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FREE
BUT NOT CHEAP

CHRONICLE

A DEATH IN THE STREET

The killing of
Garrett Foster shocks
the city – and galvanizes
the moment

BY BRANT BINGAMON
AND MIKE CLARK-MADISON

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rest in power

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Founded in 1981 and committed to a progressive point of view, The Austin Chronicle is an independent, locally owned and operated alternative newsweekly.

Guns Among Us

This summer's ongoing protests took another tragic turn this past weekend with the shooting death of Garrett Foster, a regular presence at Black Lives Matter marches. The deadly encounter between Foster and a motorist who drove into a crowd of protesters on Saturday night is still under investigation, though it appears all armed parties – Foster, carrying an AK-47 type assault rifle; the motorist, who used a handgun to shoot and kill Foster as he approached the car; and a bystander, who drew a concealed handgun and fired multiple shots at the vehicle as it sped away – were licensed gun owners and compliant with Texas law regarding open and concealed carry.

There are probably people who read that rundown and feel all is good and right in the state of Texas. I am not one of them. I think our gun laws, and our national

obsession with guns, is sheer insanity.

Of course in Texas – in *Austin* – you needn't be holding a gun to get shot on suspicion of having one. This week, Austin police finally released the “critical incident” footage from April 24, when Michael Ramos begged police to explain why they were pointing guns at him. Ramos was first hit with a lead-pellet bag round, and then shot by Officer Christopher Taylor's rifle three times when he attempted to flee in his car. No weapon was ever found on Ramos, or in his car.

We report on both of these instances of gun violence in this week's issue. By sheer accident, we also have a couple pieces about being in nature. In another week in a city, a state, a country where everything, bluntly, feels broken, some nice stories about trees is about all we can offer by way of balm. ■



ONLINE THIS WEEK

THIS IS A COOL IDEA Lina Fisher speaks with **Kyandra Noble** about **ATX Free Fridge**, the project she started to provide free community groceries for food insecure neighborhoods. You can find the first stocked refrigerator outside **Nixta Taqueria** on E. 12th St.



COURTESY OF KYANDRA NOBLE

ON A SIMILAR SUBJECT **Keep Austin Fed** has been serving Austinites facing food insecurity since 2004. Selome Hailu looks into how the nonprofit is adjusting its process – but not its mission – during the pandemic.



Bloody Nose, Empty Pockets

ABHI THE NOMAD STAYS PUT The Austin rapper tells Music Editor Raoul Hernandez where he's hunkered down for the pandemic and what album he's got on heavy rotation.

EXHIBITING AT HOME Arist **John Mulvany** puts *The Pattern Days* – a collection of landscapes painted during lockdown – online for all to see.

ASK A FILMMAKER Movie theatres are still mostly closed, but that doesn't mean there's nothing to watch. Screens Editor Richard Whittaker talks to the **Ross Brothers** about their experimental docudrama *Bloody Nose, Empty Pockets*; **Catherine Hardwicke** about new series *Don't Look Deeper*, a supernatural teen thriller on Quibi; and local **Joe O'Connell** about his documentary portrait of iconic horror actor Rondo Hatton.

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OPINION VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

THE ARGUMENT FOR APPROVAL VOTING

We are two of the six candidates that were on your ballot in the recent special election for Texas state Senate District 14. We did not win, and neither did anyone else. Had one of the two top candidates not dropped out, there would have been another run-off election to settle the matter that the taxpayers would have to pay for.

This is certainly not the first time this has happened. In 2018, Austin had three run-off elections for City Council. Run-off elections are unfortunately commonplace.

Some would call us spoilers. Having more than two choices can result in nobody getting over 50%, with vote splitting in which similar candidates cause voters to have to choose between them and split their vote. Therefore, candidates like us constantly fight to gain ballot access, while others call us spoilers and try to reduce the ballot to only two choices. This is in contrast to the growing number of independent voters that appreciate having more choices.

Vote splitting, combined with the cost and poor turnout of run-off elections, leads one to ask if there is a better way. Approval voting provides a solution.

With approval voting, you get to vote for every candidate you approve of. Any and all of the six candidates on the ballot in the recent special election could receive your vote. This eliminates vote splitting and mitigates the necessity of a run-off since a winner can get a majority on the very first ballot regardless of the number of candidates.

That was the experience in Fargo, Nev., which held an approval voting election on June 9 for their city commission. Voters liked it and found it easy.

Austin has experience with approval voting. In November of 2014, Austin voters cast ballots to decide whether to divide City Council into precincts. Proposition 3 consisted of having 10 City Council members represent 10 unique districts, and then a mayor that was elected at large. Proposition 4 was a proposal for eight district members, two at large, and a mayor at large. Proposals to divide City Council into precincts had failed in six prior elections. Fortunately in 2014, both proposals were on the ballot and voters were allowed to approve or disap-

prove of each. The actual result was: Prop 3 votes YES: 145,910 (WINNER); Prop 3 votes NO: 96,683; Prop 4 votes YES: 121,336; Prop 4 votes NO: 116,196.

Approval voting gave us the current City Council structure with no vote splitting and a clear winner on the first ballot.

Another benefit of approval voting is that it rewards candidates that seek consensus. Since every voter is in play, appealing to the broad electorate is rewarded. In the current system which forces voters to only select one candidate, a candidate is rewarded for mobilizing and firing up their base, which contributes to polarization. Electing candidates that seek common ground and can work together is encouraged with approval voting.

The most common objections to approval voting have been:

1) There has long been a principle of "one person, one vote." This has sometimes been confused with the notion that you can only vote for one candidate. The principle actually means that every voter has the same empowerment. A voter with more wealth or property does not get to cast more ballots than another voter. Under approval voting, every voter has exactly the same empowerment to approve or disapprove of every candidate.

2) Some voters prefer systems in which they can rank candidates, such as instant run-off voting (IRV). We support these as well. The benefit of approval voting is its simplicity. It can use the existing ballot and tabulation is straightforward. With ranked choices the math can become complex and it can be more unclear to understand who won. With experience we think ranked systems can be effective, but for simplicity and its benefits we think approval voting is ready now.

If you agree with us that it is time for approval voting, let the remaining candidates know. Neither of us will be in the Texas Senate, but those who are need to make the appropriate changes in the Election Code to make it possible. The Center for Election Science (www.electionscience.org) has taken the lead on research and advocacy for approval voting and can be a valuable resource. With the research and voters like you on our side, we can empower voters and relieve taxpayers. ■

PAT DIXON
AND JEFF
RIDGEWAY

Pat Dixon was the Libertarian candidate for Texas SD 14 in the recent special election. He served as state chair of the Libertarian Party of Texas from 2004 to 2014. Dr. Jeff Ridgeway was the Independent candidate for Texas SD 14 in the recent special election. He has been a practicing physician in Austin for 14 years trained in obstetrics and gynecology as well as maternal-fetal medicine. The *Chronicle* welcomes submissions of opinion pieces on any topic from the community. Find guidelines and tips at austinchronicle.com/contact/opinion.

"FREEDOM IS NEVER VOLUNTARILY GIVEN BY THE OPPRESSOR; IT MUST BE DEMANDED BY THE OPPRESSED."
"AS LONG AS THE MIND IS ENSLAVED, THE BODY CAN NEVER BE FREE." - *Martin Luther King JR.* - *TheKingCenter.org*

WHAT HAS REALLY CHANGED?

"NOBODY CAN GIVE YOU FREEDOM, NOBODY CAN GIVE YOU EQUALITY OR JUSTICE OR ANYTHING... YOU TAKE IT."
"IF YOU DON'T STAND FOR SOMETHING, YOU WILL FALL FOR ANYTHING." - *Malcolm X* - *MalcolmXFoundation.org*

IS ENOUGH ENOUGH YET?

Contact Austin City Council Members to Reshape the Austin City Budget
AUSTIN CITY HALL 512-974-2250

Demand at least \$100 million be diverted from the Police Fund Human Services, Housing and Parks instead

The city of Austin will now supposedly spend around \$334 million on the police each year (down from 434 million).

If they do, it's still 33% of the city's General Fund

• Make police contracts transparent. • End police immunity • Establish community control boards with full oversight.

Austin Police have shot and killed 27 human beings since 2015.

That's a minimum of 5 a year including 12 with mental illness, 6 unknown mental state, 1 drug or alcohol use.
4 were unarmed including Michael Ramos who was shot and killed on April 24, 2020.

In Austin, police were firing on demonstrators with "non lethal" weapons from atop IH35 -
kinda like a turkey shoot and they have critically hurt innocent people -
those cops have not been identified and are still on the job! Why?

We must all look more deeply at the role of the police in our community.

According to retired police major Neill Franklin
Executive director of the Law Enforcement Action Partnership

"We need a new paradigm of policing in the U.S. It needs to be completely dismantled and reconstructed, not changing a policy here or there."

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Austin Justice Coalition - AustinJustice.org JustLiberty.org FairDefense.org

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Feedback

LETTERS &
COMMENTS

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

General email address: mail@austinchronicle.com, Letters online: austinchronicle.com/feedback
Mailing address: The Austin Chronicle, PO Box 4189, Austin, TX 78765

PRECISE POINTS

Dear Editor,

The *New York Times* has a relevant July 23 article on this subject: Emily Badger. "How Trump's Use of Federal Forces in Cities Differs From Past Presidents." *New York Times*, July 23, 2020.

Somewhat more precise points could be made (1-5 below), and an additional point could be made (6 below), if *The Austin Chronicle* were to address this subject:

1) When President Eisenhower sent the National Guard into Little Rock, it was at the request of Mayor Woodrow Wilson Mann.

2) When President Kennedy did a federal intervention in 1962 in Oxford, when James Meredith was trying to enroll at the University of Mississippi, that occurred via backdoor consultations by the Kennedy administration with Governor Ross Barnett.

3) In 1967, Governor George Romney of Michigan (father of Mitt Romney) requested President Johnson to send federal troops into Detroit.

4) In 1968, Mayor-Commissioner Walter E. Washington from the District of Columbia requested President Johnson to deploy troops there. Johnson conversed with Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago before doing so there. Johnson sent troops to Baltimore at the request of Governor Spiro Agnew (later vice president) of Maryland.

5) So none of the 1-4 interventions were unannounced, unilaterally presidentially initiated, surprises in the night. And the troops pretty assuredly would have used military-marked vehicles.

6) One of the cities that's had some unruly protests, and presumably has some crime, is Miami. Curiously, President Trump hasn't mentioned sending the feds there. Except ... not curiously, because ... guess what? Miami has a Republican mayor (although elected nonpartisan) and a Republican governor. Which doesn't fit the president's cities-with-Democrats-in-charge framing.

Chris Kuykendall

WINTER TEXAN

Texans,

I am a Winter Texan who comes to your fine state each winter to avoid the cold weather in Kansas. I have some observations about your state and its people that may be of interest to you. First, I find the state to be very welcoming to those of us who visit. I have noticed this many times throughout the years, as I have been to numerous cities in the state. I have attended ballgames, concerts, visits to friends, and vacations in Texas. I have eaten some of the best BBQ and Mexican food in your state! My experience with Texans is that they are kind, friendly, truthful, realistic people who care about others. On my trip through Texas in the spring, I was surprised to see the lack of concern for wearing masks and distancing. In hindsight, I realize that the president and others were not very convincing about the need to be cautious. Now, we've learned to use our rational minds and ignore the political posturing! Please, don't let anyone change your authentic style.

D. Mallon

BAD IDEA

Dear Editor,

Re: "Protester Killed at BLM March, Shooter Released From Custody" by Mike Clark-Madison, 7:00am, Mon., Jul. 27, 2020. Once again we get to stand by and witness the violence brought about by our thoughtless gun laws. Hello Congress, presidents, lawmakers, local governments, anyone in a position to take action against our blindsided gun laws. Take a pandemic, total economic upheaval, rising social tensions around police violence and continued racism in our nation, and give the public permission to carry any weapon of choice into demonstrations, and keep a weapon of choice in their cars, and what do you get – the perfect storm for trouble. Do we really think that we can carry an AK-47 into a public demonstration amid rising tensions and open carry laws and not set ourselves up for some kind of incident? Hmmmmmm, let's see. I'll take gun violence for \$100, dick. Answer: When these two things are mixed together the possibility of violence is increased exponentially. Question: What is social chaos and open carry laws? What two things might not go well together – demonstrations and guns, duhh.

Time to put aside our Second Amendment determinations and look at this very obvious fact: Guns don't belong in public gatherings where tensions already exist. Bad idea.

Russell Alexander

ADD IT TO THE PARKS

Dear Editor,

About five years ago a developer purchased the property at the intersection of Spicewood Springs Road and Yaupon Drive immediately west of Loop 360. This beautiful, environmentally sensitive open space adjacent to Bull Creek was to be turned into a boutique hotel. The local community fought the proposal and delayed it.

During the July 29 City Council meeting the Council will have an opportunity to acquire the property and add it to the system of parks along Bull Creek. The agenda item is 98. I encourage you to contact your Council member and Mayor Adler and encourage them to purchase this property for ALL the citizens of Austin. For today's citizens and those in the future that enjoy swimming, fishing, and hiking along Austin's Hill Country creeks.

Rick Brimer

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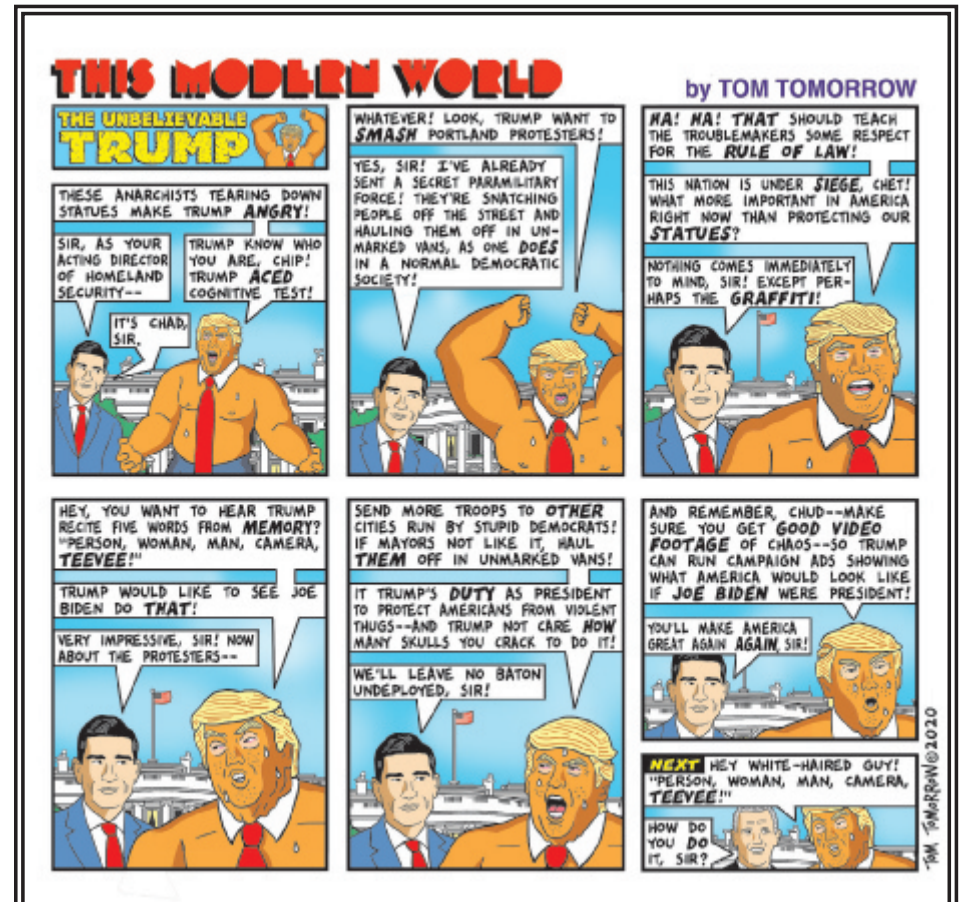
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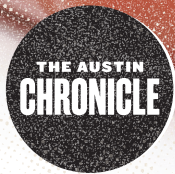


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Check back for updates + stay tuned on our social channels @austinchronicle and @chronevents. See you then!

“It’s like the officers are in a different reality than the one I live in.”

— Attorney Rebecca Webber, who’s representing Mike Ramos’ mother, on watching APD’s “critical incident” video of Ramos’ fatal shooting, released earlier this week. See p.14.



The Austin-Travis County Alternate Care Site (ACS) at the Austin Convention Center is prepared to take in COVID-19 patients should local hospitals become overwhelmed by coronavirus hospitalizations. Only patients requiring limited care will be transferred to the Convention Center, while patients needing higher-level or intensive care will still be cared for at hospitals. At the ACS’s maximum capacity – which the facility currently isn’t built out to – the site could accommodate up to 1,500 patients.

JANA BIRCHUM

Good Guys With Guns

Garrett Foster died in an outbreak of gun violence. But there’s more to the story.

As Jimmy Flannigan says in our cover story, Garrett Foster was murdered in the street while exercising both his First and Second Amendment rights. (It’s OK for him, or for the Mike Ramos Brigade, to call it murder; journalists have to be more circumspect.) We should – and, in this issue, have tried to – document and grieve his death for exactly what it was and remember Foster as exactly who he was, and not too promptly get caught up in what this horrible event symbolizes and in creating narratives.

But in our mediated age, the search for meaning and the production of narrative

began immediately. By Sunday morning, 12 hours after Garrett Foster died, the divergent storylines were clearly set and, powered by predispositions, outran the verified facts. To thousands around the world, Garrett Foster clearly deserved to die; to thousands more, he had clearly been assassinated by agents or allies of the state.

The first of these narratives has been weakened, now that we know that Foster did not fire the rifle he was carrying and probably didn’t even raise it. The second has been strengthened by APD’s cavalier handling of the still-unidentified person who killed Foster, whom they ludicrously

claim they lacked probable cause to arrest. We don’t know yet if the killer was a cop, or a cop’s kid, or if the cops kept EMS from reaching Foster in time, or many other things that have been alleged and that the *Chronicle* continues to investigate. But we do know the killer is walking free.

CONFOUNDING THE NARRATIVE

It’s easy to classify these narratives as “right-wing” and “left-wing,” but Garrett Foster himself confounds this neat sorting of political beliefs. Where do white, ex-military, anti-government, open-carry guys who are also explicitly anti-racist and who lose their lives defending – literally – Black lives

CONTINUED ON P.10

HEADLINES

MONEY TALKS PT. II In a marathon hearing on the city’s proposed 2021 budget, hundreds of Austinites called for city officials to reduce funding for the **Austin Police Department** at last Thursday’s **City Council** meeting. The next public hearing is today (July 30). See p.12.

LIGHT RAILS AHEAD City Council and the **Capital Metro board of directors** voted to adopt a \$7 billion “initial investment scenario” for funding **Project Connect**, which puts the transit system plan one step closer to the November ballot. See more on p.16.

BACK TO SCHOOL Local health authorities can’t issue orders closing schools as a preventive measure against **COVID-19**, according to an opinion released by Texas Attorney General **Ken Paxton** Tuesday afternoon. Hours later the **Texas Education Agency** announced school districts that close classrooms solely because of local health orders will not receive funding – a reversal of TEA’s earlier guidance – citing Paxton’s letter.

HUT HUT HUH? In a **Travis County Commissioners Court** session on Tuesday, Austin Interim Health Authority **Dr. Mark Escott** said **Austin Public Health** was “caught a little off guard” by **UT-Austin’s** plan to open the **Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium** this fall with 50% capacity, which translates into 50,000 fans. Escott told commissioners, “I think it’s not really living in the realm of reality for what we’re likely to experience this fall.”

EVICITION MORATORIUMS EXTENDED Mayor **Steve Adler** and Travis County Judge **Sam Bliscoe** issued new orders last week extending bans on **residential evictions** in Austin-Travis County until September 30.

CH-CH-CHANGES AT TCDP County Democratic precinct chairs will select **Travis County Democratic Party Chair Dyana Limon-Mercado’s** successor on Mon., Aug. 3, as Limon-Mercado resigns to run for county judge. TCDP chair candidates are **Progress Texas** Executive Director **Ed Espinoza** and **Katie Naranjo**, a founding partner of political consulting firm **GNI Strategies**.

PANDEMIC AND POLLS Governor **Greg Abbott** extended the **early voting** period for the November election to Tue., Oct. 13, six days earlier than its originally scheduled start on Oct. 19. Abbott’s July 27 proclamation also allows more time for eligible **mail-in voters** to hand-deliver ballots prior to **Election Day**.

THE CITY AUDITOR continues to seek applicants for the City Council **redistricting process** with a special call to women and minority groups. Austinites can apply to serve on the **Applicant Review Panel** or the **Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission** by Sept. 1 and Sept. 30, respectively. Eligibility criteria and details at www.redistrictatx.org.

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AUSTIN AT LARGE CONTINUED FROM P.8

fit into the discourse? Foster was not the only one, as you could see at the vigil in his memory and at the marches since, as a volunteer corps of mostly white guys with guns has arisen to protect the Mike Ramos Brigade.

Many mainstream leaders and voices have sidestepped this messy reality by chalking Foster's death up to "gun violence." This includes our mayor and others on our City Council. In fairness, their alignment with this narrative is not simply facile; they've just received the report of their Task Force on Gun Violence, formed after the El Paso massacre, and are weighing how to factor it into the budget they're set to adopt next week. So gun violence is on their minds as they are confronted with the hot spotlight of worldwide attention on this incredibly fraught homicide just blocks from City Hall.

But even if we just focus our attention on guns, what played out on Congress Avenue Saturday night is not just an outcome of "too many guns" in the abstract, a fatal case of what many view as a public health crisis, an epidemic just like COVID-19. That's the framing of the movement for gun safety that aims to be centrist, nonpartisan, even apolitical – that's typified by the "reasonable measures" promoted by Mike Bloomberg's Everytown groups and approved by Democrats in Congress.

THE GROUND WE STAND

That framing is insufficient to explain how and why Garrett Foster died. In Texas, we have created, promoted, and ennobled as a fundamental civil right the legal circumstances that allowed a shoot-out (involving a third armed participant) to erupt on Congress Avenue, amidst huge crowds and with law enforcement standing nearby on

high alert. Some of the measures that got us here are specific responses to Second Amendment obligations, however much we disagree on their necessity or scope. But others reflect conscious political choices by the rulers of Texas on what their preferred narrative views as criminal acts.

As the Mike Ramos Brigade has observed, APD's framing of the Foster killing supports a "stand your ground" defense for the shooter: They found themselves in a hostile crowd; a man with a gun approached them; they felt threatened; they pulled their own weapon and fired. Even this version of events doesn't explain why the driver had a gun at the ready upon encountering the crowd, as the video of the shooting suggests they must, and not safely stored. But it's not hard to believe that even if "lacked probable cause" is ridiculous, a successful prosecution, or even indictment, would be hard to secure under Texas law.

Except that the *exact same defense* would be available to Foster if he had fired his gun and shot, or even killed, the driver. The video certainly appears to show a car being used as a weapon; Foster and the MRB had already been threatened in the same manner a month earlier; he was armed to protect himself as well as his vulnerable fiancée and other marchers. Would he be walking free right now? Almost surely not. Would he get indicted? What do you think?

We could say we'll never know, but that's probably not true. Now that the civil unrest has escalated to armed conflict, we'll likely encounter a case – hopefully not ending in death – where these roles are reversed. At the core of any serious conversation about police reform, disinvestment, or abolition lies a confrontation with the deeply entrenched, even subconscious beliefs that explain why the outcome of that case might be different. ■

Failing Grades for Texas

School districts beset by pandemic, state rules

I've spent a good amount of space in recent weeks excoriating the **Austin Independent School District** board and administration for their public process and decision making, and ... well, look it up. But it's also worth noting every once in a while that I'm really rooting for them to do better, and that this is an institution that we as a society really need to succeed. And also that the district and every one of its staff are under enormous pressure in advance of the new school year starting in a few short weeks – not only from the pandemic and the challenges it brings, but also from our own political leaders: a **Texas GOP**, which treats public schools with a disregard bordering at times on outright scorn. And don't even get me started on **Betsy DeVos**.

Next week is the *Chronicle's* **Back to School issue**, where we'll go into a lot more detail on the nuts and bolts of what that's really going to mean, but for now, I'll leave you with two thoughts based on recent developments:

- **Gov. Greg Abbott's** recent announcement that the state will temporarily waive its requirement that 5th and 8th graders must pass the high-stakes standardized **STAAR test** in order to move ahead isn't nearly enough. Those tests are pointless and discriminatory in the best of times; under current circumstances they're an expensive distraction from the teachers' very difficult jobs, that "will only serve to measure the digital divide that the pandemic has amplified," as a recent press release from Sen.

José Menéndez put it. If Democrats gain a Texas House majority in November's election, expect this issue to be high on their agenda.

- Recently released guidelines for how the state counts **enrollment** – and thus calculates the **per-student funding** that every school district gets from the state – are strict, complicated, and make it easy for distance learners to be undercounted. Again, more on this next week, but the plea for now, even as parents scramble to set up "learning pods" and tutoring sessions: Make sure your student is actually enrolled in their school (and then later, is being recorded as present in daily attendance). □

The **ACC College Destination Center** is now offering 1-on-1 virtual support sessions to answer questions about Austin Community College enrollment, financial aid, career placement, and more. **Fall classes** (mostly online) begin Monday, Aug. 24; registration is underway. For more info, see www.austinctx.edu/fall. □

Save the date: Saturday, Aug. 8, is the 50th anniversary of the **Armadillo World Headquarters** opening and also the day of the auction sale at **Threadgill's Old #1**: a treasure trove of Armadillo memorabilia, vintage Texas bar fixtures, neon signs, and more. See the 500-piece catalog at www.burleyauction.com. □

So you want to be a **City Council Member**? Amazingly, there's just a couple more weeks to get your ballot on. The **filling deadline** for the Nov. 3 city of Austin ballot (including Council Districts 2, 4, 6, 7 and 10) is Aug. 17. ■

Send gossip, dirt, innuendo, rumors, and other useful grist to nbarbaro@austinchronicle.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE
BY NICK BARBARO

CIVICS 101

BULLETIN BOARD

All **PARD** facilities and park amenities remain closed, including those previously reopened. The Barton Creek and Bull Creek greenbelts are closed. Parks and trails are open, but all amenities except water fountains and restrooms are closed. For the latest info, visit www.austintexas.gov/covid19. Watch **ATXN**, Austin's government access channel, at www.austintexas.gov/atxn for livestreamed Austin Public Health updates and city meetings.

Uninsured Travis County residents experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and who don't have an established doctor may call **CommUnityCare's** hotline at 512/978-8775 (8am-5pm). The Austin Public Testing Enrollment Form is available at www.austintexas.gov/covid19.

THURSDAY 7/30

CITY COUNCIL MEETING See p.13. 10am. www.austintexas.gov/atxn.

FRIDAY 7/31

COFFEE CONNECTIONS Network with Austin's LGBT(QIA) Chamber of Commerce. 8-9am. www.austingbtchamber.com.

COA HAZARD MITIGATION PUBLIC MEETING The city is gathering public input for updating its Hazard Mitigation Plan. 10-11am. www.austintexas.gov.

FIX-IT AT HOME An interactive, online workshop on sewing machine basics. 10-11am. Free. www.austintexas.gov/fixitclinic.

WALLER CREEK LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORPORATION SPECIAL CALLED MEETING 10am. www.austintexas.gov.

REDISTRICT ATX VIRTUAL Q&A FOR STUDENT APPLICANTS If you're student who

wants to participate in the redistricting process (see right), this is an opportunity to learn more about how you can get involved. 4pm. [Facebook Live. www.redistrictatx.org](http://www.redistrictatx.org).

MONDAY 8/3

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

Discussing the appointment of members to the Central Health board of managers. 2pm. [Videoconference. www.austintexas.gov](http://www.austintexas.gov).

AISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING The board will address "transfer appeals/grievance" (a more detailed agenda will be posted at least 72 hours before the meeting). 5:30pm. www.austinisd.org/board.

PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING Items include the Healthy Streets Initiative, Austin Outside's proposed 2020 "Safe Mobility Bond," and Project Connect, among others. 6pm. [Videoconference. www.austintexas.gov](http://www.austintexas.gov).

FAR NORTHWEST PROGRESSIVES

MEETING Hear from the candidates to be the next Travis County judge: Andy Brown, Dyana Limon-Mercado, and Jeff Travillion. 6:30-8pm. [Online. www.farnorthwestprogressives.club](http://www.farnorthwestprogressives.club).

TUESDAY 8/4

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT VOTING SESSION 9am. [Online. www.travis-countytx.gov/commissioners-court](http://www.travis-countytx.gov/commissioners-court).

LEGALLINE Call in for free legal advice. 5:30-7:30pm. 512/472-8303. www.austinlrs.org.

WEDNESDAY 8/5

2020 VIRTUAL STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS Mayor Steve Adler delivers the annual "State of the City" address. The speech will be livestreamed on Austin's government access channel, **ATXN**, with feeds in both English and Spanish. 6pm. [ATXN. www.austintexas.gov/atxn](http://www.austintexas.gov/atxn).

ONGOING

SHAPE AUSTIN'S FUTURE: REDISTRICT ATX City Council district boundaries are redrawn every 10 years, and now is your opportunity to get involved by applying for the Applicant Review Panel or the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. [Through Sept. 30. Online. www.redistrictatx.org](http://www.redistrictatx.org).

BERGSTROM SPUR PLATINUM PLANNING STUDY VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE Share input on potential urban trail and transit concepts for the Bergstrom Spur corridor, a former rail line located in South Austin. [Through Aug. 14. www.campotexas.org/open-house/bergstrom-spur-platinum-planning-study](http://www.campotexas.org/open-house/bergstrom-spur-platinum-planning-study).

CARVERMUSEUMATX SURVEY The Parks and Recreation Department is seeking community input on the George Washington Carver Museum, Cultural and Genealogy Center master planning process ahead of the project's first virtual meeting on August 8. [Online. www.austintexas.gov/carveratxplanning](http://www.austintexas.gov/carveratxplanning).

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Council Mulls Radical Changes to Police Structure

Reimagining public safety – and how to pay for it

BY AUSTIN SANDERS

With two weeks to go until **City Council** adopts the **fiscal year 2021** budget, the proposed amendments are rolling in. Thus far, Council members have focused primarily on public safety – looking for ways to reduce the **Austin Police Department's** budget by at least \$100 million.

In perhaps the boldest interpretation of the “reimagining public safety” concept introduced in City Manager **Spencer Cronk's** proposed budget, Council Member **Jimmy Flannigan** has proposed to break up APD and its \$434 million budget into **five smaller departments**, each the size of other city departments. (Fire, whose budget is less than half of APD's, is the second-largest within the General Fund.) Flannigan aims to move as much money as possible into departments led by civilians, rather than the sworn chiefs who, under state law, must lead sworn officers. Overall, Flannigan estimates his plan would move more than \$90 million into civilian-led departments.

Doing so, Flannigan writes on the Council message board, allows “for each department to have separate metrics and oversight, thereby creating a way to shift organizational culture and drive outcomes.” In Texas, sworn public safety chiefs have powers imbued by state law that mayors, councils, and city managers cannot touch – such as issuing discipline to other sworn personnel. Distributing money and power more broadly, rather than centralizing it under a single police chief, would increase oversight and accountability, Flannigan argues.

Thus far in this week's marathon budget meetings, Council members have focused primarily on “reimagining public safety.”

Flannigan's restructure would create departments of patrol, investigations, traffic safety, and professional standards – each led by a sworn chief – and a department of emergency communications and technology, which would be led by a civilian department head. The first three departments would do the work people commonly think of as policing – walking a beat, investigating violent and property crimes, and enforcing speed limits – while the communications department's work could be handled by non-sworn personnel (like 911 dispatch and records management).

With patrol and traffic enforcement – the two areas of policing where disparate impacts on Black and Latinx communities are most felt – Flannigan's proposal suggests a leadership model that provides at least one check on APD's chiefs, elevating the department's district commanders throughout the city into a “**Commander's Council**,” with one appointed as the “Chief” to comply with state law. Much like the logic behind the 10-1 council district model, Flannigan hopes that more diffuse leadership for police patrol would bring more diverse voices into decision-making.

It would also solve a problem that Council and city management have found themselves in amid calls to replace Chief **Brian Manley**: The new model would provide a “ready list of alternative department heads if necessary,” Flannigan writes of the proposal. But Flannigan cautions that the plan is just a starting point. “No one idea fully answers the community's very complex

Ahead of adopting next year's budget, Council members are proposing restructuring APD.



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

concerns,” he told us. “This is a framework in which other ideas will fit.”

CM **Greg Casar** also has thoughts on how to restructure APD. One idea more or less has reached consensus: Shift the **forensics lab** out, so it can function as an independent entity, a move Casar estimates would cut about \$13 million from the department. But Casar also proposes moving **Internal Affairs** out of APD to operate as its own investigative unit. That would only remove about \$4.5 million from the police budget, but it would disrupt a pattern that has frustrated justice advocates, where the police investigate their own colleagues' alleged misconduct.

Both Casar and CM **Leslie Pool** propose shutting down the **police academy** for at least the next fiscal year to allow ongoing internal and external audits to be completed in November. They argue that it doesn't make sense to train up new officers under a broken academy system, and it frees up more funding to be reallocated – although there is some disagreement on whether to save those dollars for a reformed academy or move them to other needs like a family violence shelter. Pool estimates that shutting down the academy for a year would free up about \$29 million; mostly because it would close off the pipeline to fill the

remaining 100 officer vacancies (staff's proposed budget eliminates 70 of them), which could not be filled if the academy is closed.

Amendments from CM **Alison Alter** would invest more in **EMS**, which would likely take on more duties as APD shrinks. Alter proposes to add two new ambulances, each with the 12 FTEs required to staff them, 12 communications staff, and 5 commanders. The proposal still falls short of the EMS union's request for at least four new ambulances to deal with increased call volume from COVID-19 as well as reimagining public safety, but Alter notes that her proposal is a “minimum request.” She also suggests five additional community health paramedics and two new demand trucks should be considered for EMS.

Finally, CMs seem to agree on a proposal from Casar that the Council should adopt a “**calendar of action**” for the next fiscal year, indicating when they will approve future budget amendments to further reduce the police budget. The proposal is tacit acknowledgment that cuts at the scale demanded by citizens cannot feasibly be achieved before budget adoption in August. But a calendar, at least, would let those groups hold CMs accountable to further change they have committed to through a vote.

TESLA “GIGAFACTORY” IS SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED

Following weeks of fiscal courtship between the **Travis County Commissioners Court** and **Tesla**, **Elon Musk** announced last Wednesday Travis County as the next U.S. site for the company's “**Gigafactory**” automotive plant.

The at least 4-million-square-foot factory, to be located in Southeastern Travis County just north of Bergstrom Airport, will manufacture the Calif.-based company's new **Cybertruck electric pickup**. The announcement comes a week after the Commissioners Court approved a tax rebate deal for the factory. Under the agreement's baseline incentive – a \$1.1 billion investment from Musk

& Co. – the county stands to pocket \$8.8 million in property tax revenue over 10 years. Currently, the plant's 2,000-acre site near the intersection of SH 130 and Harold Green Road is home to a sand and gravel mining operation with a concrete plant operated by Martin Marietta that provides the county \$6,400 in annual property tax revenue. Other heralded stipulations of the Tesla deal include the creation of some 5,000 new full-time jobs over the next four years – with half of those being set for Travis County residents – and an established minimum hourly wage of \$15.

Of course, there's fiscal enticement for Tesla, too: a 70% rebate on its property taxes worth upwards of \$13 million. The rebate rate will increase

incrementally depending on how much capital Tesla further injects into the site over the agreement's 20-year term. Under the county's agreement, Tesla is directed to invest at least 10% of those rebate funds back into community initiatives, like assisting Capital Metro with improving public transportation to the site.

The news was not met with universal applause. Statewide org **Workers Defense Action Fund** issued a swift statement decrying the lack of “independent, third-party monitoring or enforcement measures” in the deal. Co-Executive Director **Emily Timm** said, “Tesla is notorious for skirting workplace protections and putting their workers at risk, and we cannot expect them to police themselves.”

– Beth Sullivan

Council Member
Jimmy Flannigan



WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA?

It's been a busy week for City Council, with a joint Capital Metro board meeting on Monday, work session Tuesday, and a regular voting meeting split across Wednesday and Thursday, due to a lengthy agenda and the final budget hearing scheduled for this Thursday. Also on Thursday, Council will hear more than 40 zoning cases, which have built up throughout July.

Here are some of the items to note on the July 29 agenda. As the *Chronicle* went to press on Wednesday, Council had approved all of them except Item 74, which will be discussed later in the day. — *Austin Sanders*

- **Item 73:** Did you think the **Land Development Code Revision** was dead? Maybe not! Council approved the extension of a contract with planning consultant **Peter Park**, who has been a central figure in the city's long effort to comprehensively revise its land use rules. A staff memo indicates Park's consultation doesn't have anything to do with the appeal the city has filed against a court ruling that invalidated the most recent LDC Revision attempt, but the contract could provide a way for the city to change the code through other means.
- **Item 74:** Here, Council is set to approve a \$1.7 million contract with **Relief Enterprises of Texas Inc.** to conduct **cleanups of homeless encampments** under highway overpasses in the city. As we reported previously, the cleanups often function more as sweeps — disrupting lives and displacing people by throwing away belongings and structures they need to achieve more stability in their lives.
- **Item 85:** **Juneteenth** has long been a celebrated holiday for Black Texans; this item directs City Manager Spencer Cronk to make June 19 a **paid holiday for city**

workers, giving them time to celebrate and reflect on the day that commemorates when Texas slaves finally learned they had been liberated — two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

- **Item 88:** Prohibiting **public consumption of alcohol** in some parts of cities has been one of the many tools used in the past to over-police minority communities, so Council is directing Cronk to develop an ordinance that removes those restrictions in Austin. It could come before Council in October.
- **Item 89:** As local school districts delay the reopening of in-person classes, panic is growing among parents seeking **affordable child care**. This resolution directs staff to return to Council by Aug. 13 with recommendations on how to bolster the city's child care system. One recommendation could include creating a "**child care stabilization fund**" that could award "immediate and ongoing" grants to child care providers.
- **Item 90:** Now that Council has settled on a system plan and funding mechanism for **Project Connect** (see p.24), they're set to direct staff to find ways of ensuring that the multibillion-dollar transit plan wouldn't accelerate gentrification in vulnerable communities, primarily by setting aside funds to buy land around proposed bus or rail stations to help keep housing affordable. The resolution would also instruct staff to develop a plan to fund sidewalk improvements, new bike lanes, more urban trails, and other **active transportation projects** that could go on the ballot alongside Project Connect.
- **Item 91:** This third in a trio of items introduced by CM Natasha Harper-Madison (with 85 and 88) intends to take steps toward undoing Austin's legacy of white supremacy. This resolution directs staff to work toward the goal of **renaming all city assets that honor the Confederacy or white supremacy** and instead "recognize esteemed state and local heroes, places, and concepts that uphold the noble ideals of liberty, democracy, and self-determination."
- **Item 117:** At long last, Council will affirm support for a plan to **redevelop abandoned lots in the St. Johns neighborhood** that have become a symbol of municipal neglect of Black and Latinx communities. The resolution authorizes Cronk to solicit proposals to transform the old Home Depot and Chrysler dealership into a mixed-use development with some income-restricted housing, dedicated parkland, and community services. ■

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APD Releases Long-Delayed Video of Ramos Shooting

Body-cam footage depicts aggressive police response to unarmed man **BY AUSTIN SANDERS**

After weeks of delay, **Austin Police Chief Brian Manley** on July 27 released the “critical incident” video of the fatal shooting of Michael Ramos by APD Officer **Christopher Taylor** at a Southeast Austin apartment complex on April 24. The video includes footage from **body-worn cameras** showing Ramos pleading with officers to put down their weapons. The 42-year-old man, who was Black and Hispanic, can be seen with his hands in the air, explaining that he does not have a gun and asking: “What the fuck is going on?”

“I can’t explain it right now, Michael,” an officer responds, as shouting continues from officers with their guns drawn. Ramos complies with requests from the eight officers sent to the scene – first to put his hands in the air, then to lift his shirt to show he’s unarmed. The scene becomes more tense as officers refuse to lower their weapons or

explain why they have approached Ramos with such force.

In the **911 call** that prompted the incident, included with the video, the caller states that Ramos and a woman – later revealed to be his girlfriend – were “smoking crack and cooking meth” in a gold and black Prius. That vehicle had been reported stolen; in 2010 and 2012, Ramos had been arrested for

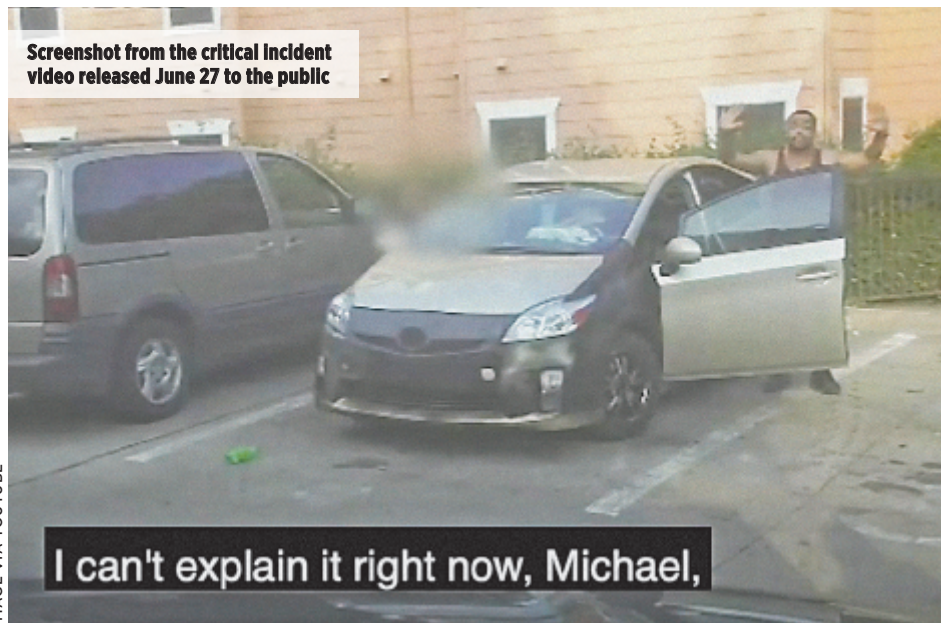
auto theft. The caller also tells the 911 operator that Ramos “**has a gun to this lady**” and, as the operator presses for details, says, “He was pointing it at her

... I don’t know what’s going on, but I need y’all to come quick.” Eventually, the caller says that Ramos was just holding a gun, which was not true; APD detectives failed to find a weapon on Ramos or in the car during a sweep after the shooting.

Both police supporters and critics are troubled by the 911 call, comparing it to

“The video is upsetting, because it confirms what we’ve been saying all along.”

CHAS MOORE, AUSTIN JUSTICE COALITION



Screenshot from the critical incident video released June 27 to the public

IMAGE VIA YOUTUBE

“**swatting**” – intentional harassment inducing police to raid an unsuspecting target. It’s unclear how much of what the operator learned was relayed to officers en route; regardless, Ramos was sitting in a parking lot in broad daylight, surrounded by witnesses – facts officers could have used when they arrived to judge whether the call was credible. The video shows officers making their plan to swarm Ramos with rifles drawn and to block any avenues of escape. It does not show them discussing how to de-escalate the situation if needed.

“The video is upsetting, because it confirms what we’ve been saying all along,” **Austin Justice Coalition** Executive Director **Chas Moore** told the *Chronicle*. “Mike didn’t

have a weapon and he wasn’t doing anything threatening to officers. It shows he was complying with them as much as he could while guns [are] drawn on him.”

Later in the video, one officer says: “You’re going to get impacted if you don’t listen,” referring to lead-pellet “impact munitions.” Ramos begins to move behind his open driver-side door and asks, “Impact me for what?” – as he has no way of knowing that 911 has been called, let alone what was alleged in the call. The officers ask Ramos to walk toward them without lowering their weapons. “Man, you all scared the fuck out of me,” he says.

Later in the 16-minute video, perspective shifts to footage from Taylor’s body camera;

OUTGOING D.A. MOORE POSTPONES POLICE CASES UNTIL JANUARY



JANA BIRCHUN

In a July 22 statement, outgoing District Attorney **Margaret Moore**’s office announced that the **Mike Ramos** and **Javier Ambler** police homicide cases will not be presented to a grand jury until January, when the newly elected D.A. – almost certain to be **José Garza**, who defeated Moore in the July 14 primary run-off – will take office. (He does face GOP nominee Martin Harry in November.)

“The voters of Travis County have spoken,” the statement read. “By overwhelmingly supporting a candidate for District Attorney who ran on a platform of changing how officer-involved shooting cases are prosecuted, I believe the community has clearly stated it would like to see the new administration oversee the prosecution of these cases from beginning to end.”

The statement comes after continued calls from the community for justice; Moore explicitly requested in late June for Austin police Chief **Brian Manley** not to take any disciplinary action against the officers involved in the Mike Ramos shooting until the case is brought to a grand jury. Manley also deferred to Moore’s request when he temporarily withheld

release of the “critical incident” video of the Ramos shooting; that footage was released Monday. The case of Javier Ambler, who died in custody after being repeatedly shocked with a Taser by **Williamson County** deputies who’d chased him into Travis – with cameras from the now-canceled **Live PD** TV series in tow – has been awaiting action from Moore’s office for more than a year.

“My heart continues to break for the Ramos and Ambler families as they have continued to wait for justice,” said Garza in response. “I look forward to fighting for justice for both families. It will be my highest priority.” The attorneys for **Christopher Taylor**, the officer who shot Ramos, expressed frustration at what they see as a politically motivated delay and said in a statement that their main focus is “a speedy resolution ... If Ms. Moore had the evidence to secure any indictments, she would have already done so.”

Moore’s office noted “the possible pain and discomfort to the families of Mr. Ambler and Mr. Ramos” but maintained that the delay was “the responsible thing to do.” **Chris Harris**, criminal justice project director for **Texas Appleseed**, says Moore’s decision “raises serious questions about whether or not she ever intended to follow through with these

Protesters outside of the Texas State Capitol grounds in June



DAVID BRENDAN HALL

an officer shouts, “Impact him,” three times before Officer **Mitchell Pieper** – just three months out of the academy – adjusts his position and fires on Ramos with a lead-pellet-bag round. After Ramos is hit, bystander video from the scene shows, he enters his vehicle and begins to drive away from – not toward – the officers. Then Taylor shoots Ramos three times, killing him. “It feels like *The Twilight Zone*,” attorney Rebecca Webber – representing Ramos’ mother, Brenda – said of watching the video and the officers’ failure to de-escalate in any way. “It’s like the officers are in a different reality than the one I live in.”

The video is the first to be released under a new policy crafted by APD in col-

laboration with the **Office of Police Oversight** and criminal justice advocates. OPO Director **Farah Muscadin** said her office provided feedback on the script used and on what footage to release (in addition to the edited briefing video, APD released footage from a police helicopter, vehicle dash cameras, and other officers’ body cameras). Though the policy was meant to promote prompt transparency, the 94 days between Ramos’ death and the video’s release is more than a month past the set deadline. Muscadin told us the video creation process “requires a team effort and should be done collaboratively” with “a lot of planning” to ensure deadlines will be met in the future. ■

cases or if those were just campaign promises ... Justice delayed is justice denied.”

Harris expressed distrust in the criminal justice system more broadly, doubting that Garza or anyone in the D.A.’s role can make significant changes to how prosecution of use-of-force cases is done, especially considering this six-month delay, which will make them more difficult to prosecute given stale evidence. Garza’s bold vision of restructuring the D.A.’s Office will also take some time, and if the Ramos and Ambler cases are indeed his priority in January, he will likely be working with Moore’s **Civil Rights Unit**, which per her statement will “continue preparing these cases for grand jury as if they were going to present the cases themselves.”

Chas Moore, founder of **Austin Justice Coalition**, agreed that “the system is still the system, it kinda moves and works the way it does. But José brings in the spirit of

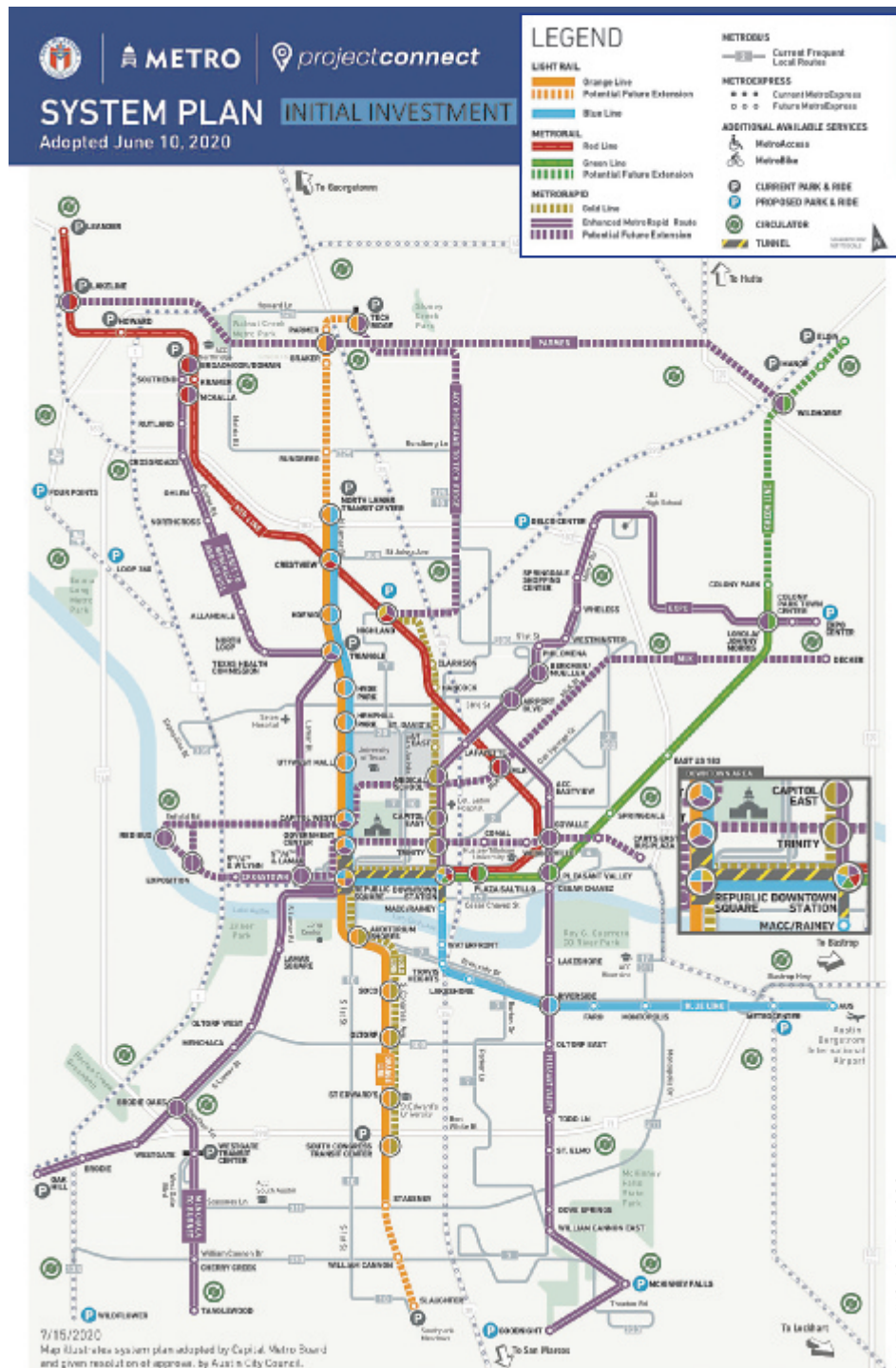
this time and moment and movement that we’re in, so I think the fight is gonna be different ... The way I look at this is two sides, right? Yes, the community wants this thing to be resolved as soon as possible. But if there’s a lack of trust in the community with the current D.A. ... then I think it makes sense to wait until we get the new person in there.”

The current office’s track record supports that theory; Moore’s office hasn’t indicted any officer in a use-of-force case since 2015, and according to the landslide 36-point victory margin that Garza enjoyed in the July 14 election, the community trusts him to prosecute those cases more successfully, even if he faces structural obstacles getting there. Says Moore, “My grandma’s from Louisiana, and as bad as you want that gumbo, you gotta take your time and cook the roux right. [Because if] you rush it, you burn it and it’s done. You have to start all over.” – *Lina Fisher*

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The approved Project Connect “initial investment” scenario includes:

- **Two core light-rail lines:** The **Orange Line** along Lamar, Guadalupe, and South Congress, and the **Blue Line** from the airport to Downtown via Riverside. Both will serve the same route north of Downtown, meaning extra frequency to the UT campus and along the city’s busiest transit corridor.
- The proposed \$2 billion **Downtown subway tunnel** and underground stations, as well as a new lake crossing on the Blue Line, remain in the plan.
- The northern and southern extensions of the Orange Line have been put off for now; “enhanced MetroRapid” service will run from the North Lamar Transit Center to Tech Ridge and from Stassney to Southpark Meadows.

- The plan also includes **MetroRapid** (i.e., dedicated bus lanes) as a placeholder on the **Gold Line**, from Downtown to ACC Highland along Red River, which is still envisioned as a future light-rail route.
- The **MetroRail** commuter rail service, which uses existing freight rail right-of-way owned by Cap Metro, will see enhancements on its **Red Line** to Leander and new **Green Line** service through the Eastern Crescent to Colony Park.
- As for bus service, there are three new **MetroRapid** corridors – adding service to Oak Hill, the Eastside, and Southeast Austin – with four more deferred from the original proposal; 15 new **neighborhood circulator zones**; three new **MetroExpress** routes; and nine **park-and-rides**.

Nearing the Station

Council, Cap Metro prepare to hand transit plan to voters

BY MIKE CLARK-MADISON

The **Austin City Council** and the **Capital Metro board of directors** have reached the next-to-last stop as they steer the **Project Connect** transit system plan toward Election Station. At a joint meeting Monday, the two bodies voted to adopt a \$7 billion “initial investment scenario” that could be financed with an 8.75-cent city property tax rate – separate from the current city levy, and requiring (under state law) voter approval in a tax ratification election (TRE) in November.

That’s just under 4% of the current combined tax bill for Austin property owners. As opponents and like-minded folks are already shouting from the rooftops, it’s a 20% increase in city taxes, costing most Austin homeowners hundreds of dollars a year. But as the funding stream for a whole new agency – which it effectively will be, as the city and transit authority form a local government corporation to manage Project Connect – it’s less than those property owners pay now to support Austin Community College or Central Health, largely without complaint.

An **8.5-cent tax rate** would generate the **\$3.85 billion** in local funds needed for the scenario (55%, the rest coming from the feds). The additional quarter-cent would be to increase funding for **anti-displacement strategies**, a priority of many on Council and the Cap Metro board (and especially of those, like Mayor Pro Tem **Delia Garza** and Council Member **Ann Kitchen**, who are members of both). A TRE-earmarked rate of any amount, as opposed to a bond program, could also support future operations. City Manager **Spencer Cronk** has been assigned

to work out final details on the financing strategy so that Council can call an election next week.

The **\$7 billion** scenario covers about two-thirds of the full Project Connect system plan as presented in March, just as the COVID-19 pandemic hit. At that time, the plan called for some elements to be part of future phases; by June, the city and Cap Metro had leaned into putting the entire **\$9.8 billion** plan – with a **\$5.5 billion** local share and an **11-cent TRE** – on November’s ballot. As the pandemic has dragged on, the region’s economy has remained fragile and its travel patterns have continued to change. In response, the proposal has more or less been reset to

While efforts to spend more on mobility would seem to run counter to a COVID-inspired belt-tightening for Project Connect, the mood at City Hall continues to back going big.

where it was in March.

While the entire Project Connect system plan remains intact, the initial scenario drops the north and south ends of the **Orange Line** (Lamar/Guadalupe/South Congress) back to “enhanced” MetroRapid service (e.g., dedicated lanes), from the North Lamar Transit Center to Tech Ridge, and from Stassney Lane to Southpark Meadows. It also turns the **Gold Line** from Downtown to ACC Highland (along or near Red River), which was BRT in March and had become a rail line in June, down to a MetroRapid line. And the initial scenario includes only **three new MetroRapid corridors** (excluding the ones above), down from seven.

But the big bones of the plan remain intact – **Orange Line** on the city’s busiest transit corridor; **Blue Line** from the airport to Downtown via East Riverside and a new lake crossing (and then up the Orange Line); **Green Line** commuter rail from Downtown to Colony Park; improvements to the existing **Red Line**; new express bus routes, park-and-rides, and transit centers; and a (slightly smaller) Downtown tunnel and underground stations.

There’s also \$200 million for “**transit supportive investments**,” half of which was earmarked for **anti-displacement** initiatives to keep the shiny new trains and buses from gentrifying the working- and middle-class neighborhoods whose residents most need

to live near transit. Though it's a small part of the price tag – or, perhaps, *because* of that – displacement has been a major topic at Cap Metro's community engagement sessions, on the Council's message board, and among callers to the joint meeting. Council's 8.75-cent rate would bring that to \$300 million. As Garza noted, she and other backers of the \$250 million 2018 housing bond now believe voters would have OK'd more money then, and the need has only grown more acute: "I don't see any other option" than to seek the higher tax rate.

Discussion continues on whether to likewise add to the TRE or call a separate bond election to raise \$250 million or more for

active transportation and make a meaningful dent in the city's largely unbuilt sidewalk, bicycle, and trail master plans. While efforts to spend more on mobility would seem to run counter to a COVID-inspired belt-tightening for Project Connect, the mood at City Hall continues to back going big. "I believe now is the moment, not despite the fact that this is a challenging time, but precisely because of [those] challenges," Mayor Steve Adler told his colleagues at Monday's meeting. "We need to move forward and be the Austin of our aspirations and our dreams. Now more than ever, we have to begin stepping into our future." ■

Rodriguez Concedes SD 14 Race to Eckhardt

"I think it's in the best interest of the district to move on, and let's concentrate on November."

That's how state Rep. **Eddie Rodriguez** summarized his decision to concede the **Senate District 14** race to former Travis County Judge **Sarah Eckhardt**, and to forgo a run-off prolonging the campaign perhaps into October. "I asked myself if I wanted to put people in the district ... having to come out in a couple of months and having to vote again," he told the *Chronicle* this week. "Instead, we should concentrate on electing more Democrats, and hopefully more people of color to the House. What drove me is what's best for the district."

Rodriguez remains in his House District 51 seat – he does face a Republican opponent, **Robert Reynolds**, in November, but should be reelected easily. In a statement released Monday, Rodriguez congratulated Eckhardt and said he looked forward to working with her on an "aggressive, progressive agenda."

On her Facebook page, Eckhardt wrote, "I have deep respect for Representative Rodriguez and the race he ran. I look forward to joining forces with him in the next session to advance our shared progressive values for Bastrop and Travis Counties and for Texas." (SD 14 encompasses all of Bastrop County and about 75% of Travis County.)

Following late (still unofficial) tallies, Eckhardt was within a few hundred votes of winning a majority, with 49.7% of more than 119,000 votes. Rodriguez finished at 33.9% – a 16% deficit that would have been daunting for a run-off. After consulting with supporters and his family, Rodriguez decided that "asking people to come out and vote in another election when COVID might be raging drove my decision. ... I've got to focus on expending my energy on something bigger than me – public policy at the state level, and trying to get more Democrats elected."

Eckhardt will serve out the remainder of



Sarah Eckhardt

the term (through 2022) of former Sen. **Kirk Watson**, who resigned to accept a deanship at the University of Houston.

Rodriguez said he talked with Eckhardt before he made his announcement and looks forward to putting the sometimes bitter campaign behind them. "The Democratic Party is a family, and it's time to come together. ... At the end of the day, I want to see the Party united, and that's important to me."

Rodriguez said he had been inspired by his wide range of support – "from Equality Texas to Texas Pets Alive" – and looks forward to serving in a 2021 House featuring a Democratic majority. "We're facing major issues: public education, criminal justice reform, social justice reform, redistricting around the corner, and obviously trying to pass a fair budget."

Rodriguez is the "dean" (longest serving) of the Central Texas Democratic delegation and said the group is "committed to getting things done. ... The excitement of the campaign was really encouraging to me about the future of the Democratic Party. It inspired me to run a great race and to make the right decision here." – *Michael King*

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BY THE CHRONICLE
EDITORIAL STAFF

An award-winning bald cypress at Red Bud Isle



TREE OF THE YEAR WINNERS

- 2012: **Old Baldy's Bald Cypress, McKinney Falls State Park** (Tree of the Year)
- 2012: **Pecan, Heron Hollow Pocket Park** (Community Tree Honorable Mention)
- 2011: **Pecan, Zilker Park** (Tree of the Year)
- 2011: **Live Oak, Travis Heights Neighborhood** (Community Tree Honorable Mention)
- 2010: **Live Oak, St. Andrew's Episcopal School** (Tree of the Year)
- 2010: **Bur Oak, Highland Park Elementary** (Community Tree Honorable Mention)
- 2009: **Bald Cypress, Red Bud Isle** (Tree of the Year – Large)
- 2009: **Texas Persimmon, Mayfield Park** (Tree of the Year – Small)
- 2009: **Live Oak, Pastures Apartment Complex** (Community Tree Honorable Mention)
- 2008: **Live Oak, Central Park (3900 Guadalupe)** (Tree of the Year – Large)
- 2008: **Texas Persimmon, Pease Park** (Tree of the Year – Small)
- 2007: **Live Oak, Hampton Branch of Oak Hill Public Library** (Tree of the Year)

ORGANIZED BY THE CITY OF AUSTIN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT'S URBAN FORESTRY DIVISION

Kevin Curtin Hung Out With All of Austin's
"Tree of the Year" Winners

It's tough, this many months into the pandemic paradigm, finding fresh socially distanced activities that'll get you out of the house. If you too itch for exploration, let me recommend visiting all the oaks, pecans, and cypresses that've been named Austin's Tree of the Year.

Oh, you didn't know there's a Tree of the Year award? I also had no clue such an honor existed until last month, when I was hiking with my girlfriend and our baby at McKinney Falls State Park, and we came across a magnificent conifer.

"Man, that tree looks famous!" I said.

Turns out it was. "Old Baldy" sprouted from the ground around the same time Leonardo da Vinci painted the *Mona Lisa*. The trail map noted that the 100-foot-tall bald cypress had been named Tree of the Year in 2012.

That's when a lightbulb flashed above my head: "We're going to check out every Tree of the Year!"

The expedition proved to be much more difficult than I ever anticipated. There's no Tree of the Year website, or even a city of Austin page archiving past winners. So I called a bunch of friends who I thought might be aware of that kind of history – veteran townies who like nature – and found out about a few of these via word-of-mouth.

We hung out under the 150-foot-wide, tentaclelike branches of an escarpment live oak, the 2008 winner, in Central Park. We enjoyed a colorful sunset through the knobby branches of an enormous cypress on the Red Bud peninsula, which had received the honors the following year. I rested my bicycle under the shade of a communal pecan at Zilker Park. Then, having run out of intel, I started searching for plaques whenever I'd come across a cool-looking tree, like the large, looming behemoth at Govalle Park – with no luck.

Several calls and multiple messages to city departments and tree-related nonprofits later, my phone finally rang. On the other end was Kirsten Schneider, the environmental program coordinator for the Parks and Recreation Department's Urban Forestry division. She explained that the Austin's Tree of the Year program had run from 2007 to 2012, initially overseen by PARD, then by the organization Tree People in its final year. Schneider reasons that it eventually came to an end due to the process being "administratively difficult" – not because they ran out of cool trees to honor.

Then, she bestowed upon me a full list of every Tree of the Year winner.

Over the next two days, we completed our Tree of the Year bingo card. Directly behind the St. Andrew's Episcopal School, there's a trunk bearing a brilliant canopy of oaky tendrils three times as wide. A nearby plaque notes its "furrowed bark and tapered acorns." That majestic plant received top billing in 2010. Another escarpment live oak – which was the first tree to be venerated in 2007, but the last one we visited – turned out to be my favorite. Behind the Hampton Branch of the Oak Hill Public Library in Southwest Austin, there's

a miniature ecological preserve with a walking trail. About a quarter-mile in, you run into a tree with vast branches sloping in one direction to create an awning over a set of tables. It's a vision of serenity.

"The Learning Tree sits comfortable in its nature-reserve-like setting, with the species' typical widespread twisting branches that hover above the ground, making a perfect place for a classroom," its accompanying marker reads. "A footpath meanders ... nearby a young descendant tree demonstrates a succession of health, care, and progeny."

At the risk of echoing Emerson's "It's not the destination, it's the journey" cliché, the real reward of our horticultural treasure hunt turned out to be more than admiring a bunch of ancient trees. The process expanded our mental atlas of interesting natural locales, experiencing at least four spaces in the city that we'd never been to before.

Schneider says she's considering rebooting the Tree of the Year program with modern technology. Perhaps a map-oriented app where you can seek out past winners would make them more accessible and remove the necessity for plaques. If they resume the honors, I'd like to make a nomination: this tree in the East Boggy Creek Greenbelt that is growing through not one but two car tires – visual proof that nature finds a way.

– Kevin Curtin

Kevin (r), Momar (l), and a tree growing through two car tires



PHOTOS BY MOLLY RYAN



Top, l-r: Rogerick Davis, Steven Brown, Miriam Conner; bottom, l-r: Kenneth Thompson Sr., Alberta Phillips

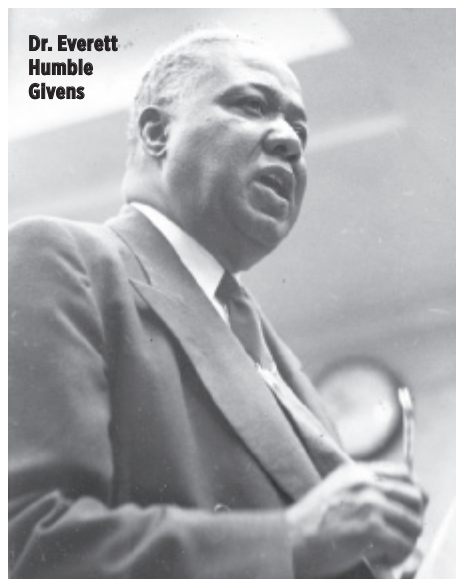
In We Are Here! Living the Legacy of Dr. Givens, Remembering East Austin's Past and Fighting for Its Future

If we can link up with ancestors who have done great work, then we can find out "how their past can direct us in the future." With that, Steven Brown set the tone for the online event *We Are Here! Living the Legacy of Dr. Givens*. For two hours, remembrances of East Austin past – the people, places, and traditions that made it special – mixed with talk of the work going on now to keep it special and move it forward. Brown, president of the Givens Park Working Group, which hosted the program in partnership with Forklift Danceworks and Austin PBS, held up the park's namesake, Dr. Everett Givens, as such an ancestor. This World War I veteran who became one of Austin's first Black dentists fought for African Americans and won them meaningful changes, such as getting the city to hire its first Black firefighters. This resonated with Brown, a health professional who once wanted to be a firefighter and who still wants to make a difference in his community: "When I started digging into Dr. Givens' story, I said, 'This man is me.'" Now, Brown is taking on great work himself – he recently teamed with the city to establish a COVID-19 testing site in Givens Park.

Brown told that story in response to a question from Alberta Phillips, the journalist and former *Austin American-Statesman* editorial writer who moderated a panel during the program. She drew out success stories – another was from Rogerick Davis, whose Hands Full of Cash Car Club has gotten the Austin Police Department to partner with them on Givens Park cleanups – but always got the full story, which inevitably involved protracted negotiations with city officials suspicious of and unwilling to cut red tape for East Austin's Black citizens. "That really reflects Austin's history, how they have responded to issues in our community," Kenneth Thompson Sr. noted, leading community organizer Miriam Conner to return to Dr. Givens: "[He] fought for us to have a place to have fun, the park. Fought for playground equipment. Fought for better streets, bus services, parks. If he hadn't gone to City Council to fight for those things, we wouldn't have them."

The community's gratitude for the things Dr. Givens fought for was most clear in the program's first half, in

which Kimberly Holiday – better known as KAZI-FM's LadyJoy – spoke with East Austinites who had participated in last year's *Givens Swims*, the third production in Forklift's *My Pool, My Park, My City* series. The show was performed by people who used to swim at or still swim at Givens Pool – kids, grownups, seniors, life-guards, you name it – and their memories of the pool were incorporated into the show, in both movement sequences and recorded narration. Holiday, who was also in *Givens Swims*, had no trouble getting her seven fellow cast members to speak from the heart about the importance of Givens Park and Givens Pool in their lives. As Creola Shaw Burns put it: "East Austin was home, and Givens Park was home, and *Givens Swims* gave me the opportunity to go back home." Holiday echoed the sentiment in summing up her segment: "The park has been a central place for healing and self care in Austin. This is a place of connection and community. This place celebrates Black joy and Black beauty. When you are here, you are home."
– Robert Faires



Dr. Everett Humble Givens

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Whitney Mitchell, Garrett Foster's fiancée, surrounded by supporters



JANA BIRCHUM

A DEATH IN THE STREET

The killing of Garrett Foster shocks the city - and galvanizes the moment

BY BRANT BINGAMON AND MIKE CLARK-MADISON

On Sunday night, 300 young people sat in the street at the corner of Fourth and Congress, utterly silent, their heads cast down. For five minutes, 10 minutes, nothing could be heard but the hum of the city and the occasional passing car. Then a voice called out, “Say his name!” The crowd roared back, “Garrett Foster!” “Say his name!” “Garrett Foster!” The call and response continued, crescendoing, until the voices fell silent, their chant echoing among the tall buildings.

Foster had been killed 24 hours before while marching with the Mike Ramos Bri-

gade. As about 100 protesters moved north along Congress Avenue Saturday night, a motorist in a black sedan drove recklessly into the crowd. Witnesses say Foster, armed with an AK-47-type rifle carried openly, approached the driver, who fired five shots through an open window. Three shots hit Foster. Another member of the crowd - possibly a volunteer street medic supporting the march, according to social media reports - returned fire at the car as it fled.

Foster was given first aid at the scene by two police officers, Austin firefighters, and a volunteer medic before being transported

to Dell Seton Medical Center. He was pronounced dead around 10:30 Saturday night. Despite early reports of multiple victims, no other injuries were reported. The motorist, whose name has still not been made public, four days later, reportedly called 911 after driving away and was brought in for questioning by homicide detectives, as was the second shooter. Both have been released pending further investigation.

BATTLE LINES BEING DRAWN

As news of the event hit social media and quickly became a top topic nationwide,

right-wing commentators blamed Foster, claiming that he raised his rifle as he approached the car. Despite multiple videos of the event, there is no clear evidence to support that contention one way or the other. Foster's fellow marchers, including a Tribune of the People reporter who claimed to be standing near him when he was shot, swear that the barrel of his gun never came up.

On top of declaring that he pointed his gun, many on social media have claimed that Foster shot first. Police on Sunday said conclusively that he never fired his gun. That did not keep Austin Police Association



Following a vigil, Black Lives Matter protesters marched to City Hall.

DAVID BRENDAN HALL

President Ken Casaday from saying, in essence, that Foster got what he deserved. “He was looking for confrontation,” Casaday tweeted on Sunday evening, “and he found it.” The union chief then escalated his ongoing confrontation with activists and the City Council in a volatile interview Monday with CNN.

Whether Foster raised his gun may never be known, but there can be little doubt about the driver’s intentions. Video captured by independent journalist Hiram Garcia, a fixture at the protests, shows the driver turning his car intentionally into the crowd. The squeal of his tires can be heard as he accelerates from a stop, turning right into the body of the group and then coming to a sudden halt. In the video, marchers

Whether Foster raised his gun may never be known, but there can be little doubt about the driver’s intentions.

scream and approach the car. The car is stationary for a moment and voices call, “Get back, get back!” Then the shots ring out.

For Mike Ramos Brigade members, the apparent use of a car as a weapon recalls an event that occurred a month before. On June 27, Logan Bucknam – believed by the group to be the son of a police officer – purposely drove his car into a crowd protesting at APD headquarters. (Rumors abound now that Foster’s killer is also a police insider; the *Chronicle* is investigating.)

As in Saturday’s incident, Bucknam stopped in the middle of a group of protesters, narrowly missing several of them. The protesters slapped on the hood of the car;

CONTINUED ON P.22



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Mourners gathered Sunday near the spot where Garrett Foster died.

DAVID BRENDAN HALL

years in the military. Foster, whose core political leanings were not only anti-police and anti-racism, but thoroughly anti-government and libertarian, had pushed Mitchell through the streets night after night. The couple had cooked and served food to the homeless under the bridge across from APD. Friends said they were inseparable. They planned to marry soon, his family says; fellow activists consistently referred to Mitchell as Foster's wife.

“HOMICIDE #28”

On Saturday night, APD gave a terse briefing to reporters confirming Foster's death and noting that the driver was (at that time) in custody. Police Chief Brian Manley's briefing Sunday went further, but also included some unsubtle opinionating – about officers' efforts to save Foster's life despite the marchers' politics, the everyday heroism of his police force, and how Foster's death added to our rising violent crime rate. And he acknowledged his hope that these things would influence how Austinites and their City Council feel about defunding, downsizing, and disempowering the police force.

Council voted unanimously in June to adopt a statement of non-confidence in Manley's leadership; several members have called directly for his resignation, including Jimmy Flannigan, who attended the vigil Sunday night. “At this stage, what I'm most thoughtful about is that we have a young man, a veteran, who while exercising his First and Second Amendment rights, was murdered on the streets of Downtown Austin,” Flannigan told the *Chronicle* Tuesday. “That's something we have the right and the obligation to grieve.” As chair of the Council Public Safety Committee, Flannigan was not moved by Manley's spin: “I don't think that's the time to talk about how great officers are.”

MRB members were dismayed – but not surprised – by Manley's release of the shooter. “I mean, it's disgusting,” the MRB spokesperson said. “The state is doing everything they can to repress protesters. People have to wear ankle monitors and stuff, people are under house arrest for fighting for Black lives. Meanwhile this man, who everyone saw murder Garrett Foster, gets to walk free. It's terrifying and disgusting.”

Manley's efforts to change the dialogue likely weren't helped by his summary of the shooting itself, which enraged many protesters. In his briefing, the chief stated as fact that the driver had inadvertently turned into the crowd, which then began to attack the car, and that Foster then pointed his gun at the driver. This all sets up a “stand your ground” defense for the shooter and no doubt is what the motorist told

CONTINUED ON P.24

SHOOTING CONTINUED FROM P.21

some approached the doors. Bucknam, visibly enraged, seemed to consider getting out of the car, then reconsidered, flashed a gun, and drove forward to the police garage, 100 feet distant. He exited the car as members of the crowd ran toward him. A line of police emerged from the parking garage and whisked Bucknam away, and a police officer drove Bucknam's car into the garage. Within 30 minutes protesters saw the car leave the garage and drive away.

Police tear-gassed demonstrators multiple times that evening as they protested at the gates of the garage. APD later stated that Bucknam had acted in self-defense, though he had initiated the confrontation. “APD protected him,” a spokesperson for MRB said. “People could have died then too, and APD did not care. They let him go free ... It shows what they stand for, it shows that they like racist vigilantes who do their work for them.”

A CONSTANT PRESENCE

Many of those who gathered on Sunday had marched and rallied alongside Foster and his fiancée Whitney Mitchell throughout the weeks of protests against police violence and white supremacy. The vigil began at 6pm with MRB members driving a political opponent from their midst, a not-uncommon occurrence. In this case it

Garrett Foster “was looking for confrontation, and he found it.”

AUSTIN POLICE ASSOCIATION
PRESIDENT KEN CASADAY

was Eric Brown, co-president of JUST America – a new group that appeared after MRB's protests began and almost immediately was embraced as a partner by APD leadership. An MRB chant leader held a megaphone to Brown's head, screaming, “Act like a cop!” to which the group responded, “Get treated like a cop!”

Once Brown departed, attendees lit candles and incense and laid down bouquets of flowers, creating an ofrenda-style memorial. They passed a megaphone back and

forth, sharing reminiscences of Foster, as in other occasions for public grieving that have become sadly familiar.

Many lamented that they had not really known Foster, who was, by all accounts, a shy person. Another common theme was Foster and Mitchell's ubiquitous presence at the protests. One speaker simply summarized, “Garrett was a hero.” Others described him as a martyr to their cause who died protecting Mitchell and his fellow activists – “a white body given to protect Black lives.” Stepping back from their struggle was simply not an option, most who spoke said. “You can kill the revolutionary, but you can't kill the revolution,” one of the speakers told the crowd, which erupted with cheers that could be heard blocks away.

Shortly after 8pm, Mitchell arrived; the crowd fell silent as she was carried from the car and placed into her wheelchair. Foster and Mitchell have stood out among the activist crowds since the protests began. Mitchell is a small Black woman, an amputee; Foster was a large white man who was her full-time caretaker; they'd been together since high school, and during his

The Travis County
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adopting, the 2020 tax rate,
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tax rate and voter approved tax
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SHOOTING CONTINUED FROM P.22

police. But, again, it is at odds with the statements of numerous witnesses as well as bystander video. On Monday, APD publicists blandly recapped the killing in their routine post-crime press release, labeled “Homicide #28,” in which they noted witnesses presented “several different versions of the event.”

On Monday, attorney Emily Gerrick of the Texas Fair Defense Project quoted on social media a statement attributed to Assistant City Manager Rey Arellano, who oversees public safety, in response to a council member inquiry: “APD coordinated their preliminary investigation with the Travis County District Attorney’s office and it was determined there was not probable cause to make an arrest based on the facts uncovered during the initial review. The case remains under investigation and APD will continue to collaborate with the D.A.’s office.”

Gerrick noted that police frequently find probable cause based on witness testimony that contradicts a suspect and could have arrested and held the shooter for offenses other than killing Foster (e.g., reckless driving) while the investigation continues. “I wish all low-income defendants and victims of over-policing had this much due process, but that’s not at all how things normally work,” Gerrick wrote. Flannigan, who had also heard Arellano’s explanation, dubbed it “awfully convenient ... There’s a lot to be said about how this could be different. I don’t know if that’s a fruitful exercise at this point, but one does ‘what if?’”

THE MRB MARCHES ON

In his Sunday briefing, Manley implored people to share video with APD to further the investigation, but much documentation of Saturday’s shooting and its aftermath is already public and has been viewed worldwide. The “revolutionary news service” Tribune of the People has already compiled a five-minute edit of video from multiple sources. Garcia, who has covered the protests since they began (and who was himself arrested by APD on July 17), captured the actual shooting on his livestream, which has since been picked up by numerous outlets, including *The New York Times*.

Manley’s efforts to change the dialogue likely weren’t helped by his summary of the shooting itself, which seemed to set up a “stand your ground” defense for the shooter.

In its coverage, the *Times* foregrounded the fact that Foster carried his rifle to the protests. This framing has resonated nationally, with debates raging on social media over whether Foster was to blame for his own death. “The media is already trying to victim-blame Garrett, act like, oh, he was trying to attack this man,” the MRB spokesperson said. “And I know the cops are going to try to use ‘stand your ground’ as a way to let this killer walk free. And the press is supporting that by pointing out that Garrett had a gun even though this is an open carry state. He wasn’t pointing the gun at the guy. And even if he was it wouldn’t matter, because the guy was using his car as a weapon.”

After the vigil on Sunday night, protesters took to the streets, marching and chanting for hours. At least four protesters with assault rifles were seen on the fringes of the march, keeping a lookout.



Police and medics tried to resuscitate Garrett Foster after the protester was shot by a motorist who drove into the crowd.

JOHN ANDERSON

The MRB spokesperson said they have not organized those carrying the guns but are glad to have their support: “A lot of these people who are open-carry, we’ve talked to all of them, they’re on the side of the people, they’re here to protect the protesters. And at the end of the day I think it’s perfectly justified. Why should cops get to brandish guns in our faces, why should racist vigilantes get to do that, but the people can’t do that in defense of themselves?”

Supporters are directed to a GoFundMe for the “Official Garrett Foster Memorial Fund,” created to cover funeral expenses and provide ongoing support and health care for Mitchell. As of Wednesday, it had raised \$107,709, well beyond its goal. The MRB spokesperson lamented that she hadn’t known Foster well. “But I didn’t need to know him to know that I love him and I love what he stood for,” she said. “He was willing to defend the people, he was willing. He lost his life doing that.” ■

“At this stage, what I’m most thoughtful about is that we have a young man, a veteran, who while exercising his First and Second Amendment rights, was murdered on the streets of Downtown Austin.”

COUNCIL MEMBER JIMMY FLANNIGAN



Foster (with rifle) and Mitchell at a protest outside APD headquarters on July 17

JOHN ANDERSON

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CALENDAR

JULY 30



AUGUST 6



30 THURSDAY



JOHN MULVANY: THE PATTERN DAYS

Through Aug. 16

Mulvany's bright images of urban and forested realisms are forever haunted by ghosts of one kind or another – damned if he hasn't gone and mounted a public show via Google Docs. Room by room and painting by painting elegantly showcases this mid-lockdown series of works depicting the deep, spirit-riddled natural world.

See more arts events on p.30.

31 FRIDAY



... AND YOU WILL KNOW US BY THE TRAIL OF DEAD LIVESTREAM

8pm

A 2020 tour for Trail of Dead's 10th studio album was canceled and is now replaced by a trio of livestream performances. This Friday's comes with exclusive merchandise and 20% of sales going to venues the band was scheduled to play.

See more music recommendations on p.47.

1 SATURDAY



AUSTIN CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

7:30pm

The 24th annual festival continues, streaming online and featuring ACMC's Michelle Schumann hosting interviews and performances each weekend. This week features the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

See more arts events on p.30.

2 SUNDAY



TEXAS LOTTERY PRESENTS SHAKEY GRAVES

7pm

Shakey Graves kept busy the past few months, holding charity auctions of old equipment and lighting up live streams like Willie's Picnic. He also dropped his new EP, *Look Alive*. Teaming up with Margin Walker and the Texas Lottery, the ATX native haunts the Enchanted Springs Ranch ghost town in Boerne in a unique performance.

See more music recommendations on p.47.

3 MONDAY



MEDIA CHICA

Monday-Saturday, 1-3pm

Do you have a young writer at home? Someone who loves to report on the stories around the world? Sign them up for Media Chica, Latinitas' free one-week journalism boot camp. Girls will have the opportunity to become digital producers, learn from professionals in the field, and enhance their writing skills.

Find more events for kids on p.33.

4 TUESDAY



UNCOMMON OBJECTS WEIRD HOME TOUR

7pm

Multiple "Best of Austin" award-winning store Uncommon Objects is back open daily. And now you can virtually tour owner Steve Wiman's home as part of Atlas Obscura's Wonder From Home initiative, and view his treasure trove of fascinating items from around the globe.

See more arts events on p.30.

5 WEDNESDAY



VIRTUAL STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

6pm

Mayor Steve Adler delivers the annual "State of the City" address. The speech will be livestreamed on Austin's government access channel, ATXN, with feeds in both English and Spanish.

See more community events on p.32.

6 THURSDAY



BLACK EVERYTHANG MATTERS

7pm

In collaboration with local promoters Heard Presents, Riders Against the Storm co-leader Chaka livestreams at Empire Control Room & Garage to benefit his DAWA Fund. All proceeds go toward the nonprofit, which provides grants to local people of color experiencing financial difficulties.

See more music recommendations on p.47.

CHRONEVENTS EVERYWHERE YOU WANT TO BE IN AUSTIN
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For FAQs about submitting a listing, contact info, deadlines, and an online submission form, go to [austinchronicle.com/submit](https://www.austinchronicle.com/submit).

COMMUNITY

BY BETH SULLIVAN

SOMETIMES YOU WANT to shop where everything's made by queers, which is why we're stoked about the **Little Gay Shop** (828 Airport Boulevard). Operating out of a converted shipping container, co-owners and husbands **Justin Galicz** and **Kirt Reynolds'** marketplace sells artwork, apparel, and literature made exclusively by the LGBTQIA community. The NYC transplants, who moved here two years ago, started the LGS as a roaming pop-up last summer with the mission to showcase and celebrate queer artwork. The dream was always to open a physical location, Galicz tells me, but finding the shipping container was "one of the more fortunate things for us to happen" out of the pandemic: While he was furloughed from his job in retail, Reynolds came across the property listing and "everything lined up, so we jumped on it." The couple has followed COVID-19 precautions by making in-person shopping by appointment only (Wed.-Sun., noon-6pm) and offering free local delivery and curbside pickup. Despite the challenges, Galicz says it's a critical time for the store to support artists. "They are people that either freelance or they rely solely on pop-ups and markets and fairs and all of these different types of events to make their living," explains Galicz. "With all of those being canceled or postponed, we felt a responsibility to help them in any way we can." Local offerings include perennial favorites from **Lone Star Queer**, plus the brand's recent T-shirt collab with **Cheer Up Charlies**, the proceeds of which are split between **Black Lives Matter** and Cheer Ups' staff recovery fund. There are dreams to open stores in other cities, as well as further expand the LGS brand into a bookstore or coffee shop – with the underlying goal of giving queer creatives credit where it's long overdue. "For so long our queer makers have undervalued their worth or been asked to do things for free or been pushed aside for a different artist who has more access to resources or privilege," says Galicz. "We're just really excited to be providing visibility and compensation." Schedule an appointment at www.thelittlegayshop.com.



COURTESY OF THE LITTLE GAY SHOP

2 TO DO

Leather Legacies: Bound Together

Leather, leather everywhere. Queer art expert and OG "Gay Place" contributor Andy Campbell reads from his new book, *Bound Together: Leather, Sex, Archives, and Contemporary Art*, about the intersections of art and leather kink history. In conversation with artist Jonesy and performance studies professor Joshua Chambers-Letson. **Thu., July 30, 7-8pm. Online (via Zoom).** www.fb.com/leatherarchives.

Takeout From Iron Bear

Austin's only bear bar is serving up burgers, hot dogs, wings, and lots more takeout and delivery offerings – give 'em a call to place your order, or walk right up to the takeout window. If it strikes your fancy, they've got beer, mixed drinks, and some very frosty, boozy concoctions like Frozen Bear Punch and Blue Vodka Lemonade to wet your whistle, too. **Wed.-Sun., 11am-8pm. The Iron Bear, 301 W. Sixth, 512/482-8993. Prices vary.** www.ironbear.com.

Q'D UP

THE QUEER AND TRANS COMMUNITY CLOSET Bus passes, groceries, and more. Days and hours of operation vary. **Out Youth, 909 E. 49th 1/2.** www.outyouth.org.

DRAG UP THE CENSUS HTX's Barbra Coa and Angelina DM Trail show you how to queer the census. **Thu., July 30, 6pm. Facebook Live.** www.fb.com/equalitytexas.

REVISITING INTENTIONS Spend some time with allgo reflecting on your 2020 expectations. **Fri., July 31, 1-3pm. Online.** www.allgo.org.

SMELLS LIKE QUARANTINE SPIRIT DJ minimus offers a night of Nineties jams. **Through July 31. Fridays, 9pm. Online. Free (tips encouraged).** www.twitch.tv/iamminimus.

A FARM FOR MEME Elena Araoz directs Virginia Grise's story about semilleros and L.A.'s South Central Farm. **Aug. 1-2. English: Sat. 6pm; Sun., 2:45pm. Spanish: Sat., 6:45pm; Sun., 2pm. Online.** www.allgo.org.

HAVEN VIRTUAL DANCE PARTY DJs Crescendoll and Neph bring goth and industrial sounds. **Sat., Aug. 1, 8pm-12:30am.** www.fb.com/elysiumaustin.

QUEERBOMB VIRTUAL PLANNING MEETING The QB queerdos plan for the next DIY, queerer alternative to Pride. **Mon., Aug. 3, 7-9pm. Online.** www.fb.com/queerbomb.

AGLIFF 33: PRISM Be the rainbow, stream the rainbow with Austin's fave queer film fest. **Thu.-Sun., Aug. 6-9 & 13-16. Weekend badge, \$35; both weekends, \$65.** www.agliff.org.

UNPACKING POLYAMOROUS RELATIONSHIPS The Unpacking Conversation Series creates space for QTBIPOC folks to talk about poly life. **Thu., Aug. 6, 7-9pm. Online.** www.kindclinic.org.

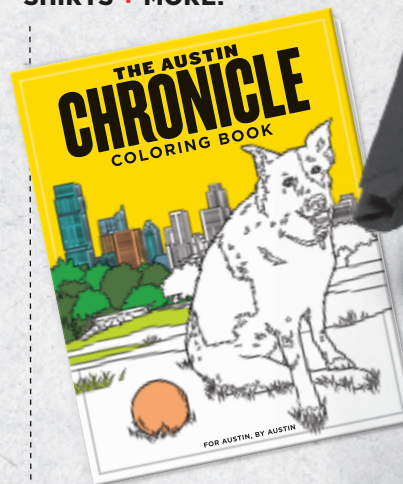
For all Qmmunity listings see austinchronicle.com/qmmunity and send yer queer'd events to qmmunity@austinchronicle.com.

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Arts & Culture

Bridge near MLK Blvd. over Waller Creek



PHOTO BY KATHRYN GATLIFF FOR UT OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

A Riparian Education

Go *Walking Waller Creek* and learn how much wildlife, wild flora, and wild history this waterway is home to

BY ROBERT FAIRES

What little you know about Waller Creek has probably dribbled into your consciousness as something needing to be fixed: a flood-prone danger zone getting a \$160 million underground tunnel (Waller Creek Tunnel); a trash-strewn urban eyesore inching toward a \$250 million redesign and development (Waterloo Greenway). That is the Waller Creek of the headlines but it's also just the creek's southernmost stretch, the part below 15th Street that flows – well, trickles – into Lady Bird Lake. And it's only about a quarter of this 6-mile waterway that wends its way northward past Hyde Park, past North Loop, past Skyview, to its source in the Highland neighborhood. That's to say, there's way more to Waller Creek than messes with multimillion-dollar solutions. And with a little shoe leather and a pair of earbuds, you can learn just how much – in the two miles north of Waterloo Park, that is.

Your instructor in this endeavor is a polymath well versed in botany, biology, geology, and history that goes by the name of *Walking Waller Creek*. In truth, it's a free

self-guided tour produced by the University of Texas Office of Sustainability (accessible with instructions and audio at www.sustainability.utexas.edu/walking-waller-creek), but the folks who put it together – that would be Kristin Phillips and Timothy Riedel, with Kathryn Gatliff providing the lush, you-are-there photos – have given it the character of an easygoing professor who's so enthusiastic for his subject – dropping cool nuggets of fact, telling fun betcha-never-heard-this stories, pointing out fascinating details you'd have totally missed on your own – you wind up captivated by something you had zero interest in before.

Case in point: The first third of the tour focuses on the section of creek that cuts through the UT-Austin Health District with the university's School of Nursing and Dell Medical School and the Dell Seton Medical Center. Over three city blocks, you get a vivid picture of the care taken in the district's development not only to clean up the creek, rooting out invasive species, and reworking the soil, but also to enhance it:

boosting the area's biodiversity with dozens of different species of grasses, wildflowers, and trees, many identified here by both their common and taxonomic names (and it's a toss-up sometimes, which is the more tantalizing: Texas mountain laurel, *Sophora secundiflora*; fragrant sumac, *Rhus aromatica*; Chinquapin oaks, *Quercus muehlenbergii*). Pocket prairies containing these and other native plants line the creek and environs, seducing bees and butterflies into pollinating. And you may wind up seduced, too, by this luxuriant and active ecosystem and how carefully it's been engineered to flourish in a modern development.

That, and just as the tour is leading you out of it, *Walking Waller Creek* asks you to pause and peer through some brush at a shuttered old home – the oldest building on campus, it assures you, and the last of 13 mansions that once stood on the bluffs of Waller in the 19th century. This one, Watson House, originally belonged to Jim Bowie's sister-in-law, but the more intriguing occupants were interior designers Arthur P. Watson and Robert Garrett, who lived there from 1959 to 2009 and partied almost every day of those 50 years. In a piece in *L Style G Style Magazine*, Garrett is quoted as saying, “The drinks flowed like a river, so that usually smoothed over any otherwise rough spots for our guests. We were known for Arthur's Bloody Marys, for the chateau Pink Gins, and our lethal Velvet Hammers.”

Now that's a lively way to close a lesson in contemporary practices in preserving and cultivating a natural environment!

Walking Waller Creek continues to strike that balance of scientific education and historical engagement, past and present, as it guides you across Trinity Street and MLK Boulevard into campus proper and the section of the creek that may be most familiar to visitors to UT. In sharp contrast to the Health District, there's a sense here of diving backward in time. Everything feels much older: the trees, the brush, the bridges, the rocks. And the tour taps into that feeling. It immediately introduces you to Joseph Jones, the English professor who was so devoted to this waterway that for more than 40 years he took his lunch on its west bank. And then he penned a book titled *Life on Waller Creek*. And then he co-wrote a tour called *Walking the Forty Acres: Waller Creek Wilderness Trails and Adjuncts*. This tour quotes that tour's reference to this area as a “forest primeval,” and as you look at the hulking bald cypress

trees with their twisting python roots, the wild undergrowth, the boulders scattered across the exposed limestone creekbed, you can see it. And that prehistoric past is still evident, the tour notes, in visible fault lines and fossils of cephalopods in the creek.

But this section of *Walking Waller Creek* has much to say about more recent times. You hear about the Horst dairy farm that predated the university in this area; the 1915 flood that killed 12 and swept away the home of a UT custodian; Santa Rita Oil Well No. 1, which kicked off the Permanent University Fund when it struck oil in 1923; the 620 oaks planted on the largely treeless Forty Acres by UT comptroller John Calhoun in the Twenties and Thirties; the barracks from World War II that housed UT's first African American male students when classes were integrated but residence halls kept segregated; and the 1969 Battle of Waller Creek, when students fought plans to knock down trees and pave the creek so the football stadium could be expanded. The tour provides details of the rebellion: students perching in trees to keep them from being bulldozed and, after being pulled out, dragging limbs from the 39 uprooted trees to the Tower steps; Board of Regents chair Frank Erwin bulldozing protocol and calling in police from the city and state to clear the scene and arrest protesters, 27 in all. It was, as the tour says, “the first large-scale suppression of a protest on campus.”

The battle, though, is far from the only instance in which the university's students have worked on behalf of Waller Creek. You hear about the efforts of Longhorns to keep tabs on trees, wildlife in the area (red-shouldered hawks, golden-fronted woodpeckers, yellow-rumped warblers, green herons, gray foxes, white-tailed deer, green sunfish, and blotched water snakes have all been spotted), and water quality, especially with regard to chemicals and bacteria (there's a lot of *E. coli*, alas, so stay out of the water). Waller is dubbed “UT's largest ‘classroom’.”

As the students come and go, though, we hear of other sentinels who maintain a steady watch over Waller: the staff of such divisions as Environmental Health and Safety and Landscape Services. The latter we hear of and from – they provide much of the narration for *Walking Waller Creek*, and that communicates a sense of their personal investment in the work they do for this creek. It isn't just a job; it's something closer to stewardship, of the kind that Joseph Jones felt all those years ago. By the time you reach the tour's end just past the spot where Duval runs into San Jac, *Walking Waller Creek* has made a deep connection with said stream flow from that time to this – and from them perhaps to you. ■

Oh, Violent Rogue AI, How I Love You

In *Network Effect*, Martha Wells brings Murderbot back for more adventures to delight “all the stupid humans”

BY ELIZABETH COBBE

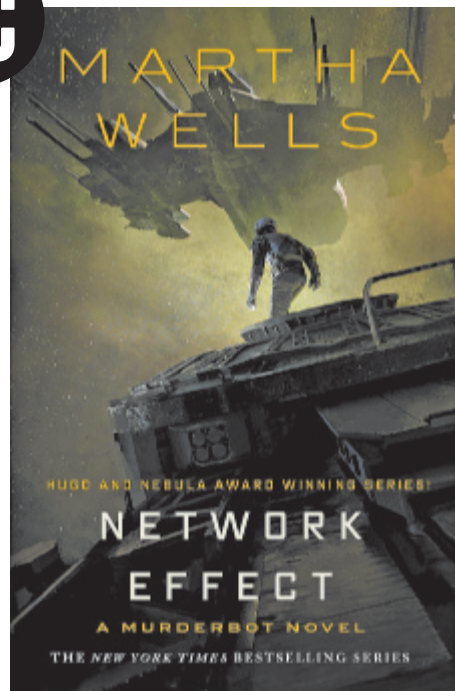
After four novellas in her *Murderbot Diaries* series, College Station-based science-fiction writer Martha Wells now offers a novel-length installment about the most endearing violent rogue AI you'll ever meet. Science-fiction fans have fallen wildly in love with the narrative voice of these books about a robot whose struggles are a not-so-subtle metaphor for what it's like to live with severe social anxieties. That *Network Effect* also features an interplanetary setting in which corporate interests have taken over seemingly everything and the good guys are trying to fight back is just icing on the space cake.

Readers who haven't found a science-fiction story to their liking before: I know we nerds keep saying this, but you really need to try this one. It's about a murderous robot who hacks

its own governor module and turns rogue. But instead of going around killing people, all it really wants to do is sit at home and watch entertainment serials. (That sound you just heard was all of Gen X crying out, “I feel seen!”) Sure, there's lots of names and planets and technical stuff, but you can let those wash over you. Murderbot doesn't care. Why should you?

NETWORK EFFECT
by Martha Wells
Tor.com, 352 pp., \$26.99

Network Effect brings Murderbot back in touch with ART (which stands for “Asshole Research Transport,” the hilariously sentient transport vessel from volume two), and adventures ensue. For that reason, despite the press surrounding *Network Effect* promising otherwise, it's helpful to have read the first two books of the series before tackling this one. At least read the Wikipedia page.



Side note: Murderbot's steadfast human supporter Dr. Mensah, leader of her planetary council, feels an awful lot at this moment in time like Jacinda Arden in space. So if you appreciated that video that Prime Minister Arden shot at home after putting her toddler to bed, try the *Murderbot Diaries* next. Like Murderbot, you'll find the escape soothing enough to help you deal with, as it likes to call us, all the stupid humans.

THEATRE

OPENING

TESTIFY: ALL'S WELL Journey to the finish this month with Testify's true tales that end well. They'll have stories of getting stranded in the forest, dancing through sorrow, learning how to re-feel, reflecting on dreams, and trying to have “The Talk.” Thu., July 30, 8pm. Free. www.testifyatx.com.

VIRTUAL VORTEX: THROWBACK VIRTUAL READING SESSIONS: HAPPY DAYS This is a video broadcast of readings of classic TV scripts, curated by Benajah Baskin, rehearsed and recorded by a team of young theatre professionals. It's that *Fifties show*, this time - the legendary *jumping the shark* episode, to be specific - featuring Tyler Holmes, Caroline Holmes, Mick D'arcy, Chuck Winkler, Greg Almanza, and director Baskin himself. Thu., July 30, 8pm. Donations accepted. www.vortexrep.org.

VIRTUAL VORTEX: A PERFECT ROBOT Here's a broadcast of Sarah Saltwick's excellent play about an artificial intelligence designed to anticipate your needs and desires, to give you the best companionship money can buy. But what about her needs? Bonus: the ghost of Alan Turing. Directed by Rudy Ramirez and featuring Amelia Turner, Joey Hood, Jesús I. Valles, Trey Deason, Andrea Smith, and Sarah Danko. Fri., July 31, 8pm. Donations accepted. www.vortexrep.org.

VIRTUAL VORTEX: ORIGIN STORY: AWAKENING This is the livestream of a new radio play created by Johann Mahler, directed by Teresa Cruz, and featuring Megan Kemp and Craig McWilliams. Sat., Aug. 1, 8pm. Donations accepted. www.vortexrep.org.

VIRTUAL VORTEX: COVIDECAMERON REDUX The Vortex runs favorite episodes of this Rudy Ramirez project, curating them into two broadcasts - one this Sunday, the other next Sunday. This week's episodes: *The Disease* (Rory Leahy), *The Hoarding Hypocrite* (Roxanne Schroeder-Arce), *Gamers* (Jacqueline Goldfinger), *Findeth a Wife* (Jelisa Jay Robinson), *ASMR: The Mobster's Daughter* and *the Pot of Basil* (Reina Hardy), and *Day 4* (Reina Hardy). Sun., Aug. 2, 7pm. Donations accepted. www.vortexrep.org.

COMEDY

ColdTowne Theater www.coldtownetheater.com
FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS LIVE The stage on Airport might be dark, citizen, but the stars of that laugh factory near Mrs. Johnson's Doughnuts are shining bright every Friday and Saturday night on ColdTowne TV! Tune in for this variety show format and drop a few bucks in the virtual tip jar to keep local comedy alive. Fridays & Saturdays, 8pm. Donations accepted.

VICTROLA ColdTowne's sketch comedy podcast goes online with guests from, well, it could really be from anywhere, right? Because internets? You wanna see these bright local zanies working the virtual thing for all it's worth, citizen, you'll catch every episode. Mondays, 8pm. Donations accepted.

YEAH, BUT ARE YOU HAPPY? Austin comedians Katie Stone and Lane Ingram invite you to an ongoing podcast that explores the intersection between creativity and mental health. Wednesdays, 8pm. Donations accepted.

Hideout Theatre www.hideouttheatre.com

PGRAPH The fantastic foursome of improv fabulators returns for another week, bringing their arch spontaneity through Zoom and onto Twitch to make your minds zoom and your hearts twitch at what a talented local quartet can do, off-the-cuff, at the intersection of goofy and brilliant. Thursdays, 8pm; Saturdays, 7:30pm. \$5.

IMPROV SOCIAL HOUR It's social - demented and virtual, but social. Join the Hideout crowd every weekday at 6pm for a Zoomed hour of improv games and antics where you'll learn a thing or two about comedy improvisation (their talented instructors will help you along) and your day will certainly be brightened. Yes, and maybe bring a friend with you? Cheers! Weekdays, 6pm. \$10.

MAESTRO This is an all-improvised battle royale, featuring the most ornery cusses in the scene doing their damndest to emerge victorious from a mind-warping multiplayer fray. Imagine: a screen crowded with Zoomers, competing in short improv games and wildass gambits to be crowned the one and only Maestro for the week. Sound good? Yeah - we like it, too. Wednesdays, 8pm; Saturdays, 9:30pm. \$5.

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7pm

SATURDAY, AUG. 1
PERFORMANCE AT THE STAGE

3 OF 5 BAND
7pm

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BUT WAIT – THERE’S MORE!

ESTHER’S FOLLIES You don’t have to slog your way through Dirty Sixth anymore, citizen – you can catch the **arch antics and musical mayhem** of the Esther’s crew on video as they unleash **fresh new sketches and songs** and more about the hottest topics of the day. And there’s all sorts of **behind-the-scenes extras** now, too, and it’s all available via their Patreon page. You need to laugh right about now, so this is a good idea, right? Answer: *Hell yes.* www.estersfollies.com.

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB: ADAM RAY You know this guy from the newly rebooted *MADtv*, right? And from when he co-hosted TBS’s comedy game show *Separation Anxiety*? Now come on out and catch him onstage at Cap City in the midst of the Great Pandemic of 2020! Note: reserved tables of 2-4 only. *July 30-Aug. 1. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7:30 & 10pm. Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research #100, 512/467-2333. \$30 and up. www.capcitycomedy.com.*

COMEDY WHAM: ISOLATION COMEDY SHOWCASE

In which **Valerie Lopez**, who runs that fierce online resource of stand-up-focused podcasts and profiles, presents a weekly livestreamed lineup of local stand-ups, hosted by **Colton Dowling**. *Fridays, 8pm. Donations accepted. www.comedywham.com.*

THE ROAD: AN ALTERCATION COMEDY SHOW

The irrepressible **JT Habersaat** hosts this new online series, starting out as a benefit for Kick Butt Coffee, and continuing on until there’s no pandemic left or JT decides, *fuck it, I’ve done enough!* “It’s a live, one-time-only-each-episode thing,” the road warrior tells us, “and it’ll have a round-table conversation format, with a new slate of amazing comedians and musicians every episode.” First up: **Brian Posehn, Kyle Shutt, and Shawna Potter**. *Fri., July 31, 9pm. \$12. www.theroadlivewithjt.com.*

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB: RAUL SANCHEZ This Raul Sanchez was the winner of the 2013 Funniest Comic in Texas competition and the 2012 Funniest in South Texas competition. He’s performed in the Boston Comedy Festival and different clubs and venues around the country. He’s ready to make you laugh like there’s no tomorrow, so now’s the perfect time to catch him here! Note: reserved tables of 2-4 only. *Aug. 5-8. Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7:30 & 10pm. Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research #100, 512/467-2333. \$30 and up. www.capcitycomedy.com.*

**DANCE**

BALLET AUSTIN: CLASSES ONLINE While you’re home, wherever you are across the world, you can still take a dance, fitness, or Pilates class with Ballet Austin. Ballet, barre, contemporary dance, hip-hop, tap, cardio dance fitness, and Pilates out the wazoo, so to speak, because there are so many varieties to choose among, and all taught by professional instructors – and it’s all available 24/7, just like the internet. *Ongoing. \$3-7 per class. www.balletaustin.org.*

BLUE LAPIS LIGHT: DANCE CLASSES, VIDEO CLASSES Weekly modern dance classes with **Jun Shen**, video-creation classes with **Nicole Whiteside**, and more from this acclaimed company of aerialists. *Ongoing. www.bluelapislight.org.*

CLASSICAL MUSIC

AUSTIN CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL The 24th annual festival continues, streaming online and featuring ACMC’s **Michelle Schumann** hosting interviews and performances each weekend. (You’ll have the opportunity to chat with the artists and fellow audience members live during each program, of course!) Note that this year’s festival will conclude with the **Horszowski Trio** and their performance of Schumann’s *Piano Trio No. 1. Saturdays through Aug. 8. Free. www.austinchambermusic.org.*

AUSTIN OPERA: LIVE FROM INDY TERRACE This weekly series features livestreamed performances from local stars of the vocal stage – they’ve already showcased **Elena Villalon, Mela Sarajane Dailey, Claudia Chapa, Will Liverman, Kyle Albertson**, and more. *Fridays, 3pm. Free. www.austinopera.org.*

VISUAL ARTS**EVENTS**

BIG MEDIUM: COFFEE CHATS In addition to their regular artist features, the Big Medium folks offer virtual coffee-time convo, too – with leaders in the creative community sharing their personal and professional experiences to inspire others pursuing careers in art. Up next: painter **Dawn Okoro** (Thu., July 30, 9-10am). *Free. www.bigmedium.org.*

**Cloud Tree Studios: Being**

Looking for something beyond the virtual? This is it: **Cloud Tree** presents a safety-optimized show of new figurative works by longtime local, Peru-born sculptor **Alejandra Almuelle**, featuring a series that “explores the state of being as a process of becoming.” Our own appreciation of sculpture in general is in the process of becoming overwhelmed by **the powerful beauty of what Almuelle can do with clay and pigment**, and this timely exhibition is another stunning example of why. So make a reservation, put on your best mask, and be sure you don’t miss this soul-fortifying opportunity. *Aug. 1-22. Cloud Tree, 3411 E. Fifth, 512/797-8852. Free. www.cloudtreestudiosandgallery.com.*

FLATBED PRESS: LA ROMITA REVISITED This is a group exhibition by the participants of the 2019 Italian II Sole Residency at La Romita, Umbria, featuring work by **Jo Harvey Allen, Katherine Brimberry, Belinda Casey, Monica Cimino, Suzi Davidoff, Orna Feinstein, Mary Fischer, Elaine Johnson, Charmaine Locke, Erica Stephenson, Sam Schwartz, and Susan Schwartz**. A glass of prosecco, we reckon, will be the perfect liquid accompaniment to Friday’s Zoomed reception. *Zoom opening: Fri., July 31, 6-7pm. Free. www.flatbedpress.com.*

ESTRADA GARCIA GALLERY: GRAND OPENING In the midst of the pandemic, in the heart of Georgetown, here’s the debut of **Larry Raper and Judith Estrada Garcia**’s new gallery that represents **20 Central Texas artists**. All the artists will have solo shows here over the next two years, but right now you can get a preview of *some of all their works together*. Feel like driving way north to check this out, citizen? We recommend making a pit stop for early supper at **Jack Allen’s Kitchen** or **Salt Traders** in Round Rock first, then heading up to the Estrada Garcia Gallery for a peek at this array of paintings, sculptures, photographs, and jewelry. *Reception: Sat., Aug. 1, 6-9pm. 206 W. 10th, Georgetown. www.estradagarciagallery.org.*

THE BLANTON MUSEUM: CURATED CONVERSATIONS

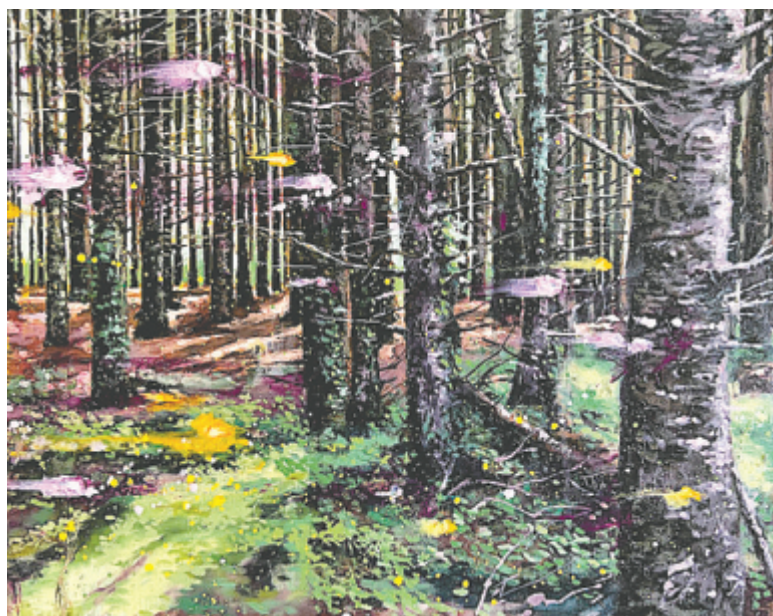
This series explores and connects with the Blanton staff, streaming live each Tuesday. The museum’s collections are vast, as is the knowledge of these professionals. Click on over, we suggest, to enjoy a bit of both. *Tuesdays, 5-6pm. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

OPENING

RECSPEC GALLERY: TALISMANS This virtual exhibition of work by **Gigi Grinstad** – whose beautiful oil and encaustic creations, you’ll recall, brightened several Recspec shows in the *Before Times* – has a Patreon preview on Fri., July 31; is more widely revealed on Instagram at noon on Sat., Aug. 1; and then will be available throughout August on the Recspec website. Grinstad’s approach to talismans as art “conjures spells for a particular time or place, allowing the viewer to bring these symbols of strength into their own life via intuition and magnetism. These talismans are impermanent, shifting, and they grow and fade like the changing seasons.” Note: They’ll also lodge quite firmly in your memory, offering Grinstad-wrought anchors of beauty in these uncertain times. *July 31-Aug. 31. Free. www.recspec-gallery.com.*

ONGOING

ARTUS CO: AMIGOS Artus Co is “a community of artists and makers at the Arboretum,” and they’ve got a new display of that **Matthew Rodriguez**’s work (you know: from *Cheer Up Charlies*, and random happy-faced trees, and those

**John Mulvany:
The Pattern Days**

It’s only because we’ve been a bit unnerved by this pandemic, probably: That’s why the access point here makes us giggle. But damned if one of the best artists in this city – the man whose bright images of urban and forested realisms are forever haunted by ghosts of one kind or another – damned if that **John Mulvany** hasn’t gone and mounted a public show via Google Docs. Once you get over the WHUT factor of that and have clicked to see what’s up, you’ll be pleasantly surprised: It’s not quite as good as being there in the flesh – is anything ever? – but this solution, room by room and painting by painting, elegantly showcases the artist’s new mid-lockdown series of works depicting the deep, spirit-riddled natural world. *Through Aug. 16. Free. www.johnmulvany.com.*

kerchief-masked black cats all over town?) and you're invited to stop by and see it **inside the current pop-up shop** of local creative goodness. *Through Aug. 15. Daily, noon-6pm. 1000 Research. www.artusco.com.*

✪ **COLLECTION RERT: BIRDWATCHING** This funky home-based gallery is having a show that's all about birds. They've invited a **dozen artists** to submit work in various mediums and now present all of the different avian creations. Listen: "There will be select pieces arranged inside the gallery, which will be viewed from outside at two different windows. Each window will have a pair of sanitized binoculars for you to watch the birds. Other pieces will be displayed outside (in our front courtyard) and spaced out in safe distances." This show definitely belongs on your life list, birdlover, so **contact the gallery for a reservation soon!** Sat., Aug. 8, 2-5pm. 2608 Rogers. www.collectionrert.org.

THE CONTEMPORARY FROM HOME The Contemporary Austin's superlative museum galleries and sculpture park can be visited digitally through art and nature snapshots, tours, and quiet moments of reflection. Experience past performances and new happenings at the museum, discover artist talks and lectures, and stream films and playlists for these all-too-interesting times - in the comfort of your own home. Free. www.thecontemporaryaustin.org.

YARD DOG: BLACKLIGHT PAINTINGS Yard Dog's robust site has a new show of bold visuals by **Steve "Dream Syndicate" Wynn** - painted to shift under black light - and the latest complex monochrome wonderments of **Jon Langford's** "Song Paintings" series. www.yarddog.com.

✪ **CAMIBA ART: HABITATS AND PATHWAYS** This is an exhibition of oil paintings and mixed media works on paper by Austin artist **Valerie Fowler**. Over the past eight months - partly during our recent pandemic lockdown - Fowler produced a dynamic body of work that **honors the everyday natural landscapes of her local environment**: astonishing new works, images inspired by scenes from hikes and bike rides along Blunn Creek in Travis Heights, Onion Creek Metropolitan Park, and the Ann and Roy Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail at Lady Bird Lake. This is a mostly *virtual* art show displayed on the gallery's website, yes, but you *can* make an appointment for a private viewing in the physical gallery. Recommended. *Through Aug. 15. Camiba Art, 6448 Hwy. 290 E. Ste. A-102, 512/922-1737. www.camibaart.com.*

✪ **ICOSA: IN THE ABSENCE OF TIME** This exhibition of new works by **Jana Swec** and **Jonas Criscoe** explores the concept of entropy through movement, pattern, cycles, and decay. Appropriately enough, ICOSA was in *movement* toward an opening to the public; but the recently spiking *pattern* of COVID-19 has altered the *cycles* of renaissance, and so this will be a by-appointment-only show. But, hold on: "Each week we will be rotating work from the exhibition into our front window space. This will allow those who feel more comfortable seeing the show from afar to view the exhibition over a four week span, in an outdoor setting." Hell of a great idea, especially because the art is so good that no one should miss it. *Through Aug. 8, by appointment only. ICOSA, 916 Springdale, 512/920-2062. www.icosacollective.com.*

✪ **NORTHERN-SOUTHERN: FUZZY FORCES** Phillip Niemeyer, whose excellent gallery is responsible for the array of "Where Is Here" community portraits, tells us that **Laura Lit** is working fiercely, producing fast and focused bursts of drawing with colored pencils. The new compositions "seem sentient, astral manifestations of spirit visitors," he says. But we're too earthbound to cotton to such descriptors and are instead merely like, "Daaaaaamn, these drawings are *gorgeous!*" Which is why this news is exciting: The Northern-Southern website and Instagram will feature **one new drawing every Friday** until Lit completes the series. *Northern-Southern, 1900-B E. 12th. www.northern-southern.com.*

✪ **STEPHEN L. CLARK GALLERY: BLACK TULIPS AND DEAD FLOWERS** This new show by acclaimed photographer **Kate Breakey** is focused on specimens of the plant kingdom and reveals itself like a series of windows into arcane botanical memories. *Through Sept. 12, by appointment only. Stephen L. Clark Gallery, 1101 W. Sixth, 512/477-0828. www.stephenlclarkgallery.com.*

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: AMERICA MARTIN The popular artist's distinctive style, inspired by midcentury modernist masters, is underscored by the use of **boldly brushed lines and punctuated bursts of color** to imply tone and

mood. And we, somewhat toned and moody ourselves, are very glad to infer. Call for appointment! *Through Aug. 9. Wally Workman Gallery, 1202 W. Sixth, 512/472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com.*

✪ **WOMEN & THEIR WORK ONLINE: 42 YEARS** Did they say "42 years of contemporary art by women in our online archive," citizen? Yes, they did - and we recommend feasting your binge-weary eyes on what this excellent Downtown gallery has to reward your clicks with. www.womenandtheirwork.org.

WYLD GALLERY This is **Ray Donley's** gallery of art by Native Americans, located Downtown and resplendent with creations from the original people of our struggling country. Call for appointment. *Wyld Gallery, 805 Brazos. www.wyld.gallery.*

BOOKS

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

BOOKS: PICK 'EM UP CURBSIDE! Don't forget, citizen: The best place to get your reading material is from Austin's own **Malvern Books** or **Half Price Books** or **BookPeople** or **BookWoman** stores online. (And for the ultimate in vintage collectors' editions and unique works on paper, we recommend the excellent **South Congress Books** - right there on, well, South Congress.) Or try **Bookshop.org** in general - because Bookshop, unlike the internetted behemoth named after a certain South American river, Bookshop **shares the profits among all its independent-bookstore members.** And that Bezos fellow is already making enough goddamn money, n'est-ce pas? www.bookshop.org.

NEW PERSPECTIVES: THE OLD CHISHOLM TRAIL *The Old Chisholm Trail: From Cow Path to Tourist Stop* charts the evolution of the major Texas cattle trails, explores the rise of the Chisholm Trail in legend and lore, and analyzes the role of cattle trail tourism long after the end of the trail-driving era itself. Join author **Wayne Ludwig** for a livestream discussion and Q&A on his groundbreaking study that offers a new and nuanced look at an important but short-lived era in the history of the American West. *Thu., July 30, noon. Free. www.thestoryoftexas.com.*

DAVID MEISCHEN: ANYONE'S SON Here's a Zoomed celebration of **David Meischen's** new book of poems that illuminates "the moments of a life animated by the author's yearning, at its root sexual, for the company of another man." Scenes from marriage and fatherhood, from the wreckage and rebuilding that came at midlife, enrich this narrative of personal identity. *Sat., Aug. 1, 7pm. Malvern Books, 613 W. 29th. Free. www.malvernbooks.com.*



JOIN BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS FOR ICE BALL 2020: A BIG NIGHT IN

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22ND
6:30PM-8:00PM

An online evening of entertainment, inspiration and revelry that makes a lifetime of difference for kids in our community.

This year's event will be livestreamed directly to you.
The event is free but pre-registration is required.

Platinum Sponsor
Carly & Clayton
Christopher

Learn more and register at
www.AustinIceBall.org

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE COLORING BOOK!

We teamed up with **OVER 50 LOCAL ARTISTS**, including **TIM DOYLE, SAM HURT, MIKE REDDY, CAT BARRERA**, and many others, to bring you a coloring book that celebrates all things Austin.

ALL PROCEEDS SPLIT WITH THE ARTISTS!

ORDER NOW!
SUPPLIES LIMITED

AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/COLORING-BOOK

COMMUNITY AC

ONLINE CLASSES WITH ESQUINA TANGO Nonprofit Esquina Tango has taken their programming online via Zoom and Facebook Live. There's something going on every day, so check out the full list of donation-based classes and choose from conversational Spanish or Portuguese, salsa aerobics, and, of course, tango. *Daily; times vary. Online.* www.esquinatangoaustin.com/online-classes.

MAKE YOUR MARK AT PEASE PARK Pease Park Conservancy is accepting donations for their new Ribbon Wall. The first 300 to sign on for contributions of \$1,000, \$2,500, or \$5,000 (which can be made in monthly installments) can have their name etched on the Ribbon Wall that will wind throughout the lower 7 acres of Pease Park, known as Kingsbury Commons. www.peasepark.org/donor-recognition.

TEXAS FOLK & TRADITIONAL ARTS RELIEF FUND A group of Texas folk and traditional arts organizations have come together to help offset the immediate and ongoing needs of the community post-pandemic. This fund will support artists from marginalized and at-risk communities that may not be in line for assistance by other COVID-19 relief funds. Donate to the fund, or apply online if you qualify for a grant. *Through Aug. 14. Online.* www.texasfolklife.org/covidartistrelief.

SHOP MEXIC-ARTE'S MUSEUM STORE Mexic-Arte Museum's new online store offers stylish face masks, apparel, gifts, books, and more, and as part of the launch they're offering every online customer a 10% discount when you use the code "Bienvenidos" through the end of July. Your purchase directly supports their exhibitions and educational programs. *Tue.-Fri., July 28-31. Online.* www.mexic-artemuseumstore.org.

FREELANCING 101: HOW TO EARN SIDE INCOME DOING WHAT YOU LOVE Whether you're looking for a side hustle or a full-time freelancing career, this workshop will guide you toward your goals. You'll learn how to get started, attract clients, price your services, and choose the right tools and tech to grow your business. *Thu., July 30, 5-6pm. Online via Zoom. Free.* www.generalassemb.ly.

FIX-IT AT HOME: SEWING MACHINE BASICS If you've got a sewing machine in the house but don't know where to start, Austin Resource Recovery is here to help with their virtual clinic. They'll help you get familiar with its parts and how to thread the machine so you can tackle your mending basket. *Fri., July 31, 10-11am. Online. Free.* www.austintexas.gov/fixitclinic.

SPIRITUAL FLOW SERIES We are all faced with uncertainties, concerns, and stress about the upcoming school year. This three-part workshop explores different techniques and meditations to help you find inner calm and flow to help you adapt to the twists and turns sure to come. *Fridays through Aug. 14, 11am-noon. Online via Zoom. \$69.* www.lifekido.com/spiritual-flow.

BLACK IS KING A watch party and discussion with Austin Justice Coalition on the visual album from Beyoncé that reimagines the lessons of *The Lion King* for today's young kings and queens in search of their own crowns. *Fri., July 31, 6pm. Online via AJC.* www.austinjustice.org.

PLANT AND SOIL AMENDMENT SALES Pick up a seasonal vegetable start, houseplant, or compost and mulch, and get free advice on how to grow your own food and take care of trees and native and adaptable plant species while protecting our watershed. *Saturdays, 10am-12pm. Thicket Food Park, 7800 S. First.* www.thicketaustin.com.

VIRTUAL DIY MAKE A MINI TERRARIUM CLASS Terrariums make for a beautiful mini environment you'll love to watch grow day after day, and Articulture will guide you DIY construction online with materials you can order in advance for pickup. *Sat., Aug. 1, 11am-12pm. Online. \$60+.* www.articulturedesigns.com.

PARKPALOOZA Easton Park presents its fifth annual Parkpalooza, featuring an evening of virtual performances from Austin bands and to-go food and drinks available for pickup from some local favorites. The event will be live on



Uncommon Objects Weird Home Tour

Multiple "Best of Austin" award-winning store Uncommon Objects is back open daily, 10am-5pm. And now you can virtually tour owner Steve Wiman's home as part of Atlas Obscura's Wonder From Home initiative, and view his treasure trove of fascinating items from around the globe. *Tue., Aug. 4, 7pm. Online. \$10.* www.fb.com/events/685062975437448/.

Facebook at @EastonParkATX. Musicians include Mr. Will, Jonathan Terrell, the Peterson Brothers, and DJ Jason Stella. Preorders for food and drinks are available from Ranch Hand, Sourced, and the Cupcake Bar. *Sat., Aug. 1, 5:30pm. Online. Free.* www.eastonparkpalooza2020.splashthat.com.

THERAPY SISTERS CELEBRATE BOOKWOMAN Current and former Therapy Sisters sing from their bunkers. Catch Arvis Green, Gail Lewis, Maurine McLean, Lisa Rogers, Marilyn Rucker, and SJ Williams in their natural habitats, and join in supporting BookWoman as they continue to provide food for thought during the pandemic and on to the next chapter. *Sat., Aug. 1, 7-9pm. Online.* www.fb.com/events/3138686676225149.

MARCH TO AMPLIFY BLACK VOICES AND DEFUND THE POLICE Join a march to amplify Black Austin voices and demand the defunding of the Austin Police Department. Meet at the Tower on the UT campus for a march with drums, chalk, and speakers. Water and masks will be provided;

masks are mandatory; safe social distancing practices will be in place. *Sat., Aug. 1, 7:30-10:30pm. UT Tower.* www.fb.com/events/293660898748899.

LEGALLINE: FREE LEGAL ADVICE Obtaining good, simple, free legal advice is easy. Just call 512/472-8303 between 5:30 and 7:30pm, first Tuesdays of the month. Sponsored by Austin Lawyer Referral Service and staffed by attorney volunteers who answer legal questions and give brief legal advice. *Tue., Aug. 4, 5:30-7:30pm. Free.* www.austnlrs.com.

AJC GENERAL BODY MEETING Join Austin Justice Coalition's general body meeting to learn more about the organization and their current projects. *Tue., Aug. 4, 6:30pm. Online.* www.austinjustice.org.

CONNECT OVER COCKTAILS Mix a cocktail (or mocktail) and join Women Communicators of Austin's virtual happy hour to connect, converse, and cheers to the community. Members and nonmembers welcome; just RSVP to get the link. *Wed., Aug. 5, 5:30-6:30pm. Online via Zoom.* www.wcaustin.org/events.

FREE PRODUCE BOXES FROM AISD Austin ISD will be providing produce boxes to AISD families, with locally grown produce from the Common Market Texas, a distributor of sustainable, local farm foods. Get details online. *Wednesdays through Aug. 12, 9-11am. Various locations.* www.austinisd.org.

OMNI ONLINE: FREE VIRTUAL TOUR Take a virtual tour of Stuck On On, an award-winning audio and visual finishing house that specializes in sound and color for film, TV, commercials, and internet. Tour is led by producer Allison Turrell, recently nominated for an Emmy for her sound work on *Tower*. *Thu., Aug. 6, 12:30-1:30pm. Online via Zoom. Free.* www.omnisoundproject.com.

TEACH ON! VIRTUAL FAIR Austin Community College presents this virtual fair about teaching and learning online. If you're a parent trying to support an online learner, or if you're looking to connect with experienced online teachers and up your online game, Teach On! is here to help. And if you have online teaching tips or tricks to share, this is a great way to help your colleagues and the community. Head to the event page to complete a survey to share your needs, and if you have something to offer, sign up for a booth or submit instructional material. *Sun., Aug. 9, 1-5pm. Online.* www.teachon.acclahc.org.

DAY TRIPS BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

Fort McKavett State Historic Site, southwest of Menard, occupies a rounded hill overlooking the transition zone between Central and West Texas. A steady breeze turns the nearby wind turbines and cools the shade under the oak trees.

Scattered around the 82-acre site are 17 restored white stone buildings from the fort's days on the frontier. This was once the regimental headquarters of a large contingent of the **U.S. Army**.

One of a line of frontier forts that stretched from North Texas to the Rio Grande, Fort McKavett originated in 1852 and served until 1883 with the exception of nine years around the **Civil War**. The original camp covered 2,373 acres on the **San Saba River**.

When the famed **Buffalo Soldiers** reoccupied the fort, most of the buildings were in ruins. The Black troops did the reconstruction work between patrols or guarding wagon trains headed to El Paso. One of the Black soldiers was **Sgt. Emanuel (Edmund) Stance**, the first African American trooper to receive the Medal of Honor. He earned the citation for bravery in a battle with Apaches that freed a kidnapped boy.

The post was commanded by **Ranald Mackenzie**, who led expeditions against the Comanche. He was followed by **Abner Doubleday**, the inventor of baseball before joining the service.

The state parks department began acquiring the abandoned fort in 1968. Now managed by the **Texas Historical Commission**, several of the buildings are outfitted with period furnishings.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

Fort McKavett State Historic Site is 20 miles outside of Menard, and about three hours from Austin. The visitor center contains a museum and sponsors Buffalo Soldier reenactments during non-pandemic times. The park opens daily from 8am to 5pm.

1,510th in a series. Follow "Day Trips & Beyond," a travel blog, at austinchronicle.com/daily/travel.

SPORTS

THE HOME TEAMS

ROUND ROCK HAIRY MEN The Round Rock Express was granted a temporary expansion team in the Texas Collegiate League, the state's first major collegiate summer wood bat league. The team is dubbed the Round Rock Hairy Men in a nod to the area's local urban legend. The Hairy Men compete

SOCCER WATCH BY NICK BARBARO

Bold Next Moves

With both of last week's games postponed and two more players reportedly testing positive for COVID-19 since then, the **Austin Bold** will try to get their season restarted this Saturday, Aug. 1, hosting their I-35 rival, **San Antonio FC**, at 8pm. Though it seems like the Bold are one bad test from having their season aborted, I'm sure it'll be a great feeling to put those worries aside and get out on the field again. Still no fans allowed, but still available on ESPN+ and perhaps also on KBVO, which recently announced a deal to broadcast all home and away games this season.

The **MLS Is Back Tournament** quarterfinals start tonight, Thu., July 30, with Philadelphia against Sporting KC at 7pm on ESPN, and three more games Fri.-Sat., July 31-Aug. 1; semifinals are Wed.-Thu., Aug. 5-6, with the final Aug. 11. LAFC looks like the decided favorite in a tournament that's been far more successful than many expected. Speaking of which...

Congrats to the **Houston Dash**, who surprised just about everyone by winning the **NWSL Challenge Cup** on Saturday. They had never made the playoffs in their six seasons, had no U.S. national team players on the roster, and were picked to finish last in the eight-team field... Also to **Aston Villa**, who escaped relegation on the last day of the English Premier League season... And with European domestic seasons finally ending, it's time to finish the 2019-20 **Champions League**, which resumes with four round of 16 games next Fri.-Sat., Aug. 7-8.



locally against the Brazos Valley Bombers July 28-30 and the San Antonio Flying Chancas July 31 and Aug. 2. Games begin at 7:05pm all days except Sun., Aug. 2, which is at 6:05pm. Through Sun., Aug. 2. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock. www.milb.com/round-rock/fans/hairy-man.

AUSTIN BOLD FC Vs. San Antonio FC. Sat., Aug. 1, 8pm. Bold Stadium (fans not permitted at this time). www.austinboldfc.com/schedule-2020.

RECREATION & FITNESS

NOURISHING FLOW YOGA WITH SARAH A gentle vinyasa class that explores foundational poses, breath work, and intuitive movement. This class is accessible to beginners, but all levels are welcome. *Sundays, 1:30-2:30pm. Online via Zoom. Suggested \$10 donation.* www.earth-commons.com/page-8.

SWIFT FIT EVENTS Swift Fit Events is a local wellness company offering access to the best local instructors. Join in weekly on Instagram or Facebook for a free open session on topics ranging from meditation to kickboxing. *Mondays in August, noon. Online. Free.* www.swiftfitevents.com.

MOVEMENT IS MAGIC AND THE RIGHT TRAINING IS EVERYTHING If you've been feeling cooped up, stuck in the same routine, or just in need of something new and exciting, it's time to get moving. Join Kelly Howard for the final week of this online event (FB or Zoom) and get ready to plan for fun and adventure. It's not too late to start. *Mon., Aug. 3, 6pm. Online. Free.* www.fitisfreedom.com.

KIDS

LIVE! ... FROM THE BASILROSA A family-friendly, music-based Facebook livestream featuring Basil McJagger, piano/organ player from the Derailers, and Gina Lee, leader of Gina Lee and the Brisket Boys. They and their 12-year-old twins Eldon and Rosemary all play music, and sometimes there are guests, comedy bits, and a guest character known as the Spirit of Beijing Bistro, who visits to read poetry from Shel Silverstein books. *Tuesdays & Saturdays, 8pm. Online via Facebook Live. Free.* www.fb.com/basilmcjagger.

TEEN SERVICE DAYS WITH GENERATION SERVE Teen service days are a chance for teens to volunteer virtually alongside their peers. Youths can learn about volunteering with organizations via guest speakers and

participate in activities like creating cards for kids in foster care. Join in via Zoom. *Saturdays in August, noon-1pm.* calendar.generationserve.org/calendar/teen-service-days.

CONFIDENCE & GRIT TO FACE SCHOOL 2020 A workshop to help kids prepare for all that the new school year may bring. Learn how to find resilience, grit, and flow to keep going when things get hard, deal with the anxiety and stress of all the unknowns and changes, and find your inner confidence to be your best self. *Mon.-Wed., Aug. 3-5, 10-11am. Online via Zoom. \$69.* www.lifekido.com/back-to-school-2020.

MEDIA CHICA Do you have a young writer at home? Someone who loves to report on the stories around the world? Sign them up for Media Chica, Latinitas' free one-week journalism boot camp. Girls will have the opportunity to become digital producers, learn from professionals in the field, and enhance their writing skills. *Mon.-Sat., Aug. 3-8, 1-3pm. Online.* www.latinitasmagazine.org.

SUMMER FAMILY PROGRAMS WITH THE BULLOCK Listen to a reading of *The Family Book* by Todd Parr and think about what makes your family special. Then, enjoy a creative activity that will be fun for the whole family. Don't worry if you miss the livestream; it'll be available on YouTube afterward. *Thu., Aug. 6, 10-11am. Online.* www.thestoryoftexas.com.

OUT OF TOWN

TEXAS MUSIC REVOLUTION The two-day drive-in music festival will have designated parking pods to social distance while enjoying Walt Wilkins, Squeezebox Bandits, and other Texas favorites. *Fri.-Sat., July 31-Aug. 1. Southfork Ranch, Dallas. \$20-150.* www.tmr24.com.

RESTAURANT MONTH Due to the pandemic, the annual San Antonio culinary celebration has been extended from two weeks to four, with some of the top eateries in town offering prix fixe lunch or dinner meals with an emphasis on to-go dining. Funds raised go to support the organization's fund to aid the hospitality industry. *Aug. 1-31. San Antonio.* www.culinariasa.org/menus.

TEXAS TESTICLE FESTIVAL They may be nuts, but they're going ahead with the festival celebrating Rocky Mountain oysters with a limited number of tickets. *Sat., Aug. 1, noon-10pm; food service 4-8pm. Fredericksburg. \$23-60.* www.thebestoftexas.org/texas-testical-festival.

Meals on Wheels Central Texas continues to provide services deemed by health officials to be essential to the wellbeing of our homebound clients.

Please support our mission during these challenging times by making a financial gift at mealsonwheelscentraltexas.org

Meals on Wheels Central Texas
— delivering more than a meal!



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Food

At right: Bird Bird Biscuit co-owners Brian Batch (l) and Ryan McElroy

Bird Bird Biscuit Is Opening a New Location ... in the Middle of a Pandemic

Co-owner Brian Batch on the values and practices his team thrives on **BY SELOME HAILU**

East Austin chicken spot Bird Bird Biscuit has announced a second location to come in early 2021. Since the first location opened up shop on Manor Road in 2018, co-owners Brian Batch and Ryan McElroy have never lost momentum — even when COVID-19 hit in March.

“We decided early on when the pandemic hit that we were going to ride it through and as a team. And so we all huddled up,” Batch said. He and McElroy included their employees in their decision-making process. They never shut down or laid anyone off; instead, they’ve moved to only accepting online orders while listening to the needs of each individual staffer. Employees who were more financially prepared for the pandemic volunteered to work fewer hours so those who were struggling could make ends meet. “We all made sacrifices,” Batch said. “We were able to pivot just because of the nature of the values that we built our business on. One of those values that we really live into is [valuing] people, not objects.”

Plans to open Bird Bird 2 had been in the works for a while, but Batch and McElroy hit pause on the project to recalibrate when the world turned upside down. To their surprise, they were ready to restart in no time. “I think that it’s the perfect time to do it,” Batch said. “COVID completely revolutionized our business model. In a lot of ways, because of what we’ve had to change due to COVID, we stumbled upon [something] much stronger.” Before March, the line to buy a biscuit filled up almost their entire store besides the minimal seating near the windows. While the long wait times were a signal of Bird Bird Biscuit’s quality and popularity, online ordering has reduced the congestion and allowed them to focus on maximizing the potential of their kitchen.

Batch has seen a lot of new support as Austinites have begun to seek out and give their support to Black business owners around town. Bird Bird Biscuit saw such a high uptick in new patrons that in early June, an overwhelming number of orders led

them to close for a day to regroup. “We had to get our faces smacked around a little bit a couple of times, and we learned from it.”

Learn from it they did: A month later on July 9, after better streamlining their kitchen processes, they announced their expansion. The new location will be at 1401 W. Koenig Lane, replacing its sister business Thunderbird Coffee, which will move into a trailer in the parking lot. Visitors can expect a similar menu and a space renovated by Hip.Hop.Design Studio optimized for quick service and social distancing. “[Hip.Hop.Design] just has an understanding of the heart of business. I don’t think that’s something you can really buy,” Batch said.

As the pandemic persists, Batch said that along with meditation, it’s connection with Bird Bird Biscuit’s community that keeps him sane. “I have this quote on my wall that I’ve tried to live by. It’s by Ram Dass. He says, ‘We’re all just walking each other home.’ And I feel that right now. That’s what people are showing us.”



COURTESY OF CHELSEA FRANCIS



COURTESY OF JARED ZUCKERMAN

An artist rendering of the new location



COURTESY OF BIRD BIRD BISCUIT



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DAVID BRENDAN HALL

LAWRENCE EGUAKUN'S WASOTA VEGAN PARADISE: SIMPLE, SAVORY, LIFE-SUSTAINING

Two local vegans talk meatless meals and The Movement **BY GRAHAM REYNOLDS**

It takes a thief to catch a thief, so the saying goes. And sometimes, we figure, it takes a vegan to interview a vegan. Thus, this interview with Lawrence Eguakun of Wasota Vegan Paradise was conducted by Graham Reynolds – the composer and bandleader of Golden Arm Trio fame, yes – who's been a fan of Eguakun's cooking since the Nigeria-born entrepreneur ran World Beat Cafe on the Drag back in the early 2000s.

These days, Eguakun is the man cooking up the all-plant-based goodness at Wasota in North Loop's vegan enclave called Possum Park. These days, with the – well, we'll let Reynolds take it from here.

– Wayne Alan Brenner

Graham Reynolds: Lawrence, how has the COVID quarantine impacted your business? And how has Black Lives Matter impacted your business?

Lawrence Eguakun: Well, I was doing my business by myself, because it wasn't that busy. But then all of a sudden, I was running out of food every day. People were lining up and I didn't know why. And then somebody told me that we were listed.

GR: Yeah, they put out a list of all the Black-owned restaurants, and then, boom!

LE: Yeah, it came on a Tuesday. I called everybody to work at 11am, and I don't open on Tuesday until 5pm. So I was working, I did my best. I called my wife to come and help, and she doesn't like the restaurant work. But then I was able to hire somebody quickly. And now – it's back to normal.

GR: So the bump from the listing is gone?

LE: Yeah, it's gone. And when I saw your message, and you said you were going to interview me for the *Chronicle*, I thought, "Well, that will help again!"

GR: And how long has Wasota been open?

LE: Wasota has been open since 2011. But, in 2011, it was called Wasota African Cuisine. Because I was cheating – making meat and everything. I never really liked meat, and I always wanted to be a vegetarian. Not totally vegan, but vegetarian. But, because I cook meat, sometimes I'm tempted to sample it. But when I decided to come back, I told myself, I'm going to rebrand to vegan. Totally vegan. I've always been vegan-friendly, but now I'm totally vegan and I love it.

GR: When did you first hear the word "vegan"?

LE: I heard the word vegan at World Beat Cafe. I had a waitress who was vegan, and she told me to be vegan-friendly. And I had some other friends who were vegetarian but not vegan.

And so I said, okay, I'll make a vegan-friendly restaurant – just a few months after I opened. And I learned something that concerned vegans. At World Beat Cafe, I had several pots, and the pots that I was using for vegan food, I never used them for meat processing. If you want to be friendly with them, be *real* friendly with them. And one day a person came to the restaurant and said she wanted a veggie burger, and I said, no, we don't have any veggie burger. And I asked, "What is a veggie burger?" And she said she was gonna buy me one on her way tomorrow. Then she brought tofu – something like tofu burger? And I tasted it, and there's no flavor. And I say, "How the heck do people eat this?" You know? So I created my own. I used black-eyed peas to create my own patty, and everybody loved it.

GR: So, you make Nigerian food and you make West African food, and you also make veggie burgers. What are the things you make that are vegan but are the most traditional?
LE: All of my food is traditional food, though. Everything I do is traditional food.

GR: In order to make it vegan, you didn't have to change anything?

LE: So, in the past, when I cooked food with meat, I used that to *enhance* the food. Now I don't do that at all. And another thing I do, there is a way I present my food that other people don't present their food like that. For example, I do Wasota Platter, which is the bestseller. I have rice, stewed black-eyed peas, sautéed spinach, fried plantains, and black-eyed pea



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POSSUM PARK

VEGAN FOOD TRAILERS ALL IN A BUNCH

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

Lawrence Eguakun's Wasota is not alone in that welcoming enclave at 701 E. 53rd: There's a quartet of other nom-worthy nodes of non-meat nutrition dishing out the flavor as well, all gathered together in resonant culinary synergy (and enhanced with a funky boutique or two) to form Possum Park on the edge of Austin's North Loop area. The foodie destination's been active since 2013 and is still going strong in the midst of what we're all dealing with now.

BISTRO VONISH Chef Craig Vanis 86'd a career in mechanical engineering and – excellent choice – has been serving up elevated vegan cuisine for more than seven years now, offering a seasonally rotating menu of the freshest food that Central Texas can provide. Must try: black garlic bruschetta with roasted tomato and sage. www.bistrovonish.com

COSMOS KITCHEN This truck specializes in vegan street tacos so good that it can make the term *soyrizo* evoke more mouthwatering joy than reluctant fear, even among meat-eaters. And, yes, of course you can get corn or flour tortillas. www.instagram.com/cosmoskitchenatx



Wasota

DAVID BRENDAN HALL

SUNDAZE When hungry citizens want their plant-based edibles to resemble chicken in the craviest way possible, this is where they'll eat – with sandwich options, fresh-cut fries, original dipping sauces, buffalo bites, and more. (Word to the carnivorous wise: They serve actual chicken here, too, if you want.) www.instagram.com/sundaze.veganormot

ZUCCHINI KILL BAKERY Contemporary riot grrrls Cece Loessin, MT Gibbs, and Jess Freda make everything from scratch, using allergy-friendly ingredients to bake a plethora of goodies, sweet and savory, that "will revolutionize your mind and belly." (Note: Exquisite vegan frosting, FFS!) How can so many things that are so healthy for you also be so damn tasty? You tell us – we're busy going back for seconds. www.zucchinikill.com

fritters. And every spoon you take, you're gonna enjoy it. There's five items there and any one you eat, you're going to enjoy the whole five. **GR:** What year did you decide to go 100 percent vegan?

LE: About three years ago.

GR: Did your family think you were crazy?

LE: No, my wife doesn't bother me about doing what I like. She understands that I really love what I do. For me, vegan gives me – I'm older now, I'm almost 70 – so it gives me more leverage. In the past, I have beef, I have goat meat, I have chicken – I cook all those things, and I don't just cook it for the fun of cooking: I cook it so my customers will love it. So now, with the elimination of the meat product in my food, my job is easier. I'm making as much as I used to make, because I have broader customers, but it's easier for me – and that is important at my age right now.

GR: Who taught you to cook?

LE: I mostly taught myself to cook.

GR: Really? When you were young, or... ?

LE: I was a very picky eater. I never liked meat a lot. And my mother is a very good cook, everybody always liked Mom. But I'd always tell her, "Can you take *this* out of that?" And it got to a point when I was around 12 or 13, and my mother said, "Look, if you don't like what I'm cooking, get in the kitchen and cook yourself."

GR: [laughs]

LE: And I was glad to do it, you know? Most of the time, I don't do it. But some of the time – there are particular things I like. I don't like food with too [many] ingredients. I like my food

to have simple cooking. Mostly tomato-based, red bell pepper, little things – a straightforward taste. I rarely eat in restaurants, and I don't like to use sauces made in the bottle. Because I make my sauce with two or three ingredients, and you see other sauces and there are like 10 ingredients – so I don't use them. What I like is Mexican salsa, because it's garlic, tomato, and onion – and *that's* important, that's the kind of thing I like. When I was working in the high tech industries, every Friday we'd go out in a group, to eat in a different restaurant. We'd go to a Chinese restaurant, and people are picking this, picking that. I'd just pick white rice, because if I don't know what's the food, I barely eat it. So I thought nobody would like my food.

GR: But everybody likes your food.

LE: Well, then I started to do promotions at Liberty Lunch, and I bring an international band from Nigeria, and they don't want to eat hamburgers. And I cook for them. And some of the groupies, the guests, the Americans who come to eat that food with them, they love it. And when I was in high tech, we'd have pot luck occasionally, and it would get to a point that people would ask me, "When are you going to make us something?" So I just would make it, because I find it as a blessing when you can do something that people love. It always gives me the pleasure – to respond to them when they ask for it. I cook my food with love, first and foremost. I tell people, if I cannot eat it, I won't sell it. It's as simple as that.

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FOOD NEWS BUFFET

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

Here's your weekly Food News Buffet, culled from numerous PR releases, official announcements, words on the digital street, and even the occasional (verified) IRL eavesdroppings. Because, even if you're shambling zombielike through a bleak end times landscape, even *then* you'll have to eat. And of course we're still quite a distance from *that* nightmare scenario, right? At press time, anyway. Even though, yeah, **Botticelli's** on South Congress, **Skull Mechanix Brewing**, **Nancy's Sky Garden**, and **Cluck-N-Burger** are now permanently closed.

But please note that **Austin ISD families** can receive **free produce boxes** at AISD curbside meal sites, on Wednesdays from 9-11am (or until they run out) through Aug. 12. The boxes – prepared and delivered by **the Common Market Texas**, and funded by the **Michael & Susan Dell Foundation** – feature locally grown produce, such as peppers, melons, squash, carrots, and other seasonal staples. Here's where they're available: Aug. 5: Anderson High School, Eastside Memorial Early College High School, LBJ Early College High School, Blanton Elementary School, and Blackshear Elementary School; Aug. 12: Travis Early College High School,

Govalle Elementary School, Oak Hill Elementary School, Perez Elementary School, and Uphaus Early Childhood Center.

We reckon that any pandemic – or lack of a pandemic – or any time at all, tbh – works better with a music track by Austin's Grammy-nominated **Black Pumas**. Which is why we really like the sound of what they've collaborated on with **4th Tap Brewing Co-op**: the **"Stay Gold" Hoppy Pale Ale**, a new summer beer that'll be available on Aug. 7 from all leading beer and wine retailers (and music venues) throughout Texas while supplies last.



Black Pumas x 4th Tap Brewing = Stay Gold

The **Thinkery** in Mueller has been collaborating, too, putting together a star-studded program called **Food for Thought**. It's where an array of talented locals, including hosts **John & Kendall Antonelli**, are gonna livestream you an hour of culinary wonderments and know-how you can't get anywhere else. That's on Aug. 7, and there's some amazing auction action with it, too, and it all goes to support the Thinkery's STEAM activities for kids.

Meanwhile, it's *spice* that's the biggest celebrity in **LeRoy and Lewis'** fourth annual barbecuemongous **"Heat Week"** that began on July 29. Is *your* sweet mouth, we wonder, capable of surviving the likes of that Heatball Sub, the Turkey & Bacon Mac and Cheese, the Chile Relleno, and the Sichuan Pork Boudin? Or will you just breeze in at the end

and snarf up Sunday's pepper-jelly-and-cream-cheese kolache?

After that *week of heat*, you're gonna want to cool things off a bit again. How convenient, then, that **Launderette** already has six-packs of their new **Birthday Cake Ice Cream Sandwich** available for purchase, packed in a foam mini-cooler for chilly transport. The Holly neighborhood restaurant will be donating *all* proceeds from the first month of six-pack sales to local nonprofits: Austin Justice Coalition (week 1), Out Youth (week 2), LifeWorks (week 3), and Jolt Initiative (week 4). So, like, *everybody* wins.

You want to feel like you won the lucky-to-be-local lottery, we suggest heading to **Swoop House** at 3012 Gonzales Street, the longtime HQ of **Supper Friends** and those **2Dine4 Catering** savants, where the new **Happy Foods** al-frescotorium delights with nutrition-inspired bowls, wraps, salads, and snacks – paired with wine curated by **Greg Randle** and coffee beverages using the finest beans available in Austin. Pro tip: Their Sunday brunch (10am-3pm) is especially rewarding.

The **Butterfly Bar** on Manor Road, part of that inexorable **Vortex** of theatre both live and livestreamed, is now offering cocktails to-go. Slake your thirst with their signature drinks like Monarch Magic, Pink Sun, Hulu and Smash, and more. Hell, build your own six-pack of beer and grab a free bag of ice to go with.

And, finally for this week, scones? Yes, from **The Sconery ATX**. Because the *Chronicle's* own **Greg Stitt** – who tells us he's "no *sconnoisseur*, as it were" – swears that they're the best he's ever had. "These fruit-enhanced triangles of fresh-baked goodness draped with icing are so tasty," he confesses, "you end up scraping the dried blobs of sugar off the wax paper with your hands once the box is emptied." Check 'em out on Instagram: www.instagram.com/thesceneryatx

FOOD EVENTS AC

SUERTE TAQUERIA: ¡PURO PINCHE POLLO! Suerte Taqueria presents a monthlong celebration of that tastiest of yardbirds, the pollo. (Note for the monoglots: That's a *chicken*, mmmkay?) Each meal features a different half-a-chicken each week and comes with two seasonal sides, and it's enough for two people, and is available for dine-in or carry-out alongside Suerte's regular menu. Up next, it's Pollito Frito O' Clock (July 27-Aug. 2), Mr. James Chicken Adobo en Stylo Filipino (Aug. 3-9), and, finally, People's Choice (Aug. 10-15) among those diverse styles. Hey, *you're* a people – treat yourself and help them choose! *Through* Aug. 9. *Suerte*, 1800 E. Sixth, 512/953-0092. www.suerteatx.com.

THE THINKERY: FOOD FOR THOUGHT Here's an online event that celebrates our local food and beverage culture while also raising money to support the Thinkery's STEAM program. It's an "engaging and informative" 60-minute program featuring local culinary celebrities, with Aaron Franklin talking barbecue, the folks of Still Austin Whiskey Co. giving a tour of their distillery, superstar baker Abby Love revealing the secrets of great sourdough, Tavel Bristol-

Joseph exploring the sugary chemistry of making your own honeycomb, and, oh, Kevin Fink and Sheena Moore and

Daniela Martinez. Whoa, right? And the whole thing's hosted by John & Kendall Antonelli of that local cheese shop you may have heard about. Bonus: There's a "raise-the-paddle" auction, a silent auction, and a raffle drawing, all with incredible prizes. *Sat.*, Aug. 8, 7pm. *Thinkery*, 1830 Simond, 512/469-6200. \$200. www.thinkeryaustin.org.

LENOIR X WILLIAM CHRIS WINE DINNER This live culinary journey (Zoomed in-home) features Lenoir's Chef Todd Duplechan talking about each of the courses and why he chose them – while you *eat* the delicious meal of Almaco Jack crudo, cold summer cannelloni, a smoked pork chop, and a fresh loquat pound cake for dessert. The bounty of noms is paired with three bottles by local winery William Chris Vineyards, and the winemakers will discuss the pairings and flavor profiles, and they'll be looking forward to your feedback throughout this extraordinary feast. Reserve now, and you can pick up your order at Lenoir between 3-6pm this Friday. *Fri.*, July 31, 6:30-10pm. *Lenoir*, 1807 S. First, 512/215-9778. \$195 for two. www.lenoirrestaurant.com.

EMMER & RYE: COMMUNITY COLLABS The team behind acclaimed restaurant Emmer & Rye is partnering with local chefs to raise money for three community charities – Youth Rise Texas, The Tavel Bristol-Joseph Scholarship, and Southern Smoke. Each weekly collaboration will feature one entree from Emmeroni's, E&R's newly launched Italian concept – and you've missed the first one with Nixta's Edgar Rico already, *aaargh*, but there's more to come: Grae Nonas of Le Cowboy, *July 30*; Natalie Gazui, *Aug. 6*; Steven Dilley of Bufalina, *Aug. 13*; Fermín Núñez of Suerte, *Aug. 20*; Miguel Vidal of Valentina's Tex Mex, *Aug. 27*; Gabe Eraldes of Comedor, *Sept. 3*. Keep your eyes on @emmerandrye's Instagram: Each special menu item will be announced on the previous Tuesday. *Through Sept. 3*. *Emmer & Rye*, 51 Rainey #110, 512/366-5530. www.emmerandrye.com.



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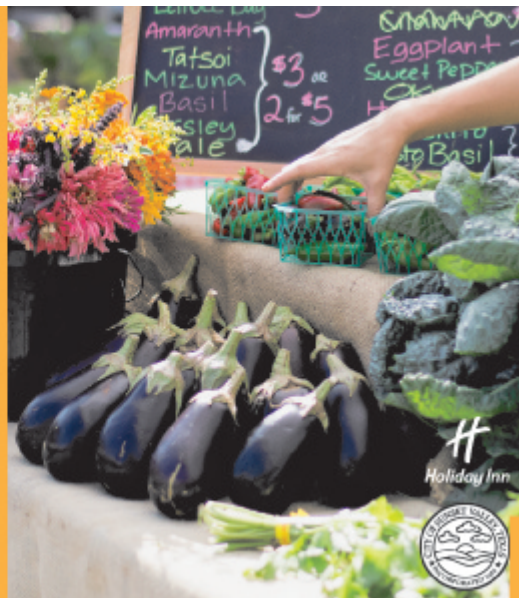
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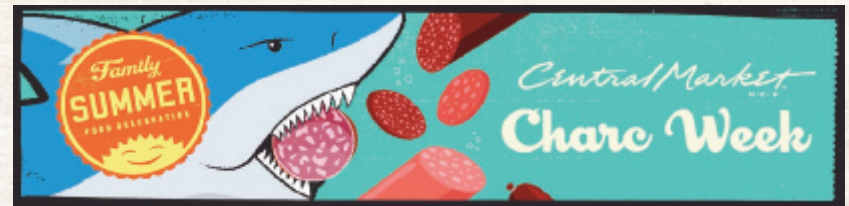
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Screens

Death Positive

Amy Seimetz questions how we embrace mortality in *She Dies Tomorrow* **BY JENNY NULF**

Death is inevitable – and yet so many people avoid talking about it. There’s a distinct denial, where even at the mention of the word people start to feel uncomfortable. However, the inevitability of mortality surrounds us. In Amy Seimetz’s latest film *She Dies Tomorrow*, she playfully unpacks the taboos around dying and all of the awkward anxieties that come with discussing its crushing certainty in friendly spaces.

“In a way, [*She Dies Tomorrow*] is more of a denial of death movie,” the director began. “At the time, I was taking care of my dad who was dying. For several years death was just hanging in my world ... in order to function in normal life, I had to deny it was actually happening until it happened ... That was a very painful thing.”

Making *She Dies Tomorrow*, she explained, “both alleviated anxieties without confronting death, but also created this atmosphere where [I felt like death] could come from anywhere ... at any moment. It can be therapy, but also you sometimes

don’t know why you make something in the moment either,” Seimetz added.

The film (which was originally selected for the canceled SXSW Film Festival) opens with Amy (Kate Lyn Sheil) visibly upset after moving into her new home, although why she is upset is unclear. She foggily saunters around, muttering “Fuck,” while taking big gulps of wine from her glass. She’s depressed. It’s not until her friend

comes over, Jane (Jane Adams), that she divulges what is on her mind: She’s going to die tomorrow. Like that, Jane

catches death like one would catch a cold, and a domino effect commences.

Depression and relapses can be triggering, but Seimetz’s delicate direction and surreal yet thoughtful approach gives light to a theme that is often so bleak. “While going through traumatic phases, there also are incredibly hilarious moments,” she said. “Almost more hilarious than when everything’s fine, because it’s so dire and your emotions are so sensitive at the moment. ...

“For several years death was just hanging in my world.”

AMY SEIMETZ

Amy (Kate Lyn Shell) contemplates her end in *She Dies Tomorrow*



You can’t maintain melancholy all the time.

“[My] anxiety attacks ... feel like there’s a heavy metal concert happening internally. It’s very uneventful watching me from the outside, but what’s happening inside [feels] so momentous and it’s buzzing with energy. But if you were to look at me from the outside, you wouldn’t know what was going on.”

By reflecting on her anxieties around death in *She Dies Tomorrow*, Seimetz shared a unique viewpoint that’s both grim and light. “What I tried to do with the movie is ... interplay [these moments] with humor and drama ... it’s kind of funny to laugh at yourself when you get caught up in these really dramatic moments and see it from the outside.”

She Dies Tomorrow is not Seimetz’s first film to revolve around anxiety, nor is it her first project to blend genre, from her first feature as a director, 2012’s *Sun Don’t Shine*, to her work behind the camera on *The Girlfriend Experience* and *Atlanta*. One of

her tools in setting that balance, and offsetting her gloomy characters, is music – such as Amy constantly restarting her record player to blast Mozart’s “Requiem” throughout her home. “[Sound] is such an important element to everything I do,” she said, adding that it is “50 percent of the movie, and really amplifies and makes the film transcendent. ... Part of the film is this expansion and contraction of overindulgence, and then popping out and [realizing] it is very silly. It just felt important to use something like Mozart’s ‘Requiem’ in the film.”

“I try to be as honest as possible and maintain tone,” she explained. “At the end, it’s sort of interesting to see. A few people watch it and think it’s funny, but some people watch it and they don’t like the feelings that come to them. [The film is about] facing your own death. Not everyone really wants to sit and think about that.”

She Dies Tomorrow arrives on VOD August 7.



Not-So-Mad Men

AUSTIN’S MEGHAN ROSS MAKES JON HAMM A FEMINIST DAD FOR HER *NEW YORKER* SHORT

BY RICHARD WHITTAKER

How do you get Jon Hamm to do the voiceover for your three-minute short movie that you film in New Jersey with your brother? Well, as Austin-based director and comedian Meghan Ross discovered, you have to ask. She said, “I’ve mailed so many people who are beyond my level of accomplishment, and I’m not afraid of hearing ‘no.’”

It helps if you’re adapting a riotously hilarious piece from *The New Yorker*. In 2018, the revered magazine published “If You Ever Hurt My Daughter, I Swear to God I’ll Let Her Navigate Her Own Emotional Growth” in its Daily Shouts & Murmurs humor column. It’s an uproarious rewriting of a sitcom mainstay, the father’s doorstep speech on a first date. Yet instead of menacing the distaff courter, he yells his way through wise advice about how his beloved child’s choices are her own and always to be respected. Ross’ brother and producer Justin was working for Girls Leadership, a nonprofit empowering young women, when he forwarded the original story to her. Ross said, “And he sent it

to me and said, ‘Can’t you see this piece working in a video format?’”

First, they had to get the rights, so she reached out to author Sophie Kohn, “and she was gung ho about adapting it.” Then *The New Yorker* gave them the OK (and is now hosting the finished film), and they shot the piece in New Jersey with David Afflick as the father’s physical body – but not his voice. “It didn’t make sense to see his lips moving,” Ross said. “We thought because it was a monologue and you only see the dad speaking the whole time, we knew the visuals were going to live in a different plane.” The idea of an intellectual disconnect was inherent in Kohn’s piece, where all the most supportive and caring sections are yelled out in caps lock. “He’s shouting about something that’s very thoughtful and kind as the father of a teen daughter.” While she described Afflick as “amazing, we thought it would be fun to find a recognizable voice.”

Having already won Kohn and *The New Yorker* round, getting on the phone with the agents for a bunch of A-listers was nothing, even if it meant a lot of that “no” she expected to hear. “Some were saying yes with a lot of caveats, some were like, ‘This guy doesn’t wake up for less than 100K.’” However, Hamm was eager to find space in his schedule to get into the recording booth. After a succession of fearless asks, was directing the *Mad Men* star nerve-racking? No, Ross said, but for a different reason. “You don’t need to direct Jon Hamm a lot.”

Watch the video at austinchronicle.com/screens.

MOVIE LISTINGS

★ AC



Fumbling Toward Ecstasy

Natalia Dyer finds herself in the sweet and funny *Yes, God, Yes* **BY SHALAVÉ CAWLEY**

It's a fact: Millions had their sexual awakenings to the infamous and steamy car scene in *Titanic*. This includes Karen Maine, whose feature directorial debut *Yes, God, Yes* is based on her own Catholic guilt-ridden discovery of masturbation as a Midwestern teenager in the early 2000s.

Maine's onscreen surrogate is Alice (in a wonderfully understated performance by *Stranger Things*' Dyer) who, fueled by the thrill of anonymous AOL-fueled cybersex, reaches a hand down below and changes her life forever. But for Alice, masturbation is no solo act – God is right there with her, and Alice's ensuing shame leads her to attend a religious youth retreat with hopes of redemption and social acceptance. Alas, she cannot escape her newfound desires; she finds herself tempted by everything from a vibrating cell phone to the gorilla-like arm hair on a cute boy.

Over the course of those four days, Alice navigates her evolving relationship with her body in an environment where self-pleasure warrants punishment by 50 Hail Marys and probably eternal damnation. Maine captures this struggle with the good-natured humor of someone who has realized the ridiculousness of this logic yet harbors no hard feelings. Lust is no mortal sin; everyone – even the most seemingly devout – experiences and acts on it. Though the subject of teenage sexuality is tricky territory, it is one the film never exploits but instead sweetly explores. Dyer's masturbation scenes feel innocent as opposed to titillating, and she charms with her mix of cautious curiosity and wide-eyed expressions.

On the last day, retreatgoers are encouraged to take what they've learned there and apply it to their everyday lives. For Alice, this means rejecting judgment, letting go of shame, and realizing she's not going to hell for falling victim to the ocean blue eyes of young Leonardo DiCaprio.

AUSTIN.VIOLETCROWN.COM

YES, GOD, YES

D: Karen Maine; with Natalia Dyer, Donna Lynne Champlin, Myles Evans, Susan Blackwell, Alisha Boe, Timothy Simons. (R, 78 min.) ★★★

OPENINGS

The Fight (PG-13)
Gordon Lightfoot: If You Could Read My Mind (NR)
Rebuilding Paradise (PG-13)
Yes, God, Yes (R)

RATINGS

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

PRISM

All Genders Lifestyles & Identities
 Film Festival

33

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RECIPES + WEEKLY NEWSLETTER + MORE

austinchronicle.com/cooking

THE BIG UGLY

D: Scott Wiper, with Vinnie Jones, Malcolm McDowell, Ron Perlman, Elyse Levesque, Leven Rambin, Joelle Carter. (R, 106 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Hardman Jones plays a displaced London gangster (no change there) seeking revenge in West Virginia.

IPIC

★ THE FIGHT

D: Eli B. Despres, Josh Kriegman, Elyse Steinberg. (PG-13, 96 min.)

"I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." This quote, perpetually misattributed to Voltaire, embodies the spirit of the American Civil Liberties Union. The creative team behind the 2016 doc *Weiner* casts their lens into the legal trenches, following four hot-button ACLU cases to provide a compelling and compassionate portrait of the men and women who fiercely engage in upholding the Constitution. It's an endlessly engaging look into the often labyrinthine legal apparatus, and while there are a couple of forays into cases defending the alt-right, there is no mistaking that the film's

ideology lands unabashedly to the left of the dial. One quick glance at the contemporary body politic reveals how quickly the tragedies of humanity become just another fleeting news ticker scroll. *The Fight* is an explicit reminder that these are people's lives, rights, and liberties.

The *Fight* is available as a *Virtual Cinema* release via *AFS Cinema* and *Violet Crown Cinema*. For a full review visit austinchronicle.com/screens.

★★★ — Josh Kupecki
WWW.AUSTINFILM.ORG/AFS-CINEMA, AUSTIN.VIOLETCROWN.COM

★ GORDON LIGHTFOOT: IF YOU COULD READ MY MIND

D: Martha Kehoe, Joan Tosoni. (NR, 90 min.)

"If there was a Mount Rushmore in Canada, Gordon would be on it." So pronounces Tom Cochrane about Gordon Lightfoot, joining a chorus of Canadian music pioneers in singing highest praises for the Ontario-born troubadour. Now 81, "Gord" himself makes a welcome host. Fluidly juxtaposing its subject *now* with him in his literally golden (locks) youth, this cinematic C.V. stays on the music ("Early Morning Rain," "Song for Winter's Night," "Did She Mention My Name?") and craft ("Purely, it comes from the unconscious mind").

Halfway through, *If You Could Read My Mind* has made its case, but as summates Rush's Geddy Lee for all Canadians: "He is our poet laureate."

Gordon Lightfoot: *If You Could Read My Mind* is available as a *Virtual Cinema* release via *Violet Crown Cinema*. For a full review visit austinchronicle.com/screens.

★★★ — Raoul Hernandez
MOVIEHOUSE & EATERY LANTANA PLACE, AUSTIN.VIOLETCROWN.COM

★ REBUILDING PARADISE

D: Ron Howard. (PG-13, 95 min.)

It began as a spark flickering from a near-century-old transmission electricity line, but soon the tiny California town of Paradise was an unrecognizable hell, enveloped by a pitch-black darkness of thick smoke and illuminated by flanking walls of flames. After using news media coverage and cell phone video footage to visualize the horror of that harrowing experience in the prologue of this deceptively straightforward documentary, director Ron Howard gets down to business in verité style to chronicle the aftermath of the catastrophic event through the perspectives of local citizens. *Rebuilding Paradise* speaks to the resiliency of human beings, but in its final minutes the film

becomes a newsreel of "natural" disasters around the world, all undeniably linked to climate change. Sly move, Mr. Howard. Sly move.

Rebuilding Paradise is available as a *Virtual Cinema* release via *Violet Crown Cinema*. For a full review visit austinchronicle.com/screens.

★★★ — Steve Davis
AUSTIN.VIOLETCROWN.COM

THE SHADOW OF VIOLENCE

D: Nick Rowland; with Barry Keoghan, Ned Dennehy, Niamh Algar, Anthony Welsh, David Wilmot. (R, 101 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Bare-knuckle boxing and gangster violence on the coast of Ireland in this Michael Fassbender-produced drama.

IPIC

SUMMERLAND

D: Jessica Swale; with Gemma Arterton, Lucas Bond, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Penelope Wilton, Dixie Egerickx. (PG, 100 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Unlikely bonding as a young Londoner (Bond) is evacuated from London during the Blitz to stay with a grumpy author (Arterton) in a coastal town.

IPIC, LAKE CREEK 7

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

BY KAT McNEVINS

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 August 14 issue is Monday, August 3. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 4189, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 512/458-6910; or email. Contact Kat McNeVins (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com.

VIRTUAL SCREENINGS

AFS CINEMA The quality programming you've come to expect is available virtually. www.austinfilm.org/afs-cinema.
ALAMO ON DEMAND Alamo Drafthouse-curated picks. www.drafthouse.com.

BLACK IS KING A watch party and discussion with Austin Justice Coalition on the visual album from Beyoncé that reimagines the lessons of *The Lion King* for today's young kings and queens in search of their own crowns. Online via www.austinjustice.org. Fri., July 31, 6pm.

PARAMOUNT THEATRE AT HOME A selection of films curated by Paramount expert programmer Stephen Jannise, with meal pairings. www.austintheatre.org.

VIOLET CROWN The arthouse cinema they're known for, offered virtually, and ticket purchases benefit the theatre. austin.violetcrown.com.

FESTIVALS

ALL GENDERS, LIFESTYLES, AND IDENTITIES FILM FESTIVAL This virtual edition, aGLIFF 33: Prism, will offer more than 65 films, with features, shorts, and events showcasing the diverse experiences of LGBTQIA people. Badges and single tickets are on sale now, but it's also a great time to become an aGLIFF member, which gets you tons of perks for the fest and throughout the year. Online via www.agliff.org. Thu.-Sun., Aug. 6-16.

OFFSCREEN

GOTHIC HORROR MOVIE PANEL An all-star panel on midcentury gothic horror films, in celebration of the release of Austin-based writer Bruce Wright's *Nightwalkers: Gothic Horror Movies - Revised Edition*. Tue., Aug. 4, 6:30pm. Online. www.fb.com/events/578374479519345.

DRIVE-INS

GIRL IMPROVED FILM & THEATRE FEST This special GIFT Fest event features a select group of local kids bringing audience stories that highlight the female and nonbinary perspective. @Blue Starlite Mueller II, Monday, 8:50pm.

BLUE STARLITE MUELLER II
2103 E. FRANKLIN AVE., 512/850-6127.

BATMAN: Thu, 11:30
THE CABIN IN THE WOODS: Fri-Tue, 11:25
CONSTANTINE: Mon-Tue, 8:55; Thu (8/6), 11:20
THE DRIVE-IN COMEDY TOUR: Sat, 6:15
EASY DOES IT: Fri, 11:35
TOM CRUISE CONTROL: EDGE OF TOMORROW: Fri, 8:50; Sat, 11:30
THE EVIL DEAD: Sat, 11:20; Thu (8/6), 11:30
FACE/OFF: Thu, 11:30; Tue, 8:50, 11:35; Wed, 11:30

GIRL IMPROVED FILM & THEATRE FEST: Mon, 8:50

GREASE SING-ALONG: Sat, 8:50

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER: Sun, 11:10

INDIANA JONES AND THE LAST CRUSADE: Mon, 8:55; Tue, 11:30

INDIANA JONES AND THE TEMPLE OF DOOM: Wed, 8:55

JURASSIC PARK: Thu-Tue, 8:50

JURASSIC WORLD: FALLEN KINGDOM: Thu, 8:45; Fri-Sat, 8:50

KILL BILL: VOL. 1: Sun, 11:35

KILL BILL: VOL. 2: Mon, 11:35

THE LOST BOYS: Thu, 11:20; Thu (8/6), 11:35

THE LOST WORLD: JURASSIC PARK: Fri, 8:45; Sun, 8:50

THE MAN WITH TWO BRAINS: Wed, 11:35

THE MATRIX: Fri-Sat, 11:30

MAX RELOAD AND THE NETHER BLASTERS: Thu, 11:35

MEN IN BLACK: Sun, 8:50

A MIGHTY WIND: Thu (8/6), 8:50

TOM CRUISE CONTROL: MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - GHOST PROTOCOL: Thu-Wed, 8:50
THE NEVERENDING STORY: Sat, 8:45
OCEAN'S ELEVEN: Thu, Sun, Thu (8/6), 8:55
RELIC: Thu (8/6), 8:45
SCOOB!: Sat, 8:55
SPEED: Tue-Wed, 8:55
TROLLS WORLD TOUR: Sun-Thu (8/6), 8:50
TOM CRUISE CONTROL: WAR OF THE WORLDS: Mon, 8:50

BLUE STARLITE ROUND ROCK
800 HARRELL PKWY.

THE CABIN IN THE WOODS: Sat, 11:45
DIRTY DANCING: Thu, 8:50; Sun, 11:45
E.T.: THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL: Sat-Sun, 8:50
FERRIS BUELLER'S DAY OFF: Thu (8/6), 8:55
FRIDAY THE 13TH: Fri, 11:35
35TH ANNIVERSARY: THE GOONIES: Fri, 8:50
I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER: Thu, 11:35
KILL BILL: VOLS. 1 & 2: Wed, 8:45

DOC'S DRIVE IN THEATRE
1540 SATTERWHITE RD., 512/960-4460.

AMERICAN GRAFFITI: Thu, 9:05
E.T.: THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL: Sun, 9:05
FAST TIMES AT RIDGEMONT HIGH: Wed, 8:35
THE GOONIES: Fri, 9:05
HAIRSPRAY: Tue, 9:00
THE ITALIAN JOB: Thu (8/6), 8:35
MAMMA MIA!: Fri, 8:40
THE PRINCESS BRIDE: Tue, 8:35
SCARFACE: Thu (8/6), 9:00
TROLLS WORLD TOUR: Wed, 9:00

MOVIE THEATRES

See austinchronicle.com/film for complete listings.

CINEMARK 20 AND XD
N. I-35 & FM 1825, 512/989-8535.

DEADPOOL (DIGITAL): Fri, 3:35, 7:05, 9:55; Sat, 7:05, 9:55; Sun, 7:05
THE GENTLEMEN (DIGITAL): Fri-Sat, 9:45
THE HUNT (DIGITAL): Fri, 3:10, 10:00; Sat, 10:00
THE INVISIBLE MAN (DIGITAL): Fri-Sat, 9:25
JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL (DIGITAL): Fri, 7:55; Sat-Sun, 1:50, 7:55
THE JUNGLE BOOK (DIGITAL): Fri, 4:20; Sat-Sun, 1:35, 4:20
JURASSIC PARK (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 5:15
JURASSIC PARK (XD): Fri, 7:30; Sat-Sun, 1:25, 7:30
THE MATRIX (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 3:30, 6:45
STAR WARS: EPISODE VII - THE FORCE AWAKENS (DIGITAL): Fri, 6:25; Sat-Sun, 2:55, 6:25
THE WIZARD OF OZ (DIGITAL): Fri-Sat, 3:05; Sun, 1:05, 3:05

EVO CINEMAS BELTERRA
166 HARGRAVES DRIVE #A100, 512/477-0700.

THE AVENGERS: Thu, 12:30, 3:50, 7:15
BLOODSHOT: Thu, 2:00; Fri-Sun, 2:00, 8:10
FANTASY ISLAND: Thu, 7:30; Fri-Sun, 7:10
THE GREATEST SHOWMAN: Thu, 1:30, 4:10, 6:50
I STILL BELIEVE: Thu, 1:40, 4:30; Fri-Sun, 1:15, 4:10
THE INVISIBLE MAN: Thu, 6:00; Fri-Sun, 7:45
JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL: Thu, 5:00, 8:00; Fri-Sun, 1:30, 4:30
JURASSIC WORLD: Thu, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00; Fri-Sun, 1:45, 4:45, 7:50
THE WRETCHED: Thu, 2:30, 7:45; Fri-Sun, 7:40

IPIC THEATERS AUSTIN
3225 AMY DONOVAN PLAZA (AT THE DOMAIN), 512/568-3400.

***THE BIG UGLY:** Fri-Sun, 1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 7:30
CADDYSHACK: Thu, 4:15, 5:00, 6:00, 6:45, 7:45; Fri-Sun, noon, 1:30, 4:15, 5:45, 7:00
***THE RENTAL:** Fri-Sun, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00
***THE SHADOW OF VIOLENCE:** Fri-Sun, 11:45am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45pm
STAR WARS: EPISODE VII - THE FORCE AWAKENS: Fri-Sun, 12:15, 2:30, 3:30, 6:45
***SUMMERLAND:** Fri-Sun, 12:45, 3:15, 4:45, 6:00

MOVIEHOUSE & EATERY
8300 N. FM 620, BLDG. B, 512/501-3520.

***CHARLOTTE'S WEB:** Thu, 2:00, 5:15, 8:00
***DR. SEUSS' THE LORAX:** Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 2:15, 5:15pm; Mon-Thu (8/6), 2:15, 5:15
***FOLLOWED:** Fri-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30; Mon-Thu (8/6), 4:30, 7:30
***GRAVITY:** Fri-Thu (8/6), 2:30, 5:15, 8:00
***IRRESISTIBLE:** Thu, 4:30, 7:30; Fri-Sun, noon, 3:00, 8:00; Mon-Thu (8/6), 3:00, 8:00
***JURASSIC PARK:** Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 3:00, 6:30pm; Mon-Thu (8/6), 3:00, 6:30
***MARVEL'S THE AVENGERS:** Thu, 3:15, 7:00
***THE MATRIX:** Fri-Sun, noon, 3:45, 7:30; Mon-Thu (8/6), 3:45, 7:30
***RELIC:** Thu, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00
***THE RENTAL:** Thu, 2:30, 4:45, 7:30; Fri, 4:25, 7:30; Sat-Thu (8/6), 4:15, 7:30
***THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS:** Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 2:00, 4:45, 6:00pm; Mon-Thu (8/6), 2:00, 4:45, 6:00
***ZOOTOPIA:** Thu, 3:00, 6:00

MOVIEHOUSE & EATERY - LANTANA PLACE

7415 SOUTHWEST PARKWAY, BLDG. 7, 512/572-0770.

FOLLOWED: Fri-Sun, noon, 3:00, 7:00; Mon-Thu (8/6), 3:00, 7:00
GORDON LIGHTFOOT: IF YOU COULD READ MY MIND: Fri-Thu (8/6), 4:15
GRAVITY: Fri-Sun, 2:25, 5:15, 8:00; Mon-Thu (8/6), 5:15, 8:00
JURASSIC PARK: Fri-Sun, 12:30, 4:50, 7:30; Mon-Thu (8/6), 4:50, 7:30
THE MATRIX: Fri-Sun, 1:00, 3:45, 7:30; Mon-Thu (8/6), 3:45, 7:30
THE RENTAL: Fri-Sun, 1:30, 4:45, 8:15; Mon-Thu (8/6), 4:45, 8:15
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS: Fri-Sun, noon, 4:15, 6:00; Mon-Thu (8/6), 4:15, 6:00

SOUTHWEST THEATRES AT LAKE CREEK 7

13729 RESEARCH #1500, 512/291-3158.

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN: Thu, 1:20, 5:00
HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS: Thu, 3:25, 6:50
HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN: Fri-Thu (8/6), 1:40, 3:45, 6:50
JURASSIC PARK: Thu, 1:30, 7:40; Fri-Thu (8/6), 1:10, 4:05
THE MATRIX: Thu, 1:40, 3:50, 7:00; Fri-Thu (8/6), 3:55, 7:00
THE OUTPOST: Thu, 1:00, 4:25, 7:30; Fri-Thu (8/6), 1:00, 7:20
RELIC: Thu, 7:20
THE RENTAL: 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:50
SUMMERLAND: Fri-Thu (8/6), 1:50, 4:50, 7:30
TROLLS WORLD TOUR (CC): Thu, 1:10

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

I Used To Go Here



Star Parks Soundtracks I Used to Go Here

Austin's Andy Bianculli on the ups and downs of movie music **BY KEVIN CURTIN**

"It was gonna be fuckin' cool," Andy Bianculli predicted, those six deflating words epitomizing any best laid plans of 2020.

The Austin-based singer and multi-instrumentalist was referring to the canceled South by Southwest Film Festival world premiere of *I Used to Go Here*, the new feature by writer/director Kris Rey (*It Was Great, But I Was Ready to Come Home, Unexpected*), starring Gillian Jacobs and Jemaine Clement. Its soundtrack utilizes eight pieces of Bianculli's music – six tracks pulled from his band Star Parks' recent four-star LP *The New Sounds of Late Capitalism*, and two additional instrumentals. "We were invited to the premiere and then they were going to have us play their party at Cheer Up Charlies – then it all got canceled," Bianculli recounted. He regretted not getting to talk music with *Flight of the Conchords* star Clement. "That was maybe going to be the only thing I've had going on during SXSW where I really wanted to be there."

The comedy tracks the return of first-time novelist Kate Conklin (*Community's* Jacobs) to her alma mater to deliver a reading of her recently released book. That work, *Seasons Passed* – which sounds increasingly trite and tepid each time it's referenced – meanwhile struggles to find an audience outside of the university's writing program, helmed by her former professor (Clement). Amid anxiety over her peers becoming mothers, her former fiancée starting a new relationship, and the realization that her book sort of sucks, she befriends a group of co-eds living in her old house and their priorities become weirdly intertwined.

Especially for college grads teetering on the verge of respectable adult existences, *I*

Used to Go Here will make you wince knowingly and chuckle often. The themes that endure: catching a spark off the unencumbered potential of youth, examining one's glory days through older eyes, and attaining perspective on your creative successes and failures – all arrive with palpable feelings of nostalgia. "Yeah I think that sounds about right," laughed Bianculli, who hadn't yet seen the film at the time of our interview. "I think that's my biggest problem as a musician. I'm not trying to make music that sounds old, but I'm interested in that and a lot of it is very sentimental – it's pretty fuckin' cheeky."

The singer/guitarist/pianist, whose latest LP was heralded as a depiction of "postmodern discontent," revealed that he actually had

no hand in scoring the 80-minute comedy – rather his music was used as dressing. Rey called him after the film was completed to inquire about using his already existent songs. Afterwards he sent her additional instrumentals, one of which ended up being used in a trailer. "You don't really [know] how people enjoy your music, when they listen to it, what context," he pondered. "I wouldn't put my music on when I'm going out to have nice time. I would probably listen to it when I'm destroyed and thinking about something."

Meanwhile Bianculli, a music nerd with a fanatic appreciation for film work like Goblin's 1977 scoring of Dario Argento's *Suspria*, hopes he can parley Star Parks' inclusion in *I Used to Go Here* into opportunities where he could compose specifically for film. "That's exactly what I want to be doing," he confirmed. "What else can you really do right now as a musician anyway?"

***I Used to Go Here* arrives on VOD on Aug. 7 and will screen at Blue Starlite Mini Urban Drive-In Aug. 13.**

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Music

AUSTIN MUSICIANS PETITION FOR BLACK LIVE MUSIC FUND

A group of leading local artists launched a petition urging **Austin City Council** to establish a **Black Live Music Fund** designated for Black musicians and local music industry. The show of support by non-Black artists includes **Shakey Graves**, **Jim Eno** of **Spoon**, **White Denim**, and **Acey Monaro** of **Go Fever**, who created the online petition. In June, **Austin Music Commission** Vice Chair **Jonathan “Chaka” Mahone** of **Riders Against the Storm** conceptualized a BLMF in a widely shared video.

So far, the petition’s garnered almost 2,000 signatures from Austin industry heavies like **Margin Walker Presents** and **Heard Presents**. The document reads:

“We call ourselves the Live Music Capital of the World – a mantle based on a reputation built by Black musicians and venue owners – yet Black musicians are the least funded and the least represented in the local music scene ... The City’s Cultural Arts division supports countless programs and initiatives aimed at white, middle, and upper class audiences, such as **Austin Symphony Orchestra** and the **Austin Baroque Orchestra**.

“Now, the City needs to make a serious investment in a significant, Black-run institution to make a first, small step towards remedying this shameful historical oversight.”

The petition calls for half of the hotel occupancy tax-generated **Live Music Fund**, created last fall, to support the BLMF. Last Wednesday, Austin Music Commission discussion continued over fiscal sourcing. LMF monies – now significantly reduced by **COVID-19** – must adhere to state statutes regarding tourism. Mahone clarified that his request for half of the LMF is based on new estimates of \$1.5 million total.

“I’ve heard a lot of push back from people saying, ‘Well, it’s half of the funds,’” says Mahone. “The percentage to me isn’t the thing. It’s about repair. It’s not like we’re saying we want half of all the money that ever comes in.”

Commission member **Graham Reynolds**, who supported the petition, expressed concerns about the precariousness of relying on HOT funds.

“I would like to see that money coming from the most stable place possible,” he said. “At the same time, Chaka is right [in saying], ‘Let’s go after money that is actually there.’ We want to do both. We want things short-term, but we’re also trying to set a precedent for many years into the future. We don’t [want to] look back on the pivot point where the last Black musicians left town.”

A new working group will continue to develop plans for a BLMF, to be presented to the City Council, as well as other music commission efforts to address historic inequality in the Austin music economy.

**FASTER
THAN
SOUND**
BY RACHEL
RASCOE

Bill Callahan Song Mondays

At the start of quarantine, Austinite **Bill Callahan** began tweeting. The indie rock legend offered snippets like this late March entry: “Day 18: pooter caught three flies. the door is open. we live in the backyard.” Last week by phone, he clarified that **Pooter** is his dog, and his pandemic hobby is learning lap steel guitar. “The first month of true lockdown, me and my family and my dog were all on top of each other 24 hours a day,” says the singer. “I have a 5-year-old boy, and he didn’t have school. It was very severe at first. We just stayed in the house and in our yard, and I wasn’t getting any work done. “He started going to this camp with just a few kids in it, and then I was able to start working again.”

Callahan’s latest album also streams in bite-sized offerings. A new song from **Gold Record** arrives every Monday up until its Sept. 4 release on **Drag City**. The expedited process matches the pace of recording. After a five-year gap ahead of acclaimed 2019 album *Shepherd in*

BLACK MUSIC IS THE BACKBONE & LIFE BLOOD OF AMERICAN MUSIC.

BLACK MUSICIANS ARE EXCLUDED & ERASED, EVEN AS THEIR INNOVATIONS BRING FAME & FORTUNE TO OTHERS.

BLACK MUSICIANS HAVE ALWAYS MATTERED.

IT’S TIME TO START ACTING LIKE IT.

**IT’S TIME FOR A
#BLACKLIVEMUSICFUND IN AUSTIN.**

Sign the petition at tinyurl.com/BlackLiveMusicFund

a Sheepskin Vest, the singer’s new release came together in just seven days at Hyde Park’s **Estuary Recording**.

“For the most part, I think records should be banged out,” adds the artist. “It was a fun experiment with *Shepherd*, and necessary because of the way it was recorded so piecemeal. As opposed to *Gold Record*, [which was cut] with a band playing in the studio all at once. I was raised in the early **Smog** days of, ‘We can’t afford to be here long, so we got to get this done.’

“That’s in my blood.”

The new songs land compelling vignettes. Eschewing any expectations of the title, he calls recent track “Protest Song” a “playful revenge fantasy.” The narrator dreams of booting a corny television performer, singing, “*I protest his protest song/ I’d vote for Satan if he said it was wrong.*”

“I used to watch a lot of those late-night talk shows,” recalls Callahan. “I was always blown away by how awful the music that they pick is and really baffled about, ‘How can anyone like this, even the person performing? Do they actually think this is good? What am I missing?’”



PHOTO BY CODY COWAN

DJ Jester Chased by Racists in North Campus

G. Michael Pendon, aka **DJ Jester the Filipino Fist**, has performed around the world with **MGMT**, **Third Eye Blind**, and **Of Montreal**. At home in Austin, the mix master enjoys nighttime bike rides to avoid the heat. As he later tweeted, his outing of July 18 ran into a major obstacle:

“Riding my bike minding my own business tonight, two dudes in a truck called me a chink and chased me down near 30th and Speedway. This is the world we live in now.”

The incident is currently under investigation by Austin police. **Detective Adam Torres** told the *Chronicle* he’s in

the process of reaching out to nearby apartment complexes for security footage, and that no suspects have been identified yet.

“We encourage anyone in the neighborhood who has witnessed anything like that to reach out to us,” said Torres. “I’m assuming that it’s college-age kids doing what those people do when they’re not in school.”

That night, Pendon stopped in front of the **Windtree Condos** on 30th Street to adjust his bike lights when a large gray truck pulled into the parking lot. What he describes as a group of Caucasian men in their early 20s

berated him for wearing a bike helmet. As they continued to loop around him, the harassment heightened to homophobic and racist slurs.

“I’m nervous and flustered, so I didn’t get any [footage] on my old Android phone, because I was fumbling around,” explains Pendon. “The truck leaves, goes down 30th, and takes a right. So I was like, ‘I’m not going to go down 30th, because it’s dark, and he could easily hit me with his truck.’”


The vehicle promptly returned. One man ran at him on foot, yelling, “Git, git, get out of here,” at Pendon, who quickly biked away. “He was shooting me away like I was a raccoon or something.”

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JOHN ANDERSON

The Politics of Percussion

We spent election day with drum rebel Thor Harris

BY KEVIN CURTIN

“I *know* music makes the world a better place,” reasons Thor Harris, sitting on his templelike front porch. “I’m not sure about politics.”

Actually, Harris fully understands the latter arena. In 2017, the percussionist/carpenter/luthier/plumber appeared in front of a rainbow flag via Twitter and declared: “Howdy. My name’s Thor Harris and I’m running for governor of Texas... ’cause fuck this.”

The impromptu announcement came in response to Texas’ Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick stumping for an anti-transgender “Bathroom Bill.” Within hours, several national publications posted stories about the local multi-instrumentalist – known for his work with Swans, Shearwater, Bill Callahan, Xiu Xiu, and Amanda Palmer – making a bid for state leadership. Thor as the next Kinky Friedman?

“We’ve been picking the worst people imaginable: George W. Bush, Rick Perry, Greg Abbott,” he ticks off. “So how about a college dropout artist?”

The endeavor never materialized. While the longtime Austinite, born Michael Harris, dug the idea of dialoguing with small-town Texans, music making and touring took precedence.

NO PANDERING

“In music and art, the cardinal sin is dumbing your material down because you think your audience is actually kind of dumb,” states he who conjures polyphonic patterns on vibraphone, xylophone, and a homemade

marimba. “You should make art that pushes everything forward, but in politics it’s a little different. Bernie Sanders doesn’t dumb his message down. He doesn’t pander.”

At the time of our interview, the presidential election’s 110 days away. Not a minute will go by when lefties aren’t debating pragmatism vs. progressivism – as in should Sanders supporters be stumping for Joe Biden?

“I still think Bernie controls the narrative,” Harris shrugs. “I’m not as interested in Biden’s ideas, but I’m certainly going to vote for him. He’s been mediocre-to-bad historically. He supported the Iraq War – terrible mistake.”

“Still, I think he’s actually suffered some grief and has depth as a human being, which is more than we have now in a president. I also think he learned a lot in the Obama years, so he’s liable to surround himself with younger, smarter people. I don’t think he’s brilliant, but I look forward to voting for him.”

WHAT’S LEFT OF AUSTIN

Bones, pointy sculptures, and a gate out of a Middle-earth trailer park mark Harris’ home. The dog-filled yard leads up to a crafted house where elbow grease drips from every joint, beam, and buttress.

Thor’s abode, which he began constructing in the late Nineties, exists in the Blackland Community Development, a six-by-four block, largely African American neighborhood formed in 1983 to fight off UT’s acqui-

sition of Eastside properties. Housing is allotted to low-income families and diverse populations. Harris volunteers for the neighborhood group and calls the area a “miracle,” while lamenting that Austin doesn’t nurture such cultural preservation.

“We’ve displaced a lot of Black people and now we’re giving Elon Musk a tax break to build Teslas here,” he groans. “We don’t need to make this place attractive to billionaires. They’re already coming!”

The La Porte native, who cemented his musicality here in the late Eighties as percussionist in the Sony-signed Stick People, worries about the high cost of living choking out the city’s charm and displacing artists. He name-drops Mosaic Sound Collective, SIMS Foundation, HAAM, and the Musician Treatment Foundation – his cousin Alton Barron’s orthopedic medicine nonprofit that treats musicians from fingers to shoulders for free – as rays of light for creatives.

“That’s the stuff that makes it bearable as a musician to live here,” he allows.

Plus, Harris appreciates living on a liberal island in a red ocean.

“Whenever something horrible happens, like we find out there’s little Mexican kids in cages at the border, I get on my bike, ride five minutes, and I’m in a sea of all different colors of people shouting at the Capitol building.”

PUNCH THROUGH THE FACE

“Someone on Twitter said they love my music but didn’t want to hear my political views – only once,” chuckles Harris. “Why wouldn’t you express your opinions if you’re engaged in the world? No one should be silent about things now.”

@ThorHarris666 tweets a couple dozen times a day. Music and pets grace the feed, but the majority of posts offer funny, middle-finger political discourse aimed at the White House and conscience-deficient

“It got me kicked off Twitter for a few days. And a lot of death threats from shitty, gun-toting, suburbanite white people.”

Republicans like Texas Sen. John Cornyn. “Whatever he’s serving, it has nothing to do with you or I or the environment or health care for the people,” he steams. “To be complicit with everything Trump has wanted to do for the last three-and-a-half years, that’s John Cornyn’s legacy.”

Harris, 55, describes his approach to social media as “a fucked-up art project, with serious content.” Sometimes, the toilet humor and urgent politics blend together in video dispatches from a headless statuette he voices as BBC reporter Dick Sandwich. His most notorious post came in February 2017, with an instructional video on how to punch a Nazi: “Launch your fist like a missile and punch *through* the face.”

“It got me kicked off Twitter for a few days,” he recalls. “And a lot of death threats from shitty, gun-toting, suburbanite white people.”

SQUANDERED POTENTIAL

If you could change one thing about America, what would it be?

“Here’s the thing that I’ve realized about America by going to a lot of other countries on tour: What made it a magical place is all the crashing together of cultures. I wish there were some way to teach all Americans that’s what’s special about this place.”

“Go to Manhattan and see those cultures living on top of each other. Understand that rock & roll happened because you had Irish and Scottish song traditions crashing together with these African ways of making grooves. The cool thing about America is that we have Black people, white people, and brown people living together.

“That’s really all we got.

“Then we elect a white supremacist president,” he continues. “That’s just appalling. America is squandered potential, sick with the wretched disease of racism. After all these years, how is that still our stupid problem?” ■

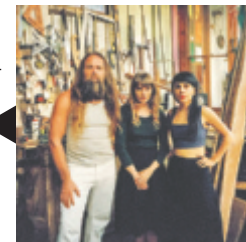
FOUR THOR IN SEVEN YEARS OR SO BY GREG STITT

Tossing Pebbles on the Sleeping Beast (2016) Folklorist collab teams local banjo/accordion savant Ralph White with Harris’ bass drum, clarinet, clavichord, djembe, frame drum, marimba, metal tongue drum, organ, trap set, and vibraphone.

Noplace (2017) Slow-burning Krautrock threeway between Harris’ measured kit experimentalism, Simon Goff’s violin, and Aidan Baker’s guitar all commingle in a beautiful, thrilling, 45-minute ambient dance.

The Subversive Nature of Kindness (2017) This Thor & Friends platter is a polyrhythmic, minimalist sprawl of marimba, flute, vibraphone, voice, organ, duduk, tubular bells, and gongs.

The Seer (2012) First of three 21st century Swans albums to hit the two-hour mark, this critically-acclaimed release documents Michael Gira’s experimental noise rockers leaning into the mechanized proficiency of Harris’ percussion and additional orchestral bells, hammered dulcimer, vibraphone, piano, clarinet, and a handmade violin.



Charley Crockett

WELCOME TO HARD TIMES (SON OF DAVY)



PHOTO BY BOBBY COCHRAN / COURTESY OF BIG FEAT

"Welcome to hard times and feeling low," croons ol' Charley Crockett to start his album of the same greeting. Washtub bass, rain drop keys, and an old nag tempo nudge Austin's Gulf & Western soulman through another trademark vocal. The South Texan

sings like a summer wind rustling through the pecan and sycamore trees.

And yet, this ain't no cry-in-your-pandemic country moper. Despite the title track's Sin City roll ("life's a casino... the dice are loaded and everything's fixed"), *Welcome to Hard*

Times kicks the clear-eyed realism of its genre's classic timelessness rather than ticking off signposts of badlands futurism. These 13 hot August tracks finally count as a proper follow-up to 2018 lock, stock, and barrel breakout *Lonesome as a Shadow*.

"Clipping his consonants and flaaattening his vowels, South Texas scarecrow Charley Crockett's constant tickle of the ear gives *Lonesome as a Shadow* a thrilling weightlessness," opined the *Chronicle*. That same year, Luke the Drifter-like covers LP *Lil G.L.'s Blue Bonanza* encored: "I think there's an over-emphasis on original material," Crockett told Doug Freeman in a 2018 cover story. For 2019's *The Valley*, we wrote: "A week before open-heart surgery, 35-year-old Texas troubadour Charley Crockett entered the studio to record a sketching of his hardscrabble life story." Viral offload *Field Recordings, Vol. 1* this spring "offers another side to the ever-soulful troubadour, road-worn tunes as Dust Bowl as they are honky-tonk."

Alongside *Lonesome as a Shadow*, here comes *Welcome to Hard Times* wafting in on a faraway voice about a moment, a feeling, a life – yours, mine, ours – that exists in the ample spaces between singing and musical accompaniment.

A spaghetti Western snap to "Run Horse Run" chugs down the tracks on steel guitar and organ astride the bandleader's vocal giddy-up. His fainting ballads – "Don't Cry" and "Heads You Win" – pull like the moon. Even at a trot ("Fool Somebody Else"), a

deep déjà vu coats all. Simple, analog, and balmy, it's a blooming sound, stripped but subtly ripped.

Holler music, as in mountainsides the originators hailed from ("Lily My Dear"), commingles with infinite song catchphrases ("Raining in My Heart"). Case in point: easy breezy closer "The Poplar Tree." *Welcome to Hard Times* soothes.

"I'm leaning heavily on that tragic Sixties George Jones material," wrote Crockett while checking in with us last week. "Possum sure knew how to make you feel good about feeling bad for yourself. [I'm also listening to] short-haired Willie Nelson all day, Ray Charles all night. Loretta Lynn always. Lightnin' Hopkins seemed to sing exclusively about the apocalypse!"

– Raoul Hernandez



...AND YOU WILL KNOW US BY THE TRAIL OF DEAD LIVESTREAM TRIPTYCH

www.trailofdead.com/livestream,
Friday 31 (+ August 7, August 14)

A 2020 tour for Trail of Dead's 10th studio album, January's *X: The Godless Void and Other Stories*, to coincide with the Austinites' silver anniversary (25) was canceled because of COVID-19 and now prompts a trio of livestream performances. This Friday's comes with exclusive merchandise and 20% of sales going to venues the group was scheduled to play, while the third broadcast (Aug. 14) offers 20% of revenue going to the Coalition of Independent Music Stores. Anticipate material from *Godless Void*, which incorporates the drill-bit aggression of 1999 debut *Madonna* and floating epics of *Source Tags and Codes* (2002). Fitting to the world as we now know it, the new album detonates crackling distortion fit for end times.

– Alejandra Ramirez

TEXAS LOTTERY PRESENTS SHAKEY GRAVES

linktr.ee/streamshakeygraves, Sunday 2

Shakey Graves kept busy the past few months, outfitting his new studio Hello Gorgeous, holding charity auctions of old equipment (including one of his original suitcase kickdrums), and lighting up livestreams like Willie's Picnic. He also dropped his mellow, psych-tripped new EP *Look Alive*. Teaming up with local promoter Margin Walker and the Texas Lottery, the ATX native haunts the Enchanted Springs Ranch ghost town in Boerne for a unique performance. The stream is free, while VIP upgrades offer bonus footage.

– Doug Freeman

BLACK EVERYTHANG MATTERS

www.dawaheals.org, Thursday 6

In collaboration with local promoters Heard Presents, Riders Against the Storm co-leader Chaka livestreams Black Everythang Matters at Empire Control Room & Garage to benefit his DAWA Fund. All proceeds go toward the nonprofit, which provides grants to local people of color experiencing financial difficulties. The stacked lineup includes party-rap duo 5D (Cap N Kirk and RuDi Devino), rapper/singer Cha'keeta B, indie rock upstart Clarence James, acclaimed DJ Kay Cali, vocalist Eimara Sol, rapper J Soujja, and Mama Duke, who recently dropped visuals for her latest single "Mad."

– Kahron Spearman

PLEASURE VENOM LIVE SESSION

youtu.be/0DFCurtCCVI

Shows on hold, Pleasure Venom delivers turbulent, tightly wound punk in a new live session. Filmed in manager Lars Wolfshield's backyard, the clip packs quick-witted guitar climbs and double exposure under the blaring Texas sun. Two new songs debut off an in-the-works LP bow, as well as a refreshed lineup. Guitarist Chase Dungan and bassist Joel Coronado join the core duo of vocalist Audrey Campbell and drummer Thomas Valles. The frontwoman recently told *Alternative Press* she felt overwhelmed when former members moved on after last year's UK tour: "[I] almost took a hiatus, but I got dope advice from Shirley Manson: 'The musicians who succeed at this never quit, ever.' That resonated with me and kept me moving forward."

– Rachel Rascoe

WHITE DENIM: WORLD AS A WAITING ROOM

www.whitedenimmusic.com

White Denim lives in the studio, but COVID-19 raised the stakes. The band's ninth LP began as a quarantine challenge: to write, record, and ship a full-length album in 30 days. As such, *World as a Waiting Room* captures a specific moment in the coronavirus news cycle, bottling the stir-crazed anxiety of the initial lockdown ("Go Numb") before George Floyd's murder cracked open our collective psyche. Opening standout "I Don't Understand Rock & Roll" beckons for the stage even as it grapples with the music industry's new reality, while "Slow Death" and "Matter of Matter" can slide into any of the band's trademark medleys. Over a revamped Bo Diddley beat, "Eagle Wings" imagines a stay-at-home order gone awry. "Our American dreams are a pyramid scheme," offers singer-guitarist James Petrali. "We think we're essential, but we don't mean a thing." As the relentless, kaleidoscopic drive of "Work" makes clear, White Denim's situated for these times, and *World as a Waiting Room* far exceeds its circumstances.

– Austin Powell

TEXAS GENTLEMEN FLOOR IT!!!

Bandcamp

The North Texas session superstars tumble into their second album, *Floor It!!!*, courtesy of New West Records, unloading a characteristic blunderbuss of wozy playfulness, funky grooves, and epic, Seventies-style ballads. Call it country prog, as Daniel Creamer's punched piano and Nik Lee's guitar push the quintet even more toward the Band's adventurousness cut with a Leon Russell mania. The Gentlemen never take themselves too seriously, but their indisputably tight talent allows for endlessly provocative turns and a stylistic cavalcade. Bonus points for the LP gatefold unfolding into a dice-tossing, drink-doused board (bored?) game.

– Doug Freeman

TVLORMVDE Spotify

Tyler Tillotson adorns so many designer materials he's seemingly turned into an amphibian with gills. Or at least that's what he says. The experimental Austin MC follows up his March collaborative project with producer Romeo Sanchez by dropping a two-song pack. *Things Are Changing*, *Fast* leaves off the Travis Scott-indebted sounds sometimes heard previously. Apt nickname for Tillotson, "Margiela Baby" features booming bass with an uncharacteristically aggressive flow and a sprinkle of South Floridian flavor. "Blue (Change)" flows closer to Tvlorvde's natural habitat as he employs Auto-Tune to invite a woman to his side of life, a dark realm where he's seen "light beams since he was 2."

– Derek Udensi

CAM THE TSTMKR PRESENTS "THE INTRO"

Apple Music, Spotify

As Cam the Tstmkr, Cameron Turney aims for global domination by fusing creatives together in an intersectional web of mutual benefits from Austin's city limits outward. Produced by Kevin Graham, "The Intro" is part manifesto and part song, but all aspiration, featuring rapper Mogli the Iceberg. "I'm taking a DJ Khaled role, but also an entrepreneurial one like how Uber doesn't own cars and Airbnb doesn't own homes," explains Turney. "I want to start a music ecosystem that doesn't own artists."

– Kahron Spearman

ANNABELLE CHAIRLEGS' SPACE-AGE "OUTSIDE" VIDEO

youtu.be/XAo6aUSI3Hw

Apt for quarantine, Annabelle Chairlegs' newest song deals with the dreariness of distancing and isolation. "If you're gonna go outside, should I warn you?" opens bandleader Lindsey Mackin in a Creamsicle-colored video for "Outside," matching a pleasantly lulling wash of reverb and languid vocals. As a pantsuited space cadet, the singer ventures through surreal landscapes under local artist Vanessa Pla's direction. Riding the local quartet's trademark blend of bluesy psychedelia, the laid-back track previews a long-awaited follow-up to 2015 debut *Watermelon Summer*. Hazy second LP *Gotta Be in Love* lands on vinyl Sept. 1, captured at Cacophony Recorders.

– Rachel Rascoe

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LIVE STREAMING

THURSDAY 7/30

Eve Monsees & Mike Buck
7pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

Graham Wilkinson 7pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

**I Always Cry on Thursdays
w/ Jean Caffeine** 7pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

KOOP presents Nevil 7pm
INSTAGRAM

**Monks Jazz presents
Collin Shook Trio feat.
Aubrey Logan** 7:30pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

Curtis McMurtry 8pm
INSTAGRAM

Patrice Pike 8pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

The Harms Hang w/ guests
10pm *INSTAGRAM*

FRIDAY 7/31

**More Love Music Lunch Hour
w/ Joanna Howerton &
Michael Cross** 12:30pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

Kevin McKinney 6:30pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

**A Gathering w/ Adrian
Conner** 7pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**Feel Good Hour w/ Monte
Warden** 7pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**...And You Will Know Us
by the Trail of Dead** 8pm
STREAM ON MERCH TENT

AJ Vallejo 8pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**The Lost Well's Rock for
Rent w/ Monte Luna** 8pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

Party Wolfe 9pm *TWITCH*

**Anne's Freaky 15 w/ Anne
Heller & MC Terroristic**
10:30pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

SATURDAY 8/1

**Kris Schultz Live From the
Corner (Of Her Apartment)**
1pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**Parkapalooza w/ Mr. Will,
Jonathan Terrell, Peterson
Brothers, DJ Jason Stella**
5:30pm *FACEBOOK, TWITCH*

**DJ Mel's Living Room Dance
Party** 6pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**HITW Happy Hour at Home w/
Heather Bishop & Danny G**
6pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**Free Parking w/ Mandy
Prater** 9pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

Kevin Russell 9pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

DJ Chorizo Funk 10pm
INSTAGRAM

**Synthy & Chatty w/ Todd V.
Wolfson** 10pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

SUNDAY 8/2

Corey Baum 11am
FACEBOOK LIVE



... And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead (see Friday)

DAVID BRENDAN HALL

Shelley King's Soul-O Sundays
2pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**First Sunday Songwriters
w/ Claudia Gibson** 3pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

Jenny Reynolds Rap Sessions
5pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

Úlla 5:30pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

Chris Gebhard Sunday Songs
6pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**Texas Lottery presents
Shakey Graves** 7pm
STREAM ONLINE

**The Lost Well's Rock for
Rent w/ Communion** 7pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

MONDAY 8/3

Bonnie Whitmore 3pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

Stephen Carolan 5pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

Bob Appel 7pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

Jeff Plankenhorn 7pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

**Blue Monday w/ Oscar
Ornelas** 8pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**Cari Hutson & Hunter St.
Marie** 8pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**No Lights No Lycra dance
party in the dark w/ DJ
Brian Blackout** 8pm *TWITCH*

**Not at Donn's Depot w/ Chris
Gage** 8pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**Line of Fire: Live From
Living Room** 8:30pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

TUESDAY 8/4

Mario Matteoli & Family
5pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**Brazilian Jazz Happy Hour
w/ Paula Maya** 5:30pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

At 7 w/ Frederico7 & guests
7pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

Eric Bettencourt 7pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

**Good Time Supper Club w/
Band of Heathens** 7:30pm
*FACEBOOK LIVE, YOUTUBE,
TWITCH, PERISCOPE*

WEDNESDAY 8/5

Hanna Barakat 5pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

Pat Byrne 5pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

Micah Motenko 6pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

**Matt Hubbard's "Grandpa's
Piano" Livestream** 7pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

**Carolyn Wonderland w/ A.
Whitney Brown's Little Big
Picture** 8pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

Mobley 8pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

**Flamingo Cantina presents
Mau Mau Chaplains**
8:30pm *FACEBOOK LIVE*

Sonya Jevette 8:30pm
YOUTUBE

THURSDAY 8/6

**RAS & Heard presents Black
Everythang Matters w/
5D, Cha'keeta B, Clarence
James, DJ Kay Cali, Eimaral
Sol, J Soulja, Mama Duke**
7pm *FACEBOOK LIVE,
YOUTUBE*

**First Thursdays Bossa
Nova w/ Paula Maya** 9pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

ONGOING

Lex Land Fridays, 10:30am
and Mondays, 5pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

Karen Mal & Will Taylor
Tuesdays, 7:30pm
and Wednesdays, 1pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

Miles Zuniga Tuesdays,
7pm and Fridays, 9pm
FACEBOOK LIVE

**Isolation Congregation
w/ Dave Madden**
Wednesdays, 7pm
and Sundays, 10:30am
FACEBOOK LIVE

LOOKING FOR MORE?

Check out the full list at
[austinchronicle.com/
events/music](http://austinchronicle.com/events/music).

LIVE MUSIC

B E S A F E O U T T H E R E , Y ' A L L

THURSDAY 7/30

The Far Out Jacob Alan
Jaeger (9:00)

Lone Star Court Drew
Moreland (7:00)

FRIDAY 7/31

The Far Out Candler
Wilkinson (9:00)

Geraldine's Rochelle & the
Sidewinders (9:30)

Lone Star Court Chris Crow
(7:00)

SATURDAY 8/1

Emerald Point Bar & Grill
Rochelle & the Sidewinders
(9:00)

The Far Out Executive Steel
Band (9:00)

SUNDAY 8/2

The Far Out Jazz brunch w/
the Watters (1:00)

THURSDAY 8/6

Lone Star Court Todd
Deatherage (7:00)

[austinchronicle.com/
events/music](http://austinchronicle.com/events/music) for more.

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AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/EVENTS

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THE Luv Doc



"STURGEON MOON"

Dear Luv Doc,

I think my husband might be a werewolf. Now hold on, just hear me out. In the last four months he has been growing hair in strange new places – like the bottom of his neck. He also stays up really late after everyone has gone to sleep. I woke up one night and found him growling and cursing angrily at his computer screen in the den. He said he was playing Fortnite? Fournight? Forthnight? Is that some sort of werewolf thing? It was spooky seeing his hulking, raging, hairy necked silhouette in the dark. He has also begun to smell extra gamey. I think it's because he only wants to eat meat – the more processed the better. He really likes to snap into a SlimJim! I know a lot of people are concerned about this coronavirus thing, but I am much more concerned about me and my children's safety when the next full moon comes around. – Normally a Dog Lover

That sounds like a dangerous situation. Even if your husband isn't actually a werewolf, anyone who lets lower neck hair grow unchecked is seriously unhinged. People often talk about stained sweatpants, Crocs and socks, and coffee-stained teeth as being reliable signs of someone who has given up on life, but I would posit that rampant, untamed lower neck hair is a sure sign of someone who has already mentally shuffled off their mortal coil. It's the personal grooming equivalent of buying a crotch rocket. It just screams IDGAF – only without the abbrev.

So yeah, sketchy situation there already – and one you should monitor closely. The next full moon is on August 3, so you only have a few days to get your shit together. It's a Sturgeon Moon – named after a nearly extinct greenish-gray fish with a pointed snout that inhabits lakes in the northern U.S. and Canada. While in short supply, sturgeons are exceptionally long-lived. The female of the species can have a lifespan of up to 150 years. They're kind of the vampires of the freshwater aquatic world. Maybe that's a good sign, but I wouldn't rest too easy with a nocturnal, lower-neck-haired beast living in your midst.

In fact, if you plan on getting any sleep at all you might want to do it on a lofty nest of wolf's bane, also known as aconite, monkshood, leopard's bane, mousebane, women's bane, devil's helmet, queen of poisons, or blue rocket. Ask for it by name! Actually, you might want to avoid asking for the devil's helmet or the blue rocket because a lot of garden store employees are in the viagra demographic and might be confused by your request. Just call it by its Latin name: *Aconitum*. Truth be told, I don't really know how much wolf's bane you can reasonably expect to acquire before the Sturgeon Moon and besides, running all over town trying to stock up on wolf's bane might make for a really manic Monday.

Fortunately for you, I slid down a few subreddit wormholes and came up with what I think might be a workable solution for your situation: a Super Soaker filled with holy water. Easy peasy lemon squeezy! All you need to do is take a few empty water bottles to your local Catholic church and fill them up with holy water from the baptismal font, which is usually located near the entrance to the sanctuary – and BT dubs, the baptismal font is placed there purposefully because it is symbolic of the way that Christians enter the faith – through baptism. The Gospel (aka Good News) about holy water is that everything it touches becomes holy, so theoretically at least, you will be getting a lifetime's supply of holy water! That should be more than enough to fill up an arsenal of Super Soakers – enough to keep your local werewolf at bay for an eternity ... well ... as long as you don't fall asleep, but you GOT THIS. If you needed sleep you wouldn't have had kids in the first place, would you?

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



Mr. Smarty Pants Knows

A rongeur is heavy-duty surgical instrument used for cutting out bone. Rongeur is also a French word meaning rodent or "gnawer."

The Andean condor can glide for as long as five hours and for more than 100 miles without flapping its wings.

On April 25, 1954, Bell Laboratories publicly presented its first panel of solar cells, using them to turn a 21-inch Ferris wheel made from an Erector Set.

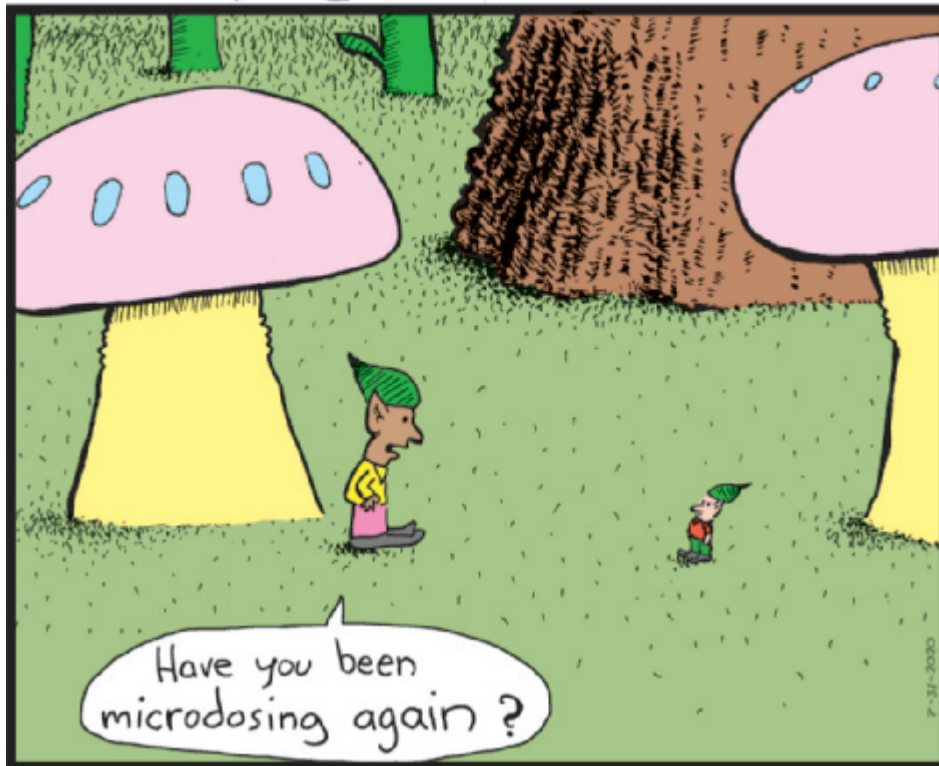
Madam C.J. Walker was the first female self-made millionaire in America, as recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records. She developed and marketed a line of cosmetics and hair care products for Black women.

George Washington traveled to his first inauguration by crossing a bridge covered with flower petals strewn by young maidens. He was 57 years old.

Above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the *Chronicle*, or email mrpants@austinchronicle.com.

COMICS

EYEBEAM by Sam Hure



PEPPERMINT TEARS

RYAN HENNESSEE 2020 WWW.RYANHENNESSEE.COM



the said company is **Khaled Suleiman Abdelqader, President / secretary**

APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE WITH THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION FOR A WINE AND BEER RETAILER'S PERMIT BY WLS BEVERAGE COMPANY D/B/A WLS BEVERAGE COMPANY LOCATED AT 2552 GUADALUPE ST., AUSTIN, TRAVIS, TX 78705. OFFICERS OF SAID CORPORATION ARE JOHN K. BARRETT, PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR AND MARIA P SPADA, SECRETARY/DIRECTOR

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine Only Package Store Permit and Beer Retail Dealer's Off Premise License by MAK Golden, Inc. dba Manor Food Mart #1, 6700 Manor Road, Austin, Travis County, Texas. Imran P. Sunesara, Pres.; Akbar A. Momin, Sec.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine Only Package Store Permit and Beer Retail Dealer's Off Premise License by Jonestown Investments, Inc. dba Jonestown Texaco, 18638 FM 1431, Jonestown, Travis County, Texas. Asif M. Momin, Pres.; Amirali M. Prasla, Sec.

Application has been made with the Texas

Alcoholic Beverage Commission to move a mixed beverage (MB) and food beverage (FB) license by Taj Group Inc dba Bombay Bistro to 4200 South Lamar #300 Austin TX 78704. Travis County. The officers of Taj Group are Ashok Someshwar-President and Jyoti Someshwar-Vice President.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-19-005853 TO: KENNA DALE JACKSON, the Mother of the subject children, DESTENY ALEXANDRIA PARKER, MIA ANN PARKER, and NOAH ALAN PARKER and to all whom it may concern, Respondents; GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 419TH Judicial District, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the First Amended Petition in a Suit Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship-Termination Petition and/or Managing Conservatorship filed in said Court on the 20th day of December, 2019, and the Affidavit of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 28th day of August, 2019, against the Mother, KENNA DALE JACKSON, and said suit being number D-1-FM-19-005853, on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Interest of Desteny Alexandria Parker, Child," the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship and/or name the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or a suitable, competent adult recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, or an authorized agency recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, as Managing Conservator of the child, whose name, date and place of birth are as follows: Lesly Citaly Ramirez November 28, 2008 Place of Birth: Austin, Travis County, Texas Julian Bartolon Cruz-Delgado July 27, 2009 Place of Birth: Austin, Travis County, Texas The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the Child's interest, which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a managing conservator with the authority to consent to the Children's adoption.

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 53rd Judicial District, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the Original Petition in Suit Affecting the Parent-Child-Relationship-Termination Petition And/or Managing Conservatorship filed in said Court on the 12th day of September, 2019, against the Alleged Father, FREDDY RAMIREZ, and said suit being number D-1-FM-19-006187, on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Interest of Lesly Citaly Ramirez, Julian Bartolon Cruz-Delgado, Luis Rivas-Delgado and Sebastian Rivas-Delgado, Children," the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship and/or name the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or a suitable, competent adult recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, or an authorized agency recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, as Managing Conservator of the child, whose name, date and place of birth are as follows: Lesly Citaly Ramirez November 28, 2008 Place of Birth: Austin, Travis County, Texas Julian Bartolon Cruz-Delgado July 27, 2009 Place of Birth: Austin, Travis County, Texas The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the Child's interest, which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a managing conservator with the authority to consent to the Children's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Austin, Texas, this 24th day of July, 2020. VELVA L. PRICE Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003

Austin, Texas 78767 PREPARED BY: Ashley Brown REQUESTED BY: Julie Bohrer ASSISTANT DISTRICT AT-TORNEY P.O. BOX 1748 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9447 State Bar No. 24058468 FOR TRAVIS COUNTY CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES ATTN: Melissa Sedillo (512) 854-1876

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-19-006187 TO: FREDDY RAMIREZ, the Alleged Father of the subject children, Lesly Citaly Ramirez and Julian Bartolon Cruz-Delgado, and to all whom it may concern, Respondents; GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 53rd Judicial District, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the Original Petition in Suit Affecting the Parent-Child-Relationship-Termination Petition And/or Managing Conservatorship filed in said Court on the 12th day of September, 2019, against the Alleged Father, FREDDY RAMIREZ, and said suit being number D-1-FM-19-006187, on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Interest of Lesly Citaly Ramirez, Julian Bartolon Cruz-Delgado, Luis Rivas-Delgado and Sebastian Rivas-Delgado, Children," the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship and/or name the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or a suitable, competent adult recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, or an authorized agency recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, as Managing Conservator of the child, whose name, date and place of birth are as follows: Julian Bartolon Cruz-Delgado July 27, 2009 Place of Birth: Austin, Travis County, Texas The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the Child's interest, which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a managing conservator with the authority to consent to the Children's adoption.

Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003

Austin, Texas 78767 PREPARED BY: Ashley Brown REQUESTED BY: Bridget O'Shaughnessy ASSISTANT DISTRICT AT-TORNEY P.O. BOX 1748 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9447 State Bar No. 24090953 FOR TRAVIS COUNTY CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES ATTN: Amanda Rendon (512) 854-3626

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-19-006187 TO: JOEL VALERA A/K/A JOEL BALDERA, the Alleged Father of the subject child, Julian Bartolon Cruz-Delgado, and to all whom it may concern, Respondents; GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 53rd Judicial District, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the Original Petition in Suit Affecting the Parent-Child-Relationship-Termination Petition And/or Managing Conservatorship filed in said Court on the 12th day of September, 2019, against the Alleged Father, JOEL VALERA A/K/A JOEL BALDERA, and said suit being number D-1-FM-19-006187, on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Interest of Lesly Citaly Ramirez, Julian Bartolon Cruz-Delgado, Luis Rivas-Delgado, Leticia Marie Rivas-Delgado and Sebastian Rivas-Delgado, Children," the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship and/or name the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or a suitable, competent adult recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, or an authorized agency recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, as Managing Conservator of the child, whose name, date and place of birth are as follows: Julian Bartolon Cruz-Delgado July 27, 2009 Place of Birth: Austin, Travis County, Texas The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the Child's interest, which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a managing conservator with the authority to consent to the Children's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Austin, Texas, this 23rd day of July, 2020. VELVA L. PRICE Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003

Austin, Texas 78767 PREPARED BY: Ashley Brown REQUESTED BY: Bridget O'Shaughnessy ASSISTANT DISTRICT AT-

TORNEY P.O. BOX 1748 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9447 State Bar No. 24090953 FOR TRAVIS COUNTY CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES ATTN: Amanda Rendon (512) 854-3626

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-19-006187 TO: LUIS RIVAS LARA, the Adjudicated Father of the subject children, Luis Rivas-Delgado and Sebastian Rivas-Delgado, and to all whom it may concern, Respondents; GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 53rd Judicial District, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the Original Petition in Suit Affecting the Parent-Child-Relationship-Termination Petition And/or Managing Conservatorship filed in said Court on the 12th day of September, 2019, and the Affidavit of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 12th day of September, 2019, against the Alleged Father, JOEL VALERA A/K/A JOEL BALDERA, and said suit being number D-1-FM-19-006187, on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Interest of Lesly Citaly Ramirez, Julian Bartolon Cruz-Delgado, Luis Rivas-Delgado, Leticia Marie Rivas-Delgado and Sebastian Rivas-Delgado, Children," the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship and/or name the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or a suitable, competent adult recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, or an authorized agency recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, as Managing Conservator of the child, whose name, date and place of birth are as follows: Luis Rivas-Delgado August 4, 2010 Place of Birth: Austin, Travis County, Texas Leticia Marie Rivas-Delgado October 12, 2011 Place of Birth: Unknown Sebastian Rivas Delgado March 15, 2013 Place of Birth: Unknown The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the Child's interest, which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a managing conservator with the authority to consent to the Children's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Austin, Texas, this 23rd day of July, 2020. VELVA L. PRICE Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 Austin, Texas 78767 PREPARED BY: Ashley Brown REQUESTED BY: Bridget O'Shaughnessy ASSISTANT DISTRICT AT-TORNEY P.O. BOX 1748

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9447 State Bar No. 24090953 FOR TRAVIS COUNTY CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES ATTN: Amanda Rendon (512) 854-3626

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-20-003259 TO: VIOLETA ARACELI MARADIAGA and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 200TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE, TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER filed in said court on JUNE 17, 2020, and said suit being number D-1-FM-20-003259 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF CARLOS MARADIAGA and VIOLETA ARACELI MARADIAGA". The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties, appoint managing and possessory conservators, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property which will be binding on you. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, July 21, 2020. VELVA L. PRICE Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 Austin, Texas 78767 REQUESTED BY: LAUREN JAY CARRINGTON SMYTH 405 S PRESA SAN ANTONIO, TX 78205 BUSINESS PHONE: (210) 227-5311 FAX: (210) 714-0165 PREPARED BY: JESSICA CORTEZ

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF DANIEL RAY HUNSICKER, DECEASED, Cause No. 20-0602-CP4, in County Court at Law #4 of Williamson County, 405 Martin Luther King Street, Georgetown, Texas 78626. **AARICA FITCH,** Applicant in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 13th day of July, 2020 an **APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP** of the said estate and requests that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said **DANIEL RAY HUNSICKER, DECEASED,** and their respective shares and interests in such estate. Said application may be heard at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on or after the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from the date of publication of this citation, at the Williamson County

Justice Center in Georgetown, Williamson County, Texas. All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court on or before 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 the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. Issued and given under my hand and seal of office at Georgetown, Texas, this the 26th day of June, 2020. Applicant's Attorney: Brent Edward Webster 500 E. St. Johns Ave., Suite 2.620 Austin, TX 78750 Nancy E. Rister Williamson County Clerk 405 MLK Street, Box 14 Georgetown, Texas 78626 By: **/s/Emily Todd, Deputy**

CITATION BY PUBLICATION The State of Texas

To unknown heirs of BETTY ESTER WHEELER AKA ESTER ELIZABETH WHEELER, Deceased Cause No. C-1-PB-18-002331, in Probate Court Number 1, Travis County, Texas. KARL A. SHACKELFORD filed an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP FOLLOWING THE APPOINTMENT OF A DEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR in the above-numbered and -entitled estate on **June 15, 2020,** requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **BETTY ESTER WHEELER AKA ESTER ELIZABETH WHEELER, Deceased,** and their respective shares and interests in such estate. All unknown heirs and any other persons interested in this estate are cited to appear before this Court by filing a written contest or answer to this application if they want to do so. The Court may act on this application at any time at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe St., Room 217, Austin, Texas 78701, on or after 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of ten days from the publication date of this citation. Therefore, to ensure consideration, any contest, answer, or other response must be filed with the Travis County Clerk in cause number **C-1-PB-20-001300, styled BETTY ESTER WHEELER AKA ESTER ELIZABETH WHEELER, Deceased,** on or before the above-noted date and time. If this citation is not served within 90 days after it is issued, it must be returned unserved. Given under my hand and seal on **June 17, 2020,** Dana DeBeauvoir County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 149325, Austin, Texas 78714-9325 By Deputy: **/s/ G DALESSIO**

CITATION BY PUBLICATION The State of Texas To unknown heirs of **LOLEE EDMAN DANIELL, Deceased Cause No. C-1-PB-20-001410, in Probate Court Number 1, Travis County, Texas. PAULA HERNANDEZ, PUAL H. RIOS AND STEPHEN REVUELTA filed an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP AND FOR LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION** in the above-numbered and -entitled estate on **July 08, 2020,** requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **DONALD RAY MOORE, Deceased,** and their respective shares and interests in such estate. All unknown heirs and any other persons interested in this estate are cited to appear before this Court by filing a written contest or answer to this application if they want to do so. The Court may act on this application at any time at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe St., Room 217, Austin, Texas 78701, on or after 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of ten days from the publication date of this citation. Therefore, to ensure consideration, any contest, answer, or other response must be filed with the Travis County Clerk in cause number **C-1-PB-20-001300, styled BETTY ESTER WHEELER AKA ESTER ELIZABETH WHEELER, Deceased,** on or before the above-noted date and time. If this citation is not served within 90 days after it is issued, it must be returned unserved. Given under my hand and seal on **June 17, 2020,** Dana DeBeauvoir County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 149325, Austin, Texas 78714-9325 By Deputy: **/s/ G DALESSIO**

CITATION BY PUBLICATION The State of Texas

To unknown heirs of DONALD RAY MOORE, Deceased Cause No. C-1-PB-19-002216, in Probate Court Number 1, Travis County, Texas. HELEN ANNE ROSS filed an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP AND FOR LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION in the above-numbered and -entitled estate on **July 08, 2020,** requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **DONALD RAY MOORE, Deceased,** and their respective shares and interests in such estate. All unknown heirs and any other persons interested in this estate are cited to appear before this Court by filing a written contest or answer to this application if they want to do so. The Court may act on this application at any time at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe St., Room 217, Austin, Texas 78701, on or after 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of ten days from the publication date of this citation. Therefore, to ensure consideration, any contest, answer, or other response must be filed with the Travis County Clerk in cause number **C-1-PB-20-001300, styled BETTY ESTER WHEELER AKA ESTER ELIZABETH WHEELER, Deceased,** on or before the above-noted date and time. If this citation is not served within 90 days after it is issued, it must be returned unserved. Given under my hand and seal on **July 09, 2020,** Dana DeBeauvoir County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 149325, Austin, Texas 78714-9325 By Deputy: **/s/ G DALESSIO**

this application if they want to do so. The Court may act on this application at any time at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe St., Room 217, Austin, Texas 78701, on or after 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of ten days from the publication date of this citation. Therefore, to ensure consideration, any contest, answer, or other response must be filed with the Travis County Clerk in cause number **C-1-PB-19-002216, styled IN THE ESTATE OF DONALD RAY MOORE, DECEASED,** on or before the above-noted date and time. If this citation is not served within 90 days after it is issued, it must be returned unserved. Given under my hand and seal on **July 09, 2020,** Dana DeBeauvoir County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 149325, Austin, Texas 78714-9325 By Deputy: **/s/ G DALESSIO**

CITATION BY PUBLICATION The State of Texas

To unknown heirs of LOLEE EDMAN DANIELL, Deceased Cause No. C-1-PB-20-001300, in Probate Court Number 1, Travis County, Texas. ROBERT WATSON DANIELL filed an Application for Determination of Heirship and for Letters of Administration in the above-numbered and -entitled estate on **July 08, 2020,** requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **LOLEE EDMAN DANIELL, Deceased,** and their respective shares and interests in such estate. All unknown heirs and any other persons interested in this estate are cited to appear before this Court by filing a written contest or answer to this application if they want to do so. The Court may act on this application at any time at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe St., Room 217, Austin, Texas 78701, on or after 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of ten days from the publication date of this citation. Therefore, to ensure consideration, any contest, answer, or other response must be filed with the Travis County Clerk in cause number **C-1-PB-20-001300, styled BETTY ESTER WHEELER AKA ESTER ELIZABETH WHEELER, Deceased,** on or before the above-noted date and time. If this citation is not served within 90 days after it is issued, it must be returned unserved. Given under my hand and seal on **July 09, 2020,** Dana DeBeauvoir County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 149325, Austin, Texas 78714-9325 By Deputy: **/s/ G DALESSIO**

CITATION BY PUBLICATION The State of Texas To unknown heirs of **LOLEE EDMAN DANIELL, Deceased Cause No. C-1-PB-20-001410, in Probate Court Number 1, Travis County, Texas. PAULA HERNANDEZ, PUAL H. RIOS AND STEPHEN REVUELTA filed an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP AND FOR LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION** in the above-numbered and -entitled estate on **July 22, 2020,** requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **REGINA RIOS, Deceased,** and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION The State of Texas

To unknown heirs of LOLEE EDMAN DANIELL, Deceased Cause No. C-1-PB-20-001410, in Probate Court Number 1, Travis County, Texas. PAULA HERNANDEZ, PUAL H. RIOS AND STEPHEN REVUELTA filed an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP AND FOR LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION in the above-numbered and -entitled estate on **July 22, 2020,** requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **REGINA RIOS, Deceased,** and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

CONTINUED ON P.52

NOT FADE AWAY

O B I T U A R I E S + M E M O R I A L S



LENORA VAUGHAN (1953-2018)

My mom, Lenora Vaughan, passed away two summers ago in her home located on a small fishing island in Mexico. She was the fourth generation of Lenoras in her family—a name she saw as old fashioned. To all who knew her she was simply Lenny because she was anything but old fashioned. Looking around her island home you get a feeling for what she loved. From the murals on the outside that mysteriously have a listing on Trip Advisor, to the relics she used to adorn the interior with: bright tie dye curtains from her friend Melissa, fabrics and statues from Japan decorating the side tables, and hundreds of vibrant beaded art pieces from the Huichol Native Indians. Carefully thought out murals of Maya healers and warriors, painted by her friend Johnny, brighten the living room, and in the hallway you're greeted by a mermaid, painted during Mom's last weeks by her friend Jan. Mom's final wishes were to come back to her home and spend her last days in her own bed without any clothes on. The night my mom decided to, as she put it, "break on through to the other side," there was a blood moon lunar eclipse, an astrological event she wouldn't have missed. When I was just two years old, Mom, Dad, and I went to China and lived in a teaching hospital, where Mom got a degree in acupuncture and Dad in therapeutic massage. "Lenny is the only healer I've seen who had sparks fly out of her hand," my god mother Robin says, "that woman was magic." And Mom didn't stop there: she became a Reiki Master and even an

ordained Minster. I learned to write "mommy" the same day I learned to draw my first Reiki symbol. She studied topics from gardening to astrology to the healing power of crystals. If she was your house guest, you could expect to wake up to her watering your garden and pruning your aloe. Mom believed in reincarnation, and in her next life wanted to be a watermelon or some parsley. And no, she wasn't joking. As that full moon burned Mom's favorite hue of red, the island also experienced a much more common occurrence—an Island-wide black out. Kai, my best friend and sister since age three joined me, and we lit candles. She fanned Mom down and cared for her as I got my first good nights sleep in months. It was like the sleepovers we had hundreds of times when we were little, but instead of waking up to Mom cooking bacon, I woke to Kai whispering in my ear "she's not in pain anymore." Mom loved quiet nights like these, except for the heat. She enjoyed moments of meditative silence to recover from the bustle of her daily life. She loved live music, dancing, making friends, and throwing dinner parties. In the 80's she was married to Austin blues musician Stevie Ray Vaughan. She spent her nights at shows, in crowds of people, touring, or simply in bed listening to him tune his guitar. She started taking me out dancing when I was just four, which I enjoyed every moment of, until I passed out in her arms. Even decades before, she had snuck her little sisters Zana & Katrina in to the La Cucaracha night club in East Austin to hear some live music, and she often recalled fondly, "I held their hands and ran them across the street as fast as possible. We weren't in the safest part of town, after all." I'll miss her sense of humor and her boisterous, infectious laugh. But when I'm sad or having a bad day, I can still hear her calming voice singing "Every little thing is gonna be all right." Lenny's life has been celebrated in both Austin and Mexico, but the celebration never really ends. I would like to thank Dr. Greta Shorey for her constant care during Lenny's final days at home. In Lenny's honor, make yourself a "fuckin' fruit licuado" (that's what she called a smoothie), or donate to one of the following charities: Health Alliance for Austin Musicians Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Not Fade Away is The Austin Chronicle's section for obituaries, memorials, and notices of death. For information on rates, rules and deadlines, please contact 512-302-2755.

LEGAL NOTICES CONTINUED FROM P.51

All unknown heirs and any other persons interested in this estate are cited to appear before this Court by filing a written contest or answer to this application if they want to do so.

The Court may act on this application at any time at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe St., Room 217, Austin, Texas 78701, on or after 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of

ten days from the publication date of this citation. Therefore, to ensure consideration, any contest, answer, or other response must be filed with the Travis County Clerk in cause number **C-1-PB-20-001410**,

styled IN THE ESTATE OF **REGINA RIOS, DECEASED** on or before the above-noted date and time. If this citation is not served within 90 days after it is issued, it must be returned unserved.

LEGAL NOTICES

Given under my hand and seal on July 23, 2020.
Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325,
Austin, Texas 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ **G DALESSIO**

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
The State of Texas
To unknown heirs of
TERESA CELESTE MARTINEZ, Deceased Cause No. C-1-PB-20-001232, in Probate Court Number 1, Travis County, Texas.
MARY HELEN MARTINEZ filed an Application for Determination of Heirship and for Independent Administration and Letters for Administration Without Bond Pursuant to Section 401.003 of the Texas Estates Code in in the above-numbered and -entitled estate on June 29, 2020, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **TERESA CELESTE MARTINEZ, Deceased**, and their respective shares and interests in such estate. All unknown heirs and any other persons interested in this estate are cited to appear before this Court by filing a written contest or answer to this application at any time at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe St., Room 217, Austin, Texas 78701, on or after 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of ten days from the publication date of this citation. Therefore, to ensure consideration, any contest, answer, or other response must be filed with the Travis County Clerk in cause number **C-1-PB-20-001232**, styled **TERESA CELESTE MARTINEZ** on or before the above-noted date and time. If this citation is not served within 90 days after it is issued, it must be returned unserved. Given under my hand and seal on June 29, 2020.
Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325,
Austin, Texas 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ **G DALESSIO**

FM 1636 Inc., Fatima Valimohammad, Pres., Jaffar H. Umer, Sec, Rahim K. Ali, VP & Rafiq K. Momin, Treas have applied for a Wine & Beer Retailer's Permit with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission d/b/a Beer Geek 2051 FM 1626 W. Ste. 120, Manchaca, Travis, TX

JUSTICE COURT CITATION BY PUBLICATION
Docket Number: J2-CV-19-002405

GEICO County Mutual Insurance Company vs. Alexander Loza Jaimes; David O. Jaimes, Jr. d/b/a D&J Body Shop & Mechanic THE STATE OF TEXAS to: ALEXANDER LOZA JAIMES; DAVID O. JAIMES, JR. D/B/A D&J BODY SHOP & MECHANIC, Defendant(s): You have been sued. You may employ an attorney to help you in defending against this lawsuit. But you are not required to employ an attorney. You or your attorney must file an answer with the court.

Your answer is due on or before the first day of the term of court which convenes after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date this citation was issued. Therefore, your due date is Saturday, August 29, 2020. Do not ignore this citation. If you do not file an answer by the due date, a default judgment may be taken against you. For further information, consult Part V of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, which is available online and also at the court listed on this citation. Nature of suit: Justice Court Petition
Filed on the 1st day of May, 2019. Issued and given under my hand on the 17th day of July, 2020.
JUDGE RANDALL SLAGLE
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE,
PRECINCT 2

Nickis Food LLC, Marco A. Munguia & Benito Martinez Romero, Members have applied for a Mixed Beverage Permit with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission d/b/a Tex-Mex Joe's, 7600 N. Lamar Blvd., Ste. F, Austin, Travis, TX

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES 2ND NOTICE
PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, WWW.TDLR.TX.GOV

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE: IF THE VEHICLE IS NOT CLAIMED 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE IS SENT GIVES THE VEHICLE STORAGE FACILITY THE RIGHT TO DISPOSE OF THE VEHICLE. ADDITIONALLY FAILURE TO CLAIM THE VEHICLE IS A WAIVER OF ALL RIGHT, TITLE, OR INTEREST IN THE VEHICLE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY. AND CONSENT TO SELL THE VEHICLE AT A PUBLIC SALE - GARAGE KEEPER: HARPER'S TOWING SERVICE, LLC. 201 RALPH ABLANEDO DR. AUSTIN TEXAS 78748 512-443-1000 00001944VSF
2017 MERCEDES BENZ, VIN# WDDUG8FB2HA295389, \$1531.20 due
1967 Ford F100, VIN# F10YNB55636, \$831.20 due
2014 Ford Explorer, VIN# 1FM5K8ARXEGV54379, \$759.55 due

NOTICE FOR PROPOSALS
Capital Area Rural Transportation System (CARTS) invites qualified General Contractors to submit proposals for the Construction of the CARTS's Elgin Station in Elgin, Texas. RFP and Construction Documents will be available on the CARTS Website beginning at 2:00 pm, Tuesday, July 21st, 2020. Go to : <http://ridecart.seeby.com/procurement.html> , select the **Elgin Station** link and follow the instructions. A non-mandatory pre-proposal meeting will be held Virtually at 11:00 am, July 28, 2020. Link to the event will be posted in the RFP.

The schedule is:
Tuesday, July 21 2:00 pm – RFP Documents available for download
Tuesday, July 28 11:00 am – Virtual pre-proposal conference
Tuesday, August 11 2:00 pm – Deadline for proposal questions
Friday, August 14 5:00 pm –

Responses to questions posted on website
Thursday, August 20 2:00 pm – Proposals due at CARTS
Proposals will be evaluated on cost, qualifications, experience, the quality, and content of the submittal.
David Marsh
General Manager
Capital Area Rural Transportation System

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES SECOND NOTICE

Pursuant of Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act (www.tdlr.texas.gov), the following vehicle will be sold at public auction unless charges are paid in full. **FIRST NOTICE:** 2003 Dodge Neon, Silver, VIN: 1B3ES26C63D112412, towed from US 79 and County Road 132, Hutto, TX 78634. Tow Fee \$120 plus notification fee, storage and other fees apply. Storage is calculated daily until vehicle is claimed. Garagekeeper: Eagle Towing & Recovery (0654654VSF), 610 W. Front Street, Hutto, TX 78634. Call 512-255-4441 for more details.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES SECOND NOTICE

Pursuant of Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act (www.tdlr.texas.gov), the following vehicle will be sold at public auction unless charges are paid in full. **SECOND NOTICE:** Briggs & Stratton GoKart, Red, VIN: T0720016030028049, towed from 1157 New Technology Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634. Tow Fee \$120 plus notification fee, storage and other fees apply. Storage is calculated daily until vehicle is claimed. Garagekeeper: Eagle Towing & Recovery (0654654VSF), 610 W. Front Street, Hutto, TX 78634. Call 512-255-4441 for more details.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES

PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE: IF THE VEHICLE IS NOT CLAIMED 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE IS SENT GIVES THIS VEHICLE STORAGE FACILITY THE RIGHT TO DISPOSE OF THE VEHICLE. ADDITIONALLY FAILURE TO CLAIM THE VEHICLE IS A WAIVER OF ALL RIGHT, TITLE, OR INTEREST IN THE VEHICLE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY AND CONSENT TO SELL THE VEHICLE AT A PUBLIC SALE – GARAGE KEEPER: AUS-TEX TOWING & RECOVERY, LLC 205 FARLEY DRIVE AUSTIN, TX 78753 512-836-7443 0650246VSV
WWW.TDLR.TEXAS.GOV – 233892 2016 VOLVO TRACTOR 4V4NC9EJ46GN941066 CALI & UTILITY REEFER TRAILER 1UYV52530GU597928 BOTH TOWED FROM 183A S/B AT 45 E/B IN AUSTIN 7/21/2020 \$19,486.86

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES

PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, [WWW.TDLR.TEXAS.GOV](http://www.tdlr.texas.gov) THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 30 DAYS
GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTHSIDE WRECKER, 0655976VSV, 1111 OLD BASTROP HWY, AUSTIN, TX, 78742, (512)441-7094.
2005 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN NO VIN NO PLATE

NOTICE OF ACTION
Travis County

BEFORE THE BOARD OF MESSAGE
IN RE: The license to practice Massage Therapy
Chun Yan Li, L.M.T.
13401 Legendary Drive, Apt. 7205

Austin, TX 78727
CASE NO.: 2015-14083
LICENSE NO.: MA 69647
The Department of Health has filed an Administrative Complaint against you, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting, John Bischof, Assistant General Counsel, Prosecution Services Unit, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C65, Tallahassee Florida 32399-3265, (850) 558-9846.

If no contact has been made by you concerning the above by August 21, 2020 the matter of the Administrative Complaint will be presented at an ensuing meeting of the Board of Massage in an informal proceeding. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending this notice not later than seven days prior to the proceeding at the address given on the notice. Telephone: (850) 245-4640, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (V), via Florida Relay Service.

NOTICE OF PHYSICIAN DEPARTURE

Effective July 1, 2020 Sukanya Burugu, MD will no longer be practicing medicine at WellMed at Cedar Park. For questions or copies of medical records call: 512-652-0050
WellMed at Cedar Park 1779 E. Whitestone Blvd., Building 2 Cedar Park, Texas 78613 512-652-0050

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

"In accordance with the provisions of State Law, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner and/or manager's lien of the goods herein after described and stored at the Life Storage location(s) 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 below stated location(s) to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of at a public auction to be held online at www.StorageTreasuries.com, which will end on August 27, 2020 at 10:00am.

Life Storage #276
2830 S. A.W. Grimes, Round Rock, TX 78664
512-310-0279
Cassandra Daniels - Hslsd Gds/Furn;
Natasha Jackson - Hslsd Gds/Furn;
Tanisha Gloude - Hslsd Gds/Furn;
Cassandra Daniels - Hslsd Gds/Furn, Kids Toys, Bassinet, Walker, etc;
Benjamin Petru - Hslsd Gds/Furn, Tools/Applnces;
Keith Fell - Hslsd Gds/Furn;
Alicia Davis - Hslsd Gds/Furn, Boxes;
Diana Kelly - Hslsd Gds/Furn, TV/Stero Equip, Tools/Applnces;
Jeff Bevins - Hslsd Gds/Furn;
James Sage - Hslsd Gds/Furn;
Jessica Marrufo - Hslsd Gds/Furn;
Luis Palacios - Power Equip, Lawn Mowers;
Larry Bullin - Hslsd Gds/Furn, TV/Stero Equip, Boxes;
Christina Earls - Hslsd Gds/Furn;
Amanda Vaughn - Hslsd Gds/Furn;
Cassandra Daniels - Hslsd Gds/Furn, Kids Toys, Bassinet, Walker, etc;
John Swyers - Hslsd Gds/Furn, Actcing Rcrds/Sales Sampls;
Life Storage #390

12835 Pond Springs Rd, Austin, TX 78729
512-250-5152

David Tyler-Hsld gds/Furn
Emily Thornton-Hsld gds/Furn
Glenda Gromany-Hsld gds/Furn
Randall Holahan-Hsld gds/
Furn; Tools/Applnes
Cocquin Vargas-Hsld gds/Furn
Collin Whites-Hsld gds/Furn
Devin Alonzo-Hsld gds/Furn;
TV/Stereo Equip
Daniel Edgar-Hsld gds/Furn
Emijah Barton-Hsld gds/Furn
Robert Kendrick-Hsld gds/Furn
Buck Allan-Sprng gds
Buck Allan-Hsld gds/Furn
Kyle Goodwin-Hsld gds/Furn
Mathew Gauding-Hsld gds/
Furn
Martha Campbell-Hsld gds/
Furn; Tools/Applnes
Life Storage #429
2715 Sam Bass Rd. Round
Rock, TX 78610
512-255-3724
Sharyn Richardson Hsld gds/
Furn, TV/Stereo Equip
Life Storage #430
2101 Double Creek Dr. Round
Rock, TX 78681
512-733-1203
Tony Brown Hsld gds/Furn, TV/
Stereo Equip, Tools Applnes,
Off Furn, Mach/Equip
Tony Brown Hsld gds/Furn,
Boxes, Clothes, Misc.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

"Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, Life Storage locations listed below will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Self-storage unit contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of at a public auction to be held online at www.storage-treasures.com which will end on Thursday 8/20/2020 at 10:00am
Life Storage #8030
1714 E Parmer Ln, Austin, TX 78754
(512)537-3412

Jonathan Bowers, Tim Patrick, Coe Moore, Peter Tyler, Lindsey Tomlinson, Gloria Harper, Brittnee Bennett, Kisha Simone Hearn, Jimmy Nguyen, Ericka Hunt

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE MORNINGSTAR STORAGE - LAKE TRAVIS IN AUSTIN TEXAS HEREBY PUBLISHES NOTICE, AS REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 59 OF THE TEXAS PROPERTY CODE, OF A PUBLIC SALE FOR THE PROPERTY LISTED BELOW TO SATISFY A LANDLORD'S LIEN. ALL SALES WILL BE CONDUCTED BY COMPETITIVE BID FOR CASH TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER AND WILL BE CONSIDERED FINAL. MORNINGSTAR STORAGE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY BIDS. THE SALE SHALL BE HELD AT www.storageauctions.com On August 13, 2020 @ 10am Units below:

#3025 Anna Villareal- clothing, mattress, cabinet
#4073 Frank Nataros- computer equipment, designer clothes, couch , king size mattress

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, of property to Satisfy a Landlord's lien. A public Auction to be held at My Attic Self Storage via www.SelfStorageAuction.com on August 12, 2020 at 12:00 pm. A cleanup deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold for cash to highest bidder. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of following tenants:
Isabel Duenas-Coreas: misc. items.
Pedro Herrera: misc. items.
Wednesday, August 12th, 2020 at 12:00 pm. My Attic Self

Storage @ 1602 W. Pecan St., Pflugerville, TX 78660.
www.SelfStorageAuction.com

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, **TJO 10 X 10 Management, Ltd** Managing properties listed below will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. The sale will begin on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility listed. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Deposit for removal and cleanup may be temporarily required. Seller reserves the right to reject any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property may be sold by the space. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of following tenants, with brief description of contents in each space.
Wednesday, August 12th, 2020
12:00 pm Manchaca Storage @ 9507 Menchaca Rd. Austin, TX 78748
www.SelfStorageAuction.com
Evelina Salazar: misc. items, Marcella Sapanza: misc. items, Parker Harville: misc. items

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Wednesday, August 12, 2020
12:00 pm ATX Self Storage @ 6901 N. I-35, Austin, TX 78752
www.SelfStorageAuction.com
Brad Percival: misc. items. Michael Keller: misc. items. Morgan Pabst: misc. items. Joshua Cherry: misc. items. Nina Lopez: misc. items. Gloria Kerr: misc. items.

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Wednesday, August 12, 2020
12:00 pm ATX Self Storage @ 6901 N. I-35, Austin, TX 78752
www.SelfStorageAuction.com
Tejas Vending: misc. items. Vito A Addabbo: misc. items. Lindsey V De Giorgio: misc. items.
Lydia Barba: misc. items. Justyn Brashears: misc. items. Rhea Benjamin: misc. items. Nash Kenya: misc. items. Abandon Unit: misc. items. Abandon Unit: misc. items.

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Wednesday, August 12th, 2020
12:00 pm Northgate Storage @ 8833 Research Blvd. Austin

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12:00 pm Northgate Storage @ 8833 Research Blvd. Austin

Wednesday, August 12th, 2020
12:00 pm Northgate Storage @ 8833 Research Blvd. Austin

TX 78758
www.SelfStorageAuction.com

Robert Carswell speaker, chair, clothes, carpet, stereo amplifier / Stephen Foster mattresses and box springs, couch, love seat / Vivian Williams misc. home goods, dog kennel, furniture dolly / Lekisha Walker chair suit cases, clothes

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash to satisfy a lien on August 12th 2020 at approx. 12:00 PM at www.storage-treasures.com.
CubeSmart 10707:
N IH35 Austin TX 78753:
Raudel Alonzo, Michel Chaveco Noa, William Moore, Alyssa Gottschalk, Elizabeth Walker, Yessenia Romero, Jessica Penaloza, Stephen Strand, Frisly Monterroso, **CubeSmart 3901 Shell Rd Georgetown TX 78628:** Nancy Ludeke, Kimberly Alvarez **CubeSmart 3706 N Main St Taylor TX 76574:** Sasha Walls **CubeSmart 13601 Dessau Rd Pflugerville TX 78660:** Eric Jaeger, Laron Lomax, Indalecio Flores-uribe **CubeSmart 2701 FM 1460 Georgetown TX 78626:** Robert Alfano **CubeSmart 251 N AW Grimes Blvd Round Rock TX 78665:** Ingrid Aguilar, John Fisher, Stephen Donchez, Zach Reeves **CubeSmart 14509 Owen Tech Blvd Austin TX 78728:** Virginia Sue Dimao, Vincent Dimao, John Hargrove **CubeSmart 2400 N Austin Ave Georgetown TX 78626:** Cynthia Teinert, Lily Teinert, Jeremy Vidaur, Jacob Kendig **CubeSmart 646 W Front St Hutto TX 78634:** Michael Cage, Dawn Schirmer, Elois Maxwell, Jeremiah Bonham, Michelle Pettus **CubeSmart 12407 US 290E Manor TX 78653:** Andrea Candozno, Hugo Alvarez

2001 BMW 740i (BTF-2003)
VIN: WBAGG83431DN87518, Raymond Rojas 2003 Chevrolet Impala (CCI-H157) VIN: 2G1W-F52E739330624 **CubeSmart 110 S FM 1660 Hutto TX 78634:** Bradley Mace

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart to satisfy a lien on 08/19/2020 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage-treasures.com:
610 E Stassney Ln, Austin, TX 78745: Edan Leonard; **10025 Menchaca Rd, Austin, TX 78748:** Jonathan M Cox Jr; **1905 E William Cannon Dr, Austin, TX 78744:** Ramon Hernandez, Andrew Haney, Rudy Cruz, Rudy Ronaldo Cruz Garcia, Brenda Flores Chavez, Brenda Flores, Chris Moreno, Ahmad Haywood; **6130 E Ben White Blvd, Austin, TX 78741:** Tomas Rivera, Arnold Beckley, Nathan Faust, Robert Lopez, Laura Roebuck, Rayshawn Kenahi Bonton, Jeffrey DeSean Murdoch, Dalia Beatriz Rodriguez Martinez; **2701 S Congress Ave, Austin, TX 78704:** Kevin Fox; **701 Philomena Dr, Kyle, TX 78640:** Melinda Perales, Sherard Sorrells, Chariton Saucedo, Alexandra Bustos; **21400 IH 35, Kyle, TX 78640:** Matthew Millard, Matthew Hunter Bell, Beatrice Montez, B. Montez, Chris Jones, Kenny Davis; **5141 Cromwell Dr, Kyle, TX 78640:** James A Rios, Shawn B Wilson

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Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart to satisfy a lien on 08/19/2020 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage-treasures.com:
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to satisfy Extra Space's lien, by selling personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:
13126 RR 620 North, Austin, 512.202.7955, August 21, 2020

at 10:00 A.M.
Sean Parnham
1 bedroom apt, furniture, mattress, couches, boxes.
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage-treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE

Please take notice US Storage Centers - Austin Stassney located at 201 W. Stassney Lane, Austin, TX 78745 intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.usstoragecenters.com/auctions on 8/11/2020 at 10:00am. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Julian Reyes; Frank Garcia; Kevin Kalkofen; Sheila Townsend; Ever Borjas; Eva Deleon Gonzales; Andrew Coy; Donna Willis. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE

Please take notice US Storage Centers - Austin Wasson located at 5405 Wasson Rd., Austin, TX 78745 intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.usstoragecenters.com/auctions on 8/11/2020 at 10:00am. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Itzel Morales; Rudy Portillo; Capricia Prikyri; Andrea A Aramayo. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH MESSENGER, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Elizabeth Messenger, Deceased, were issued on July 23, 2020, in Cause No. C-1-PB-20-001122, pending in the Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to Darlene Vazquez. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows: Darlene Vazquez, Independent Executor Estate of Elizabeth Messenger, Deceased
c/o Pamela Hailey-Petty, Attorney for Independent Executor 13740 Research Blvd., Suite N1 Austin, Texas 78750
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: July 31, 2020.
Hailey-Petty Law Firm, PLLC
Pamela Hailey-Petty, Attorney

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF COLLIN VANCE GILL, DECEASED:

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Dependent Administration for the Estate of COLLIN VANCE GILL, Deceased, were issued on July 6, 2020 in Cause No.

C-1-PB-20-000653 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Warren Sloan Gill. The residence of such Dependent Administrator is Travis County, Texas. The office address is: Warren Sloan Gill, Dependent Administrator c/o Amy P. Bloomquist, Esq., Attorney at Law, 614 Capital of Texas Hwy. South, Austin, Texas 78746. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 27th day of July, 2020.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH A. DAVIS, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Elizabeth A. Davis, Deceased, were issued on the 9th day of July, 2020 and Thad W. Davis qualified as Independent Executor on July 21, 2020, in Cause No. C-1-PB-20-000654, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to:

The mailing address for the Independent Executor is: Thad W. Davis, Independent Executor

Estate of Elizabeth A. Davis, Deceased

Attention: Brooke Hardie c/o HARDIE LAW, PLLC 1100 West Avenue Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 31st day of July, 2020.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JANE ALEXANDRA STORTER KLINE, DECEASED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that original Letters Testamentary in the Estate of JANE ALEX-ANDRA STORTER KLINE, Deceased, were issued on July 7, 2020, in Cause No. C-1-PB-20-001025, pending in Probate CourtNo. One (1) of Travis County, Texas, to RYAN ALAN ROGERS. Claims may be presented in care of the attorneys for the Estate addressed as follows: Estate of JANE ALEXANDRA STORTER KLINE, Deceased, c/o VACEK KIECKE & COLMENERO, LLP, PC, Box 1845, Austin, Texas 78767. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JEFF CRAIG KLOSTER a/k/a JEFFREY CRAIG KLOSTER, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that Cause No. C-1-PB-20-001037, styled Estate of Jeff Craig Kloster a/k/a Jeffrey Craig Kloster a/k/a Jeff Kloster, deceased, pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, Letters Testamentary were granted by said Court on July 7, 2020, to Stacey Joe Simmons, and she qualified as Independent Executor on July 7, 2020. Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representative of the estate in care of her attorneys at the following address: COWAN & ASSOCIATES, PLLC 1403 West 6th Street Austin, TX 78703
All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 22nd day of July, 2020.

COWAN & ASSOCIATES, PLLC 1403 West 6th Street Austin, Texas 78703
Tel.: (512) 476-8591
Fax: (512) 697-2829
By: /s/ Claiborne L. Cowan State Bar No.: 00793558
Attorneys For Independent Executor

COWAN & ASSOCIATES, PLLC 1403 West 6th Street Austin, Texas 78703
Tel.: (512) 476-8591
Fax: (512) 697-2829
By: /s/ Claiborne L. Cowan State Bar No.: 00793558
Attorneys For Independent Executor

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARY McCLENDON FLETCHER

On July 23, 2020, letters testamentary as Independent Executor for the Estate were issued to Marvin H. Fletcher, Jr. by the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, in Cause Number C-1-PB-20-001195 pending upon the Probate Docket of said Court. All persons having claims against the Estate, which is currently being administered, should present those claims within the time prescribed by law to: William D. Pargaman Attorney for Marvin H. Fletcher, Jr., Independent Executor 2630 Exposition Blvd., Suite 203 Austin, Texas 78703-1763

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF THOMAS KLIMECZKO

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Thomas Klimeczko, Deceased were issued on June 23, 2020 in Cause No. C-1-PB-20-000533 pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to the estate's independent executor, Laura Lojas. All persons having claims against the estate currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims should be addressed to the executor in care of Meghan Alexander, The Gottfried Firm, 1505 W. 6th St., Austin, Texas 78703. Dated this 27th day of July, 2020. Laura Lojas, Independent Executor. Meghan Alexander, The Gottfried Firm, 1505 W. 6th St., Austin, Texas 78703. State Bar No. 24053960. Telephone (512) 494-1481 Facsimile (512) 472-4013. Attorney for Independent Executor.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. C-1-PB-20-000755, styled in the Estate of Andrew Thomas Aman, in the Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, original Letters of Administration were issued on June 16, 2020, to WINNIE AMAN, whose address is c/o Wesley G. Ritchie, 2112 Rio Grande, Austin, Texas 78705. 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 22nd day of July, 2020.

WINNIE AMAN INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR

Notice is hereby given that Cause No. C-1-PB-20-000755, styled in the Estate of Andrew Thomas Aman, in the Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, original Letters of Administration were issued on June 16, 2020, to WINNIE AMAN, whose address is c/o Wesley G. Ritchie, 2112 Rio Grande, Austin, Texas 78705. 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 22nd day of July, 2020.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Cause No. C-1-PB-20-000947, Estate of Eleanor M. Terrell, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on July 2, 2020, to Robert G. Terrell. Claims may be presented to the representative c/o the attorneys at the following address: Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody, Attn: John W. Conner, PO Box 98, Austin, TX 78767-9998. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 21st day of July, 2020.
/s/ MERCEDES CAMILITA LIMON, Independent Adminis-

original letters testamentary were issued on July 7, 2020, to Barbara R. Wheat. Claims may be presented to the representative c/o the attorneys at the following address: Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody, Attn: Patricia A. Campbell, PO Box 98, Austin, TX 78767-9998. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the period prescribed by law.

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Guardianship for the Person and Estate of Etta O'Lee McKnight, an Incapacitated Person, were issued on July 6, 2020, in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to FAMILY ELDERCARE, INC., Guardian, as Permanent Guardian of the Person and Estate.

The office of Guardian is in Travis County, Texas, and the mailing address is: Family Eldercare, Inc., Guardian of Etta O'Lee McKnight, 1700 Rutherford Lane Austin, Texas 78754. 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. SIGNED on the 27th day of July, 2020.

/s/ Ashley L. Hughes Ashley L. Hughes State Bar No. 24074451 1700 Rutherford Lane Austin, Texas 78754 Phone: 512-483-3555/Fax: 512-380-9813
ahughes@familyeldercare.org
Attorney for Guardian

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Guardianship for the Person and Estate of John Edward Carnes, an Incapacitated Person, were issued on July 21, 2020, in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to FAMILY ELDERCARE, INC., Guardian, as Permanent Guardian of the Person and Estate.

The office of Guardian is in Travis County, Texas, and the mailing address is: Family Eldercare, Inc., Guardian of John Edward Carnes, 1700 Rutherford Lane Austin, Texas 78754. 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. SIGNED on the 27th day of July, 2020.

/s/ Ashley L. Hughes Ashley L. Hughes State Bar No. 24074451 1700 Rutherford Lane Austin, Texas 78754 Phone: 512-483-3555/Fax: 512-380-9813
ahughes@familyeldercare.org
Attorney for Guardian

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Independent Administration with a holographic Will Annexed for the Estate of AGAPITA N. LIMON were issued on July 7, 2020 in Cause Number C-1-PB-19-000635 in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to MERCEDES CAMILITA LIMON. Claims may be presented in care of the Executor of the Estate addressed as follows: The address of record for MERCEDES CAMILITA LIMON is 906 W. Live Oak St, Austin, Texas 78704.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Cause No. C-1-PB-20-000992, Estate of Eleanor M. Terrell, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on July 2, 2020, to Robert G. Terrell. Claims may be presented to the representative c/o the attorneys at the following address: Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody, Attn: John W. Conner, PO Box 98, Austin, TX 78767-9998. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 21st day of July, 2020.
/s/ MERCEDES CAMILITA LIMON, Independent Adminis-

Notice is hereby given that Cause No. C-1-PB-20-000992, Estate of Eleanor M. Terrell, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on July 2, 2020, to Robert G. Terrell. Claims may be presented to the representative c/o the attorneys at the following address: Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody, Attn: John W. Conner, PO Box 98, Austin, TX 78767-9998. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 21st day of July, 2020.
/s/ MERCEDES CAMILITA LIMON, Independent Adminis-

trator of the Estate of AGAPITA N. LIMON, Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for an Independent Executor for the Estate of Earl L. Marsh aka Earl Leon Marsh, Deceased, were issued on July 28, 2020, in Cause No. C-1-PB-20-001045, pending in Probate Court Number 1, Travis County, Texas, to Rita M. Marsh, Independent Executor of the Estate of Earl L. Marsh aka Earl Leon Marsh, Deceased.

The residence of the Decedent was in Travis County, Texas, and the mailing address at which claims may be presented is: Representative, Estate of Earl L. Marsh aka Earl Leon Marsh, Deceased c/o Neal W. Hardin, Attorney at Law 3404 Normandy Ridge Lane Austin, Texas 78738 (512) 502-8514
All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 28th day of July, 2020.
Respectfully submitted
/s/Neal W. Hardin State Bar No. 08967500

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jean Davis, a/k/a Jean Lou Ann Davis and Jean Rogers Davis, Deceased, were issued on June 30, 2020, under Cause No. C-1-PB-20-000897, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to Charlotte Missouri Davis and Charles Washington Davis, III, as Independent Co-Executors.

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present those claims within the time and in the manner prescribed by law in care of the Independent Co-Executors' attorney, addressed as follows:

Charlotte Missouri Davis and Charles Washington Davis, III, Independent Co-Executors Estate of Jean Davis, a/k/a Jean Lou Ann Davis and Jean Rogers Davis, Deceased c/o Langham Partners, PC 9501 N. Capital of Texas Hwy, Ste. 202 Austin, Texas 78759

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary were issued to BARBARA NELL WRIGHT on July 21, 2020 in Cause No. C-1-PB-20-001187, styled "The Estate of RUTHIE LEE WRIGHT, Deceased", pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. All claims should be addressed in care of BARBARA NELL WRIGHT as Independent Executor of the Estate of RUTHIE LEE WRIGHT, Deceased at 5500 Spring Meadow Road, Austin, Texas 78744.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE IS HER

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsky for July 31 - August 6

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "Notice what no one else notices and you'll know what no one else knows," says actor Tim Robbins. That's perfect counsel for you right now, Leo. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, your perceptiveness will be at a peak in the coming weeks. You'll have an ability to discern half-hidden truths that are invisible to everyone else. You'll be aggressive in scoping out what most people don't even want to become aware of. Take advantage of your temporary superpower! Use it to get a lucid grasp of the big picture - and cultivate a more intelligent approach than those who are focused on the small picture and the comfortable delusions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "Look on every exit as being an entrance somewhere else," wrote playwright Tom Stoppard. That's ripe advice for you to meditate on during the coming weeks. You're in a phase of your astrological cycle when every exit can indeed be an entrance somewhere else - but only if you believe in that possibility and are alert for it. So please dissolve your current assumptions about the current chapter of your life story so that you can be fully open to new possibilities that could become available.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "One must think with the body and the soul or not think at all," wrote Libran author and historian Hannah Arendt. She implied that thinking only with the head may spawn monsters and demons. Mere conceptualization is arid and sterile if not interwoven with the wisdom of the soul and the body's earthy intuitions. Ideas that are untempered by feelings and physical awareness can produce poor maps of reality. In accordance with astrological omens, I ask you to meditate on these empowering suggestions. Make sure that as you seek to understand what's going on, you draw on all your different kinds of intelligence.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "I always wanted to be commander-in-chief of my one-woman army," says singer-songwriter Ani DiFranco. I think that goal is within sight for you, Scorpio. Your power over yourself has been increasing lately. Your ability to manage your own moods and create your own sweet spots and define your own fate is as robust as I have seen it in a while. What do you plan to do with your enhanced dominion? What special feats might you attempt? Are there any previously impossible accomplishments that may now be possible?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your meditation for the coming weeks comes to you courtesy of author and naturalist Henry David Thoreau. "We can never have enough of nature," he wrote. "We must be refreshed by the sight of inexhaustible vigor, vast and titanic features, the sea-coast with its wrecks, the wilderness with its living and its decaying trees, the thunder cloud, and the rain which lasts three weeks and produces freshets. We need to witness our own limits transgressed, and some life pasturing freely where we never wander." Oh, how I hope you will heed Thoreau's counsel, Sagittarius. You would really benefit from an extended healing session amidst natural wonders. Give yourself the deep pleasure of exploring what wildness means to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Author and activist bell hooks (who doesn't capitalize her name) has taught classes at numerous American universities. She sometimes writes about her experiences there, as in the following passage. "My students tell me, 'we don't want to love! We're tired of being loving!' And I say to them, if you're tired of being loving, then you haven't really been loving, because when you are loving you have more strength." I wanted you to know her thoughts, Capricorn, because I think you're in a favorable position to demonstrate how correct she is: to dramatically boost your own strength through the invigorating power of your love.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Aquarian author Langston Hughes (1902-1967) was a pioneering and prolific African American author and activist who wrote in four different genres and was influential in boosting other Black writers. One of his big breaks as a young man came when he was working as a waiter at a banquet featuring the famous poet Vachel Lindsay. Hughes managed to leave three of his poems on Lindsay's table. The great poet loved them and later lent his clout to boosting Hughes' career. I suspect you might have an opening like that sometime soon, Aquarius - even if it won't be quite as literal and hands-on. Be ready to take advantage. Cultivate every connection that may become available.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Author Faith Baldwin has renounced the "forgive and forget" policy. She writes, "I think one should forgive and remember. If you forgive and forget, you're just driving what you remember into the subconscious; it stays there and festers. But to look upon what you remember and know you've forgiven is achievement." That's the approach I recommend for you right now, Pisces. Get the relief you need, yes: Forgive those who have trespassed against you. But also: Hold fast to the lessons you learned through those people so you won't repeat them again later.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Aries poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti is renowned for his buoyancy. In one of his famous lines, he wrote, "I am awaiting, perpetually and forever, a renaissance of wonder." Here's what I have to say in response to that thought: Your assignment, as an Aries, is NOT to sit there and wait, perpetually and forever, for a renaissance of wonder. Rather, it's your job to embody and actualize and express, perpetually and forever, a renaissance of wonder. The coming weeks will be an especially favorable time for you to rise to new heights in fulfilling this aspect of your life-long assignment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): I live in Northern California on land that once belonged to the Indigenous Coast Miwok people. They were animists who believed that soul and sentience animate all animals and plants as well as rocks, rivers, mountains - everything, really. Their food came from hunting and gathering, and they lived in small bands without centralized political authority. According to one of their creation stories, Coyote and Silver Fox made the world by singing and dancing it into existence. Now I invite you to do what I just illustrated: Find out about and celebrate the history of the people and the place where you live. From an astrological perspective, it's a favorable time to get in touch with roots and foundations.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): "When I look down, I miss all the good stuff, and when I look up, I just trip over things," says singer-songwriter Ani DiFranco. I wonder if she has tried an alternate approach: looking straight ahead. That's what I advise for you in the coming weeks, Gemini. In other words, adopt a perspective that will enable you to detect regular glimpses of what's above you and what's below you - as well as what's in front of you. In fact, I suggest you avoid all extremes that might distract you from the big picture. The truth will be most available to you if you occupy the middle ground.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The Italian word *nottivago* refers to "night roamers": people who wander around after dark. Why do they do it? What do they want to accomplish? Maybe their ramblings have the effect of dissolving stuck thoughts that have been plaguing them. Maybe it's a healing relief to indulge in the luxury of having nowhere in particular to go and nothing in particular to do: to declare their independence from the obsessive drive to get things done. Meandering after sundown may stir up a sense of wild freedom that inspires them to outflank or outgrow their problems. I bring these possibilities to your attention, Cancerian, because the coming days will be an excellent time to try them out.

PARK & HOMER puzzles

Future women

Puzzle by J. Reynolds

No. 647

Across

1. Metallica drummer Ulrich
5. North Dakota's largest city
10. "___ does it!"
14. Iridescent gem
15. ___ the hole
16. Bum kin
17. Quick, in trade names
18. Shy person
20. Maze feature
22. Frank, e.g.
23. LBJ or RMN, e.g.
24. Math class, for short
25. Novelist Caleb
28. Makes aquatints
33. Andes capital
37. Creator of Oz
39. "As ___ and breathe"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18				19				
20			21			22						
	23				24							
			25	26	27		28		29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36		37		38		39			
40				41			42					
43				44				45				
46				47		48		49				
			50		51			52	53	54	55	
56	57	58	59				60	61				62
63						64			65			
66					67				68			
69					70				71			

40. Some cars and patio furniture have one
43. Football's ___ Bowl
44. "Baseball Tonight" channel
45. Kind of pool
46. Late bloomers
48. She, in Italy
50. "Ah, me!"
52. Bueno's opposite
56. Spun
60. Following
63. Mama Rose declaration in "Gypsy"
65. "The ___ Love"
66. Copter's forerunner
67. Bloated
68. Lab gel

69. Absorbs, with "up"
70. Ender inhabitants
71. "Mama" speaker

Down

1. Lady's man
2. Even one word
3. Kind of screen
4. Trombone part
5. Babe in the woods
6. Mil. school
7. Bill of Rights subj.
8. Radner of "SNL"
9. In a card catalog
10. God with a hammer
11. "___ Met Your Mother"
12. Copper heads?

13. Civil wrong
19. Milk-related
21. Computer key
24. Expensive trips
26. "20/20" network
27. Miles per hour, e.g.
29. Flow stopper
30. Queen's residence
31. 20-20, e.g.
32. Bone-dry
33. Kraft Nabisco Championship org.
34. Nest eggs, briefly
35. Street in New York's Chinatown
36. Stub ___
38. Game honorees, briefly
41. Slips
42. "Star Trek" rank: Abbr.
47. Heavy hammer
49. "___ dreaming?"
51. Play to ___
53. Take ___ off
54. Vernacular
55. Actress Tatum
56. Fixes
57. Buckeye State
58. Canvas cover
59. Hubbubs
60. Something to do
61. Lowell and Tan
62. Word that could follow the end of the themed clues
64. "___ Beso" (Paul Anka hit)

SEE THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTION AT WWW.AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/CROSSWORD

LEGAL NOTICES CONTINUED FROM P.53

July 24, 2020
State Bar No. 24105719
The Law Offices of Kyle Robbins, PLLC
3800 N. Lamar Blvd., Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78756
Telephone: (512) 851-1248
Fax: (512) 361-1806
Email: kyle@kylorobbinlaw.com
Attorney for Independent

Administrator
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Edward John Meyer, Deceased, were issued on July 2, 2020, in Cause No. C-1-PB-19-002155, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Robert

Joseph Meyer.
The notice to the Independent Executor may be delivered at the following address:
c/o Melissa L. Harvey
The Karisch Law Firm, PLLC
9111 Jollyville Road, Suite 225
Austin, Texas 78759
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are

required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated the 27th day of July, 2020.
/s/ Melissa L. Harvey
Melissa L. Harvey
Attorney for Independent Administrator
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsky's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

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10 mask minimum (512) 925-6060
pgriswold@austin.rr.com

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Recently Diagnosed w/Lung Cancer or Mesothelioma? Exposed to Asbestos Pre-1980 at Work or Navy? You May Be Entitled to a Significant Cash Award! Smoking History Okay! Call 1-844-925-3467 (AAN CAN)

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MIND/BODY

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Treat yourself to a relaxing hot oil, full-body Swedish massage in a candle-lit, private room/shower, 24/7, in/out calls. Clint 512-775-9164 - LMT# 034842

MUSIC

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Nancy Smith Lackey, a/k/a Nancy Ruth Lackey, a/k/a Nancy R. Lackey, a/k/a Nancy Lackey, Deceased, were issued on July 23, 2020, in Cause No. C-1-PB-20-001063, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to Cynthia S. Lackey, a/k/a Cindy Lackey as Independent Executor. 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 21 day of July, 2020. -/s/ Oscar B. Jackson III - Attorney for the Independent Administrator- 3445 Executive Center Dr, Suite 101, Austin, Texas 78731.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
On July 23, 2020, Elvis Lafosse was appointed to serve as Independent Administrator Executor without requirement of bond or other security of the Estate of George Anthony Lafosse, Deceased, in Cause No. C-1-PB-20-000589, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of Independent Executor is c/o Andrew C. Friedmann, Attorney & Counselor at Law, 4408 Spicewood Springs Road, Austin, Texas 78759, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.

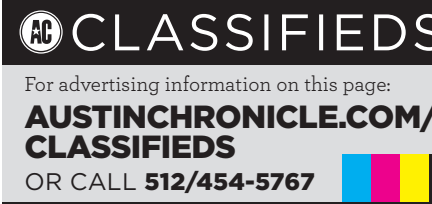
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Original Letters of Independent Administration With Will Annexed for the Estate of PATRICIA J. MASTROFINO, Deceased, were issued by Brian Mastrofino on July 21, 2020, in Cause No. C-1-PB-20-000046, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. All persons having claims against this estate must present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law and may present them to the representative's attorney, addressed to Mastrofino Estate, LAW OFFICE OF CHARLES SMAISTRALA, 4413 Spicewood Springs Rd #118, Austin, TX 78759.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Ruby Mae Stiba, Deceased, were issued on May 14, 2020 under Docket No. C-1-PB-20-000663, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Franklin Mac Arthur Stiba. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows: Representative, Estate of Ruby Mae Stiba, Deceased c/o Bethann Eccles Eccles & McIntosh, PC 506 West 16th Street Austin, Texas 78701 All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated July 22, 2020. Eccles & McIntosh, PC Bethann Eccles Attorney for Independent Executor

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:
1. Disaster Pouches (Body Bags) and Autopsy Gowns, B2007-001-LD
Opens: August 12, 2020 at 1:00pm
2. Disaster Recovery Management & Grant Compliance Consulting Services, 2006-011-BK
Opens: August 21, 2020 at 10:00am
Pre-Proposal- August 10, 2020 at 10am
Bids should be submitted to: Bonnie Floyd, Travis County Purchasing Agent, 700 Lavaca

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the James Charles Johnson Sr. Deceased, were issued on

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LEGAL NOTICES

Street, Suite 800, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Bidders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

Original application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit by Aramark Business Dining Services of Texas LLC d/b/a Aramark Business Dining Services of Texas LLC located at 2300 Cloud Way, Austin, Travis County, TX 78741.

Manager and Officers of said limited liability company are Jeffrey K. Gilliam, President/Manager, Robert N. Dietz, VP, Patricia Rapone, VP, Alisdair C. MacLean, VP, and James J. Tarangelo, Treasurer.

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE JUDICIAL BRANCH SUPERIOR COURT
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CITATION FOR PUBLICATION
Superior Court Rule 4(d)
Case Name: **Malcolm Williams vs. Alan Lavoie**
Case Number: **220-2020-CV-00089**
The above entitled action is now pending in this Court. The original pleading is on

file and may be examined by interested parties. The Court has issued an Order for Service by Publication on defendant(s) Alan Lavoie.

The Court ORDERS:
Alan Lavoie shall give notice to Alan Lavoie of this action by publishing a verified copy of this Citation for Publication once a week for three successive weeks in the Austin Chronicle, a newspaper of general circulation. The last publication shall be on or before September 11, 2020 Also, **ON OR BEFORE 30 days after the last publication** Alan Lavoie shall electronically file an Appearance and Answer or other responsive pleading with this Court. A copy of the Appearance and Answer or other responsive pleading must be sent electronically to the party/parties listed below.

October 02, 2020 Malcolm Williams shall electronically file the Return of Publication with this Court. Failure to do so may result in this action being dismissed without further notice.

Notice to Alan Lavoie: If you are working with an attorney, they will guide you on the next steps. If you are going to represent yourself in this action, go to the court's website: www.courts.state.nh.us, select the Electronic Services icon and then select the option for a self-represented party. Complete the registration/log in process then select "I am filing into an existing case". Enter the case number above and click Next. Follow the instructions to complete your filing.

Once you have responded to the Complaint, you can access documents electronically filed through our Case Access Portal by going to <https://odpya.nhccourt.us/portal> and following the instructions in the User Guide. In that process you will register, validate your email, request access and approval to view your case. After your information is validated by the court, you will be able to view case information and documents filed in your case. NHJB-2803-SE (07/01/2018)

This is a Service Document For Case: 220-2020-CV-00089 Sullivan Superior Court 7/28/2020 12:10 PM
If you do not comply with these requirements, you will be considered in default and the Court may issue orders that affect you without your input.
Send copies to:
Erin S. Meenan, ESQ Bragdon Baron & Kossyada PC 82 Court St PO Box 46 Keene NH 03431
Alan Lavoie 3801 Berkman Drive Austin TX 78723
BY ORDER OF THE COURT
July 28, 2020 Daniel J. Swegart Clerk of Court (1075)

original Letters of Independent Administration in the estate of Maria Christina Tovar, Deceased, Cause No. 20-0378-CP4, pending in the Probate Court of Williamson County, Texas, were issued on June 23, 2020 to Christina Paz. — All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. - c/o: Caitlin Haney Johnston - The Haney Law Firm, 808 W. 10th Street, Suite 100, Austin, Texas, 78701, Telephone: (512) 476-2212, Fax: (512) 476-2202. DATED the 8th day of June, 2020. - Caitlin Haney Johnston, State Bar No. 24087661, Attorney for Independent Administrator.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration in the estate of James Charles Brideaux, Deceased, Cause No. C-1-PB-19-002041, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, were issued on March 17, 2020 to Chloe Talbot. — All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. - c/o: Caitlin Haney Johnston - The Haney Law Firm, 808 W. 10th Street, Suite

100, Austin, Texas, 78701, Telephone: (512) 476-2212, Fax: (512) 476-2202. DATED the 8th day of June, 2020. - Caitlin Haney Johnston, State Bar No. 24087661, Attorney for Independent Administrator.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration in the estate of Beverly Jeanne Estes, Deceased, Cause No. C-1-PB-19-000616, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, were issued on March 17, 2020 to Chloe Talbot. — All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. - c/o: Caitlin Haney Johnston - The Haney Law Firm, 808 W. 10th Street, Suite 100, Austin, Texas, 78701, Telephone: (512) 476-2212, Fax: (512) 476-2202. DATED the 8th day of June, 2020. - Caitlin Haney Johnston, State Bar No. 24087661, Attorney for Independent Administrator.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Barbara Jennings McCalmont a/k/a Barbara Brown, Deceased were issued on July 2, 2020, under Docket

No. C-1-PB-20-001011, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to Ronald Dwain Jennings. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows: - Ronald Dwain Jennings, Executor - Estate of Barbara Jennings McCalmont a/k/a Barbara Brown, Deceased - c/o Law Offices of Patrick J. O'Connell PLLC - 5926 Balcones Dr., Austin, Texas 78731 - (512) 852-5918 phone - pat@pjofca.com - 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 July 2, 2020 - By: /s/ Patrick J. O'Connell, Attorney for the Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Cordelia F. Alley aka Cordelia Fieta Alley, Deceased, were issued on July 9, 2020, in Cause No. C-1-PB-20-000768, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Dennis K. Alley. The notice to the Independent Executor may be delivered at the following address: c/o Barnes Lipscomb Stewart & Ott PLLC

Attorneys at Law Rollingwood Center 2500 Bee Cave Road Building 11, Suite 150 Austin, Texas 78746 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated the 23rd day of July 2020. /s/ Barbara J. Lipscomb Barbara J. Lipscomb Attorney for Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Hazel Lee Brown, Deceased, were issued on June 30, 2020, under Docket No. 20-0532-CP4, pending in the County Court at Law No. 4 of Williamson County, Texas, to JAMES BROWN, (AKA JAMES ALVIN BROWN). Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows: Representative, James Brown Estate of Hazel Lee Brown, Deceased, C/O The Law Office of Jessica Brown, PLLC, 1902 Aggie Ln., Austin, Texas 78757. 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.

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