and neighbors. *Sundays, 8pm. Free with college ID.*

Bill Burr You know: from *Chappelle's Show* and HBO's *One Night Stand*. Yeah, see, that's the man. And **Joe DeRosa** opens. *Oct. 16-18. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803 Airport, 524-2807. www.coldtowne.com.

Improv Out the Wazoo Paralelogramo-phonograph goes vintage-screwball comedy with their improv, like *Bringing Up Baby* and *It Happened One Night*, and so on, all P-graph stylee and with a little help from **Starter Kit**. *Thu., 8pm.* Next, **Midnight Society** presents what they're calling a **Halloween Spooktacular**. *Thu., 10pm.* All this month the **Proctor** show presents a Halloweeny gambit called "The Bat," which is improv performed completely in the dark. Now with **Look Cookie** and **Tiger Beat**. *Fri., 8pm. That Other Paper* presents **Punchline**. The popular stand-up showcase continues. *Fri., 10pm. Jabber Talky* is a great name for an unscripted comedy interview show, which is what this is. *Fri., 11:30pm. Stool Pigeon* features **Josh Huck** jump-starting the improv shenanigans that ensue. *Sat., 8pm. Cage Match Finals* Oh, the Hume aunt! *Sat., 9pm. Cold, Cold Improv* The ColdTowne house troupe dishes up a comedy conflagration for your entertainment, along with the ocular proofs of **Look Cookie**. *Sat., 10pm.*

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

Esther's Follies: World Gone Wild The most popular troupe in town returns with its riotous musical send-ups of local and national politics and cultural phenomena, making already hot topics burn with a bright comic intensity, with the incredible and – *ai! ai! ai!* – spicy illusions of master magician **Ray Anderson**. Thrills! Chills! Ripped-from-the-headlines events turned into comedy gold! *Reservations highly recommended. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.*

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

Friday: It's **Threefer Madness** time, in which three different troupes battle for improv supremacy. *8pm. \$10.* Then you've got the **Double Barrel** show, with two hot gangs of improvisers playing goofball for your amusement. *10pm. \$10.*

Saturday: Start Trekkin' Lower those deflector shields, Federation lackey, because the skiffiest improv show this side of the Neutral Zone is back with all phasers set to disintegrate your funny bone. *8pm. \$10. Maestro* is a fierce, multipartite battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by you, the audience. *Highly recommended. 10pm. \$10.*

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

Spite Club Extra Recommended! John Rabon hosts three rounds of comedian vs. comedian battle – trivia, insults, and freestyle – every week, but we're pimping this particular incarnation, because tonight's snarky warriors are **Chuck Watkins** vs. **Matt Bearden**. Oh sweet Shiva, it's a clash of the fucking titans! *Thu., Oct. 16, 9pm. \$5.*

Dale Alexander and Mike Creed Tonight you get two headliners for the price of one as these stalwart stand-ups do their stuff after **Nick Aluto** and his pals open. *Fri.-Sat., Oct. 17-18, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

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

BUT WAIT - THERE'S MORE!

KICK BUTT COMEDY There's humor aplenty to be had, where the beverages and snacks are always good, here in sensei Gohring's martial-arts-inflected java joint. **ComedySportz Reunion Shows** Les McGehee and his coterie of seasoned comedy cut-ups return to the stage with this series of tomfoolery. *Lesfoolery, actually. Saturdays, 6pm. Monday Night Mash: Improv Mondays, 8pm. Open Mic Comedy Wednesdays, 8pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425.*

CAP CITY COMEDY CAUCUS Cap City Comedy and Rooftop Comedy host a purely political comedy night in search of what will be the Yahoo!News front-page comedy clip. Along with political humor by the funniest locals, Austinites will have a shot at \$50 for Best Obama Joke, \$50 for Best McCain Joke, \$50 for Best Sarah Palin Impression, and \$100 for Best Overall Political Comedy. Wanna give it a try? Prepare your best two minutes of material, and e-mail Margie for details. Or just come on out and experience the madness, as hosted by **Matt Bearden**. *Mon., Oct. 20, 8pm. Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. \$5. margie@capcitycomedy.com.*

SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL Gnap! Theatre Projects nails the weekend to a late-night comedy wall with this excellent improv showcase. This week: Girls Girls Girls and the debut of Austin's Next Top Improviser. *Sat., Oct. 18, 10:30pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$10. www.salvagevanguard.org.*

dance

TAPESTRY DANCE COMPANY: THE SOULS OF OUR FEET 2008 Live swingin' jazz and 16 feet keepin' time are what make the pulse of this indigenous American art form beat in a performance tracing tap dancing from past to present. Acia Gray, TDC's intrepid artistic director, conceived and choreographed; now she's the recipient of the 2008 Texas Tap Legend Award. *Congrats, Acia! Through Oct. 19, Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Helm Fine Arts Center, 2900 Bunny Run. 773-7827. \$25 (half-price, seniors, students). www.tapestry.org.*

1,001 NIGHTS

MELISSA AMIRA'S CAROUSEL CARAVAN Jeanette hosts this monthly shimmy, featuring a host of hot belly dancers in one of Austin's coolest bars. CDs, DVD, and costumes for sale. *Every third Saturday, 8pm. Carousel Lounge, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790. Free. www.carouseloungeaustin.com.*

TWO LEFT FEET

ADVANCED BALLET CLASS FOR AGES 13 AND OLDER Ten-year Tapestry resident Stacie Stalmach brings more than 15 years of teaching and performance experience to the class. *Mondays, 6-7:30pm. Tapestry Dance Company, 2302 Western Trails, 474-9864. \$16 walk-in fee; discounts available for students, professionals. www.tapestry.org.*

DANCE INTERNATIONAL Each night features a variety of ballroom and Latin dances; each month sees the start of a new, progressive course. No part-

ner 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.*

FLAMENCO CLASSES Intermediate classes at the Khabele Studio Downtown. Call Chloe for details. *923-3270.*

BLUE LAPIS LIGHT: AERIAL DANCE CLASSES Experience the thrill of aerial movement as you learn from professionals in a safe and fun environment. No experience necessary. *Two sets of classes meet Mon.-Wed. and Tue.-Thu. Call for details. Blue Lapis Light Studio, 6701 Thomas Springs, 288-1929. \$20 per class (package discounts available), \$65 private lessons. www.bluelapislight.org.*

SCOTTISH BALLROOM DANCING Learn the ballroom dances of Scotland: lively jigs and reels and elegant strathspeys. No partner needed, but couples welcome. *Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm. Quicksilver Dance Center, 8711 Burnet Rd. Ste. H-100, 327-2869. First class free.*

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

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS ABD sponsors ballroom dancing with DJed music weekly, year-round. *Saturdays, 7:30-11pm. Austin Uptown Dance, 8868 Research, 989-3939. www.austinballroomdancers.org.*

SOCIAL DANCE PARTY features short classes in salsa, cha-cha, ballroom, and social dancing. Dress is "comfortably cocktail." Bring your friends and a beverage of your choice. *Fri., Oct. 17, 8-11pm. Dance Institute, 6612 Sitio Del Rio. 346-6612. Free. www.danceinstitute.com.*

CONTACT IMPROVISATION DANCE JAMS Participants move in and out of contact with one or more people through a common center of gravity. All are welcome. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm; Sundays, 4:30-6pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. \$5.*



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ARIEL DANCE THEATRE: NEW MODERN CLASSES Andrea Ariel teaches modern dance to students of all levels. Call for more information. *Thursdays, 6:30-8:30pm. Knabele Studio, 701 W. 7th. 458-4258. \$12 drop-in/\$10 class card.*

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

MODERN DANCE CLASSES Ellen Bartel of Spank Dance Company leads a series of classes in modern dance (all levels). Times and prices vary. See the website for details. *Tapestry Dance Company studios, 2302 Western Trails. www.tapestry.org.*

TAPESTRY DANCE COMPANY ACADEMY: 2 FOR 1 OCTOBER CLASSES During October, walk in to any two TDC classes, and pay half the usual price. Among the classes TDC offers: a six-week flamenco workshop, music and movement for kids, ballet, rhythm tap, jazz, modern, hip-hop, ballroom, and dance theatre, as well as new classes in Bharata Natyam (traditional Indian) and more. For all ages and experience. Check the website for schedules and more. *Tapestry Dance Company, 2302 Western Trails. 474-9864. \$10 for two classes. www.tapestry.org.*

LUCILA DANCE PRODUCTIONS: CLASSES FORMING Belly dancing (all levels), flamenco, salsa/merengue, hip-hop, creative movement for ages 5-10, and tai chi. *Lucila Dance Studio, 1700 S. Lamar, 416-8800. www.luciladance.com.*

ESTUDIO FLAMENCO Flamenco dance classes, centrally located. Beginner: *Saturdays, noon-1pm.* Intermediate: *Saturdays, 1-2:30pm. 2801 W. 45th, 382-1366. Fees vary. www.estudioflamenco.com.*

SOLID CHROME DANCERS Learn the Texas two-step and Western swing in a real honky-tonk. Singles and couples welcome. *Thursdays, 8pm. Broken Spoke, 3201 S. Lamar, 417-7383. \$8. www.myspace.com/solidchromedancers.*



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An Evening of New Dance

AustinVentures StudioTheater
Oct. 10



acters may indeed have been cubicle mates, the work's emotional range and organic yet unpredictable partnering sections rendered it intellectual, fun, and easy on the eyes all at once. The husband-and-wife team's comic streak was well utilized in a solo for Wideman-Davis in which she seemed to have an imagined conversation with her partner, giving his apparition a fierce bite and then a loving smooch.

Ballet Afrique's sampler of four dances, titled *An Afro Cubano Retrospective*, was listed at the end of the printed program but, in fact, opened the show. The first and last sections showed two and three women in mostly synchronous movement that seemed an unsure combination of ballet, modern, and African dance. In a solo section, however, China Smith-Lott used subtle footwork and her beaming smile to make the intricate drumbeats that accompanied her sound warm and feminine. Derrick Williams, omitted from the printed program, contributed a tightly wound solo in which he manipulated the flags of several nations, seeming to explore belonging and fidelity.

Last onstage was Dallas Black Dance Theatre's *Pulse*, a 2007 work by Ray Mercer (the dancer/choreographer, not the boxer). The piece used an eclectic score and text to circularly explore conflicting ideas of "man" and relationships, and the four men (Chivas Merchant-Buckman, Richard A. Freeman Jr., Zach Law Ingram, and Kevin E. Jackson) were technically strong and well rehearsed. When they moved in unison to a booming heartbeat track, they did it with feeling. Women joined them in various groupings, and some interesting gestures, including a nose-wipe wave of dismissal ("Screw you, what I really need is a tissue") and an ass grab, punctuated the ballet- and jazz-based steps. The music moved toward nightclub pace near the end, before the women left the men alone onstage once again.

Despite the lack of "new," the program showed that area black dance – and that means a major part of American dance – is living and diverse. Festival Director Lisa Byrd said this year's festival responded to a demand for more dance by giving the lineup two dance programs instead of one (the other program, *No Boundaries: Dancing the Visions of Contemporary Black Choreographers*, was shown on Oct. 8). Perhaps next year's festival could allow even more time for dance, encouraging more risk-taking and innovation. – *Jonelle Wilkinson Seitz*

The title of the Black Arts Movement Festival's mixed-dance program, *An Evening of New Dance*, was perhaps overly ambitious. While none of the pieces shown represented real

conceptual ingenuity, the evening nevertheless provided a welcome opportunity to view three companies in various styles that contribute to Austin's dance scene.

This year, the festival focused on close-to-home talent by soliciting work from brand-new Austin-based troupe Ballet Afrique and the 30-year-old Dallas Black Dance Theatre, as well as Wideman/Davis Dance (based in New York but frequently seen in Austin). The Wideman/Davis company had the middle spot on the program and showed the most technically secure and mature work in pieces by co-choreographers and dancers Thaddeus Davis and Tanya Wideman-Davis. A love-hate duet to songs by Etta James and James Brown, "James and Etta," was a crowd-pleaser that also had enough choreographic freshness – and its dancers enough technical prowess – to please serious dance-goers.

The set for the piece, two gray chairs and a table, along with business-casual costumes, suggested an office romance. While the char-

BELLY DANCE WITH LILY Through Nov. 20. Thursdays, 8-9pm. Cafe Dance, 3307-B Hancock, 560-0070. \$15 per class. www.lilybellydance.com.

SCANDINAVIAN DANCING Turning and improvising couple dancing for beginning to advanced dancers. No partners needed; wear slick-soled shoes. Thursdays, 7:30-9:45pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0598. \$3. www.austinscandi.org.

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE Traditional social dances to live music every week. You don't need a partner, and every dance will be taught before you stride out on your own. Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. \$3 donation. www.cityofaustin.org/parks/hancock.htm.

NIA CLASSES The Nia technique is an energizing workout inspired by dance, martial arts, and healing arts. First class is free. Mon. & Fri., 9:30-10:30am; Mon. & Thu., 6-7pm; Sat., 10:30am. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 922-1581. \$10 each class. www.cityofaustin.org/parks/hancock.htm.

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Learn a variety of couples and line dances from around the world before giving it a whirl. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. No partner required. Saturdays, 7:30pm (lessons), 8:15-11pm (open dance). Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. \$5. www.aifd.cc.

KICK BUTT BLUES DANCE The latest in a long line (column?) of participatory dancing, to what we can only imagine is some ass-kickin' blues for you to shake your booty! Food and beverages available. Fridays (except third Friday each month), 9pm-1am. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 736-2662. \$5. www.kickbutcoffee.com.

SPEAKEASY: SALSA LESSONS Combining the classic sultry moves and one of Austin's fave hangouts with live Latin music. Wednesdays, 9pm. Speakeasy, 412 Congress, 476-8017. Free. www.speakeasyaustin.com.

SATURDAY NIGHT SOCIAL DANCE Austin Contra Dance and Austin Friends of Traditional Music present an evening of participatory, social dance. If you can walk fast and follow instructions, you can dance. Live music by Roy, Stewart, Max with dance instruction by Dwayne Johnson. No partner needed; casual dress; beginners welcome. Sat., Oct. 18, 7:30pm (beginners lessons); 8-11pm (main dance). St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 3501 Red River, 472-8301. \$8.

FOUR ON THE FLOOR: CLASSES Ongoing classes for various levels of expertise in swing and Lindy Hop culminate in a weekly dance. New classes usually start the first Tuesday of the new month. Tuesdays, 7pm (classes), 9:30pm (open dance). Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 453-3889. Prices vary. www.fouronthefloor.com.

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners' lesson starts the evening. Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$5 (\$2, members). www.austinswingsyndicate.org.

classical music

OPENING

UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC Faculty Recital: Nikita Storojev, Bass Songs and arias by Tchaikovsky fill the bill, as Storojev performs with special guest artists Tatiana Storozheva, piano; Daymon Passmore, bass; Remigius Sabaliauskas, baritone; Shaunna Shandro, mezzo-soprano; and Blayne Bristol, soprano. Fri., Oct. 17, 8pm. Jessen Auditorium. \$10 (\$5, students). www.music.utexas.edu.

AUSTIN SYMPHONY: ANTON NEL Nel was much sought after by UT not too long ago, where he is now a professor of piano and chamber music, having distinguished himself as a performer all over the world. The *LA Times* calls him "a pianist of exceptional sensitivity and stylistic discrimination." We just think he's ace. He'll perform Mendelssohn's *Piano Concerto No. 1 in G Minor*, Op. 25; maestro Peter Bay also leads ASO through works by Messiaen, Schumann, and Respighi to round out the symphony's latest enticing bill. Come early for Bob Buckalew's Concert Conversation, previewing the evening's musical selections. Fri.-Sat., Oct. 17-18, 8pm (Concert Conversation, 7:10pm). Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 476-6064. \$19-48 (student rush tickets available 20 minutes prior to performance for \$5 cash). www.austinsymphony.org.

AUSTIN CHAMBER MUSIC CENTER: ALTURAS DUO Composer David MacBride's work for guitar, viola, and narration, *No Mas Muertes*, commemorates Mexicans who have died trying to cross the border into Arizona. The piece is performed in this year's Hispanic Heritage Month concert. MacBride serves as narrator; the Alturas Duo has been firing up audiences by combining South American folk rhythms, J.S. Bach, and new music. Fri., Oct. 17, 7:30pm. Mexic-Arte Museum, 419 Congress, 454-0026. Free. www.austinchambermusic.org.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY: THE '60S – BROADWAY'S REAL GOLDEN ERA The Omni Singers Musical Theatre Ensemble celebrates Broadway's most prolific era of musical theatre with an evening of song and dance from the likes of *Hair*, *Camelot*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Hello Dolly*, and many more. Fri.-Sat., Oct. 17-18, 7:30pm. Mary Moody Northern Theatre at St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 428-1297. \$8 (\$5, seniors, students, St. Edward's faculty & staff).

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY: PLEASURES AND PASSIONS Student and faculty chamber music ensembles bring the romance of the 19th century to the fore in this concert that features the St. Edward's University string ensemble, chamber winds, piano trio, and more. Sat., Oct. 18, 7:30pm. Main Building, St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress. 428-1297. \$8 (\$5, seniors, students, St. Edward's faculty & staff).

AUSTIN CHAMBER ENSEMBLE: BOLD, BATTY & BEAUTIFUL Just in time for Halloween, ACE presents a concert of chamber music and poetic recitation that brings together works by Richard Strauss, Ned Rorem, Gwyneth Walker, and more. Kiyoshi Tamagawa, piano; Claire Vangelisti, soprano; Martha MacDonald, clarinet; and Kathleen Juhl, narrator, perform. Sun., Oct. 19, 3pm. Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 3201 Windsor. Tue., Oct. 21, 7pm. Alma Thomas Theatre, Southwestern University, Georgetown. 345-3399. \$20 (\$15, seniors, students; \$5, ages 10 and younger). www.austinchamberensemble.com.

3 MO' DIVAS AT THE LONG CENTER celebrates the amazing versatility of the female voice with this theatrically staged concert. Sun., Oct. 19, 7:30pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 474-5664. \$19-49. www.thelongcenter.org.

SALON CONCERTS: DUALITY AUGMENTED The big news for this long-lived group is that Kathryn Mishell succeeds Robert Rudie as artistic director: Congratulations, Kathryn. But it's not exactly farewell to Maestro Rudie, who'll continue to serve on the board of directors, and you'll see him perform, too, from time to time. This first outing, however, features the Kobayashi-Gray Duo and cellist Douglas Harvey performing works by Viardot, Warshawer, Prokofiev, Risher, and Moya. A one-hour excerpted Rush Hour concert is also scheduled. Oct. 19-21. Sun., 4:30pm; Mon., 7:30pm. A private home (directions given with reservation). \$35. Rush Hour concert: Tue., 6pm. Armstrong Community Music School, 901 Barton Springs Rd. Free. 989-0539. www.salonconcerts.org.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE ORGAN CONCERT Music for this "king of instruments" is presented with flute, trumpet, voices, piano, violin, and other accompaniment. Tue., Oct. 21, 7:30pm. Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church, 7127 Bee Caves Rd. Free. www.acago.com.

visual arts

EVENTS

BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART: THE PASSAGE OF TIME This free evening begins with the opening of Marcelo Pombo's "WorkSpace." Vijai Patchineelam, artist in residence from Brazil, will speak about the meaning of time through the Blanton's permanent collection. Other activities include yoga in the galleries, a book club review of *A Wrinkle in Time*, and a brief tour emphasizing time in works of art. Thu., Oct. 16, 5:30-9pm. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.

24-HOUR COMICS DAY Austin's own Dragon's Lair will be one of the sites hosting amateur and professional cartoonists participating in the annual, international 24-Hour Comics Day challenge to write, draw, and finish a 24-page comic book in just one day. Sat.-Sun., Oct. 18-19, 10am-10am. 6111 Burnet Rd., 454-2399. www.24hourcomicsday.com.

STEPHANIE BRADLEY presents a pastel demonstration and performs music in conjunction with her exhibition "Hill Country Landscapes." Sat., Oct. 18, noon. 2824 Real, 775-0458. www.artworksbykathiherrin.com.

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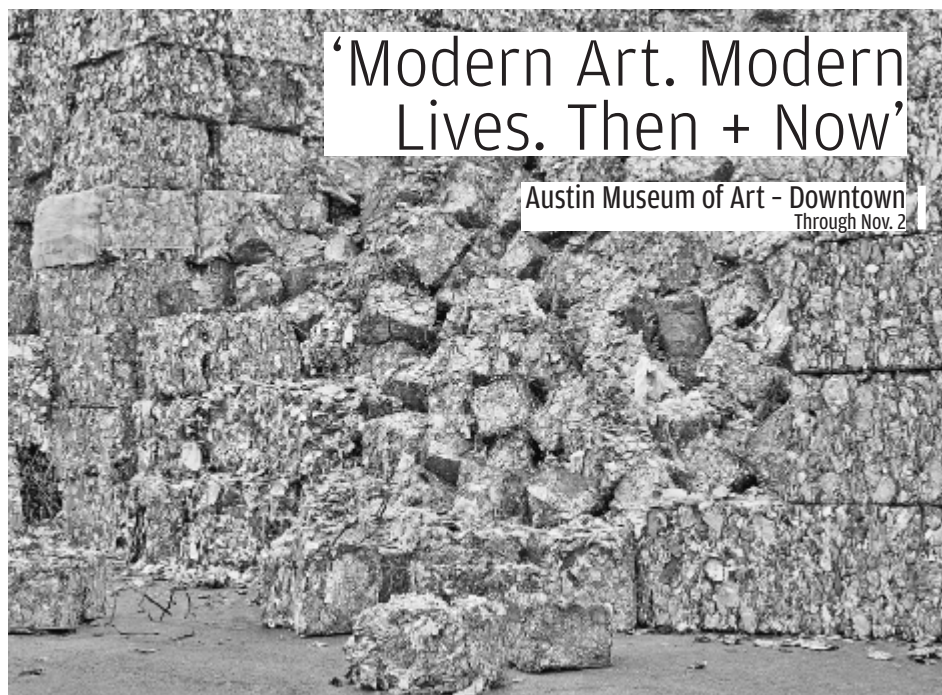
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Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.

A quick stroll through Austin Museum of Art's dual exhibit "Modern Art. Modern Lives. Then + Now" might prompt the

natural response that art sure has changed since the impressionists were slinging paint.

But linger a little in both halves of the show, and you may spy threads of commonality between "Then" and "Now," enough to suggest that art, even in these digitized, deconstructed days, is the same as it ever was.

To be sure, artists of the present employ so many different kinds of media, some of which didn't even exist a century ago (large-print photography, video, plastics, computer graphics), as to make those no-tech paints and charcoals of the 19th century seem quaint by comparison. And technology unavailable to the artists of yesteryear is not only being used to make art, but it's being used as the subject of art. In works such as Chris Jordan's large photographs *Recycling Yard #6, Seattle, 2004* and *Crushed Cars #3, Tacoma, 2004*, the artist is training his eye on a mass-production/mass-consumption culture unknown when van Gogh was painting the bridge over the Seine at Asnières.

And yet, at its essence, the impulse generating Jordan's art is no different than the one inspiring van Gogh. Both strive to see the world they live in with fresh eyes and to present it in a way that provokes us to see the world in new ways, too. With Jordan, it may be scale that does the trick: mountains of mangled metal that jolt us into recognizing the monstrous amounts of waste we discard and rarely think about. With van Gogh, it may be color: those azures and ultramarines against glowing pinks that set the bridge's underside and its watery reflection in electric counterpoint. But both succeed in creating arresting alternative visions of the world, images that expand our view beyond what we would likely see left to our own eyes.

That impulse reveals itself over and over throughout the show's "Then" and "Now"

sections (or, as they're formally titled, "19th and 20th Century Artists at the Turn of the Century" and "Where Are We Going? Contemporary Artists Address Issues of the 21st Century"). And when you key into it, the separate sections feel more like they're in conversation, that the artists across that century gap are nodding in agreement: "Yes, that's what I was trying to do." Then, Anne Appleby's *Shirley Poppy*, with a flower abstracted into four panels of flat color, seems like an extension of Paul Signac's pointillist experiments with hue in *The Bridge of la Félicité, Asnières*, and Pablo Picasso's cubist portraits, with their multiple angles of a single face, prefigure Noah Kalina's time-lapse video, *Everyday January 11, 2000-July 31, 2006*, stringing together thousands of images of his face over a span of six years.

And as you come to see that shared urge to create among all these artists, you can sense a restlessness among them all, too, a desire to find those edges in the culture, the places yet to be claimed and commodified by society. AMOA Executive Director Dana Friis-Hansen, who curated the contemporary section, identifies its questing nature in his exhibit's title, but it applies to the older artists, too, although it's harder to see in their works; since impressionism has become visual comfort food, we've lost our taste for how daring it once was, how it tested the boundaries of art in its day. But if you take a second pass through the "Then" section after being charged by the "Now," you may be more sensitive to the current of experimentation and risk at work. As assembled by curator James Housefield in his last show for AMOA, this art of our past is pushing forward, moving ahead of the curve, exploring, just as the art of the present is today. Some things never change, and for that we can be grateful. — Robert Faires

OPENING

ART ON 5TH: WHIMSICAL TEXAS New artist Vicki Bruner creates works on paper (in watercolor, gouache, acrylic, and pencil) that feature fantasy people and animals. *Fri.-Sun., Oct. 17-19, 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.*

REAL GALLERY: FIBER & BEADS Bead works by Margaret Ball, quilts by Vivian Mahlab, and fiber art by Naomi Adams, Kharon Clark, Sue Gilliam, and April Sullivan. Reception: *Sat., Oct. 18, 7-9pm. Exhibition: Through Oct. 19. 2824 Real, 775-0458. www.artworksbykathiherrin.com.*

ART PALACE: BLACK ROOM features the newest works by Peat Duggins: graphic explorations of the fictitious community he calls "Hickory Ridge." Recommended. Reception: *Sat., Oct. 18, 8-10pm. Exhibition: Through Nov. 15. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. www.artpalacegallery.com.*

1305 POSITION GALLERY: NIMBUSLINGUS Art installation by New York artists Lisa Hepm and Bob Seng. Reception: *Sat., Oct. 18, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through Nov. 19. 1305 E. Sixth #3, 495-9578.*

SUPER! ALRIGHT!: ADREON HENRY Here's the inaugural show for Super! Alright!, featuring the one-line drawings of this industrious local artist. Reception: *Sat., Oct. 18-7-11pm. Exhibition: Through Nov. 8. 301 Chicon, 524-1973. www.adreonhenry.com/online.*

CLOSING

SLUGFEST GALLERY: URBAN PORTRAITS Colorful new prints by artist Yuji Hiratsuka adorn the walls at this fierce little gallery off MLK. *Through Oct. 19. 1906 Miriam, 477-7204. www.slugfestprints.com.*

GALLERY SHOAL CREEK: CARROLL COLLIER The artist celebrates his long career (and his 85th birthday!) with this show of paintings in his realistic yet dreamlike style. *Through Oct. 18. 2905 San Gabriel #101. 454-9560. www.galleryshoalcreek.com.*

ONGOING

VANISHING AUSTIN This exhibition of photographs by Jann Alexander documents Austin's most iconic old places juxtaposed against New Urbanism. *Through Oct. 31. 5900 W. Slaughter, 288-8825. Free. www.fastframe.com.*

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. *12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577. www.eyeccontactart.com.*

AUSTIN GALLERIES: 20TH CENTURY MASTERS Original lithographs, etchings, intaglios, and screen prints by Marc Chagall, Salvador Dalí, Pablo Picasso, and more. *1219 W. Sixth.*

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: SUSAN COLLIS The artist's "Why Did I Think This Was a Good Idea?" will be the inaugural exhibition in this newest Reynolds' space. Appropriate, as Collis' pieces disguise themselves as ordinary tools used for constructing, cleaning, and hanging an art exhibition. Seriously. Check it out. *Through Nov. 15. 360 Nueces, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.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, 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.*

AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART: MODERN ART, MODERN LIVES This two-part show explores how modern and contemporary artists merge art and life, with "19th and 20th Century Artists at the Turn of the Century," curated by James Housefield, and "Where Are We Going? Contemporary Artists Address Issues of the 21st Century," curated by Dana Friis-Hansen. *Through Nov. 2. 823 Congress, 495-9224. www.amoa.org.*

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Agustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. *78 San Marcos, 457-0171. www.pablataboadastudio.com.*

ARTHOUSE: RESET/PLAY Guest curators Marcin Ramocki and Paul Slocum present an exhibition that attempts a critical exploration of contemporary art inspired by video games and features a formidable group of international artists. *Through Nov. 2. 700 Congress, 453-5312. Free. www.arthousetexas.org.*

ARTSPOKEN GALLERY: FROM A TO Z Photographs by Bill Oakey and Jack Marshall, glasswork by Kim Brill. *1507 W. Koenig, 589-2905. www.artsspoken.com.*

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. *1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinartglass.com.*

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry. *108 W. 43rd, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.*

BIG MEDIUM: DISCRETE SPACE This new show features work by Austin artists Leslie Mutchler, Sam Sanford, and Jeannie McKetta. *Through Nov. 2. 5305 Bolm.*

BIG HEAD: SHARON KYLE KUHN AND LIZ PENNIMAN The newest works by these artists explore the inner emotions and outer manifestations of facial expressions. Reception: *Sat., Oct. 11, 7-10pm. Exhibition: Through Oct. 25. 5305 Bolm, 386-5800. www.bay6studios.com.*

BIG MEDIUM: INFER GENIUS: SIGHTLESS ITALIANS This is Heather Tolleson's reinterpretation of an installation, utilizing recycled/found objects, that's she's previously presented in Marfa and San Marcos. *Through Oct. 31. 5305 Bolm. www.comefortheblonde.com.*

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of a South Austin home. Hours: *Sundays, 11am-2pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413. www.keepeastinweird.com.*

D BERMAN GALLERY: JEFFRY DELL Here's a new collection of serigraphs so well-rendered by this master of the art that, sometimes, they don't even look like prints. They do look strange and compelling, though, the hairy surreal mixed with the bald mundane, in this show called "Big Pelt." *Through Nov. 1. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.*

DIBONA STUDIO Oil paintings and "sculptural tattoos" by Joyce DiBona. *404 W. Milton, 851-2646.*

[SPACE] [TIME] [MATTER]: THE ART AND CRAFT OF FOUR HUMAN BEINGS Meredy Crisman, Jerry Chamkis, Carol Hirsh, and Flynn Mishagin exhibit three-dimensional interpretations of the vessel form with influences both ancient and contemporary. Also featured: the Kosmophone, a music-generating particle detector/synthesizer. *Through Oct. 27. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 974-0025. www.cityofaustin.org/dougherty/october.htm.*

FLATBED PRESS GALLERY: THE POLITICS OF WAR is a new series of large, evocative etchings, lithographs, and more by Robert Levers and Chris Reno. *Through Nov. 4. 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328. www.flatbedpress.com.*

FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY *309-B Bowie, 320-0072.*

GALLERY LOMBARDI: WELCOME HOME Features paintings, soft sculpture, textile wall hangings, drawings, and more. *Through Nov. 1. 602 W. Seventh Ste. A, 481-1088. www.gallerylombardi.com.*

HARRY RANSOM CENTER: THE MYSTIQUE OF THE ARCHIVE The HRC's newest exhibition draws on the center's extensive holdings to provide a comprehensive look at archives, the archival process, and the culture surrounding archives. Literary documents! A video of Mike Wallace interviewing Salvador Dalí! Thrills! Chills! Acid-free paper! *Through Jan. 4. 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.*

INTERNATIONAL CENTER OF AUSTIN: ART ACROSS THE AMERICAS The Austin Lima Sister Cities Committee hosts an exhibition featuring works of Peruvian painters and sculptors. *Through Oct. 31. 201 E. Second.*

MEXIC ARTE: EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE OKAY This exhibition series, in its 13th year, features young Latino artists who present their vision in a re-examination of social and aesthetic norms via new and experimental media. *Through Nov. 9. 419 Congress, 480-9373. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.*

SCREENED EXPRESSIONS: SERIE PROJECT RETROSPECTIVE On display are selected prints from among the 80 artists who have participated in the project (founded by Sam Coronado) during the last decade and a half. *Through Nov. 29. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St., 478-6222. www.cityofaustin.org/macc.*

MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART presents an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork. *6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.*

DIVERSEARTS: FACING EAST "48 Hours in the Life of East Austin Summer 2008" features photography and film captured during the recent July Fourth weekend by Greg Broseus, Francis Cruzada, Martha Grenon, Peter Staats, Jessy Price, Eric Chapelle, and Steve Gaber. *New East Gallery, 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. www.diversearts.org.*

SOUTH AUSTIN MUSEUM OF POPULAR CULTURE: FABLE RECORDS' 30 YEARS OF AUSTIN JAZZ AND FUNK Austin's favorite south-side museum has worked with the king and queen of Fable Records to delve into the archive of materials to amass this comprehensive display of gig posters, album covers, photographs, press clippings, and advertisements. *Through Nov. 1. 1516-B S. Lamar, 440-8318. www.awhq.com.*

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: HONORA JACOB New paintings from this accomplished artist. Two-word review here in the listings? OK: beautiful, haunting. Especially *haunting*, yeah. *Through Oct. 29. 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com.*

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: THE ACTIVIST IMPULSE As part of the wave of feminist artists' revolt against their egregious underrepresentation in museums and galleries in the 1970s, three activist artists founded Women & Their Work. Now, 30 years later and still thriving, this nationally recognized nonprofit asked itself: "How does activism play out in the work of women artists today?" See the answers here. *Through Nov. 15. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.*

SPACES

GAY FAY KELLY ART: JERRY DEFRESE Call for appointment. *Through Nov. 28. 1811 W. Eighth, 917-0133. www.gayfaykellyart.com.*

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY Stained and leaded glass and mosaics. 701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.

GUTTERKITT STUDIOS: THE AUSTIN FIGURATIVE PROJECT 102 Krebs. ohlerkingpaintings@yahoo.com.

ARTWORKS GALLERY Tropical butterflies displayed in plexiboxes designed by G.W. Clark. 1214 W. Sixth, 472-1550.

LEAGUE STUDIO: WEFUSE Oil paintings by Martha and Mindy League. *Through Dec. 6. 401 Congress, 473-4343. www.frostbank.com.*

HYDE PARK BAR & GRILL WESTGATE: HEATHER CHRISTOFERO AND ROBBIN ROBERTSON POLTER *Through Nov. 11. 4521 West Gate Blvd., 899-2700. www.austinnartcoop.com.*

LITTLE CITY: ENTANGLEMENT Art by J. Lowry Doyle. 916 Congress, 476-2489. Free. www.jlowrydoyle.com.

PACIUGO GELATO: SHELLY YATES & VANESSA LIVELY *Through Oct. 30. 241 W. Second, 474-7600. paciugo.com.*

ROADHOUSE RELICS Vintage neon, carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture, by Todd Sanders. 1720 S. First, 442-6366. www.roadhouserelics.com.

SCARBROUGH BUILDING : PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT Photography by Valerie Olivas, Erik Cantu, Sara Garcia, Niki Aguirre, and Greta Olivas. *Through Nov. 2. 101 W. Sixth, 477-7884.*

SOCO CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER Residents of the center will display their paintings. *Through Nov. 1. 304 E. Seventh, 472-1196. www.stdave.org.*

WESTS Artwork by Dan-Ramone Vivan Chavez, Raquel Reyes, and others. 408 Josephine.

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

ART ALLIANCE AUSTIN: NEED COLLECTORS? All applications must be submitted online. Deadline: Oct. 31. \$35. www.zapplication.org.

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. *Thursdays, 2-4pm. 701 Tillery, 385-1115. www.atelier3-d.com.*

AIPP: NORTHWEST RECREATION CENTER EXPANSION You'll need to submit a letter of interest with qualifications for this public-art budgeted project of \$47,000. See website for details. Deadline: Sat., Oct. 19. 301 W. Second, 974-9314. www.cityofaustin.org/aipp.

HELIOS KILN GLASS STUDIO: CLASSES AND DEMONSTRATIONS Learn while they burn at this professional studio. 10700 Anderson Mill, 996-0960. www.hellosglass.com.

STUDIO2GALLERY: CALL FOR ENTRIES As studio2gallery begins its second stint in Austin, an exhibition focusing on a rise and fall seems more than appropriate. "Phoenix: Rising From the Ashes" is open to all styles and artists ages 18 and older. Deadline: Oct. 24. 1700 S. Lamar #318, 386-9233. www.studio2gallery.com.

litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

MAUREEN MCCORMICK as in Marcia, Marcia, Marcia, opens up with her version of life before, during, and after *The Brady Bunch* in *Here's the Story*. Wed., Oct. 22, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

ANNIE VANDERBILT reveals her novel *The Secret Papers of Madame Olivetti*. Tue., Oct. 21, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.

TONY VIGORITO whips out his surrealist novel *Nine Kinds of Naked*, a wacky Tom Robbins-like tale of chaos theory or plain nutsy circumstance that has been highly praised by Neal Pollack, among others. Tue., Oct. 21, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

KELLIE SALOME The novelist is the featured reader for ACC's Student Literary Gathering. Mon., Oct. 20, 7pm. Java Lounge at Austin Java, 1206 Parkway, 828-9368. www.austinjava.com.

SARAH RAFAEL GARCIA offers up her *Las Niñas: A Collection of Childhood Memories*. Sat., Oct. 18, 5-8pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. A-105, 472-2785. www.ebookwoman.com.

RAMON MONCIVAIS presents his *Beneath the Shadow of the Capitol and Voices From the Classroom*. Sat., Oct. 18, 11am-2pm. Borders South, 4477 S. Lamar #600, 891-8974.

GHOST STORIES IN THE PARK is presented by the Central Texas Storytelling Guild. Bring a blanket; dress in costume. The first half of the program is family friendly, but the second half delves into darker stories that might be a bit too scary for the little ones. They'll warn you. Sat., Oct. 18, 7pm. Zilker Park Hillside Theater, 2206 William Barton Dr. Free.

JENNA MCEACHERN hosts a happy-hour party and talks about her *100 Things Longhorn Fans Should Know & Do Before They Die*. Fri., Oct. 17, 5:30pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

SCOTT ANDERSON The reporter, novelist, and non-fiction author – who has covered some of the most dangerous stories of the late 20th and early 21st centuries – will read from his work. Most recently, he collaborated with photographer Paolo Pellegrin on *Double Blind: Lebanon Conflict* 2006. Thu., Oct. 16, 3:30pm. Alkek Library, Texas State University. Fri., Oct. 17, 7:30pm. Katherine Anne Porter House, 508 W. Center, Kyle.

JANA KOHL is an animal-welfare advocate and author of *A Rare Breed of Love*. Thu., Oct. 16, 5pm. Borders at Southpark Meadows, 9500 S. I-35.

NEAL POLLACK reads from his *Alternadad*. Highly recommended with or without child implant, because the man is a hoot and a half. Thu., Oct. 16, 7pm. ACC Main Theatre, 1212 Rio Grande, 223-3245. Free and open to the public.

POET NATASHA TRETHERWAY was the 2007 Pulitzer Prize winner for her *Native Guard*. Her other works include *Domestic Work* and *Bellocq's Ophelia*. Highly recommended. Thu., Oct. 16, 7:30pm. Ayava Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus).

JORGE ANTONIO RENAUD reads from his collection of poetry written during his 17 years in prison. He is the recipient of nine PEN awards for his poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and memoir writing. Also: a new film documentary, *Writ Writer*, by Susanne Mason. Highly recommended. Thu., Oct. 16, 7-9pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St., 478-6222. www.cityofaustin.org.

TEXAS NAFAS presents part two of the power and passion of Austin's slam scene with poetry from New Soul, Austin Poetry Slam, and Austin Under 21 Slam. This program is dedicated to the memory of the beloved Shannon Leigh. Call Public Access Community Television for exact air times. *Saturdays, on Channel 16. 478-6800 x10.*

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

THE INTIMACIES GROUP features authors and experts dishing on love, sex, and other entanglements, as hosted by Karen Kreps. Thu., Oct. 16, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

LUDICROUS SPEED CLUB shambles into the Lovecraft/Conan Doyle mash-up anthology *Shadows Over Baker Street*. Mon., Oct. 20, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

THE SOUTH CONGRESS SALON is hosted by poet Jena Gessaman and features opinionated guests leading social, political, and literary discussions on various topics. Also: constructive feedback for writers of all genres. *Sundays, 5-7pm. Botticelli's, 1321 S. Congress, 916-1315. www.digthatnoise.com.*

SPICEWOOD SPRINGS CLUB joins the *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks. Tue., Oct. 21, 1:30-3pm. Spicewood Springs Branch Library, 8637 Spicewood Springs Rd.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

BRADLEY R. STRAHAN teaches a UT informal course, Poetry Good Enough to Publish. Oct. 21- Nov. 11. *Tuesdays, 7:30-9:30pm. \$60. www.informalclasses.org.*

POETRY WORKSHOP is hosted by Barbara Youngblood Carr and John Berry. Bring 10 copies of a work in progress for friendly critiquing. Thu., Oct. 16, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.

TOM LARSON presents a memoir-writing workshop (and explains the difference between an autobiography and a memoir). The fee includes a copy of Larson's book, *The Memoir and the Memoirist*. Sun., Oct. 19, 9:30am. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. \$95. www.bookpeople.com.

OPEN MICS

MONDAY NIGHT CAFFEINE for poets, singer-songwriters, and storytellers. Hosted by Edgar Pace. *Mondays, 7-10pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473. www.cafecaffeine.com.*

GENUINE JOE Make some noise, or just sit and enjoy the enchanting air of North Austin. All acts welcome. No cover songs. *Thursdays, 7:30-10pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. www.genuinejoe.com.*

HIDEOUT IN FULL AUTUMNAL COLOR is hosted by Thom the World Poet. Next up is Stacey Sgea and Kick Butt. Bring canned food for the Poets Pantry. *Mondays, 7-10pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry). www.hideouttheatre.com.*

HOT MAMA'S OPEN MIC Food, beer, wine, and caffeine available. *Tuesdays, 7:30-9pm. Hot Mama's Espresso Bar, 2401 E. Sixth, 476-6262. www.myspace.com/hotmamasespresso.*

SPOKEN AND HEARD is co-hosted by Stacey Shea and Element 615. Uncensored round robin. *Sundays, 7-9pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 544-5425. www.kickbuttcffee.com.*

RUTA MAYA POETRY is one of the longest running weekly open mics in Texas. No cover. Uncensored. Hosted by David Bates. *Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rmpoetryaustin.com.*

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry and a rotating group of slam ninjas captain the crew that has all the best of stand-up, pomo theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one cosmic-heat blast of an evening. Open sign-up, 12 poets per week. \$100 cash prizes. *Wednesdays, 8pm. Scoot Inn & Bier Garten, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200. www.austinslam.com.*

BORDERS ON THE WORD is always hosted by Barbara Youngblood Carr. Featured theme is Women Can Be Really Scary Things, Too! Wed., Oct. 22, 7pm. *Triumph Cafe, 3808 Spicewood Springs Rd., 343-1875. www.triumphcafe.com.*

CALL FOR ENTRIES

POETRY IN THE ARTS The journal *Ardent* seeks poetry with strong emotion. Reading fee: \$3 (for up to three poems). Line limit: 32. Send to: Dillon McKinsey, *Ardent Editor*, 1909 Hollow Ridge Dr., Cedar Park, TX 78613. Although, actually, e-mail submission is preferred: rimer777@gmail.com.



THE NONPAREIL, AWE-INSPIRING, GOD-EMPEROR OF MODERN AMERICAN LITERATURE – NEAL POLLACK, DUH – READS FROM HIS CHILD-REARING OPUS AT ACC THIS THURSDAY.

BORDERLANDS: TEXAS POETRY REVIEW is calling for submissions of ekphrastic poetry (poetry written in response to viewing art) for its spring 2009 edition. Limit submission to four poems. No submission fee. Mail submissions with cover letter to: *Borderlands*, PO Box 33096, Austin, TX 78764. Deadline: Dec. 15. www.borderlands.org.

IN THE FLESH AUSTIN: EROTIC WRITING FOR PUBLIC READING Bloggers, journalists, poets, autobiopornofictionographers, and others are invited to submit work for presentation at an evening of erotic readings. You'll need to be willing to read your work aloud in public, too. Deadline: Oct. 30. www.myspace.com/eroticreadingaustin.

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! *places unreachable unreachable (do you (& you & you) hear the voices the echoes the senses that are more than the senses named & unnamed) more than a wave of an X [or a bracket] the things that are & are not things unsaid unsayable beyond & inside the mask upon mask upon mask doll within doll curtain veil onion skin & skinning ... when he was a boy (is a boy a girl is boys & girls & heavens & stones & that red cloud) he remembers airplanes dropping money day & night & everyone jumping for joy & in a small hollow by the side of a dirt road a hole where luck poured out. Namaste. Vaya con dios.*

ANOTHER MONSTER BOOK SALE Sat., Oct. 18, 10am-4pm. Faulk Central Branch Library, 800 Guadalupe, 974-7400. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

POEM OF THE ISSUE

greenery
is graceful
yet spelling
greenery
is awkward
as is awkward
i walk
awkward
among the
greenery

– Yalmot, "it welcomes"

film listings

new reviews

CALL + RESPONSE D: Justin Dillon. (PG-13, 86 min.)

While on tour several years ago, West Coast-based singer-songwriter Justin Dillon met a young Russian translator who awakened him to the horrors of human trafficking, an astonishingly profitable industry that includes child labor and sex slavery. Back in the States, Dillon made it his mission to bring greater awareness to the issue and did so the only way he knew how – by galvanizing his musician friends and corralling them together to make this documentary-cum-performance film. Dillon lurchingly crosscuts between gut-wrenching interviews with the likes of humanitarian and actress Ashley Judd and *The New York Times* columnist Nicholas Kristof (who recounts buying two interview subjects out of slavery at a Cambodian brothel and getting a receipt for it) and black-and-white footage of soundstage performances from Matisyahu, Cold War Kids, Moby, and Emmanuel Jal (a former Kenyan child soldier). It's a pattern that repeats throughout: a snatch of devastating statistic, a longer slice of performance. It's an unsatisfying, schizophrenic style of filmmaking that sells the audience short – did Dillon think we wouldn't be interested in the cause were it not for British songstress Natasha Bedingfield's sad-eyed endorsement? The real problem, however, is in Dillon's inability to take a back seat. He has a whole host of field experts at his disposal – and, when given the chance, they speak movingly on the subject – but too often he cuts back to himself, explaining again why he's so upset and what music has to do with the answer: "The more and more that I put slavery and music in the same room, the more I realized how much they knew about each other – how informed they were of each other." As far as thesis statements go, it's a pretty fuzzy one, but it did set up a rhapsodic tangent from

academic Cornel West. (His later monologue on "the sublime beauty of funk" is itself a thing of sublime beauty – and by funk, he's not just talking Funkadelic but an essential, down-and-dirty humanity that dogs us from "womb to tomb.") There are times when the duty of the critic runs counterpoint to one's duty as a human citizen of the world, which is a roundabout way of saying that while there is much to recommend this earnest and enraged film, it has more to do with its earnestness and rage than with the actual mechanics of its making. – Kimberley Jones
★★★ Tinseltown South

FLOW: FOR LOVE OF WATER D: Irena Salina. (NR, 84 min.)

When you grab a bottle of Poland Spring water and look at the label, with its idyllic blue stream rushing down a mountain pass lined by evergreen trees, what comes to mind? Do you picture long hikes and crisp country air? Do you imagine long drafts of chemical-free, environmentally friendly refreshment? Are you inspired to thoughts of health and purity? Or do you find yourself worrying about bacteria and arsenic and rocket fuel, about vast multinational bottling corporations ruining local economies and ecosystems and mangling water supplies in destitute Third World villages and middle-American hamlets? Do you picture wealthy white men in blue suits in conference rooms playing God, choosing who lives and who dies, and bending the natural world to their whim? Well, if you're in the first camp, I hate to tell you, but you've been hoodwinked: What's in that bottle in your hand is no purer than what's coming out of your bathroom sink. And if you're in the second camp ... well, your friends probably find you painfully depressing to be around. That being said, after sitting through *Flow*, a documentary about the current state of our water supply, I'd be hard-pressed to come up with a more reasonable reaction to the fate of our miserable, greedy little world than paralyzing depression. Calling on dozens of firsthand and expert accounts of the degradation of the world's water supply through environmental indiffer-

ence, chemical irresponsibility, mass privatization, and corporate chicanery – and focusing on how that degradation is playing out in small villages and crowded cities from India to China, from South Africa to Michigan – *Flow* is the kind of terrifying, impending-apocalypse documentary none of us wants to watch but all of us probably should; it isn't the most enjoyable experience you'll have at the movies this year, but I wouldn't doubt if it's one of the most eye-opening. For example, I had no idea polluted water was causing gender homogenization in African fish populations or that there exist in the world corporations named Suez and Vivendi that have managed to convince the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund that water should be privatized like any other commodity and then sold to impoverished people for a profit, regardless of the human cost. And I definitely didn't realize that the amount of money Americans spent on bottled water last year would be enough to provide clean drinking water to the entirety of the world's population, without exception ... though I probably could have guessed. It's strange thinking of water as a market commodity, and it's hard to comprehend the kind of greed that must go into keeping it from needy mouths, but, fact is, the water business is now the world's third-largest industry, meaning there are a lot of sinister souls out there fiddling with their bank statements while Rome dries up. – Josh Rosenblatt
★★★ Arbor

KARZZZZ D: Satish Kaushik; with Himesh Reshammiya, Urmila Matondkar, Shweta Kumar, Dino Morea. (NR, 144 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. A remake of the 1980 hit *Karz*, this new Bollywood film is about reincarnation. – Marjorie Baumgarten
Tinseltown South

MAX PAYNE D: John Moore; with Mark Wahlberg, Mila Kunis, Beau Bridges, Chris "Ludacris" Bridges, Chris O'Donnell, Donal Logue, Amaury Nolasco, Kate Burton. (PG-13, 100 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. No press screenings were held for this long-gestating adaptation of the video game for the big screen. The screenwriter happens to be UT grad Beau Thorne, and Wahlberg heads up this cast of cops and killers. – Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

QUARANTINE D: John Erick Dowdle; with Jennifer Carpenter, Steve Harris, Jay Hernandez, Johnathon Schaech, Columbus Short, Andrew Fiscella, Rade Serbedzija, Greg Germann, Bernard White, Dania Ramirez. (R, 89 min.)

Why this effective remake of the 2007 Spanish zombie-contagion flick [*Rec*] wasn't screened in advance for the film press is a mystery on a par with why there aren't more Halloween horror releases this year. Certainly *Quarantine*, which takes the *kaiju eiga* (monster) *vérité* of *Cloverfield* and repurposes it in the service of baser, gooshier thrills, has more startles per sequence than you'd expect given that it's been unceremoniously dumped into an abysmal thriller market with precious little fanfare. With all the film's running around in the dark shot from POV angles, it does come off as 28 *Weeks Later* meets David Cronenberg's *Rabid* or, alternately, an un-fun-house mirror image of *Night of the Living Dead* with the zombies barricaded inside with you. Not a bad idea at all, frankly, and for much of the time, the film cleverly ratchets up the dread level via an series of ill-lit, jittery encounters between the known and the unknown, the drooly, growly infected and their soon-to-be drooly victims. It's also more than a little like George Romero's *Diary of the Dead* but less self-aware, ironic, and cheerlessly fun. *Quarantine* opens "live" (no titles, no explanation), with Los Angeles weekend-news personality Angela Vidal (Carpenter) taping a puff-piece segment at the local firehouse, alternately goofing it up with LAFD members Jake (Hernandez) and Fletcher (The *Doom Generation*'s Schaech, who fully invests himself in a relatively minor role and a supremely major mustache) and killing time, waiting for something, anything, to happen. A late-night call sends firefighters, newswoman, and cameraman (the rarely glimpsed Harris) to a curiously ornate apartment building peopled by an engaging cross section of Los Angelenos. No sooner does everyone enter the building (it turns out reports of a resident's screams brought them there, but that's almost instantly irrelevant) than they're quarantined and sealed inside, with the CDC, LAPD, and National Guard snipers offering zero explanation on the outside. And then there's that Peter Jackson-esque Sumatran rat-monkey thing scurrying around. Yikes. For all its hyperkinetic camerawork and Carpenter's breathless, panic-attacky hysterics (and some unnervingly realistic gore effects), *Quarantine* is a one-note nightmare, nicely pitched to the high-C howls of the bitten and the biters but offering considerably less froth than last year's *The Signal*, which mined similar nightmares with far more fulsome results. – Marc Savlov
★★ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate



L - R: *Flow: For Love of Water*, *What We Do Is Secret*, *The Secret Life of Bees*, *W.*, *Year of the Fish*

THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES

D: Gina Prince-Bythewood; with Dakota Fanning, Queen Latifah, Jennifer Hudson, Alicia Keys, Sophie Okonedo, Paul Bettany, Tristan Wilds, Nate Parker. (PG-13, 110 min.)

The film starts off promisingly with the voiceover narration of 14-year-old Lily Owens (Fanning): "I killed my mother when I was 4 years old. That's all I knew about myself." It's an opening lush with the expectation of great melodrama to come or the lurid agonies of a Southern gothic, but *The Secret Life of Bees* quickly segues into place as a sincere and well-meaning coming-of-age story. Adapted for the screen from Sue Monk Kidd's best-selling novel by director Prince-Bythewood (*Love & Basketball*), *The Secret Life of Bees* tells the story of Lily's maturation from her self-loathing girlhood into a more confident teenhood, due largely to her escape from the home of her morose and bitter father (Bettany) into the matriarchal embrace she discovers at the homestead of the unusual Boatwright sisters. Set in 1964 against the background of the newly signed Civil Rights Act, which banned segregation and ensured the universal right to vote, *The Secret Life of Bees* uses this agitated climate to advance the storyline in a couple of instances but generally exists in a bubble that's devoid of racial bigotry and economic issues. When Lily's black maid Rosaleen (Hudson) tries to register to vote and is beaten and arrested for her efforts, Lily, who is white, decides it's time for the two of them to run away from their unhappy lives. She heads to Tiburon, S.C., a town hinted at by one of her mother's remaining possessions, and there finds the 28-acre home of the Boatwrights: August (Latifah), June (Keys) and May (Okonedo). Inordinately cultured and educated for their time, these three black siblings are unlike anything Lily or Rosaleen has ever encountered. Given refuge by the Boatwrights, the two thrive as Lily learns the art and business of bee-keeping from honey entrepreneur August and conscience and heart from cellist, teacher, and NAACP activist June and troubled May, who has taken on all the troubles of the world following the death of her twin sister. Many are the metaphors comparing the lives and beehives of humans and insects, and the figurative

honey often drips off the screen. In many ways, *The Secret Life of Bees* feels like an old-fashioned movie with its homilies, spiritualism, and descriptions of African-Americans as "educated" and "cultured." It feels one step removed from describing these women as "clean" and "well-spoken" – modern buzz words used to cloak insidious racism and social tiers. However, none of these complaints is a real blight against the movie: The opportunity to bask in the presence of this soulful matriarchy is its own reward. Fanning continues to surprise us with her acting aplomb that reveals a maturity and subtlety beyond her years. And what might have been a mere showplace for songstresses-turned-actresses (count 'em) is much richer than might be expected. *The Secret Life of Bees* generally works like a drone but sometimes provides glimpses of the queens at the center.

– Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Arbor, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

SEX DRIVE

D: Sean Anders; with Josh Zuckerman, Amanda Crew, Clark Duke, James Marsden, Seth Green, Alice Greczyn, Katrina Bowden, Charlie McDermott, Mark L. Young. (R, 109 min.)

It's not *Sixteen Candles*, but it's not *Road Trip*, either. Instead, this comedic car-trip riff on the teen-male libido and the lengths to which it will go to satisfy itself falls somewhere in between part endearing emo love story, part gross-out semen gag-fest, and, very occasionally, a smart, inspired, non-sequitur-laden hoot. Anything that features *Robot Chicken*'s Green as a sarcastic Amish grease monkey with a penchant for pushing the buttons of unsuspecting "English" can't be all bad, and Anders, who adapted the film from Andy Behrens popular young-adult novel *All the Way*, milks the material for all it's worth, so to speak. Goaded into action by his self-assured, indie-suave best friend, Lance (Duke, who seems to be creating a new teen template as he goes along), high school virgin/nice guy Ian (Zuckerman) "borrows" the '69 GTO of his testosterone-enveloped older brother, Rex (Marsden, kicking an obvious homage to Bill Paxton's vicious sib in *Weird Science*). Along with secretly insecure, hip-chick buddy Felicia (Crew), they embark on a nine-hour road trip to Poontown, USA, aka the parking lot of Bob's Big Boy,

openings & ratings

Call + Response (PG-13)

Flow: For Love of Water (NR)

Karzzzz (NR)

Max Payne (PG-13)

The Secret Life of Bees (PG-13)

Sex Drive (R)

W. (PG-13)

What We Do Is Secret (R)

Year of the Fish (NR)

★★★★★ 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

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Mon-Thur: 7:10, 9:40

MAN ON WIRE
Fri: (4:20) 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun: (1:20, 4:20) 7:20, 9:50
Mon-Thur: 7:20, 9:50

ED HARRIS VIGGO MORTENSEN
APPALOOSA
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ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320.

Austin Film Festival: Fri-Thu (10/23)
The Blues Brothers: Feast-Albums! Thu (10/23), 7:00pm
Music Monday: Devo: The Men Who Make the Music: Mon, 9:30pm
Weird Wednesday: Dressed to Kill: Wed, 12mid
Michael Jackson: Thrill the World Sing-Along: Thu (10/23), 9:50pm
100 Best KILLS Party: Thu (10/23), 7:00pm
Religious: Fri, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sat, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Mon-Thu (10/23), 5:30, 8:00, 10:25
Saturday Morning Cartoon Cereal Party: Sat, 12:00pm
3rd Coast Activists: Secrecy: Mon-Fri, 7:00pm
Terror Thursday: The Slumber Party Massacre: Thu (10/23), 12mid
Shock Festival: Star Crash: Tue, 9:30pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK

13729 Research, 219-5408.
***Body of Lies:** 12:15, 3:15, 7:20, 10:25
Burn After Reading: Fri, 12:10, 3:10, 6:55, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 12:10, 3:10, 6:55; Mon, 12:10, 3:10, 10:20; Tue-Thu (10/23), 12:10, 3:10, 6:55, 10:20
Disember the Alamo Zombie Film Festival: Thu (10/23), 7:00pm
***Eagle Eye:** Fri, 12:35, 3:35, 7:15; Sat-Sun, 12:35, 7:15, 10:15; Mon-Thu (10/23), 12:35, 3:35, 7:15
***The Express:** Fri, 12:05, 3:05, 7:10, 10:10; Sat, 12:05, 3:05; Sun, 12:05, 3:05, 10:10; Mon-Wed, 12:05, 3:05, 7:10, 10:10; Thu (10/23), 12:05, 3:05, 10:10
TV at the Alamo: Heroes: Mon, 8:00pm
***Max Payne:** 12:00, 3:00, 7:00, 10:00
***Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist:** Fri, 12:25, 3:25, 9:50; Sat, 12:25, 3:25; Sun-Wed, 12:25, 3:25, 9:50; Thu (10/23), 12:25, 3:25
***W:** 12:30, 3:30, 7:30, 10:30

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262.

Appaloosa: Fri, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15pm; Sat, 11:00am, 4:30, 7:30pm; Sun, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15pm; Mon, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15; Tue, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15pm; Wed, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15; Thu (10/23), 10:15pm
Burn After Reading: Fri-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10; Mon, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10; Tue, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10; Wed-Thu (10/23), 5:00, 7:40, 10:10
Choke: Fri, 11:20am, 1:40, 9:30pm; Sat, 1:40, 10:20; Sun, 11:20am, 1:40, 7:10, 9:30pm; Mon, 1:40am, 4:00, 7:10; Tue, 1:10am, 1:40, 4:00, 7:10pm; Wed, 4:00, 7:10; Thu (10/23), 4:00pm
City of Ember: Fri, 11:10am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:05pm; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:25pm; Mon, 4:15, 9:35; Tue, 11:10am, 1:30, 4:15, 9:25pm; Wed, 4:15, 9:45; Thu (10/23), 9:25pm
AFS: Design for Living: Tue, 7:00pm
Master Pancake: Friday the 13th: Fri-Sat, 7:20, 10:20
Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist: Fri-Sun, 11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:35, 9:55pm; Mon, 4:45, 7:35, 9:55pm; Tue, 11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:35, 9:55pm; Wed-Thu (10/23), 4:45, 7:35, 9:55pm
AFS: The Order of Myths Ande Screening: Mon, 6:30pm
W: Fri-Sun, 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:00; Mon, 3:45, 7:00, 10:00; Tue, 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:00; Wed-Thu (10/23), 3:45, 7:00, 10:00
What We Do Is Secret: Fri, 4:00pm; Sat, 4:25pm; Sun, 4:00pm; Mon-Wed, 9:40pm; Thu (10/23), 10:05pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 459-7090. Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old.

***Body of Lies:** Fri-Sun, 12:15, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15; Mon, 3:30, 7:00; Tue, 12:15, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15; Wed-Thu (10/23), 3:30, 7:00, 10:15
Burn After Reading: Fri-Sun, 1:15, 4:00, 7:05, 9:50; Mon, 4:00, 9:50; Tue, 1:15, 4:00, 9:50; Wed, 4:00, 7:05, 9:50; Thu (10/23), 4:00, 9:50
TV at the Alamo: Gossip Girl: Mon, 7:00pm
TV at the Alamo: Heroes: Mon, 9:30pm
Austin School of Film: Loud and Clear Film Festival: Tue, 6:30pm
***Max Payne:** Fri-Sat, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00, 11:55; Sun, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Mon, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Tue, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Wed-Thu (10/23), 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
TV at the Alamo: The Office: Thu (10/23), 7:30pm
Parents Afternoon Out: Sat, 2:30pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
***Sex Drive:** Fri-Sat, 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 9:55, 11:55; Sun, 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 9:55; Mon, 4:20, 7:20, 9:55; Tue, 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 9:55; Wed-Thu (10/23), 4:20, 7:20, 9:55

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm, all day Wednesdays.

August Evening: 12:30, 3:40, 6:50, 9:40
Austin Film Festival: Fri-Wed, Thu (10/23)
Burn After Reading: 12:40, 3:30, 7:10, 9:45
The Duchess: 11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50pm
Flow: 12:50, 3:00, 5:15, 7:55, 10:05
Religious: 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20
The Secret Life of Bees: 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
Year of the Fish: 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:10

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall, MoPa& Highway 360, 306-9190. Matinee discounts available before 6pm on weekdays and before 4pm Friday through Sunday and holidays. Call theatre for showtimes for Friday-Thursday, Oct. 17-23.

W: Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:45, 3:20, 5:55, 8:30, 11:05pm

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 E. Whitestone, 800/FANDANGO.

Appaloosa: Fri, 1:45, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:45, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30
Beverly Hills Chihuahua: Fri, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:50, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:50, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:50, 10:20
***Body of Lies:** 1:15, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
***City of Ember:** Fri, 1:30, 4:00, 6:40, 9:00; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:30, 4:00, 6:40, 9:00pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:30, 4:00, 6:40, 9:00
Eagle Eye: Fri, 2:10, 5:10, 8:00, 10:40; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:10, 5:10, 8:00, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:10, 5:10, 8:00, 10:40
***The Express:** Fri, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30; Mon-Tue, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30; Wed, 3:30, 9:30; Thu (10/23), 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
***Max Payne:** Fri, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist: Fri, 2:20, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:20, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40pm
Nights in Rodanthe: Fri, 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:15; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:15pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:15
***Quarantine:** Fri, 3:00, 5:40, 8:20, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:00, 5:40, 8:20, 10:35; Mon-Thu (10/23), 3:00, 5:40, 8:20, 10:35
Metropolitan Opera: Salome: Wed, 7:00pm
***Sex Drive:** Fri, 2:45, 5:20, 8:10, 10:45; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:45, 5:20, 8:10, 10:45pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:45, 5:20, 8:10, 10:45
***W:** 12:45, 3:45, 7:10, 10:10

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 14

12812 Hill Country Blvd., 800/FANDANGO.
Appaloosa: Fri, 3:35, 6:30, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 12:40, 3:35, 6:30, 9:20; Mon-Thu (10/23), 3:35, 6:30, 9:20
Beverly Hills Chihuahua: Fri, 2:25, 4:55, 7:35, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:25, 4:55, 7:35, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:25, 4:55, 7:35, 9:55
***Body of Lies:** Fri, 3:40, 6:55, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 12:35, 3:40, 6:55, 10:00; Mon-Thu (10/23), 3:40, 6:55, 10:00
Burn After Reading: 10:30pm
***City of Ember:** Fri, 2:35, 5:20, 7:55; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:35, 5:20, 7:55pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:35, 5:20, 7:55
***The Duchess:** Fri, 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 11:35am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:25
Eagle Eye: Fri, 3:15, 6:35, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 12:25, 3:15, 6:35, 9:35; Mon-Thu (10/23), 3:15, 6:35, 9:35
***The Express:** Fri, 3:25, 6:50, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 12:20, 3:25, 6:50, 9:45; Mon-Tue, 3:25, 6:50, 9:45; Wed, 9:45pm; Thu (10/23), 3:25, 6:50, 9:45
***Max Payne:** Fri, 2:40, 5:15, 8:00, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:40, 5:15, 8:00, 10:30; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:40, 5:15, 8:00, 10:30
Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist: Fri, 2:15, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:15, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:15, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25
Nights in Rodanthe: Fri, 2:30, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:55am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:30, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20
***Quarantine:** Fri, 2:45, 5:05, 7:40, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 12:05, 2:45, 5:05, 7:40, 10:10; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:45, 5:05, 7:40, 10:10
Metropolitan Opera: Salome: Wed, 7:00pm
***The Secret Life of Bees:** Fri, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05
***Sex Drive:** Fri, 2:05, 4:45, 7:25, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:05, 4:45, 7:25, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:05, 4:45, 7:25, 10:15
***W:** Fri, 3:20, 6:45, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 3:20, 6:45, 9:50; Mon-Thu (10/23), 3:20, 6:45, 9:50

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK

2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.
***Disaster Movie:** Fri, 3:00, 5:15, 8:00, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:00, 5:15, 8:00, 10:15; Mon-Thu (10/23), 3:00, 5:15, 8:00, 10:15
Get Smart: Fri, 4:40, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 4:40, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 4:40, 9:55
Hancock: Fri, 2:45, 5:10, 7:50, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:50, 10:05; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:45, 5:10, 7:50, 10:05
***Journey to the Center of the Earth:** Fri, 2:00, 4:50, 7:15, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:15, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:00, 4:50, 7:15, 9:30
Kung Fu Panda: Fri, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:00; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:00
***Pineapple Express:** Fri, 1:40, 4:20, 7:05, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 11:05am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:05, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:40, 4:20, 7:05, 9:40
***Star Wars: The Clone Wars:** Fri, 1:45, 4:30, 7:00, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:00, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:45, 4:30, 7:00, 9:20
***WALKER:** Fri, 1:30, 2:15, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00pm; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:30, 2:15, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:30, 2:15, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 4401 N. I-35,

800/FANDANGO.
Appaloosa: Fri, 1:20, 4:05, 6:50, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 1:20, 4:05, 6:50, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:20, 4:05, 6:50, 9:30
Beverly Hills Chihuahua: Fri, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 9:50am, 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15
***Body of Lies:** Fri, 1:40, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:40, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
***City of Ember:** Fri, 1:50, 4:20, 7:15; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:20, 7:15pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:50, 4:20, 7:15
Eagle Eye: Fri, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 9:40, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 9:40, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 9:40, 10:35
***The Express:** Fri, 12:45, 3:40, 6:40, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 9:45am, 12:45, 3:40, 6:40, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 12:45, 3:40, 6:40, 9:35
Fireproof: Fri, 1:10, 4:15, 7:10, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 10:10am, 1:10, 4:15, 7:10, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:10, 4:15, 7:10, 10:05
***Max Payne:** Fri, 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50
Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist: Fri, 12:50, 3:30, 6:30, 9:00; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 12:50, 3:30, 6:30, 9:00pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 12:50, 3:30, 6:30, 9:00
Nights in Rodanthe: Fri, 1:30, 3:50, 6:45, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:30, 3:50, 6:45, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:30, 3:50, 6:45, 9:20
***Quarantine:** Fri, 2:40, 5:00, 8:00, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:40, 5:00, 8:00, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:40, 5:00, 8:00, 10:20
***The Secret Life of Bees:** Fri, 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 10:15am, 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 9:45
***Sex Drive:** Fri, 2:25, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:25, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:25, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25
***W:** Fri, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS

9900 S. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.
***Appaloosa:** 1:35, 4:30, 7:15, 9:10
Beverly Hills Chihuahua: 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:45, 10:05
***Body of Lies:** 1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 10:05
***City of Ember:** 1:10, 4:00, 6:50
***The Duchess:** 1:05, 4:05, 6:55, 9:35
Eagle Eye: 12:45, 3:30, 6:25, 9:10, 9:50
***The Express:** 12:55, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15
***Max Payne:** 1:50, 4:45, 7:35, 10:25
Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist: 1:45, 4:35, 7:30, 9:55
Nights in Rodanthe: Fri-Tue, 1:20, 4:25, 7:00, 9:40; Wed, 1:20, 4:25, 9:40; Thu (10/23), 1:20, 4:25, 7:00, 9:40
***Quarantine:** 1:00, 3:25, 5:45, 8:05, 10:35
Metropolitan Opera: Salome: Wed, 7:00pm
***The Secret Life of Bees:** 1:30, 4:40, 7:25, 10:20
***Sex Drive:** 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30
***W:** 12:50, 3:55, 7:05, 10:00

DOBIE THEATRE 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall,

second floor), 472-FILM.
Appaloosa: Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30; Mon-Thu (10/23), 7:00, 9:30
Austin Film Festival: Fri-Thu (10/23)
Burn After Reading: Fri, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40; Mon-Thu (10/23), 7:10, 9:40
Man on Wire: Fri, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50; Mon-Thu (10/23), 7:20, 9:50

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305. No one under 18 will be allowed in the theatre on Friday and Saturday after 7pm without an adult.

All Together Now: Mon, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00
Beverly Hills Chihuahua: Fri, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20, 11:30; Sat, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20, 11:30pm; Sun, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20
Blindness: Fri, 4:10, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 4:10, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 4:10, 9:35
Body of Lies: Fri, 1:30, 2:00, 4:15, 4:45, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:15, 12mid; Sat, 10:45am, 11:15, 1:30, 2:00, 4:15, 4:45, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:15, 12mid; Sun, 10:45am, 11:15, 1:30, 2:00, 4:15, 4:45, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:30, 2:00, 4:15, 4:45, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 9:30, 10:15
Burn After Reading: Fri-Sat, 1:20, 7:00, 12mid; Sun-Thu (10/23), 1:20, 7:00
Eagle Eye: Fri, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40, 11:55; Sat, 11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40, 11:55pm; Sun, 11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
The Express: Fri, 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:35, 12mid; Sat, 10:30am, 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:35
Max Payne: Fri, 12:20, 2:35, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25, 11:45; Sat, 10:05am, 12:20, 2:35, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25, 11:45pm; Sun, 10:05am, 12:20, 2:35, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 12:20, 2:35, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25
Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist: Fri, 12:15, 2:35, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:45; Sat, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:35, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:45pm; Sun, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:35, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 12:15, 2:35, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15
Quarantine: Fri, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10, 11:35; Sat, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10, 11:35pm; Sun, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10, 11:35pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10
Sex Drive: Fri, 12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40, 11:55; Sat, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40, 11:55pm; Sun, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (10/23), 12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40

GATEWAY THEATRE 9700 Stonelake, between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 X3808.

An American Carol: 12:30, 2:50, 5:05, 8:05, 10:20
Appaloosa: 11:35am, 2:15, 5:10, 7:55, 10:35pm
Beverly Hills Chihuahua: Fri, 2:20, 4:40, 7:05, 9:25; Sat, 11:55am, 4:40, 7:05, 9:25pm; Sun, 2:20, 4:40, 7:05; Mon, 2:20, 4:40, 9:25; Tue-Thu (10/23), 11:55am, 2:20, 4:40, 7:05, 9:25pm
Beverly Hills Chihuahua (open captioned): Fri, 11:55am; Sat, 2:20pm; Sun, 11:55am, 9:25pm; Mon, 11:55am, 7:05pm
Billy: The Early Years of Billy Graham: 11:30am, 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:15pm
***Body of Lies:** 12:50, 3:45, 7:00, 10:00
***Cirque du Soleil: Delirium:** Sat-Sun, 12:00pm
City of Ember: Fri-Mon, 1:40am, 2:00, 4

led us into Iraq and the administrative bumbling that got us mired there. In our age of 24-hour news coverage, this rehashing of current events doesn't just come off familiar but completely unnecessary. And, worst of all, prosaic. Gone are the visual grandeur and sweeping narrative scope that raised Stone's previous political films to the level of art and their heroes to the bracing heights of tragedy, replaced by an uninspired and unfocused recapitulation of some of the darkest events in modern American political history. — Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

WHAT WE DO IS SECRET

D: Rodger Grossman; with Shane West, Bijou Philips, Rick Gonzalez, Noah Segan, Ashton Holmes. (R, 92 min.)

He may have come into this old world a puzzled panther waiting to be caged, evolution a process too slow to save his soul (or his life), but Darby Crash (né Jan Paul Beahm), the mad genius-cum-L.A. punk rock junkie godhead exited in grotty, smacked-up anti-style, injecting his collapsed veins with a final, deadly dose on Dec. 7, 1980, just days after playing a final, triumphant gig with his raison d'être: the Germs. Rock & roll suicide or no, fate had other plans and bitch-slapped the fiercely poetic 22-year-old into instant obscurity by offing John Lennon the day after Crash, thereby relegating the Nietzsche-spouting howler to an also-ran obit that no one outside of the tight-knit L.A. punk rock community bothered to notice. Such is the stuff of great drama, and this forever-gestating (20 years, give or take) Crash/Germs biopic has been whispered about nearly as long as Crash's life span. It's just another sad (but totally apropos) case of poetic injustice then that *What We Do Is Secret* plays like a dope-addled, Slash Records TV Movie of the Week for the aging hardcore set, who will doubtless gnash their remaining teeth in frustration and go back to listening to the band's corrosively brilliant (and sole) studio LP, *(GI)*, while watching Penelope Spheeris' "you are there" superdoc *The Decline of Western Civilization* for the umpteenth time. (*The Decline* has achieved genuine legendary cred over the decades and rightly so; its raw footage of Crash and company tailspinning into street-punk history is flat-out riveting nearly three decades on.) Grossman structures his film around Crash's cunningly bass-ackwards "five year plan" for punk rock infamy – recruit band members who aren't actually musicians, book gigs, play gigs, incite riots, fan the hype, and only *then* learn to play the instruments – and delves deep into the Germs' personal history. It's littered with kicky scenerist tidbits. Then-Runaway Joan Jett, who produced *(GI)*, appears in both real and reel cam-



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ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA
DINNER • DRINKS • MOVIES • EVENTS

SATURDAY MORNING CARTOON CEREAL PARTY
2.5 hours of all-you-can-eat cereals and all-you-can-watch cartoons!
Sat, Oct 18 at the Ritz

MASTER PANCAKE SLASHES FRIDAY THE 13TH
Just in time for Halloween, Master Pancake Theater ambushes the slasher classic!
Fri & Sat (17 & 18) at S. Lamar

BLUES BROTHERS FEAST-ALONG
Enjoy all the amenities of an Quote-Along and Sing-Along, and feast alongside the Blues Bros with a soul food spread!
Thurs, Oct 23 at the Ritz

100 BEST KILLS PARTY
Alamo Ritz celebrates the great legacy of stomach-churning, blood-spurting movie magic with this interactive showdown party!
Weds, Oct 22 at the Ritz

MICHAEL JACKSON THRILL THE WORLD SING-ALONG
Info on dance workshops and the grand Thriller dance are at ThrillTheWorldAustin.com!
Thurs, Oct 23 at the Ritz

ALAMO RITZ THEATRE • 320 E 6TH ST					
THU, OCT 16	RELIGIOUS AUSTIN FILM FESTIVAL	715	940		
	TERROR THURSDAY: THE BOOGENS	700	930	1130	
FRI, OCT 17	RELIGIOUS AUSTIN FILM FESTIVAL	1230	300	530	800 1030
		1215	230	530	800 1100
SAT, OCT 18	SAT MORNING CARTOON CEREAL PARTY				NOON
	RELIGIOUS AUSTIN FILM FESTIVAL	300	530	800	1030
		1215	245	515	800 1100
SUN, OCT 19	RELIGIOUS AUSTIN FILM FESTIVAL	1230	300	530	800 1030
		1215	230	500	730 1000
MON, OCT 20	RELIGIOUS THIRD COAST PRESENTS SECRECY		530	800	1025
	\$2 MUSIC MON: DEVO: MEN WHO MAKE THE MUSIC				700
TUES, OCT 21	RELIGIOUS THIRD COAST PRESENTS SECRECY		530	800	1025
	STEPHEN ROMANOS SHOCK FEST: STARCRAH				700
WEDS, OCT 22	RELIGIOUS 100 BEST KILLS PARTY		530	800	1025
	BOOK PEOPLE: MAUREN MCCORMICK LIVE				700
	WEIRD WEDNESDAY: DRESSED TO KILL				945
THU, OCT 23	RELIGIOUS BLUES BROTHERS FEAST		530	800	1025
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W. •		1230*	345	700	1000
CITY OF EMBER		1110	130	415	705 925*
CHOKE		1120	140	400	710 930
NICK/NORAH PLAYLIST		1145*	215	445	735 955
APPALOOSA		1100*	145*	430	730 1015
BURN AFTER READING		1200*	230	500	740 1000
EAGLE EYE		1225*	355*	705	1005*
WHAT WE DO IS SECRET		400*	425*	940*	1005*
PANCAKE: FRIDAY THE 13TH		720	1020		(Fri & Sat)
AFS SPECIAL SCREENING: ORDER OF MYTHS			630		(Mon)
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VILLAGE - ANDERSON LANE WEST OF BURNET					
SEX DRIVE •		130*	420	720	955 MID*
MAX PAYNE •		145*	430	715	1000 MID*
BODY OF LIES •		1215*	330	700	1015
BURN AFTER READING		115*	400	705	950
PARENTS AFTERNOON OUT			230		(Sat)
TV PARTY: GOSSIP GIRL			700		(Mon)
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W.
(12:30 3:30)
7:30 10:30

MAX PAYNE
(12:00 3:00)
7:00 10:00

BODY OF LIES
(12:15 3:15)
7:20 10:25

NICK & NORAH'S INFINITE PLAYLIST
(12:25 3:25)
9:50

THE EXPRESS
(12:05 3:05)
7:10 10:10

EAGLE
(12:35 3:35)
7:15

BURN AFTER READING
(12:10 3:10)
6:55 10:20

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10 PM **ZOMBIE**

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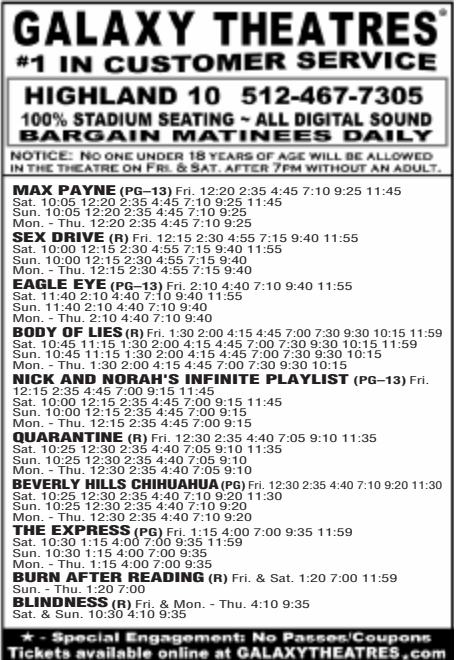
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Sun. 10:05 12:20 2:35 4:45 7:10 9:25
Mon. - Thu. 12:20 2:35 4:45 7:10 9:25

SEX DRIVE (R) Fri. 12:15 2:30 4:55 7:15 9:40 11:55
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Sun. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:55 7:15 9:40
Mon. - Thu. 12:15 2:30 4:55 7:15 9:40

EAGLE EYE (PG-13) Fri. 2:10 4:40 7:10 9:40 11:55
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Sun. 11:40 2:10 4:40 7:10 9:40
Mon. - Thu. 2:10 4:40 7:10 9:40

BODY OF LIES (R) Fri. 1:30 2:00 4:15 4:45 7:00 7:30 9:30 10:15 11:59
Sat. 10:45 11:15 1:30 2:00 4:15 4:45 7:00 7:30 9:30 10:15 11:59
Sun. 10:45 11:15 1:30 2:00 4:15 4:45 7:00 7:30 9:30 10:15
Mon. - Thu. 1:30 2:00 4:15 4:45 7:00 7:30 9:30 10:15

NICK AND NORAH'S INFINITE PLAYLIST (PG-13) Fri.
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Sun. 10:00 12:15 2:35 4:45 7:00 9:15
Mon. - Thu. 12:15 2:35 4:45 7:00 9:15

QUARANTINE (R) Fri. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10 11:35
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Sun. 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10
Mon. - Thu. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10

BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA (PG) Fri. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:20 11:30
Sat. 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:20 11:30
Sun. 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:20
Mon. - Thu. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:20

THE EXPRESS (PG) Fri. 1:15 4:00 7:00 9:35 11:59
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Sun. 10:30 1:15 4:00 7:00 9:35
Mon. - Thu. 1:15 4:00 7:00 9:35

BURN AFTER READING (R) Fri. & Sat. 1:20 7:00 11:59
Sun. - Thu. 1:20 7:00

BLINDNESS (R) Fri. & Mon. - Thu. 4:10 9:35
Sat. & Sun. 10:30 4:10 9:35

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Design for Living

Design for Living (1933) D: Ernst Lubitsch; with Fredric March, Gary Cooper, Miriam Hopkins, Edward Everett Horton. (NR, 90 min.) **Austin Film Society: I Married a Witch – Fredric March's Comic Curse.** Ben Hecht wrote the screenplay for Lubitsch's film adaptation of Noel Coward's play, which Coward also performed on Broadway with Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne. In the three-person story, two men – an aspiring artist and a playwright – share an apartment with a female artist in a sexually platonic relationship. Coward's prose fell sway to the demands of Hollywood's sexual self-censorship, but the Lubitsch touch found visual means to tell the story anyway. @Alamo Drafthouse South, Tuesday, 7pm; \$4, AFS members free.



eos, marginally less legendary San Francisco freak show, the Screamers, crop up, and Sebastian Roché manages a hilariously accurate turn as *Slash* magazine's punk-situationist pundit Claude "Kickboy Face" Bessy. But that's all germicidal icing on Crash's funereal cake, really. The one aspect of the film that feels altogether genuine (if not genuinely altogether) is West's (*E.R.*'s Dr. Ray Barnett) remarkable Darby Crash, bad teeth, sozzled romanticism, junkie philosophizing, and all. West utterly nails the singer's tortured, manipulative ennui, and the re-creations of the Germs' combustible live performances are feral, chaotic, and wholly accurate, a fact this reviewer can attest to as well. I caught the real, reconstituted Germs, with West out in front, almost two years back in Reno, and they burned a hole in my mind that's still scarring over. West, just like Crash, sounded like he was singing through a mouthful of other people's teeth and a bifurcated tongue, and former Nirvana guitarist and Crash's best friend Pat Smear (played here by an appropriately giddy Gonzalez) surely employed some sort of time machine for the reunion shows. But that was now and this is then, and despite its thorough attention to historical detail and the obvious love of all involved for their shattered subject, *What We Do Is Secret* is, in the end, awfully sterile for a movie about the Germs. – Marc Savlov
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

YEAR OF THE FISH D: David Kaplan; with Tsai Chin, Ken Leung, Randall Duk Kim, An Nguyen, Lee Wong. (NR, 96 min.)

Lovely to look at, *Year of the Fish* is an animated feature that pops off the screen like a goldfish leaping free of its bowl. In much the same fashion as Richard Linklater's films *Waking Life* and *A Scanner Darkly*, which made use of Bob Sabiston's computer-aided rotoscoping technology, *Year of the Fish* creates an animated world from live-action images. The technique is a good fit for relating this modern-day fairy tale, at once making the artifice apparent and lending the story a certain timelessness and lack of specificity. Or maybe *Year of the Fish* works simply because, ever since Walt Disney came along, we've expected our fairy tales to look like cartoons. *Year of the Fish*, however, is a fairy tale for adults: It transposes the story of Cinderella to a Chinatown massage parlor. Ye Xian (Nguyen), an indentured Chinese immigrant who's traveled alone to New York City to earn money to send back home, is our Cinderella stand-in. Thinking she had come to work in a beauty shop, Ye Xian refuses to perform massages and is instead ordered to scrub the floors and toilets and do other scut work until her

debt is paid off. On the streets of New York, she encounters both the strange, magical hunchback Auntie Yaga (Duk Kim) and the jazz accordionist Johnny (Leung). Auntie Yaga gives her a goldfish, and Johnny makes her smile. There is something intrinsically refreshing about seeing the Cinderella story updated with an all-Asian cast. However, there remain serious questions about who the targeted audience is for this film. Too dark and seamy in content for children too young to grasp the concept of massage parlors, *Year of the Fish* is also too undeveloped and predictable a story to appeal to adults. Without the animation layered on top of the action, the film would be thoroughly lacking in dramatic interest, which leaves only the visual palette of any interest to viewers. And given that the animation process is long and arduous, it seems a difficult path to pursue for such minimal payoff.

– Marjorie Baumgarten

★★ Arbor

first runs

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

AN AMERICAN CAROL D: David Zucker; with Kevin Farley, Kelsey Grammer, Leslie Nielsen, Jon Voight, Robert Davi, Trace Adkins, Chriss Anglin, David Alan Grier, Gail O'Grady, Dennis Hopper, James Woods, Bill O'Reilly. (PG-13, 83 min.)

David Zucker, the man who, with his brother, Jerry, and Jim Abrahams, practically invented the modern-day spoof genre with *Airplane!* and then helped drive it into the ground with the *Scary Movie* and *Naked Gun* series, is back with this new spoof of Michael Moore and left-wing Hollywood. *An American Carol* demonstrates that Zucker is still on a downward creative trajectory. This movie is seriously unfunny, and that's not just my admittedly left-wing politics talking. There's no question that documentarian Moore deserves some ribbing, but this movie couldn't find Moore's ribs (or funny bone) through all the blubber and hotheadedness it puts in the way. Farley (brother of Chris) plays documentary filmmaker Michael Malone and proves to be a fairly decent stand-in for Moore. But this story, a takeoff on Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, is poorly told and soon makes Moore's disastrous comedy film, *Canadian Bacon*, look like pork loin. (10/10/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten

✧ Gateway

APPALOOSA D: Ed Harris; with Harris, Viggo Mortensen, Renée Zellweger, Jeremy Irons, Timothy Spall. (R, 114 min.)

Appaloosa is a suitable slow burn punctuated by sudden acts of violence. It's 1882, and lawmen-for-hire Virgil Cole (Harris) and Everett Hitch (Mortensen) arrive in the titular township, a barely conceived place of wood and dirt and whiskey. They come at the town council's request: A scheming, would-be cattle baron by the name of Bragg (Irons,

Secrecy

Secrecy (2008) D: Peter Galison and Robb Moss. (NR, 85 min.) **Third Coast Activists.** A popular film at Sundance, where it premiered, this documentary examines the hidden world of national security policy and the implications it has for governments and individuals. It does not shy away from deeper questions about whether public safety and utter democracy can coexist. The Oct. 29 screening will be followed by a Q&A with ACLU attorney Ben Wizner, who is interviewed in the film. @Alamo Ritz, Monday-Tuesday, 7pm.



resplendent in his villain's finery and subtexting the inherent dangers of a nascent capitalist system on the range) has murdered the sheriff and his deputies and must be brought to justice. No easy task, that, and it's complicated by the arrival in town of a comely, piano-playing widow, Allie French (Zellweger, wearing a permanent aw-shucks smile), who plays Virgil's heart like a seasoned pro. Harris, directing from an adaptation of Robert Parker's novel, cuts a leathery, desiccated figure as the love-blinded Virgil, who lets his heart get in the way of his work. (10/03/2008)

– Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

AUGUST EVENING D: Chris Eska; with Pedro Castaneda, Veronica Loren, Abel Becerra, Walter Perez, Sandra Rios, Grisel Rodriguez. (PG-13, 127 min.)

Shot in Texas by debuting director/writer/editor Eska, this quiet, contemplative gem of a film paints a painfully accurate portrait of familial love, loss, and healing-by-degrees among the migrant communities bordering San Antonio. Remarkably, neither of the film's two leads had any previous acting experience. Even more remarkable is the fact that Castaneda and Loren are so utterly convincing in their roles of father and daughter-in-law; in a film full of small wonders, their instant onscreen chemistry, due in large part not to Eska's dialogue but to simple, elegant grace notes such as nods, shrugs, and tiny, winsome half-smiles, is the most wondrous thing of all. Alternately dreamlike and firmly rooted in the reality of first- and second-generation Mexican immigrants, *August Evening* is indebted to the seasonally themed films of Yasujiro Ozu. Like Ozu, Eska manages to create the impression of vast, tidal emotions roiling beneath a seemingly calm surface. (10/10/2008) – Marc Savlov

★★★★ Arbor

BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA D: Raja Gosnell; with Piper Perabo, Jamie Lee Curtis, Michael Urie; with the voices of Drew Barrymore, Andy Garcia, George Lopez, Cheech Marin, Paul Rodriguez, Plácido Domingo, Edward James Olmos, Loretta Devine. (PG, 85 min.)

If you are an adult going to see this film solo or with a peer, you deserve every tired cliché trotted out. But if you or your moviegoing companion are anywhere within whistling distance of adolescence, you'll howl at this lowbrow, family-friendly trifle. Aunt Viv (Curtis), an L.A. make-up maven, entrusts her spoiled, designer-clad Chihuahua Chloe (voiced by Barrymore) to her niece Rachel (Perabo). The niece prefers dashing across the Mexican border for the weekend with her girlfriends to overseeing the dog's ritzy round of beauty treatments and spa appointments. Naturally, the prissy pooch gets lost and, naturally, a string of characters emerges to assist in Chloe's return, including Aunt Viv's studly landscaper, Sam (Manolo Cardona), and his Chihuahua, Papi (voiced by Lopez). The CG effects are fairly irresistible as is the enormous canine cast. *Beverly Hills Chihuahua* is a silly, if guilty, pleasure. (10/10/2008) – Margaret Moser

★★ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

BILLY: THE EARLY YEARS OF BILLY GRAHAM

D: Robby Benson; with Armie Hammer, Martin Landau, Lindsay Wagner, Kristoffer Polaha, Jennifer O'Neill, Josh Turner. (PG, 95 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. No advance screenings were held for this Depression-era story about the formative years of the influential Christian evangelist Billy Graham, during which time he chose his career path and broke away from the family dairy-farming business. Teen heartthrob Benson directs. (10/10/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten

BLINDNESS D: Fernando Meirelles; with Julianne Moore, Mark Ruffalo, Alice Braga, Danny Glover, Gael García Bernal, Yusuke Iseya, Don McKellar, Yoshino Kimura, Maury Chaykin. (R, 120 min.)

Blindness, at first blush, seems to fall into the same mold as Meirelles' *Children of Men*: a serious film that uses the sci-fi premise of a near-future dystopia to comment on the modern-day dystopia already upon us. The film is a brutalizing exploration into the hard fact that humans, in the right circumstances, will turn desperate and even barbarous. The catalyst is an outbreak of blindness in a city that is intentionally vague, its citizens casually multinational (as is its terrific cast, which does a lot within the restrictions of limited screen time). None of the characters is named; they are listed in the credits, as in the source novel by José Saramago, with identifiers such as the Doctor and the Doctor's Wife. The sick are shipped off to an abandoned insane asylum, and we become witness to unending awfulness as conditions deteriorate and a turf war ensues. Meirelles unflinchingly charts every slipped rung down to the bottommost depths of human degradation. (10/03/2008) – Kimberley Jones

★★★★ Highland

BODY OF LIES D: Ridley Scott; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Russell Crowe, Mark Strong, Golshifteh Farahani, Oscar Isaac, Ali Suliman, Alon Aboutboul, Simon McBurney. (R, 129 min.)

DiCaprio and Crowe make for interesting friends and foils in Scott's new geopolitical thriller. They represent the polar extremes of the types of operatives running the plays in today's counterassault on global terrorism. DiCaprio plays Roger Ferris, a lone CIA operative on the ground in the Middle East whose movements are meanwhile observed in real time through an array of modern media devices by his handler, Ed Hoffman (Crowe), a paunchy company man who conducts the war on terrorism from the comfort of his living room. The contrasts between the two men could not be more pronounced, yet they share the belief that everyone is expendable – that is until Ferris develops a love connection with a woman (Farahani) in Jordan. This love story seems totally grafted onto an otherwise taut story. Despite the terrific acting and Scott's dynamic storytelling, *Body of Lies* remains strangely emotionless. (10/10/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

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BURN AFTER READING D: Joel Coen, Ethan Coen; with George Clooney, Frances McDormand, Brad Pitt, John Malkovich, Tilda Swinton, Richard Jenkins, David Rasche, J.K. Simmons. (R, 95 min.)

Burn After Reading is a convoluted yet light-as-air farce about the dangers of misguided ambition and the contagiousness of paranoia. When a newly fired CIA analyst (Malkovich) decides to write a memoir about his time with the agency, he ends up instead on the wrong end of a blackmail scheme orchestrated by a bumbling duo, Linda Litzke (McDormand) and Chad Feldheimer (Pitt), two likable middle-aged losers who think they've stumbled upon classified government documents. They're a classic ditzy comedy pair, and their pathological dopiness allows the Coens to mock the conventions of spy movies. But they're also the movie's Achilles' heel: heroes whose bulging-eyed broadness descends quickly into burlesque. Say what you will about the cinematic joys of extortion, infidelity, espionage, paranoia, and random acts of graphic violence; if they're performed by cartoons and not people, it's going to be hard to get the people sitting in the theatre to care. The Coen brothers may be masters of black comedy, but there are times when there's no point in taking them seriously. (09/12/2008)

– Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Arbor, Hill Country Galleria, Dobie, Highland, Metropolitan, Westgate

CHOKO D: Clark Gregg; with Sam Rockwell, Anjelica Huston, Kelly Macdonald, Brad William Henke, Clark Gregg, Paz de la Huerta. (R, 89 min.)

Choke is a forgettable adaptation of Chuck Palahniuk's 2001 novel. Veteran character actor and first-time writer/director Gregg directs, while Rockwell plays Victor Mancini, a man of many hats,

The Comet

The Comet (1999) D: José Buil and Marisa Sistach; with Diego Luna, Ana Claudia Talancón, Carmen Maura. (NR, 92 min.) **Se Busca: La Revolución Mexicana.** This romantic coming-of-age story steeped in tragedy and wonder is set during the revolution. Outdoors. @Mexican American Cultural Center, Wednesday, 8pm; free.

all of them off-putting. He's a sex addict who goes to a recovery group mostly to score fresh meat; a medical-school dropout who pays the bills as a Colonial America re-enactor, with a sideline scam as a choking victim in restaurants; and an unloved, oft-abandoned son who's trying to lay the cute doctor (Macdonald) attending his Alzheimer's-addled mother (Huston). Mancini's character boils down to a lot of self-loathing and unresolved mommy issues – which is as tedious as it sounds – and the film, shot by Tim Orr with the wanness of a porno flick, is only half as blackly comic as it should be. Bright spots include the bearlike Henke as Victor's best friend, a chronic masturbator with a sunny disposition, and the terrific Macdonald. (09/26/2008)

– Kimberley Jones

★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

CITY OF EMBER D: Gil Kenan; with Bill Murray, Tim Robbins, Saoirse Ronan, Harry Treadaway, Mackenzie Crook, Martin Landau, Toby Jones, Mary Kay Place, Liz Smith. (PG, 95 min.)

Based on the young-adult novel by Jeanne Duprau, *City of Ember* digs deep but ends up feeling surprisingly cobbled-together from cinematic odds and ends. Despite boasting a splendidly inventive production design and a comically villainous turn from a thoroughly engaged Murray, this film feels less like a timeless children's classic than a timely tale of living in the abyss. In a prologue that's more than a little vague, we learn that the whole of mankind now



lives below ground, having fled there after unspecified apocalyptic events topside have rendered the Earth uninhabitable. Following the classic tropes of inquisitive kids saddled with the salvation of the species, two teens – Doon (Treadaway) and Lina (Ronan) – bypass their supposedly wiser elders and join forces to search for a fabled way out of Ember. But, ultimately, the film's undone by the overfamiliar nature of their quest, the outcome of which, while breathlessly paced, is never really in question. (10/10/2008)

– Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE DUCHESS D: Saul Dibb; with Keira Knightley, Ralph Fiennes, Charlotte Rampling, Dominic Cooper, Hayley Atwell, Simon McBurney. (PG-13, 110 min.)

Taken from the bestselling biography *Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire* and adapted by three different scriptwriters, *The Duchess* begins with the good-on-paper, bad-in-bed love match between Georgiana (Knightley) and the Duke of Devonshire (Fiennes), who regularly finds comfort in the arms of other women. Stung by the betrayal and her own inability to produce a male heir, the Duchess feeds off the love of society instead, becoming a legendary wit and a much admired, much imitated arbiter of taste. *The Duchess* hits very few wrong notes, but it doesn't hit

very many right ones, either. Part of the problem is *The Duchess'* refusal to see its heroine as anything but saintly, even when she's sinning up a storm. Dibb's well-dressed picture hits all the requisite plot points – a bastard child, a beehive on fire, gambling debts galore – but it's a curiously inert, workmanlike production: a whole lot of pomp and incircumstance. (10/10/2008)

– Kimberley Jones

★★ Arbor, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

EAGLE EYE D: D.J. Caruso; with Shia LaBeouf, Michelle Monaghan, Rosario Dawson, Michael Chiklis, Anthony Mackie, Ethan Embry, Billy Bob Thornton, Anthony Azizi. (PG-13, 118 min.)

I could be wrong, but it feels like *Eagle Eye* is arriving a few months late. With its frenetic car chases; its near-erotic fascination with explosions, gadgets, and guns; and its improbable and, in the end, totally disposable storyline, it's the very definition of a summer blockbuster: good, manic fun plus a heavy dose of political intrigue adding up to two hours of clamorous, mind-numbing nonsense. Jerry Shaw (LaBeouf) is a sweet-talking slacker with a chip on his shoulder who gets dragged into a violent conspiracy against the U.S. government. He is on the run from the FBI (led by a deliciously dyspeptic Thornton) after being framed as a terrorist for reasons he can't understand and narrowly escaping the gaping maw of the post-PATRIOT Act American justice system. Like *Enemy of the State*, *Eagle Eye's* backdrop is a world gone mad with surveillance and, like *The Terminator* trilogy, one where the machines have slipped their leashes and taken over. (09/26/2008)

– Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

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Dismember the Alamo Zombie Film Festival

Dismember the Alamo Zombie Film Festival A celebration of all things undead, the festival features three nights of zombie films, competition shorts, and an appearance by zombie expert and author of *The Zombie Survival Guide* Max Brooks. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Thursday (10/23). See www.drafthouse.com for complete schedule. Thursday (10/23)-Saturday (10/27), 7pm.



BioZombie

Home Movie Day

Home Movie Day Members of the community are encouraged to bring their own home movies where archivists will inspect your films prior to screening and then, if they're in good condition, project them in front of the audience. Movies can also include found films. Formats accepted include 8mm, Super-8, and 16mm (no video, please). For more info, see www.homemovieday.com/austin.html. @Harry Ransom Center's Prothro Theater, Sunday, 2pm; free.



THE EXPRESS D: Gary Fleder; with Rob Brown, Dennis Quaid, Darrin Dewitt Henson, Omar Benson Miller, Nelsan Ellis, Charles S. Dutton, Justin Martin, Justin Jones. (PG, 129 min.)

Quaid, who has made a living out of flashing a 100-kilowatt smile, couldn't resist the plum role of Ben Schwartzwalder, the decidedly uncharming head football coach at Syracuse University from 1949 to '73. These were years that saw the team go from a garden-variety great-white-hope manufacturer to the home of African-American superstar Jim Brown and the coming-out ground of Ernie Davis, the first African-American Heisman Trophy winner, who made a habit of breaking down racial barriers and defensive backfields before his untimely death from leukemia at the age of 23. Davis' story is full of the kind of last-minute, heart-pumping stadium heroics and quiet acts of dignity we demand from our football films, mixed with heartbreaking historical incidents of violent racism. (I feel it's my responsibility, at this point, to warn local readers that the University of Texas comes off downright villainous in this movie; Longhorn fans everywhere should prepare themselves for the worst.) (10/10/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

FIREPROOF D: Alex Kendrick; with Kirk Cameron, Erin Bethea, Ken Bevel, Jason McLeod, Stephen Dervan, Eric Young, Harris Malcom, Dwan Williams. (PG, 122 min.)

The writing and directing Kendrick brothers, Alex and Stephen (who also made *Facing the Giants*), have raised blandness and narrative predictability to the level of high art. Their hero is Caleb Holt (Cameron), a firefighter who has lost the love connection with his wife Catherine (Bethea). When Caleb turns to his family for help, father (Malcom), a newly born-again Christian, convinces son to try the Love Dare, a 40-day experiment in altered behavior designed to retighten the bonds of marriage through selfless devotion, faith in God, washed dishes, and a deep appreciation of Bible quotes that are short enough to fit on a refrigerator magnet. *Fireproof*, in other words, is American Evangelical Christian storytelling at its finest, storytelling for a world entirely devoid of gray areas or ethical hierarchies, a world where hatred is tantamount to murder and lust is equivalent to adultery and all of the above equal damnable sin. (10/03/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt
★ CM Round Rock, Gateway, Tinseltown North

FLASH OF GENIUS D: Marc Abraham; with Greg Kinnear, Lauren Graham, Dermot Mulroney, Alan Alda, Mitch Pileggi, Bill Smitrovich. (PG-13, 119 min.)

Flash of Genius has all the ingredients of a great American drama, so why does it feel so bland? Based on the true story of engineer Robert Kearns – who, in 1963, invented the intermittent windshield wiper, only to see his idea stolen by the Ford Motor Co. – it's real David and Goliath stuff, a battle between the forces of corporate greed and chicanery on one side and an extremely stubborn individual human spirit on the other. Like *Tucker: The Man and His Dream* and *Erin Brockovich*, *Flash of Genius* should have been one of those movies that makes us feel better about ourselves by fooling us into believing that, under the same circumstances, we would have been the ones standing up to those titans of industry. Kinnear's Kearns is an idealized and rather bloodless Hollywood vision of the early-1960s Midwestern American male, and the film is also at a loss when it comes to pacing. (10/03/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt
★★★ Tinseltown South

GHOST TOWN D: David Koepp; with Ricky Gervais, Téa Leoni, Greg Kinnear. (PG-13, 102 min.)

Bertram Pincus (Gervais) is a misanthrope when something extraordinary happens to him: While under general anesthesia, he dies on the surgical table. Upon resuscitation, Pincus discovers he can see dead people. But shaking hands with the reaper doesn't make him any nicer; he gets even worse, actually, and is cruelly contemptuous of all the stuck-in-limbo souls who beg him to tidy up for them their loose ends. Still, newly dead Frank Herlihy (Kinnear) convinces Pincus to take up his cause, which is to steer Frank's widow, Gwen (Leoni), away from a bad love match. Sounds a little bit cookie-cutter, but if you were going for cookie-cutter, you wouldn't have hired Gervais. *Ghost Town* is a slow-burn kind of picture that doesn't bend over backward to ingratiate itself. By the time this imperfect little film wends its way to one of the most winning exit lines I've heard in a long time, it's turned into something, well, perfectly lovely. (09/19/2008) – Kimberley Jones
★★★ Tinseltown South

MIRACLE AT ST. ANNA D: Spike Lee; with Derek Luke, Michael Ealy, Laz Alonso, Omar Benson Miller, Pierfrancesco Favino, Valentina Cervi, Matteo Sciaabardi, John Turturro, Joseph Gordon-Levitt. (R, 160 min.)

Sadly, Lee's new movie is a major disappointment, especially as it comes on the heels of the filmmaker's greatest commercial success, *Inside Man*. *Miracle at St. Anna* is a bloated, muddled, indistinct, and ill-paced movie (adapted by James McBride from his novel) that makes its 160 minutes seem like a tour of duty for the viewer. It's a war movie and a murder mystery, a history lesson and a sentimental melodrama all jumbled together episodically and glancingly. The bulk of the movie is one long flashback about four Buffalo Soldiers from the Army's 92nd Infantry Division who get trapped in Tuscany behind enemy lines in 1944. The soldiers never develop beyond their signature traits into memorable human beings. A completely superfluous murder mystery bookends the flashback. Lee adds some touches of magic realism to his repertoire, while Terence Blanchard's music score overwhelms the visuals and leaves little to the imagination. And the film comes packaged with its own set of stereotypes. (09/26/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★ Metropolitan

NICK & NORAH'S INFINITE PLAYLIST D: Peter Sollett; with Michael Cera, Kat Dennings, Ari Graynor, Alexis Dziena. (PG-13, 90 min.)

Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist wants to be loved at least as much as the soulful and ingrown indie hipsters of its title. But all I can seem to muster, post-screening, is a modicum of fondness. Director Sollett (*Raising Victor Vargas*) keeps things real almost to the point of emotional withdrawal, which was surely his intent: Emo kids are, if anything, emotionally constipated, which makes for terrifically engaging bands but precious little dialogue. Nick (Cera) and Norah (Dennings) are a pair of bridge-and-tunnel teens who meet cute while out on the town searching the East Village and Brooklyn for a supersecret show. Cera builds slightly on his *Superbad* template of sensitive geek, Dennings is darkly luminous as Norah, and the film certainly captures the magic of that perfect night out. But it never quite reaches the heartfelt heartache heights of, say, the many, many indie darlings (Vampire Weekend, Devendra Banhart, We Are Scientists) that litter the soundtrack. (10/03/2008) – Marc Savlov
★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

NIGHTS IN RODANTHE D: George C. Wolfe; with Richard Gere, Diane Lane, Viola Davis, James Franco, Christopher Meloni, Scott Glenn, Becky Ann Baker. (PG-13, 97 min.)

Nights in Rodanthe is a flawed but occasionally affecting love story about second chances and third acts. Based on the Nicholas Spark novel about the brief encounter between a troubled surgeon (Gere) and a lonely woman (Lane) at a secluded inn on Hatteras Island, the film does justice to the belief that love comes at you when you least expect it. The film, however, undermines itself at every turn and eventually enters familiar three-hanky territory, which is nearly redeemed by the compelling presence of Lane as a woman reborn. The way she comes to life and transforms into a confident, sexualized human being is what makes this movie watchable. Though the film doesn't do her justice in the final reels as it struggles to give us something to cry about, Lane gives you something real and heartfelt. *Nights in Rodanthe* may not be the best chick flick around, but it's the flick with the best chick by far. (09/26/2008) – Steve Davis
★★★ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

RELIGULOUS D: Larry Charles. (R, 101 min.)

Though fashioned as popular entertainment with laughs, light moments, and mostly humorous segments, *Religulous* is as serious as a disapproving Jehovah about its mission to upend our rote allegiance to blind religious faith. Bill Maher hosts this globe-hopping whirlwind of interviews with various representatives of Western religious faiths. As always, Maher carries with him his sharp wit. He and director Charles play it somewhat safe by never going toe-to-toe with sophisticated thinkers or experienced theologians. Neither do they delve too deeply into the more indecipherable sense of spirituality that seems to infuse the majority of people even if they don't consider themselves members of an organized religion or faith. Yet if, as Maher states, 16% of the U.S. population identifies as secular humanists who don't believe in God, then that's a large cross section of the country whose voices are muffled by the status quo. It is to them, more than the believers, Maher speaks, in essence saying, "Let my people go." (10/03/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Alamo Ritz, Arbor

RIGHTEOUS KILL D: Jon Avnet; with Robert De Niro, Al Pacino, Curtis Jackson, Carla Gugino, John Leguizamo, Donnie Wahlberg, Brian Dennehy. (R, 101 min.)

There's nothing righteous about this tired and tiresome good cop/bad cop NYPD procedural; in fact, it's pretty much an abomination from the get-go. Playing on filmgoers' memories of De Niro and Pacino's salad days, *Righteous Kill* shows us a jokey pair of grumpy old men, both of them horny SOB's with semicurdled souls. Avnet's direction is filled with slo-mo, freeze-fades, and other annoyances. Screenwriter Russell Gerwitz frames the story with De Niro's not-so-young Detective Turk (get it?) "confessing" his role in the murder of 14 lowlifes, who, in his presumption, we're all better off without. He's Travis Bickle's gutter-cleansing moral moonson made flesh, a real rain of black-jacketed ballistics washing the scum off the streets for good. Pacino's Detective Rooster (get it?) is the presumptive good cop, but he's also covering up for his partner, while softball blue boys Wahlberg and Leguizamo sniff around and eventually begin to smell the raging bullshit. (09/19/2008) – Marc Savlov
★ Tinseltown South

also playing

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

THE DARK KNIGHT ★★★ Tinseltown South

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LAKEVIEW TERRACE ★★ Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

MAN ON WIRE ★★★★★ Dobie

THE MUMMY: TOMB OF THE DRAGON EMPEROR ♪ Tinseltown South

MY BEST FRIEND'S GIRL ★★ Tinseltown South

PINEAPPLE EXPRESS ★★★★★ Movies 8, Tinseltown South

STAR WARS: THE CLONE WARS ★ Movies 8, Tinseltown South

TYLER PERRY'S THE FAMILY THAT PREYS ★★ Millennium, Tinseltown North

WALL-E ★★★★★ Movies 8

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NOW SHOWING - CHECK DIRECTORIES FOR LISTINGS

special screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

THURDAY 16

The Boogens (1981) *D: James L. Conway; with Fred McCarren, Rebecca Balding, Anne-Marie Martin, Jeff Harlan. (R, 95 min.)*
Terror Thursday. Unleashed from a boarded-up silver mine in Colorado, these scaly critters with sharp teeth do away with one human after another. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

Death Note II: The Last Name (2006) *D: Shusuke Kaneko; with Tatsuya Fujiwara, Takeshi Kaga, Shido Nakamura, Erika Toda. (NR, 141 min.)*
NCM Fathom. Based on a popular manga, this Japanese film series set new box-office records throughout Asia. This follow-up to the original is a cat-and-mouse thriller in which the evil are vanquished by using humans as decoys. This is a dubbed version and will be accompanied by a behind-the-scenes exclusive and interviews with the director and cast. @Tinseltown North, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, 7:30pm.

The Office TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 7:30pm.

SPACES

“Writ Writer” (2008) *D: Susanne Mason. (NR, 54 min.)*
Red Salmon Arts: Writing Behind Bars. The documentary tells the story of self-taught jailhouse lawyer Fred Arispe Cruz, who challenged the constitutionality of Texas prison conditions in the Sixties and launched the state prisoners’ rights movement. Following the film, Jorge Antonio Renaud, recently released from prison, will read from his unpublished collection of poetry. @Mexican American Cultural Center, 7pm.

FRIDAY 17

Friday the 13th (1980) *D: Sean S. Cunningham; with Laurie Bartram, Harry Crosby, Betsy Palmer, Adrienne King, Mark Nelson, Kevin Bacon. (R, 95 min.)*
Master Pancake Theater. The Pancake pranksters dig their claws into this horror classic about six would-be camp counselors who are mysteriously offed in grisly style. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7:20, 10:20pm.

SPACES

Kicking It (2008) *D: Susan Koch and Jeff Werner. (NR, 98 min.)*
Friday Late Nights at Yellow Bike. The film documents the 2006 Homeless World Cup, an international soccer competition engaged in by the world’s homeless. The event follows several players as they simultaneously prepare for their matches while confronting life on the streets. @Treasure City Thrift, 6pm; free.

SATURDAY 18

Cirque du Soleil: Delirium (2008) *D: David Mallet. (NR, 101 min.)* A presentation of the company’s performance in the round, which includes remixed music, visuals, musicians, singers, and dancers. @Gateway, Tinseltown North, noon.

Friday the 13th (1980) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7:20, 10:20pm. (See Fri., 10/17.)

Parents Afternoon Out The Village Alamo Drafthouse teams up with its shopping-center neighbor Body Business every third Saturday of the month to provide child care for kids under the age of 7, while parents catch lunch and a movie at the theatre. See www.originalalamo.com/show.aspx?id=4890 for all the details and ticket purchases. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 2:30pm.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O’Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the “Time Warp” thing live for more than 30 years straight. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

Saturday Morning Cartoon Cereal Party Two-and-a-half hours of fine nutrition. Pajamas and stuffed animals encouraged. @Alamo Ritz, noon.

SPACES

Beerfest (2006) *D: Jay Chandrasekhar; with Chandrasekhar, Will Forte, Kevin Heffernan, Cloris Leachman, Steve Lemme, Mo’Nique, Eric Christian Olsen, Paul Soter, Erik Stolhanske. (R, 110 min.)*
Broken Lizard’s comedy film about the underground world of competitive beer drinking screens at the perfect place for a throwdown. (*) @Independence Brewery, 6:30pm.

Fido (2006) *D: Andrew Currie; with David Kaye, Jan Skorzewski, Kevin Tyell, Andy Parkin. (R, 91 min.)*
Zombie Fest. Very dark horror comedy about a boy and his dog. @University Hills Library, 1pm; free.

SUNDAY 19

Cirque du Soleil: Delirium (2008) @Gateway, Tinseltown North, noon. (See Sat., 10/18.)

SPACES

Home Movie Day See p.152.

MONDAY 20

All Together Now (2008) *D: Adrian Wills. (NR, 90 min.)* The documentary charts the creation of Cirque du Soleil’s Las Vegas Love show based on the Beatles’ music. @Highland, 5, 7, 9pm.

Devo: The Men Who Make the Music (1981) *D: Mark Mothersbaugh and Chuck Statler. (NR, 90 min.)*
Music Monday. Footage from the band’s glory days. @Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm; \$2.

Gossip Girl TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 7pm.

Heroes TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:30pm; Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 8pm.

The Order of Myths Advance Screening (2008) *D: Margaret Brown. (NR, 97 min.)* **Austin**

offscreen

501 Studios: Soundstage + HD Theatre 501 Studios’ soundstage in Downtown Austin now doubles as one of Texas’ largest public theatres – with a Sony Qualia HD projector, a 28-foot screen, 180 (removable) seats, a vintage popcorn machine, and affordable rates. Need a venue for premieres, wrap parties, or concerts/plays/performances featuring projection? This could be the place. Also still available as a soundstage/green screen.

Career-Building Classes From Austin School of Film An excellent slate of adult classes is available for your cinematic advancement at the Austin School of Film. Also, you can become an **Apple Pro Certified Final Cut Pro** user. Tech up, cineastes. See website for details. www.austinfilmschool.org/classes.

Film Fight: Writers in the Movies Combinatorial cineastes Jones and Rosenblatt return to argue the rougher and finer points of filmic depictions of the scribing class. Points! Counterpoints! Invective and vitriol! Bon mots! Catch the action as it happens, daily (through Friday) on the *Chronicle* website. austinchronicle.com/filmfight.

Maureen McCormick played, yes, Marcia Brady in the beloved series about that famous Bunch. Now she’s here to talk about her life and her new book (*Here’s the Story*) and to introduce a program of the iconic TV show’s most famous moments. *Wed., Oct. 22, 9:45pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320. \$29 (includes a copy of McCormick’s book).* www.originalalamo.com.

Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a state-of-the-art screening room, which is available to the public on a rental basis. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, and a surround-sound system and supports Super-35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Handicap accessible, restrooms – the works. It also has a “break room” suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. 322-0145. www.austinstudios.org.

SXSW 2009: Call for Entries Filmmakers are invited to submit their new works to the popular annual festival. SXSW considers any and all categories of filmmaking, from narrative to documentary, experimental to music video, short to feature. Complete submission rules and regulations are available on the website. Early deadline: Nov. 14. Final deadline: Dec. 12. www.sxsw.com/film.

The Screenplay Workshop All classes are taught by professional screenwriters and meet in Central Austin. Ongoing classes include the Screenwriter’s Toolkit, *Mondays, Oct. 20-Dec. 8, 7-9pm, \$390*; Advanced Screenwriting Techniques, *Tuesdays, Nov. 4-Dec. 2, 7-9:30 pm, \$260*; and Private Instruction & Story Consultation Packages, *7½ hours of instruction, \$390*. See website for more options. www.thescreenplayworkshop.org.

Film Society. The documentary provides a thought-provoking look at the racially segregated Mardi Gras pageants held in Mobile, Ala., the home of America’s oldest Mardi Gras celebrations. The filmmaker, a former Austinite, will be in attendance. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 6:30pm; tickets available at www.originalalamo.com; \$6, \$4 AFS members.

Secrecy (2008) See p.148.

SPACES

Beetlejuice (1988) *D: Tim Burton; with Michael Keaton, Winona Ryder, Alec Baldwin, Geena Davis, Jeffrey Jones, Catherine O’Hara, Sylvia Sidney. (PG, 92 min.)*
Monday Movies and Margaritas. Margarita specials and movie at sundown. @Belmont, 7:30pm; free.

Mexico: The Frozen Revolution (1973) *D: Raymundo Gleyzer. (NR, 65 min.)*
Se Busca: La Revolucion Mexicana. The documentary follows the presidential campaign of Luis Echeverría and the

dirty politics used by the PRI to stay in power. The Argentinian filmmaker “disappeared” in 1976, and this film wasn’t seen by Mexican audiences until 2006. @Mexican American Cultural Center, 8pm; free.

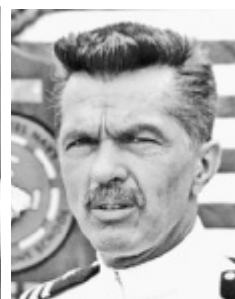
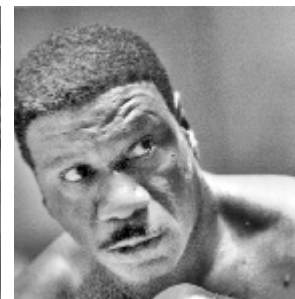
TUESDAY 21

Design for Living (1933) See p.148.

Loud and Clear Film Festival Austin School of Film at Motion Media Arts Center. A showing of the student films made during the last year’s digital filmmaking and animation classes. The students will be on hand for a Q&A. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 6:30pm; \$10.

Secrecy (2008) See p.148.

Star Crash (1979) *D: Luigi Cozzi; with Marjoe Gortner, Caroline Munro, David Hasselhoff, Christopher Plummer. (PG, 92 min.)*
Stephen Romano’s Shock Festival. The world premiere of the new book about exploitation films, *Shock Festival*, by author/screen-



festivals

Austin Film Festival The film festival begins on Thursday, Oct. 16, and continues through Thursday, Oct. 23, while the conference part of this event devoted to the art of the screenwriter occurs this weekend. Festival passes for admittance to all the screenings are \$42, and single

admissions are \$9. They can be purchased at www.austinfilmfestival.com, Waterloo Records, and Follett’s Intellectual Property. Information about conference badges can be obtained on the website, along with complete schedules. See “A Sunny, Funny Fest,” Oct. 10, for more coverage. (*) Thu. (10/16)-Thu. (10/23) @ Alamo Ritz, IMAX Theatre, Paramount, Dobie, The Hideout Theatre, Arbor.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: *A Good Day to Be Black & Sexy*, *Boogie Man: The Lee Atwater Story*, *Phantom Punch*, Tom Skerritt presents *Top Gun*, *Wendy and Lucy*, *The Great Buck Howard*

writer Stephen Romano (*Masters of Horror*) is being celebrated with a screening of this ridiculously derivative Italian space opera, one of the inspirations for Romano's book. Lots of trailers will screen also @Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm.

SPACES

My Father Is Coming (1991) D: Monika Treut; with Alfred Edel, Annie Sprinkle, Shelley Kästner, Mary Lou Graulau, Michael Massee. (NR, 82 min.) **Department of Germanic Studies: Sexual Revolutions in German Cinema.** An immigrant actress' father visits her from Germany and does better in America than she – plus he begins to date Annie Sprinkle. (*) @E.P. Schoch 4.104 Conference Room (on the UT campus), 7pm; free.

WEDNESDAY 22

Dressed to Kill (1980) D: Brian De Palma; with Michael Caine, Angie Dickinson, Nancy Allen, Keith Gordon. (R, 104 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** One of De Palma's best, this has sex, violence, and Angie Dickinson. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

Salome (2008) (NR, 97 min.) **Metropolitan Opera: Encore Presentation.** Karita Mattila sings; Mikko Franck conducts. @Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, CM Cedar Park, 7pm.

SPACES

The Comet (1999) See p.150.

THURSDAY 23

The Blues Brothers Feast-Along (1980) D: John Landis; with John Belushi, Dan Aykroyd. (R, 133 min.) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Dismember the Alamo Zombie Film Festival See p.152.

Michael Jackson: Thrill the World Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 9:50pm.

The Office TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Draughtouse Village, 7:30pm. (See Thu., 10/16.)

100 Best Kills Party A fusillade of extreme violence put together by the Fantastic Fest programmers. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Saw Marathon See all four Saw movies in a row before watching a midnight screening of Saw V. @Tinseltown North, 4:25, 6:20, 8:05, 10:10pm.

The Slumber Party Massacre (1982) D: Amy Holden Jones; with Michelle Michaels, Robin Stille, Michael Villella, Debra Deliso. (R, 77 min.) **Terror Thursday.** Surprisingly, this excellent driller-killer movie is directed by a woman and scripted by the lesbian feminist Rita Mae Brown. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

SPACES

"Fighting Goliath: Texas Coal Wars" (2008) D: Mat Hames and George Sledge; narrated by Robert Redford. (NR, 35 min.) **ReEnergize Texas.** The film, which is making its Austin premiere, uses the example of Texas to take an intimate look at today's global energy challenge of powering communities in a way that supports the local economy and protects public health. @Thompson Conference Center, 7pm; free.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Oct. 31 issue is Monday, Oct. 20.** 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.

imax

Austin Film Festival See p.154.

Grand Canyon Adventure 3D: River at Risk (2008) D: Greg MacGillivray; narrated by Robert Redford. (NR, 40 min.) The river at risk is the Colorado. Water-conservation advocate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. joins ethnobotanist and author Wade Davis and their 18-year-old daughters for a rafting trip down the river to the parched Colorado delta. Thu. (10/16), 1, 4, 6pm; Fri. 1, 4pm; Sat.-Sun., 1pm; Mon.-Thu. (10/23), 1, 4pm.

Haunted Castle 3D (2001) D: Ben Stassen; with Kyoko Baertsoen; with the voices of Jasper Steverlinck, Harry Shearer. (PG, 38 min.) A young musician inherits a haunted castle from his rock diva mother in this 3-D film that puts the viewer in the middle of the maelstrom. It's from the director of *Fly Me to the Moon* and is the first IMAX film to be rated PG (in 2001), so guardians of young tykes should note the labeling. Thu. (10/16), 7pm; Fri., 6, 7, 8pm; Sat.-Sun., 2, 4, 6, 7, 8pm; Mon.-Thu. (10/23), 6, 7, 8pm.

Sea Monsters 3D: A Prehistoric Adventure (2007) D: Sean MacLeod Phillips; narrated by Liev Schreiber. (NR, 40 min.) National Geographic uses photo-realistic, computer-generated, 3-D animation to transport audiences back more than 65 million years ago, when a great inland sea divided North America in two. (*) Thu. (10/16)-Sat., noon; Mon.-Thu. (10/23), noon.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.) Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as the state is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips. Thu. (10/16)-Fri., 10am, 2pm; Sat., 10am; Mon.-Thu. (10/23), 10am, 2pm.

U2 3D (2008) D: Mark Pellington and Catherine Owens. (G, 85 min.) In 3-D and on the IMAX screen, these Irish rockers really rattle and hum. (*) Fri.-Sat., 9pm.

Wild Ocean 3D (2008) D: Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas. (NR, 40 min.) Filmed off the coast of South Africa, this film examines the food chain, starting with the sardine runs, which are followed by dolphins, sharks, birds, humans, and other fish that opportunistically follow the migration. Thu. (10/16), 11am, 3, 5, 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 11am, 3, 5pm; Sun., 3, 5; Mon.-Thu. (10/23), 11am, 3, 5pm.

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RECOMMENDED EVENTS FOR OCT 17 TO OCT 23

music

EDITED BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

listings



TODD V. WOLFSON

THE WEDDING PRESENT

Mohawk, Friday 17

David Gedge, the wry and romantic force of nature behind this legendary Leeds outfit (Cinerama, too), was once viewed as something of a poor man's Morrissey, a slanderous artistic provocation if ever there was one. Lyrically, both the Gedge and the Moz traffic in the collateral damage of love, but live and touring behind the Steve Albini-produced *El Rey*, the Wedding Present is fierce and lovely and unique. The Jealous Girlfriends and New Roman Times open. — Marc Savlov

BLAZE-O-RAMA

Ruta Maya, Friday 17

This coming February marks the 20th anniversary of Blaze Foley's tragic death, but the legacy of Austin's "duct tape messiah" has never been more vibrant. Friends and fellow artists gather to celebrate Blaze's life and music in a benefit for the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, with Mandy Mercier, Gurf Morlix, Mickey White, Barbara K, and Will T. Massey among the many offering up "Faded Loves and Memories." — Doug Freeman

TRISTAN PERICH, THE LOUD OBJECTS

Ceremony Hall, Saturday 18

The sound of the impending robot apocalypse is amplified this weekend with the Loud Objects — Tristan Perich, Kunal Gupta, and Katie Shima — who get their kicks bending poor, defenseless circuits. The Austin Museum of Digital Art presents the soldering spectacle, as well as a solo set by Perich, including 1-bit electronics. The Loud Objects will also be selling their Noise Toy kits at this weekend's Maker Faire (see Calendar, p.130). — Audra Schroeder

EARACHE!

Girl Talk and more chatty Cathies at

austinchronicle.com/earache

THE U18 AUSTIN MUSIC SHOWCASE

Threadgill's World HQ, Saturday 18

The future of Austin music lies in cultivating the homegrown generation of smart, motivated, youthful musicians who have limited venues to play and even fewer to hang out at. With the multitude of music camps, school bands, and neighborhood groups, Next Up: The U18 Austin Music Showcase seeks to fill that void by bringing them together on Saturdays, 4-7pm, through Nov. 15. First up are Aviators and Chief Rival (formerly the Hydmen). — Margaret Moser

DEER TICK

Emo's, Sunday 19

Originally released last year on Jana Hunter's Feow label, Deer Tick's debut LP, *War Elephant*, is receiving a much deserved reissue courtesy of Partisan Records, and the Brooklyn-by-way-of-Rhode Island group has expanded to a quartet in celebration. Deer Tick's lo-fi charm still bites primarily behind John McCauley's lazy, nasal howl winding through desperate narratives with a lilting alt-folk heart pumping a quirky, indie rock pulse. Locals the Black stomp it out first. — Doug Freeman

WEEZER

Erwin Center, Monday 20

To whom has time been crueler: Weezer's original fans, who have seen the two untouchable albums they loved eclipsed by four discs of smarmy pap? Or bandleader Rivers Cuomo, who has either written off the heart and wit he once had or forgotten that they ever existed? Would the homebound everyboy of "In the Garage" recognize these globe-trotting shysters or the ultrahip world he helped create? Tokyo Police Club and Angels & Airwaves open. — Daniel Mee

TALKDEMONIC

Mohawk, Wednesday 22

No one turns on the warm jets quite like Talkdemonic. On third LP *Eyes at Half Mast* (Arena Rock), the Portland-based duo masters the art of laptop post-rock, crafting serene instrumental snapshots that are equal parts electro-acoustic folk ambience and chamber rock, soured with puddles of analog synth and programmed beats. Like-minded locals Balmorhea and one-man band Human Milk open with bizarre, avant-pop concoctions. — Austin Powell

MSTRKRFT

La Zona Rosa, Thursday 23

It was the last night of South by Southwest 08, and Torontonian house duo/remix masters MSTRKRFT — aka Death From Above 1979 bassist Jesse Keeler and producer Alex Puodziukas — were playing the strobe-lit, sardined crowd like a box of jacks, tossing it out there and picking it back up. With sophomore LP *Fist of God* dropping in January, the dance floor calls. Countryman Felix Cartal and LA Riots rev up. — Darcie Stevens

Danny Roy Young Tribute

Austin Music Hall, Sunday 19

The passing of Danny Roy Young in August left a pall over the city and emptiness in the music scene. As owner of South Austin's Texicalli Grille, Young's big heart and generous spirit were always

the specials of the day. Onstage with the Cornell Hurd Band, he lit up so brightly no spotlight was needed. Keep Austin Young: Celebrating the Life of Danny Roy Young takes place in his honor with an only in Austin lineup that includes the Cornell Hurd Band with guests Teisco del Rey, Marcia Ball, Ray Benson, Floyd Domino, Blackie White, James McMurtry & the Heartless Bastards, the Texana Dames, Ponty Bone, and

the legendary Antone's House Band featuring Derek O'Brien, Riley Osbourn, Frosty, and Ronnie James. Proceeds will retire debts from the restaurant; donations may be sent to the Danny Roy Young Memorial Fund, c/o Prosperity Bank, PO Box 2167, Austin, TX 78768. To make an online donation, go to www.dannyroyyoung.com. Did someone say special guests? No wonder doors open at 5pm!

— Margaret Moser

in-stores

Friday: **Indian Queen**, End of an Ear, 6pm

Saturday: **Serious Tracers**, Sound on Sound, 6pm

Thursday: **Carrie Rodriguez**, Waterloo Records, 5pm



L - R: CHARLIE LOUVIN (FRI., 10/17) | NACHTMYSTIUM (FRI., 10/17) | DEER TICK (SUN., 10/19) | CARRIE RODRIGUEZ (WED., 10/22 - THU., 10/23)

soundcheck

BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

CHARLIE LOUVIN

Cactus Cafe, Friday 17

The original country brother takes the Steps to Heaven.

NACHTMYSTIUM, WOLVES IN THE THRONE ROOM

Red 7, Friday 17

Chicago-style psych metal.

WANDA JACKSON

Continental Club, Friday 17

Wanda reels in the years with her annual rockabilly revue.

MC TERRORISTIC CD RELEASE

Room 710, Saturday 18

Foot Patrol's TJ Wade drops bombs with *Lifestyles of an Underground Celebrity*.

THE TING TINGS

Parish, Sunday 19

The umpteenth wave of electro-pop lands with a ting.

GIRL TALK

Emo's, Monday 20

Sold out.

CARRIE RODRIGUEZ

Cactus Cafe, Wednesday 22 & Thursday 23

She ain't fiddlin' around.

THE TEENERS, TAUNTO

Beerland, Thursday 23

The aural equivalent of an ice-cream headache.

live music venues p.164

roadshows

+ club listings p.166



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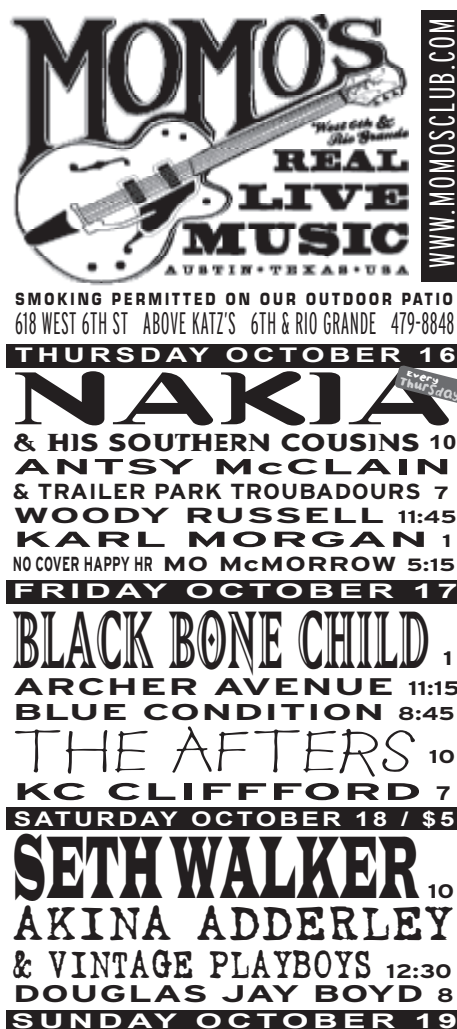
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ANTS Y McCLAIN
& TRAILER PARK TROUBADOURS 7
WOODY RUSSELL 11:45
KARL MORGAN 1
NO COVER HAPPY HR MO McMORROW 5:15

FRIDAY OCTOBER 17

BLACK BONE CHILD 1
ARCHER AVENUE 11:15
BLUE CONDITION 8:45
THE AFTERS 10
KC CLIFFFORD 7

SATURDAY OCTOBER 18 / \$5

SETH WALKER 10
AKINA ADDERLEY
& VINTAGE PLAYBOYS 12:30
DOUGLAS JAY BOYD 8

SUNDAY OCTOBER 19

JITTERBUG VIPERS 8:15
APRIL HALL 9:45
CLAY BERKES & THE ALL STAR REVUE 12

MONDAY OCTOBER 20 / \$5

JAMIE THOMAS 12:30
SHAWN NELSON & THE RAMBLERS 11
DARRELL PHILIPS 9:30
TYLER SUMMERS 8:15
MATT HINKLEY 7
NO COVER HAPPY HR AMANDA PEARCY 5:15

TUESDAY OCTOBER 21

TINY TIN HEARTS 12:15
COLIN GILMORE 11
BUKKA ALLEN 9:45
SALLY ALLEN 9
AUSTIN MUSIC COMMISSION MIXER 6:30

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 22

DAN DYER
ROBIN SMITH 12
KALU JAMES 8:15
GEOFF KOCH 7
NO COVER HAPPY HR AMY GLEN 5:15

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MONDAY 10/20

MIKE MILLIGAN & THE ALTAR BOYZ 8PM-12MID

TUESDAY 10/21

JORDAN TANNER 8PM-12MID

WEDNESDAY 10/22

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SUN OCT 19

GOSPEL BRUNCH
WITH
THE RIVER CITY
CHRISTIANETTES

MON OCT 20
MATT WHITE
WITH **SHARON LITTLE**
AND **MATT MACKELCAN**

TUE OCT 21
NO QUARTER
THE LED ZEPPELIN EXPERIENCE

THU OCT 23
TAHNI HANDAL
(CD RELEASE PARTY)
WITH **HARRY BODINE**

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SAT OCT 25 - DOORS 11:30PM
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WITH **DREM N'T THE END**

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INGRAM HILL
WITH **HANA PESTLE**

WED OCT 29 - DOORS 10:30PM
ROSE HILL DRIVE
WITH **COLOUR REVOLT**
AND **RYAN YOUNG**

THU OCT 30 - DOORS 10:30PM
CAPPADONNA
OF **WU TANG CLAN**

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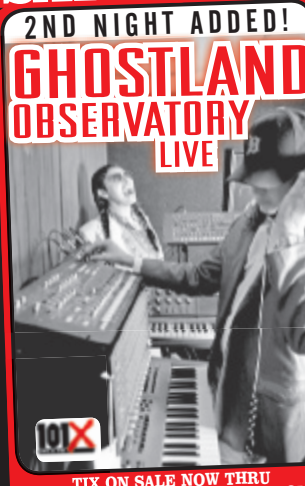
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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

LOUNGE: DRESSY BESSY
WITH BAD FLIRT AND LOXSLY

INSIDE: THE LAUGHING OVENBIRDS (EX-ZYKOS GLORIA RECORD)
MIKE AND THE MOONPIES
THE WAR AGAINST SLEEP

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

OUTSIDE: DEVIN THE DUDE
COUGHEE BROTHAZ

INSIDE: STORY OF (CD RELEASE)
THE UNBEARABLES • THE BOXING LESSON
LOUNGE: SUNBURNED HAND OF THE MAN
FRANKLIN'S MINT • INVINCIBLE CZARS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

OUTSIDE: PORTUGAL. THE MAN
W/ EARL GREYHOUND
WINTERSLEEP

INSIDE, EARLY SHOW: LYDIA DANNY MALONE

INSIDE: HACIENDA • THE HOT PENTECOSTALS
THE DIAGONALS
LOUNGE: MURDOCKS • MODEL UN
THE ORANGE • MATCHES FOR MEMORIES

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

INSIDE: MUCCA PAZZA
THE WHITE BITCH AND
THE DIVING CAPTAIN

LOUNGE: DEER TICK • THE BLACK
CHRIS PADDOCK • MANDARIN DYNASTY

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20

INSIDE: BORN RUFFIANS • PLANTS AND ANIMALS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

INSIDE: 101X NO CONTROL PRESENTS:
DREDGE • DIVISION DAY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

INSIDE: DYKES OF HOLLAND
COMA IN ALGIERS
THE GOSPEL TRUTH • CAUSE FOR APPLAUSE

LOUNGE: ANIMAL ELECTRIC • ONE MAN MACHINE • ICHI NI SAN SHI

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23

THE INDEPENDENTS • THE 13TH VICTIM
SOBER DAZE • HOODRATS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24

INSIDE: THE BERMONDSEY JOYRIDERS (UK)
THE FLASH BOYS • THE APE-SHITS
LOUNGE: 101X & MTV CHOOSE OR LOSE PRESENTS:

LOCKSLEY W/ HYMNS
AND TASTYDACTYLS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

INSIDE: PIERCED ARROWS (2/3 OF DEAD MOON)
THE HEX DISPENSERS • DESKONCIDOS • THE YOUNG

LOUNGE: THE POLYSICS & JAGUAR LOVE W/ BLACK GOLD

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

LOUNGE: THE A.K.A.s • LOS HISPANOS (UK)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27

INSIDE: LOVER! • CRY BLOOD APACHE
SCREAMING FEMALES • HARLEM
LOUNGE: THE GUNSHY • CAPITALIST KIDS
SAW WHEEL • SEND HELP

OUTSIDE: HORRORPOPS
BEAT UNION • SEVEN SHOT SCREAMERS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

INSIDE: HELLOGOODBYE W/ SPECIAL
GUESTS ACE ENDERS • NEVER SHOUT NEVER
LOUNGE: CROWN CITY ROCKERS
BETAPLAYER • DJ NOTION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

INSIDE: STEEL TRAIN W/ DEAR
AND THE HEADLIGHTS
FORGIVE DURDEN • CHANDELIER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

INSIDE: BELAIRE DOING ITALIAN HORROR FILM
CLASSICS W/ PATAPHYSICS
REVERSE X RAYS • TJ LAZERPHONE

LOUNGE: REIGN OF KINDO • TRIBELLA

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

OUTSIDE: CRUISERWEIGHT (CD RELEASE)
PINK SPIDERS • MONDO
PRIMO • DRIVER F • THE AUTUMN FILM

INSIDE: SOLE (ANTICON) • TBA

LOUNGE: FLAMETRICK SUBS • TBA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

T-BIRD AND THE BREAKS
RIPE • LEOPOLD AND HIS FICTION
WINE AND REVOLUTION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

INSIDE: GREG ASHLEY (GRIS GRIS)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

INSIDE: BEN KENNEY OF INCUBUS
HEAVY YOUNG HEATHENS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

INSIDE: DROPSONIC

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

OUTSIDE: 101X HOMEGROWN LIVE PRESENTS:
MIGHTY UNDERDOGS (GIFT OF GAB,
LATEEF THE TRUTH SPEAKER, AND HEADONIC)
W/ ZION I

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

OUTSIDE: MICKEY
AVALON
W/ DIRT NASTY
BEARDO



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7

OUTSIDE: DIPLO W/ ABE VIGODA
TELEPATHE • BOY 8-BIT

INSIDE: PIT ER PAT • YELLOW FEVER
RED LEAVES • FICTION

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

INSIDE: GOLDEN BOYS
SHAPES HAVE FANGS
GOOD TIMES CRISIS BAND

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

INSIDE: THE BLIND SHAKE
THE GOSPEL TRUTH • TBA

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11

INSIDE: SBACH (MEMBERS OF HELLA)
MY EDUCATION

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

OUTSIDE: ELECTRIC SIX
LOCAL H W/ THE GOLDEN DOGS

INSIDE: MAC LETHAL • GRIEVES
SOULCRATE MUSIC

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

INSIDE: AIDS WOLF • THE F AND THE C
JEDI MIND TRICKS
OUTSIDE: W/ OUTERSPACE AND REEF THE LOST CAUSE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18

OUTSIDE: MURS
W/ KIDZ IN THE HALL
RAPPER BIG POOH & ISAIAH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

OUTSIDE: DIGABLE PLANETS
INSIDE: UNWED SAILOR • TBA

COMING SOON: • 11/20 OWEN WITH CAITHLIN DE MARRAIS AND EL MAY (INSIDE, ONSALE NOW) • 11/21 YEAR LONG DISASTER (INSIDE, ONSALE NOW)

• 11/21 THE LEMURS (OUTSIDE) • 11/22 101X PRESENTS NADA SURF WITH DELTA SPIRIT AND JEALOUS GIRLFRIENDS (OUTSIDE, ON SALE NOW) BANG CAMARO W/ CRIMSON SOUL (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 12/2 DEER HUNTER W/ TIMES NEW VIKING AND NITE JEWEL (OUTSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 12/3 MYSpace MUSIC PRESENTS 30H13 W/ INNER PARTY SYSTEM AND CHAINGANG OF 1974 (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 12/4 WILDERNESS / SAN SERAC (INSIDE) • 12/5 AZIZ (FROM MTV'S HUMAN GIANT) INSIDE • 12/6 HOLLY GOLIGHTLY & THE BROKE-OFFS W/ THE PONS, DELANEY DAVIDSON (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 12/9 FISHBONE W/ NATIVES OF THE NEW DAWN & HEAVY MOJO (INSIDE, ONSALE NOW) • 12/13 DARKER MY LOVE / STRANGE BOYS (INSIDE)

*ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT emosoastin.com, Waterloo Records, End of an Ear Records & Sound on Sound Records



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**INTRODUCING THE MILLER CHILL SLIM CAN.
THE EASY WAY TO ENJOY LIGHT BEER BREWED
WITH A HINT OF LIME AND SALT.**

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featured shows

21
TUE

DEATH SET

w/ Best Fwends,
Cry Blood Apache, DJ Richard Henry
9PM @ RED 7

611 E. 7TH



THU 10/16

5PM: **VANNA** (Epitaph) w/ Cabaret, Fire from the Gods, By a Long Shot
8PM: **R BOOK F BOOK** w/ Earth Dies Screaming, Sara Wood, Luke Zen & the Dancing Lip, We the Granada

FRI 10/17 @ 8PM

SEAWEED show POSTPONED until December (date tba) **NACHTMYSTIUM** w/ Wolves in the Throne Room, Vesparian Sorrow, Nosferion

SAT 10/18 @ 9PM

Inside: **KLUB SIN** w/ Pickled Punks, Hellbound Hearse, The Ghost Storys, Lowdown Shaky Chill

MON 10/20 @ 8PM

THE HOODS w/ Give Em Hell, Falsetta, Crows Feet
Patio: **RED CAR WIRE** w/ A Thom For Every Heart, This Time Next Year, These Green Eyes

TUE 10/21 @ 8PM

THE DEATH SET w/ Best Fwends, Cry Blood Apache, DJ Richard Henry

WED 10/22 @ 8PM

JORDAN (France), Autons, Van Buren Boys, Code Named Code, Snake Skin Prison, Tension Speak, Mothers Anger, Slab Trash, Green Shoe Polish

900 RED RIVER

WED 10/15 @ 9PM
PSYCHOTROPIC

FRI 10/17 @ 9PM

REVERSE X-RAYS w/ Transmography, Loren Dent, TJ Lazerphone

SAT 10/18 @ 9PM

THE BELLFURIES w/ Bart Davenport, J.Be

SUN 10/19

ZOMBIE HAPPY HOUR

FRI 10/24 @ 9PM

LI'L CAP'N TRAVIS w/ The Black, The Low Lows

MONDAYS: 10PM

FILM ON THE ROCKS

WEDNESDAYS: 5-9PM

GEARS FOR BEERS - Ride your bike and get \$3 wells, \$3 imperial pints

30
THU

MAGNOLIA ELECTRIC CO.

w/ Will Johnson (Centro-matic),
Tre Orsi (Bourbon and BBQ tour)
9PM @ MOHAWK

912 RED RIVER



FRI 10/17

9PM: **THE WEDDING PRESENT** w/ Jealous Girlfriends, New Roman Times
12AM: **ASTRONAUTALIS** w/ Neiliyo

TUE 10/21 @ 7PM

ROBERT ALLAN CALDWELL & FRIENDS

WED 10/22 @ 10PM

TALKDEMONIC w/ Human Milk, Balmorhea

THU 10/23 @ 9PM

MANY BIRTHDAYS w/ Crushes, Wicked Pro Wrestler, Great Nostalgic

FRI 10/24 - SAT 10/25

BEATS 'N' TREATS COMPETITION
(www.openlabs.com)

THU 10/30 @ 9PM

MAGNOLIA ELECTRIC CO. w/ Will Johnson (Centro-matic), Tre Orsi (Bourbon & BBQ Tour)

FRI 10/31 @ 9PM

HALLOWEEN NIGHT w/ **JEFFREY LEWIS AND THE JITTERS** & more!

SAT 11/1 @ 9PM

DIA AND BORDER SESSIONS present **ROCK Y ROLL DIA** w/ Los Amigos Invisibles, Charanga Cakewalk, Los Hollywood

401 WEST 2ND



THU 10/16

Jitterbug Vipers @ 7PM

BRANNEN TEMPLE @ 10:30PM

FRI 10/17

DJ FUCKIN' A @ 10:30PM

SAT 10/18

DJ Honeycomb @ 7PM

THE SUMMER WARDROBE w/ One Hundred Flowers, Freddy and Francine @ 10:30PM

WED 10/22

Moonhangers @ 7PM

DJ MEL & PRINCE KLASSEN

LOW CASH WEDNESDAYS
@ 10:30PM

THU 10/23

Jitterbug Vipers @ 7PM

TBA @ 10:30PM

FRI 10/24

BROWNOUT! @ 10:30PM

upcoming shows

10/25 - **Crime in Stereo** (Red 7), 10/27 - **MC Chris** (Red 7), 10/31 - **The Redwalls** (Club DeVille), 11/6 - **Bright Black Morning Light** (Mohawk), 11/7 - **Local Music is Sexy** (Mohawk), 11/8-9 - **Fun Fun Fun Fest** (Waterloo Park), 11/9 - **Girl in A Coma** (Mohawk), 11/12 - **Charlie Parr** (Mohawk), 11/13 - **Of Montreal** (Fiesta Gardens), 11/15 - **King Khan and BBQ** (Mohawk), 11/18 - **Danielson** (Mohawk), 11/18 - **Marnie Stern** (Mohawk), 11/20 - **Torche** (Red 7), 11/21 - **Anal Cunt** (Red 7), 11/21 - **Von Iva** (Beauty Bar), 11/21 - **Gang Gang Dance** (Mohawk), 11/21 - **Impossible Shapes** (Mohawk), 11/22 - **Team Fabrication** (Mohawk), 11/25 - **Subtle** (Mohawk), 11/26 - **Blitzen Trapper** (Mohawk), 11/26 - **O'Death** (Mohawk), 11/29 - **The Rosebuds** (Mohawk), 11/29 - **Robert Gomez** (Mohawk), 12/3 - **Toasters** (Red 7), 12/9 - **The Hanson Brothers** (Nomeansno) (Red 7), 12/10 - **Dub Trio** (Red 7), 12/13 - **Job for a Cowboy** (Red 7), 12/14 - **Ice Cube** (Mohawk)

www.transmissionentertainment.com

WATERLOO
Ice House

THIS WEEK



6TH & LAMAR

EVERY WEDNESDAY 6-9PM

BERNARD ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS:

"UNSIGNED GIANTS"

EVERY THURSDAY, 6:30-9:30PM

THE HUDSONS

38TH & MEDICAL

FRIDAY, OCT. 17, 7PM: **BOB SIMPSON**

SATURDAY, OCT. 18, 7PM: **MARK VIATOR
& SUSAN MAXEY**

SUNDAY, OCT. 19, 11AM: **SUNDAY BRUNCH
w/ THE JEFF LOFTON QUARTET**

TUESDAY, OCT. 21, 7PM: **WILL DUNLAP**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22, 7PM: **PTARMIGAN**

9600 ESCARPMENT

THURSDAY, OCT. 16: **BRYD AND STREET**FRIDAY, OCT. 17: **BOBBY KENNEDY**

THURSDAY, OCT. 23: **AUBREY SLACKEY**
CD RELEASE PARTY W/MEMBERS FROM
THE BASTARD SONS OF JOHNNY CASH!

SOUTHPARK MEADOWS

THURSDAY, OCT 16: **SHUT UP AND SING** 9PM-1AM

FRIDAY, OCT. 17: **AARON LAUGHLIN** 10PM-1AM
FREE TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER TOURNAMENTS @ 9 & 11:30PM

SATURDAY, OCT. 18: **LUKE LA GRANGE
AND THE COVERALLS** 10PM-1AM

SUNDAY, OCT. 19:

WYNN TAYLOR 10PM-1AM

WATERLOOICEHOUSE.COM

BEATS 'N TREATS MUSIC FESTIVAL

October 24 5pm-2am; October 25 2pm-2am @ THE MOHAWK (912 Red River)

BEAT CONTEST

See the World's Best Beatmakers battle for the grand prize, a \$24,000 24kt Gold NeKo LUX keyboard production station!

LIVE MUSIC

Recorder, Rattletree Marimba, Mickaël, DJ Veedub, CTRL, Salero, Fiction, El Paso Heist, The Beautiful Supermachines, CockVanDyke, Ginsu Wives, Aciable, Androids of Ex-Lovers, Shriner Threat, Lovebones, Perfect Strangers, Hot Pentacostals, Blackolicus, Salesman, Epicene

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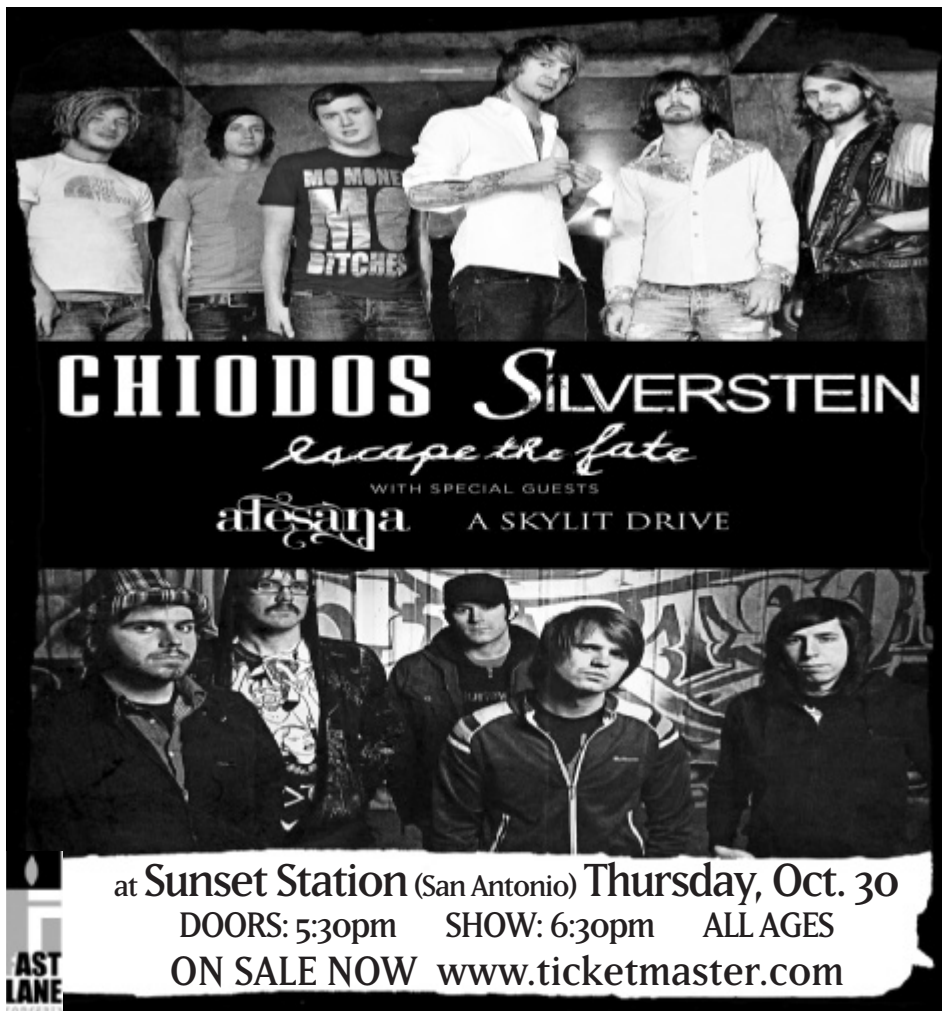
THE BAND OF HEATHENS

THE NUTTY BROWN CAFE
SATURDAY
OCTOBER 18TH

7:30 SHOW TIME
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at **Sunset Station** (San Antonio) **Thursday, Oct. 30**
DOORS: 5:30pm SHOW: 6:30pm ALL AGES
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LIVE MUSIC @ *Central Market*

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
6:30 - 9 PM

SUNDAY
12:30 - 3 PM

@ CENTRAL PARK
40th and North Lamar
call 512.206.1000 for details

@ WESTGATE
4477 South Lamar
call 512.899.4300 for details

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
6:30 - 9 PM

SUNDAY
12:30 - 3 PM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16
"Legs & Notes" Wine & Music Series \$45
WEST COAST WINE CLASS
lead by CM wine expert with small bites.
Musical Guest: ERIK HOKKANEN & CO. surf guitar
Call Cooking School for reservation 512.206.1014

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17
LOS JAZZ VATOS
featuring Murali Coryell
 latin jazz

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18
3rd Annual "Swing Central" Dance Contest
Sponsored by the Austin Swing Syndicate
 MC: Matt Jones
Music by the Marshall Ford Swing Band
featuring Emily Gimble
Contest music by DJ George White.

12:30 - 9 PM SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19
Benefit for Capital Area Food Bank
to help IKE Victims
CHARLES THIBODEAUX & THE AUSTIN CAJUN ACES
JAMES HAND
ERIK HOKKANEN & RUBY JANE (*dueling fiddles*)
FREIGHT-TRAIN TROUBADOURS
BRADLEY WILLIAMS
MANTECA BEAT

café open 7am-9pm sunday-thursday; 7am-10pm friday & saturday at both locations.
FREE MUSIC, GREAT FOOD, COVERED PATIO & KIDS PLAYScape

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16
DANNY BRITT
 americana

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19
ACOUSTIC JUNGLE
 latin

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22
TEXAS EASTSIDE KINGS
 blues

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23
WENDY COLONNA
 soulful grooves

upcoming at central park:
 SATURDAY, OCT 18, 6 - 9:30 PM
 3rd annual "Swing Central" Dance Contest
 with a \$500 cash purse! 1st place couple-\$250,
 2nd place couple-\$150, and 3rd place couple-\$100
 Jack & Jill style contest with randomly assigned couples.
 Contest Order: 6pm registration, 6 to 6:30 DJ open
 dance; 6:30 to 7 band plays open dance; 7 to 8 contest;
 8 to 8:30 band plays; 8:30 announce winners;
 and band plays to the end at 9:30pm.

live music venues

219 WEST, 219 W. Fourth, 474-2194
311 CLUB, 311 E. Sixth, 477-1630
ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR, 3600 Presidential, 530-ABIA (2242)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR, 3600 Presidential, 530-ABIA (2242)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET, 3600 Presidential, 530-ABIA (2242)
ABIA: WATERLOO RECORDS/AUSTIN CITY LIMITS, 3600 Presidential, 530-ABIA (2242)
AMSTERDAM CAFE, 121 W. Eighth, 236-1606
ANDERSON MILL TAVERN, 10401 Anderson Mill, 293-5563
ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE, 21815 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-3777
ANTONE'S, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424
ARCHIVE LOUNGE, 6406 N. I-35 Ste. 1600, 452-1114
ARTZ RIB HOUSE, 2330 S. Lamar, 442-8283
AUSTIN CITY HALL PLAZA, Cesar Chavez between Guadalupe and Lavaca, 974-2000
AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN, Fourth & Guadalupe, 236-0074
AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735, 2103 E.M. Franklin, 926-0043
AUSTIN MUSIC HALL, 208 Nueces, 263-4146
AUSTIN'S PIZZA, 1817 S. Lamar, 795-8888
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB, 204 E. Sixth, 494-1335
BASTROP SENIOR CENTER, 1008 Water St., Bastrop, 512/321-7907
BB ROVERS, 12636 Research Ste. B-101, 335-9504
BEAUTY BAR, 617 E. Seventh, 391-1943
BEERLAND, 711 Red River, 479-ROCK (7625)
THE BELMONT, 305 W. Sixth, 457-0300
BERRYHILL BAJA GRILL, 3600 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 327-9033
BOAT HOUSE GRILL, 6812 RR 620 N., 249-5200
BOTTICELLI'S, 1321 S. Congress, 916-1315
'BOUT TIME, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339
BROKEN SPOKE, 3201 S. Lamar, 442-6189
THE BROWN BAR, 201 W. Eighth, 480-8330
C. HUNTS ICE HOUSE, 9611 McNeil Rd., 836-0558
CACTUS CAFE, Texas Union, UT campus, 475-6515
CAFE MUNDI, 1704 E. Fifth, 236-8634
THE CANARY ROOST, 11900 Metric, 836-6360
CAROUSEL LOUNGE, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790
CARVER CULTURAL CENTER, 1165 Angelina, 974-4926
CASA DE LUNA'S EL ARROYO, 12432 FM 2244, Bee Cave, 512/402-0007
CEDAR STREET, 208 W. Fourth, 495-9669
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH, 4001 N. Lamar, 206-1000
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH, 4477 S. Lamar, 899-4300
CEREMONY HALL, 4100 Red River, 467-7756
CHAIN DRIVE, 504 Willow, 480-9017
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE, 119 Cheatham, San Marcos, 512/353-3777
CHEZ ZEE, 5406 Balcones, 454-2666
CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR, 2200 Manor Rd., 472-9900
CLUB 1808, 1808 E. 12th, 524-2519
CLUB DE VILLE, 900 Red River, 457-0900
THE COCKPIT, 113 San Jacinto, 457-8010
CONTINENTAL CLUB, 1315 S. Congress, 441-2444
COOL RIVER CAFE, 4001 Parmer, 835-0010
COPA BAR & GRILL, 217 Congress, 479-5002
COPPER TANK BREWING CO., 504 Trinity, 478-8444
COTTON CLUB, 212 E. Davilla, Granger, 512/859-0700
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE, 606 E. Seventh, 480-5988
CUBA LIBRE, 409 Colorado, 472-2822
DETOUR BAR & GRILL, 1113 RR 620 N., 266-2279
DIRTY DOG BAR, 505 E. Sixth, 236-9800
DIZZY ROOSTER, 306 E. Sixth, 236-1667
DOLCE VITA GELATO & ESPRESSO BAR, 4222 Duval St., 323-2686
DONN'S DEPOT, 1600 W. Fifth, 478-0336
THE DRISKILL HOTEL, 604 Brazos, 474-5911
DROGO'S CAFE, 200 San Jacinto Ste. A, 320-8378
DRUNGO ICE HOUSE, 2828 Rio Grande, 478-6666
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE, 301 E. Fifth, 472-1860
EL SOL Y LA LUNA, 1224 S. Congress, 444-7770
ELEPHANT ROOM, 315 Congress, 473-2279
ELYSIUM, 705 Red River, 478-2979
EMO'S, 603 Red River, 477-3667
END OF AN EAR, 2209 S. First, 462-6008
EVANGELINE CAFE, 8106 Brodie, 282-2586
FADÓ, 214 W. Fourth, 457-0172
FLAMINGO CANTINA, 515 E. Sixth, 494-9336
FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE, 4600 Guadalupe, 380-0097
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE, 1601 Barton Springs Rd., 480-8646
FRANK ERWIN CENTER, 1701 Red River, 471-7744
FREDDIE'S PLACE, 1703 S. First, 445-9197
FRIENDS, 208 E. Sixth, 320-8193
GARRISON PARK HARBOR, 730 W. Stassney #120, 462-2664
GIDDY UPS, 12010 Manchaca, 280-4732
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON, 5434 Burnet Rd., 458-1813
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
HANOVER'S, 108 E. Main, Pflugerville, 512/670-9617
HEADHUNTERS, 720 Red River, 236-0188
HILL'S CAFE, 4700 S. Congress, 851-9300
HOLE IN THE WALL, 2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747

HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR, 2401 E. Sixth, 476-6262
HOUSE WINE, 408 Josephine, 322-5210
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829
JO'S COFFEE, 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800
JOVITA'S, 1619 S. First, 447-7825
KICK BUTT COFFEE, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425
LA PALAPA, 6640 Hwy. 290 E., 459-8729
LA ZONA ROSA, 612 W. Fourth, 263-4146
LAMBERTS, 401 W. Second, 494-1500
LAS PALOMAS, 3201 Bee Caves Rd. #122, 327-9889
LATITUDE 30, 512 San Jacinto, 472-3335
LITTLE MEXICO RESTAURANT, 2304 S. First, 462-2188
THE LOADING DOCK, 708 S. Austin St., Georgetown, 512/864-2100
LONG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 701 W. Riverside, 482-0800
LOUIE'S 106, 106 E. Sixth, 476-1997
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
MANUELS, 310 Congress, 472-7555
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS, 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261
MEAN-EYED CAT, 1621 W. Fifth, 472-6326
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL, 14106 N. I-35, 674-0404
MOHAWK, 912 Red River, 482-8404
MOMO'S, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848
MONARCH EVENT CENTER, 6406 N. I-35 #3100, 371-1711
MOONRIVER, 2002 N. Pace Bend Rd., Spicewood, 512/264-2064
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747
MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN, 4215 Duval St., 451-3994
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 477-2900
MS. B'S AUTHENTIC CREOLE RESTAURANT, 1050 E. 11th, 542-9143
MUGSHOTS, 407 E. Seventh, 236-0008
MULLIGAN'S, 900 RR 620 S., 263-3305
NASTY'S, 606 Maiden, 453-4349
NUOVO LEÓN, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097
NUNO'S NORTH, 12408 MoPac N., 837-6866
NUNO'S ON SIXTH, 422 E. Sixth, 833-5133
NUTTY BROWN CAFE, 12225 Hwy. 290 W., 301-4648
THE OAKS, 10206 FM 973 N., Manor, 512/278-8788
THE OASIS, 6550 Comanche Trail, 266-2442
ONE 2 ONE BAR, 121 E. Fifth, 473-0121
ONE WORLD THEATRE, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500
THE PARISH, 214 E. Sixth, 479-0474
PARMER LANE TAVERN, 2121 Parmer #1, 339-0663
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE, 5001 E. Ben White, 444-2020
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
RACK DADDY'S, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577
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REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE, 13450 Research, 335-5115
RED 7, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100
RED FEZ, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120
RENAISSANCE HOTEL, 9721 Arboretum, 343-2626
RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132
ROADHOUSE, 1103 Wonder, Round Rock, 512/218-0813
ROADHOUSE RAGS, 1600 Fortview, 762-8797
ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN, 701 Main, Georgetown, 512/868-1300
ROMEO'S, 1500 Barton Springs Rd., 476-1090
ROOM 710, 710 Red River, 476-0997
RUTA MAYA, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637
SAM'S TOWN POINT, 2115 Allred, 282-0083
SAXON PUB, 1320 S. Lamar, 448-2552
SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200
SEGOVIA SPANISH RESTAURANT, 7010 Hwy. 71 W. #180, 579-0726
SHENANIGANS, 13233 Pond Springs Rd., 258-9717
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL, 9012 Research Ste. C-1, 380-9443
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 11416 RR 620 N., 401-2060
SOUND ON SOUND, 106 E. North Loop, 371-9980
SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 478-8017
STARDUST CLUB, 11940 Manchaca, 280-8590
STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341
THE STUDIO, 5804 S. I-35, 467-7900
T.C.'S LOUNGE, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
THUNDERBIRD COFFEE HOUSE, 1401 W. Koenig, 420-8660
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL, 2201 College, 443-4200
THE TRIANGLE, 4700 Guadalupe,
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 902-5057
THE WATER TANK, 7309 McNeil Dr., 331-9831
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 360, 6203 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 418-9700
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 38TH STREET, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WATERLOO RECORDS, 600-A N. Lamar, 474-2500
THE WINE CELLAR, 2700 Barton Creek Blvd. #130, 330-9119
Z'TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355

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THE GASLIGHT ANTHEM

101X SUN OCT 26

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OCT 31

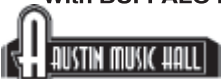
OneRepublic With AUGUSTANA, THE SPILL CANVAS
 & THE HUSH SOUND

NOV 19

THE BLACK CROWES

With BUFFALO KILLERS

NOV 22



directevents

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THE BRAVERY

With Special Guests

Del Castillo, The Boxing Lesson, White Ghost Shivers, Alpha Rev,
 Dremnt The End, Los Gallos, Driver F, High On Hotdogs,
 Joker and DrumJam



OCTOBER 25

directevents

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THURSDAY, 10/16

NO COVER!
CORNELL HURD
BAND 8-10pm



FRIDAY, 10/17

\$5 COVER
GIRL GUITAR 5:30pm
BRANDON MCHOSE 7pm
McELMORE
AVENUE 9pm



LIVE MUSIC

5:30-8:30pm
DAY TRIPPER 9pm
 Beatles & Classic Rock!

SATURDAY, 10/18

\$5 COVER



SUNDAY, 10/19

\$5 COVER

YOUR VOICE! YOUR VOTE! 5-10pm
Support the Travis County Democratic Party
LZ Love & Lightning Red • Phil Gibbs
Will T. Massey • Dustin & Savannah Welch

travis county democratic party

CLOSED MONDAY, 10/20

TUESDAY, 10/21

NO COVER!

STEPHEN FRYREAR 6:30pm
JARROD DICKENSON 8pm

GIRL GUITAR 6:30pm

WEDNESDAY, 10/22

NO COVER!

FLATCAR
RATTLERS 8pm

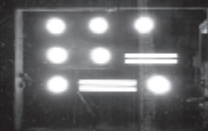
THE LINEUP

**LISTEN TO
 MUSIC** from
 recommended acts
 up against the wall
 this week.



austinchronicle.com/thelineup

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SAT OCT 18

CD Release Party

POMPEII



FRI OCT 24

CD Release Party



SAT OCT 25

BUCKETHEAD
 With THAT 1 GUY

NOV 08

Metro Station
 With Tyga & Cash Cash

NOV 13

IN FLAMES

with All That Remains,
 Gojira and 36 Crazy Fists

NOV 29

GWAR

With Kingdom
 of Sorrow & Toxic Holocaust

DEC 05



DEC 31

TICKETS ON SALE THIS SATURDAY



directevents

Live Music Early ... Late Night Loungin'



Lucky lounge

NO COVER • FREE SHOWS



THURSDAYS 6pm-8pm

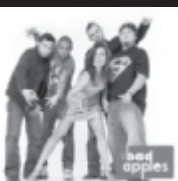
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LATER @ 11PM:
DJ PROTEGE
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Cactus 23RD & GUADALUPE
475-6515
THUR • OCT 16 • 8:30PM

AN EVENING WITH THE INDESTRUCTIBLE
JON DEE GRAHAM

FRI • OCT 17 • 9PM
FROM THE LOUVIN BROTHERS • THE LEGENDARY
CHARLIE LOUVIN
GUEST STAR • IDGY VAUGHN

SAT • OCT 18 • 9PM
SAM BAKER & GURF MORLIX

MON • OCT 20 • 7PM SIGN-UP • 7:30PM SHOW
OPEN STAGE HOSTED BY DAN GRISOM
TUE • OCT 21 • 8:30PM • FREE SHOW!
DOOR TO THE MORNING
VINYL RECORD RELEASE
GRAHAM WEBER

WED & THUR • OCT 22 & 23 • 8:30PM
TWO BIG NIGHTS
CARRIE RODRIGUEZ
GUEST STAR • ELANORE WHITMORE

FRI & SUN • OCT 24 & 26
LIVE @ THE CACTUS
JOE ELY
WITH **JOEL GUZMAN**
FRI • 9PM
SUN • 7:30PM
TIX @ HEBs AND ERWIN CENTER BOX OFFICE
477-6060 OR TEXASBOXOFFICE.COM

SAT • OCT 25 • 9PM
RAY WYLIE HUBBARD

MON • OCT 27 • 8:30PM
AN EVENING WITH
MICHAEL McDERMOTT

TUE • OCT 28 • 8:30PM
ABRA MOORE

WED • OCT 29 • 8:30PM
DAVID WILCOX
TIX @ HEBs AND ERWIN CENTER BOX OFFICE
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THUR • OCT 30 • 8PM
TWIN BILL • TEXAS UNION BALLROOM
SHAWN MULLINS
DAR WILLIAMS
ADV TIX @ HEBs AND ERWIN CENTER BOX OFFICE
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cactus.union.utexas.edu

10.31 SLAID CLEAVES	11.9 LOUDON WAINRIGHT III
11.1 JIMMY LAFAVE	11.11 TOM BANJO
11.5 CAROLINE HERRING	& THE CRANKY SHOW
11.6 SHAKE RUSSELL & MIKE HEARNE	11.12 KEVIN WELCH
	SAM BAKER
	WALT WILKINS
11.7 TIM O'BRIEN	11.14 BEUSOLIEL

23rd & Guadalupe • 475-6515

The Cactus is located inside the Texas Union. Happy Hour is 4-7pm, Monday-Friday. Tickets @ the door & all shows @ 9pm unless otherwise noted.
23rd & Guadalupe. • 475-6515.



club listings

THU 16

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
311 CLUB Joe Valentine (9:30)
ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR Ronnie Caywood (3:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Porter Davis (3:30)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET Billy Dee (1:00)
AMSTERDAM CAFE Kent Mayhew (9:00)
ANTONE'S Brian Pounds, Josh Halverson, Kalu James, Diasporic, Porcelain (9:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Frank Meyers
AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Lili & Walter (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Hosea Hargrove
BEAUTY BAR La Calle Blanca w/ DJ Orion
BEERLAND Hope Irish, Aaron Blount, the Distant Seconds, Beautiful Supermachines
THE BELMONT Mandy Lauderdale (9:00)
BOTTICELLI'S Gina Lee & the Brisket Boys
BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton

THE BROWN BAR DJ Gmau
CACTUS CAFE Jon Dee Graham
CAROUSEL LOUNGE \$24K, Pissant Farmers, Mike & the Moonpies
CEDAR STREET Kent Mayhew, LC Rocks (6:00)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Erik Hokkanen (7:00)
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Danny Britt (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Nathan Daniel Band
CONTINENTAL CLUB Joel Guzman & Sarah Fox (6:30), Mario Matteoli, Scott H. Biram (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE TUB
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Matt B. & Bitter Whiskey, Agave Love, the Earthtone Players, Guns to California
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Joe Cordi, Joel Guzman & Sarah Fox (6:00)
EMO'S Lounge: Loxsly, Bad Flirt, Dressy Bessy; Inside: Mike & the Moonpies, Ovenbirds, the Laughing
EVANGELINE CAFE Greg Whitfield (7:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Proper Villain Soundsystem, Ryan Scroggins & the Trenchtown TXans, Hub City Stompers (10:00)
FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Claire Small (8:00)
FREDDIE'S PLACE Steve Power (6:00)
GARRISON PARK HARBOR Billy Young, Tom Robinson (9:00)
GIDDY UPS Mike Morgan (5:30), Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon (8:30)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Robbie & the Rogues (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Robyn Ludwick
HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man
HEADHUNTERS Justin Bailey, Quarter Life Crisis, HammerDog, Ya Ya Boom, Full Stride
HILL'S CAFE Clay Jeffreys
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Jim Patton & Sherry Brokus, Grace Pettis, Jaime Michaels, Roger Len Smith (8:00)
JOVITA'S The Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LAMBERTS The Jitterbug Vipers (7:00), Brannen Temple (10:30)
LATITUDE 30 Jordan Tanner (9:00)
THE LOADING DOCK Open Mic w/ Blue Rail (7:00)

roadshows

october

THU 16

Porcelain, Antone's
Dressy Bessy, Bad Flirt, Emo's
Hub City Stompers,
Ryan Scroggins & the Trenchtown TXans, Flamingo Cantina
Claire Small, Flipnotics Coffeespace
Opeth, High on Fire, Baroness, Monarch Event Center
Cadillac Sky, Threadgill's World HQ

FRI 17

Clay McClinton, ABIA: Highland Lakes Bar
Little Joe Hernández, Austin Music Hall
The Usual Suspects, the Belmont
Buster Jiggs, C. Hunts Ice House
Charlie Louvin, Cactus Cafe
Wanda Jackson, Continental Club
Devin the Dude, Coughie Brothaz, Sunburned Hand of the Man, Emo's
Gaither Vocal Band, Frank Erwin Center
Brothers Lazaroff, Hole in the Wall
Anton Nel, Long Center for the Performing Arts
Astronautalis, the Wedding Present, Jealous Girlfriends, Mohawk
Archer Avenue, the Afters, Momo's
Nachtmystium, Red 7
The Ars Supernova, Under the Green, Stubb's
Rook, Trophy's

SAT 18

Everlast, the Lordz, Antone's
Brothers Lazaroff, Carousel Lounge
Konfliktco, Club 1808
Tomorrow People, Milky Soul, Creekside Lounge
Whiskey Business, Drungo Ice House
Hacienda, Portugal the Man, Earl Greyhound, Wintersleep, Emo's
Ashes of Babylon, Flamingo Cantina
Anton Nel, Long Center for the Performing Arts
Pepper, Supervillains, Passafire, Stubb's

SUN 19

Martin Sexton, Antone's
Boom Boom Kid, Club 1808
The Lepers, Creekside Lounge
Dwele, Dirty Dog Bar
Deer Tick, Chris Paddock, Mandarin Dynasty, Mucca Pazza, Emo's
M.O.P., Percee P., Flamingo Cantina
Jackie Bristow, Flipnotics Coffeespace
Deryl Dodd, Rodney Hayden, Hill's Cafe
The Ting Tings, the Parish
Jeff Pinkus, Roadhouse Rags

MON 20

Tracy Byrd, Antone's
Mojo Nixon, Steve Poltz, Continental Club
Born Ruffians, Plants & Animals, Girl Talk, Grand Buffet, Hearts of Darkness, Emo's
Weezer, Angels & Airwaves, Tokyo Police Club, Frank Erwin Center
The Lepers, Headhunters
People vs. De la Rosa, Hole in the Wall
Uh Huh Her, the Parish
Sharon Little, Stubb's

TUE 21

Lauren Smith, Beerland
Dredg, Division Day, Emo's
Rodney Hayden, Gruene Hall
Nanosmash, Headhunters
The Death Set, Red 7
Mutant Press, Room 710
Woody Pines, Scoot Inn & Bier Garten
No Quarter: The Led Zeppelin Experience, Stubb's

WED 22

Mykel Boyd, Winter in Osaka, Beerland
Carrie Rodriguez, Cactus Cafe
Winters in Osaka,
Mykel Boyd, Chain Drive
Congratulations, the Hatch, Flamingo Cantina
Jeff & Vida, Woody Pines, Hole in the Wall
Talkdemonic, Mohawk
Geoff Koch, Momo's
Jackie Bristow, Kara Grainger, Saxon Pub
Buddy Wakefield, Anis Mojgani, Derrick Brown, Sonya Renee, Scoot Inn & Bier Garten

THU 23

Jack's Mannequin, Antone's
Carrie Rodriguez, Cactus Cafe
Miles From Nowhere, Carousel Lounge
The Independents, Emo's
Crew 54, Flamingo Cantina
Claire Small, Flipnotics Coffeespace
Mstrkrft, Felix Cartal, LA Riots, La Zona Rosa
Ebb & Flow, the Oaks
Guitars & Saxes, One World Theatre
Otis Coleman & Joaquin Tah, Poodie's Hilltop Bar & Grill
Harry Bodine, Stubb's
Carrie Rodriguez, Waterloo Records

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

UH HUH HER



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THUR OCT 16
H. H. **SARAH FOX & JOEL GUZMAN**
12AM
Scott Biram
10PM
Mario Matteoli

DAY OF THE DRAGS WEEKEND!
FRIDAY OCT 17
H. H. **THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS**
12AM
Wanda Jackson's BIRTHDAY BASH!
10PM
THE DOUG MORELAND SHOW
SATURDAY OCT 18
MATINEE 3-7PM **REDD VOLKAERT**
12AM
HANS FRANK AND THE AUSLANDERS
10PM
CORNELL HURD BAND
SUNDAY OCT 19
10PM **HEYBALE w/ REDD VOLKAERT AND EARL POOLE BALL**
MON OCT 20
H. H. **MARSHALL FORD SWING BAND**
Pumpkin Moon Party
A Benefit For **Jon Dee Graham**
1AM **JAMES McMURTRY** 12AM **MOJO NIXON**
STEVE POLTZ 10PM **RECKLESS KELLY**
11PM **DALE WATSON**
TUESDAY OCT 21
HAPPY HOUR 6:30 **PLANET CASPER**
WITH **DAVID GRISSOM** AND "SCRAPPY" **JUDD NEWCOMB**
CHARANGA CAKEWALK 10PM
WED OCT 22
H. H. **MARIO MATTEOLI**
JAMES McMURTRY 12AM
JON DEE GRAHAM 10:30PM
THURSDAY OCT 23
H. H. **SARAH FOX & JOEL GUZMAN**
DALE WATSON
AND HIS **LONESTARS**
FRIDAY OCT 24
H. H. **THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS**
THE DERAILERS
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WITH A MAGICIAN, A COMEDIAN, DANCING
GIRLS AND MAYBE A MARIACHI BAND!
SATURDAY OCT 25
MATINEE 3-7PM **REDD VOLKAERT**
12AM
Rosie Flores 10PM
JESSE DAYTON
COMING SOON
10/30 **BLACK JOE LEWIS** 10/31 & 11/1 **LAIKI & THE COSMONAUTS** PLUS **HIGH NOON**
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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM THURSDAY

LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band, Juice (6:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Arspoetica, Kallisti Gold, Ars Supernova (9:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00)
MEAN-EYED CAT The Gunhands
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL LC Rocks
MOMO'S Mo McMorrow, Ansty McClain, Second Day Red, Nakia & His Southern Cousins, Woody Russell, Karl Morgan (5:00)
MONARCH EVENT CENTER Baroness, High on Fire, Opeth
MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)
NUNO'S NORTH David Newbould (8:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Texas Renegade
THE OAKS Trish Bales Group, Mary Melena, the Love Band, Javier Chaparro, Paul Glasse (7:00)
ONE 2 ONE BAR Meagan Tubb & Shady People, Will Evans Project (8:30)

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Quicksand Soup (8:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Mike Myers, Sonny Throckmorton, Freddy Powers
RED FEZ DJ Rapid Ric, Mike Maven & the Good Life (8:30)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Doug Warriner & His Only Band
ROOM 710 Evil Fest w/ Wax Museum Pandemonium, That Damned Band
RUTA MAYA Strip Cult (8:00)
SAXON PUB James Hand (6:00), Bruce Smith, Matt Powell, Reid Wilson & His So-Called Friends (8:00)
SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings, JWW & the Prospectors, Marshall Jones & the Frontier Phrenologists
SEGOVIA SPANISH RESTAURANT Dale Spaulding (9:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D.
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Strippers Lie

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND PRINTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. Acts are listed chronologically. Schedules are subject to change, so call clubs to confirm lineups. Start times are provided where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: Music listings deadline is Monday mornings, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Please indicate roadshows and residencies. Send venue name, address, phone, acts, and start times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; phone, 454-5766 x159; e-mail, clubs@austinchronicle.com.

Austin bands: We want to hear from you. If you haven't registered and uploaded your MP3s to the Musicians Register, go to austinchronicle.com/register. Anywhere your band is mentioned, your music will be featured.

for your benefit

FRI 17

United Sounds of Austin Benefit w/ Little Joe Hernandez, the Brood, Benny vs. the Beast, Gabe Nieto & the Jalapeno Express, 80H Project, Frank Gomez, Bus Stop Stallions, Los Texmaniacs, MC Overlord, Ruben Ramos & the Mexican Revolution, **Austin Music Hall**

Save Austin Music Benefit w/ John Pointer, Troy Dillinger, Neckbone, Nakia & His Southern Cousins, Dan Dyer, Ian McLagan, **One World Theatre**

Austin Resource Center for the Homeless Benefit, Blaze Foley Tribute w/ Mandy Mercier, Gurf Morlix, Will T. Massey, Barbara K., Mickey White, **Ruta Maya**

SAT 18

Rods at Riley's, Juvenile Diabetes Research Benefit w/ the Moonhowlers, Omar & the Howlers, **Riley's Tavern**

Reggae Style KVRX Benefit w/ Selector J., McPulish, Midnight Conta Coup, **Ruta Maya**

SUN 19

Danny Roy Young Tribute, Benefit w/ Ponty Bone, Texana Dames, James McMurry & the Heartless Bastards, Floyd Domino, Blackie White, Ray Benson, Marcia Ball, Teisco de Rey, the Cornell Hurd Band, **Austin Music Hall**

Thundering Paws Animal Sanctuary Benefit w/ Therapy Sisters, Mark Gunn, Summer Wardrobe, Chris Gates, **Casa de Luna's El Arroyo**

Hurricane Ike Recovery Benefit w/ Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces, Freight Train

Troubadours, Erik Hokkanen, Ruby Jane Smith, James Hand, **Central Market North**

Wine & Song Festival, SIMS Foundation Benefit w/ Carolyn Wonderland, the Gourds, **Copper Tank Brewing Co.**

Ladies' Rock Camp Showcase, Girls' Rock Camp Benefit w/ Follow That Bird!, the Dreadful Sorrys, **Creekside Lounge**

Hurricane Ike, American Red Cross, Radio Free Texas Benefit w/ Deryl Dodd, Bart Crow, Mark McKinney, Bill Rice, Jeremy Steding, **Hill's Cafe**

Hays County Area Food Bank Benefit w/ Pygmaeus, Madrush, Abort the Mission, **Lucy's on the Square, San Marcos**

MON 20

Texas Disaster Relief Fund w/ Tracy Byrd, Asleep at the Wheel, **Antone's**

Pumpkin Moon, Jon Dee Graham Medical Benefit w/ Dale Watson, Reckless Kelly, Steve Poltz, Mojo Nixon, James McMurry, **Continental Club**

THU 23

Generator Benefit w/ the Teeners, Taunto, **Beerland**

OMG/LOL SafePlace Benefit w/ Saul Paul, **Carver Cultural Center**

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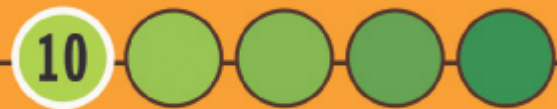
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Smooth, Citrus Mouthfeel

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FR **PHIL PRITCHETT**

SA **TEXAS RENEGADE**

MO **CHEATHAM STREET ALLSTARS**

TU **JORDAN MINOR & THE BOTTOM DOLLAR BAND**

WE **KENT FINLAY'S SONGWRITERS CIRCLE**

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10/23 THE GOUGERS
10/26 BENEFIT FOR VICTIMS OF IKE
10/31 HALLOWEEN WITH FOSCOE JONES

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16 **JJ USHER** 9:30 PM

LC ROCKS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 9:30 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 **ROTEL & THE HOT TOMATOES** 9:30 PM

SIN JONATHAN TERRELL ON TERRACE 59

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 9:30 PM

LATIN WEDNESDAY

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20 **THE BREW** 9:30 PM
SALSA LESSONS 9 PM

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21 **UNSIGNED GIANT SHOWCASE** 9:30 PM

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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM THURSDAY

SPEAKEASY J.J. Usher (9:30)
T.C.'S LOUNGE Leeann Atherton's Blues (10:00)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Cadillac Sky, Uncle Lucius (9:00)
THE TRIANGLE Matt Skinner (7:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Bruce Smith, A Mind Divided, Bloodshot Pyramid
TROPHY'S Two Hoots & a Holler
VICTORY GRILL Word/Jazz Low Stars (8:00)
Z'TEJAS Lucky Strikes (8:00)

FRI 17

311 CLUB Kontrol, Joe Valentine (8:30)
ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR Chase Holbrook (3:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Clay McClinton (3:30)
ABIA: WATERLOO RECORDS/AUSTIN CITY LIMITS Shad Blair (1:00)
AMSTERDAM CAFE Kevin Carroll (8:00)
ANDERSON MILL TAVERN George Guzman (10:00)
ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE The Fabs (7:30)
ANTONE'S T-Bird & the Breaks (10:30)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Jerry Sires (7:30)
AUSTIN CITY HALL PLAZA Tameca Jones (noon)
AUSTIN MUSIC HALL United Sounds of Austin Benefit w/ Little Joe Hernandez, the Brood, Benny vs. the Beast, Gabe Nieto & the Jalapeno Express, 80H Project, Frank Gomez, Bus Stop Stallions, Los Texmaniacs, MC Overlord, Ruben Ramos & the Mexican Revolution (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Tessmer

BEERLAND Magic Jewels, When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth, Megazilla, Cave
THE BELMONT The Usual Suspects, DJ Tomas (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL Kimberly Connelly & Lonesome Country (6:00)
'BOUT TIME DJ Element
BROKEN SPOKE Gary P. Nunn
C. HUNTS ICE HOUSE Buster Jiggs (7:30)
CACTUS CAFE Idgy Vaughn, Charlie Louvin (8:30)
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Service Industry, Michael Hall & the Savages
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Los Jazz Vatos, Murali Coryell (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Phil Pritchett
CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR Dawni McCray, Tje Austin (9:00)
CLUB DE VILLE T.J. Lazerphone, Loren Dent, Transmography, Reverse X-Rays EP Release (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB The Blues Specialists (6:30), Doug Moreland, Wanda Jackson (10:00)
COTTON CLUB Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes (8:30)
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Prison Folk Rock, West Coast Pinups, Baby Got Bacteria
DETOUR BAR & GRILL Atomic Strawberry
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
THE DRISKILL HOTEL Lobby Bar: Rigel Thurston, Cella Blue (7:00)
DROGO'S CAFE Bradford Trainham
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (8:00)
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Oliver Rajamani (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Gaila Kenneally, the Brew (6:00)

EMO'S Lounge: Opposite Day, Franklin's Mint, Sunburned Hand of the Man; Inside: The Boxing Lesson, the Unbearables, the Story of; Outside: Coughie Brothaz, Devin the Dude
END OF AN EAR Indian Queen (6:00)
EVANGELINE CAFE Redd Volkaert
FLAMINGO CANTINA Subrosa Union, Este Vato, Bombastal, Bubba Hernandez y Los Super Vatos (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Vance Stephens (9:00)
FRANK ERWIN CENTER Gaither Vocal Band (7:00)
FREDDIE'S PLACE Josh Allen & the Whiskey Boys (6:00)
GARRISON PARK HARBOR Wild Healers (9:00)
GIDDY UPS Burl Wilkerson
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON James Hand (9:00)
HEADHUNTERS The Burn Ups, Bound, Steel Cobra, Yayo, Adrenaline Factor
HOLE IN THE WALL Brothers Lazaroff, Sheboygan, Paul Minor (10:00)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim (8:00)
LAMBERTS DJ Fuckin' A (10:30)
LONG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS Austin Symphony Orchestra w/ Anton Nel (8:00)
LOUIE'S 106 Kenny Luna (6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Plump, Rapid Ric (9:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Boombox ATX (9:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)
MEAN-EYED CAT Charliehorse (9:00)
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Suede (10:00)
MOHAWK Outside: New Roman Times, Jealous Girlfriends, the Wedding Present; Inside: Nileyo, Astronautalis (9:00)

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10:30PM SHOW

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THURSDAY NOVEMBER 13
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FRI 14 NOV
JUNIOR BROWN
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FRIDAY 10.17 *LATIN/ROCK* DOORS 9:00
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Y LOS SUPER VATOS
BOMBASTA!
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SATURDAY 10.18 *REGGAE* DOORS 9:30
THE REDDIES
ASHES OF BABYLON

SUNDAY 10.19 *HIP HOP/21+ ONLY* DOORS 9:30
SCION LIVE METRO PRESENTS FREE WITH R.S.V.P.
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WITH PERCEE P & DJ HAUL
UPCOMING SHOWS
10.22: CONGRATULATIONS, OPPOSITE DAY, HATCH
10.23: KILL CITY, MIRAGE, CREW 54, MUGGY FLOWS
10.24: DUBCONSCIOUS
10.25: JUNGLE ROCKERS & CONTRA OCLUP
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Thurs., Oct. 16 **MIKE MYERS**
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Friday, Oct. 17
FLOUNDERS WITHOUT EYES
OPENER - ROGER LEN SMITH

Sat., Oct. 18 **WELDON HENSON**
WESTERN SWING BAND

Thurs., Oct. 23
OTIS COLEMAN & JOAQUIN TAH

Fri., Oct. 24
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Sat., Oct. 25 **LUCKY TOMLIN**
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OCT 16

OCT 24
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THU, OCT 16 DANCE LESSONS 8-9PM
JESSE DAYTON 9PM

FRI, OCT 17 GARY P. NUNN

SAT, OCT 18 ALVIN CROW AMANDA PENA
B-DAY PARTY CELEBRATION ~ MANY GUESTS

TUE, OCT 21 NO COVER **HARDCORE COUNTRY W/ ALVIN CROW & JAMES M. WHITE**

WED, OCT 22 TONY HARRISON 6-8PM
DANCE LESSONS 8-9PM
DALE WATSON 9PM

THE Parish

CARMEN RIZZO GOVINDA **THU 16 OCT**

INGRID MICHAELSON MEIKO, PRISCILLA AHN, KAISER CARTEL, ERIN MCCARLEY **FRI 17 OCT** HOTEL CAFE TOUR

SAT 18 OCT
OUTFORMATION

SUN 19 OCT THE TING TINGS

MON 20 OCT UH HUH HER FEAT. LEISHA HAILEY (THE L WORD), THE FASHION, AMY COOK

THU 23 OCT SILENT LAND TIME MACHINE (CD RELEASE) SILVER PINES, ANDREW TINKER

FRI 24 OCT JON CLEARY & THE ABSOLUTE MONSTER GENTLEMAN, UNCLE BRUNO

SAT 25 OCT MIX 94.7 Presents: MATT NATHANSON JESSIE BAYLIN

WED 29 OCT GRACE POTTER AND THE NOCTURNALS

THU 30 OCT SONYA KITCHELL FEAT. THE SLIP BRAD BARR

FRI 31 OCT MOTHERS ANTHEM THE VETTES

SAT 01 NOV RING THE ALARM DJ BABY G, JAH MIGHTY JR VIBES ON THE MIC

MON 03 NOV VIC CHESTNUTT ELF POWER

FRI 07 OCT OTT VIBESQUAD

SAT 08 NOV ARI HOENIG'S PUNK BOP SNARKY PUPPY THE CLAUDIA QUINTET

UPCOMING SHOWS:
11/9: Second Sunday Sock Hop 11/11: Kraak & Smaak w/ L.A.X.
11/14: EOTO 11/15: Rock the Casbah w/ DJ Mel 11/19: Black Sheep w/ Nice & Smooth 11/20: FUNK FEST III feat. Stanton Moore Trio w/ Robert Walter, Will Bernard, & the Greyhounds 11/21: FUNK FEST III feat. Bonerama, On The One, Flyjack, T Bird & The Breaks, Uncle Bruno 11/28: The Black & White Years 12/6: Ring The Alarm 12/8: Navdo's Birthday Bash w/ Brownout 12/12 and 13: Paul McCartney/John Lennon Tribute Night 12/14: Second Sunday Sock Hop 12/18: Paleo

Roux

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WEDNESDAYS: HAPPY HOUR- MANTECA BEAT
LATE NIGHT: FREE SALSA LESSONS!
THURSDAYS: HAPPY HOUR- THE BELLTOWER 4
LATE NIGHT: 80'S NIGHT W/ MIKE B aka dolamike
FRIDAYS: LADIES NIGHT W/ DJ JASON
SATURDAYS: HIP HOP

CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM FRIDAY

MOMO'S K.C. Clifford, Blue Condition, the Afters, Archer Avenue, Black Bone Child (7:00)

MOONRIVER SnakeBoy Johnson (9:30)

MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauer (6:00)

NUNO'S NORTH Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings

NUTTY BROWN CAFE The Eggmen

THE OAKS Scum, Smallz One, Sicktanick, Razakel (9:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Aly Tadors, Primm (8:30)

ONE WORLD THEATRE Save Austin Music Benefit w/ John Pointer, Troy Dillinger, Neckbone, Nakia & His Southern Cousins, Dan Dyer, Ian McLagan (7:00)

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE John Burkland CD Release (7:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Roger Len Smith, Flounders Without Eyes

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

RED 7 Nachtmystium

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Sean Castillo & the Hubcaps

ROADHOUSE RAGS The Doolins, Mike & the Moonpies (9:00)

ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield, Ephraim Owens

ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Liz Morphis

ROOM 710 Deadly Companions, Black Panda, Bad Rackets, the Chumps

RUTA MAYA Austin Resource Center for the Homeless Benefit, Blaze Foley Tribute w/ Mandy Mercier, Gurf Morlix, Will T. Massey, Barbara K., Mickey White

SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:00), Bruce Robison, the Gougers (9:00)

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN The Bloody Tears, Ripe

SEGOVIA SPANISH RESTAURANT Spirit of Flamenco (7:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Strippers Lie

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Capital Suspects (9:00)

SPEAKEASY LC Rocks (9:30)

STARDUST CLUB Weldon Henson

STUBB'S Under the Green, Naked Empire, Good Luck Academy, the Ars Supernova

THE STUDIO All U Need (9:00)

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Shinyribs, Carolyn Wonderland (9:00)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Buck Jones & the Haggards, Knocked-Out Stiffs, the Belgraves

TROPHY'S Tin Can Phone, Rook

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 38TH STREET Bob Simpson (7:00)

SAT 18

311 CLUB Jake & the Money Makers, Joe Valentine (8:30)

AMSTERDAM CAFE Suede (9:00)

ANDERSON MILL TAVERN Johnston Brothers

ANTONE'S The Lordz, Everlast

ARCHIVE LOUNGE Soul Shake (8:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Grazmatics (7:30)

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN Austin Banjo Club (10:00am)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Alan Haynes

BEERLAND Churchwood, Dans la Lune, Shapes Have Fangs, the Ugly Beats

THE BELMONT DJ Boss Ross (10:00)

BOAT HOUSE GRILL M.J. Torrance (6:00)

'BOUT TIME DJ Element (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Alvin Crow

THE BROWN BAR DJ Gmau

CACTUS CAFE Sam Baker & Gurf Morlix (9:00)

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Natalie Zoe, Brothers Lazaroff, Neal Kassanoff & the Infidels

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Marshall Ford Swing Band, Emily Gimble (6:30)

CEREMONY HALL AMODA Showcase w/ the Loud Objects, Tristan Perich

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Texas Renegade

CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR Bob Taylor's Latest Review (9:00)

CLUB 1808 Konflicto

CONTINENTAL CLUB Redd Volkaert (3:00), The Cornell Hurd Band, Hans Frank & the Auslanders (10:00)

COPA BAR & GRILL Nelson Saga & Arma del Alma

COTTON CLUB Billy Mata (9:00)

CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Higher Than Why, Milky Soul, Tomorrow People

DONN'S DEPOT Hotcakes

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Lobby Bar: Liz Morphis, Patricia G. (7:00)

DROGO'S CAFE Girl Guitar

DRUNGO ICE HOUSE Whiskey Business (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kat Edmonson (8:00)

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Sister Sister (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Ephraim Owens Quintet (9:30)

EMO'S Outside: Wintersleep, Earl Greyhound, Portugal the Man; Inside: The Astronaut Suit, the Unbearables, the Story of CD Release; Lounge: Hot Pentecostals, Hacienda

EVANGELINE CAFE Murali Coryell (10:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Ashes of Babylon, the Reddies (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE The Just Desserts, Mark Utter & Blackland (9:00)

Be's Cantina

Live Music Weekly

Sunday: Stick Man !!!

Monday: TIN CAN PHONE !!!

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Wednesday: Bobby Bookout !

Thursday: Thirsty Thurs. Specials !!

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Saturday
October 18th

Alpha Rev



Sunday
October 19th

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Monday - 3p - Soundgarden - Spoonman

Tuesday - 10a - Metallica - Enter Sandman

Wednesday - 1p - Rush - Tom Sawyer

Thursday - 4p - Doors - Break on Through

Friday - 2p - U2 - Sunday Bloody Sunday



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Fr 17	Buck Jones & the Haggards 6pm The Belgraves, Knocked Out Stiffs 10pm
Sa 18	The Skeletons, Jungle Rockers, Crystal Creek Boys 10pm
Su 19	Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly & Nate 9pm
Mo 20	Shand Walton 6pm Triple Tronica 9pm
Tu 21	Clyde Jr. 6pm Song Swap w/ Molly Hayes, Cody Richardson, Daniel Schaez, Adam Hilton, Daniel Furman 9pm
We 22	RG Stark 6pm Comedy Smorgasbord 9pm

Live Music

WED OCT 22

SUEDE 9PM
EVERY WEDNESDAY

FRI OCT 17	SUEDE 10PM
SAT OCT 18	TEXAS HOLD 'EM NO ENTRY FEE, 3 & 6PM \$175 CASH PRIZE CRIMSON ENVY 9PM MIKE TRUTH & THE REPLACEMENT KILLERS 10PM EMBER 11PM
SUN OCT 19	NFL SUNDAY TICKET \$1.25 PINTS \$2 WELLS 11AM-8PM SERVICE INDUSTRY SUNDAYS 8PM
MON OCT 20	TEXAS HOLD 'EM NO ENTRY FEE, 6:30 & 9:30PM \$175 CASH PRIZE MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL 7PM SHOT A ROKE 11PM
TUE OCT 21	ROCK & ROLL PIANO BAR 9PM
THU OCT 23	LR ROCKS 10PM
FRI OCT 24	SKYROCKET 9:30PM

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Fri 10/17 Carolyn Wonderland & Shinyribs
9:00pm \$10 Cover

Sat 10/18 John Lennon's Birthday Show
Stephen Doster & the No. 9 Orchestra
9:00pm \$10 Cover

Sat 10/18 Next Up: U18 Showcase
Chief Rivals and Aviators
4:00-7:00pm \$5 Cover

Sun 10/19 Gospel Brunch Durden Family
11:00am Indoors/Free

Sun 10/19 Doak Snead Band Reunion
8:00pm \$5 Cover

Every Monday
Mon 10/20 Lee Duffy w/ Will Sexton, Joe Manuel
Floyd Domino & Marvin Dykhuis!
8:00pm Indoors/Free

< kut 90.5 **Hot Club of Cowtown**
Weds 10/22 9:00pm \$10 Cover

< kut 90.5 **Mingo Fishtrap**
Thurs 10/23 9:00pm \$10 Cover

Fri 10/24 Cas Haley of Woodbelly
From America's Got Talent
9:00pm \$10 Advance/\$15 Door

Sat 10/25 The Mother Truckers Lisa Hayes
9:00pm \$10 Cover

Weds 10/29 John Inmon *CD Release Show!*
9:00pm \$10 Cover

Thurs 10/30 Shawn Sahm Sahara Smith
& The Tex Mex Experience
9:00pm \$10 Cover

Fri 10/31 Skyrocket *Halloween Show!*
9:00pm \$10 Cover

Sat 11/01 Cyril Neville
60th Birthday Party!
9:00pm \$10 Cover

Thurs 11/06 The Waybacks
9:00pm \$10 Cover

Fri 11/14 The Gourds
9:00pm \$15 Cover

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Fri 10/17 Bill McNeal

Sat 10/18 Hector Ward & the Big Time

Mon 20 Charlie Prichard 7pm
Every Monday! & the Titanium Hipsters

Weds 10/22 Burl Wilkerson

Thurs 10/23 Rosie Flores \$5

Fri 10/24 Randy Weeks

Sat 10/25 American Graveyard

Tues 10/28 Jason Roberts Band \$5

Fri 10/31 Austin Nights Brass Band
Halloween Party! 8pm

All shows no cover except where noted!

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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM SATURDAY

FREDDIE'S PLACE Smash Riley (6:00)
GARRISON PARK HARBOR Don Turnley (9:00)

GIDDY UPS Roadhouse Rockers

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Ardie Hill (9:00)

GRUENE HALL McKay Bros. (1:00), Asleep at the Wheel (9:00)

HEADHUNTERS Dear Henry, Johnny Hootrock, Snake Skin Prison, Heroine, Total Faggots

HILL'S CAFE John Burkland

HOLE IN THE WALL The Shake 'Em Ups, Chuck Fleming CD Release, the Archibalds CD Release (10:00)

LA PALAZZA Karaoke w/ Big Jim (8:00)

LA ZONA ROSA Mother's Anthem, Sounds Under Radio CD Release (9:00)

LAMBERTS DJ Honeycomb (7:00), the Summer Wardrobe, 100 Flowers, Freddy & Francine (10:30)

LONG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS Austin Symphony Orchestra w/ Anton Nel (8:00)

LOUIE'S 106 Kenny Luna (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Los Bad Apples, DJ Protege (9:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Freddie Scott Band
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Ember (10:00)

MOMO'S Douglas Jay Boyd, Seth Walker, Akina Adderly & the Vintage Playboys (8:00)

MOONRIVER Mirage Jazz Ensemble (7:30)

MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (11:30am)

NUNO'S NORTH Spivey

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Band of Heathens

THE OAKS Exceed, Sir Nasty, Ram-Z, Luna, Brothers of Flame (9:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Brannen Temple (10:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Weldon Henson

POODLE DOG LOUNGE The Lowdown (8:30)

RED FEZ DJ Kurv (10:00)

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Rods at Riley's, Juvenile Diabetes Research Benefit w/ Moonhowlers, Omar & the Howlers (4:00)

ROADHOUSE RAGS Guerilla Lilliput, Aimee Bobruk, the Archibalds (8:00)

ROMEO'S Bruce Saunders, Brian Martin, Andy Beaudoin

ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Rob Greenfield, Wayne Duncan, Brad Hauser

ROOM 710 The Hot as Shits, Rabbit Fist, Foot Patrol, MC Terroristic CD Release

RUTA MAYA Reggae Style KVRX Benefit w/ Selector J., McPulish, Midnight Conta Coup (9:00)

SAXON PUB Fever Tree Rising, Jon Dee Graham, Dan Dyer (8:00)

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes

SEGOVIA SPANISH RESTAURANT Stephen Bright, Chase Holbrook & the Porch Cats (7:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Strippers Lie

SOUND ON SOUND Serious Tracers (6:00)

SPEAKEASY Rotel & the Hot Tomatoes

AUSTIN DAZE PRESENTS Ruta Maya WEEKENDS

THURS 10/16 **STRIP CULT** A MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL EXPERIENCE INVOLVING CHARLES MANSON MUSIC, MAYHEM, SEXY GO-GO DANCERS, AND A PUNKY LIGHTS NOW TOO!
8PM-1AM

FRI 10/17 **BLAZE-O-RAMA** BLAZE FOLEY TRIBUTE SHOW
SHOW STARTS 8PM
MICKY WHITE, MANDY MERCIER, THE TEXANA DAMES, BARBARA K W/RICHARD BOWDEN, WILL T MASSEY, GURF MOBLIK, FRONT PORCH GYPSIES, JULEAHN BARKS, RICKY CARDWELL, ROAD HOUSE ROCKERS

SAT 10/18 **WHEN ROOTS ATTACK!** REGGAE STYLE BENEFIT FOR KVRX 91.7 RADIO
9PM SELECTOR J
10:30 MCPULLISH & JUDGE
12 MIDNIGHT CONTRA COUP
9:30PM-2AM
www.myspace.com/rutamayaweekends

3601 S. Congress, Suite D 200, Penn Field, South Austin, (Behind Expose), 512-707-9637, Rutamaya.net for details

Ruta Maya

FREE KIDS SHOW 10:30 AM EVERY SUNDAY

SUN 10/19 7 PM Cafe Con Letras
Spanish Music & Poetry

MON 10/20 Chill Night Pint Night
7 PM to Midnight
NO COVER! \$2 PINTS!!

TUE 10/21 TUESDAY OPEN MIKE - NO COVER!
6 PM Poetry - 9 PM Music
Happy Hour All Night Long!

WED 10/22 CUBAN DANCE NIGHT
FREE Salsa Lesson 7:30 PM
Live Salsa 9 PM with CIENFUEGOS

Fresh Organic Coffee!
FREE YOGA - Check Online Calendar

THE SCOOT INN

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11 LOCAL DRAFTS * 2 FULL BARS * 2 STAGES

THURSDAY, OCT 16, 9PM
MARSHALL JONES
JWW & THE PROSPECTORS
CHADD THOMAS & THE CRAZY KINGS
FRIDAY, OCT 17, 9PM
RIPE
BLOODY TEARS
SATURDAY, OCT 18, 9PM
JEFF HUGHES & CHAPARRAL & GUESTS
TUESDAY, OCT 21, 9PM
WOODY PINES (NORTH CAROLINA) & GUESTS
WEDNESDAY, OCT 22, 7PM
AUSTIN POETRY SLAM & THE JUNKYARD GHOST REVIVAL TOUR
FEATURING
BUDDY WAKEFIELD, ANIS MOJGANI, DERRICK BROWN & SONYA RENEE
THURSDAY, OCT 23, 9PM
LEO RONDEAU
JWW & THE PROSPECTORS
DARREN HOFF & THE HARD TIMES
THURSDAY, OCT 24, 9PM
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THURS. OCT. 16 • 7PM
GREG WHITFIELD
 FRI. OCT. 17 • 10PM • \$5
REDD VOLKAERT
 SAT. OCT. 18 • 10PM • \$5
MURALI CORYELL



8106 BRODIE LANE
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MONDAY, OCT. 20 • 6:30PM
CHARLES THIBODEAUX
 TUESDAY, OCT. 21
BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM
KEVIN GALLAUGHER
& GREG ANDERSON 8PM
 WEDNESDAY OCT. 22 • 7PM
CLEVE & SWEET
MARY HATTERSLY

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Informal Meet Starts @ 2pm
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All Proceeds go to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

THU 10/16	DOUG WARRINER & HIS ONLY BAND	SUN 10/19	OPEN MIC WITH GLENN ALLEN
FRI 10/17	SEAN CASTILLO & THE HUBCAPS	MON 10/20	FREE POOL & JUKEBOX
SAT 10/18	RODS AT RILEY'S!	TUE 10/21	SHAWN LINE
		WED 10/22	WYNN TAYLOR

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 Every day \$2 Domestic Bottles & Draft Pints, \$3 Import Bottles & Draft Pints, Mixed Drink Specials.
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 8/30-11/30, 3 sessions/week. Prizes: 1st \$50, 2nd \$25. Top 45 leaderboard players qualify for Hanover poker final invitation tournament. Prizes TBA.
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 Monday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday
NEW BAR HOURS
 M-F 2pm-2am; Sat/Sun 11am-2am
 Happy Hours 7pm

THURSDAY KARAOKE LEAGUE CONTEST
 1ST Prize: \$30 • 2ND Prize \$20 • 3RD Prize \$10 Bar Tab
 Winner from each week qualifies for FINAL KARAOKE CONTEST (Prizes TBA)
FRIDAY
 Live Music, No Covers (10/17)
CARSON ALEXANDER LONG WAY HOME
SATURDAY
 Live Music (10/18)
AUSTIN BLUES SOCIETY HEART O' TEXAS CHALLENGE
SUNDAY
Poker League, 5 & 8pm
TUESDAY
 Live Music
KEVIN & THE RETROFITS BAND
WEDNESDAY
Poker League, 6pm
Open Mic/Live Music

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 RICKY STEIN, CHRIS BRECHT, & THE CENTURY 10PM
 ... FRIDAY OCTOBER 17TH ...
 \$2 COVER: PAUL MINOR CD RELEASE, W/ BROTHERS LAZAROFF & SHEBOYGAN 10PM
 ... SATURDAY OCTOBER 18TH ...
 \$2 COVER: DOUBLE CD RELEASE SHOW: CHUCK FLEMING & THE ARCHIBALDS W/ THE SHAKE EM UPS 10PM
 ... SUNDAY OCTOBER 19TH ...
 ANDREW REEVES, BRENT ADAIR, LEATHERBAG, & JUDE ROSS 9PM
 ... MONDAY OCTOBER 20TH ...
 BETH LEE, THE PEOPLE VS. DE LA ROSA, SCOTT REYNOLDS & THE STEAMING BEAST 10PM
 ... TUESDAY OCTOBER 21ST ...
 THE BREAD, BEST LOVE IN TOWN, BRIDGE FARMERS, ROGER WALLACE 9PM
 ... WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 22ND ...
 SHOTGUN PARTY, JEFF & VIDA, BRENNEN LEIGH, & WOODY PINES 9PM
 "ON THE PATIO: NEEDLES AND PINS (RECORD PARTY) W/ ANGEL VON RIPPER 10PM
 UPCOMING SHOWS:
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THU 16 BRYAN ANDREW LEE **suede**

FRI 17 EXIT WONDERLAND **LES & THE FUNK MOB**

SAT 18 **SPAZMATICS**

SUN 19 REPUBLIC OF TEXAS BIG BAND **DIAMOND KARAOKE**

MON 20 IN THESE SHOES **mike maven & the good life**

TUE 21 SHERYL MURDOCK **THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION**

WED 22 GRAND HOTEL **SPAZMATICS**

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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM SATURDAY

STARDUST CLUB Unnamed Band
STUBB'S Passafire, Supervillains, Pepper
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Under 18 Showcase w/ the Aviator, Chief Rival (4:00), John Lennon Birthday w/ Stephen Doster & the No. 9 Orchestra (9:00)
THUNDERBIRD COFFEE HOUSE David Nathan, Vance Stephens (8:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Crystal Creek Boys, the Jungle Rockers, the Skeletons
TROPHY'S Bad Day Motorcade, the Tangle, James Rider & the 4:20 Turnaround, Grub Dog & the Modestos

SUN 19

AMSTERDAM CAFE Robert Wagner Sing-Along (9:00)
ANTONE'S Ryan Montbleau, Martin Sexton (8:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Bert Rivera (6:30)
AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Danny Roy Young Tribute, Benefit w/ Ponty Bone, Texana Dames, James McMurtry & the Heartless Bastards, Floyd Domino, Blackie White, Ray Benson, Marcia Ball, Telasco Del Rey, the Cornell Hurd Band (5:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tunes Session (8:00)
BEERLAND The Black Shirts, Followed by Static
BERRYHILL BAJA GRILL Gypzee Heart (noon)
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ AJ Kline (8:00)
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Brian
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Chris Beirne & the Lost & Found

CASA DE LUNA'S EL ARROYO Thundering Paws Animal Sanctuary Benefit w/ Therapy Sisters, Mark Gunn, Summer Wardrobe, Chris Gates (3:00)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Hurricane Ike Recovery Benefit w/ Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces, Freight Train Troubadours, Erik Hokkanen, Ruby Jane Smith, James Hand (3:00), Manteca Beat (6:30)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Acoustic Jungle (6:30)
CLUB 1808 Boom Boom Kid
CONTINENTAL CLUB Heybale! (10:00)
COPPER TANK BREWING CO. Wine & Song Festival, SIMS Foundation Benefit w/ Carolyn Wonderland, the Gourds (3:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00)
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Ladies' Rock Camp Showcase, Girls' Rock Camp Benefit w/ Follow That Bird!, the Dreadful Sorrys (7:00), Dim Light, the Lepers, Bridge Farmers (10:00)

DIRTY DOG BAR Dwele (6:00)
DOLCE VITA GELATO & ESPRESSO BAR Paul Sonnenberg (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Tameca Jones Quartet (9:30)

ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice

EMO'S Inside: The Diving Captain, Mucca Pazza; Lounge: Mandarin Dynasty, Chris Paddock, the Black, Deer Tick

FLAMINGO CANTINA DJ Haul, Percee P, Connie Price & the Keystones, M.O.P. (9:30)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Jackie Bristow (8:00)

FREDDIE'S PLACE Sarah Hughes (6:00)

FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam (8:00)

GARRISON PARK HARBOR Patterson Barrett, Murali Coryell (6:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (4:00)

GREEN PASTURES Jacques Vilmain (11:00am)

GRUENE HALL The Hudsons (12:30), Antsy McClain & Trailer Park Troubadours (5:00)

HEADHUNTERS Mallory Valentine, Horse Opera, the Original Mexican Bob

HILL'S CAFE Hurricane Ike, American Red Cross, Radio Free Texas Benefit w/ Autumn Boukadakis, Aaron Navarro, Brent Allen, Rodney Hayden, Deryl Dodd, Bart Crow, Mark McKinney, Bill Rice, Jeremy Steding (2:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Jude Ross, Leatherbag, Brent Adair, Andrew Reeves (9:00)

LATITUDE 30 Luke Jackson (9:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Hays County Area Food Bank Benefit w/ Pygmaeus, Madrush, Abort the Mission (6:00)

MANUELS Son y No Son (11:30am)

MEAN-EYED CAT Austin Homegrown (8:00)

MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL DJ Tetsuo (9:00)

MOMO'S The Jitterbug Vipers, April Hall, Clay Berkes & the All-Star Revue (8:00)

MOONRIVER Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee (8:30)

NUEVO LEÓN Mariachi Relampago (1:00)

NUNO'S NORTH Singer-Songwriter Jam (7:30)

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (8:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00am)

THE OASIS The Brew

THE PARISH The Ting Tings

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

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TEXAS RENEGADE
— FREE! • 7:30PM —

FRIDAY, OCT • 17
The EGGMEN
— \$5 COVER • 7:30PM —

SATURDAY, OCT • 18
BAND OF HEATHENS
— \$8 COVER • 7:30PM —



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FRIDAY, OCT • 24
CORY MORROW
\$12 ADV • \$15 DOOR • \$125 VIP 4-TOP TABLES
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SATURDAY, OCT • 25
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FRIDAY, OCT • 31
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Real Animal
- 3) RANDY ROGERS BAND
Randy Rogers Band
- 4) BLACK & WHITE YEARS
Black & White Years
- 5) DERAILERS
Gauranteed to Satisfy
- 6) RODNEY CROWELL
Sex & Gasoline
- 7) CRUISERWEIGHT
Big Bold Letters
- 8) JASON BOLAND
Comal Country Blue
- 9) BRUCE ROBISON
New World
- 10) HAYES CARLL
Trouble in Mind

Shiner
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THURSDAY OCTOBER 16

BRUCE SMITH 8:00 \$8
MATT POWELL 10:15 \$8

REID WILSON & His So-Called Friends 12:30 \$5

No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 **JAMES HAND**

FRIDAY OCT 17

BRUCE ROBISON 9:00 \$10
THE GOUGERS 11:00 \$10

No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 **THE REGULARS**

SATURDAY OCT 18

Fever Tree Rising 8:00 \$10
Jon Dee Graham 10:00 \$10
Dan Dyer 12:00 \$10

SUNDAY OCT 19

BOBBY WHITLOCK & COCO CARMEL 10:15 \$10
THE RESENTMENTS 7:30 \$7
THE SALINGERS 12:00 \$5

MONDAY OCT 20

KALU JAMES 7:00 \$5
MIKE BLAKELY 8:30 \$5
DOUGLAS JAY BOYD 11:00 \$5
HOLLIE HOLLOWAY 12:30 \$5

TUESDAY OCT 21

THE BAND OF HEATHENS 8:00 \$10
BRUCE HUGHES & THE ALL-NUDE ARMY 10:00 \$5
CASEY BERRY 12:00 \$5
5:30 No Cover Happy Hour **ROBBIE & THE ROGUES**

WEDNESDAY OCT 22

MONTE MONTGOMERY 8:00 \$10
MEAGAN TUBB AND SHADY PEOPLE 10:00 \$5
PAUL MINOR 12:15 \$5
No Cover Happy Hour 6:00 **BO PORTER**

OCT 24 - IAN MCLAGAN & GUY FORSYTH
OCT 31 - CAROLYN WONDERLAND
NOV 5 - FREEDY JOHNSTON

CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM SUNDAY

RAIN ON 4TH Hedda Layne (6:00)
RED FEZ DJ Kurupt (10:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen
ROADHOUSE RAGS Jeff Pinkus, Pure Luck, Woodsboss (6:00)
SAXON PUB The Resentments, Bobby Whitlock & CoCo Carmel, the Salingers (7:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D
STUBB'S Brunch w/ River City Christianettes (noon)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Doak Sneed Band reunion (8:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 360 Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 38TH STREET Brunch w/ the Jeff Lofton Quartet (11:00am)

MON 20

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Dale Spaulding (3:30)
ANTONE'S Texas Disaster Relief Fund w/ Tracy Byrd, Asleep at the Wheel (9:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30)
AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Plutonium Farmers (8:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Heard Showcase
BEERLAND World-Famous Karaoke
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ AJ Kline (9:00)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Banes, Perfect Pants (9:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Cheatham Street All-Stars (9:30)
CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Marshall Ford Swing Band (6:30), Pumpkin Moon, Jon Dee Graham Medical Benefit w/ Dale Watson, Reckless Kelly, Steve Poltz, Mojo Nixon, James McMurtury (9:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Kenny Luna
THE DRISKILL HOTEL Lobby Bar: Bruce Smith (7:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Leah Zeger, Freddie Mendoza
EMO'S Outside: Hearts of Darkness, Grand Buffet, Girl Talk; Inside: Plants & Animals, Born Ruffians
EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux (6:30)
FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE T. Jarrod Bonta (8:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Wammo (8:00)
FRANK ERWIN CENTER Tokyo Police Club, Angels & Airwaves, Weezer (7:00)
GRUENE HALL Bret Graham (7:00)
GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano (6:30)

HEADHUNTERS The Lepers
HOLE IN THE WALL Scott Reynolds & the Steaming Beast, People vs. De la Rosa (10:00)
LA PALAPA Baby Dallas
LATITUDE 30 Carson Alexander (9:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Robbie's Open Mic (9:00)
MOMO'S Amanda Pearcy, Matt Hinkley, Tyler Summers, Darrell Phillips, Shawn Nelson & the Ramblers, Jamie Thomas (5:00)
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson & Joley Flowers
MUGSHOTS Open Mic w/ Acoustic Odyssey (8:00)
NUNO'S NORTH Open Blues Jam (9:00)
THE PARISH Uh Huh Her
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Ru Coleman & Texas Boogie
RED FEZ Komson (10:00)
ROOM 710 Heart & Soul Sound System (8:00)
RUTA MAYA Heavy Metal Open Mic (6:30)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Breck's Stormy Open Blues Jam (8:30)
SAXON PUB Kalu James, Mike Blakeley, Douglas Jay Boyd, Hollie Holloway (7:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Brent Wood
SPEAKEASY Jonathan Terrell
STUBB'S Sharon Little, Matt White
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Marvin Dykhuis, Floyd Domino, Joe Manuel, Lee Duffy (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Shand Walton, Triple Tronica

TUE 21

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Lauren Gurgiolo (3:30)
AMSTERDAM CAFE Kim Deschamps
ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, Malford Milligan (9:30)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne Smith
BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)
BEERLAND Lauren Smith
THE BELMONT Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (7:00)
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ AJ Kline (9:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Hardcore Country w/ Alvin Crow, James M. White
CAFE MUNDI Lili & Walter (7:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Jordan Minor & the Bottom Dollar Band
CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR Brent Pennington, Loblolly, Bearkat
CONTINENTAL CLUB Planet Casper w/ Scrappy Jud Newcomb (6:30), Charanga Cakewalk (10:00)
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE The Dry Season, Kids In Candy Shops, Your Kisses Cause Crashes
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
THE DRISKILL HOTEL Lobby Bar: Matt Farrell, Anthony Farrell (7:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith w/ Jon Doyle (6:00), Tony Campise (9:30)
ELYSIUM '90s Night w/ DJ Boba Fett, DJ Minimus
EMO'S Division Day, Dredg
EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh (6:00), Kevin Gallaughter, Greg Anderson (8:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (9:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Jim Stringer (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Rodney Hayden (7:00)
GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano (6:30)
HANOVER'S Kevin Havron & Steven Franks (8:30)
HEADHUNTERS Bill Davis' Singer-Songwriter Showcase, Nanosmash, the Lefties
HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Bill Rice
HOLE IN THE WALL The Nortons, Roger Wallace, Bridge Farmers, Best Love in Town, the Bread (6:00)
HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR Open Mic w/ Liane Little Eye (7:30)
HOUSE WINE Jay Sims (7:00)
KICK BUTT COFFEE Landfall Ensemble (7:00)
LA PALAPA Baby Dallas
LUCKY LOUNGE DJ Rapid Ric, Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE The Anchovies (9:00)
MEAN-EYED CAT Tressie Seegers (8:00)
MOHAWK Outlaw Country, Robert Allan Caldwell
MOMO'S Sally Allen, Bukka Allen, Colin Gilmore, Tiny Tin Hearts (6:00)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (10:30)
ONE 2 ONE BAR Busted Fly (9:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Troubadillos
RED 7 The Death Set
RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Shawn Line
ROOM 710 Mutant Press, Bombs Away Baby, Blaine Matte
RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Nate Vancil (9:00)
SAXON PUB Robbie & the Rogues (5:00), Band of Heathens, Bruce Hughes & the All-Nude Army, Casey Berry (8:00)
SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Woody Pines (9:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae Rae
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Five Ways From Sunday
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10PM Guns to California
The Earthtone Players
Agave Love, Matt B. & Bitter Whiskey

FRI OCT 17TH
10PM Baby Got Bacteria
The West Coast Pinups, Prison Folk Rock

SAT OCT 18TH
10PM Tomorrow People
Milky Soul, Higher than Why

SUN OCT 19TH
10PM The Bridge Farmers
The Lepers, Dim Light, HH TBA

TUE OCT 21ST
10PM Your Kisses Cause Crashes
Kids in Candy Shops, The Dry Season

WED OCT 22ND
10PM Style Free Hosted by DJ Orion

UPCOMING SHOWS
10/23 The Golden Boys, 10/24 SCOTT H.BIRAM,
10/25 Insect Sex Act, Eagle Claw

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THU 10.16 EVIL FEST
THAT DAMNED BAND
WAX MUSEUM PANDEMONIUM
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Presented By 999 Eyes

FRI 10.17
THE CHUMPS
THE BAD RACKETS
BLACK PANDA
DEADLY COMPANIONS

SAT 10.18
FOOT PATROL CD Release
THE HOT AS SHITS
RABBIT FIST
and Jazzus Lizard in the left

SUN 10.19 OPEN
AVOIDING SOME SERIOUS ISSUES

Mon 10.20
HEART & SOUL
SOUND SYSTEM

Tue 10.21
BLAINE MATTE
BOMBS AWAY BABY
MUTANT PRESS

Wed 10.22
SCOTT REYNOLDS & the STEAMING BEAST
ABBY BIRDS
CHRIS McFARLAND

UPCOMING SHOWS
10/23 Red Line Riot, Bound, Unmanned Project, For Revenge, 10/24 West Purveyors
Serguistics, 10/25 Buzzcushion, RHC, 10/26 The Roller Stormtrooper, Doom Slon

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10/19(S)-11:30 THE ORIGINAL MEXICAN BOB, 10:30 HORSE OPERA,
9:30 MALLORY VALENTINE, 8:30 SOLSTICE, NFL GAMES ALL-DAY!
10/20(M)-THE LEPERS, DIM LIGHT, PERRY H. MATTHEWS, MNFOOTBALL-PATIO
10/21(T)-THE LEFTIES, SUPANOVA & TR, NANOSMASH, BILL DAVIS SINGER/SONGWRITERS(P), DENNIS U.T.G.H-HOUR
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SATURDAY-OCTOBER 25
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10/31 - HALLOWEEN NIGHT WITH BIG DOLLS
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REGRESSION WITH DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

Tuesday • Oct 21 90'S NIGHT
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Wednesday • Oct 22 MID-WAVE
UNDERGROUND retro & old school goth
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CLUB LISTINGS FROM TUESDAY

TRIPLE CROWN Clyde Jr.; Song Swap w/ Molly, Cody, Daniel
TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Mike Premeau
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 38TH STREET Will Dunlap (7:00)

WED 22

219 WEST Breezy (7:00)
311 CLUB Jake & the Money Makers (9:00)
ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR Steve Callif (3:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Wendy Colonna (3:30)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET Rick McRae (1:00)
AMSTERDAM CAFE Austin Songwriters Group Open Mic
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Shelley King (7:30)
AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Hosea Hargrove
BEERLAND Winter in Osaka, Mykel Boyd
THE BELMONT The Motts (7:00)
BERRYHILL BAJA GRILL Gypzee Heart (6:30)
BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dale Watson (6:00)
CACTUS CAFE Eleanor Whitmore, Carrie Rodriguez (8:30)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Nathan Daniel
CEDAR STREET Trent & Dave, the Spazmatics (6:00)
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Texas Eastside Kings (6:30)
CHAIN DRIVE Mykel Boyd, Winters in Osaka (10:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (9:00)
CHEZ ZEE Jacinta (7:00)
THE COCKPIT Club Inclusive w/ Julie Nolan (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Mario Matteoli (6:30), Jon Dee Graham, James McMurry (10:00)
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Style Free w/ Lost Soul Revue, DJ Orion
CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)
DIZZY ROOSTER Mulholland Drive (9:30)
DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Station Masters
THE DRISKILL HOTEL Anthony Farrell (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), ATX Big Band (9:30)
EMO'S Cause for Applause, the Gospel Truth, Coma in Algiers, Dikes of Holland
FLAMINGO CANTINA The Hatch, Opposite Day, Congratulations (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Paul K. (8:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Jennifer Jackson, Doug Anthony
GARRISON PARK HARBOR Jason Gautreaux, Julieann Banks (7:00)
GIDDY UPS Open Blues Jam w/ Nick
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roger Wallace (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Zack Walther & the Cronkites (7:00)
HANOVER'S Drew Womack, Steven Franks
HEADHUNTERS Bright Knife, Spy Ring, Ballroom Jacks
HILL'S CAFE Ryan James, Reckless Kelly
HOLE IN THE WALL Woody Pines, Brennan Leigh, Jeff & Vida, Shotgun Party (9:00)
LA PALAPA Jonas Alvarez, Jonas Alvarez (7:00)
LAMBERTS Moonhangers (7:00), DJ Mel, Prince Klassen (10:30)
LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)
LITTLE MEXICO RESTAURANT Karaoke w/ DJ Rich Caz
LOUIE'S 106 Red Young (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Lucky Jam Sessions w/ Tyler & Lance (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem (9:00)
MAGGIE MAE'S Patrick Fleming (10:00)
MEAN-EYED CAT Six Sons of a Gun (8:00)
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Suede
MOHAWK Human Milk, Talkdemonic
MOMO'S Amy Glen, Geoff Koch, Kalu James, Dan Dyer, Robin Smith
MS. B'S AUTHENTIC CREOLE RESTAURANT The Swingsters (6:30)
MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)
ONE 2 ONE BAR 80H Project (10:00)
PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete Benz (9:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Fond Kiser (8:00)
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
RILEY'S TAVERN Wynn Taylor
ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D.
ROOM 710 Chris McFarland, Abby Birds, Scott Reynolds & the Steaming Beast
RUTA MAYA Salsa Lessons, Cienfuegos (7:30)
SAXON PUB Bo Porter (6:00), Kara Grainger & Jackie Bristow, Meagan Tubb, Paul Minor (8:00)
SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Junkyard Ghost Revival w/ Sonya Renee, Derrick Brown, Anis Moigani, Buddy Wakefield (7:00), Austin Poetry Slam (8:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Radiostar
SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons, the Brew (9:00)
T.C.'S LOUNGE Soul Track Mind (10:00)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Hot Club of Cowtown (9:00)
TRIPLE CROWN R.G. Stark
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 38TH STREET Ptarmigan (7:00)
THE WINE CELLAR Tucker Bradley (7:30)
Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster, Will Sexton & Bill Carter (6:00)

THU 23

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
311 CLUB Joe Valentine (9:30)
ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR Troy Campbell (3:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR White Shoes (3:30)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET Brian Pounds (1:00)
AMSTERDAM CAFE Kent Mayhew (9:00)
ANTONE'S Jack's Mannequin (9:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Danny Fast Fingers (7:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Tumbleweed Racer
BEAUTY BAR La Calle Blanca w/ DJ Orion
BEERLAND Generator Benefit w/ the Stuffles, Dikes of Holland, Teeners
THE BELMONT Mandy Lauderdale (9:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton
THE BROWN BAR DJ Gmau
CACTUS CAFE Eleanor Whitmore, Carrie Rodriguez (8:30)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Miles From Nowhere (9:00)
CARVER CULTURAL CENTER OMG/LOL SafePlace Benefit w/ Saul Paul (7:00)
CEDAR STREET Kent Mayhew, LC Rocks (6:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE The Gougiers
CONTINENTAL CLUB Joel Guzman & Sarah Fox (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE The Golden Boys
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Red Young

ELYSIUM Gfire, the Dry Season, Your Kisses Cause Crashes
EMO'S Hoodrats, Sober Daze, 13th Victim, the Independents
FLAMINGO CANTINA Mugsy Flows, Crew 54, Mirage, Kill City (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Claire Small
GARRISON PARK HARBOR Billy Young, Tom Robinson (9:00)
GIDDY UPS Mike Morgan (5:30), Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon (8:30)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Robert Chevrier (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Kevin Carroll (7:00)
HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man
HILL'S CAFE Bill Rice
HOLE IN THE WALL David Newbould, Craig Marshall, Aimee Bobruk
JOVITA'S The Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA ZONA ROSA LA Riots, Felix Cartal, Mstrkrft
LAMBERTS The Jitterbug Vipers (7:00)
LATITUDE 30 Jordan Tanner (9:00)
THE LOADING DOCK Open Mic w/ Blue Rail (7:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Juice (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Bobbie (10:00)
MANUELS Jonas Alvarez (11:00am)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00)
MEAN-EYED CAT Reid Wilson & His So-Called Friends
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL LC Rocks
MOHAWK The Great Nostalgic, Wicked Pro Wrestler, Crushes, Many Birthdays
MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)
THE OAKS Christopher Leavitt, the Love Band, Ebb & Flow, Aaron Atchley, Jimmy Crisquet
ONE 2 ONE BAR Girl Guitar, Alan Haynes (8:30)
ONE WORLD THEATRE Guitars & Saxes (6:00, 8:30)
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Quicksand Soup (8:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Otis Coleman & Joaquin Tah
RED FEZ DJ Rapid Ric, Mike Maven & the Good Life (8:30)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Aaron Navarro & the Brewster McKracken Band
ROOM 710 Quartershackle, Unnamed Project for Revenge, Bound, Red Line Riot
SAXON PUB James Hand (6:00), Lies a Bloom, Matt Powell, Sons of the Revolution (8:00)
SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Darren Hoff & the Hard Times, JWW & the Prospectors, Leo Rondeau (9:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D.
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Afrofreque
STUBB'S Harry Bodine, Tahni Handel CD release
T.C.'S LOUNGE Leeann Atherton's Blues (10:00)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Mingo Fishtrap (9:00)
THE TRIANGLE J&L Brothers (7:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Joel Hofmann Band, American Graveyard, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral Five
TROPHY'S Two Hoots & a Holler
WATERLOO RECORDS Carrie Rodriguez (5:00)
Z'TEJAS George Carver Trio

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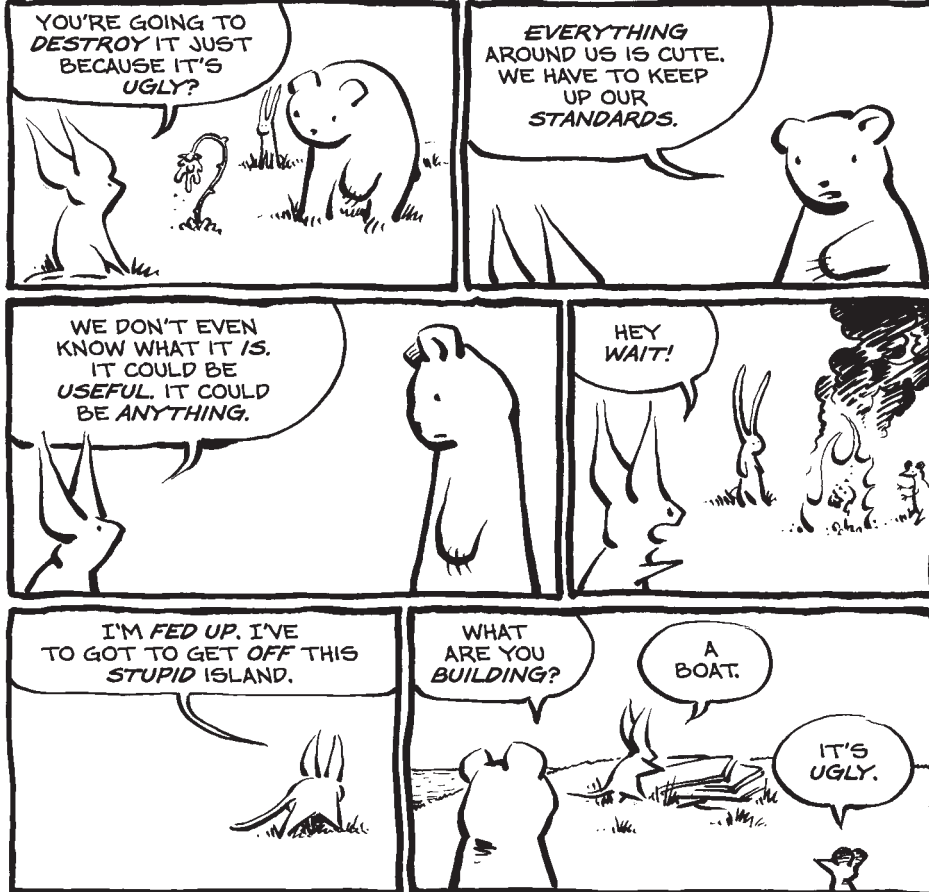
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How to Be Happy (CUTIE ISLAND) 7 OF 8 by Shannon Wheeler



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TROUBLETOWN

BY LLOYD DANGLE



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MVELLEX

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by Sam Hurst



MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS



In 1927, Rita Carewe became the first actress to show her legs.

Julius Caesar increased his approval rating with a gladiator show featuring 320 pairs of fighters.

In the United States, the economy will typically expand steadily for six to 10 years and then enter a recession for six months to two years. The beginning of the recession is called a peak, and the end is called a trough.

According to author David W. Anthony, horses were first domesticated around 4800BC. Instead of for riding, however, horses were used as food, mainly mares.

Masaru Satoh not only scored many Akira Kurosawa classics. He also scored the second Godzilla movie.

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. 20th anniversary Mr. Smarty Pants T-shirts are available for \$10. Order by e-mailing: mrpants@austinchronicle.com.



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- 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

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

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

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- 610 Cars
- 615 Trucks
- 620 SUV's
- 625 Motorcycles
- 630 Recreational
- 635 Parts
- 640 Repairs

700 MUSIC

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- 730 Recording Studios
- 735 Rentals/Services
- 740 Shameless
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125 GENERAL

APPRENTICE Real Estate investor seeks Apprentice. (512) 293-1171.

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Join us for three exciting workshops this month at the University of Phoenix Austin Campus.

- Resume Writing Oct. 7
- Dress for Success Oct. 14
- Interviewing Skills Oct. 21

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University of Phoenix, Austin Campus, 10801-2 N MoPac Expressway, Ste. 300 Austin, TX 78759

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Renaissance Hotel
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Needed! \$400 Sign on bonus after 6 months employment. We need staff to work at least 20 hrs/wk working with clients with cognitive challenges in clients' homes in north Austin. Flexible hours. Call 1-800-867-0047 for Dana. Apply in person at 1106 Clayton Lane, Ste 250W, Austin, TX 78723; fax resume to 512-338-1555; email resume to dmcbride@empowermentoptions.com Come Be a Part of Our Caring Team EOE.

135 HOSPITALITY

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PIZZA DELIVERY DRIVERS
PIZZA CLASSICS is now hiring delivery drivers. Earn up to \$15/hr. Please apply in person at 604 W. 29th after 6PM.

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Westwood Country Club

Accepting applications for FT Server. Must have previous full menu and banquet service experience be clean cut and professional in appearance and demeanor.

Candidates MUST be available to work split shifts, weekends and some Holidays. Above average hourly rate beginning at \$12 (DOE). Other benefits include paid health insurance, shift meals, free parking, vacation and Holiday pay.

Applications may be downloaded at: westwoodcountryclub.com and returned in person at 3808 West 35th Street. Ask for Tony or Barbara

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We believe in working hard in a fast-paced environment.

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October 7

Dress for Success
October 14

Interviewing Skills
October 21

All three workshops will be from
5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

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Austin, TX 78759

Career Fair

Apply what you've learned in the workshops to a Career Fair on *October 24* where you'll have the opportunity to meet with employers in the Austin area.

10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Renaissance Hotel
9721 Arboretum Boulevard
Austin, TX 78759

For more information:
512.344.1846 or 512.344.1417
RSVP at austinrsvp@phoenix.edu



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145 OFFICE/CLERICAL

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CSR Do you want to work for a Fun, Energetic, Tropical Shirt/Shorts kind of Company? We believe in Working Hard in a Fast Paced Environment. The Customer Service Representative (CSR) is an entry-level position demanding excellent computer & communication skills, interpersonal skills, high integrity, self-motivation and multi-tasking skill set. The candidate must be able to respond positively in a high call volume environment while offering focused problem resolution and information to callers and providers. The candidate should also possess strong verbal and keying skills plus be able to handle sensitive issues in a tactful manner with strong telephone etiquette skills. Confirmation callers wanted \$9.00 hr. Part time 4-9pm.

Weekends are a must. South Austin, on Bus Line Send your resume to hr@satcountry.com. We want to hear from you!!

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160 RESEARCH STUDY

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HAVE YOU BEEN DIAGNOSED?

- Sad or depressed mood
- Change in appetite
- Loss of interest in work or activities
- Difficulty in concentration
- Decrease in motivation

Call Community Clinical Research for no obligation, free information. Medical Research and Clinical Trials allow people to have the opportunity to try investigational medications or treatment that would be otherwise unavailable.

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SCHIZOPHRENIA

CAN TEAR FAMILIES APART

- Tendency towards isolation
- Hallucinations, delusions and paranoia
- Problems with concentration
- Lack of energy and motivation

Call Community Clinical Research for no obligation, free information. Medical Research and Clinical Trials allow people to have the opportunity to try investigational medications or treatment that would be otherwise unavailable.

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SEX ABUSE

HAS SEXUAL ABUSE AFFECTED YOUR LIFE?

Researchers at the University of Texas at Austin are conducting a treatment study for women with a history of sexual abuse who are experiencing sexual difficulties. Treatment is free of charge, and compensation for time and travel is provided. The study involves answering questions and writing about personal experiences, including sexual behavior. If you have a history of sexual abuse and it has affected your sexuality you may qualify. For more info, please call

(512) 232-4805

All calls are confidential.

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SLEEP STUDY

Do you have problems staying asleep at night?

If you fall asleep in 30 minutes or less but have problems staying asleep at night, you may be qualified to participate in a clinical research study studying the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication for insomnia.

Volunteers who qualify will receive study medication and study related medical care at no cost. You do not need medical insurance in order to participate and may be compensated for your time and travel.

We are looking for people at least 18 years of age who

are: In good general health Have problems sleeping at night for at least one month

If you are interested or want additional information, please call: FutureSearch Trials www.fstria.com 512-374-0881

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\$400 SIGN-ON BONUS (after 6 months employment)

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**HAS SEXUAL ABUSE
AFFECTED YOUR LIFE?**

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For more information, please call
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All calls are confidential.



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DEPRESSION

Have you been diagnosed?

- Sad or depressed mood
- Change in appetite
- Loss of interest in work or activities
- Difficulty in concentration
- Decrease in motivation

SCHIZOPHRENIA

Can tear families apart.

- Tendency towards isolation
- Hallucinations, delusions and paranoia
- Problems with concentration
- Lack of energy and motivation

INSOMNIA

For the past month have you:

- Had difficulty falling asleep?
- Been waking up in the middle of the night?
- Been drowsy during the day?

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RESEARCH STUDIES FOR
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OF AGE AND BE ABLE
TO PROVIDE WRITTEN
INFORMED CONSENT.

- FINANCIAL
COMPENSATION TO
THOSE WHO QUALIFY

CALL: 517-4658



**DO YOU HAVE PROBLEMS
STAYING ASLEEP AT NIGHT?**

IF YOU FALL ASLEEP IN 30 MINUTES OR LESS BUT HAVE PROBLEMS STAYING ASLEEP AT NIGHT, YOU MAY BE QUALIFIED TO PARTICIPATE IN A CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDY STUDYING THE SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF AN INVESTIGATIONAL MEDICATION FOR INSOMNIA. VOLUNTEERS WHO QUALIFY WILL RECEIVE STUDY MEDICATION AND STUDY RELATED MEDICAL CARE AT NO COST. YOU DO NOT NEED MEDICAL INSURANCE IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE AND MAY BE COMPENSATED FOR YOUR TIME AND TRAVEL.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE WHO ARE:

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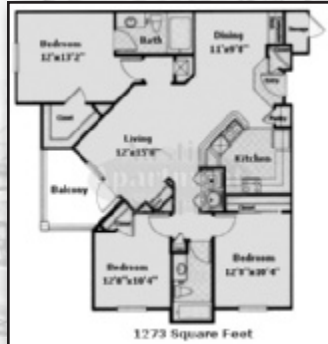
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\$159,900

2609 Baxter Drive
3/1.5, Cute house w/ lots of potential!! Close to Central Market, Westgate.
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3/2/2 located minutes from owtown off of SoCo. Close to schools and shopping.
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7900 Verbank Villa

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4/2.5/2 house, tile down- stairs, closeto Dell/LaFrontera

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TOTAL PMT including HOA under \$1400 per mo.

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I am a buyer's agent and if you are currently working w/ a realtor - no calls please.

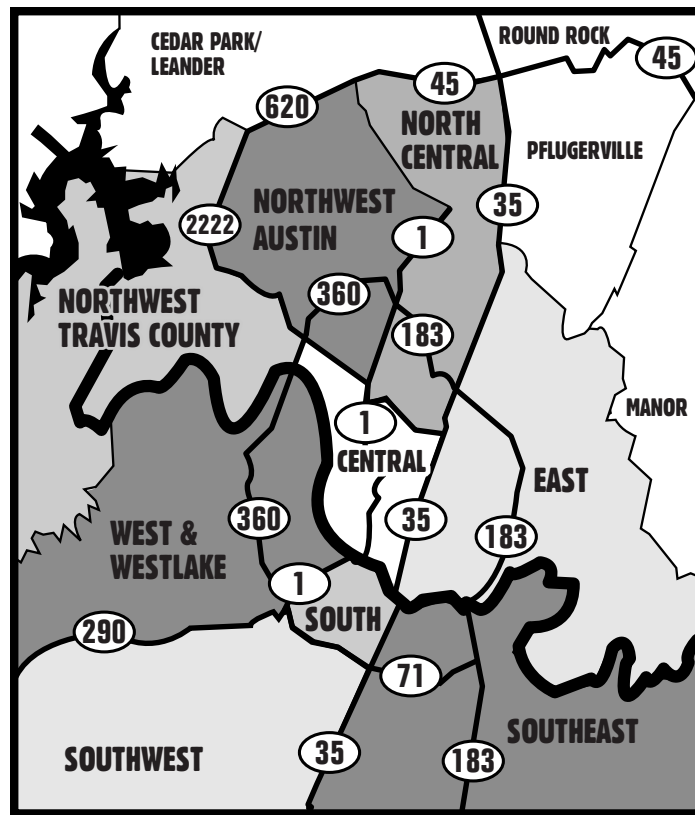


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NORTHWEST 1125SqFt 2/1 townhome&nb sp/off 183. Freshly redone top to bottom. Townhome style end unit with no neighbors up or down or to one side. Priced to sell at only \$114,700! Garage & pool too! CondoJoe@re-al.com for flyer or 203-4100 to see it.o see it.

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SOUTH Ceniza Condominiums From \$129,900, mins to SOCO! We still have low down payment loans! 2 BR flrplans w/ top finishes. Gated, pool, cool x-riscape, Cherry/maple cabinets, slab granite. All stainless app., incl fridge, full size w/d, lg. laundry room. On Wm Cannon, 1 blk west of S. 1st. www.ceniza-condos.com,512-448-4900.

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1024 Ellingson Lane

Area 4, 2BR/1B, 938 sq.ft., Hard wood floors, high ceilings, great natural lighting and a huge backyard! Detached garage provides for great workshop/storage opportunities.

Perfectly located just east of Hyde Park!
\$249,900



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2009 New York Ave

Unit A, Area 5, 3BR/2.5B, 1477 sq. ft.. This new construction condo is quite a value! The home offers spacious living, a covered back porch, stainless appliances, 42" cabinets, tile backsplash in the kitchen, and a double vanity in the master. This open floor plan has lots of windows and is bright and airy with its high ceilings.

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1803 BRACKENRIDGE

Beautiful traditional bungalow on the outside and sleek contemporary on the inside of this amazing Travis Heights pad. The 3BD/3BA home was completely remodeled in 2006 with glass tile, travertine, hardwoods, hand-crafted metal and glass work and an sizeable master suite. **\$924,900**

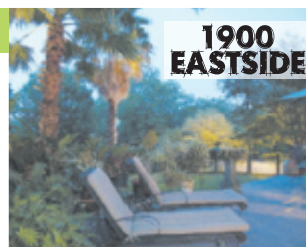


Kenny Hilbig 512-751-4306 www.kennyhilbig.com



1900 EASTSIDE

Truly a tropical paradise in Travis Heights! Overlooking Stacy Park and spanning a large, landscaped corner lot this city hideaway has 3BD/3BA, with beautiful hardwoods,



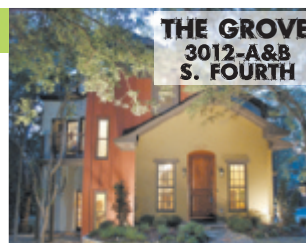
an expansive master retreat including private balcony and vaulted ceilings, a detached garage with 2BD/1BA apartment. **\$885,000**

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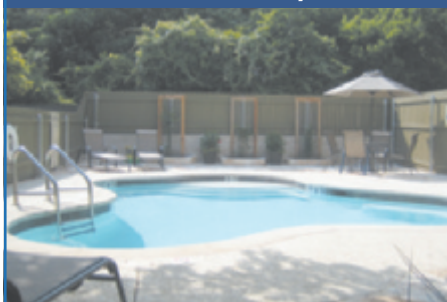


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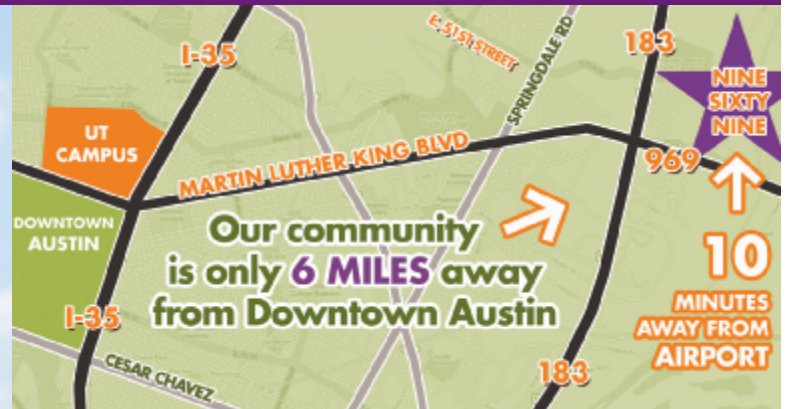
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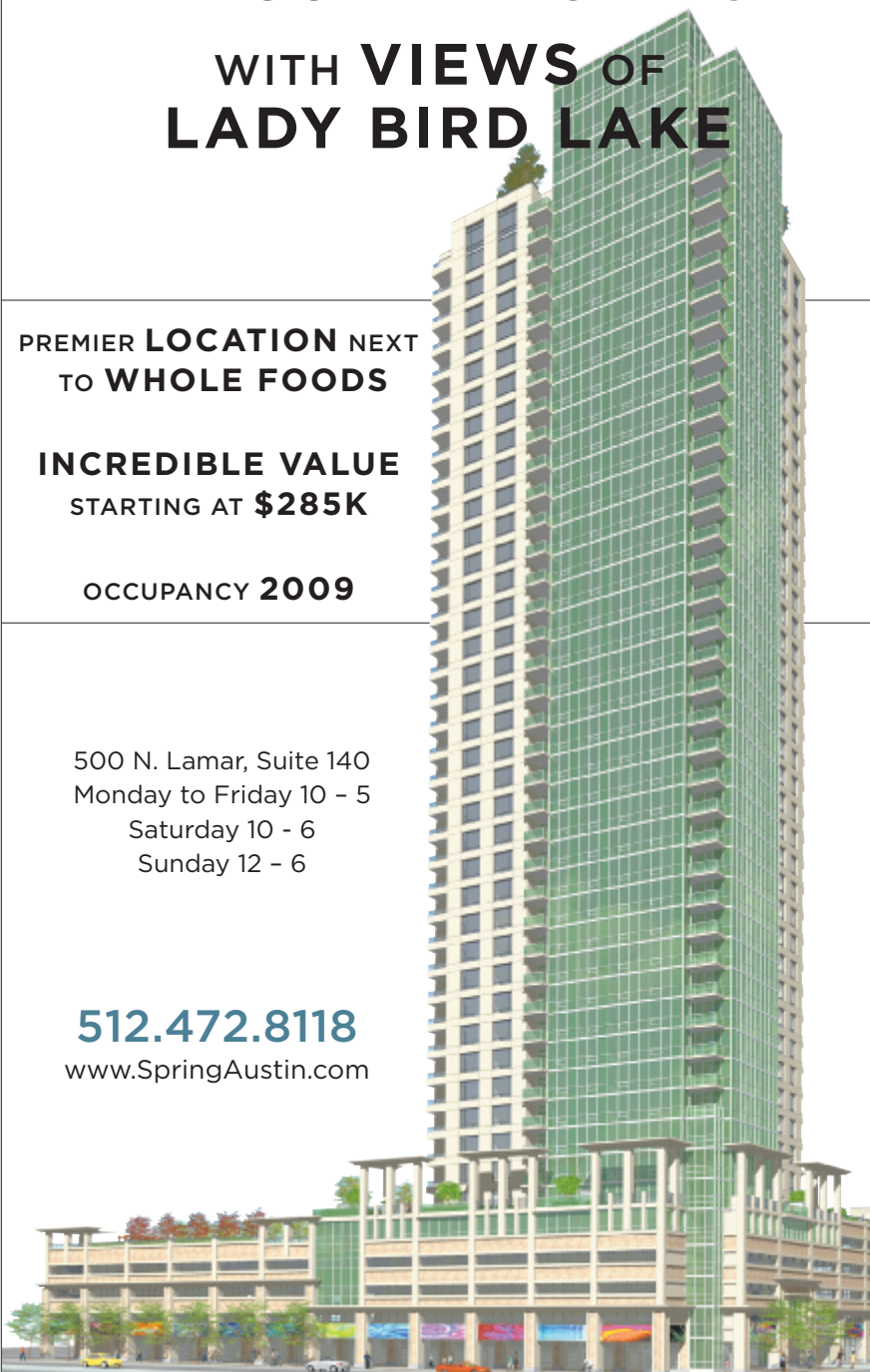
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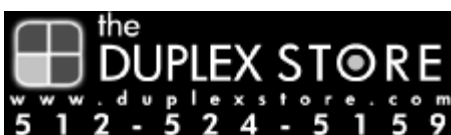
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LMT# 105875

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10 hour course ONLY \$75!
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chl_texas

DANCE



Thursday Night Swing Dance
2312 San Gabriel St.
8:00pm-midnight
\$5 admission
Free intro class at 8:15

Come dance at one of the
nation's friendliest swing
dance communities!

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FILM ACTING The Film Acting
program at Studio E involves
a combination of scene study
and film technique. Each week,
we recreate a scene from a
film from the bottom up. Class
enrollment is limited in order
to provide as much screen time
as possible for each student.
Studio E is located in SW Austin,
near the "Y" at Oak Hill. To
register or arrange an interview,
please call 512-301-1600 or
email us studioeaustin@gmail.com
or visit our website www.studioeaustin.com

ORCHID SEMINAR & Plant
Sale, October 25 10:00am -
2:00pm; Zilker Garden Center.
Contact: Geoff (512) 413-3199

SPANISH Learn to speak
Spanish. This ongoing course
relies heavily on visual ma-
terial, word association and
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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
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<http://www.RapidSpanish.com>

WEBSITE Get the Austin
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austinchronicle.com, fresh
every Friday, and available
24 hours a day!

525 EVENTS

HALLOWEEN PARADE Are
you a creative type? We
need costumed marchers for
our parade on Oct. 31st! Visit
<http://www.myspace.com/krewedcm>
for details.
Zombies, vampires, & evil
mermaids needed.

REALESTATE COMMUNITY
Meet and network with real es-
tate investors that are willing to
share strategies and teach even
the inexperienced how to invest
in real estate the right way.
Learn from experienced million-
aires. Call Diane 5127492476 for
details. Thursday Nights starting
Oct. 16th in Austin

530 GENERAL

ADOPTION PREGNANT?
CONSIDERING ADOPTION?
Talk with caring agency
specializing in matching
Birthmothers with Families
nationwide. **LIVING
EXPENSES PAID.** Call 24/7
Abby's One True Gift
Adoptions
866-413-6293 (AAN CAN)

545 LEGAL NOTICES

**Application has
been made with
the Texas Alcohol-
ic Beverage Com-
mission for Mixed
Beverage Permit,
Food And Beverage
Certificate, and
Beverage Cartage
Permit by Dela-
ware Mac Acquisi-
tion, LLC. dba Ro-
mano's Macaroni
Grill, 701 East
Stassney Lane 'B',
Austin, Travis
County, Texas
78745. Sole Officer
of said Limited Li-
ability Company
are Joshua Ol-
shansky, Presi-
dent, CEO, Vice
President and Sec-
retary. Member/
Manager is Mac
Holding LLC.**

**Application has
been made with
the Texas
Alcoholic Beverage
Commission for
Mixed Beverage
Permit, Food And
Beverage
Certificate, and
Beverage Cartage
Permit by Dela-
ware Mac Acquisi-
tion, LLC. dba Ro-
mano's Macaroni
Grill, 701 Capitol of
Texas HWY, West
Lake Hills, Travis
County, Texas
78746. Sole Officer
of said Limited
Liability Company
are Joshua
Olshansky,
President, CEO,
Vice President and
Secretary. Mem-
ber/Manager is
Mac Holding LLC.**

**Application has
been made with**

**the Texas Alcohol-
ic Beverage Com-
mission for Mixed
Beverage Permit,
Food And Beverage
Certificate, and
Beverage Cartage
Permit by Dela-
ware Mac Acquisi-
tion, LLC. dba Ro-
mano's Macaroni
Grill, 9828 Great
Hills Trail #3, Aus-
tin, Travis County,
Texas 78759. Sole
Officer of said
Limited Liability
Company are Josh-
ua Olshansky,
President, CEO,
Vice President and
Secretary. Mem-
ber/Manager is
Mac Holding LLC.**

**CAUSE NO. 89,317 IN
THE MATTER OF THE ES-
TATE OF HILDA BEVERLIN
CAVELL, DECEASED**
**IN THE PROBATE COURT
NUMBER ONE OF TRAVIS
COUNTY, TEXAS**
**PUBLISHED NOTICE TO
CREDITORS** Notice is here-
by given that Letters Testa-
mentary for the Estate of Hil-
da Beverlin Cavell, De-
ceased, were issued on Oc-
tober 7, 2008, in Docket
Number 89,317, pending in
the Probate Court, Number

One, Travis County, Texas to
Joseph Panico, Independent
Executor.

The address of record for Jo-
seph Panico is c/o Mark Z.
Levbarg, P.C., Fountain Pla-
za, Building B, 825 East 53
1/2 Street, Austin, Texas
78751.

All persons having claims
against this Estate are re-
quired to present their claims
within the time and in the
manner prescribed by law.
DATED on this 7th day of Oc-
tober, 2008.

Joseph Panico,
Independent Executor

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

**CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-08-
005138** To: CATALINO SO-
LORZANO FLORES and to all
who it may concern,
Respondent(s); GREETINGS:
YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You
may employ an attorney. If
you or your attorney do not
file a written answer with the
clerk who issued this citation
by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday
next following the expiration
of twenty days after you were
served this citation and peti-
tion, a default judgment may
be taken against you.

**YOU ARE HEREBY COM-
MANDED** to appear and an-
swer before the Honorable
District Court, 261ST JUDI-
CIAL DISTRICT COURT, Tra-

vis County, Texas, at the
Courthouse of said County in
Austin, Texas, at or before 10
o'clock A.M. of the Monday
next after expiration of twenty
days from the date of service
of this citation, then and
there to answer the ORIGI-
NAL PETITION FOR DI-
VORCE AND TRAVIS
COUNTY STANDING ORDER
filed in said court on OCTO-
BER 7, 2008, and said suit
being number D-1-FM-08-
005138 on the docket of said
Court, and entitled "IN THE
MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE
OF ANDREA GARCIA SO-
LORZANO and CATALINO
SOLORZANO-FLORES, ET
AL, and in the Interest of
CATALINO SOLORZANO,
JR., CHILD". The nature of
said suit is a request to DIS-
SOLVE the marriage of the
parties, appoint managing
and possessory conserva-
tors, and divide the estate of
the parties in a manner that
the court deems just and
right.

The Court has authority in
this suit to enter any judg-
ment or decree in the
CHILD's interest which will
be binding on you, including
the termination of the parent-
child relationship, the deter-
mination of paternity, and the
appointment of a conservator
with authority to consent to
the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my
hand and the seal of said

the COMMON LAW by Luke Ellis & Katherine Howard

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.

JURY DUTY - WHAT IF I DON'T SHOW UP?

What happens if I don't show up for jury duty?

It depends. If you're being summoned to serve for a
federal jury and don't show, you're facing the possibility
of being seized by a marshal, hauled before the court,
and asked to "show cause" - that is, provide the court
with a good reason why you couldn't make it to jury
duty. In the event the court decides your "cause" wasn't
worthy, you're now facing a fine of up to \$100, three
days in jail, or both.

If you are summoned to jury duty in a justice of the
peace court (small claims or justice court) or a municipal
court in Texas, the penalty for not showing up is exactly
the same as under the federal rules: a fine of up to \$100
and/or a three-night stay in jail. If you blow off a county
or district court summons though, state law provides for
a potential fine starting at \$100 on up to \$1,000, and you
can be jailed for contempt. Unlike the three-day stay for
delinquent citizens under the federal rules, in Texas you
can be jailed up to six months for contempt.

In reality, courts don't spend their time and resources
fining and jailing folks who don't show up for jury duty.
If you pull a no-show, nothing is likely to happen to you.
Seriously, though, actually going to jury duty is often less
painful than people think. The real consequence is that
jury trials can't happen without juries. In the event you
ever need a jury, it's only fair to ask of others what you've
done yourself.

*I'm self-employed, and if I don't go to work, I don't
get paid, and my business suffers. Can this get me out
of jury duty?*

Probably not. Under Texas law, judges have the discre-
tion to hear any reasonable sworn excuse of a prospective
juror and to release that person from jury service. But as a
general rule, judges release qualified potential jurors very
sparingly. If you want out of jury service because you are
busy or may lose income, it's unlikely that a judge will
release you.

How long before I have to serve on a jury again?

If you served on a jury, meaning you were one of the
six or 12 jurors chosen for a trial and were sworn in by
the judge, you may be exempted from jury service for a
minimum period of 24 months before serving again.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and com-
ments 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.

car talk

by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

PROPERLY USED JUMPER CABLES POSE NO DANGER

Dear Tom and Ray:

My wife heard a report on a local radio
station warning people not to use jumper
cables on modern cars. The guy said they
could cause "unstable voltage" and dam-
age onboard computer operations. I own
a 2005 Subaru and a 2007 Ford. When I
contacted both vehicles' dealerships, each
told me it is OK to use jumper cables.
Additionally, each told me that the devices
they use in their repair departments to start
cars with dead or low batteries are just
like jumper cables. So? What's the truth?
Are my dealerships' service representatives
ignorant? Please advise! Thanks! - Rob

RAY: It sounds like you're describing
my brother, Rob. Unstable voltage and
onboard computer problems.

TOM: Actually, your dealerships'
service representatives are exactly
right. We jump-start cars all the time
at the shop and have never had any
car suffer from "unstable voltage" or
computer damage when it was jump-
started correctly.

RAY: Now, there are lots of problems
that can be created if you hook up the
jumper cables *backward*.

TOM: Right. That can cause unstable
voltage, unstable angina, fried computers,
angry customers. and lots of explainin'.

RAY: So, when you *do* jump-start
a car, you want to take great care to
make sure you're doing it correctly.
If you're not sure how to jump-start
a car, we have a diagram and instruc-
tions on our website at **www.cartalk.com**.
Print 'em out, and stick 'em in
your glove compartment.

* * *

Stop the madness! You can stop driving
like a knucklehead, and you'll help your
car in the process. Learn how your driving
habits can harm your car in Tom and Ray's
pamphlet "Ten Ways You May Be Ruining
Your Car Without Even Knowing It!" Send
\$4.75 (check or money order) to Ruin, PO
Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

* * *

Got a question about cars? Write to Click
and Clack in care of this newspaper, or
e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk website,
www.cartalk.com.

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on

kut 90.5
AUSTIN TEXAS

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court at Austin, Texas, October 07, 2008.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA

Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ ARMANDA MARTINEZ, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
LEIGH DE LA REZA
1704 1/2 SOUTH CONGRESS AVE, STE Q
AUSTIN, TX 78704
BUSINESS PHONE: (512)301-0274
FAX: (512)276-6672

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF KENNETH DAVID BENNIGHT, Deceased, No. 89421 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

THOMAS WAYNE RUTHERFORD alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 6th day of OCTOBER, 2008, an Application for Determination of Heirship and for Letters of Independent Administration without bond in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said KENNETH DAVID BENNIGHT, 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 6th day of October, 2008.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk,

Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325,

Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Monica Limon

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF SARA JEAN GREER, Cause No. 08-0492-CP4, in County Court at Law #4 of Williamson County, Texas 78626.

LINDA A. HIGDON, Applicant in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 28th day of September, 2008, an APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP PURSUANT TO SECTION 145(e) OF THE TEXAS PROBATE CODE of the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said SARA JEAN GREER, DECEASED, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application may be heard 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 Annex in Georgetown, Williamson 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 office at Georgetown, Texas, this the 2nd day of October, 2008.

Nancy E. Rister

Williamson County Clerk
405 MLK Street, Box 14

Georgetown, TX 78626

By: /s/ Dianne M. Flores, Deputy

CONTRACTOR'S NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the **GATTIS SCHOOL ROAD PROJECT (IFB No. B090031-LP)**, a project consisting primarily of roadway pavement construction, widening, earthwork, curb and gutter, concrete sidewalk, storm drainage systems, erosion and sedimentation controls, retaining wall, architectural/screen wall, detention pond and miscellaneous associated improvements on Gattis School Road from Redbud Lane to Ashburnham Drive in Travis County Precinct 2 and Williamson County Precinct 4, 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, NOVEMBER 6, 2008**, 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.

Copies of plans and specifications may be obtained from the **TRAVIS COUNTY PURCHASING OFFICE**. A refundable deposit of \$200.00 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 issued. 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 list below.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 22, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M., CST AT THE Travis County Purchasing Office, Conference Room, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 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 unit pricing, except as provided for in the Specifications

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.

CYD GRIMES

TRAVIS COUNTY

PURCHASING AGENT

NO. 89263 IN RE ESTATE OF RUTH FORBIS, DECEASED
IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. ONE TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of RUTH FORBIS, Deceased, were issued on September 25, 2008, in docket No. 89263, pending in the Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas to Leigh Kirby. The residence of Leigh Kirby is in Travis County, Texas; the address is 1004 Clear Lake Ln, Leander, Texas 78641.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 1st day of October, 2008.

/s/ Leigh Kirby

NORTH CAROLINA HARNETT COUNTY IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION

80-CvD-1202

JORGE VARGAS LOPEZ,

Plaintiff

Vs.

IDALIA RODRIGUEZ,

Defendant

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

TAKE NOTICE that a Complaint for an Absolute Divorce has been filed in the above-referenced action.

You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than forty (40) days from October 10, 2008 and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking relief against you will apply to the court for sought.

This the 16th day of September, 2008.

/s/ Charlene Edwards

Attorney for the Plaintiff

P.O. Box 2446

Lillington, NC 27546

Telephone: (910) 893-1128

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicle will be sold at a public sale unless charges are satisfied within ten (10) days. AusTex Towing, 201 E. Braker Ln. '00 Jeep TN tags 841NOH, VIN 1J4GW48S4YC100830 towed from CR 110 & CR 112 in Round Rock, TX 08/13/08

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1988 CHEVY

1GNCT18Z0J8164940

1990 GEO

1Y1SK5468LZ153512

1993 FORD

3FAPP15J2PR135756

1993 BUICK

3G4AG55N5PS619550

1990 CHEVY

1GNCU06D1LT133985

1991 HONDA

1HGCB7255MA073052

1985 CADILLAC

1G6CD4789F4345763

1994 GMC

2GTEK19K4R1531942

AUCTION October 31, 2008 @ 6:00 A.M.

ADVANCED TOWING & RECOVERY

1810 BENCH MARK DR AUSTIN, TX 78728 (512) 402-0024

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicle will be sold at a public sale unless charges are satisfied within ten (10) days.

AusTex Towing, 2013 N. Mays St: Blue Motorcycle (mini bike) w/ no LP or VIN, towed from 700 BLK McNeil in Round Rock, TX 10/07/08; 2002 Cadillac, CA tags 5VEZ566; 1G6KD54V7J2U275292, towed from IH35 S/B N. of Old Settlers in Round Rock, TX 10/12/08

AusTex Towing 1408 Three Points Rd: 2007 Honda motorcycle w/ paper tags, 1HFCS52697A411321, towed from Quinlan Park & 620 in Austin, TX 10/10/08

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

U-STORE-IT hereby gives notice of Public Sale under the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code. This sale will be held on November 5, 2008 beginning at 10:00 A.M. at the U-STORE-IT located at 10025 Manchaca Road Austin, Texas. This sale will continue to each designated address location listed below after the completion of the beginning sale. This sale is being held to satisfy a Landlord's Lien. Everything sold is purchased "as is" "where is" for cash. U-STORE-IT reserves the right to set a minimum bid, refuse any bid, or to cancel any Public Sale that is advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials related to the sale.

U-Store-IT #753

10025 Manchaca Rd

Austin, Tx 78748

512-292-1760

Ryan Jones - Candy and Gumball Machines

Roberta Celaya - Bags, Boxes, Chairs, Dresser, Lamp, Table, Cabinet, Totes

Steven Koepke - Pictures, Tables, TV, Stereo

Ray Camden - Boxes, Refrigerator, Sofa, Stereo, TV, Washer, VCR, Totes

Paul Rijas - Bass Buggy Pontoon Boat VIN: BUJ68502K687 with trailer and motor.

U-Store-IT #751

610 E. Stassney Lane

Austin, TX 78745

512-441-8300

Carol Milam - Bags, Bed Frame, Boxes, Chair, Dresser, Ladder, Lamps, Microwave, Mirrors, Pictures, Radio, Shelf, Sofa, Plastic Containers, Stuffed Deer Head, Baskets.

Lois Davis - Bags, Boxes, Chairs, Lamp, Radio, Speakers, Suitcase, Table, Totes, Baskets.

Matthew Shaffer - Leather Sofa, Chair.

U-Store-IT #748

12006 RR 620 N

Austin, TX 78750

512-336-5333

Matthew Ottman - Boxes, Ladder, Trunks, Entertainment Center, Storage Bins, Shelving, Sewing Machine

Matthew Ottman - Headboard, Boxes, Chairs,

Dresser, Sofa, Shelving unit, Bikes, Guitar

AUCTIONER: KENNETH HIERHOLZER 6568

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods herein-after described and stored at Stor Self Storage locations listed below; And due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following address to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash only.

Stor Self Storage 7401 W. Slaughter Lane, Austin, Texas 78739 512-394-9898

November 5, 2008 11:30 am

Unit # 3092, Carrie L. Lockwood, 10X20X9, White 5 piece Patio Set, bed frame w/headboard and footboard, Couch and Loveseat, Amana Washer and Dryer Set, End tables, TV, shelving unit, Etc.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale is 10:00 am, November 5, 2008 at 824 Wagon Trail Austin, TX. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Cleanup and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from sale. Property includes contents of spaces of following tenants: LAURA WOOLSEY-CHAVEZ, TV, Couch, Mirror, CAROL ROBERTS, Clothes, Furniture, Stereo, Dishes, Ladder, household items; CHANDRA ROBERTS, Furniture, Christmas Tree, Bike, Lamp Microwave, Baby items, Toys, Swing Set, Spreader, Baby Bed; RONALD REED, Games, Suitcase, Storage Bins, Bed spread, tables, vacuum cleaner, shelves; JASON SCHNEIBER, Shelves, Computer Racks, CD Music System; BRENDIA CURRAN, Cooler, Furniture, TV, Household items; REGINA KAVANAUGH, Pallets, Main Frames, Suitcase, Pictures; JUSTIN STRICKLAND, Furniture, Weights, Washer/Dryer. Contact CSA Management at (512) 453-6566 Ext 219 for more information.

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF TRAVIS

By virtue of a certain Writ of Execution issued by the Justice of the Peace Court Precinct 2, in Travis County, Texas, on the 12th day of August, 2008 in a certain cause numbered 045884, wherein Arrow Financial Services LLC, is Plaintiff and Michael D. Kaderka is the Defendant, in favor of said Plaintiff for the sum of One thousand one hundred and forty-five dollars and 74/100 (1145.74) with interest from July 25, 2006 at the rate of 18%, and \$287.00 in attorney fees from that date at the rate of 6.5% per annum, also \$295.00 costs of suit, and also the cost of executing this writ according to the law and the mandates thereof, and whereas said judgment is entitled to the following credits:

none, that being the amount of the judgment recovered by said Plaintiff, in the Justice of the Peace Court Precinct 2, in Travis County, Texas, on the 25th day of July, 2006.

I, on the 26th day of August, 2008 at 2:00 P.M. have levied upon, and will on the 4th day of November, 2008 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (at 11:00 a.m.), on said day, at the courthouse steps of said county, offer for sale at public auction for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of Defendant in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of Defendant, to wit:

1. Lot 9091 Bar-K Ranches Plat 9, an addition in North-

western Travis County, Texas according to the map or plat thereof; commonly known as 8004 Flintlock Circle, Lago Vista, Texas 78645

2. Lot 9092 Bar-K Ranches Plat 9, an addition in North-western Travis County, Texas according to the map or plat thereof; commonly known as 8006 Flintlock Circle, Lago Vista, Texas 78645

3. Lot 9093 Bar-K Ranches Plat 9, an addition in North-western Travis County, Texas according to the map or plat thereof; commonly known as 8008 Flintlock Circle, Lago Vista, Texas 78645

4. Lot 9094 Bar-K Ranches Plat 9, an addition in North-western Travis County, Texas according to the map or plat thereof; commonly known as 8010 Flintlock Circle, Lago Vista, Texas 78645

Note: On the property sold there are no warranties, expressed or implied, including but not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. You have bought the property "as is". Buyers are further advised that the purchase of the property at the Constable's sale may not extinguish any liens or security interest on or in the property. You have simply purchased whatever interest

the defendant had in the property. If you have any questions, you should consult the counsel of your choice.

The purchaser will be required to produce an unexpired written statement from the Tax-assessor-collector of the County in which the sale is conducted that there are no delinquent ad-valorem taxes owed to the county, school district or municipality.

The above sale to be made by me to satisfy the above-described judgment for One thousand one hundred and forty-five dollars and 74/100

(1145.74) together with 18% interest, in favor of said Plaintiff, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Bob Vann Constable

10409 Burnett Rd. #150

Austin, Texas 78758

(512) 854-9697

By: Deputy Lynn Snowdown #216

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF DANIEL C. McKEACHERN, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Daniel C. McKeachern, deceased, were issued on September 18, 2008, in Cause No. 89201, pending in the Travis County Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to Danielle Doris McKeachern, now known as Danielle McKeachern Adkins, as Independent Executor. The residence of the Independent Executor is in Travis County, Texas. The post office address for claims is:

Estate of

Daniel C. McKeachern

c/o Scott Stebler, Attorney

5114 Balcones Woods Dr,

Ste. 307, PMB 415

Austin, TX 78759

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated: October 1, 2008

Scott Stebler

5114 Balcones Woods Dr,

Ste. 307, PMB 415

Austin, TX 78759

Attorney for the Executor

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF GUY W. GIFFORD, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Guy W. Gifford, Deceased, were issued on October 10, 2008, in Cause

No. 89321 in the Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Texas to Sylvia C. Gifford.

The post office address for mailing of claims is:

Sylvia C. Gifford, Executor

c/o Rash, Chapman, Schreiber & Porter, L.L.P.

2112 Rio Grande

Austin, TX 78705

512/477-7543 (PHONE)

512/474-0954 (FAX)

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated this October 10, 2008.

By: Mark B. Schreiber

Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ORLAND W. RURY, SR., DECEASED

The administration of the estate of ORLAND W. RURY, SR., DECEASED has been commenced by the issuance of original Letters Testamentary to Carolyn Riehle, Katherine Dianne Rury and Angela Rury, whose address is 108 Kelley Ranch Road, Dale, Texas 78616, on June 5, 2008 by the Travis County Probate Court No. 1, acting in Cause No. 87445, styled IN RE: ESTATE OF ORLAND W. RURY, SR., DECEASED, in which Court the matter is pending. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby notified to present them within the time pre-

scribed by law, addressed to the representative of the estate at the address shown above.

Dated this 10th day of October, 2008.

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 DOROTHY HOLMES LAUGHLIN, DECEASED, AND NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

Notice is hereby given that on September 23, 2008, Letters Testamentary as Independent Executor of the above Estate were issued to Candace Laughlin Elsass, 5911 Overlook Dr., Austin, Texas 78731, by the Honorable Judge Laura Jacks of the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, in Cause Number 89221, pending upon the Probate Docket of said Court.

All persons having claims against said Estate, which is currently being administered, are requested to present the same within the time prescribed by law to: Candace Laughlin Elsass at the above address.

/s/ Charles A. Ruesink, Attorney for the Executor

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOYCE ANN FRANZEN AUSTIN, DECEASED, AND NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

Original application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit and Late Hours Permit by Pure Austin Nightclub, LLC d/b/a Pure located at 419 E. 6th Street, Austin, Travis County, TX, 78701. Manager of said limited liability company is Hussein Ali Yassine, Sole Manager/Member.

STORAGE UNIT AUCTION THURS OCT. 30th, 2008 @ EAST CENTRAL STORAGE
A public auction will be held to satisfy landlord's lien pursuant to chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, to be held at 10:00 a.m.

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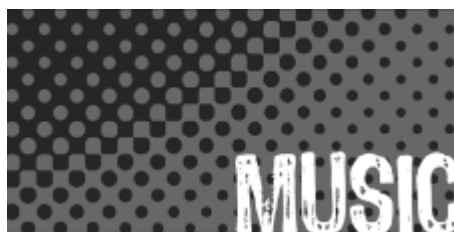
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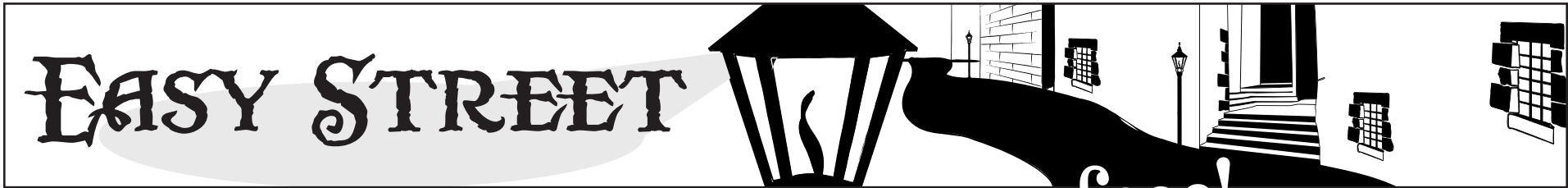
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Bi-sexual male to fulfill wife's fantasy. 30&45, open, honest and discreet! DDF, H/W proportionate, good looking. Photo required. **desire101**, 43, [#127818](#)

BI-CURIOS FEMALE

I am a very sexy, very fit female looking to explore my bi-sexual fantasies with another woman/women in front of my boyfriend. He is fit, hung, & fun. **looking4fun**, 29, [#127762](#)

EROTICA EXOTICA

Attractive, intelligent couple wants to have it all - at least in the bedroom. We seek a fun loving, secure woman, man or couple to please him and her. **Costablanca**, 39, [#127441](#)

HOT ADVENTUROUS COUPLE

hot couple looking for female playmate.sex only,no relationship.Wife 5'6",slender,green eyes.Husband 6' muscular,long hair,brown eyes.Both have tattoos.very sensual,open minded,no men. **carpelobo**, 39, [#127162](#)

SEXY ADVENTUROUS COUPLE

We're a couple in love but looking for erotic experiences with beautiful women. We're relatively new to this, but are up for a delicious sexual experience if you are interested... **foxyloxyn-grizzlybear**, 22, [#127025](#)

NEW TO AUSTIN

Couple interesting in having a female companion to help spice things up in the bedroom. We are pretty easygoing people and willing to try anything! **Usagistar182**, 24, [#126862](#)

SEXY COUPLE LOOKING

Sexy young couple, looking for a hot lady to get frisky with. A little girl on girl action to start. We would love to be as discreet as possible. **luckyone**, 24, [#126216](#)

COUPLE SEEK BI-GAL

oh, where do we start this ad? we want a real guy, bi-sexual. a guy that is looking for a couple. 35-55 years old we are 40's. we are cute. **saustincouple**, 45, [#125567](#)

NERDY SWEET COUPLE

We are looking for a woman or a man to play with us. We are shy, but adventurous and open to anything once we get to know you. **TrixieGirl**, 38, [#125322](#)

FIRST TIME COUPLE

we are a couple in love but wanting to expand our sexual pleasures. this would be our first time but we are very open minded. Couples or females only. **080764**, 44, [#124403](#)

SENSUALCPLSEEKING SPICE

We are a committed middle-aged couple interested in experiencing with like-minded individuals/couples to add spice to our hot lovemaking. If the words discreet, sensual, erotic, passionate, imaginative, fun interest you, contact us. **garf5848**, 49, [#123217](#)

WANT TO SHARE

We have an awesome relationship and sex life- and we wanna include you in it! Looking for a third to join us and make things more adventurous... **iris_and_jack**, 35, [#122165](#)

COUPLE INTO FUN!

We're happy couple that is into new encounters with others. He straight, She bi, open minded and ready! **Up4fun**, 45, [#120283](#)

ADVENTUROUS, DISCREET, 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**, 39, [#116581](#)

SEEKING SWITCH PARTNER

You-looking for fun above all with no pre-conceived expectations. US:Average people looking for an above average fun :) Prefer bi-sf, couples ok. Inexperienced welcomed. Honesty refreshing. **Bifemaustincpl**, 32, [#121712](#)

GIRL PLAYMATES

Experienced sexy bi hottie looking for other femme hotties to play with. **Catwalk**, 31, [#119900](#)

SUBMISSIVE FOR MASTER

My master will control and teach me. He should be successful caring and giving yet firm. I will give my loyalty and treat him as my king. **Jean-42DDD**, 37, [#127400](#)

FEM DOM

Professional Mistress seeking devoted servants, slaves, & submissives who need the guidance of a beautiful and stern Domina. You must be clean, respectful, generous, and discreet! Your privacy is accommodated. **femdom**, 25, [#127072](#)

WETLIPS

im a wild sex kitten with wet lips and a soft skin, email me for sexy e-mails, ill talk dirty! **highheels23**, 22, [#126858](#)

HELP!!!!!!

We would like to add another woman to our love making, someone who is experienced would be great! Women on women would be ok as long as he can watch....interested? **GiGi69**, 41, [#125791](#)

AN INTELLIGENT STONER???

It's been a long while since my last relationship, so I'm just looking for a chill older (20-30ish) guy to chill and have fun with. Open for almost anything. Word. **interstate420**, 19, [#127967](#)

VERS TOP

chill dude looking for some casual play from a young good-looking guy. **effhugh84**, 24, [#127666](#)

UP FOR ANYTHING

48,gwm,6',180#,blk/brn,moderately hairy,partnered but play. looking for men hairy or smooth, uncut preferably, for occasional playtime. seeking all types of experiences. **oscar**, 48, [#127611](#)

SUBMISSIVE SEEKING TOP

I am looking for dominant top, eager and willing to dominate me. He might have to put up with scheduling problems. I am in relationship. Day-time encounters might be necessary. **volcano**, 48, [#127424](#)

CHASTITY FUN?

Would you like attention, affection, adoration when and how YOU Want it? Can the key to your heart be worn on the same necklace as key to my CB Cage? **Yours**, 39, [#127186](#)

LOVE MTF SCENE

40yr Military Man athletic heavy set build. Is seeking to meet MTF person or couples. I am real and serious and love to be dominated by my lover and friends. **Drillmetx**, 40, [#127984](#)

METAL BEER PARTY!!

6'2" 185lbs hot athletic white, brown hair, blue eyes. Party!! **babyshaker**, 25, [#127873](#)

ORAL SUBMISSIVE

Closet crossdresser here. Straight submissive. Just looking for "friends" maybe for e-mails or messeging. Enjoy giving oral to a woman, and receiving nothing in return. Just seeing who's out there. **firefighter40**, 40, [#127854](#)

M4T

hey whats up i am an 18 year old male looking for a transgender male to female to hang out with. **scotty78735**, 19, [#127269](#)

LET'S HAVE FUN

looking for women or a couple to have some clean fun with everything goes but pain. **cfish0718**, 50, [#127134](#)

GOT IT UP

ready to meet with horny babes that want a sexual encounter no strings except a G string. **cubalibre13**, 45, [#128009](#)

HUMAN POWERTOOL

I have the stamina to go the distance. Need fast freaky woman for goodtimes. **Rednecksamurai**, 22, [#127969](#)

free!

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DEEPER

What is your hottest feature and why? My hottest feature is my eyes. They are very big, and bold!! They change colors from blue, to green. My eyes look especially pretty when looking up at you..

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THE LUV DOC

Keep Austin Young: Celebrating the Life of Danny Roy Young • Sun., Oct. 19, 6pm • Austin Music Hall 208 Nueces • www.austinmusichall.com

Sunday night's Keep Austin Young concert at the Music Hall might be a little misleading. A quick scan of the lineup reveals that pretty much everyone on the bill qualifies for an AARP discount ... or soon will. Surely this irony wasn't missed by the promoters. More likely they embraced it because the Keep Austin Young concert isn't a scenester rave or a Methodist youth rally. It's a celebration of the life of Danny Roy Young, a man who would have appreciated the title's irony more than most. Young, who died in August at the age of 67, was the owner of the now defunct Texicalli Grill, a restaurant that in its later years occupied a converted Taco Bell on Oltorf next to Curra's. Unlike its corporately homogenized predecessor, the Texicalli was a uniquely Austin establishment. The walls were cluttered with Young's collection of music memorabilia, and the tables were usually filled with his colorful collection of friends: musicians, politicians, bubbas, hippies, and slackers. All came to eat good food, drink, and swap stories. Young was as much a raconteur as a restaurateur, and a good part of the charm of the Texicalli was the outgoing, good-natured banter of its owner, the "Mayor of South Austin," an honorary title that was the result of Young being named Best Mayor for the City of South Austin in the *Chronicle's* 1992 "Best of Austin" issue – partly for his political activism opposing expansion of South Lamar (where the original Texicalli was located) and partly because Young was so beloved by his unofficial constituency. As with any true South Austinite, Young was also a musician – a rubboard player for several bands: Ponty Bone, Texana Dames, and perhaps most famously with the Cornell Hurd Band. During their Thursday night residency at Jovita's, Hurd would often refer to Young as the "Lord of the Board." In true South Austin style, Young's rubboard was handmade, played with leather gloves that had mercury dimes glued to the fingertips – exactly the kind of thing you might come up with while stoned at a South Austin back-porch jam session. Although Young retired from the restaurant business a couple of years ago, he continued with his rubboard career as well as his role as a South Austin icon, emblematic of an era when Austin valued creativity and talent more than money and style. The fact that Young's benefit is at the Austin Music Hall piles on further irony. All the rapacious development – those towering new condos and sleek new businesses were built on the bones of the scene that greedless good timers like Danny Young created. It's fitting that Young's family should benefit from them in turn, if only indirectly. If you didn't know Danny, you still have plenty of reason to pay your respect. He's part of the reason you and thousands of other people live in Austin. If that's not reason enough, how about several hours of music from the crème de la crème of Austin's old guard musicians: the Texana Dames, Ponty Bone, Marcia Ball, Ray Benson, the Cornell Hurd Band featuring Teisco del Rey, Floyd Domino, Blackie White, the Antone's House Band, and perhaps the finest songwriter in the known world, James McMurtry.

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women

SEEKING

men

“CURIOUS” “FRISKIE” “PEACEFUL”
“Intuitive,sincere,passionate,compassionate, magnetic,determined.” I’m all those things...(in a good way!) I can sometimes be anti-social ...so I guess I’m looking for someone to be a hermit WITH me at those times. **flora9**, 48,  **#128006**
SUNKISSED
I am a sophomore at UT so I work and study a lot, so I’m always down for relaxing. I love being outside, and walking around aimlessly. **Sunk-issued576**, 19,  **#127977**

JUST ADD WATER
Looking for fun people to play with by the water. Prefer to sail but open to other adventures. **oceantime**, 50,  **#119685**

SAVE THE REESE’S!!!!
Born & Raised In Austin, TX... Im a Fun Crazy Loud Person... I Love Being Spontaneous.. Im A Notre Dame Kinda Girl.. I Love Football & Not Afraid Of Competition. **Ms_Irish_Gurl**, 21,  **#127955**

SING SONG
My favorite things: blue jeans, thai food, queso, my dog Hazel, bon fires, the beach, Traveling, Rain, laughing, playing little guitar, and spending time with my those dear to me. **LaLaLa**, 28,  **#127901**

ALMOST ALWAYS ALLITERATING
I dig intelligent conversation, a dry sense of humor, cheesy 60s beach party movies, and creativity. **Lucky-Penny**, 23,  **#127525**

SOUTHERN COMFORT
I am terrible of writing about my self, but here it goes I have enjoy the lake, hanging w/friends and family. Hiking, running and just playing around in the park. **peachisncrem**, 39,  **#122016**

TATTOO'D FILM MAKER.
i'm a film maker/editor.i love music my favortie bands are the strokes, rage against the machine.I like watching old movies, discussing the theory of whatever. I'm told I'm extremely funny. **MusicBby**, 18,  **#127775**

ADVENTURES, PLAYFUL, BUBBLY,
I'm quite the odd duck.I'm random, I'm klutzy, I'm loud,I'm sarcastic,and I make a complete jackass out of my-self most of the time, unintentionally. What you find stupid,I probably find hilarious. **Dollface**, 18,  **#127767**

COSMOPOLITAN WANNABE TEXAN
World traveler settled in Austin. Looking for man to be myself with. No boys, no games, just honesty, intelligence, sincerity. Goofy humor definite plus. I'm educated, independent, part-time goofball. **Helga**, 35,  **#127583**

MANY MORE ADS ONLINE!

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BIKING AROUND TOWN?
I rock. If you can handle truth and fun while riding bikes around town, then we have something in common. **alyoga**, 36,  **#127712**

NO GAMES
Nice guy to debate politics, see movies, travel and be creative to what else life offers. NO GAMES a real man a confident man who is self assured and successful. **Natural-women**, 53,   **#127514**

ADVENTUROUS SEEKING COMPANION
Once upon a time there was a quiet and serene woman... most of the time. She loved to travel, discover new things, read, watch movies, music and dining out. **Gaia_Girl**, 36,  **#127667**

DANCE FOR JOY
Let's go dancing! Travel,snorkel,live music, sing,love. Gypsy at heart in love with home of Austin. Family, friends, peace and justice, spirituality, nature, hugs. Latinos welcome, friends first. Quiero bailar contigo. **alegre**, 49,   **#124560**

THE HARD WAY
I'm a pretty honest person and say what is on my mind. I have many passions in life a few being my family/ friends, animals, music, hockey, and life itself! **Katie_D**, 19,  **#127652**

men

SEEKING

women

I LOVE LAMP.
I have a very diverse taste in music as well as movies. Im always down to try something new, in fact I prefer discovering the new. **Soapypenguin**, 21,  **#128023**

THINKING IS HARD
I can make love for 1.45 hours. **min-estrone**, 31,  **#121013**

LET'S MASH UP
As an artist, my life revolves around music. I am known to be funny, outgoing and very...interesting. All I can say about myself is I love having fun. **thepianist67**, 19,  **#128018**

WE HAVEN'T MET...
...but we're both well-adjusted, smart, fun and funny people. We're comfortable being single, not actively seeking a relationship, but would be open to one if we actually found each other. **lovecage**, 31,  **#128015**

WHAT'S A HEADLINE??
Moved BACK to Austin; looking for a girl that can keep up with me at Emo's, check out an art gallery opening, or chill at home and let me cook! **DylanRay27**, 27,  **#128013**

NEW FROM CANADA!
30YO male, just moved here from Canada, and looking for someone sweet, funny and openminded for short term fun or, even better, long-term relationship. **paulmusiclover**, 30,   **#128008**

BARTON SPRINGS ENTHUSIAST
Austin native, easy going, nice guy type, daily meditation, frequent visitor to Barton Springs, yoga practitioner, lap swimmer, soccer, writer, in love with Austin, Looking to meet someone special. **HaveANiceDay**, 23,  **#128007**

ACTIVE FIT FUN
Looking for 24 - 33 gal who is in good shape, likes to workout but have fun too! Lake/sports/dtown/ Cowboy games all a plus! **Eric_in_ATX**, 34,  **#127997**

ABSURDITY SANS WANKERY
Independent, good-looking, self-entertaining, gregarious, graceful magnanimous alpha leo-type with ego in check for hot "teammate"-style romantic action, coordinated butt kicking, and perpetual enthusiastic zingy affections. **koax**, 30,  **#127994**

LOYAL, INDEPENDENT, SMART
me: honest, smart, enjoy social justice stuff. am a student, philo-poli-sci major. you: smart, concerned with more than Amer. Idol & shopping. preference is smart cute ladies. **ssc14**, 30,  **#127993**

GETTING STRONG EVERYDAY
I am interested in straight fairness. I am looking for eyes, smiles, happiness. **artj55**, 24,  **#127990**

420FUN JUST CHILLEN
im a very easy going, dont like alot of drama im am looking for someone who will treat me the same way i treat them. **born_texan**, 20,  **#127985**

NATURAL BORN TEXAN
I am sooooo delightful I just don't know what to do with myself. Every-one loves me. Why? Well because I'm great to be around! Duhh! **fiendelico**, 34,  **#127975**

SWEET, SMART
Looking to meet someone for a few drinks, laughs, and what have you. **taxicrabs**, 28,  **#127958**

ALL-AMERICAN TYPE
Athletic, 5'11, brown hair, and hazel eyes. I'm 21 year old who enjoy playing soccer, sand volleyball, going to the lake, and going to concerts. **Jarrett_G**, 21,  **#127953**

WHAT'S MY LINE?
I am very spontaneous and am always in the mood to learn more about who I am where I am going in life. **aab**, 37,  **#127952**

FOX IN FIRE
New to town,29 year old male,clean habits, educated, looking for a girl who is well educated and clean habits. **fire_fox**, 29,  **#127930**

NEVERENDING GUITAR SOLO
2nd Interviewer: Mr. Murphy, what attracts you to the leisure industry? Spud: In a word: pleasure. It's like, my pleasure in other people's leisure. **vonnegut_1945**, 26,  **#127928**

KEEPING LIFE SIMPLE
I try to keep things simple and stress free. I look for someone who can and will reciprocate the qualities I have to offer. **The_Jungleboy**, 35,  **#126317**

HELLO FROM AUSTIN
Hello, I'm just your average transplant from Washington State. I enjoy red wine, golf, my Harley, painting watercolor, photography and cooking. **jsellers5**, 56,  **#127922**

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CREATE A PROFILE AND BROWSE MORE ADS ONLINE!

women

SEEKING

women

WHAT IT DO!!!
im an openminded person who really just wants to be loved and love in return weather is as lovers r friends.. i love to do things out of the blue. **ilikeu**, 25,  **#127959**

KISS AND TELL.
I'm a down to earth girl who enjoys hanging out around Austin. I love cooking, watching movies, and playing with my dog. Did I mention that I'm a scorpio? **kristi123**, 20,  **#127827**

JUST WANNA DATE
I'm told that I am fun and smart. I love to dance and sing kerokie (but obviously i cant spell worth a darn). **manturian**, 44,  **#127729**

HOTFISTYFEMME
I'm an attractive, intelligent woman who is caring,understanding,and strong.I'm looking for someone who is honest,perceptive,funny,communi-cative...I could go on but contact me and I'll tell you in person...midnight pancakes at Kirby? **ariesgoddess77**, 31,  **#127657**

JUST MOVED HERE!
Just moved here from Los Angeles. I've got one dog, and I like to be outdoors...preferably w/her. I enjoy sports, art, movies, and being active in all areas of life. **LBoogie**, 24,  **#127458**

SINGIN CRAZY GIRL
Fun laid back girl looking for friends and or relationship with someone i see eye to eye with and can be myself around. **sorringraven**, 21,  **#127453**

ENTERTAINING, WARM, FUNNY
Looking for uniqueness, warmth, and individualism, friends and casual dating. My friends think I am funny. I really don't know , guess I don't take myself seriously. **HiC**, 47,  **#127427**

ALL ABOUT ROMANCE
Who I am: caring, sensitive, intuitive, intelligent, musical, spiritual What's important to me: time with friends and family, prayer, music, knowing myself and others, social justice, child advocacy, personal growth. **songbird68**, 39,  **#121027**

men

SEEKING

men

AUSTIN BORN
I'm emotional & moody at times, passive, vers/btm and feminine mannered. I'm looking for white or hispanic men vers/tops. No Closet Cases!! Be Proud of who you are, I am. **jmnzptrck**, 41,  **#127798**

HOPE DIES LAST
haha, i am many things, but ordinary is not one of them! Lets be random together !! And find new ways to be crazy ! **Blue**, 23,  **#101322**

LOOK HERE, PLEASE!
Looking for friendship, dating. Interests include camping, biking, theater, movies, reading, canoeing, traveling. Politically progressive, romantic, passionate, humorous, and do community work Am 5'9, 163#, 62yo, trim gray beard, masculine. **AusAbogado**, 62,  **#124933**

HELP DUDE OUT
This is tough. How witty and interesting am I really? Well, the fact that people flock around me is an indication. I have to travel with bodyguards to HEB! HELP! **spacedog101**, 35,  **#119219**

GUY IN BUDA
seeking nice and outgoing men for fun in and out of the bedroom. men who stay active or just quiet time at home, lets get busy or just relax. **rudyinbuda**, 41,  **#126941**

GAYBOY CODY
IAm 23yrs old iam going to Cosmetology school i have wonderful friends i want a guy to win me over be hot charming and be nice and want me. **macattac2003**, 23,  **#125639**

QUALITY GUY
Enjoy social functions, movies, theater, cooking, entertaining, more. Swim, workout, and walk my dog. Yes: Romance, charm, thoughtfulness, adventure. No: Drugs, heavy drinkers, smokers, insecurity, unsafe sex, closet cases, immaturity. **taurusbull86**, 44,  **#125317**

YOUR SENSUAL SPARTAN
I'm a man with a passion for good looking women, high quality dining, and watching animals. I enjoy watching the 300, Rambo, and Conan. Could you be my Salma/Heidi Klum? **inuyasha86**, 21,  **#125037**

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IF YOU ONLY KNEW

I live in a nice little place on S. Congress (one of the best streets in America to live on), work as a photographer and researcher, among other things. I would love to just hang out with someone cool, who can hold a good conversation, doesn't take life too seriously, has confidence and can get crazy or chillax when the time comes.

read the rest of BJAMMIN's profile or enter your own profile for FREE online at austinchronicle.com/loverslane

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JUST friends

U ONLY KNEW

Looking for enthusiasm, confidence, a little craziness, intelligence, fun, active, girl who is into exploring and such. I just moved back to Austin and love it here! Hit me up! **Bjamins**, 27,  **#127999**

ESCAPE THE WELL

I love spending time going to all the fun things! **chirp5000**, 18,  **#127894**

WAIT IM CONFUSED

Im "THAT GUY" No Im not but im this tall blk man, cool I have seen it all and done most of it. I Want to meet new people. **thadoubleman**, 22,  **#127824**

COMPLEX& A HOOT

Friendship is the key, it has to be first and then everything after that will follow. I appreciate people with a personality and a passion for life. **floathope**, 44,  **#127758**

BE OUR FRIEND?

We are the coolest couple around. New to Austin, looking for buddies to drink with, talk about obscure music, watch bootlegged movies, compare ridiculous tattoos, live it up. NO SEX. **TheCoolestPeopleYouWillEverMeet**, 23,  **#127621**

A KALEIDOSCOPIC WORLD

I live, eat, breathe music. Love Radio-head & Muse I'm a dreamer. I love to sit in the woods, staring up through the trees. I love hiking & the ocean. **tgwke**, 22,  **#127654**

messages

OTIS (AND CARLA) preached thier love w/ song: I'll be the weeping willow drowning in my tears, so you can go swimming when you are here. I'll be the rainbow after the stormy storm, wrap you in my colors to keep you warm. 'cause that's how strong my love is,that's how strong my love is,that's how strong my is,that's how strong... (Let's take it to the bridge.)

LOVE AND MISS you!!

RESEND 8

I LOVE YOU a.c. - your grrl. r

BREKLE... IT'S NOT getting any easier. I still love you. I still miss you. I've just gotten better at hiding. I would give anything to just fall asleep in your arms. ~L

WHEN THAT CROWN gets too heavy With your heart in your hands When the time passed to quickly and you've run out of sands When you're tired of searching For what you can't find Come to me love, I'll be right by your side. When the sun starts its sinking And the moon may not rise When the wind howls fiercely Blowing dust in your eyes When the rain starts a fallin' And it just will not end Come to me love, I will be your best friend. And we'll waltz across Texas And through Tennessee And we'll dance in Vienna Way across the blue sea And in time we may find In that sweet melody There's a true love Between you and me.

CM-I STILL MISS you and I still think about you every day. This isn't how things were supposed to turn out. You know I'll always love you.-TL

a Shot in the Dark.....➡

PEYTON @ BASSNECTAR

We shared a Nat Sherman and a conversation about my BassNectar shirt and where I got it. You struck me as quite the sincere lady. Wanna grab a drink sometime? **When: Friday, October 10. Where: La Zona Rosa. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903491**

OWL LOVER

You came in when i was restocking cakes. You liked my owl tattoo. I saw you again at Target. I'm at work on Fridays until 1. Soy latte? Another chance? **When: Tuesday, June 3. Where: UCB. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903490**

MAGNOLIA-SOUTH SPINACHARTICHOKE DIP

You ordered a spinach artichoke dip to go. I was reading the book 1421 (and working), about China. I would love to get a coffee and discuss it with you. **When: Tuesday, October 7. Where: magnolia cafe south. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #903489**

MURAKAMI SHEEP-MAN

I've seen you, spilling Pablo Neruda, re-treating behind your latte. Your printed words bend with my hair, the pattern of my skirt. I feel your presence,I turn around, you're there... **When: Monday, October 13. Where: Cafe Medici. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903488**

RANDALLS/BERKMAN - 10/12

You: Stunning redhead in white shorts/denim blue shirt who kept returning to frozen aisle. Me: Shy guy who couldn't stop looking at you. Regret so much not saying hello. Coffee? **When: Sunday, October 12. Where: Randalls - Berkman & 290. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #903487**

KEVEN FOWLER SHOW

you came up, introduced yourself and asked for my number. We made a bet that if you remembered me the next day, I would go out with you.....what happened??? **When: Wednesday, October 8. Where: the hills cafe. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903486**

TXORTHO BRUNETTE 10/6

You:Incredible brunette receptionist,2nd floor of Braker/183 Ortho office. Attempted to go to your window but another crippled patient beat me. Made it obvious because our eyes met. Me:long dark hair,goatee. **When: Monday, October 6. Where: TX Ortho office Braker/183. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903479**

HOT TRUDY'S SERVER

You: Gray shirt, dark hair, serving tables outside Me: Gray shirt, red/brown hair, at a table with 3 guys. Couldn't take my eyes off you. Want to get together sometime? **When: Thursday, October 9. Where: Trudy's Texas Star. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903485**

AWAY

You: Tall,short hair,handsome. Me: Tall, slender, dark features, tattoos. You sat across from me at Nomads. Were you looking at me or admiring my tattoos? **When: Wednesday, October 8. Where: Nomads. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903483**

HOTTIE AT PARISH

We were waiting to have our CDs autographed and talked music. You asked me to have a drink afterward, but I declined. Do you believe in second chances??? :) **When: Friday, October 3. Where: Ra Ra Riot Concert at the Parish. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903482**

MAIL TATOOS

From ur tatoo on ur wriste/calif, you like mail. Me, too many sit-ups and verge of passing out. You, catching up on gossip in the magzn. You out-lasted me. **When: Wednesday, October 8. Where: Townlake YMCA Dry Sauna. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903481**

HULA HOOP PIRATE!

I'm looking for the person that decided to take my hoop home from the Beck show at ACL. It was yellow/green and 42" round. I miss u hoop!! Come home! **When: Saturday, September 27. Where: ACL at BECK. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903480**

BLUE EYES JO'S

You: tall, thin, curly-haired beauty..... reading the Chronicle (10/7-Tuesday) at Jo's at 6 o'clock Me: tall guy green shirt, beard with a similar friend. Have COFFEE with me? **When: Tuesday, October 7. Where: Jo's on Congress. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903478**

BLONDE-BEAUTY - WOODHOLLOW

...almost wrecked my truck when I saw you... You: Tuff-Blonde-Beauty in White-flowing-skirt, French-braid-type-do on 10/6 Me: Tall-dark-haired in the Black-Pickup. Let's find out how much fun there is in life... **When: Monday, October 6. Where: Wood Hollow Dr. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903476**

DINO GEEK OUT

You thought my shirt was T.Rexcellent. I learned a new dinosaur fact. **When: Friday, September 26. Where: Austin Java. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903477**

HOME DEPOT BLONDE

You are stunning. In line together. You bought plastic, diet coke, water, and cleaning brush. Talked about kids, yards, hunting, and not handy husband. I want to see you again. **When: Monday, October 6. Where: St John's Home Depot. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903475**

MELLOW AT NELO

You were languidly lounging in the fire pit area. I was closer than you think. Your smile is cherubic, your hair's like a rubic! You are amazing. Write me! **When: Friday, October 3. Where: Nelo Concert @ Threadgill's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903474**

SHORT HAIRD GINGER

Saw you going in to jackson ruiz salon downtown. I think you might work there. Me nerdy biker ridding by. Want to make you smile. **When: Thursday, October 2. Where: jackson ruiz downtown. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903473**

MY CHOPS AMANDA

Drove up with a friend in the parking lot of Shell and BK. I should have got a number so I could have taken you out. **When: Sunday, October 5. Where: braker and mopac. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903472**

“LOCKS” AT DIRTY BILLS

You: suggestive bartender with incredible dread and the smile to match. You poured me a Dales. ME: Tall(willing) cutie wearing a Sublime shirt. Want to “meat” for an Old Chub? **When: Sunday, September 28. Where: Dirty Bills. You: Man. Me: Man. #903471**

CLUTCH STUBBS PORTAPOTTY

Waited in line with you for Portapotty twice. You are super handsome and live in San Marcos. Would like to finish our conversation if you're available. What do you think? **When: Saturday, October 4. Where: Stubbs. You: Man. Me: Woman. ☎ #903469**

ZACK? LUCKY LOUNGE

Me: Blue and white shirt. Exchanged glances a few times while I was talking with my friends. Your friend (Andrew?) introduced us, then you left. Not interested? I was. **When: Saturday, October 4. Where: Lucky Lounge. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903468**

PRESS MY BUTTONS?

You: leaning on the artwork, making buttons at the Blanton; scolded by the staff. Me: politely stalking with dark glasses. You pushed their buttons, I'll let you push mine sometime. **When: Friday, October 3. Where: B-Scene at the Blanton. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903467**

ARBOR THUNDERCLOUD

Short brown hair w/ two headed puppy tattoo. You made me so nervous I dropped my phone. Have coffee? **When: Saturday, October 4. Where: Arboretum Thundercloud. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903466**

JO'S COFFEE SHOP!!

Cutest redhead ever, freckles and all. You walking out, me walking in. Me, gray shirt, blue jeans, short hair, beard. Our eyes met for a non-second. Latte? **When: Saturday, October 4. Where: Jo's Coffee Shop. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903465**

TRANSMOGRAPHY HOUSE PARTY

Patio, you blue top black skirt, me blue shirt. You are lovely, surprising..sudden comet lighting the sky. In this merry-go round of a city, our orbits will intersect again... **When: Friday, October 3. Where: house party off Manor Rd. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903464**

KISSED HARD@OCH WHTYTEESHRT

me:guy underDJbooth last sat [sun morning oct29], u:man that passed me, turned me around, asked me a question, then kissed me, deep/hot, tried to move...couldn't. smiled-vanished. thanks, good to want things. **When: Tuesday, October 28. Where: OCH on 4th. You: Man. Me: Man. #903463**

TRUDY'S NORTH SIDE

you: dark hair, tan, exquisite eyes. me: buzz cut in booth in front of you. we made eye contact as i left. i could drowned in your eyes...meximartinis next week? **When: Thursday, October 2. Where: trudy's on burnet 6pm. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903460**

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Brezsný for Oct. 17-23

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Describing the poet Kenneth Koch, his colleague John Ashbery said that his work “gives you the impression that you are leading an interesting life – going to parties and meeting interesting people, falling in love, going for rides in the country and to public swimming pools, eating in the best restaurants, and going to movies and the theatre in the afternoons. By comparison, most other modern poetry makes me feel as if I were living in a small Midwestern university town.” In the coming weeks, Libra, I exhort you to have an impact on people that’s like Koch’s poetry. Here’s the best way to do that: Live the most interesting and imaginative life you can dream up.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): If you’re a left-winger, you may think right-wingers are stupid or evil or both. If you’re a right-winger, you probably hold the same attitudes about left-wingers. A similar pattern prevails between most other groups that hold opposing views. You’re a rare person if you’ve never looked at a certain group of people and thought to yourself, “They are all sick idiots.” But in the coming week, Scorpio, I’m asking you to find out what it’s like to dispense with judgments like that. In fact, try living without any scapegoats whatsoever. If only for an hour per day, visualize the possibility that those with whom you disagree might be sincere and well-meaning. I’m not suggesting this exercise merely because it’s a nice thing to do. It will also have the magical effect of giving you access to parts of your own intelligence that have been closed off to you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): “Be humble for you are made of dung,” says a Serbian proverb. “Be noble for you are made of stars.” I expect that you’ll soon be getting vivid evidence of that truth, Sagittarius. Your challenge will be to resist the temptation to believe that you’re more dung than stars, or more stars than dung. That might be hard, given the fact that practically everyone around you believes they are one or the other. But I promise you that you have the power to do it. You can exude cheerful equanimity while dwelling right at the crux of the paradox.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Describing a Jupiter transit, Capricorn astrologer Steven Forrest wrote, “Life is a train wreck, except the trains are made of cake and ice cream.” Amen to that, bro. I’d add that a Jupiter transit might also be imagined as being on the verge of too many orgasms or getting forced to make a painful choice between fantastic wealth and amazing power or having well-meaning allies overwhelm you with help. Now, as you enter the last 12 weeks of Jupiter’s yearlong journey through your astrological house of beginnings, I’m expecting you to harvest some of the most delightful and enriching “messes” ever.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In a recent horoscope, I urged people to convince everyone around them to take more responsibility and be more accountable. In response, a reader named Rene wrote: “I can’t think of *anything* more futile! Convincing other people to be anything other than the way they are is a misguided and losing proposition. Unless people have hired you as their therapist, or adopted you as their guru, they are not likely to take your opinions about their behavior seriously.” Rene did acknowledge that it’s possible to subtly inspire people by being a stirring example of the behavior you’d like to see in them. Since I think her observations are not only wise but also pertinent to your current situation, I’m passing them on to you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In medieval Europe, more resources and human ingenuity were lavished upon cathedrals and churches than on any other buildings. In the last 100 years, the emphasis has been different, having switched to the towering structures that house institutions dedicated to commerce. By that measure, money is a far more important God than God. During the next few weeks, Pisces, I invite you to buck the modern trend. As an experiment, see if you can devote at least one more percent of your energy and intelligence to matters of the spirit and soul than to the demands of the material realm. I suspect you’ll find, ironically, that this will lead to an increase of your mastery over the material realm.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): “Sometimes the fastest way to get there/is to go slow,” sings Tina Dico in her song “Count to Ten.” “Sometimes if you want to hold on/you’ve got to let go.” That’s a ripe oracle for you to meditate on, Aries. As you explore the nuances of its meaning, you may discover secrets about how life is always working behind the scenes to balance things out. You might also see that going to any extreme will often attract the opposite extreme into your life; an excess of yang can lead to yin, and vice versa.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): I usually don’t have to tell you bulls how important it is to finish what you’ve started. You are, after all, among the Top 3 signs of the zodiac when it comes to following through. But just in case you’ve momentarily fallen under the sway of a delusion that would encourage you to escape before the resolution is fully in place, I’m here to remind you: It’s time to make the art of completion your graceful obsession.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Who are the best enemies we have ever had? According to David Brown in the *Washington Post*, they are the thousands of endogenous retroviruses that attacked our ancestors for millions of years. In response to their evil invasions, we humans have had to build our rough, tough immune system, which is one of the most amazing creations on the planet. Let’s make this your inspirational metaphor for the coming weeks, Gemini. I urge you to welcome the opportunities that your adversaries are going to give you to grow bigger, stronger, and more beautiful.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Sometimes it makes sense for you to be conservative and cautious and skeptical of novelty. A periodic immersion in the slow-motion approach helps you maintain a strong center of gravity and allows you to be true to yourself in the face of the pressure; you get to be like everyone else. The past few weeks have been such a time for you, Cancerian. Soon, though, you’ll begin to feel urges to take some risks, instigate fresh trends, and express yourself with more daring and expansiveness. Are you game?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Futurists predict that in 30 years many of us will have robots as our best friends. But I believe it’s already the case that machines are our boon companions. You may not have a name for your computer or iPhone, but you interact with it as if it were an animate and intimate assistant. Music or TV or talk radio might be turned on in your home around the clock, providing a constant flow of comforting noise. I know people who derive a sense of coziness from the hum of the refrigerator or the rumble blowing through the heating vents. Have you ever talked to your car? Kicked a temperamental appliance? Used a sex toy? This is the best week ever for you to acknowledge your symbiosis with the alien life-forms we depend on. Now go kiss your laptop. Caress your toaster.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): “If you could ask everyone you met one question, what would it be?” A reader named Ty Sassaman e-mailed me with that query. As I thought about what my response would be, I considered questions like “What’s the one thing you most want to accomplish before you die many years from now?” or “What could you do to bring more intelligence into the way you love?” But ultimately I decided on: “What is your soul’s code?” How about you, Virgo? What would be your prime question? I suggest that in the coming days, you ask it of everyone you encounter. You’re in a phase in your astrological cycle when focused curiosity is a kind of superpower.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Brezsný’s EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

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