

THE AUSTIN

# CHRONICLE

What Killed **MICHAEL CLARK?**

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Larkin's Journey with **BALLET EAST**

by PATTI HADAD p.40

Fiddlin' Finn **ERIK HOKKANEN**

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⊕ **'REAL WORLD'**  
Rap Sheet

⊕ **KONG**  
Is on the Air

⊕ **COOKBOOK TRENDS:**  
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AUSTIN'S DAY OF ANIMÉ APPROACHES by MARC SAVLOV p.54

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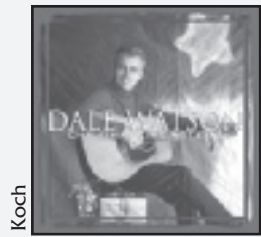
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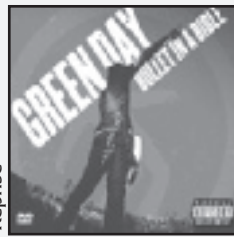
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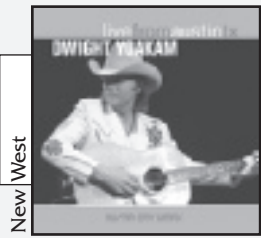
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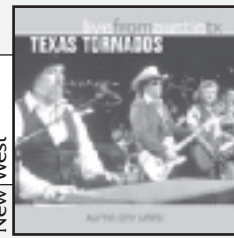
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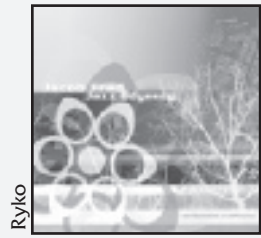
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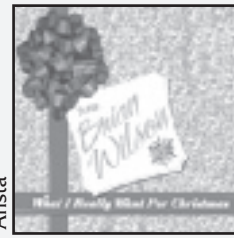
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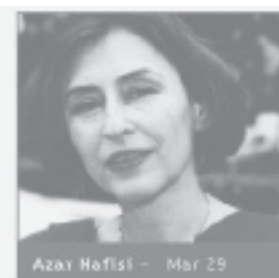
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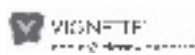


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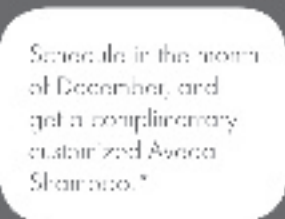
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# Requiem for Decency

With country and friends in trouble, a time for music, the road, and prayer

BY LOUIS BLACK

*No Dead Kittens:* Driving in to work this morning after dropping my son off at school (actually, having gotten his permit, he drove there), I listened to a pristine bootleg of about 20 songs that Johnny Cash and Bob Dylan cut in Nashville a couple of decades back. Rather than a focused recording session, this was more in the vein of sitting around, playing together, and enjoying each other while producer Bob Johnston ran tape. Although they recorded more than 30 cuts, only "Girl From the North Country" has ever escaped from the vaults (and I'm not even sure if the released version is from this session). Columbia decided that the recordings were too crude and unprofessional to release.

The very awkwardness of this casual, friendly, back-porch type of performance is a significant part of what makes it so enjoyable. Compared to the professional composition and cohesive presentation of most serious artists' music as released by major labels, the relaxed sloppiness found here is both foreign and friendly. The sheer fun the two are having playing together is intoxicating. They both forget lyrics (though Cash seems to need to cue Dylan more than vice versa) and, as they are playing, discuss who should take the first verse. They do an overly long version of "Careless Love" that could have kept on keeping on even longer without raising any complaints from me. The song is traditional, with authorship of various versions claimed by everyone from W.C. Handy, Lonnie Johnson, and Bessie Smith to Fats Domino, Dock Boggs, and Janis Joplin. One of the lines refers to a gun that Cash identifies first as a .44 caliber, then Dylan labels it

a .38, and then a .45. By the end of the song, Cash has identified it as a .30-ought-6 (a rifle rather than a pistol). At one point, however, in order to hit a rhyme, Cash calls it a .41 (which doesn't exist). He's so pleased with this that, just a bit later, he again refers to a .41, and you can hear the absolute delight at this silliness in his voice.

Especially noticeable throughout the recordings is just how sweet and lovely Dylan's singing and harmonies with Cash are. Someone once asked Bob Johnston how much of an influence Cash had on Dylan's singing. In particular, they pointed to *Nashville Skyline*, the first Dylan album recorded in Nashville that was clearly rooted in traditional country. Dylan had already recorded *Blonde on Blonde* and *John Wesley Harding* with Johnston in Nashville, but it's hard to think of the former as rooted – it's so of American music while being completely transcendent – and the second is so generously eccentric. Johnston pointed out how Dylan was always experimenting and had significantly changed his vocal style and tone on each of four albums in a row: *Highway 61 Revisited*, *Blonde on Blonde*, *John Wesley Harding*, and *Nashville Skyline*. Still, Dylan's singing on the bootleg offers a fullness and clarity of tone that complements Cash's singing while strongly reminding one of *Nashville Skyline*.

The car windows are down and the music is up loud, allowing its richness to really ring through. It's a moment of pleasure, the music, the road, and driving – though nothing definitive; it doesn't remind me of why I fell in love with music in the first place or nourish parts of my soul I thought long dead.

The enjoyment is both more visceral and far less intellectual. I'm there in the music, and that's all right, mama.

Given our troubling and tumultuous times, I feel any column that doesn't focus on politics in some way or another is a lost opportunity. Still, I don't want to get into the complexity of local issues. On national and international fronts, President Bush and his administration's simplistic sloganeering, hypocritical scolding, overt lying, disingenuous baiting of political opponents, and continually misleading responses render logical, historical, and/or ideological arguments so beside the point.

This leaves me feeling like a tape loop of attorney Joseph Welch at the Army-McCarthy hearings. Flabbergasted by the administration's actions and dishonesty, I find myself simply asking of it, over and over, in a helpless and deeply pained way, "Have you no sense of decency ... at long last? Have you left no sense of decency?"

More than anything else, the administration and its supporters find this question to be funny: Only limp-wristed, knee-jerk, bleeding-heart liberal Democrats (i.e., Communists and traitors) care about decency. In fact, they maintain, concern with decency is just one of those left-wing obsessions that have so damaged this country and left it at such a disadvantage with its enemies. Decency, humanist concerns, the welfare of innocent civilians, and the rights of prisoners being held because the government suspects them of anti-American and terrorist activities are all, in their view, binding handcuffs placed by weak-willed Democrats on our country's domestic and international policies.

**Oops!** Last week's article on the Reagan High School Film Festival claimed that the film *Haunted* starred Austin City Council Member Raul Alvarez. It actually stars Reagan student Roel Alvarez, who is not a council member.

The U.S. could have won in Vietnam and can win in Iraq, they continue, if only those of weak stomach or overly obsessive affection for constitutional guarantees are shut down. Torture, the most advanced destructive weapons possible, and a commitment to military power over all else would find the war in Iraq over quickly, they conclude.

The right has returned to a new American vision, based on traditional American values, in which nationalism, chauvinism, casual racism, xenophobia, self-concern, and convenience trump any of the founders' original intentions regarding rights, responsibilities, and the evenhanded rule of law. Well, at least they're imagining that they've returned – since in reality their ideas are really based on bad history, failed policies, bogus memories, fictional ideology, and constitutional disregard.

Unfortunately, not only is asking "Have you no decency?" the best argument left – but we also know, all too well, the answer.

So, for this morning at least, God grant me music, the open road, and a son now driving.

□

The unhappiest times I experience preparing this column are when I feel compelled to note tragic incidents affecting our community.

This morning in I was forwarded an e-mail containing this note about Daniel Johnston, written by his former manager and archivist Jeff Tartakov:

"Daniel Johnston ... could really use your prayers and kind thoughts. The day before Thanksgiving his father was unable to awaken him and he had to be rushed to the hospital where he remains today in critical but stable condition. ... [A]ccording to the nurses the

*continued on p.10*

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diagnosis is acute kidney failure most likely due to lithium poisoning. As of today he's been unconscious for a week."

Daniel has been a friend since he first came to Austin in the mid-Eighties, though the relationship has always been complex and often difficult. In this case, I truly am at a loss for words, though not affection.

Former Austin Mayor Bruce Todd is also in the hospital and in bad shape, having recently suffered a serious bike accident. During his tenure as mayor, this publication was, at its kindest, harsh toward his administration. I bring that up, hoping not to be labeled a hypocrite when I note that, despite our differences on policy issues, Todd has always been the best and most committed kind of citizen. He is absolutely devoted to his community and willing to stand in the face of any criticism to do what he feels is right. Not only did he serve as mayor, but he has been, is, and, we all hope, will continue to be involved with an impressive number of nonprofit organizations, as well as being a ready volunteer for civic groups. As long as I've even known of him, Bruce Todd has always been ready and willing to devote his time, wisdom, and energy in service of the community.

Our hearts, our most heartfelt wishes, our souls go out to Daniel, his parents, and family, as well as to Bruce Todd, his wife Elizabeth Christian, and their families. In this hour of darkness, in this time of need, let us pray. ■

**Cover Exploitative**

Dear Editor,

I was shocked and disgusted by the cover of the *Chronicle* this week ["What Happened to the No-Kill Millennium?," News, Nov. 18]. I realize that the story needs attention, but putting pictures of dead cats on the cover page is exploitative and appalling. Would you put a long line of dead human beings on the cover? No, because that would be considered in poor taste. I should at least have to open the paper up and flip through it before I'm forced to look at something so grisly and upsetting!

Melissa Johanningsmeier

**No Graphic Pictures on Cover**

Dear Editor,

Awareness is one thing, but a story with graphic pictures on the cover is completely another ["What Happened to the No-Kill Millennium?," News, Nov. 18]. Proofread your work.

Chris Cortinaz

**Cover Photos Effective**

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the cover photos and the articles on the failure of the No-Kill Millennium ["What Happened to the No-Kill Millennium?," News, Nov. 18]. The photos were horrifying and shocking, but so is the fact that more than 13,000 animals a year are killed in downtown Austin. Maybe these photos will help people understand just what that means. Maybe people who give their pets to the pound will believe the signs that explain their pets will probably be

euthanized. Maybe now they will understand the meaning of the word "euthanasia." TLAC is not a happy place where all deserving pets will find a new, loving home. Rather, it's a city pound where more than 59% of the pets whose owners take them there to find new homes will end up dead. If the pictures make people think about that, then they've done their job.

Carol Stephens

**Will Finish Reading Article**

Dear Editor,

I am the director of Thundering Paws Animal Sanctuary in Dripping Springs, and I would like to thank you sincerely for your article on euthanasia at Town Lake Animal Center ["What Happened to the No-Kill Millennium?," News, Nov. 18]. If this kind of exposé is what it takes to get people to spay and neuter their pets – and any other animal they come across – then it is well worth it. I confess I have not gotten through the article yet. It is difficult reading. However, I will finish it. I am not immune to confronting the horror.

Thank you again. You are very brave, and very loving to have published this article.

Anne Zabolio  
Director

Thundering Paws Animal Sanctuary  
Dripping Springs

**We Need a Law**

Dear Editor,

You showed in graphic detail the sad reality of pet overpopulation in your excellent article on the failure of the much publicized No-Kill Millennium ["What Happened to the No-Kill Millennium?," News, Nov. 18]. Now it is time to urge Austin City Council to step up to the plate and support mandatory spay/neuter. Here is why we need a law instructing people to neuter their pets; unfortunately nothing has worked so far to curb the number of unwanted animals killed daily in the city's shelter; not public service announcements, not more awareness about adoptions, not low-cost spay/neuter, nothing.

As a progressive city, Austin should take the lead and get aggressive to stop the birth of unwanted cats and dogs. Mandatory spay/neuter is working in other cities and the animals deserve for us to put it into place here. The *Chronicle* was brave enough to show and tell how dire the situation is, why won't a council member be brave enough to sponsor a mandatory spay/neuter proposal?

Sincerely,  
Julia Hilder

continued on p.12

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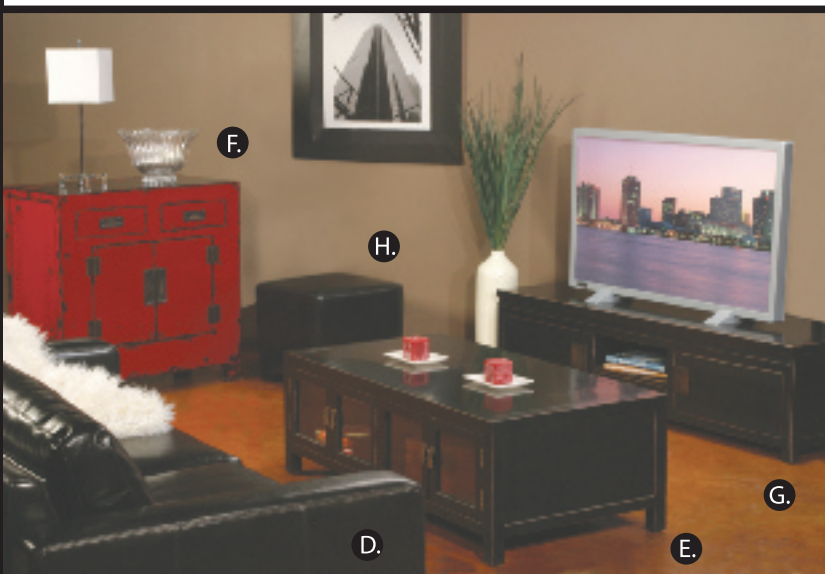


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## Ruiz Gone to Hell

Dear Editor,  
If David Ruiz hadn't been the lead plaintiff in the controversial lawsuit that led (now Senior) District Judge William Wayne Justice to drag Texas prisons kicking and screaming from the 16th to the 20th century, he might have been better known as a habitual felon whose hobbies included using deadly weapons to separate noncriminals from their money and property ["Prisoners' Rights Crusader Ruiz Dies," News, Nov. 25]. While his influence on making the Texas prison system less inhumane cannot be doubted, it's only fair to his victims that his entire legacy be remembered. No lawsuit is going to improve his current living conditions.

Michael Simpson

## Give KUT Back to Students

Dear Editor,  
Hello, my name is Robert Flores, and I'm responding to the article about the future of KUT ["Getting on the KUTting Edge," News, Nov. 25]. I am the current program director for KSYM at San Antonio College in San Antonio. My opinions about the article are purely my own and not the station's. In response, KUT deserves to be given back to the students (poor KVRX). NPR is a nice angle to have, but I don't see how that ties into communication college. Here at KSYM, every paid staff member is required to be enrolled in at least six hours of study for part-time minimum wage. However, it may sound sad, in fact it's an honor. The other college station in town, KRTU (Trinity University), operates much like KUT does with respect to how the station manager and program director are given salaried positions. KSYM is financially inde-

pendent as well as the others and raises a little more than \$50,000 once every year. For us, what it comes down to is what we do. We play music. We're the only outlet in this town (San Antonio) with a 24-hour alternative-music format, and it is run entirely by students at the community college. We have direct community impact.

Robert Flores  
San Antonio

## Criticism Is Very Subjective

Dear Editor,  
I've just read Jim Caligiuri's review of *3rd and Main* – the first full-length CD by the Gene Pool – and I just can't believe how wrong I am in enjoying that CD as much as I do ["Texas Platters," Music, Nov. 25]!

Have being born in Brazil, and educated in Switzerland and France, I don't really have knowledge of Austin's local music, so I was enjoying the simple pleasure of good music. But, now I know I shouldn't like this CD.

Or ... should I? Music is art, and is very subjective.

I wonder what kind of critic Jim Caligiuri is, once he leaves no other option for the public than to avoid listening to this the Gene Pool CD.

I completely disagree with his opinion – *3rd and Main* is one of my favorite CDs, and no one will convince me that music should be a standard kind of art – which is an oxymoron.

We should celebrate the creativity and encourage local artists.

Fabiola Cukierman

## Animals Can't Put on a Condom

Dear Editor,  
In regards to your Gimme Shelter cover story ["What Happened to the No-Kill Millennium?," News, Nov. 18], I thank you for not shying away

from publishing photos that show the needless end result of what happens when people don't spay and neuter their pets. As a humane educator for Animal Trustees of Austin, I can honestly say that time is well spent in educating people on why they should spay and neuter their pets. As an educator for this issue, I've heard everything from "if I spay and neuter my dog, will he/she still be able to pee?" to "my dad won't get Spot fixed because he thinks he won't be a 'man' anymore." Spaying and neutering your pet is not a sex-change operation. It's a simple procedure that will help end the need to euthanize healthy and adoptable pets at TLAC. With inexpensive resources like ATA's Low Cost Spay and Neuter Clinic (512/450-0111) and EmanciPet (512/587-7729), which offers free spay and neuter Fridays for East Austin residents, there is simply no reason not to fix your pets. As an added bonus, spaying and neutering your pets will reduce their behavior and temperament problems, as well as reduce the risk of cancer and other health problems that are expensive to treat. Dogs and cats can't put on a condom, so it is up to us to spay and neuter our Austin pets today for a no-kill millennium tomorrow.

Timothy J. Verret

## Like a Drunk at a Party

Louis,  
Really well put ["Page Two," Nov. 25]. I've said to several friends of mine that being an American, since the invasion of Iraq, is like being with a drunk at a party who then starts fighting with everybody. Now the problem is how to get out of the bar. You marshaled your points brilliantly and far from being just a rant, you proffer serious analysis of an absurd yet terrifying situation. Thanks for articulating what so many of us are feeling – all patriotic, if Democratic or (gasp) liberal Americans – who believe in real freedom and real acceptance of

each other's beliefs, morals, and lifestyles – and putting it into words that, unlike the horrendous situation we're now in – make sense. No one is arguing that fighting, say, Nazi Germany was the right thing to do, but they invaded Poland. Happy T'giving and thanks to all at the Chron.

Mandy Mercier

## How Many?

Dear Editor,  
How many police shootings have occurred in the last two years without the officers involved receiving any substantial punishment?

William Trey Andrew

[Editor's note: The question is unclear, since most police-use of weapons is within the law and does not merit disciplinary action. There have been two controversial shootings in the last two years. Jesse Lee Owens was shot and killed by APD Officer Scott Glasgow in June 2003. Glasgow received a 90-day suspension. Daniel Rocha was shot and killed by Officer Julie Schroeder in June of this year. Schroeder has been terminated by Chief Stan Kneez; that decision is under appeal.]

## Cultural Center of Their Own

Dear Editor,  
I went to the groundbreaking ceremony for the planned Mexican American Cultural Center, which I feel should have been built many years ago. Our indigenous ancestors have been here for thousands of years, and Mexicans have been here for hundreds. Mexican-Americans have been in East Austin for more than 75 years. Why, why did it take so long for this community to get something that it greatly needed and deserved? Generations of Latinos missed out on a cultural center of their own. As we know, youth who are

continued on p.14

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immersed in arts are less likely to use drugs or get involved with gangs. They need a special place where they can express their feelings and talents in a creative way.

Influenced by racist individuals, Austin voters turned down a 1992 city bond to build the center. City management, obviously influenced by real estate dealers, delayed this project again and again. The message to the community is that they do not deserve a nice facility and that the land is more valuable than they are!

It's a sad irony that MACC is being built at the same time that the Mexican community is being torn apart and pushed out due to gentrification. Members of the community need to be empowered and educated about our legal and political systems and how the U.S. and local economies directly affect them. Well-intentioned newcomers, who are willing to work together with the old residents, are welcomed and greatly appreciated. But it is the unscrupulous encroachment of self-seeking individuals that we do not want. They tend to treat Mexicans with total disregard for their rights and wishes. The community is losing its rich, colorful culture and traditions, and the luminous glow within its soul is slowly fading away.

Anita Quintanilla

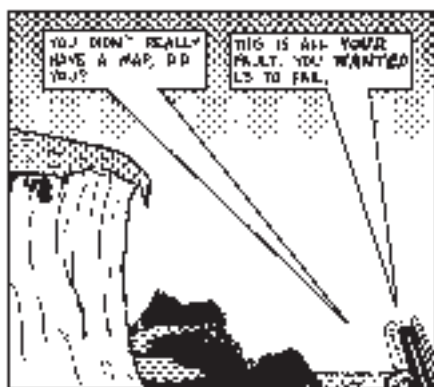
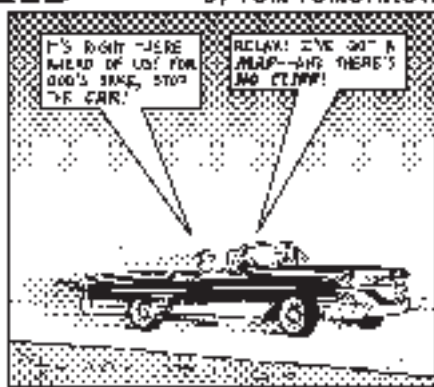
### Speaking Up

Dear Editor,

PODER thanks Wells Dunbar for his article "How Not to Gentrify: HRC Asks for Eastside Moratorium," News, Nov. 4. I have lived in East Austin for more than 53 years in comparison to Anthony Edwards ["Postmarks," Nov. 18], who recently moved to Canterbury Street. For the readers, I grew up at 1205 E. 10th St. and my family's home (in which two of my brothers

## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



still live) is on Inks Street. I currently live in Montopolis, which is part of East Austin.

PODER's office, my second home, is at 2604 E. Cesar Chavez St. PODER was involved in the Cesar Chavez Plan since the beginning, and we will continue to be involved. I don't need a new-

comer's permission to speak for East Austin. I speak alongside the community. PODER and generations of established Mexican-American residents did not ask for development of condos or lofts. More than 100 families that owned property in the East Cesar Chavez neighborhood

plan signed a valid petition against the commercialization (CS-MU) of the area!

While PODER and community residents have been involved in the city's neighborhood plan process, we have stated numerous times that we will not let the boundaries set up by the city divide our East Austin communities. Fortunately, the city has recognized this. PODER has been and is involved in numerous neighborhood plans. Our community and our family relations do not end at the city's boundaries.

Susana Almanza  
PODER

### In Favor of PODER

Dear Editor,

I am slightly perturbed by a letter you received that only bashed PODER ["Postmarks," Nov. 18]. As a lifelong resident of East Austin, I would like to take the opportunity to speak out.

I really doubt that the development projects in East Austin will revitalize my community. Most of these projects cater to affluent, white, young professionals. The housing units (aka condos and lofts) are overpriced, and the small coffee shops and businesses (art galleries) don't appeal to us because they were not made to serve us.

An ounce of research will uncover the fact that the white population in East Austin from 1990 to 2000 has increased by 31%. It may be that Mr. Edwards, along with the other neighbors whose opinions differ greatly from PODER, falls into that first wave of gentry.

PODER gained the respect and trust of East Austin residents. During the 1990s the East Austin community, with the help of PODER, shut down the tank farms (home to major oil companies) that were poisoning our air, land, water,

continued on p.16

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and families. We shut down the BFI Recycling Plant, which brought filth and rats to our community. By 2007 we will have shut down the Holly Power Plant, right down the street from Mr. Edwards' home. Power plants in the United States are responsible for 72% of sulfur dioxide emissions, 33% of nitrogen oxide emissions, 32% of particulate matter emissions, 23% of mercury emissions, and 36% of carbon dioxide contaminating our air.

Ironically, now that we live in a healthier community we are being displaced.

It may be easy for people such as Mr. Edwards to ignore this reality. Unfortunately some of us have to face it and wonder if we will be able to afford these property taxes. If not, where will they push us next? Farther east?

Ana Villalobos

### Lucky to Have Jack Ingram

Dear Editor,

Thanks for the Jack Ingram piece ["Wedding Vows," Music, Nov. 4]. I have followed his sporadic musical journey since the beginning

of the Southwest Conference Tour. While the new single seems a bit saccharine and his new business partner is a musical cartoon, the country-music industry should be so lucky to have Jack at its forefront. Some may scoff at his ambition, but he could have slipped on a Resistol, smirked at the camera, wiggled his ass, and been a star 10 years ago. He instead remained sincere to himself, his fans, his band, and his craft. Inarguably, this both led and legitimized a new generation of "Texas Music" singer/songwriters. If he has to compromise slightly to ultimately have the same influence on Nashville, one "slick" single is a small price to pay.

Joey Austin

### Demystifying Animal Policy

Dear Editor,

Thank you for demystifying Austin's animal policy ["What Happened to the No-Kill Millennium?," News, Nov. 18]. You have no idea how often people try to spill their "knowledge" that TLAC is a no-kill facility. Along with a spay/neuter ordinance, that is what Austin really needs: a facility that deserves the title "animal shelter!"

By the way, the author could have named the "body bags" for what they are: *trash bags*, which are disposed of at the landfill. Congratulations, city of Austin.

Britta Kresse

[Editor's note: The Chronicle has received many letters regarding this article. They're posted online at [austinchronicle.com/postmarks](http://austinchronicle.com/postmarks).]

### Moderate Republicans Extinct?

Dear Editor,

In some sense I feel somewhat disenfranchised and pushed to the side. There's a new sheriff in town and it's his way or the highway. It doesn't matter what I've done in the past. The loyalty, the votes, the long-term support – all for naught.

You see, I'm part of a group that is being relegated to the sidelines as inconsequential. I'm a moderate Republican. I don't seem to be conservative enough, ideological enough, or Christian enough for the people that have taken over the party apparatus.

My primary concern is that the far-right fringe element has taken over my party. I'll call them R-extremes. The R-extremes are more concerned with dominance instead of governance. And

lately, their governance is suspect. The litmus test gets harder to pass every year.

There doesn't seem to be any room for dissent. You are either 100% behind them or are labeled a traitor. Compromise has become a four-letter word and considered a weakness in their minds.

And our poster boy, Tom DeLay, is the best thing to happen to the Democrats in a long time. Do we not have the capacity to remove "bad apples" from the bushel? I guess it is hard to do when the R-extremes control the people, the money, and the power structures that run the party. For balance, the Democrats have their own version of DeLay in the likes of Howard Dean. Nice two-party system we have here – both controlled by the fringes.

I don't want to give up on the Republican Party whose philosophy and ideals used to resonate with my core beliefs. But, my patience is wearing thin. Unless something is done to bring the party back to the middle, the other guys are ready to jerk the steering wheel back hard to the left.

John Romano

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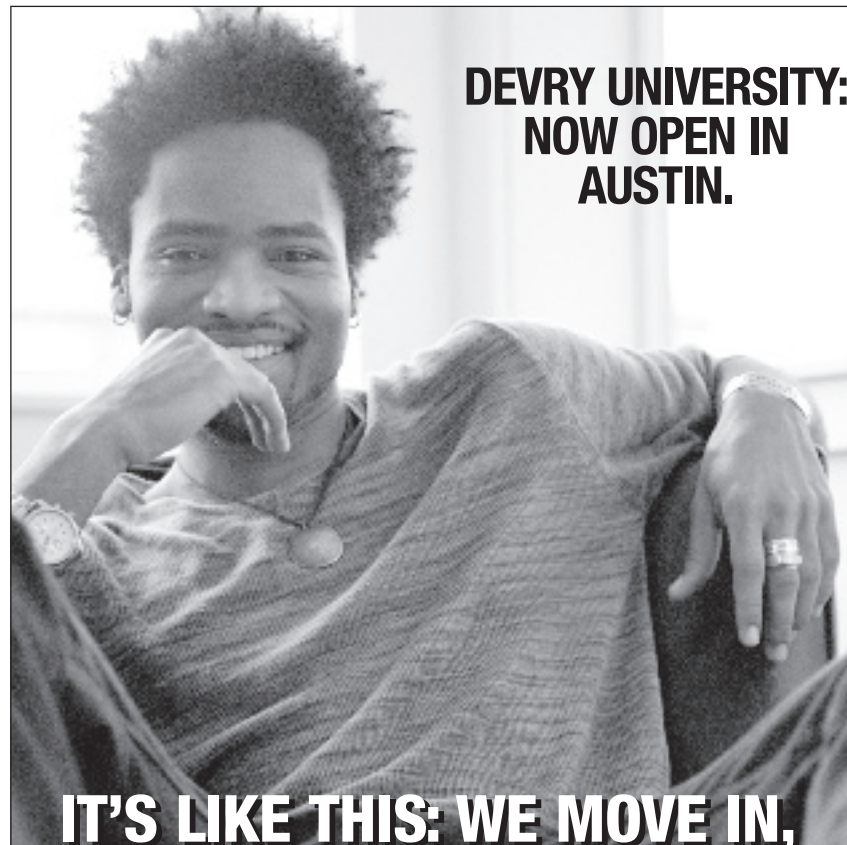
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DOUG POTTER

## POINT AUSTIN

# Hecht v. Dietz

Supremes find high taxes onerous, but lousy schools OK

BY MICHAEL KING

The elephants labored, and brought forth a church mouse.

Despite weeks of feverish Capitol speculation long past the nominal Oct. 1 deadline, last month's 7-1 school finance decision of the all-Republican Texas Supreme Court remained dismally true to political form. The court found that yes, indeed, the state's abundantly awkward means of public school funding — letting local jurisdictions collect property taxes and then clumsily redistributing a portion of the results — violates the constitutional prohibition of a statewide property tax. But it does so, ruled the Supremes, only because the Legislature-imposed cap of \$1.50 now constitutes an effective floor (the job can't be done for less) while also preventing wealthy districts from spending whatever they like on "enrichment."

"The current situation," wrote Justice Nathan Hecht, "has become virtually indistinguishable from one in which the state simply set an ad valorem tax rate of \$1.50 and redistributed the revenue to the districts." Such a system, of course, would have the advantage of eliminating the middleman — aka "Robin Hood," in sneering political parlance — but in addition to violating the Constitution, it would make more difficult the slander that school taxes are "robbing" the rich to give to the poor, rather than simply treating all Texas children (i.e., citizens) equally.

However, although the court — like the Legislature — is exquisitely sensitive to the predicament of property owners, it has much less interest in the dire situation of the state's schoolchildren, especially those without the

foresight to be born in a tony suburban school district. "Although the districts have offered evidence of deficiencies in the public school finance system," they opined, "we conclude that those deficiencies do not amount to a violation of article VII, section 1."

**We should hardly be surprised that the Texas justice who most loudly defended Harriet Miers as adequately qualified for a seat on the U.S. Supreme Court also found the Texas public school system good enough for government work.**

Since we all could use a little reminder of the superior vision of Texas founders (at least in this regard), the cited article reads: "A general diffusion of knowledge being essential to the liberties and rights of the people, it shall be the duty of the Legislature to establish and make suitable provision for the support and maintenance of an efficient system of public free schools."

continued on p.20

## HEADLINES

- ▶ Former Austin Mayor **Bruce Todd** remained in stable condition at press time Wednesday after suffering serious injuries in a bicycle accident Sunday. Todd suffered brain bruises among other injuries, but he was wearing a helmet and his family remains optimistic that he will recover. See p.26
- ▶ On Tuesday, Gov. Rick Perry set a Jan. 17 date for a **special election** to replace state House District 48 Rep. Todd Baxter, who resigned Nov. 1 to become a telecommunications lobbyist. Dillionaire Republican Ben Bentzin, who lost a challenge to state Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos in 2002, has said he'll run for the seat, and will likely face at least three Democratic opponents: lawyer Andy Brown, former Eanes school board member Donna Howard, and former AISD board president Kathy Rider. See "Naked City," right.
- ▶ The citizens **Bond Election Advisory Committee** met again Tuesday night, straining mightily to get within shouting distance of a \$600 million target total. Some members want more for affordable housing (currently at \$67.5 million) or open space (\$92.3 million) and less for facilities (\$144 million), and the proposed central library has been whittled from an ambitious \$124 million down to a utilitarian \$90 million. Still in all, the current working total is at \$614.8 million, with subcommittees meeting again before a Dec. 8 public hearing to try to pare or adjust some more. A bond election is tentatively set for May, but Mayor Wynn recently suggested a delay might be necessary.
- ▶ The May **City Council elections** began to take firmer shape, as Mayor Pro Tem Danny Thomas formally announced his anticipated challenge for mayor, and firefighters union president Mike Martinez declared for the Place 2 seat now held by term-limited incumbent Raul Alvarez. See right and p.24.

## NAKED CITY

- ▶ **Mike Martinez** made it official this week. The Austin Association of Professional Firefighters president, fresh from the hard-fought and headlined negotiations of the latest union contract, declared his candidacy for City Council Place 2, the seat now held by term-limited Raul Alvarez. Martinez told Naked City he wants to be "the advocate for the entire community that he's been for the firefighters," and pointed to his experience at dealing with the issues confronting the council and the city as particularly qualifying him to take this step. He's recruited a brace of political heavy hitters for his campaign team: consultants David Butts and Mark Nathan, former Jennifer Kim aide and campaign manager Amy Everhart, and former Lloyd Doggett aide Kristi Willis. Most prominently, former Council Member Jackie Goodman has agreed to be Martinez's treasurer. Martinez said he will miss his position with the firefighters, but that he wants to "continue his public service for the city of Austin, and to play a leadership role in how it grows and prospers in the future." As reported here earlier, other potential candidates mentioned for Place 2 include Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce President Eliza May and former state Sen. Hector Uribe. — *Michael King*
- ▶ Squeezed for space, county commissioners have agreed to take a second look at the proposed expansion of the **Travis Co. Forensic Center**. At this week's Commissioners Court meeting, Executive Manager Alicia Perez reported that the county already might have outgrown the proposed expansion of its facility on Sabine Street, which was only opened in 1997. County Judge Sam Biscoe says it's time to take a closer look at what outlying counties are paying for their autopsies. More than 40 counties pay to use the services of the Travis Co. medical examiner. If the demand is high enough to demand more space, it might be time for those counties to kick in more money for the services, Biscoe said. County commissioners agreed to put the plan on hold while they mull the issue and review the options with outlying counties. (For more on the medical examiner's office, see p.34). — *Kimberly Reeves*
- ▶ This Saturday, Dec. 3, the city's planning commission is hosting a "retreat," 9am-1pm on the third floor of One Texas Center. Instead of toasting s'mores, they'll be discussing changes to Austin's **neighborhood planning** process. With several neighborhood plans not yet completed — we're looking at you, Downtown — the retreat will be illuminating for those interested in the planning process, or with an axe to grind against the current process. It's open to the public, so don't feel like you're crashing the party. — *Wells Dunbar*
- ▶ **Texas Disposal Systems Landfill Inc.**, operator of a facility just southeast of Austin, has petitioned the EPA to revoke the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's hazardous-waste regulation authority, claiming the commission's failure to act in an ongoing case has put people at risk. For more than eight years, TDS has battled with Zenith Electronics and Penske truck rental company over a load of damaged TV tubes (considered hazardous due to high lead content) dumped at TDS, which is not a hazardous-waste facility. The TCEQ first cited Zenith and Penske for improperly allowing the waste to go to TDS but then said since the waste was diluted with trash, it didn't have to be handled as hazardous. TDS has refused to release the lead-laced garbage, fearing liability, and has alleged improperly close relations between TCEQ, state officials,

continued on p.21



JOHN ANDERSON

## Quote of the WEEK

"You may be asking why run against Mayor Wynn? I can tell you I am not running against the mayor; rather, I am running against maintaining the status quo."

— Mayor Pro Tem **Danny Thomas**, throwing his hat into the ring for next spring's mayoral race against incumbent Will Wynn

**Although the court – like the Legislature – is exquisitely sensitive to the predicament of property owners, it has much less interest in the dire situation of the state’s schoolchildren, especially those without the foresight to be born in a toney suburban school district.**

Such Bolshevik rhetoric, of course, wouldn’t be tolerated in today’s reactionary climate. Indeed, Hecht spends much of his dreary opinion fending off the ideologically driven dissent of his colleague Scott Brister, who would prefer to dismiss two decades worth of grudging educational and legal progress and throw both plaintiffs and schools to the bracing winds of post-“Soviet” “competition.”

**What Would Harriet Do?**

In the state district court of Austin Judge John Dietz, the plaintiff school districts – standing for the majority of the 1,031 state districts – had also prevailed on the issues of “adequacy” and “equity” in funding, demonstrating at excruciating length that the current system neither fulfills its constitution obligation of “suitability” (sufficient to the job at hand) or that of “a general diffusion of knowledge” – both because it is radically underfunded, and those funds are inequitably distributed. In his opinion, Dietz had been abundantly careful to document the current system’s shortfall – using the state’s own witnesses to demonstrate that by the state’s current (and rising) standards, the available money is simply insufficient. And Dietz had also shown, especially for school facilities, the state has made no real attempt to bring the poorest districts up to even a statewide average, in recent years declining even to fund the paltry building programs already established.

Writing for the majority, Hecht sweeps away all that evidence with barely a shrug, saying that things are indeed bad, but they could be worse – and that “adequacy” is all that the Constitution requires. Hecht’s opinion does give lip service to the notion that the schools could use more funds – he especially tut-tuts over the statistics showing epidemic shortages and turnover of certified teachers, and the embarrassing fact that national tests generally fail to reflect the academic “progress” purportedly shown by the state’s tailored test regimes. But in the end, he notes that on the now-

ubiquitous standardized tests, most schools achieve at least “acceptable” state rankings – thus being validated by the very same officials charged with defending the current system before the court. Such is the circular logic of our highly remunerated justices, who so recently (and successfully) lobbied the Lege that they themselves couldn’t be expected to maintain high juridical standards at such piddling salaries.

We should hardly be surprised that the Texas justice who most loudly defended Harriet Miers as adequately qualified for a seat on the U.S. Supreme Court should also find the state’s public school system good enough for government work. But even as such things go, this opinion is a strained exercise in maintaining the political status quo, allowing the public schools to continue to deteriorate while Gov. Perry and the Legislature persist in the charade that all they need worry about is lowering property taxes.

**The Next Shell Game**

Reaction to the decision has been mixed but careful, as officials try to position themselves to approach an inevitable special legislative session necessitated by the court’s new June 1, 2006, deadline. (Meanwhile, another 75,000 students will be added, without more funding, to the Texas schools). Gov. Perry welcomed the court opinion that “additional spending” was not necessarily the answer, while Democrats noted that even a Republican court had acknowledged that if the current pattern continues, the system would soon be both “unsuitable” and “inefficient.” And from deep Inside the Beltway, anti-tax zealot (and Perry confidant) Grover Norquist advertised his willful ignorance by announcing that the court has declared “Robin Hood” (recapture) unconstitutional – although it has done nothing of the sort, and in fact did not question the now well-established principle of equity at all. (Getting there is another matter entirely.)

Nearer home, Austin Rep. Eddie Rodriguez lamented the timidity of the court’s decision, and the even greater timidity of the legislative leadership, which has been studying the problem to death and will spend a few more months (at least until after the primaries) studying it some more. At the outset, noted Rodriguez, they have ruled out the most efficient and equitable solution – a personal income tax dedicated to replace property taxes while directly funding the schools.

Since Rodriguez is now our local Quixote on this matter, I’ll let him have the last word. “The good news is that the Legislature must finally take action. The bad news is, we are: 1) still wasting time on studies, 2) still refusing to look to the most obvious solutions, and 3) still more worried about the politics of taxes than providing an excellent education system.” ■

**BESIDE THE POINT  
THEY ARE THE CHAMPIONS**

As has been the case lately, the real City Council action this week looks to be in the numerous zoning hearings. Aside from gathering the loose ends of the Greater South River City Neighborhood Plan – three cases contentious enough not to be approved earlier with the bulk of the plan – the elephant in the room is the proposed rezoning of the **Champion Sisters’ tract** in north-west Austin. Tracts, actually – the land, named for the three sisters whose family has held it since 1866, comprises five fields at the intersection of Loop 360 and FM 2222. Eager to develop the land with retail, restaurants, and residences, the sisters have butted heads with the city for well over a decade, first suing the city in 1993.

Very long story very short, the sisters’ longstanding ownership of the family plots has raised sticky questions regarding grandfathered development – for instance, the settlement on their original suit allowed for development under 1970s regulations. The legal wrangling has continued since, culminating most recently in August. A ruling on a separate suit leveled at the city added the caveat that trips along the already clogged intersection be limited. Cut to this summer, when the city attorneys – never ones to back away from a fight when they can just run – decided that those limitations should be abandoned, lest the city risk losing its pending suit, along with those Seventies regulations. Council approved the new terms in August, allowing for 11,000 vehicle trips per day, with only Council Members Raul Alvarez and Brewster McCracken voting no.

That thumbnail history brings us to today’s items Z-16 through 18, converting three parcels of the tract to mixed-use development. The terms are unacceptable to the groups like the 2222 Coalition of Neighborhood Associations, expected in full force at council chambers today. They are calling for a traffic impact analysis, along with an environmental review of the proposed development, which lies in the Bull Creek and West Bull Creek watersheds. Regardless of whether council approves the zoning changes, delayed from Nov. 17, the sore feelings (and likely the lawsuits) will linger. As will the traffic.

The clock winds down on federal assistance for **Hurricane Katrina’s** evacuees (remember them?). Jan. 7 is the likely new cut-off date for hotel and motel housing, sparing us the Dickensian sight of increased holiday homelessness (don’t worry, next week’s vote on Austin’s homeless ordinance will suffice), but the feds are treating Austin a little better than the average strande. Council approves a \$21.65 million grant from FEMA this morning, reimbursing the city for some 4,500 units of interim housing, creating a project to track evacuees and “help them become successful in either returning to their former place of residence or in establishing themselves in permanent housing ... here in Austin.”

Other business today includes ratification of the **Austin Association of Professional Firefighters** contract, the first negotiated under collective bargaining talks with the city – a \$4 million-plus contract making Austin’s flame-dousers the highest paid in the state, and a mighty notch in the belt of (just announced, no coincidence) Place 2 candidate, AAPFF president Mike Martinez. **Toll road** fun is also scheduled to resume in earnest with the appointment of McCracken and Betty Dunkerley to the transit love-in that is the Mobility Plan Study committee created to “study” tolls in Central Texas. Lastly, council is doing it for the kids this week – at 5:30pm, winners of the city’s **Mayor for a Day** contest orate their winning entries. No word whether Danny Thomas can compete.   
– Wells Dunbar

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and Pense (see "Lead-Laced Garbage Case back in Court," Oct. 21). The federal hazardous-waste program, administered by the EPA, is delegated to states provided their program is as stringent as the EPA's. TDS says the TCEQ's is not. "If the EPA does not act to correct the problems in a reasonable time, TDS is prepared to file suit in federal court," said TDS attorney Rick Lowrer. More info at [www.texasdisposal.com/tceq\\_filings.htm](http://www.texasdisposal.com/tceq_filings.htm). — Daniel Mottola

▶ AISD awarded on Monday night **belated diplomas to 21 veterans** who left high school to fight in foreign wars. The veterans of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam received a flag from Congressman Lloyd Doggett and a certificate from Sen. John Cornyn, both of whom were represented at the ceremony by staff members. "It is our privilege to honor these men who sacrificed their education to serve their country," said AISD board President Doyle Valdez to an auditorium packed with veterans and their families. — Rachel Proctor May

▶ Travis Co. taxpayers will pay an estimated \$375,000 for a **Jan. 17 special election** to replace former House District 48 Rep. **Todd Baxter**, who left office early to lobby for the cable industry. Gov. Rick Perry this week set the special election date to give the district representation when the Legislature convenes next spring in a special session to address school finance. Democrats say the scheduling is designed to favor the GOP's favored candidate — Ben Bentzin, a former Dell executive with a deep bank account. At least three Democratic candidates are expected to run for the seat — attorney Andy Brown, former Eanes school board member Donna Howard, and former AISD board President Kathy Rider. Another Dem, Kelly White, is pulling the race as well, after nearly beating Baxter in 2004. Democrats will have to scramble because the narrow window forces them to scrounge for money over the holidays. Then the campaign goes full tilt after Jan. 2 for a two-week run before voters go to the polls the day after the Martin Luther King Jr. federal holiday. By contrast, Perry saw no need to call a special election to fill the vacancy created by the death of Houston Rep. Joe Moreno, a Democrat, who was killed in a traffic accident in May. Despite two special sessions in the summer, Perry declined to call for an emergency election to replace one Democrat with another, leaving the district without a voice on crucial school-finance votes. — Amy Smith

## BEYOND CITY LIMITS

▶ Round Rock has made it onto at least one list of national bests, coming in as the eighth safest city in the country, according to the annual **Safest City Awards**, ranked by number-crunching firm Morgan Quitno. Round Rock is the only Texas city to make the overall top 25, while Dallas was the lone Texas city among the country's 25 most dangerous places, sliding in at number 22. Austin placed as the fifth safest city in the country for cities with more than 500,000 people, behind second-ranked El Paso and ahead of 10th-ranked Fort Worth. Dallas and Houston both placed among the most dangerous of the larger cities, ranking No. 5 and No. 9, respectively. For more info, see [www.morganquitno.com/cit06pop.htm#25](http://www.morganquitno.com/cit06pop.htm#25). — Jordan Smith

▶ The **Texas Civil Rights Project** last week filed a lawsuit in federal district court in Waco on behalf of three anti-war activists, arguing that two ordinances passed this fall — on the heels of the monthlong anti-war protest led by Cindy Sheehan — violate their constitutional right to free speech. Veterans Richard Underhill and Benjamin Hart Vigas, along with Sherry Glover, whose son is serving in Iraq, argue that the ordinances passed by McLennan Co. commissioners in September "dramatically" limit the use of public roads near the Bush ranchette, and are overly broad, says Jim Harrington, TCRP director. Indeed, he said, the plain language would prohibit eating on the roadway, even while driving. At a preliminary hearing Nov. 23, a federal judge declined to grant a temporary injunction forbidding county officials from enforcing the provisions while the case is pending. But Harrington said that in his court testimony, McLennan Co. Sheriff Larry Lynch "narrowed" the application of the ordinances, saying the intent is to prohibit a combination of "sleeping, eating and residing" on the affected roadways. So it appears that — at least for the time being — the freedom to stand on the roadside, protest sign in one hand, a sandwich in the other, will remain intact. — J.S.

▶ If you thought manufacturers had quit making toys capable of maiming and debilitating the little ones, you're wrong — at least according to the Texas Public Interest Research Group's 20th annual **"Trouble in Toyland"** report, released last week. According to the report, 16 children died from toy-related injuries last year. Researchers found toxic chemicals such as phthalates, linked to a range of health effects, in several plastic toys, including some labeled "phthalate-free." TEPiRG also found that choking on small parts, small balls, and balloons remains a leading cause of toy-related deaths and that many toys are improperly labeled. Loudness was also cited as a hazard in the report, which noted several toys that exceed the 90-decibel safety standard. Read the full document at [www.toysafety.net](http://www.toysafety.net). — D.M.

▶ A report released Thursday by the Texas Low Income Housing Information Service, an affordable-housing advocacy and research organization based in Austin, warns of an impending housing and social service crisis involving the more than 400,000 people displaced by **Hurricane Katrina** now living in the state. "Meeting the Long-Term Housing Needs of Hurricane Evacuees in Texas," which lays out the findings and recommendations of a TLHIS co-sponsored forum held Oct. 11 at the Capitol, notes that "Hurricane evacuees living in shelters were vulnerable long before the hurricanes struck. Most of them are very low or extremely low-income — people we refer to as 'the working poor.' ... Now, these families are even more vulnerable and are

living in Texas' largest cities without existing social networks, jobs, and of course, stable housing." The federal government has yet to develop a long-term housing assistance plan for evacuees, the report notes, reading, "We don't yet know the long-term housing needs of the evacuees, let alone how we will provide for those needs." As Paul Hilgers, director of the city's Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office, commented in the document's pages, a big part of the problem is that "FEMA is a short term disaster relief program trying to respond to a long-term disaster." To read more, see [www.texashousing.org/tlhis/webnews/issues/news013.pdf](http://www.texashousing.org/tlhis/webnews/issues/news013.pdf). — Cheryl Smith

▶ Two months after **Hurricane Rita**, the actual cost of the damage to East Texas school districts is still undetermined. Tom Canby, the Texas Education Agency's liaison to FEMA, says FEMA teams are still out in the field, doing site surveys of the hurricane's damage. The process of repairs — call the insurance company, assess the damage, file the claim — is a lengthy one, Canby says. FEMA has agreed to provide stopgap coverage for storm damage, but the deductibles are high, as school districts noted at a recent Senate hearing in Beaumont. It took three years to close the books on damage due to Hurricane Alicia. Canby, a retired TEA division head, expects to be working in his role at least through the end of the school year. — K.R.

▶ Standard & Poor's School Matters — a high-dollar collaborative backed by the Gates Foundation — released a report last week saying there's no evidence that the **65% solution** promoted by Gov. Rick Perry produces test-score gains. That echoes the claims of those in the education community who have said the governor's recent executive order was intended to woo conservatives rather than stir changes in education. The 65% solution, proposed in 10 states, including Texas, requires school districts to spend at least 65% of their operating budgets on classroom instruction, a proposal backed by conservative groups such as the Texas Public Policy Foundation and Americans for Prosperity. The S&P report noted, however, that how dollars are spent in the classroom is at least as important as the percentage of dollars spent in the classroom. "The fact of the matter is that 65% has never been about research," says consultant Lynn Moak of Moak Casey, which crunches the numbers for many school districts. "It's a good political line, an overly simplified answer to a complex issue and a standard that will be met through manipulation of information more than meaningful change." — K.R.

▶ When you think of cool-kid consumerism, **Target** springs to mind. The hipster big box joins its decidedly uncool competitor Wal-Mart, however, in getting thumbs down over its birth-control and contraceptive policy. Following an incident in Missouri, where a pharmacist refused to fill a legal prescription for morning-after contraception on moral grounds, Target Corporation has refused to codify policy ensuring its customers will have immediate access to prescription birth control, landing the chain in the crosshairs of Planned Parenthood. Target's response — that prescriptions will be filled "either by another Target pharmacist or a different pharmacy," is unacceptable to PP, who wants Target to ensure prescriptions will be filled in-store and without delay, as many low-income women may have difficulty getting to another store across town. More info is available at [www.fillmypillsnow.org](http://www.fillmypillsnow.org), along with a list of responsible retailers. Curiously, Walgreens joins Target and Wal-Mart in the "thumbs down" category; the city of Austin, in selecting Walgreens as its primary pharmacy, drafted an agreement stating Walgreens would fill all prescriptions in-store, as a stipulation of the company's contract. — W.D.

▶ As temperatures fall, some Americans face the choice of "heat or eat," in the face of astronomically **increased home heating costs**. New research by the Union of Concerned Scientists offers explanations and solutions. "As demand for natural gas continues to grow, domestic production levels have struggled to keep pace and in 2000, rising demand ran into shrinking production," they report. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the 52% of American homes that use natural gas for heat will pay 41-70% more this winter than last, and up to 80% more than the previous five-year average. Fuel oil costs have gone up slightly less. Solutions, according to UCS, include cutting waste with programmable thermostats, weather-stripping and other efficiency techniques, and diversifying our national energy system with clean, homegrown, and more decentralized renewable energy supplies. They cite a recent EIA finding that a national renewable energy standard of 10% by 2020 (railed against by some Republican legislators) would increase competition, gradually bringing all energy prices down, and could save consumers \$22.6 billion by 2025. UCS' analysis found a 20% by 2020 national standard (being pursued in Austin) could save consumers \$49 billion. — D.M.

▶ The number of telecommuters has surpassed transit commuters in 27 of the 50 most populous metropolitan areas in the country, including Austin, according to a new study by Reason, a Libertarian think tank. The study, **"The Quiet Success: Telecommuting's Impact on Transportation and Beyond,"** says telecommuting, a "zero-emissions transportation," may be the most cost-effective way to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality. From 1990 to 2000 the number of those who usually worked at home grew by 23%, and roughly 4.5 million Americans now telecommute most work days, according to Census Bureau data. In what Reason called a decision that could hurt telecommuting, the Supreme Court recently refused to review New York's policy of taxing the income of out-of-state telecommuters, which the think tank says will leave many telecommuters vulnerable to double taxation. As a fix, Congress is considering the Telecommuter Tax Fairness Act to ensure that out-of-state telecommuters aren't taxed twice. Read the full study at [www.reason.org/ps338.pdf](http://www.reason.org/ps338.pdf). — D.M.

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# Daniel Rocha's Last Night:

## Reconstruction, Recommendations, Reprimands

In the moments before Austin Police Officer **Julie Schroeder** fired the 9mm round that killed 18-year-old **Daniel Rocha**, the seven-year veteran officer was scared. She'd just extricated herself from a "close," chest-to-chest struggle with Rocha – who she said was clearly trying to flee from officers to avoid being arrested – when Rocha suddenly turned toward Sergeant **Don Doyle**, who had fallen (or was pushed) on the ground. "There's no question in my mind he's going for ... Doyle," Schroeder said during an Aug. 26 interview with APD Internal Affairs investigators. "Because at that point, I felt like [Rocha] could've chosen other directions to go, but he's going for Sergeant Doyle who is on the ground," she continued. "So I'm grabbing [for my Taser, and the] Taser is gone, and I remember this clearly, like pawing [at my vest] like, 'Oh my God! My Taser is gone.'" As Schroeder looked toward Rocha, she realized it wouldn't be "tough" now for Rocha to use her less-than-lethal electroshock weapon to incapacitate Doyle, she told IA. "I'm scared for ... Doyle's life," she said. After reaching for her missing weapon four times, Schroeder pulled her gun, pointing it toward Rocha's white shirt, and pulled the trigger. "Boom! One shot," she said. And Rocha was dead.

**"Because at that point, I felt like [Rocha] could've chosen other directions to go, but he's going for Sergeant Doyle who is on the ground, so I'm grabbing [for my Taser, and the] Taser is gone, and I remember this clearly, like pawing [at my vest] like, 'Oh my God! My Taser is gone.'"**

– Former APD Officer Julie Schroeder

Although APD Chief **Stan Knee** reviewed Schroeder's statements to IA – along with the rest of the 1,000-plus-page investigative file – and determined that Schroeder's use of deadly force against Rocha the evening of June 9 violated department policy and warranted her termination from the force (which he did on Nov. 18), IA detectives concluded otherwise, recommending to Knee that the allegation be "administratively closed," because Schroeder's actions fell within the limits of APD policy.

While Knee does have the final say on all things disciplinary, his decision to reject the IA findings and fire Schroeder has set off a firestorm of controversy – sparking allegations that Knee's decision was based on political pressure, from the **Office of the Police Monitor** or perhaps from officials inside City Hall, rather than on an impartial review of the investigative facts – and has prompted the **Austin Police Association** to call for Knee's job.

In his 12-page disciplinary memo, Knee said he'd found that the "deadly force encounter" with Rocha was "in my opinion ... avoidable. Not only did ... Schroeder use deadly force when it was not appropriate to do so, she needlessly jeopardized the life of another officer." He concluded that Schroeder



Daniel Rocha's mother, Daniela, with her lawyer Bobby Taylor testifying before a meeting of the Office of the Police Monitor's Citizen Review Panel, as shown on the city of Austin's Channel 6

should've been able to tell whether Rocha actually had her Taser and that, if she couldn't, she might also not have been able to tell whether she was shooting at Rocha and not at Doyle – much the same conclusion reached last month by the Citizen Review Panel, which also recommended that Schroeder be fired. "The bullet that struck Daniel Rocha could have easily passed through his body, striking ... Doyle," Knee wrote.

In contrast, IA investigators concluded that Schroeder's use of deadly force was, in fact, understandable and within policy; they also noted that a Travis Co. grand jury had already declined to indict Schroeder for her actions. It was clear from the evidence, investigators said, that Schroeder and Doyle had been in an "intense" struggle with Rocha in the minutes leading up to his death. Doyle told investigators that he "felt that ... Schroeder made the decision to utilize deadly force against ... Rocha to save his [Doyle's] life," according to an IA summary. "There had already been an intense struggle to place Rocha under arrest, in which Rocha was actively resisting and/or

attempting to flee," IA investigators wrote. "Officer Schroeder felt for her Taser to use it against Rocha, but it was not there." Given that, "seconds before ... Rocha had been grabbing at ... Schroeder's waist and vest area it was reasonable to believe Rocha was attempting to, or had obtained Schroeder's Taser or other weapons." Further, investigators noted that Rocha was in a "tactically superior" position over Doyle, which placed Doyle at risk of having his gun taken and used on either him or Schroeder. "This would've been an even greater concern for Officer Schroeder ... who is much smaller in stature than ... Doyle," investigators wrote. If Schroeder had been on the ground, they concluded, her use of deadly force would have been justified. "Since Officer Schroeder would have been justified in using deadly force to protect herself under these circumstances, she was justified in using deadly force to protect a third person, Sergeant Doyle."

Schroeder is appealing her termination; an independent arbitrator will hear the case early next year.

– Jordan Smith

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# Big Bucks for High School Redesign

As of Monday, **Austin Independent School District** can add a fifth R to its much-touted four R's of **high school redesign**: Rippin' open a big, fat \$1.5 million check from the **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**. The grant will fund a year of planning and community engagement on AISD's effort to redesign all 11 of its comprehensive high schools.

"Redesign" doesn't mean installing hip new draperies – the term is education wonk-speak for overhauling the way schools and their attendant bureaucracies are organized, scheduled, and run to better deliver academic rigor, interpersonal relationships, college and career relevance, and test score results. Two other groups – **Austin Voices for Education and Youth** and **Skillpoint Alliance** – will also receive grants totaling \$200,000 to help the district engage the Austin community in the planning process because, as Superintendent **Pat Forgione** put it, the whole point of taking a year to plan is to hear from as many voices as possible.

"The plans are not developed. The plans are under development," said Forgione at a packed press conference in the library of **Johnston High**. The site was chosen because Johnston has already undergone its redesign. The school was trifurcated last spring into three "academies," organized around the themes of math/science, arts/humanities, and that perennial high school favorite, global enterprise. Forgione made it clear that although all AISD schools will get some sort of reworking, they won't necessarily follow Johnston's model. "Not every high school in Austin ISD will transform at this great, radical level, but we all must transform," he said.

The first step toward that transformation involves writing some checks to consultants.

Monday night the AISD board of trustees approved a \$382,000 contract with the **Stanford University School Redesign Network**, which will provide a critique of each campus' plans. Stanford will also weigh in on a simultaneous process of redesigning AISD's central office, to ensure that the contours of its bureaucracy jibe with the sleek new shape of its schools – whatever that shape turns out to be.

Forgione mentioned the possibility of entirely new institutions, such as a young women's leadership academy or an international high school (a similar concept already exists at Johnston). However, **Kent Ewing**, AISD's director of blueprint schools, promised that every redesigned school would fit the needs of its community. "Every high school has its own DNA," Ewing said.

This is an idea supported by the Gates Foundation, which has been doling out redesign funds for five years – long enough to get a sense of what doesn't work. According to **Steve Seleznow**, director of the Gates Foundation's education program, top-down redesign without community engagement is definitely a "don't." "When the foundation started its work with a major focus on changing high schools, the work initially focused on the best form and structure for a high school," Seleznow said. The past five years, however, have shown that structural change isn't enough on its own. "If you don't have parents who are engaged in that process, it's very difficult to have a smooth and successful change process," he said.

The first major opportunity for public feedback will come in a set of campus-level community forums in January.

– Rachel Proctor May

# AG on Sony Spyware: 'Cloak-and-Dagger Deceit'

Texas Attorney General **Greg Abbott** last week filed a groundbreaking lawsuit against **Sony BMG Music Entertainment**, alleging the company secretly installed an invisible "spyware" program onto millions of music CDs, in violation of state law, leaving consumers and their computers vulnerable to identity thieves, hackers, and viruses. "Sony has engaged in a technological version of cloak-and-dagger deceit," Abbott said. He filed suit under the state's new **Consumer Protection Against Computer Spyware Act of 2005**, which went into effect in September and bans concealed tracking software. The software – reportedly intended as an anti-piracy measure – was installed on 4.7 million CDs released by Sony under 52 different titles. The CDs are designed so that they will not play through a computer until the user acknowledges a user agreement, which, when accepted, causes the surreptitious installation of undetectable spyware tracking files.

Sony BMG says the program is designed only to prevent unlimited copying, and is otherwise dormant. The AG's investigation, however, revealed that the program remains active at all times, "prompting concerns about its

true purpose," Abbott said in a press release. "Consumers who purchased a Sony CD thought they were buying music," he said. "Instead, they received spyware that can damage a computer ... and expose the consumer to possible identity crimes."

**Consumers who purchased a Sony CD thought they were buying music. Instead, they received spyware that can damage a computer ... and expose the consumer to possible identity crimes."**

– Texas Attorney General **Greg Abbott**

Although Sony says it has recalled the affected CDs, Abbott said that AG investigators were able to buy the infected discs at Austin retail stores as recently as Nov. 20. Abbott's suit seeks \$100,000 for each violation of state law, along with attorney fees and investigative costs. For more information, go to [www.oag.state.tx.us](http://www.oag.state.tx.us).

– Jordan Smith



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# Thomas Declares for Mayor

"I come to let you know, as your mayor I will do the best I can."

So began Mayor Pro Tem **Danny Thomas'** much-rumored but now official campaign for mayor of Austin, first thing on a windy Monday morning at City Hall Plaza. Introduced by his "high school sweetheart" and spouse Janis – as "a good man, a fair man, and God's man" – the two-term Place 6 council member thanked his wife, family, and friends for their support, and declared himself on a "mission" to bring "open and straightforward" government to Austin. Thomas, who is term-limited in his current seat, said he's "not running against the mayor [incumbent **Will Wynn**]," but rather "against maintaining the status quo" and "business as usual," and said he would base his campaign and his administration on "positive change, clarity, and inclusion."

As that sounds, the initial announcement was heavy on "fairness," "inclusiveness," and "openness" bromides and light on specifics, although Thomas most often stressed his conviction that "some groups" had been largely excluded from information and the decision-making process at City Hall, and that he hopes to bring them into the process. Pressed by a reporter, he said he thought all sections of the city contained citizens left behind by governance focused primarily on Downtown, and that he hoped to bring a

"more inclusive" style, including more frequent citizen meetings, to the mayor's office.

In light of his stress on openness, Thomas was asked if he had an opinion of the just-launched charter amendment campaign that (among other things) would require that much more documentation of city business be provided online. He said that while certain matters, notably personnel and legal discussions, require privacy, otherwise, "Anything we do as a city government the citizens should know," adding that he would consider the specific amendment. Asked about the possibility of single-member council districts, he said that based on his knowledge of Houston, he would prefer a mixed system.

That was about as close as the talk approached current issues, although the candidate did mention Downtown development and the "public safety gap" – in services and communication – which he said need particular attention. Thomas, who spent 21 years as an Austin police officer, also weighed in gently on the current APD controversies, notably the recent decision by Chief Stan Knee to terminate Officer Julie Schroeder in connection with the shooting of Daniel Rocha. While calling for better communication among all parties – the department, Austin Police Association, and the community – Thomas concluded, "If the chief makes a decision, we have to stand behind that decision." – *Michael King*



JOHN ANDERSON

Mayor Pro Tem Danny Thomas announced on Monday that he'd like to drop the latter two-thirds of his title and will be challenging incumbent Will Wynn for the city's top elected office. Thomas, speaking in front of City Hall, said he bore no ill will toward Wynn, but is running "against maintaining the status quo."

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# Clean Water, Clean Government Campaign Kicks Off

Most anyone at City Hall would tell you that open government is a bright idea. But city officials may actually end up walking the sunshine talk if a citizen initiative passes muster – first with a petition drive and then at the ballot box.

Last week, a grassroots coalition led by the **Save Our Springs Alliance** kicked off a double-header campaign – **Clean Water, Clean Government** – to get two city charter amendments on the May 2006 city ballot.

One proposal, the “open government online” initiative, would require “most” city business to be carried out online, meaning real-time postings of such items as contract agreements, permits, correspondence with lobbyists, and the mayor’s daily calendar. The idea is to shine more light on the day-to-day affairs of city government, including the cloaked process by which companies receive millions of dollars in government subsidies.

On the water front, the “Save Our Springs” charter amendment would strengthen the existing SOS ordinance, which voters overwhelmingly passed in 1992 to limit development in the Barton Springs zone of the Edwards Aquifer. Several lawsuits, loopholes, and legislatures later, city leaders are more inclined to acquiesce to developers’ pre-existing “grandfather” claims than to enforce the ordinance. With voter approval, the amendment would force the city to get behind its own ordinance. It would, for example, require officials to actively direct all forms of development away from the environmentally sensitive areas of southwest Austin, prohibit the city from offering tax abatements or other economic development carrots to companies angling to build in the Barton Springs watershed, and force the city to tighten the noose on its rather loose definition of “grandfathered.”

If recent and past petition drives in Austin are any indication, the Clean Water, Clean Government campaign should meet its mark of collecting 40,000 signatures of registered voters – that’s 20,000 signatures for each charter amendment – to secure a spot on the ballot. Former state Rep. **Glen Maxey**, who led the unsuccessful campaign against the anti-gay marriage amendment Nov. 8, is coordinating the petition drive, as he did with the successful smoking ban initiative. More details on the newest effort are at [www.cleanwater-cleangovernment.org](http://www.cleanwater-cleangovernment.org).

– Amy Smith

# BIKE SPILL LEAVES FORMER MAYOR TODD IN STABLE CONDITION

Doctors and family members credit a bicycle helmet for saving the life of former Mayor **Bruce Todd**, but one could also attribute his survival, in part, to a steely suit of thick skin that he acquired while serving during Austin’s do-or-die era of the Nineties.

Todd is in stable condition at Brackenridge Hospital after a Sunday afternoon bicycle accident near Lockhart left him with a head injury and several broken bones. “He has a broken cheekbone, four broken ribs, and a broken shoulder blade,”

**Elizabeth Christian**, Todd’s wife, said Tuesday. “But he’s alive. He’s alive and very fixable.” The head injury caused bleeding in the brain but no swelling – a favorable sign that Todd likely escaped long-term brain damage. He also escaped paralysis, which he demonstrated by trying to yank out all the tubes he has in him. “Bruce is not a happy camper right now,” Christian said, “but he’s definitely not paralyzed.”

Todd, now a lobbyist, served as mayor from 1991-1997, which saw some of Austin’s most divisive environmental wars and a number of other political firestorms, including one that Todd himself introduced – the **Bicycle Helmet Ordinance** – which touched off a hail of slings and arrows from the bicycle community, all aimed squarely at Todd.

The helmet law was so unpopular that, shortly after Todd left office, a new City Council relaxed the ordinance, making helmets optional for riders over the age of 17. Todd, 55, never exercised that option. He dutifully strapped on his helmet Sunday afternoon and set off on a ride organized by the Austin Cycling Association. More than an hour later, somewhere along a stretch of road south of Lockhart, passersby found him critically injured along the side

of the road. His new bike – an early Christmas present from his wife – was not damaged in the accident, but Christian said she intends to have it checked out for safety purposes. Details of the accident were still being pieced together at press time, but Todd, who was riding alone at the time, is believed to have taken a spill over the handlebars, landing face down on his right side. “They told me in the emergency room that the helmet saved his life,” Christian said.

Todd, who averages about 100 miles a week on his bike, was participating in a ride organized by the **Austin Cycling Association**. This particular afternoon spin gave riders the option of taking a 54-mile route or a shorter route. Todd initially signed up for the longer ride, according to ACA President **Scott Korcz**. But he apparently opted instead for the shorter route – perhaps because he had planned to put up Christmas decorations in his front yard later that afternoon. When he left home that day, Christian and her daughter were decorating a tree and listening to holiday music. As the afternoon wore on, said Christian, “I kept thinking, where is he?” With the stereo cranked up for a Bing Crosby number, Christian didn’t hear her cell phone ringing with news of her husband’s accident. Sheriff’s deputies then tried other family members and located Todd’s sister, Betsy Todd, who drove to her brother’s home and took Christian to the hospital.

Needless to say, the Todd family is doing its part to promote helmets for bike riders, particularly kids 17 and under, who are required to wear the headgear under the city ordinance. At Christian’s request, the Cycling Association – which also requires helmets for all of its ride participants – has set up a fund to accept donations to buy children’s helmets for Central Texas youth organizations. Details are available at [www.austincycling.org](http://www.austincycling.org).

– Amy Smith

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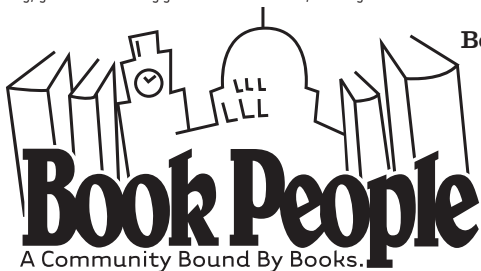


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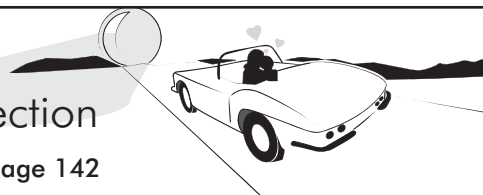
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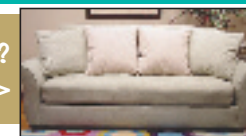


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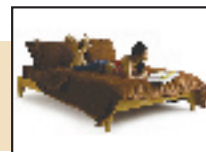


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# Alcoa, von Gonten Family Reach Settlement in Legal Fight

Ending what many considered an effort to intimidate and silence its critics, **Alcoa Inc.**, operator of a massive aluminum smelter and coal-fired power plant in Rockdale, about 60 miles northeast of Austin, inked a settlement in Milam County Court last Tuesday after filing a motion in September seeking more than \$550,000 in legal fees from the **von Gonten** family, whose members sued the company in 2003 for area air pollution and for dumping coal combustion waste on their property without their consent. Alcoa sought fees and sanctions against the family's lawyer, **Michelle McFaddin** – a frequent Alcoa opponent representing community groups in environmental cases – for filing a frivolous lawsuit. "This has all the markings of a SLAPP suit [activist lingo meaning 'strategic lawsuits against public participation'], with Alcoa's goal being to discourage citizens from taking action when the company pollutes their property or damages their health," said **Travis Brown**, energy policy director of consumer-advocate group **Public Citizen**.

Alcoa backfilled a pipeline easement on the von Gonten family's property in 1992 with coal bottom ash from a **TXU** plant the company uses to power its smelter. The ash is known to contain varying amounts of toxic heavy metals. The family's suit was dropped last summer due to waning funds, as well as discrepancies over ownership of the property among family members who were plaintiffs in the suit, according to McFaddin.

The settlement requires the von Gontens and McFaddin to pay just under \$6,000 over the course of one year, the actual court costs they would be responsible for after dropping the suit, but not Alcoa's attorneys' fees. As part of the settlement, Alcoa's motion was dismissed with prejudice, meaning that the family cannot refile the suit. The sanctions against McFaddin were dismissed as well.

Alcoa spokesman **Kevin Lowery** said it was Alcoa's intention "to be compensated for our costs against something we



Alcoa's Rockdale facility

view as somewhat frivolous." He said the bottom ash is an inert material and that the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality** found that the von Gonten family's claims weren't supported by sampling. It was more a lack of substance than property issues that led to the case's withdrawal, Lowery said.

The von Gontens, who have owned the property for four generations and who currently operate a poultry farm there, asked Alcoa to remove the ash before any suit was filed, fearing groundwater contamination, according to McFaddin. "This could've been resolved for a fraction of what [Alcoa] spent defending themselves," she said. **Steve Young**, a Houston attorney and family friend representing the von Gontens, said the family even offered to let Alcoa take soil from its property to fill the hole around the pipeline. When the area was tested in 2003 by an expert the von Gontens hired, trace amounts of the heavy metals barium and mercury were found, McFaddin said. TCEQ spokesman **Terry Clawson** said the agency itself

has no record of testing the soil on the family's land. He referenced a September 2004 letter from the TCEQ to McFaddin that said testing of the ash done in 1992 by Alcoa did not detect barium, lead, or mercury at regulated levels, but that two of the three later tests by the von Gontens indicated a heavy metal presence above normal Texas thresholds. The TCEQ letter also noted, however, that the family's tests didn't account for any possible leaching, as ash below the soil wasn't tested. "The sampling that has been conducted to-date by Alcoa and the von Gontens' consultant does not support any claims that the bottom ash around the pipeline was the cause of any alleged contamination," the letter read. "Accordingly, based on current facts, TCEQ will not pursue an enforcement action at this time."

Observers suspected that Alcoa's six-figure claim was meant to intimidate, given McFaddin's successful lawsuit against the company on behalf of Lee and Bastrop counties citizens group **Neighbors for Neighbors**, which is opposed to Alcoa's efforts to get statewide rules for coal waste disposal relaxed. McFaddin is currently representing NFN and Public Citizen in new statewide proceedings with the **Texas Railroad Commission**, the federal **Office of Surface Mining**, and the **EPA**, in which the coal industry is allegedly planning another attempt to change the rules for its waste. Having focused her work on the disposal of coal ash in Texas surface mines, she said she will argue for "rules that will carefully regulate the recycling of these utility wastes to ensure that they aren't dumped on or into the ground [and] subject to leaching into groundwater supplies." Both McFaddin and Alcoa representatives testified before the National Academy of Sciences in January when they met in Austin to discuss the safety of using coal combustion waste to reclaim or refill surface mines. The Academy report is expected by the end of the year.

– Daniel Mottola

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Angel Raich receiving a marijuana-based medical treatment

## WEED WATCH

### MEDI-POT PATIENT RAICH CONTINUES LEGAL FIGHT

California medi-pot patient **Angel Raich** began a second round of federal appeals on Nov. 28, when she filed a brief with the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, arguing that the federal government's threat to prosecute medi-pot patients using the drug based on a doctor's recommendation, and in accordance with state law, violates her right to due process and contravenes the common-law "doctrine of necessity." Raich, who has an inoperable brain tumor and suffers from a deadly wasting disease – among a host of other serious medical conditions – had tried numerous legal pharmaceuticals to control her illnesses, without success.

After the feds stepped up raids on medi-pot patients and dispensaries in California, Raich (with fellow California medi-pot patient **Diane Monson**, who has withdrawn from the case) in 2002 sued the government, arguing that it had no right to interfere with her wholly intrastate cultivation and use of medi-pot. The lower courts sided with Raich, but, on appeal from the government, the U.S. Supreme Court disagreed. In a June decision the court ruled 6-3 that federal narcotics have the right, via the Constitution's commerce clause, to police medi-pot use and prosecute patients in the 11 states that have legalized the use of medi-pot. According to the majority opinion, authored by Justice **John Paul Stevens**, the government may use its commerce clause power to "regulate commerce ... among the several states" to enforce the drug regulation and prohibition scheme codified in the 1970 **Controlled Substances Act**. "Our case law firmly establishes Congress' power to regulate purely local activities that are part of an economic 'class of activities' that have a substantial effect on interstate commerce," Stevens wrote.

Still, the court did not contemplate any of the other legal questions raised by the case and remanded the case back to the 9th Circuit for further consideration. In her new court filing, Raich argues that the right to due process prohibits the government from interfering with her ability to take "the only medication that enables her to avoid intolerable pain and death," and violates her "fundamental right to life and her fundamental liberty interests in making life-shaping decisions, preserving bodily integrity, and avoiding intolerable pain." Moreover, Raich argues that the common-law doctrine of necessity prohibits the feds from using the CSA to ban her use of medi-pot. Raich's pot consumption is medically necessary and was recommended by her doctors "only after determining that she has 'no reasonable legal alternative to cannabis for effective treatment or alleviation of her medical conditions or symptoms,'" reads the brief.

**In her new court filing, Raich argues that the right to due process prohibits the government from interfering with her ability to take "the only medication that enables her to avoid intolerable pain and death," and violates her "fundamental right to life and her fundamental liberty interests in making life-shaping decisions, preserving bodily integrity, and avoiding intolerable pain."**

Raich says she's confident that the appeals court will, once again, rule in her favor. If it does, it seems likely that her case may, once again, wind up on the high court's docket. "I fear for my health, my safety and my family, but I am confident that the 9th Circuit ... will again agree that I am in every way acting in accordance with the law," she said. "I just want the opportunity to be a mother to my children without having to live in constant fear that the government will raid my home or throw me in jail simply for taking the medicine ... that keeps me alive."

- Jordan Smith

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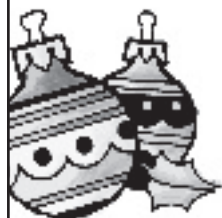


Theodor Seuss Geisel, *Green Eggs and Ham*, Inside Book Cover 1960, Lithograph, <sup>TM</sup> & © 1960 Dr. Seuss Enterprises, L.P. All Rights Reserved.



Tom Lea, *Preliminary Sketch for Mural, West Texas Room, State of Texas Building (detail)*, 1936, Pencil and ink on illustration board, 28 1/4 x 39 1/4 inches, Courtesy of the Hobby Family.

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# 'Real World' Rap Sheet

On the night he was arrested for misdemeanor assault, **The Real World** cast member **Nehemiah Clark** was hounded down Sixth Street, a media beast fleeing packs of jeering thugs and **MTV** cameras, his attorney says. Hoping for a brief moment off camera, he stumbled from bar to bar, tormented, searching for a moment of peace.

And ... well ... yadda yadda yadda ... he ended up, allegedly, accidentally bitch-slapping the dude at the **Best Worst** stand.

Hey, these things happen in the alternative reality of *The Real World*, which has quite a bit to say about modern culture, media manipulation, and human sexuality – for anyone interested in sifting through the empty beer bottles and used condoms. If criminal cases are any indication, the Austin gang was a stellar band of overachievers. Tens of thousands of drunken students descend on Sixth Street every year, but these seven managed to produce three arrest reports in three months, which is, as they say, not bad.

Clark is due in court Dec. 5 on a pretrial hearing, although his attorney, Kristin Etter, believes the matter will be resolved soon. The vaunted **MTV** cameras, there to capture every real nuance, missed the confrontation, she said, depriving *Real World* fans of another classic real moment of real drunken violence.

Already a Hall of Fame classic is the scene of cast member **Danny Jamieson** getting his face pounded on Sixth Street, an incident which led to the arrest of **Ryan Getman**, 29, on charges of aggravated assault. Getman's case is winding through the system; a hearing last week was rescheduled. Meanwhile, "fiery Peruvian" cast member **Johanna Botta** is free and clear after paying her debt to society over a drunken episode involving an accusation she stole a rose from a street-side stand. After pleading no contest to public intoxication – a wise move, all things considered – she worked 16 hours of community service and attended an alcohol education class, even though she already seemed to know quite a bit about alcohol.

The **MTV** cameras caught a snippet of Botta's arrest, but it's clear the show provided only a brief glimpse of what it was really like for the "seven strangers" plopped into the middle of downtown Austin with ready cash, cheap liquor, and an entourage of camera crews. **MTV** has created these little *Real World* operatic pieces for 16 years now, and any concept of depicting reality was long ago jettisoned in favor of watching exhibitionist binge drinkers react to the opportunity to act like sleaze-hos on national TV.

By all accounts, the Austin cast practically lived on Sixth Street, moving from club to club, seeing what they could stir



DOUG POTTER

up with cameras, production money, and a few bright lights. After Jamieson's altercation, the entourage included off-duty Austin police officers, hired to provide security for the TV crews.

Needless to say, the gang was hard to miss when they entered a club, especially when the cast members were falling down, blithering drunk, which was fairly often, based on what was shown on TV. They were eager to interact with locals, especially those interested in boinking someone on national TV. According to all reports, tensions often ran high. At times, it was clear the cast members "wanted to be treated a certain way," like stars, said **Ben Cantu**, general manager of **Blind Pig Pub**.

As they trolled the streets, their movements were breathlessly tracked by die-hard fans. They would often be seen ducking into bars and racing to get away from the cameras. On **RealWorldAustin.com**, a site devoted to all things *Real World*, a member named "JLR" described one of Nehemiah's earlier altercations. "People were screaming this is the REAAAAL WORLD and f\*\*k the real world and go home get out of Austin," JLR wrote on the site. Another poster described following the cast, trying to take pictures. "I pulled around the block and saw them at 4th and San Jan where Nehemia gave me his opinion of my picture taking," "drycreek" breathlessly reported. "I found a parking spot on 7th and located them at a pizza shack across from Touche. About 9:40 they headed down to Spill."

"Our advice was to learn to walk away. I don't think they took the advice at all."

– APD Officer Mike Sheffield

At one point, worried that somebody was going to get hurt, APD officers providing security asked the cast members not to engage the crowds trying to harass them, according to **Mike Sheffield**, president of the **Austin Police Association**. "Our advice was to learn to walk away," Sheffield said. "I don't think they took the advice at all." Sheffield says the off-duty cops were unaware that two of the cast members – Clark and **Wes**, "the frat boy" – were underage. (According to Sixth Street bartenders, both were using fake IDs.) "We were there for the film crew," Sheffield said.

Clark's experience the night he was arrested provides a glimpse into life as a reality TV celebrity. Clark – in anguish over having to finish an edit of a short documentary on South by Southwest, as all true fans know – apparently managed to elude both the cameras and his police escort. "He just wanted to be left alone," Etter said. But a group of men followed him from nightclub to nightclub, threatening him and muttering racist remarks. "People will do anything to be on television," Etter said.

That's how it was for the lovable gang of drunks as they wandered the streets with light crews and boom mics. People would throw things from windows and yell curses at them, Etter says. "They were constantly under attack, both verbally and physically." The cast "always had to be on the defensive," with the lights operating like magnets for the Sixth Street crowds, she said.

Little of that was shown on TV, however, as **MTV** portrayed the youngsters as sage philosophers, walking among us to share their wisdom. "Actions speak louder than words," Clark said after apologizing on-camera to the Best Worst guy, sounding like a shaman for his generation. The next episode, Yoda Clark was heard imparting upon a housemate the ancient wisdom of "Don't put your hands on me, bitch."

According to his attorney, Clark is now directing music videos and delivering "motivational" talks on drug and alcohol abuse – tidbits of news that will certainly send a million blogs atwitter.

Meanwhile, *The Real World* gang has moved on to Key West, where they're making new friends. A neighbor sued over the noise and lights from the house, and last week a crew member was punched in the face outside a bar. According to a local newspaper report, the incident "caused such a large crowd to gather that traffic was stopped in both directions." – *Kevin Brass*

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# THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

## DANGEROUS PRESIDENTIAL SILLINESS

The White House has gone from slippery to silly.

First came the stunning news that George W. has ordered his own staff to undergo mandatory refresher courses in ethics. Ethics! Good grief. The Bush White House is to ethics what a New Orleans levee is to flood control: porous to say the least. Exactly who is George W. trying to convince of exactly what with this silly stunt?

Far more damning, however, is the White House's second act of desperate silliness, which, ironically, was launched on Veterans' Day. Apparently oblivious to the key liberties that America's veterans have fought and died to preserve, Bush lashed out at those who dare to dissent from his war rationalizations. In particular, he's assailing critics who maintain that he – along with Cheney, Condi, Rummy, Colin, and gang – misled the American people into going to war with Iraq.

Shamelessly trying to brand his critics as unpatriotic, Bush wailed that it is "deeply irresponsible" to question his motives, asserting that such criticism hurts America's war effort. "The stakes in the global war on terror are too high," he cried, "and the national interest is too important, for politicians to throw out false charges."

Uh ... excuse me, George. Not to point out the obvious, but weren't you the politician who threw out the Big One? You know, the false charge that Saddam had weapons of mass destruction. Then there was your false charge that Saddam could hurl his WMD all the way to America and whap us with a mushroom cloud. And don't forget your false charge that Saddam was a backer of al Qaeda and was involved in the 9/11 attack on America – a charge that you apparently took from an informer known to be an unreliable drunk.

The only thing sillier than a president who lies about the reasons for taking our nation to war is one who then tries to label as traitorous those who point out his lies. That's not only silly ... but dangerous.

## THE ABSURDITY OF PAT

Satire is dead. When a society's reality becomes so inherently absurd that it cannot be satirized, satire is dead.

In our society, Pat Robertson's maniacally bloated ego has become the dark hole of absurdity ... and the death of satire. This Republican televangelist sucks in all surrounding reality, contorting and condensing it to an impenetrable mass of his own pseudo-religious pomposity, which he occasionally spews forth to the faithful as the veritable word of God. Recent spewings have included his call for the assassination of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, his assertion that the State Department would be improved if a nuclear bomb were to explode within it, and his prediction that Orlando would be hit with a meteor because it allowed a gay pride event to take place.

Now the apocalyptic absurdist has struck again, this time promising God's wrath on Dover, Penn. This township recently found itself at the hot center of the campaign by a group of religious creationists to impose their belief in "intelligent design" on America's science educators. These creationists took over the local school district and, last fall, put their religious notion into the science curriculum. Parents, however, were less than grateful, and this fall the voters summarily dumped the creationists from office, reinstating (o, progress!) science-based science in the classrooms.

Robertson sucked all of this reality into his head, declared that it had infuriated God, and ominously suggested that divine wrath could soon visit Dover. "I'd like to say to the good citizens of Dover: If there is a disaster in your area, don't turn to God; you just rejected him from your city." Instead, speaketh Pat, the people of Dover should try praying to Charles Darwin.

If secular humanists tried to invent an absurd religious protagonist, they could not in their wildest dreams invent one as absurd as Robertson.

Jim Hightower is the bestselling author of *Let's Stop Beating Around the Bush*, on sale from Viking Press. For more information, visit [www.jimhightower.com](http://www.jimhightower.com).

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# What Killed Michael Clark?

The official Travis Co. autopsy doesn't tell the whole story

BY JORDAN SMITH

Just after 1pm on Sept. 26, the second of two record-breaking 108-degree days, Austin police officers working the department's Southeast Area Command responded to a call for service on East William Cannon Drive. When they arrived, they found 33-year-old Michael Clark involved in an altercation with an as-yet-unidentified woman. According to an APD press release, Clark was "displaying behavior that was violent and irrational." As the officers tried to arrest him for public intoxication, he threatened them and fought with them, biting Detective Robin Denton on the hand and injuring Sgt. Robert Pewitt's shoulder. Eventually nine officers were on the scene and at least two used weapons on Clark, spraying his face with pepper spray and striking him three times with a Taser – twice in the chest and once in the arm – before they were able to subdue him. Once Clark was under control, the officers sat him upright – department procedure whenever a Taser is used – called EMS, and poured water on him, to cool him down in case he was overheated, reported Travis Co. Deputy Medical Examiner Elizabeth Peacock, and Clark seemed to be breathing fine. But that didn't last; according to APD, shortly after he was taken into custody, Clark went into "medical distress" and was transported by EMS to South Austin Hospital. At 3:55pm he was pronounced dead.

Most details of the incident – recorded by APD in-car video cameras, and in police, EMS, and hospital reports – remain under seal by the APD, because officers are still reviewing the incident, standard procedure for any police-related death. The two officers who fired their Tasers at Clark – officers Douglas Drake and Blaine Eiben – were placed on restricted duty immediately following the incident, but after an initial review by police investigators, they were returned to the street just two days later. "It appears to us the officers followed the [use-of-force] policy that we have established," Assistant Chief Cathy Ellison told the *Statesman* on Sept. 29.

Nonetheless, Michael Clark was dead. It was more than a month before the ME's office released Peacock's autopsy report, signed on Oct. 28 but performed the day after his death. According to Peacock, Clark died as a "result of consequences of massive intravascular sickling associated with extreme physical activity due to PCP and cocaine induced excited delirium."

**Clark died as a "result of consequences of massive intravascular sickling associated with extreme physical activity due to PCP and cocaine induced excited delirium."**

– Travis Co. Deputy Medical Examiner Elizabeth Peacock

PCP and cocaine induced excited delirium." (As a consequence of "sickling," or collapsing, red blood cells lose oxygen, and the liquid hemoglobin they contain becomes a gel-like substance, due to a genetic disorder known either as sickle cell anemia or sickle cell trait, the two forms of the disease.) In other words, according to Peacock, Clark was high and became agitated and "delirious" enough to cause his blood to lose oxygen, which in turn caused the red blood cells to sickle, killing him.

Moreover, Peacock appeared determined to exclude absolutely any external contributing causes to the fatality. She concluded that neither the Taser strikes nor the heat of the day contributed, in any way, to Clark's death. Clark's body temperature – taken under his armpit at the scene by EMS – was just 99.7, "effectively ruling out any component of hyperthermia," Peacock wrote. And an initial cardiac test, also taken by EMS, showed "normal sinus rhythm," ruling out any "direct contribution of the Taser," which according to the ME would have produced a spiking, rapid heartbeat.

Clark's family and supporters, including Nelson Linder, president of the Austin chapter of the NAACP, have not accepted Peacock's findings, and they do not believe that Clark's death was caused either by blood-cell sickling or by drugs. Instead, they suspect that it was caused by the police use of force, and most specifically, by the repeated Taser strikes. "There are lots of inconsistencies [in the autopsy report]," says Linder, and "we feel very certain" that sickling did not cause Clark's death.

Nonetheless, Peacock is adamant: Red blood cell sickling killed Clark – not the Taser or the heat. In the course of preparing her autopsy, Peacock says she reviewed videotapes of the event, read EMS and hospital reports, and even had police go back out to the scene the next day to take temperature readings, to determine how hot the concrete and a patrol car had been. "Had it not been for the sickling, [Clark] would be alive today," Peacock said in a phone interview. "I've gone to medical school, I saw the tapes, and that's my conclusion."

But Clark's family members aren't the only ones skeptical of that conclusion. Indeed, medical experts asked by the *Chronicle* to review the Clark autopsy – including doctors, genetic researchers, and forensic pathologists – all say they don't believe sickling caused Clark's death, and several doubt that he died from drug-induced delirium. What they don't know, they said, is what did kill Michael Clark. "There are lots of unanswered questions," says Dr. Oswaldo Castro, acting assistant director of the Center for Sickle Cell Disease research at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

## The Suspect Sickle Cells

For the record, sickle cell trait and sickle cell anemia are not the same thing. Each is a



Family photograph shows Michael Clark (second from left) and brother Jeff Clark (right) with unidentified friends.

COURTESY JEFF CLARK

**CONCLUSION:**

Based on the anatomic findings at autopsy, and investigation information available to me at this time, it is my conclusion that MICHAEL CLARK, a 33 year old Black male died as a result of consequences of massive intravascular sickling associated with extreme physical activity due to PCP and cocaine induced excited delirium. He carried the sickle cell gene from one parent.

Information elicited by EMS on initial evaluation shows an axillary temperature of 99.7 degrees F, effectively ruling out any component of hyperthermia. Also documented by EMS is an initial cardiac rhythm in normal sinus rhythm, with subsequent widening of the QRS complexes, then proceeding rapidly to asystole. This documentation effectively rules out any direct contribution of the Taser stun use, as electrical stuns produce death by initiating either ventricular fibrillation or ventricular tachycardia.

Of particular interest in this case are the hospital electrolyte studies indicating an initial potassium level of 7.8 mmol/L, in the lethal concentration range. This occurred as the result of the lysis or breaking of the red blood cells associated with the sickling episode.

Concluding section of Michael Clark autopsy, as released by the Travis Co. Medical Examiner's Office, Oct. 28. (Reproduction of original document.)

form of sickle cell disease, a genetic disorder, but they are not equally severe. People with sickle cell trait carry a single defective gene – from either mother or father – and while they are carriers of the disease, people with sickle trait typically live a symptom-free life, says Dr. William Winter, acting director of the Center for Sickle Cell Disease research at Howard University. In contrast, people with sickle cell anemia carry two defective genes, and typically manifest a host of problems, from joint pain to kidney disease. In her autopsy report,

Peacock noted that Clark carried a "sickle cell gene from one parent," meaning he was living with sickle cell trait. (Unfortunately, both the APD and the local press incorrectly interpreted Peacock's findings, reporting that Clark had sickle cell anemia.)

The difference between the two forms of the disease is important, experts say, because it is extremely rare that a person carrying the sickle cell trait would ever "keel over and drop dead from sickling" – even under "extreme" conditions, says Winter, such as flying in an airplane

that is not adequately pressurized. Perhaps more important, however, is the fact that death itself always causes sickling in red blood cells, even in a person with no genetic disorder. As such, experts say, finding sickling after death is in no way indicative of how or why a person died. "It's extremely unusual for people to die of sickle cell crisis under any circumstance," says Dr. Michael Baden, the star of the HBO series *Autopsy* (and in the 1970s, chair of the congressional panel reinvestigating the deaths of President John F. Kennedy and civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr.). Moreover, Baden continued, "Finding sickle cells at autopsy doesn't mean anything."

### Delirium or Hypoxia?

Also problematic, says Baden, is Peacock's determination that the allegedly fatal sickling event was brought on by drug-induced "excited delirium," an increasingly cited but somewhat controversial cause of death, most often applied to cocaine users who die suddenly while in police custody. The American Medical Association does not recognize excited delirium as a diagnosable disease or syndrome, but the condition, while not well defined, has been around for more than 20 years, and is accepted by the National Association of Medical Examiners. "It is a very rare situation that happens when you take cocaine," said Baden. Within 30 minutes of using cocaine – the window of time for the drug's peak effects – the user becomes agitated, combative, and wild, as "your temperature shoots up to 109 degrees and you die," Baden said. (Exactly why some, typically chronic, drug abusers die from excited delirium is unknown, but some researchers theorize that it is caused by increased adrenaline and dopamine production that becomes a lethal cocktail of naturally occurring body chemicals.)

But Clark didn't have cocaine in his bloodstream, only its metabolite in his urine, meaning he wasn't under the influence of cocaine at the time of his death. (Cocaine is generally

**"It's extremely unusual for people to die of sickle cell crisis under any circumstance. ... Finding sickle cells at autopsy doesn't mean anything."**

**– Dr. Michael Baden**

flushed from the bloodstream within 24 hours.) And Baden says he isn't aware of any cases of PCP-induced excited delirium. Moreover, the fact that Clark's temperature was just 99.7 degrees immediately following his confrontation with police also tends to rule out excited delirium as the cause of death, he said. "If he'd had excited delirium, [his] armpit temperature should [have been] around 106-107."

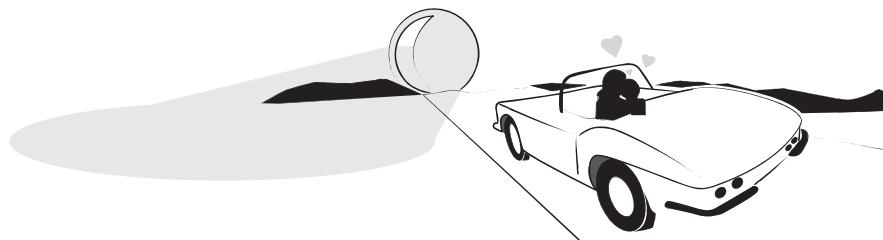
Although Baden is hesitant to draw any hard conclusions without reviewing the police videos and the EMS and hospital reports, he suspects that Clark's death may in fact have been caused by something far less exotic than either sickle cells or excited delirium. Instead, Baden says it's far more likely that Clark died from hypoxia – a loss of oxygen – brought on by the pepper spray, Tasers and, perhaps, police hand-

*continued on p.36*

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cuffing technique. “The most common way someone dies in this [type of] situation is from [someone] sitting on the [person’s] back while handcuffing them,” he said. “This is a concern because pepper spray ... prevents [a person] from breathing properly, as do Tasers. [So, from the drugs] he gets disoriented and argumentative, and what he is, is a mental health problem,” he continued. “If [Clark] had not had this encounter with the police, he wouldn’t have died – not from the high temperature, not from the sickle cell, [not from] the argument.”

## Adding the Taser

Do Tasers kill? If so, how? Those two questions are at the heart of the ongoing debate over police use of the electroshock Taser gun. More than 8,000 law enforcement agencies in 43 countries have added Tasers to their arsenals, and many departments credit the weapon with decreasing injuries and reducing the number of potentially lethal police confrontations. In April, APD Chief Stan Knee reported to council that APD use of Tasers has led to a marked reduction in injury to both officers and suspects – a decrease of 53% and 80%, respectively – and a reduction in the number of complaints of excessive use of force by police – down from 36 in 2002 to 27 in 2004.

Still, not everyone is delighted with the proliferation of the Taser, and several human-rights organizations, including Amnesty International, have called for a moratorium on their use, arguing that research into the effects of the Taser’s 50,000-volt shock are, at best, inconclusive and that police policies governing their use are inconsistent and insufficient to protect against abuse. Electroshock weapons, like those manufactured by industry leader Taser International, are not regulated by any governmental agency, and there are no universal manufacturing standards. Moreover, there has not been any government-sponsored research on the health effects of electroshock weapons since 1976, when the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission



M26 Tasers like the ones APD uses

concluded that the weapon’s electric charge “would not be expected to kill a normally healthy adult,” but that “persons especially sensitive to electric shock could be at risk.”

While the CPSC’s conclusion – echoed in recent years by subsequent research – may be unsatisfying, it’s hard to determine the specific physiological effects of a Taser strike, says Tarrant Co. Deputy Medical Examiner Lloyd White. The 50,000 volts delivered during a five-second Taser strike alone is not enough to kill, White said, but the weapon does appear able to set off a fatal chain of events in some people – especially those with drugs in their system. “There have been 100 and some Taser deaths documented ... and virtually all of them have coke or meth on board,” he said. “We’ve had four or five this year, [and it’s interesting to see] how many are related to multiple Taser shots. That’s the biggest source of controversy.” Moreover, the standard five-second strike by a Taser fired from a distance may not be the only procedure worth reviewing; a handheld Taser applied directly by an officer is capable of

delivering an ongoing shock much longer in duration than five seconds.

Indeed, in June, Taser International issued a training bulletin, warning that “[r]epeated, prolonged, and/or continuous exposure(s) to the [Taser] electrical discharge may cause strong muscle contractions” that could “impair breathing ... particularly when the probes are placed across the chest or diaphragm.” Further, according to the bulletin, when dealing with individuals exhibiting signs of excited delirium, police should be careful to use the Taser in combination “with physical restraint techniques to minimize the total duration of the struggle and minimize the total duration of [Taser] system stimulation.” The company issued the bulletin, in part, because it “has come to our attention that there may be a training issue where [police] are avoiding touching the subject [of the use of force] during the Taser application,” the bulletin reads – meaning, apparently, that instead of taking advantage of the Taser-induced incapacitation, some officers were waiting to move in to cuff the suspect until after the jolt was complete, thereby necessitating repeated strikes.

Taser foes quickly pointed to the report as evidence that the Taser is more dangerous than the company had previously led the public to believe. Not true, says Steve Tuttle, Taser International’s vice-president of communications. The point of the bulletin was to provide additional information that could be helpful in building law enforcement Taser-use policies, Tuttle said, and not to suggest that the Taser is lethal. “If we found evidence in medical testing that would lead us toward [that conclusion, we would say so],” Tuttle says. “In fact, [Tasers] are not risk-free at all. We’ve been in the forefront of that too. The first manual we put out said, ‘Watch out: These can put an eye out!’”

And although Taser foes claim that more than 100 people have died after being shocked with the weapon, Tuttle notes that the Taser has been cleared as the cause of death in almost every case. In fact, he said last month, by the second week in November the Taser had already been “cleared” in three recent deaths – including Clark’s.

## Open Questions

Clark’s family isn’t as convinced as Tuttle and Peacock that the Taser played no part in Michael Clark’s death, says Nelson Linder, who has secured an outside expert to review Peacock’s work in the case. Questions in the Clark case are not likely to be resolved by Peacock’s categorical refusal to consider

**This week, independently of the police department, a panel of five local medical experts plans to convene to review the record on Clark’s case, in an effort to understand the “medical implications” of Clark’s death.**

contributing factors to Clark’s death. And it doesn’t help that the Travis Co. Medical Examiner’s Office has made several recent, high profile errors – including a botched toxicology testing in the emotionally charged police shooting death of Daniel Rocha. In October, county commissioners ordered an audit of the office that will focus on medical practices and procedures. (For a list of recent cases in question, see “Trouble at the ME’s Office,” below.)

On the day the Clark autopsy was released, APD officials issued a brief press statement, noting that the department “continues to believe that the proper use of Tasers is critical to ensure situations are resolved with minimal injuries to officers and suspects,” and pointing out that Peacock ruled that Clark’s death was “accidental” and “did not result from the deployment of Tasers by officers.” Nonetheless, in the same statement, the department announced that City Manager Toby Futrell has asked EMS Medical Director Ed Racht to “develop a committee of local medical professionals to research the medical implications associated with the use of Tasers.” In the intervening weeks, Futrell’s directive resulted in an upcoming conference of medical directors, physicians, and academics from across the nation – including Racht’s counterparts in Chicago, San Francisco, Nashville, New York, Houston, and Dallas – who will converge in Austin on Dec. 8-9 to “review the clinical literature, the medical literature, [and] the published data,” Racht said recently, related to the medical effects of Tasers. The goal, Racht said, will be to help “our communities” understand the medical implications of Taser use.

“All of us, clinically, are struggling with the same issues,” says Racht. “It’s an emotionally charged issue, a clinically charged issue, that is important to all sides.” Racht said the panel of medical professionals hope to come up with a set of medical recommendations “that [we] can take back to [our] communities and start doing the best we can.” Moreover, Racht said that this week, independently of the police department, a panel of five local medical experts – including Racht as well as Peacock – plans to convene to review the record on Clark’s case in particular, in an effort to try to understand the “medical implications” of Clark’s death. Racht said the panel’s findings will be made public. “The purpose,” he said, “is to let the public know” why Clark died.

And that, says Dr. Baden, is an admirable goal that should also help police better do their job – “The police are equally being misled by a diagnosis of sickle cell,” he said. “They assume that is correct.”

## Trouble at the ME’s Office

The Travis Co. Medical Examiner’s Office has had its share of high-profile troubles over the years, prompting the Commissioners Court in October to order an outside audit of the office’s operations. Here are just a few of the more recent low-lights:

- In December 2003, the office released the wrong body for cremation. Instead of sending 38-year-old Paul Williams, they released 39-year-old Rayford Floyd, whose family had wanted a burial. Travis Co. Medical Examiner Roberto Bayardo told the *Statesman* Floyd’s body had been incorrectly labeled. “We are very sorry this happened,” he said. “I had thought we were foolproof!”
- In June 2004, the office misidentified the charred remains of an 81-year-old woman as those of a 23-year-old man. In his autopsy report, former Deputy Medical Examiner Vladimir Parungao identified the remains as those of Clayton Wayne Daniels, noting that he’d found a “small segment of penis” and a small amount of urine in the bladder that he matched to Daniels. Unfortunately, the corpse was that of an already dead – and embalmed, buried, and then exhumed – woman, leaving Burnet Co. officials (for whom the ME’s office had conducted the examination) wondering if the ME’s office actually examined the body. “They’ve got some serious explaining to do,” Burnet Co. Attorney Eddie Arredondo told the *Houston Chronicle*.
- In June 2005, the office mistakenly reported that 18-year-old Daniel Rocha, who was shot and killed by police on June 9, was drug-free at the time he was killed. After APD questioned the results, the ME’s office performed a second, more discriminating toxicology, which revealed there was a small amount of marijuana in Rocha’s bloodstream when he was killed.
- In August 2005, the office reported that Randy “Biscuit” Turner died from cirrhosis caused by alcohol abuse. After learning that Turner didn’t drink alcohol, the office reversed their finding to reflect that the cirrhosis was caused by hepatitis C. The alcohol found in Turner’s system, the office subsequently reported, was the result of body decomposition. — J.S.

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## PALE IDIOT':

### Return to the Rudeness That Started It All

Going on 10 years ago, a group of friends wanted to start a new Austin theatre company. They asked playwright Kirk Lynn to write something especially for them that they could do on the cheap, and Lynn penned *Pale Idiot*, a dark absurdist comedy that can stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the plays of Ionesco and Beckett. Thus began the Rude Mechanicals, Austin's now nationally known theatre collective, the purveyors of the perennially popular *Lipstick Traces*, *Requiem for Tesla*, and *How Late It Was, How Late*. As a kind of remembrance and celebration, the company is reviving the show that started it all, and we asked director Michael Mergen about this latest, very special production.

**Austin Chronicle:** So what prompted the revival?

**Michael Mergen:** I saw the original production, and it stuck in my imagination. I was a UT film student at the time, and since then, the more theatre I've done the more it's come back to me, and I've just wanted to attack it. I must have talked about this with Kirk at least once a year, and I was talking with him about it last year when Lana Lesley [one of the Rudes' five co-producing artistic directors – "copads"] heard us and walked up and said, "OK, then do it."

**AC:** Any changes in the script or the show that reflect how far the Rude Mechs have come?

**MM:** Company members fill four of the six roles, but they're newer company members, which was kind of a choice I made. When I was thinking about the casting for this, the company for the first time in a couple of years had just invited a bunch of new artists in that we'd recently worked with – most of them on *Cherrywood*, people like Heather Hanna and Jodi Jinx. Because it's the 10th season, we have all these new artists that weren't here 10 years ago, and because it's a Second Stage production, which is kind of a playground for newer company members, it was an idea that the copads got behind and really liked.

**AC:** What was it about the play that stuck with you all this time?

**MM:** That there's institutional idiocy everywhere and that the people in charge are really kind of scary and not all-there, and yet somehow are incredibly appealing on some level for that very reason. It reminds me of the best Marx Brothers comedies. It's that classic absurd comedy where everything makes perfect sense, but when you look at it closely, nothing makes sense. You get caught up in the logic of the words and you arrive at these incredibly bizarre conclusions wondering, "How did I get here?" – Barry Pineo

*Pale Idiot* runs Dec. 1-17, Thursday-Saturday, 8pm, at the Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo. For more information, call 476-RUDE or visit [www.rudemechs.com](http://www.rudemechs.com).

# the arts

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42 AFTER A FASHION

## KING KONG: You're on the Air, Ya Big Ape!

At the cineplex this holiday season, the 800-lb. gorilla – make that 8,000-lb. gorilla – is Peter Jackson's little remake about the ape that scaled the Empire State, *King Kong*. But here in Austin, the simian sovereign of Skull Island will also be heard beating his chest in a live theatrical presentation. The Violet Crown Radio Players, those intrepid devotees of 1930s audio drama who brought us staged radio versions of *The War of the Worlds* and *It's a Wonderful Life*, among others, are mounting what they're calling the "lost" radio adaptation of *King Kong*, as produced for the Lux Radio Theater by Cecil B. DeMille. Whether that's indeed a nugget of forgotten history or a whopper the size of our monumental monk we'll leave for you to decide, but VCRP Creative Director Mark Finn has indeed cobbled together a script for *Kong* as radio drama, adapted from a novelization of the 1933 film that's now in the public domain. "That novelization has everything that the screenplay has, plus a few telling extras that were cut for budget and/or time considerations, like the infamous 'spider scene,'" he says. "Since we have virtually no special effects budget, we put the scene back in. And it's creepy!"

Finn allows that he's tempting fate by taking on the renowned gorilla, especially when a newer, showier version is hitting the streets, but his willingness to do so just speaks to his affection for the big ape. "I'm a huge fan of *King Kong*," he says. "It was a seminal influence on me. And there was no way I was going to try to do this if there was a chance that I'd screw it up. I'm happy that this project really keeps the spirit of the movie, while also doing it just different enough that you feel like you're seeing – make that 'hearing' – it in a way that you never did before."

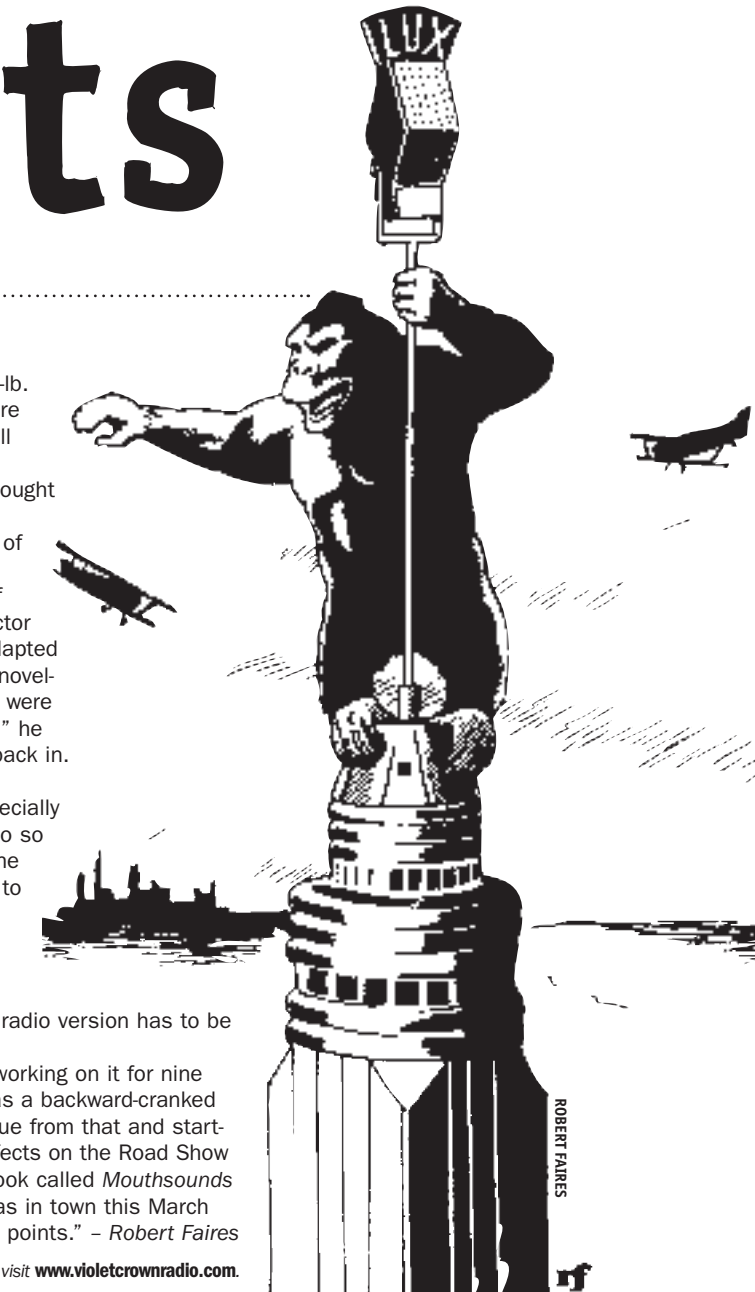
And speaking of hearing the story, our sense of the title character in this radio version has to be created entirely through sound. How will this Kong be voiced?

"Believe it or not, I will be voicing Kong myself," Finn reveals. "I've been working on it for nine months – yeah, I'm that kind of geek. The original voice of Kong in 1933 was a backward-cranked lion and other guttural animals. Kong's roar is a reversed lion. So I took a cue from that and started from there. I got help from Fred Newman, the guy who does the sound effects on the Road Show for *A Prairie Home Companion*. He's a childhood hero of mine; he wrote a book called *Mouthsounds* in 1981 that forever doomed me to a life of mischief. I met him when he was in town this March for a booksigning, and he was kind enough to chat with me about some key points." – Robert Faires

*King Kong* runs Dec. 1-10 at the Hideout, 617 Congress. For more information, call 707-9319 or visit [www.violetcrownradio.com](http://www.violetcrownradio.com).

## 'TWO DONUTS': An Old-Fashioned Treat

You could hardly have blamed the kids for being antsy. It was, after all, 9am on a Monday of a three-day week, with the Thanksgiving holidays just over the horizon, and here they were being herded into the cafeteria to watch a play. By all rights, they should've been bouncing off the walls. And yet, the 400 or so students at Widen Elementary in Southeast Austin were on their best behavior, sitting in straight lines on the floor, keeping



their conversations to a modest roar, and showing considerably more patience than, well, most adults during rush hour on I-35.

And once the play began, they were even better. They watched the stage with rapt attention, following Pepito, a young boy from the barrio, as he's spirited away from his home by a pair of life-sized Guatemalan worry dolls, Ridiculo and Modesto, to the fantastic land of Cuate-Malo, where the oppressive Commandante Boots is determined to stomp out every last flower on the landscape and rid the country of beauty forever. There it's up to Pepito and his newfound companions, Little Girl Footsteps and Tirado, to save the land from ruin. The play, *Two Donuts*, is the work of José Cruz González, and was being presented to the Widen student body by the UT Department of Theatre & Dance as one of 13 stops on its Fall 2005 Youth Theatre Tour. Children's theatre scholar Coleman Jennings selected the script – it appears in his most recent anthology of plays for children – and deftly directed the cast of 13 UT students, using a blend of human actors, theatrical effects, and puppetry.

The level of magical realism, with its winged television and shark torpedo and beauty-hating boot, may leave some older audience members with echoes of the Beatles saving Pepperland from the Blue Meanies in their ears. Then again, the story could be read as yet one more variation on the Oz stories, in which an innocent youngster from a faraway land discovers how he or she has the power to thwart the most forceful evil. Or maybe it's an older tale still. What never grows old, however, is the rapturous delight on a child's face when he or she is swept away by the enchantment of theatre. And that could be seen again and again in this crowded cafeteria on a November Monday morn. – R.F.

*Two Donuts* runs Dec. 2-4, Friday and Saturday, 8pm, Sunday, 2pm, in the Brockett Theatre of the Winship Drama Building, UT campus. For more information, call 471-1444 or visit [www.utpac.org](http://www.utpac.org).

# Larkin's Journey

New York choreographer Regina Larkin keeps coming back to Ballet East

BY PATTI HADAD

In 1989, at an international peace festival in Baghdad celebrating the end of Iraq's seven-year war with Iran, Regina Larkin had a revelation while dancers lifted her into the sky. "My head was way up," she recalls, "I looked at the moon, and it struck me that there is one common thing that we all have, and that's the sky." Such are the reveries of a creative modern dancer.

Last month, in the girl's gym at Martin Middle School on Austin's Eastside, Larkin spoke with equal fervor to a corps of novice dancers while rehearsing a dance for *Divine Release*, the fall 2005 production for Ballet East. For more than a quarter of a century, this modern dance company with a ballet base has been cultivating Latino artists and audiences, and Larkin has been a regular part of it. She has come down to Austin from New York, where she is artistic director of the Joyce Trisler Danscompany, to choreograph works in 10 of the company's productions, reflecting on topics as varied as spirituality, women, nature, Native Americans, and terminal illness to the melodies of Roberta Flack, Nina Simone, and Miles Davis.

**"Don't lose focus,"**  
**Regina Larkin tells her**  
**Ballet East dancers.**  
**"It's all evolving. We don't**  
**want to lose that magic.**  
**Look at each other. Dance**  
**as though the audience**  
**is all around you."**

This time around, the work conceptualizes humanity's response to misfortune, an idea that Ballet East Artistic Director Rodolfo Méndez drew out of Martha Graham's notion that headlines affect the muscles of the human body. "I was thinking of all the tragedies we've been having lately, like the hurricanes, earthquakes, and plagues, and thought it was worth exploring," says Méndez. It was under the sky in his back yard, just a short distance from the school, that Larkin warmed up with exercises, wrote poetry, and planned the movements of *Hymn & Her*.

At rehearsal, the company veterans pal around and stretch while sharing snacks and



making jokes with the newcomers in the studio mirrors. Larkin stands bantamlke with a powerhouse body and lightly peppered hair before the varied colors and sizes of the Ballet East dancers. They work well off each other. Larkin says that being a part of Ballet East is like being part of a family. She watched Melissa Villarreal, who joined the company at the age of 14, grow into Ballet East's assistant artistic director and resident choreographer.

Larkin herself followed a similar path. At 16, she entered the famed Jacob's Pillow Dance School and a year later was granted full tuition at Adelphi University. After receiving her BA, she became part of the faculty in 1977. Two years later, she was the last dancer that Joyce Trisler herself selected for her company, just before the choreographer's untimely passing at the age of 45. Larkin was appointed associate director in 1986, then co-director, and ultimately director of the Danscompany, a position she has held for 12 years now. For one of her early performances with Ballet East, Larkin performed *Trisler's Journey*, a signature piece with the potential to be a classic like Graham's *Diversion of Angels*.

"I've always admired her work," says Méndez, who met Larkin in the 1980s when he was in New York studying dance with Milton Myers, Alvin Ailey, and Joyce Trisler. "It's so refined and stylized. Not very many other choreographers are doing what she's doing. With Regina, there's purpose and structure to the ballet. She's very spiritual, very organic, and her pieces are challenging to the dancers. A lot of it is psychological, not just arms, eyes, and feet."

Though she has only a week to spend with her performers this visit, Larkin still relinquishes an hour of rehearsal time to warming up and developing muscle memory. She was trained in the idiom of Lester Horton, the American modern dance pioneer who revolutionized the form on the West Coast much as Martha Graham did on the East. His technique is very demanding, with intense body strengthening and pelvic movements of African origins.

"He devised a form that doesn't challenge the body the way ballet does," says Larkin. "Ballet often has you turning out. His technique was kind of like the martial arts where they have one leg turned out and one leg parallel. It spirals through the shoulders, so you've got figure eights living inside your system. It's part of the whole philosophy. Keep going in the same direction so that when you go the other way the body has to return."

Next, Larkin directs the dancers in improvisational exercises, including a go-with-the-flow-of-the-group movement to the music of Morton Gould, specifically chosen for this dance because of his New Orleans influences. "I'm really proud at the way Texas responded to the hurricane relief," says Larkin. "I took the elements of the unrecognized people who have given up their life for the country to help and volunteer." She calls this her first national patriotism piece.

Her dancers are statues, which is not surprising considering that Larkin is also a sculptress. At 35, she received her MFA in sculpture at Adelphi. Larkin wants to create a memorial and has been pushing her dancers to go to the Umlauf Sculpture Garden. "I like to shape them like they're living clay," she says. "In

sculpture, things aren't so balanced. Somehow those great sculptors make expression in stillness and create realisms. They have taken the traditions of the past, and they've created the future. That's what I'm trying to do with this dance of *Hymn & Her*."

The dancers look like industrial animals, moving repetitiously and writhing on the ground, then lifting each other up into the air. Over the course of 30 years, she developed what she calls "Larkinotation," a system of symbols to archive dances over music scores. Dancers can tune their listening skills and become receptive to self-interpretation to create original dance.

"Don't lose focus," she tells her dancers. "It's all evolving. We don't want to lose that magic. Look at each other. Dance as though the audience is all around you." Here, there is no cardinal rule dictating that one's front must be to the audience, so the dancers must be equally expressive with all areas of their bodies. "Your backs are the hardest things for the audience to interpret," Larkin tells them. "If you think you can turn away from them, and they can't see you, you're wrong. You have to make that expression in your limbs or your back."

None of the Horton progeny were above using theatrical hokum to attract audiences who were not particularly interested in avant-garde experimentations. But modern dancers also want to raise social consciousness through audience participation and kinesthetic response with violent and lyrical movement. And sometimes a little poetry.

Over Gould's melody an excerpt from Albert Schweitzer's *The Spiritual Life* is read: "At the present time when violence, clothed in

**"I like to shape [the dancers] like they're living clay," Larkin says. "In sculpture, things aren't so balanced. Somehow those great sculptors make expression in stillness and create realisms. They have taken the traditions of the past, and they've created the future."**

life, dominates the world more cruelly than it ever has before, I still remain convinced that truth, love, peaceableness, meekness, and kindness are the violence that can master all other violence." By guiding the audience with text, Larkin believes that she can help them understand what she is trying to convey: peace overcoming a world dominated by violence.

"That's what we've tried to do through the Danscompany. You want to select something that interests your audience because there might be one person in the audience who would like a performance element work that speaks to them," says Larkin.

She had originally used the text in a piece called *A Garden, in a City, of a Town*. It was in her 55th rehearsal with her students at Adelphi in Garden City of Long Island when they had heard the news about September 11. Many of them were unable to return to their homes in Manhattan, so Larkin comforted them. "These kids were scared," she recalls. "Some of the Long Island kids had parents that were firefighters. So I said to them gently, 'Do you still want to rehearse?' They were just like, 'Please, we just want to be together.'" Inundated with personal tragedy, they instead created *A Garden, in a City, of a Town* as a memorial and healing.

When Larkin was little, she used to play Mass as though she and her brothers and sisters were holding the liturgy in their living room. Her brother eventually became a priest

and on holidays really did hold the ritual in her house, spending hours afterward getting into philosophical discussions. When she traveled to Asia, Larkin studied Taoism and Buddhism, which she also applies to her choreography. "Each time I traveled, I didn't stay in the hotel room," she says. "I would go out with the stage manager, and we'd go out to the museums because I really believe that how could I touch people if I didn't know them."

Because Ballet East is community-based, with classes open to young hopefuls and a variety of ethnic choreographers, the audience is diverse and responsive. On stage in New York, Larkin has a harder time deciphering just what the onlookers are thinking. The response here in Ballet East has been like the night she danced in Baghdad, where the applause to honor a dancer is called a *zaghareet*, a high-pitch ululation with the tongue. "It felt like a thousand years went by in those eight counts," she says. "When the lights came up, I could see the happy families with their picnics. It was the only time I ever saw families together [in Baghdad]. I'll never forget that sound they made instead of clapping. I felt like a baseball player. Dancers are really God's athletes, to quote [Einstein]."

*Ballet East performs Divine Release Dec. 1-4, Thursday-Saturday, 8pm, Sunday, 2pm, at the Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd. For more information, call 474-TIXS or visit [www.balleteast.org](http://www.balleteast.org)*



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# AFTER A FASHION BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

**TROUBLE IN PARADISE** It's true ... really, truly true. **Nick & Jessica** are getting a divorce. Really. For good. No more speculation. **Daisy Duke** and her former boy-bander are kaput. Fini. It must be awful for two famous people to try to keep their love alive amidst the glare of the public spotlight – two young, fun-loving kids deeply in love with themselves. I mean, each other. You know what I mean. But at least they had three blissful years together as his career plummeted and her bosoms ascended. Why, it seems like just yesterday when the stringer for **People** magazine wrote and asked me if I knew anything about the “superstar wedding” that was going to take place in Austin. We all gasped knowing it must be **Sandra Bullock's** ... but no. The stringer wrote me back, “Just thought you'd like to know that it's **Jessica Simpson** and **Nick Lachey's** wedding.” Who and who? It was the first time I'd heard of them. But not the last. Soon, Jessica and her simian hairline dominated the tabloids, and immediately there was talk of divorce. But Jessica's creepy father, who can't seem to think about anything but his daughter's pneumatic double-D breasts, denied it all and said the two kids were as happy as can be ... in spite of the rumors of strip clubs, on-set affairs, and off-set fighting. But now? Now we know it's all true. Another star-crossed love affair bites the dust. I mean, dust. You know what I mean.

**A CHANGE OF HABIT** I happened to be at **Hobby Lobby** and saw the 5-gallon donation jars for the **Salvation Army**; I automatically reached in my pocket to give them change, as I'd done for years. But with the money in my hand, about

to clatter into the jar, I stopped. Something was different this year. I know the Salvation Army is a “faith-based” organization. (Don't you love the way this new phrase softens the actual meaning of “religious fanaticism”?). I'd always known the Salvation Army was “faith-based,” but it never bothered me before. But this year, despite the many great experiences I've had at local SA stores (especially the great help at the South Lamar location) anything that is “faith-based” seems to have a specter of hate about it. It was so many “faith-based” organizations that browbeat their members and followers into believing that **Proposition 2** “supported” families rather than destroyed them, and that it was the “faith-based,” evangelical Christians who decided that homosexuals are second-class citizens whose unions are unworthy of any legal protections or rights. And though I don't know SA's specific stance on Prop. 2, their well-documented anti-gay history gives one pause. Me? I'll continue supporting charities like **Zach Scott, Ballet Austin, Arthouse, Project Transitions, and AIDS Services of Austin** ... charities that care and charities that help bring love, hope, and beauty into our lives instead of division and ugliness.

**YOUR DOG ROCKS** You know it, poochie knows it, and now these T-shirts from **4t5 Dogs** will keep poochie warm while letting the world know how cool they are. **Van Howlin', Meet the Beagles, Butthole Sniffers, Barking Heads: Stop Making Scents, Black Lab** ... all are sure to make you howl and make poochie purr ... er, well, you know what I mean. An extension of



Our model today is Patsy. Patsy is wearing a warm, tweedy, Chanel-ish “snarf” by **4t5 Dogs**, along with her stylish **Barking Heads: Stop Making Scents T-shirt**, also by **4t5 Dogs**. The ensemble shows that Patsy is a strong, modern woman, unafraid to speak her mind and assert her independence, and that's what today's fashion is all about.

designer **Sally Tetzlaff's** love of music (the product line sheet is done like a cover of a 45 rpm record, and the business cards look like the tickets to the 1964 **Beatles** concert). The Web site, [www.4t5dogs.com](http://www.4t5dogs.com), is under construction, but you can find 4t5 Dogs products (they also produce **Snarfs**, or boas for dogs) at **Moxie and the Compound, Dirty Dog, and Blackmail**.

**IT'S HEEERE Project Transitions'** annual **Holiday Swing** is celebrating its 17th anniversary, Saturday, Dec. 3, 8pm-12am at the **Dell Jewish Community Center**. Holiday fun

wouldn't be complete without this party. This year's fundraiser not only features the 22-piece **Sentimental Journey Orchestra**, as well as local jazz-harmonists the **Studebakers**, but also includes swing dance lessons by **Quicksilver Dancers** (7-8pm), a cash bar, a martini and cigar bar, holiday hors d'oeuvres, desserts, and a 300-item silent auction. Auction items include a **LiveStrong** bracelet worn and autographed by **Lance Armstrong** during his historic seventh **Tour de France**. For all ticket information about Holiday Swing, and to find out more about the great works that Project Transitions does on behalf of AIDS, please call 454-8646 or visit [www.projecttransitions.org/holidayswing.shtm](http://www.projecttransitions.org/holidayswing.shtm).

**AULD ACQUAINTANCE** “Party Like It's Prohibition!!” is the theme for the wonderful New Year's festivities being held at the legendary **Y.O. Ranch** in Kerrville (celebrating 125 years of ranching). Benefiting the **Peaceable Kingdom Retreat** for Children ([www.peaceablekingdomretreat.org](http://www.peaceablekingdomretreat.org)), a ranch/retreat serving 6,000 terminally ill and disabled/underprivileged children and their families every year, the annual event is a chance to raise a ruckus in a real Texas style while doing a world of good for a lot of little ones. Featuring **Charlie Robison**, Texas cuisine to soothe your soul, and libations to keep you dancing all night long, this night at the ranch is not one to miss. You can ensure a safe holiday by making reservations now with a very special New Year's rate. Tickets are \$150, and rooms are \$69 per person. Go to [www.yoranch.com](http://www.yoranch.com) for more info.

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

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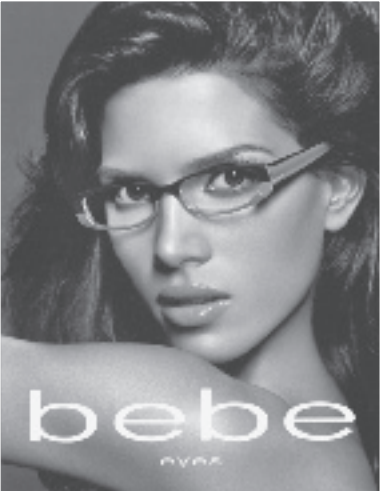
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## HOLIDAY BAKING: NEW AND TRADITIONAL RECIPES FOR WINTERTIME HOLIDAYS

by Sara Perry

Chronicle Books, 168 pp., \$18.95

Sara Perry knows that people who don't bake during the other 10 months of the year are likely to bake during the holiday season, and she has put together an inviting and accessible collection of recipes to inspire them. Starting at Thanksgiving and ending at New Year's, she offers delightful suggestions for sweet and savory treats to delight the family at Hanukkah, Christmas, Boxing Day, and Kwanzaa. A majority of the recipes are simple and approachable, and the author provides tips for including kids for family holiday fun. Every mouthwatering section of this book made me want to get in the kitchen and bake.

Though I don't celebrate Hanukkah, I do make rugelach, and I really like Perry's Cardamom Pistachio variation with golden raisins.



## GIFT GUIDE

The "Two Please" Thanksgiving Dinner Orange Rolls may knock Sister Schubert off my holiday table for good, or maybe, instead, I'll substitute the "Without Thinking Twice" Perfect Popovers. The savory Stilton Pinwheels With Walnuts and Honey from the Boxing Day chapter are sure to delight wine lovers with an urge to nibble, and I'm eager for an egg-nog occasion if only for an excuse to try the Amazing Left-Over Eggnog and Cinnamon Roll Bread Pudding With Warm Jamberry Maple Syrup. And I'm officially conflicted about what to serve for New Year's: Should it be a big Dutch Baby Pancake or the Baked Mushroom Omelet with the boozy Bloody Mary Salsa? Share this book with someone who loves to bake, and reap the benefits when some of these delicious treats become part of the family holiday repertoire, regardless of what you celebrate.

— Virginia B. Wood

## HIDDEN KITCHENS: STORIES, RECIPES, AND MORE FROM NPR'S THE KITCHEN SISTERS

by Nikki Silva and Davia Nelson

Rodale Books, 320 pp., \$27.50

I have long been fascinated by food traditions and rituals, as well as by food writing that goes well beyond the plate. While getting my anthropology degree at UT, I used my stud-



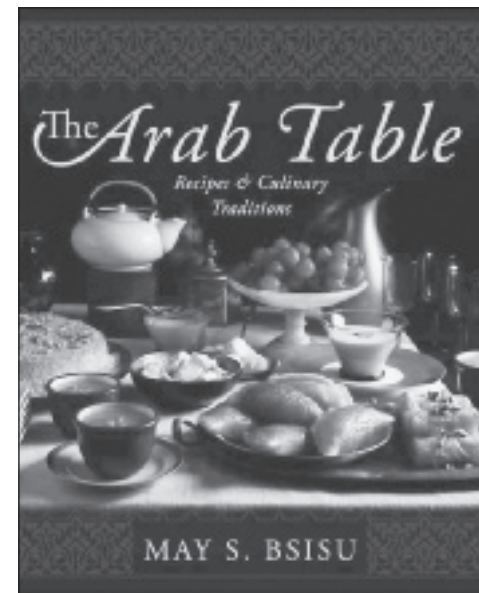
ies as a way to explore human aspects of food production, preparation, and consumption, and I have been researching and reading all I can about culinary history and traditions ever since. When my friend and colleague MM Pack told me about the Kitchen Sisters' NPR program *Hidden Kitchens*, I was very intrigued.

*Hidden Kitchens* is the highly acclaimed radio series produced by Davia Nelson and Nikki Silva, aka the Kitchen Sisters, for *Morning Edition*. When the *Hidden Kitchens* project began, the Sisters and co-producer Jay Allison opened up a hotline and asked listeners to comment on things like "What food traditions are disappearing from your life?" and "Who glues your community together through food?" The response was overwhelming, and hundreds of listeners called to share their stories. Following tips from these callers, the Sisters embarked on an ongoing nationwide exploration of street-corner cooking, traditional meals, kitchen rituals, regional oddities, and endangered recipes. Their new book chronicles some of these stories, offering a glimpse into many of America's rich and complex culinary traditions. It takes the reader along on a journey of discovery of the "hidden" culinary cultures of America, from the fascinating Burgoo Festival in Kentucky and

the historic Chili Queens of San Antonio to a homeless man from Southside Chicago whose George Foreman grill is not only a "hidden kitchen" but a connection to the real hunger and poverty that the boxing legend himself endured as a child.

This is a fascinating, endearing, and enlightening book that offers a vision of American life and identity as seen through cooking, reminding us of how family and community traditions are very often, and sometimes inadvertently, passed along through food.

— Claudia Alarcón



## THE ARAB TABLE: RECIPES & CULINARY TRADITIONS

by May S. Bsisu

Morrow, 369 pp., \$34.95

Cookbooks dealing with a broad range of Arabian cuisine from Middle Eastern countries that are available in the English language are rare. *The Arab Table* is not only one of the few, but one of the best. Author May Bsisu is a professional chef and cooking instructor of Palestinian heritage, born in Jordan, and

continued on p.46

## FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

### HOT TIP

The best laugh I had before Thanksgiving was produced by an e-mail greeting card featuring an animated turkey warbling the Seventies disco anthem "I Will Survive." When I called **Wes Marshall** to thank him for the true gift of a good laugh, he shared this tip about a wonderful bottle of Beaujolais Nouveau: the **Domaine Dupeuble Pere et Fils 2005** (about \$14). "When we opened the bottle, the room filled with the aroma of violets, and the dense, intensely fruity wine had cherry and tropical fruit flavors," he told me. "This one should not be missed." If you hurry, you might still be able to find this young wine at one of the many **Twin Liquors** outlets or at **Central Market**.

### THE NEW MERCURY

A guest list that included wedding and event planners, nonprofit representatives, media types, and local entertainers braved Austin's first cold night recently to attend the unveiling of the newly refurbished **Mercury Hall** (615 Cardinal Ln., 236-1226, [www.mercuryhall.com](http://www.mercuryhall.com)). Tasty comestibles were provided by **Word of Mouth, Austin Catering, Primizie, An Affair to Remember, Ciao**

**Chow**, and **Gina's Kitchen**. Beer and wine were plentiful, and a band serenaded the crowd in a heated tent on the patio. A good time was had by all despite the sudden chill.

The hall is a 1907 white-frame church from Mercury, Texas, complete with hardwood floors, ceiling fans, and simple stained-glass windows. It was relocated to a tree-shaded South Austin hilltop in 1997 and became a popular event venue despite some strategic drawbacks. In the spring of 2005, a local investment group headed up by former Word of Mouth Catering owner **Leslie Moore** and magic-touch entrepreneur **Daryl Kunik** purchased the Mercury and an adjacent property. They hired architect **Michael Hsu** and designer **Joel Mozersky** (these guys are everywhere!) to make the necessary changes. The very capable creative team recently completed the renovations, maintaining the Mercury's quaint charm and historic integrity while correcting a few flaws. The main hall has a larger area for dining/dancing, accented by soaring windows and French doors that open to a lovely patio and fountain. There is now a comfortable bride's dressing room, the bathrooms are larger, and the relocated service kitchen is more functional. The adjacent property in back has become a parking lot, reducing the need for guests to park along Cardinal Lane or neighboring side streets. It's a very impressive package. And though I'd cheerfully take a beating with a tire iron rather than ever actually cater another wedding, I'll have to admit the retired caterer in me was totally smitten with the new Mercury!

## EVENT MENU :: DEC. 3-8

**Tea Embassy** (900 Rio Grande, 330-9991) owner **Carol Sims** will sign copies of the new edition of her self-published book, *Tea Treasures and More*, this weekend. The book offers essential information about tea preparation, etiquette, and culture in addition to a time-tested collection of Southern family recipes originally gathered for the author's sons when they went away to college. For more information, go to [www.teaembassy.com](http://www.teaembassy.com); 10am-5pm, Saturday, Dec. 3.

Experience **Homespun Holidays** at the **Austin Farmers' Market** (Fourth & Guadalupe), where local artisans will demonstrate such crafts as soap-making, candle-making, wool spinning, and more. There will also be fresh, seasonal produce, delicious holiday foods (with samples), holiday gift items, cooking demonstrations, and live music; [www.austinfarmersmarket.org](http://www.austinfarmersmarket.org); 9am-1pm Saturdays, Dec. 3 and 10.

Aspiring gingerbread-house architects of every age and skill level will want to attend the fourth annual **Gingerbread House Competition and Open House** at the **Texas Culinary Academy** (11400 Burnet Rd., 837-2665), which is free and open to the public. During the afternoon, there will be holiday cookie- and cake-decorating demonstrations, live music, and holiday refreshments. **Penny McConnell** will be on hand to sign and sell copies of her book *Cookie Stories*. To enter the Gingerbread House Competition, contact pastry chef **Aimee Olson** at 837-2665 x179 or at [aolson@txca.com](mailto:aolson@txca.com); noon-3pm, Sunday, Dec. 4.

# "Curra's Grill- The Mother of all Maes"



Before long, we'll all be tired of Christmas cookies and bored with eggnog. And don't even mention that annual culinary punch line, fruitcake. Still, **food makes a great gift.** So take our advice on some slightly more original choices. Newsweek (Nov. 17th 2003)

## 1. CURRA'S GRILL TAMALES

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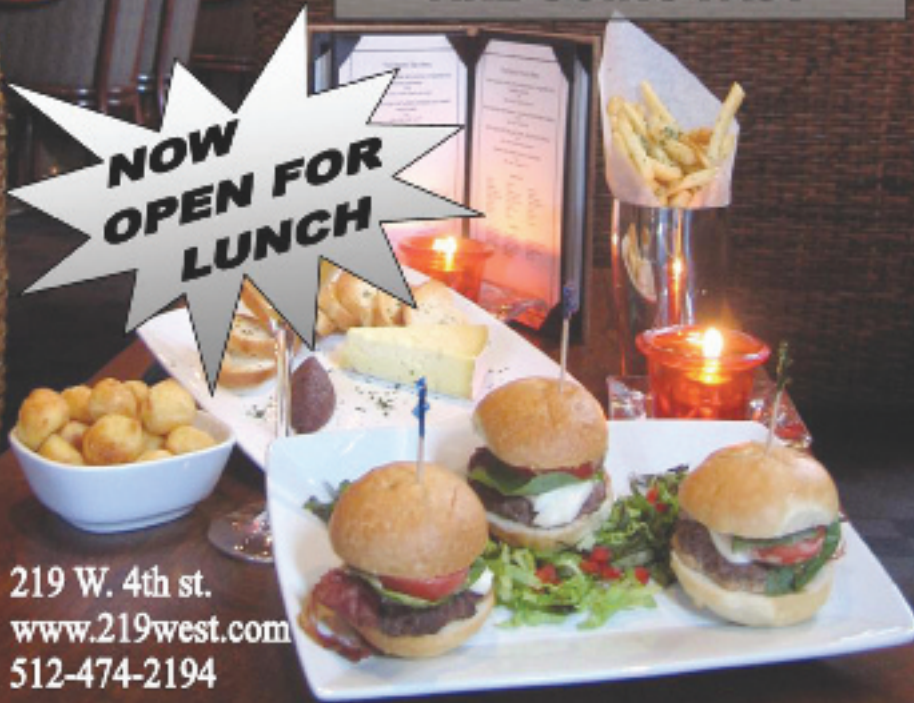
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raised in Lebanon. With this title, she has crafted a seminal work on authentic foods of the Middle East, reinforced with the necessary cultural background that brings the foods into sharp ethnic focus.

The introductory chapters reveal the historical basis for the cuisine, the secrets of Arab ingredients (all available locally at Phoenicia deli when you're ready to cook), as well as the regional nuances of an area that covers almost one-fourth of the globe. Each of the 175 recipes features extensive background information and personal tips, and each is tested, logically written, and easy to follow.

A Tripoli fish and shrimp soup (Shorabat al Samak) was simple to prepare yet amazingly complex in flavor, seasoned as it was with orange, saffron, and cardamom, and thickened with tahini. Fatet Lamice is a dish so tantalizing in flavor and texture that it demands to be cooked by all. Picture crispy croutons topped with lemon sauce, fragrant rice, and garlicky yogurt, with spiced beef and richly-seasoned unctuous lamb shanks resting at the summit, garnished with pine nuts and almonds. It's a dish fit for an Arab potentate (or your favorite friends).

Bsuisu's *Arab Table* is an incredible compilation of the culinary wealth of the Middle East, done in an easily approachable style that perfectly fits the American kitchen. — Mick Vann

## FRESH EVERY DAY: MORE GREAT RECIPES FROM FOSTER'S MARKET

by Sara Foster withCarolynn Carreño  
Clarkson/Potter, 288 pp., \$35

My brain practically explodes every time I see commercials on television advertising gastric aids for children. C'mon: They're children; they've just been issued brand-new bodies. The only thing wrong with their digestion systems is that they are being fed a lot of prepackaged and fast foods that are, by definition, indigestible. Somebody cook these children a decent meal! But I know why this isn't happening; people are overworked and tired and busy, and most people just don't know how.

It's a daunting task to set yourself, teaching the American public how to cook again, and whether that's what she set out to do, Sara Foster achieves it in this extraordinarily useful cookbook. Not only does she give easy-to-follow, fabulous recipes, she also wants the reader to learn to "think like a cook," to learn how to improvise, and to truly know that it doesn't have to be time-consuming or laborious to feed yourself and your family. Most of the recipes take less than 30 minutes to prepare, and it's nutritious, beautiful, exciting, fresh, wholesome food!

Foster holds nothing back: Every food "Basic," such as roasting garlic or making bread crumbs, is covered, as well as professional "Tricks" that make cooking easier and faster. There are shopping and serving tips, advice on using leftovers, and alternate versions of many of the recipes to accommodate the seasons of the year. Most impressive of all, the wealth of information is never daunting or overwhelming. Just leafing through this



engaging book (which has scads of beautiful photographs) will make even a reluctant cook eager to rediscover the kitchen. — Kate Thornberry

## CHARCUTERIE: THE CRAFT OF SALTING, SMOKING AND CURING

by Michael Ruhlman and Brian Polcyn  
W.W. Norton, 416 pp., \$35

We all know that everything is better homemade, but few today have the gumption to tackle making their own charcuterie (using salt and smoke, time and temperature, to cure and preserve meats and other foods). One of the reasons for this breakdown in the old ways — when foods had to be preserved for the long winter — is that before now, no book handled the craft in an easily managed style for the home cook. Ruhlman and Polcyn reveal the secrets here. You don't need highly specialized equipment or obscure ingredients to make your own pastrami, sausages, confit, bacon, prosciutto, or pâtés or galantines. You simply have to carefully follow the precise and simple steps offered.

The authors cover every aspect of the traditional forms of charcuterie, including brining, dry-curing, pickling (including pickles and sauerkraut), hot- and cold-smoking, sausage-making, confit, and the construction of pâtés, using clear and concise instruction and revealing headnotes for the 140 recipes. The realistic illustrations reinforce the text in an especially illuminating style, making it incredibly easy to follow the methods. The use of master recipes and ratios enables readers to be creative with seasonings and branch out on their own.

Winter, especially in Texas, is the ideal time to produce your own charcuterie. Imagine sinking your teeth into a stacked Reuben laden with your own homemade corned beef and sauerkraut, a pot of gumbo chock-full of homemade tasso ham, or a fettuccine Alfredo flavored with pancetta made in your own kitchen. Grab a copy of *Charcuterie*, and start preserving! It's much simpler than you've imagined. — M.V.

## COCKTAILS: SHAKEN AND STIRRED

by Douglas Ankrah  
Kyle Cathie, 160 pp., \$21.95

While you and I might think of a cocktail as a fun mixed drink to start a night of merriment, Douglas Ankrah has taken the concept a step further. For him, it is "creativity, skill and flair in a glass." If that makes you think we might be getting into "fussy" territory, well, you'd be right.

Ankrah was something of a bartender cum celebrity in his hometown of London when he decided to start the London Academy of Bartending in 1996. All those students had to have a place to practice, so he opened a bar, appropriately called LAB. It was so successful that he opened a second called Townhouse, which has gone on to be named by the trend-setting *Time Out* magazine as one of the 10 most stylish things about London.

His book assumes two things: You don't know very much to start with, and you're will-

ing to spend lavish amounts of time and money on preparing your personal flair in a glass. If you fit those two criteria, this book might be for you.

Cocktail classicists are bound to get a few chuckles from drinks like Black Star Liner Martini, a concoction of chocolate and coffee liqueurs, simple syrup, and espresso. Sounds yummy, but a martini? On the other hand, Ankrah makes some spot-on recommendations for drinks, like choosing Buffalo Trace bourbon for his Kentucky Iced Tea. And he even pays attention to tradition, though in odd ways. Take his Bisonite. It's made with Zubrowka, a Polish vodka that is infused with Bison grass (it's better than it sounds). In Poland, they drink it half-and-half with apple juice. Ankrah's recipe mixes the Zubrowka with apple juice, passion fruit syrup, peach bitters (good luck finding those!), and lemon juice. That's a nice riff on a traditional drink.

There is a chapter on traditional drinks, and his recipes — even the Margarita — are exactly right. We also get a chapter on nice bar foods and another on nonalcoholic drinks, all named after one of James Bond's heroines. As you might have guessed, the shaken and stirred theme refers to 007's favorite martini.

The book seems a little full of itself, a little too intent on being trendy. I half expected it to have pictures of mostly naked models holding the drinks while leaning on some exotic sports car. Drinks for the *Maxim* boy in your life! Still, intrepid drinkers with the temperament, time, and resources can find a lot to like. You just might have to dig for it.

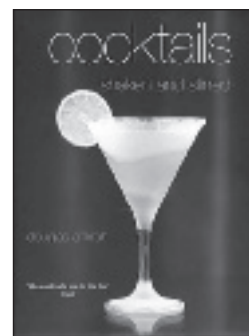
— Wes Marshall

## CHOCOLATE OBSESSION: CONFECTIONS AND TREATS TO CREATE AND SAVOR

by Michael Recchiuti and Fran Gage  
Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 199 pp., \$35

Fine chocolates are all the rage these days: the more unique and esoteric in origin, the better. In *Chocolate Obsession*, renowned San Francisco confectioners Michael Recchiuti and Fran Gage team up to produce a new chocolate cookbook that is as attractive and challenging as the chocolates and pastries that made them famous. The book is well-organized, offering solid information about the new quality boutique chocolates made with high percentages of chocolate liquor, and all the recipes are designed to make use of them. There are descriptions of the necessary tools, tips, and explanations of professional techniques, and suggested planning schedules for the successful execution of the recipes.

The authors offer recipes for sophisticated filled and dipped chocolates; truffles; such chocolate



snacks as cookies, brownies, and ice cream sandwiches; barks; drinks; and sauces. Be aware that this is not a book for beginners, because many of the recipes require patience and a certain level of skill working with chocolate, not to mention a significant investment at the grocery store and/or specialty shops, as the recipes are created for the most expensive chocolates (more than 60% chocolate liquor, such as Scharffen Berger, Valrhona, El Rey); butter (84% butterfat); spices (cardamom, vanilla beans, fleur de sel, imported teas); and liqueurs. All that being said, however, Gage's Fleur de Sel Caramels are truly luscious, and Recchiuti's signature Burnt Caramel Ganache is well worth the trial and error necessary to get the caramelized sugar just the right color. White Cupcakes With Truffle Cream Topping are very grownup treats, and the White Chocolate Mocha is a divinely decadent twist on an espresso drink. I'm eager to try some of the ice cream sandwich combinations next. I suspect this is the perfect gift for the serious baker or candy maker with a chocolate obsession of their own.

— V.B.V.

## BOULEVARD

by Nancy Oakes and Pamela Mazzola, with Lisa Weiss  
Ten Speed Press, 265 pp., \$50

For those who don't know, Boulevard has been one of the highest-rated restaurants in America's top food city, San Francisco, since it opened in 1993. After being hounded by friends and colleagues for years to write a cookbook, the duo of chef/owner Nancy Oakes and chef Pam Mazzola (who have cooked together seamlessly for 17 years) got with Lisa Weiss to do just that. *Boulevard* is a spectacular work, loaded with incredible food photography, brimming with culinary wisdom, and full of delicious recipes.

For the critics who feel that books like this are merely titillating food porn, *Boulevard* strongly delivers what it promises. The reader will find 75 accessible whole-plate menus — meaning entrée with side dishes — so the true recipe count eclipses the 200 mark. The food is French-influenced American cooking using the food palette and flavor profile of the West Coast (read Central Market or Whole Foods). The beauty of a book arranged this way is that you may choose to cook just the side dish, just the entrée, or combine them as intended.

Oakes and Mazzola cram each recipe with Kitchen and Shopping Notes that are a master's chef course on their own. But the food is the true gem found between the covers. The endive and apple salad with smoked bacon, candied pecans, and creamy cheddar dressing is superb. Soups like the sweet white corn and leek with crab cake soufflé are incredible. The boneless quail stuffed with spinach, porcini, and foie gras with a thyme-sherry relish and kabocha squash and pear purée ... sweetbreads wrapped in a crust of chard and potato ... fritters with a melting blue cheese center! We could go on and on. Trust us, it may be titillating, but the true orgasm comes with the first bite. — M.V.





Santa, all I want for Christmas is an eggplant.  
(okay, not really.)

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## RESTAURANT ROULETTE

recently reviewed

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\$ <\$10 \$\$ \$10-25 \$\$\$ \$25-40 \$\$\$\$ \$40+

#### DOWNTOWN

**TEX-MEX: COPA BAR & GRILL** The newest Latin dance club in town features drinks, eats, live salsa and merengue on Fridays, as well as a Saturday DJ. 217 Congress, 479-5002 \$

**STEAKHOUSE: FLEMING'S PRIME STEAKHOUSE & WINE BAR** The main attraction is perfectly prepared beef presented in a comfortable, clubby setting and enhanced by an extensive wine list and accomplished service. 320 E. Second, 457-1500 \$\$\$\$

**AMERICAN CAFE: HICKORY STREET BAR & GRILLE** Jam-packed come lunchtime. Food bar, above-average hamburgers, and a New Orleans-style breakfast menu. 800 Congress, 477-8968 \$\$

**BARBECUE: HOUSE PARK BAR-B-Q** Owner Joe Sullivan's chopped beef and pork roast are required courses for lots of students at ACC's Rio Grande campus and many denizens of the nearby legal ghetto. 900 W. 12th, 472-9621 \$\$

**AMERICAN CAFE: IRON CACTUS MEXICAN GRILL & MARGARITA BAR** In addition to stacked enchiladas, the extensive menu offers hearty steak, chicken, and shrimp dishes treated with combinations of Southwestern and Interior Mexican spices. 606 Trinity, 472-9240 \$\$

**TEX-MEX: JAIME'S SPANISH VILLAGE** Traditional Tex-Mex is complemented by the famous Margarita Jaime - a frozen margarita with fresh sangria on top. 802 Red River, 476-5149 \$\$

**FINE DINING, PACIFIC RIM: KENICHI** Offering freshly ground wasabi root, more than 20 different types of sake, and Kobe beef carpaccio, the trendiness of its clientele is matched equally by its decor. 419 Colorado, 320-8883 \$\$\$

**PAN-ASIAN: NOODLE-ISM** The emphasis is on quality ingredients along with quick and friendly service. This is a place where vegans and carnivores can happily coexist. 107 W. Fifth, 275-9988 \$\$

**TEX-MEX: NUEVO LEON DOWNTOWN** The new downtown location of this Eastside favorite is only open for breakfast and lunch, but you'll find the same chile con queso, tacos, and combination dinners that you crave. 1500 San Jacinto, 236-8226 \$

**AMERICAN CAFE: OLD PECAN STREET CAFE** For more than 25 years Pecan Street has been serving crepes and salads, Fat Chocolate cake, and wonderful coffee to a loyal clientele. 310 E. Sixth, 478-2491 \$\$\$

**AMERICAN CAFE: PARADISE CAFE** Its downtown location and hearty menu have led to its success as a lunch destination as well as a nighttime spot. 401 E. Sixth, 476-5667 \$\$

**FINE DINING, SOUTHWESTERN: ROARING FORK** Rustic decor - all stone, metal, leather, and antlers - along with hearty Western entrees and robust side dishes that are a carnivore's dream. 701 Congress, 583-0000 \$\$\$

**FINE DINING, ITALIAN: ROCCO'S GRILL** The downtown location for this Lakeway favorite is a midrange, sophisticated yet robust spot sporting outlandish murals that are as hearty as the food. 612 W. Sixth, 480-5920 \$\$\$

#### EAST

**AMERICAN CAFE: ARKIE'S GRILL** This cafe has been around since 1948, maintaining the same super homestyle menus and hospitable spirit. Thursday's turkey and dressing special is highly recommended. 4827 E. Cesar Chavez, 385-2986 \$

**TEX-MEX: ARTURO'S TAQUERIA** The sister restaurant to the one on Cameron Road with seafood specials on weekends; the soul of the sea is evident in their atmosphere and menu. 3306 Oak Springs, 926-8474 \$\$

**AMERICAN CAFE: CISCO'S BAKERY & LIAR'S CLUB** In the breakfast business for 50 years, they still serve good migas, huevos rancheros, and hot biscuits with healthy doses of Austin political history. 1511 E. Sixth, 472-4720, 478-2420 \$

**TEX-MEX: DARIO'S RESTAURANT** Try the fajita omelet with grilled peppers, onions, potatoes, and beans. *Que rico!* 1800 E. Sixth, 479-8105 \$\$

**SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: HOOVER'S COOKING** Dishing out huge portions of freshly cooked, Southern-style home cooking like Jerk Pork Ribs, Bella Muffaletta, and heavenly pork chops, this place remains a popular stand-by. 2002 Manor Rd., 479-5006 \$\$

**TEX-MEX: JUAN IN A MILLION** Find one of our favorite "heart attack" breakfasts: gorditas with chorizo and fried eggs slathered with chile con queso. Arteries may harden around the room, but no one seems to care. 2300 E. Cesar Chavez, 472-3872 \$\$

**INTERIOR MEXICAN: LOS COMALES GRACIELA** Expert purveyors of real Norteño-style grilled meats and side dishes. Reliable interior dishes such as *puerco en chile colorado* and *pollo en mole poblano* round out the menu. 2136 E. Seventh, 480-9358 \$\$

**TEX-MEX: MI REY MEXICAN RESTAURANT & CAFE** "My King" boasts *guisado de puerco en chile colorado*, plump chile rellenos, and light, tasty gorditas. 1505 E. Seventh, 476-4211 \$\$\$

**TEX-MEX: NUEVO LEON** Cavernous, friendly restaurant offering cheap combination plates. Decorated almost exclusively in pink and green, adorned with Texas-shaped mirrors and many Christmas lights. Serious date potential. 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097 \$\$

**TEX-MEX: PORFIRIO'S TACOS** Taco shop serving breakfast and lunch. Carne guisada is their speciality. 1512-B Holly, 476-5030 \$

**TEX-MEX: TAQUERIA ARANDAS #1** Mexican breakfasts, sweet horchata, and the sunny red and white interior could whisk the fog out of anyone's morning brain. 3518 E. Seventh, 389-3834 \$

#### LAKE

**TEX-MEX: IGUANA GRILL** A medium-priced menu offers most of the standards, but the flautas and sauces really stand out. Fabulous margaritas and a stellar beer selection go well with a killer view. 2900 RR 620 N., 266-8439 \$\$\$

**INTERIOR MEXICAN: LOS PINOS** Find authentic Veracruz specialties at breakfast, lunch, and dinner. They also offer a full bar. Be sure to try the *cochinita pibil*, shredded pork marinated in achiote and fruit juice. 4919 Hudson Bend, 266-3231 \$\$

**FINE DINING: STARLITE** Devotees may miss the cozy blue house, but the charm is still there. Elegant and creative New American cuisine made with fresh, seasonal ingredients still complements affordable wine options. 407 Colorado, 374-9012 \$\$\$

**ITALIAN: FINO RESTAURANT** From the owners of the popular Asti Trattoria in Hyde Park come influences from Nice to Morocco, Italy to Athens to Valencia, all ably executed by chef Tristan White and his team. 2905 San Gabriel #200, 474-2905 \$\$\$

**AFRICAN: T'S CAFE** Go with a small army and safari your way through the menu of tasty and exotic stews, starches, and appetizers. 15608 Springhill #102, 251-4432, 913-1095 \$\$

**AMERICAN CAFE: POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** A place with music mojo and damn fine burgers. This place channels old Austin music treasures like Soap Creek and Checkered Flag. 22308 Hwy. 71 W., 264-0318 \$

**BARBECUE: R.O.'S OUTPOST** A complete barbecue menu is available, as well as chicken-fried steak and fried quail. No matter how much you eat, you must save room for the pies. 22112 Hwy. 71 W. #2, 264-1169 \$\$

**SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: SPRINGHILL RESTAURANT** The daily buffet always features fried catfish, vegetables, and several choices for non-fish-eaters as well. 13212 W. Hwy. 71, 263-3244 \$\$

#### NORTH

**THAI: BANGKOK CUISINE** They boast a clientele loyal to the array of stellar vegetarian dishes, and their pad thai (with or without meat) is said to be memorable. 9041 Research, 832-9722 \$\$

**PIZZA: BRICK OVEN RESTAURANT** Serves homestyle, thin-crust pizzas - some of the best in town - with a personal touch. 10710 Research, 345-6181 \$\$

**SEAFOOD: CATFISH PARLOUR** When the gang's hungry, take a crowd to eat in, or arrange to have them cater your next outdoor fish-fry. 11910 Research, 258-1853 \$\$

**STEAKHOUSE: COOL RIVER CAFE** Elegant steak house and grill with a ski-lodge atmosphere. Menu items have a Southwestern flair. Full bar available. 4001 Parmer, 835-0010 \$\$\$

**TEX-MEX: EL TACORRIDO** In addition to standard breakfast-taco fare (bacon, egg, potato, chorizo, etc.), they serve chicken, carnitas, and barba-coa tacos, as well as burritos. 9316 N. Lamar, 873-8602 \$

**VIETNAMESE: HUONG GIANG** Featuring the foods of the central region of Vietnam, they've got great selections of appetizers, soups, noodles, and rice plates. 9200 N. Lamar, 834-1736 \$\$\$

**JAPANESE: OSAKA** Here you'll find friendly service in a folksy, neighborhood setting, large portions of impeccably fresh fish, and prices that won't topple the average budget. 13492 Research #160, 918-8012 \$\$\$

**SEAFOOD: PACIFIC STAR RESTAURANT & OYSTER BAR** An even mix of fried vs. broiled and a large palette of choices and combos. The perfect spot for seafood with a slightly Cajun lilt. 13507 Hwy. 183 N., 219-5373 \$\$\$

continued on p.50

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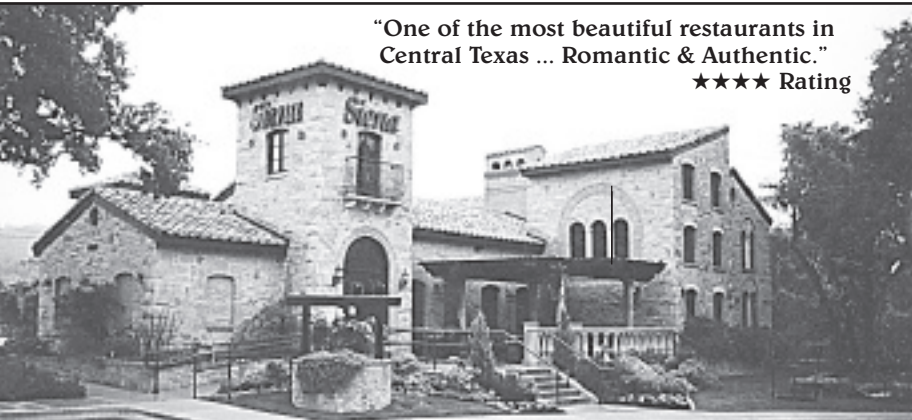
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## food :: RESTAURANT ROULETTE :: FROM P.48

**VIETNAMESE: SUNFLOWER RESTAURANT** Austin's go-to restaurant for traditional Vietnamese flavor; you'll find dishes here that you can't get at the competition. The shaking beef makes us quiver! 8557 Research #146, 339-7860 \$ \$

**STEAKHOUSE: TEXAS LAND & CATTLE COMPANY** Casual, respectable food served up in super-friendly style. You'll leave with a full stomach and green still in your wallet. 14010 Hwy. 183 N., 258-3733 \$ \$

**MEDITERRANEAN: TINO'S GREEK CAFE** Northwest Austin's gift to the Greek culinary gods. Great prices and portions served from a cafeteriastyle line, with oodles of choices for carnivores and vegetarians alike. 13450 Research #237, 336-5999 \$ \$

**TEX-MEX: JOVITA'S** Part community center, part restaurant, part music venue, and all fun. Honest Tex-Mex and ice-cold beer. Check out Cornell Hurd on Thursdays. 1619 S. First, 447-7825 \$ \$

**TEX-MEX: LA FERIA** This boisterous hotspot offers free tea with the lunch specials - we suggest the burritos. Live mariachi on Thursdays. 2010 S. Lamar, 326-8301 \$ \$

**TEX-MEX: LA REYNA RESTAURANT** Like a Tex-Mex diner, the atmosphere is casual and friendly, the food plentiful and filling. 1816 S. First, 447-1280 \$ \$

**AMERICAN CAFE: MAGNOLIA CAFE SOUTH** The second location, this one also packs 'em in at all hours, but especially at mealtimes, if the lines at lunch are any indication. 1920 S. Congress, 445-0000 \$

**CHINESE: MARCO POLO RESTAURANT** It lures quality-lovers in with the promise of a never-ending lunch buffet, but diners are seduced by the surprisingly fresh choices laid out every day. 2200 S. I-35, 445-5563 \$ \$

**BARBECUE: RAY'S BBQ** There are two sauces to choose from for ribs that are country-style, rich, moist, and delicious. The sausage is all beef, from the famous Southside Market in nearby Elgin. 601 Montopolis, 385-8262 \$

**ITALIAN: ROMEO'S** Familiar Americanized Italian food in a fun, romantically retro dining room. Choose from rich pastas, a low-carb menu, and pizzas. Full bar and weekend brunches. 1500 Barton Springs Rd., 476-1090 \$ \$

**CHINESE: SUZI'S CHINESE KITCHEN** Normally priced Chinese food that manages to surpass the mundane, sometimes by a good bit. Vegetarians: Try the eggplant in garlic sauce, but make sure you specify "without pork." 1152 S. Lamar, 441-8400 \$ \$

**BARBECUE: TED & GARRY'S BAR-B-Q** Try the chicken-fried steak if you're not in the mood for fantastic barbecue. Either way, you can pick up family-sized side orders for a crowd. They have also expanded the breakfast menu. 1815 W. Ben White, 326-9328 \$

**TEX-MEX: TRUDY'S SOUTH** A wide range of Tex-Mex with a contemporary twist, and fans are crazy about the chipotle salsa and chips. The half-pound burgers are massive, and they also offer chicken-fried steaks. 4141 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 326-9899 \$ \$

### NORTH CENTRAL

**TEX-MEX: ANTONIO'S TEX-MEX CAFE & CANTINA** There's a heavy emphasis on margaritas, satellite sports, and supersanitized "cantina" ambience here, but staples such as fajitas, burritos, enchiladas, and carne guisada are adequate. 7522 N. I-35 Ste. B, 419-7070 \$ \$

**MIDDLE EASTERN: ARARAT** This popular temple of Middle Eastern cuisine oozes with atmosphere that is midway between a yurt and a Hollywood film set. 111 E. North Loop, 419-1692 \$ \$

**ITALIAN: CARRABBA'S ITALIAN GRILL** Order from the pasta bar, sample one of the wood-fired pizzas, or choose a grilled specialty. The menu also includes requisite manicotti, lasagna, and spaghetti options. 6406 N. I-35, 419-1220 \$ \$ \$

**TEX-MEX: EL POLLO FELIZ** Tender, juicy rotisserie chickens by the plate, whole bird, or party pack paired with reliable side dishes will make your wallet happy. 6801 Airport, 323-6604 \$

**KOREAN: KOREA GARDEN** Fabulous-tasting lunch specials for around five bucks, and for dinner, large portions at excellent prices. A hip, homey spot with good, solid food at great prices. 6519 N. Lamar, 302-3149 \$ \$

**VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: MOTHER'S CAFE** A welcoming vegetarian refuge since 1979, the completely vegetarian menu is a mix of Southern and Tex-Mex, and includes a selection of soups, salads, and heartier fare. 4215 Duval St., 451-3994 \$ \$

**CHINESE, JAPANESE: PEI WEI** This newcomer to the Hancock Shopping Center features a sleek diner atmosphere and affordable favorites. Choose your own combinations for noodle and rice bowls. 1000 E. 41st (Hancock Center), 382-3860 \$

**TEX-MEX: TAMALE HOUSE** Authentic, no-frills carry-out Mexican walk-up, and one of the area's best deals. 5003 Airport, 453-9842 \$

**THAI: THAI VILLAGE** Enjoy a classy but still affordable meal and very artful food presentation. 6406 N. I-35, 452-3888 \$ \$

### WEST

**DELIVERY, PIZZA, TAKEOUT: MANGIA CHICAGO STUFFED PIZZA** A favorite of many, its garlicky happy sauce packs a robust punch, and its \$6.25 lunch special includes lasagna or the 6-inch pizza of the day and a small Caesar salad. 2401 Lake Austin Blvd., 478-6600 \$ \$

**DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: NAU'S ENFIELD DRUG** A traditional, old-fashioned, mom-and-pop drugstore, with soda fountain/diner, office supplies, and a decent selection of cards and gifts. Not many of these places left. 1115 West Lynn, 476-1221 \$

**JAPANESE: ODAKU** Who would have thought a little, out-of-the-way restaurant would hold such treasures? We went straight for the hamachi and uni. What a pleasant surprise! 2501 W. Parmer #500, 834-9304 \$ \$

**AMERICAN CAFE: THE OMELETRY** Before there was Magnolia or Kerbey Lane, there was the Omelettry, beloved for its eggs, flapjacks, and home fries. Same as it ever was. 4811 Burnet Rd., 453-5062 \$

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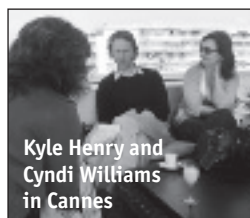
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BY JOE O'CONNELL

## INDEPENDENT SPIRITS AND SUNDANCE DREAMS

Bravo's Independent Spirit Award nominations are going to **Kyle Henry's** *Room* in a big way, notably with a Best First Feature nod and a shot at Best Female Lead for Austin stage actor **Cyndi Williams**. The awards will be announced in February. The news is not so good elsewhere: The Sundance Film Festival passed on Austin-shot films *The Cassidy Kids* by **Bryan Poyser** and **Jacob Vaughan**, as well as **Kat Candler's** *jumping off bridges* and **Rowdy Stovall's** *Mexican Sunrise*. The *bridges* crew was also awaiting word from Slamdance at press time, and Candler is having a benefit screening of her first film, *cicadas*, at 1pm on Saturday at the Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar to help fund post-production on *bridges*. Congrats to **Michael Cain** (no, not the actor) of Dallas, whose *TV Junkie* was selected for the documentary competition. The film has been compared to *Tarnation* for its use of extensive home movies to tell a personal story of a media-obsessed guy.



Kyle Henry and Cyndi Williams in Cannes

## GRIDIRON GODS

**Peter Berg** was back in town recently to shoot some sample footage for his *Friday Night Lights* television pilot. It's the latest promising sign that the pilot, like the film that spawned it, will shoot in Austin. Berg rode on the bus with Westlake High players en route to their bidistrict loss to Pflugerville, said Lisa Schlinggen, athletic facilities and events coordinator for the school. She held out hope that Westlake would play a role in the pilot, saying Berg "has a pretty tight bond with certain folks here." Meanwhile, the football film *Freedom for Joe* recently scouted Austin.

## CAINE, ADRIAN, AND THE HEDGEHOG

I told you last time that **David Carradine** is starring in Burnt Orange's caveman comedy *Homo Erectus*, but now comes word that **Talia Shire** is onboard the **Adam Rifkin** project. Oh, and the film's title takes on a new meaning with the further addition of porn legend **Ron Jeremy** to the cast.

## PUMPING UP

In an interesting marketing move, Austin-shot *No Pain, No Gain* will premiere Saturday at more than 250 theatres in 70 cities for one showing only. That includes four Austin theaters all playing the film at 3pm. **Sam Turcotte** wrote (along with Austin mystery novelist **Darryl Wimberley**), directed, and produced the film he claims to be the first about the world of bodybuilding since 1977's *Pumping Iron* introduced Arnold Schwarzenegger to the film-viewing world. Advance ticket buyers are eligible to win more than \$25,000 in prizes. More at [www.no-pain-no-gain.com](http://www.no-pain-no-gain.com).

## AND THE REST

**Bobby Cannavale**, who played the food-cart operator in *The Station Agent*, is fittingly starring in **Richard Linklater's** *Fast Food Nation* adaptation, which is quietly filming locally... Austin director **Amy Grappell's** documentary *Light From the East* is part of Documentary Festival Amsterdam's Docs for Sale program, which helps to get a few good docs out in the marketplace. *Light* is about an American theatre troupe visiting Ukraine in 1991 during the fall of communism... **Jesse Sublett**, Austin rocker/writer (and occasional *Chronicle* contributor), is pleased to see that National Lampoon's syndicated courtroom show *Eye for an Eye* has popped up on Austin's UPN station. Sublett is a writer, er, consultant, for the Dallas-shot twisted reality show... How could I fail to mention that *The Devil and Daniel Johnston*, which explores one of Austin's odd musical treasures, and *Murderball*, whose principal subject is Austin quad rugby player Mark Zupan, made the 15-film short list for a documentary Oscar nomination? Shame on me... The deadline to get your film into South by Southwest Film 06 is Saturday. Find the application at [www.sxsw.com](http://www.sxsw.com).

Send tips to [filmnews@austinchronicle.com](mailto:filmnews@austinchronicle.com)

# screens

54 ANIMÉ IN AUSTIN  
59 TV EYE

## DVD WATCH

### KNOWING ME KNOWING YOU WITH ALAN PARTRIDGE: THE COMPLETE SERIES BBC Warner, \$29.98

Alan Partridge thinks his chat show should be the most popular in England. On that point, he is grievously mistaken. That *Knowing Me Knowing You With Alan Partridge* should have had the same exposure and success stateside as *The Office*, however, is undeniable. The mock chat show, which ran on BBC2 in 1994 and '95, represents the early, not-quite halcyon days of fictional TV and radio personality Partridge, an invention of comedian/actor Steve Coogan (*24 Hour Party People*, *Coffee & Cigarettes*). Partridge is, quite simply, the worst chat host ever, a monstrous amalgam of all that is cheesy, behind-the-times, insipid, and egoistic about the genre. Given to woefully overextending metaphors, offending viewers with bizarrely inappropriate remarks, and wrenching anecdotes out of his guests with methods only slightly less painful than medieval tooth extraction, Alan Partridge is even more lovably hateable than David Brent. His utter inability to roll with the punches thrown by live television is causing him and his show, as one commentator on the DVD suggests, to go down in a "blazing stream of shite." The result is one of the most hilarious satirical comedies in recent memory.

The series – which included such appealing segments as *Up Alan's Sleeve*; *Alan's Big Pocket*; and *Knowing Me Alan Partridge, Knowing You Another Alan Partridge* (featuring the ceremonious bestowal of Alan Partridge Tie & Blazer Badge Combination Packs to other Alan Partridges) – didn't make it to second season. In fact, Alan Partridge's career spiraled into ignominy after the first season, as chronicled in the BBC's subsequent behind-the-scenes series *I'm Alan Partridge*. Though the fictional Alan Partridge drew a short straw in life, his character was wildly popular in Britain and still is. Partridge ranked just before Ali G. at No. 7 in the Top 10 of English Channel 4's *One Hundred Greatest TV Characters*, and *Alan Partridge: The Movie* is slated for release in 2007. So, why have most Americans not heard of him? Perhaps it's because, back in the mid-Nineties, television executives doubted the ability of an American audience to "get" – or indeed, tolerate – the schadenfreude-fueled, cringe-makingly awkward humor so intrinsic in BBC comedies. We were robbed, but the recently released two-disc set of the series more than makes up for it.

The two-disc set comprises all six episodes of the show and is loaded with special features, some of which are more valuable than others. The second disc includes *Knowing Me, Knowing Yule*, a Christmas special, during which Alan justifies the outrageous cost of building a model of his house in the Television Centre by wagering, "If the British public were asked whether they would prefer an Alan Partridge Christmas special to 14 kidney dialysis machines, the response would be unanimous." Though Alan might be misjudging the leaning of the unanimity, the special is painfully funny and worth watching, even through your fingers, if need be. The same goes for the pilot run of the show, and the spots Coogan did in character for Comic Relief, all on the second disc. Other features are less exciting, such as "Stillalan," which is simply a slideshow of photographs from the series, and text cast biographies that would have been far more interesting as video interviews. The DVD commentary



is entertaining at first, with a variety of cast members speaking in and out of character, but far less worthwhile than the show itself, and the commentators seem to realize this. During commentary on the first episode, for instance, one of the actors begins a tangential conversation and, when reminded of the task at hand, says, "No one ever listens this far in, surely. ... After 10 minutes you think, 'This is tedious!'" Quite. A behind-the-scenes documentary would've been a bonus, as would more involvement on the part of Steve Coogan, who seems conspicuously absent from the commentary. Still, the series itself is comic genius, and the DVD set does it justice. Just try to contain your anger when you realize we could've imported this show instead of *Coupling*.

– Jess Sauer

## ALSO OUT NOW

**Jurassic Park Adventure Pack (Universal Studios, \$26.99):** Here's your chance to buy the last two *Jurassic Park* movies, before they're donated to the fossil collection at the Museum of Ill-Conceived Sequels.

**The Muppet Movie: Kermit's 50th Anniversary Edition (Walt Disney Video, \$19.99):** Kermit's not so green anymore, but the first Muppet movie is still the best.

## 'SXSW PRESENTS': 'PRIZEWHORES'

KLRU, *The Austin Chronicle*, and South by Southwest have teamed up for *SXSW Presents*, an independent film series airing Fridays at 10pm on Channel 18 (Time Warner Cable Channel 9). Hosted and co-produced by SXSW Film producer Matt Dentler, the second season of the series concludes tonight, Friday, Dec. 2. This week's installment is Jenn Garrison's *PrizeWhores*, about which, when it screened at the festival in 2002, *Chronicle* columnist Belinda Acosta wrote, "You can't get something for nothing – or can you? George and Chris Donehue, Randy Spiros, and Steve Bezdek, four quirky but likable folks, defy that adage by constantly trolling Austin radio stations' remote broadcasts for promotional giveaways. They've won everything from free movie tickets and albums to vacations to Cancun. For this, they've earned the nickname 'prizewhores.' How do they do it? Deliberately. Why do they do it? The answer to that is a little more complicated, according to this bright documentary by former KGSR radio DJ and film director Jenn Garrison. Though ad sales reps find the foursome perplexing, it turns out they know more about popular culture and music than assumed. With good humor and a begrudging sense of wonder, *PrizeWhores* explores the thin line between an avocation and obsession, and how the middle-aged and elderly are regarded by a youth-centered culture." For more information, see [www.sxsw.com](http://www.sxsw.com) and [www.klru.org](http://www.klru.org).



Jenn Garrison



# OTAKU\* OVERLOAD!!!

After Monster Island Studios sank, Austin's acting community and Houston animé giant A.D. Vision unleashed talent bent on vengeance and redemption (\*otaku = animé geek)

BY MARC SAVLOV

**S**ome of my earliest memories are of woefully dubbed English emanating from the mismoving mouths of Japanese people. This is, on the face of it, peculiar. I've never been to the Land of the Rising Sun. I'm not a war baby. And my experiences with Japanese women – despite a passion for the now defunct Austin zine *AGAR* (*Asian Girls Are Rad*) – have thus far been limited to ordering the odd bubble tea from Momoko and having a (decidedly rad) Osaka girl teach me how to say “Are you the god of death?” at a party some years back (“Omae wa shinigami desu-ka?”), a phrase that has come in handier than you might expect.

Still, casting back, I can clearly recall a preadolescence awash in Japanese pop culture, then, as now, mysterious, alluring, and infinitely, deliciously other. There was, of course, towering, irradiated Gojira, king of Toho Studios, who sparked in my 8-year-old mind a monstrous passion for all things saurian, which eventually led me to the University of Texas in pursuit of a degree in paleontology. (Who knew math skills would turn out to be a key requirement?) Gamera, too, Daiei Studios' competing behemoth, a flying turtle internationally known as Friend to All Children and possessor of one of the most wicked underbites this side of Hello Saber Tooth Kitty. For years, my backyard sandbox-cum-mudpit was Monster Island, and, three decades later, I remember painstakingly



A few of the many incarnations of Austin voice actor and animator Samantha Inoue Harte (r): *Magical Play's* Pipin (top-left); and Chocobo (center-left) and Crux (left) from *Final Fantasy: Unlimited*. “I started out wanting to be an animator,” Harte says, “but I’ve ended up being an actor in the same animés I grew up with, which is very cool.”



JOHN ANDERSON

constructing intricate Lincoln Logs cityscapes only to have them toppled via Giant Monsters' All-Out Attack and a little kid's runaway imagination. If I built it, they would come (and conquer). I even had a yen for Blue Öyster Cult based solely on their lumbering, inexplicably popular hit "Godzilla."

Then there were the weekend snippets of what is now universally known as animé, or Japanese animation. Devo-coiffed Astro Boy; Captain Harlock, with his wind-whipped cape and black eye-patch marking him as cool as surely as the Fonz's leather jacket; mighty *Space Battleship Yamato* (whose namesake, I was later to learn, was sunk by the Allies in World War II); and, yes, *Speed Racer*. "Go!" they all commanded. Grinning, I went, and still do, despite, like many Americans, a lingering feeling that when it comes to Japanese animation and monster movies, that if the character's words match their lip movements, there's something funny going on in Fujiyoshida.

Now, here, the once ridiculed, utterly formative Japanese imports of my youth are increasingly a part not only of American pop culture, but also of the very fabric of America itself. Sony owns half of Hollywood, my shower curtain is from Sanrio, and I pilot a modified Subaru WRX that resembles nothing so much as one of Toei Co.'s multitasking Transformers (it's more than meets the eye). Every single entertainment component in my home, from my region-free JVC DVD/karaoke player to the Hello Kitty screensaver on my otherwise Finnish Nokia to the Puffy AmiYumi CD currently spilling out of my speakers in a frothy, J-pop tide of *kawaii* (literally, "cute"), comes from Japan.

And always, the animé, the voices, the lips.

## Off the Island

Austin has played a pivotal role in the influx of Japanese pop-cultural eye candy during the past decade. These days you can't walk into a video store without imperiling yourself and your wallet amid a dangerously overstocked animé selection. What used to be called Japanimation is now the single most popular form of episodic entertainment in the country among the key 8-38 age demographic. Imported animé series (and their myriad interactive video game offshoots) have become so prevalent in our society that the visual and

Wonder what in Toshiro Mifune's name we're talking about? Need those all-important visual aids? Go here: [www.advfilm.com/FILMStrailers.asp](http://www.advfilm.com/FILMStrailers.asp).

**While it was operating, Monster Island Studios attracted the best and the brightest of Austin acting talent and created a superior and highly polished brand of animé. Its sudden departure has left a void that more than a few people are trying to fill.**

kinetic aesthetic has been applied to all other aspects of American culture, from advertising to television programs to the teak coffee table in my living room that wouldn't look out of place in a Hiyao Miyazaki film. Our neighbor is Totoro.

It was not always so. Adults of a certain age and minus a specific type of internal cultural barometer that I like to refer to as "paying attention to what's really important" still think in terms of those cruddy, off-kilter lip movements (professionally referred to as "flaps" and roughly corresponding to the number of syllables in a given word) when they think of animé at all. Mostly, they don't, but as Generations X, Y, and Zed age, their offspring, like their parents before them, immerse themselves in what's cool, and what's cool in millennial America is animé. Show me a person older than 35 who can tell me what the word "cosplay" refers to or why April 7, 2003, is the most important day in the year, and I'll show you someone I want to hang out with. (For the record, cosplay is a contraction of "costume play," i.e., dressing up like your favorite animé characters, a core component of such animé conventions as Austin-based Ushicon, and April 7, 2003, is the mythical date of Astro Boy's "birth." Or, if you want to get all otaku

*continued on p.56*

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on me, “Mighty Atom,” as creator Osamu Tezuka originally christened him.)

Locally, this has everything to do with a now defunct outfit called Monster Island Studios, which, as a satellite of Houston-based animé giant A.D. Vision – the largest distributor of animé in the United States today – shuttered its doors in March of 2005 after a seven-year run as one of the most prolific and professional animé-dubbing and -distribution companies in the country. Its sudden departure – due to inexperienced management from home base Houston or, alternately, cost-cutting necessities, depending on whom you ask – has left a void in the Austin acting community that has yet to be filled.

While it was operating, however, Monster Island attracted the best and the brightest of Austin acting talent and, in doing so, created not just a superior and highly polished brand of animé but also opened up a new creative outlet for the Texas capital’s legions of thespians who gamely put their vocally emotive skills to work in the service of, among other things, intergalactic war (and, every so often, peace); demon-fighting (and, in the more adult, tentacle-rape-heavy genre known as *hentai*, demon-lovin’); and Bushido-bladed martial arts mayhem that puts Jackie Chan’s real-world kick flips to shame. They sang, screamed, and sighed with orgasmic pleasure through an astonishingly varied menagerie of characters that ran the gamut from helium-voiced naughty schoolgirls to elfin sprites, from noble-if-conflicted warrior man-children to shrinking, shrieking violets. At its peak, Monster Island employed more than 50 Austin actors, guaranteeing them a paycheck and a claim to fame that might never have made the front page of *Variety*, but to this day reverberates in countless animé-fixated Internet chat rooms, forums, and conventions on both sides of the Pacific and beyond.

Founded in 1998 by Gary Lipkowitz and producer/director Charlie Campbell, Monster Island’s dubbing technique continues to serve former parent company ADV. It’s standard practice, actually, for American distributors of animé to purchase the domestic rights to Japanese television series and then farm out the dubbing to other acting agencies. At Monster



Lowell Bartholomee (r) as Iizuka in *Samurai X: Trust*

JOHN ANDERSON



Island, Campbell’s close connections with the Austin acting scene – particularly with writer/director Lowell Bartholomee – resulted in the company giving rise to its own very nearly in-house talent pool.

“When we set up Monster Island in Austin in 1998,” Campbell says, “there was already an established acting community for theatre in town, but the reason that so many people in Austin have become proficient and well-known for doing the animé thing is because we were there for so long and we had so many people come in to do so many different roles that we ended up kind of training this whole raft of actors in the process of doing the specific tasks that make up animé voice work.

“And it is difficult. The actor comes to the script cold, with no preparation, gets in the recording booth with their scripted lines, and then, as they watch their scene on a monitor, they have to match not only the emotional tone of the scene but the exact number of mouth-flaps that their character does as they’re talking, or screaming, or whatever, and to make it sound natural. It’s much more difficult than the average viewer suspects, and it involves a whole new skill set for most actors. It’s like being able to act in Morse code.”

Bartholomee, a Frontera Fest-award-winning playwright who, although he’s no longer working for ADV and currently helms his own Bayou Radio Productions, agrees, explaining the process thusly:

“After ADV purchases the rights to distribute a show here in the States, they get a script from Japan and then one of our translators here turns it into an English version. That doesn’t mean the dialogue is going to be any good, or match up with what the characters are saying or doing on screen, so that script

is then handed off to a writer who polishes it while watching the show. You have to attempt to replicate what the original intent and tone of the dialogue was in the original Japanese version while at the same time making your new dialogue match up with the number of times any given character’s mouth moves. It involves a bit of math, and it’s a really strange way to write, but it actually helped me in my other writing because it’s something of a five-finger exercise for other types of dramatic writing.

“Once Monster Island closed,” Bartholomee adds, “it put a huge dent in the amount of work a lot of actors were getting. So, there are all these stage actors who have these highly trained vocal talents just lying fallow here, for the moment, but at the same time, because of their work on animé, they’ve garnered these huge followings online. Joey Hood, for example, has a massive following from his work on *Dai-Guard*, and so does Sami Harte Inoue, Shawn Sides, Larissa Wolcott, and, of course, Ed Neal, who was very nearly in every single thing we did at Monster Island.”

### The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galax(ies)

I know what you’re thinking: Ed Neal? The Ed Neal?! The same actor who starred in Tobe Hooper’s seminal splatter film *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*? Hell’s own hitchhiker, thumbs up for horror? That guy?

Yeah, him. It always comes as a shock to discover that longtime Austin actor Ed Neal, along with having one of the lengthiest track records in horror-movie-character-actor history, a huge collection of Polish film one-sheets, the passing acquaintance of one Liza Minnelli, and a blinding white Caddie parked in front of

his house with a rip in the upholstery caused by Motörhead’s Lemmy Kilmister roughhousing a topless dancer one late, late night, long, long ago, is also one of the most accomplished animé voice talents in the country.

Disconcerting, isn’t it?

Not as much as what followed Monster Island co-founder Charlie Campbell’s first meeting with the manic panic that is the former hitcher.

“I’m a huge *Texas Chainsaw Massacre* fan in the first place,” Campbell says, “so I was really stoked about Ed Neal showing up to read for us. But what’s really weird is that just a few days later, Gunnar Hansen [*Chainsaw*’s legendary Leatherface] showed up on our doorstep to audition, too. What’s even stranger was that, for whatever reason, he was in a very low-key mood that day, lethargic even. And, so, I got him in the sound booth and fed him some action sequences with some yelling and so forth, and he ends up kind of just mumbling+ his way through the sequence. I remember I told him to try and get a little more into it, to pump up the volume a little, and he says, very quietly, ‘I’m sorry, but I don’t want to hurt my voice.’ And we’re, like, Leatherface is worried about his voice? Man. That was really a surprise. It was neat meeting him, but I never saw him again.”

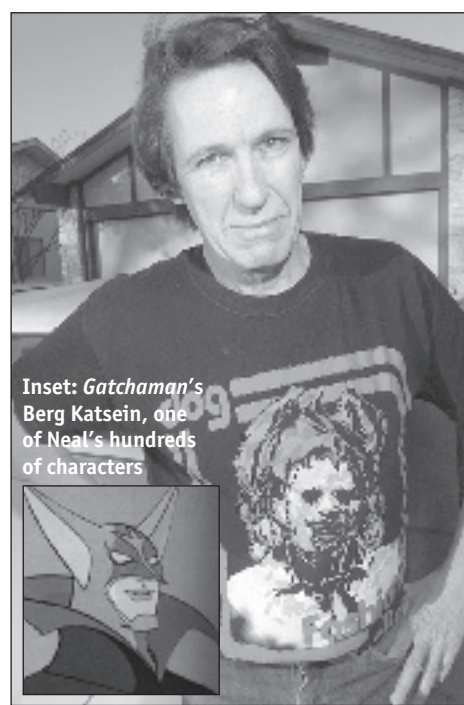
Neal, on the other hand, has become a cottage industry all to himself, ADV’s reigning king of voice work, so much so that his current project with the company, a retooling of Seventies-era superhero favorite *G-Force* – now re-released in its proper format with the original title *Gatchaman* – has him performing 16 separate roles. (And they’re only halfway through the 105 episodes, meaning Neal almost surely will shatter some sort of voice-acting record.)

“He came in for an audition when we first opened up in Austin,” Campbell recalls. “It was for a show called *City Hunter: Secret Service*. I’m always looking for people who are really versatile so that I can cast them as more than one type of character, and he’s just fantastic with that. It also makes it more fun.

“The thing about Ed is that he makes even his bit parts unforgettably memorable. He’s got great comedic timing and really fantastic acting instincts. A lot of times ... I can give him a

**“I’ve been talking stupid all my life. These people in my head just appear and disappear with alarming alacrity, and this same thing that got me thrown out of the third grade – making silly voices – I now make a living at.”**

– Ed Neal



JOHN ANDERSON

Inset: *Gatchaman*’s Berg Katsein, one of Neal’s hundreds of characters



jump-off point, and he'll just run with it places no one else would ever think of. For instance, I'll tell him, 'You're doing this big talking cat in a show called *Moyoken*, but do it as [former *Hollywood Squares* panelist and *Bewitched* actor] Paul Lynde, and he just nails it. There's not a lot of talent that can just do improv like that.'

Neal, still recognizably the grim hitchhiker and having just returned from one of his many horror-movie conventions (where he chummed it up with new best pal and legendary Z-grade horror icon Herschell Gordon Lewis), is, like the Anime Network, on all the time.

Asked to explain the leap from Seventies horror icon to *Devil Lady's* scheming Kazar or *Cosplay Complex's* "Priest," Neal's responding riff encompasses everything from his five-year stint with Austin improv breeding ground Esther's Follies to, well, pretty much everything you can think of.

"Lemme tell ya," he says between mouthfuls of – what else? – barbecue, "I've been talking stupid all my life. One minute I'm a 7-foot-2 cowboy and the next you're a 4-foot gnome. These people in my head just appear and disappear with alarming alacrity, and this same thing that got me thrown out of the third grade – making silly voices – I now make a living at. So, now, whenever I get another big job, I always reach for the phone and call my third-grade teacher: 'Hello? Mrs. Feldman? It's Ed Neal. I just made another \$800!'"

He continues: "You wanna have some fun? Sit down and watch some of the *Gatchaman* episodes and try and figure out which characters I'm doing! I don't know of anybody else who's done that many voices in a major release. Every time Charlie Campbell shows me a new character, I pull out a new voice and suddenly it's in the show! If there's several characters speaking to each other, I can jump from voice to voice without any additional editing, too, which is great, because it saves money in studio time, and, therefore, I get more work. ... Even my own kids have only ever got 12 of the 16."

And it's true: Even as this conversation occurs, Neal is switching from voice to voice – now a wizened old timer, now a dopey turtle,

now a gravel-voiced demon – with the crazed unpredictability of an old Zenith TV console on the blink. The effect is flabbergasting.

"I've done musical comedy," says the voluble actor. "I've toured 178 towns with Sandy Duncan. I've done Esther's Follies. I've done every conceivable form – opera! I do cartoons. There's really no form of entertainment I haven't tried, so, getting into voice acting for animé was really a piece of cake for me. A lot of people have trouble with it because they're looking down at the script and then looking up at the monitor and the trick is to match those mouth-flaps. You can't look at both at once and manage it. It's almost instinctual for me.

"Here's the strangest thing you will ever hear when you are doing voice work for animation of any sort: 'Try this one in your normal voice.' The only thing that's ever struck that kind of panic into my heart was 'I missed my period.' It's that kind of intensity. Because, as a performer, you have no idea what you – the real you – sounds like. Or if you do, and there are some people who do, then you don't trust that voice, because your average artist's creative mind and slug-level sense of self-esteem won't let them trust it. Which is why a lot of performers are who they are anyway. And the truth of it is, it's simply another character."

### A Chocobo Is Not a Candy Bar

In fact, a chocobo, aside from being Japan's bizarre and decidedly noneducational answer to Big Bird, is Samantha Inoue Harte. Rather, Choco the Chocobo is Harte's role in *Final Fantasy: Unlimited*. While Ed Neal represents the more, let's say, adrenalized end of Austin's animé voice-acting spectrum, there's another performer here in town who's nearly as well known and can more than hold her own against Neal's panoply of creepy ne'er-do-wells.

Harte, unlike most animé voice talent, actually grew up in Japan and was weaned on a steady diet of animé and manga (the films' printed, comic-booky counterpart). Indeed,

*continued on p.58*

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CHRONICLE FOX 7 RANDALLS

the 26-year-old – her voice pitched just shy of the requisite helium-voiced, borderline serious gigglefit necessary to play all those risqué parts with just the right amount of bespectacled, sexy sass – holds a theatrical screening of Eighties animé chestnut *Macross: Do You Remember Love?* as her earliest kidhood memory.

“My father was in the military, and my parents own a Buddhist temple in Yokohama,” she says. “I ended up in Austin because of the mistaken belief that the University of Texas had a huge animation program. When I discovered there wasn’t, I went into the art department, instead, but kept studying animation in my spare time. Preston Blair’s book, *Cartoon Animation*, was a big influence, and I used to read Disney animators Frank and Ollie Johnson’s *The Illusion of Life* cover to cover.

“In 2000, I discovered Monster Island Studios through a mutual friend, Joel Sweeney, and eventually I went and auditioned for them. Like a lot of people at that time, I was under the misconception that dubbed versions of animé were automatically inferior to the original Japanese. I was one of those animé fangirls who refused to watch anything that had been dubbed, simply on the grounds that it wasn’t the real thing.

“My initial audition, over at their offices in 501 Studios, was a nightmare. I met Lowell Bartholomee, who scared me half to death because I just didn’t know what I was doing, and he’s an imposing presence. He and Charlie put me into the sound booth and gave me a script and some lines, and I just remember panicking because I’m in this little tiny booth that’s so quiet you can actually hear the silence. I didn’t even know enough to put on the headphones so I could hear Lowell and Charlie’s direction. I was terrified.”

Lowell and Campbell, for their part, recall things a bit differently.

Here’s Campbell’s recollection:

“The first time I met her she showed up for a crowd session for, I believe, *Samurai X* – where we had a bunch of actors doing various parts

## For the Imperial Flower Combat Trooper on Your List: Austin-Accented Animé on DVD

There are more animé DVDs out now featuring Austin actors than ever before – enough to ground even Samurai Santa’s Gaijin-class Dreadnaught Sleighcruiser. Here’s a list of our Top 5 portals to animé greatness, each featuring some of Austin’s most notorious actors. All DVDs are available at [www.advfilms.com](http://www.advfilms.com) or local DVD outlets. In case you’re brain-dead, not all are suitable for children. – M.S.

**Cosplay Complex:** Three girls with a passion for dressing up as their favorite animé characters in between stripping down and chatting with Samantha Inoue Harte’s elfin sprite Delmo. Like Bluto’s sorority-house window scene from *Animal House* minus John Belushi.

**Samurai X: Reflection:** Kenshin, a sword-bearing master assassin with enough psychic baggage to fill a charnel house, roams the land and ties up loose ends (and lives) in this appropriately epic two-part series conclusion.

**Final Fantasy: Unlimited:** You’ve played the game, read the manga, seen the movie, and wondered what all the fuss was about ... now hear Samantha Inoue Harte as Choco the Chocobo in all of her other splendor.

**Sakura Wars: Overture:** Marked by stunning animation and stylistic flourishes worthy of Satoshi Kon himself, this is the story of the Imperial Flower Combat Troop and female warrior Sakura’s ongoing travails betwixt heart and blade. Splendid.

**The Princess Blade:** Surprise! It’s live-action! ADV’s English dubbing track is nearly as flawless as the breathtaking opening ambush sequence, itself worthy of Kurosawa himself. An overlooked, crimson-dappled gem.

– and we put her in the recording booth with another actor and had them both do death scenes. In the episode, the characters are on horseback and are being pursued by a murdering hoard. The guy gets cut down with a sword first, then the girl. So, the scene plays, and the guy gives a really solid death cry – ‘Aargh!’ – and then Sami, just out of the blue, lets loose with this Halloween, bloodcurdling scream that just sent a chill up your spine. I mean it was just horrific. And real! The guy standing next to her in the booth just went white as a

sheet and the 20 or so people we had in the next room waiting for their turn in the crowd scene burst in to see if everything was all right. It was just an amazing, raw scream, and I told her, ‘You know, if I ever need a really good scream, you’re coming in!’”

Like Fay Wray, who, as the story goes, was cast in *King Kong* solely on the basis of her gamine shriekability, Harte has made good on her tentative first sound-booth foray and moved from animé fan to borderline living legend (at the many animé conventions she attends each year, she’s an object of adoration from fanboys and -girls alike). She’s been in nearly as many ADV productions as Neal (and frequently starred right alongside him), including the wildly popular *Cosplay Complex* and *Getbackers* series.

“I started out wanting to be an animator,” Harte says, “but I’ve ended up being an actor in the same animés I grew up with, which is very cool.

“In terms of the voice acting, everything is cold-read. There’s no preparation other than what the director tells you to do over the headphones. They’ll tell you what your lines are; you watch the scene over and over until you get the flow and the timing of the words; and then you just get into character and say the lines while doing your best to match the movements of the character. It’s really tough. The funny thing is that when you watch American animation, the vocals are done first, before any of the animated images are drawn, so, in animé, we’re doing the whole process backward. Some people can get it and some people can’t, but because I already know what they’re saying in Japanese – and I think I’m the only voice actor at ADV that’s fluent in Japanese – I have it a little easier than most voice actors. I can add and subtract words, or

even pauses like ‘oh’ or ‘ah’ to make the English have a smoother flow.”

In a way, Harte brings the Austin animé scene full circle. She’s not just a pretty voice (or a high, squeaky one, as needed) but also, as of last month, the head of her own animation studio right here in Austin. Monster Island Studios might be no more, but Harte’s fledgling Saiko Studios is suddenly there to fill the vocal and animatic void.

“Saiko” is an ‘Engrish’ term, Harte explains – meaning it’s a phonetic take on an English word, but the meaning is less ‘psycho’ than it is ‘cool’ or ‘awesome’ or ‘the best.’ Dominic [Vitucci] works with me, and Korey Coleman from Horseback Salad and *The Reel Deal* [who illustrated this issue’s cover], and a couple of interns. Right now, I’m working on a project for Spike TV, which I can’t say anything about except that it’s going to begin airing on Spike in January of 2006. We don’t even have a title yet, but it’s a live-action TV show with animated segments.”

As if that weren’t impressive enough (and talking to Harte you get the distinct impression she’s just getting started), she’s also sharing the wealth by teaching animation to kids and adults alike over at the Motion Media Arts Center and Austin Community College.

“At MMAC, I teach kids, and, at ACC, I have a 2-D animation class for adults. I’ve been teaching since 1998, actually, over at the Dougherty Arts Center, the Austin Museum of Art, and for a while Dominic and I had our own animation school over in Cedar Park teaching mostly home-school kids. It’s great to see these kids that I’ve been teaching since they were 10 years old getting into the animation field and recognizing their work.”

The obvious question, then, is this: Can Austin’s animé talent recover from the blow dealt by Monster Island’s departure? Both Harte and Bartholomee think it’s far from impossible.

“We’re still in the early phases, of course,” Harte says, “but because Austin has the talent, the manpower, and the base, all we need to do to kick-start the scene here is to get some animé to dub. And that’s basically it. I’ve been talking to [Dallas-based animé distributor] FUNimation and, right now, I’m waiting for a response back. Fingers crossed. So far, though some of the people I’ve spoken to up there acknowledge that there’s no reason why Austin shouldn’t have its own animé studio much like we once had Monster Island. All the pieces are in place except for the animé itself.”

And why not? Today’s animé have come a long way from the days of inadvertently ridiculous dubbing and cookie-cutter storylines about princesses, maidens, and some guy on a white horse with a ponytail and a sword.

In the end, Ed Neal, as is his way, says it best somehow.

“What’s fascinating about animé today is the depth and the breadth of the storylines. It’s no longer just samurai warriors, or just monsters. It’s everything. We’ve got all these animés now exclusively about kids in high school. We’ve got them about little fuzzy dice that talk or whole storylines about people who live on boats. The divergence is what continually astounds me. I mean, there is no dearth of ideas in the world of animé today, and anyone who thinks there is hasn’t been paying attention.” ■



Iris from *Sakura Wars*



Shawn Sides (l) as Lisa in *Final Fantasy: Unlimited* (above) and Jun in *The Devil Lady* (below)



BRET BROOKSHIRE

# Andale!

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

According to a Kaiser Family Foundation study, sexual content on prime-time TV has steadily increased since 1998, as reported in a preamble to an *Advertising Age* online poll. This was presented along with Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean's call for the party to develop and focus on morality issues, and a report that Illinois Sen. Barack Obama "blame[s] media companies for 'coarsening the culture' with their content." Advertising executives wonder what kind of effect this call to (morality) arms will have on their industry, because, as they well know, sex sells.

I get nervous when terms like "morality" and "sex" and "blame" make an appearance under the banner of defending America's "moral values." We all might be speaking the same language, but the interpretation is not always the same. This was made clear to me at a Spanish class I recently sat in on. To start the class, the instructor had the class sing "Macarena." Yes, that "Macarena." Here's the first verse translated into English:

"Give your body pleasure, Macarena/because your body is for giving it pleasure and good things/give your body pleasure, Macarena/Ehhhh, Macarena."

I don't remember the timing on the following, but just as the class (all women) was remarking on the song's sexual looseness, I slapped my palm on the table and said "Andale!" as an expression of "So, that's what they're saying" (the lyrics fly by) but also, and more accurately, "You go, girl!"

The polite disdain that followed surprised me, which just went to show me that one person's idea of empowerment is another's idea of sexual looseness. So, who decides what's what?

For anyone who watches TV with any regularity, the increase in sexual content is obvious. I don't need a study to tell me that. Curiously, responsible approaches to relationships and sexual activity on TV is occurring among young-adult characters (the ones, our news media tells us, who are the least responsible or the least able to make sound decisions).

On last season's prime-time soap *The OC*, teen couple Seth and Summer decided to refrain from sex since they clearly didn't know what they were doing. The humor and seriousness of their decision was well played, but would be beyond the comprehension of the "grown-up" characters on the supposedly more sophisticated *Grey's Anatomy*. This very popular ABC series features first-year surgical interns who shamelessly trample each other for scalpel time, yet have no idea what a condom is or what it's for. One intern got syphilis from a nurse he slept with, who got it from a rival intern. Another intern got pregnant by her superior. In the last episode, when the aforementioned nurse and the intern who originally gave her syphilis decided to get it on again (at work), she gasped, "I hope you remembered a condom this time."



***Grey's Anatomy* features first-year surgical interns who shamelessly trample each other for scalpel time, yet have no idea what a condom is or what it's for. One intern got syphilis from a nurse he slept with, who got it from a rival intern. In the last episode, when the aforementioned nurse and the intern who originally gave her syphilis decided to get it on again (at work), she gasped, "I hope you remembered a condom this time." You "hope"?**

You "hope"?

I imagine most parents would cringe at the idea of their high-school-age daughter having sex. What is interesting on *Veronica Mars* is not that Veronica is sexually active but that her father – a private detective – is unaware of it. Sort of. What cleverly plays in the background of this sleuth-centric series is the reality that many adults and parents apparently can't stand: Their adult child has a private life. What is difficult to define is that demarcation between being a child and being an adult, something that will be vociferously debated among parents and their children everywhere until the end of time.

I don't think anyone should learn about sex, intimacy, and relationships from a TV series or any other entertainment medium, although that is exactly where most of us get our strongest impressions. Assuming that suppressing sexual content on the small screen is going to redefine our moral landscape is as rife with land mines as defining "sexual content" itself. I think a bigger question to mull over is why, if this nation is truly moving toward a conservative theocracy, do shows like *Grey's Anatomy* not only persist but thrive? It's all too clear. A large audience likes to watch.


As always, stay tuned.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at [tveye@austinchronicle.com](mailto:tveye@austinchronicle.com)

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# music

62 ERIK HOKKANEN  
66 ROCK & ROLL BOOKS

A Different World:  
Jada Pinkett Smith  
at OzzFest, San  
Antonio, Aug. 7



GARY MILLER

## PINKETT SLIP

The **Fresh Prince**'s wife fronts a metal band. Who knew? Since 2003, **Jada Pinkett Smith** (*A Different World*, *Collateral*) has been the voice of **Wicked Wisdom**, the L.A. quintet she describes as "a progressive, aggressive, hard rock band." A day before embarking on the tour that brings *Wicked Wisdom* to the **Back Room** Sunday, she called en route to a studio to "tweak" their upcoming album, due Feb. 21 on her own **100 Percent Woman** label.

**TCB:** Were you always into hard rock and metal?

**Jada Pinkett Smith:** I grew up on **MTV** and you have to remember, when MTV first started, that's when metal really ruled the world. My generation grew up on **Guns N' Roses** and **Poison** and **Metallica** and **Nine Inch Nails**. I was getting that **Guns N' Roses** album with my **Eric B. & Rakim** album.

**TCB:** How was being on **Ozzfest** this year?

**JPS:** Oh, **Ozzfest** was a trip. I had a really good time. It was very challenging. Those first few shows, they were rough. There was a huge learning curve for me. **Ozzfest** is a beast of its own. There's no audience like it.

**TCB:** What was it like being a woman in such a testosterone-heavy environment?

**JPS:** I'm used to that. That's been kinda my life, being the only chick. That doesn't bother me. I feel very comfortable in male-dominated environments. Shoot, being in Hollywood, that's just my life.

**TCB:** Has your husband seen the band?

**JPS:** Oh heck yeah. He was on **Ozzfest** with us for most of the run. He loved it.

**TCB:** What's harder, acting or singing in a band?

**JPS:** Oh, singing in a band for sure. In acting, I'd studied for years before I actually hit the stage, but this music thing, you have to really fall on your face in front of people to learn and grow. But that's also what makes it so much more gratifying.

## TCB music news

BY CHRISTOPHER GRAY

### THROWING THE BOOK

Once upon a time, **TCB's** ancestor was called "**Don't You Start Me Talking**," Hawaii transplant **Michael Corcoran's** acerbic account of local music happenings that usually left at least one band per week ready to wring his neck and *Chronicle* readers laughing themselves silly. Corcoran moved on to San Francisco, Chicago, and Dallas, but eventually came back to the *Statesman*, where he writes the "Game On" **Longhorns** blog and features that have landed him in **Da**

**Capo's Best Music Writing** anthology three years straight. One such story, a 2001 profile of **Billy Joe Shaver**, became the germ for his new book, *All Over the Map: True Heroes of Texas Music* (UT Press). "**Kinky Friedman** called me and said, 'Do you have any more like this? You should do a book,'" Corcoran says. Enfolded in the **Geto Boys**, **Selena**, and **Townes Van Zandt** alongside lesser-known talents like **Washington Phillips**, **Ella Mae Morse**, and **Arizona Dranes**, *All Over the Map* also inspired the **Texas Music Museum's** new exhibit of artifacts Corcoran collected in his research. Friday's show at the nearby **Victory Grill**, with **Gary Clark Jr.**, **Scott H. Biram**, **Black Joe Lewis & Walter Daniels**, and Corcoran's ACL Festival discovery, Bay City's **Jones Family Singers**, was simply born of his desire to see gospel and blues on the same bill. "That always bothered me, because to me they're kind of the same thing," he says. "They both come from Negro spirituals." (Friday is also his 50th birthday.) The book closes with his 1986 *Spin* article on Austin's "**New Sincerity**" scene, which seems oddly contemporary even now. "When I got here, everybody talked about how great Austin was, and I was a total outsider and just made it my goal to knock everything," Corcoran says. "Then I found out there were a lot of people who were sick of hearing about how great Austin was. My friend called it 'the little town with the big head.'" CELEBRATE THE OPENING OF THE "TRUE HEROES OF TEXAS MUSIC" EXHIBIT AN UNFORGETTABLE NIGHT OF MUSIC THE CELEBRATION AT THE MUSEUM THE JONES FAMILY SINGERS "TRUCK AND ROLL WITH JACOB" TRIBUTE TO T-BONE, FREDDIE, STEVIE, & GITE WITH GARY CLARK JR., MIKE KELLER, SETH WALKER, EYE MONSEES, AND MORE SCOTT BIRAM, LZ LOVE & SURPRISE GUESTS DECEMBER 2 AT THE VICTORY GRILL

### LOOKING SHARP

Not long ago, local jazz-pop siren **Sarah Sharp** found herself in one of the most hallowed locales anywhere in the music world: Studio A in **Capitol Records'** Hollywood headquarters, behind the same microphone used by **Frank Sinatra**, **Nat King Cole**, and the **Beach Boys**, and with legendary Capitol



TODD V. WOLFSON

house engineer **Al Schmidt** at the controls. While playing a friend's party in Pacific Palisades in August, Sharp met former **Rufus** drummer and producer **Andre Fisher**, who took a shine to her the same way he had **Chaka Khan** and **Dusty Springfield**. After her next L.A. gig, Fisher introduced her to Schmidt and publishing tycoon **Ronnie Vance**, and "the next thing I knew we were in the studio," she says. (Even better, her neighbor in Studio B was none other than **Poison**.) Sharp admits to feeling flustered upon entering the "enormous" studio, but relaxed enough that of the five songs the three decided to mix down into demos, four were recorded that first session. "There's something about being a little bit timid, that I love the way it translated," Sharp says. "I've never heard myself back like that." Her high-placed friends plan to shop the songs to several labels – Capitol first, of course – while Sharp readies for a European swing later this month. "So far everything they've said has happened," she says. "That's the only reason I don't feel like a complete dumbass for talking about it."

### DEAD LIKE ME

Move over, *Walk the Line*: The hippest soundtrack of this holiday season figures to be **Stubb's the Zombie**, the Austin-assembled companion to the new **Xbox** game starring a hero whose snack of choice is human brains. Released in October by local software house **Aspyr Media** and **Shout! Factory** Records, the soundtrack features indie-rock heavyweights covering songs appropriate to the game's 1959 milieu: **Death Cab for Cutie's** "Earth Angel," the **Raveonettes'** "My Boyfriend's Back," the **Walkmen's** "There Goes My Baby," and Austin's **Milton Mapes**, who announced this week they'll open for the **Cowboy Junkies** on a brief February tour, revisiting "Lonesome Town." "In some instances, the artists had ideas for the song, in others it was ours," says co-producer **Chad Beck**. For example, when Beck e-mailed the **Flaming Lips'** manager to inquire if the Oklahomans would be interested in contributing "If I Only Had a Brain," he got back an MP3 of **Wayne Coyne's** solo piano rendition almost immediately. "It turns out he had already been working on it that morning before we even asked him," Beck says. STUBB'S THE ZOMBIE Soundtrack

### LUCK BE A LADY

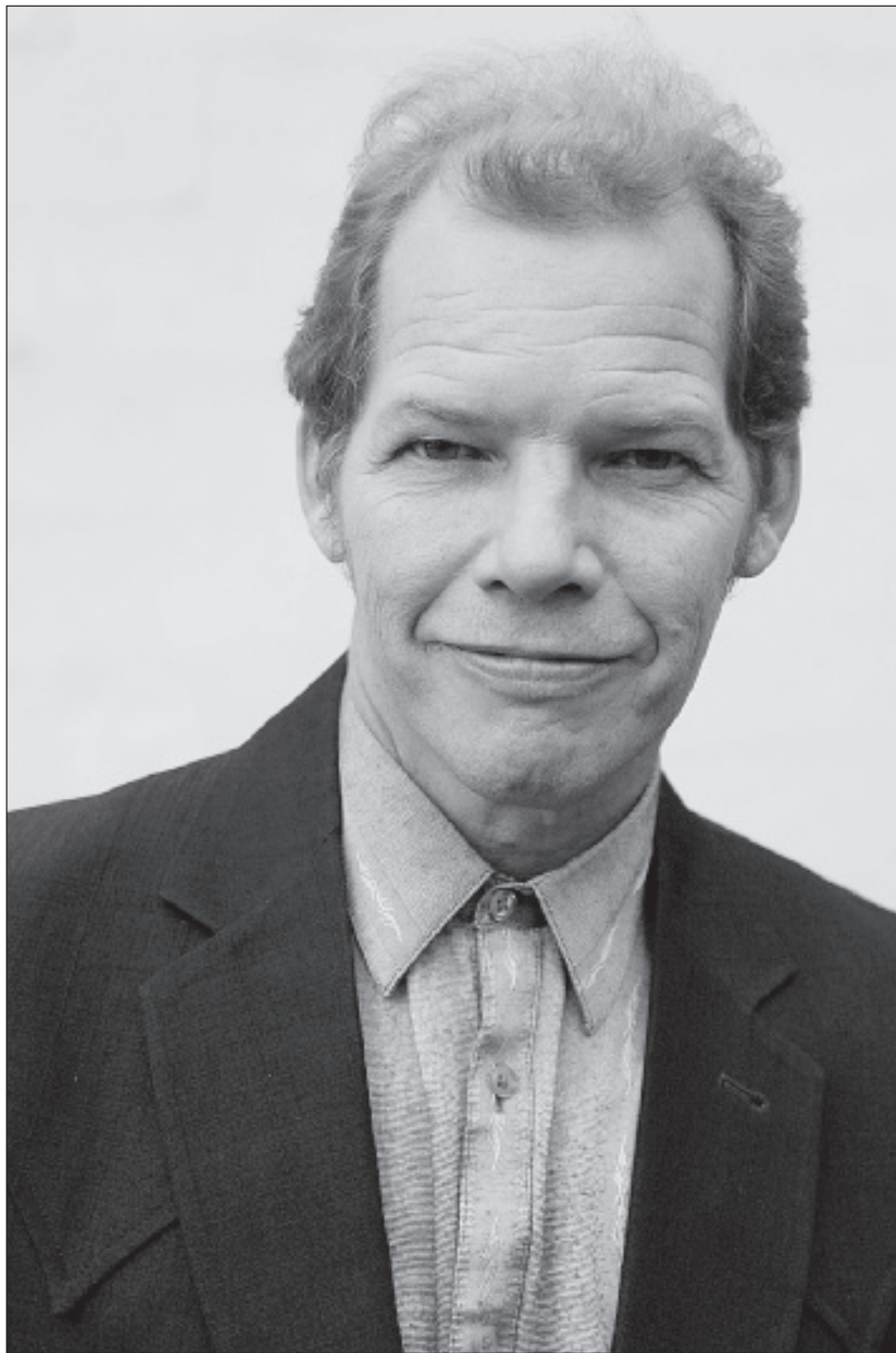
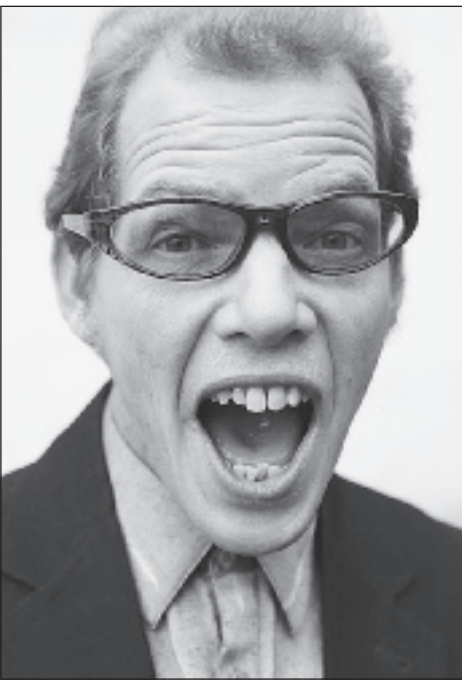
Former **Peenbeets** comrades and renowned ladies' men **Greg Beets** and **Chepo Pena**, aided by their current groups **Summer Breeze** and **DeadMotelSexMaidens**, present Ladies' Night Dec. 15 at the Continental Club. All songs will have "lady" in the title, so expect plenty of **Sinatra**, **Dylan**, **Hendrix**, and **Kenny Rogers**. In honor of the former first lady's 95th birthday, proceeds go to the **Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center**. Hope someone does **U2's** "Lady With the Spinning Head."

Austin's reigning queen of soul and R&B, **Miss Lavelle White**, comes out of semiretirement for a special holiday show 10pm Saturday at the **Saxon Pub**. **Cyril Neville & Tribe 13**, **Malford Milligan**, and **Todd Potter** of **Bubble Puppy** join in the fun.

The **Health Alliance for Austin Musicians**, in conjunction with **St. David's Community Health Foundation**, is sponsoring two dental health vans outside **Ruta Maya World Headquarters**, 3601 S. Congress, Dec. 16-22. HAAM members should call 322-5177 to schedule an appointment. At 350 members and counting, HAAM is also looking for generous types willing to open their checkbooks and become founding sponsors. See [www.healthallianceforaustinmusicians.org](http://www.healthallianceforaustinmusicians.org).

**TCB** Correction Corner: The **Texas Rollergirls'** exhibition match against the **Tucson Saddletramps** is 6:30pm Saturday, not Sunday, at **Playland**; Alamo City screamers the **Sons of Hercules** wait at halftime. Sunday, in the spacious **Thunderdome**, 2005 **Lonestar Rollergirls** champs the **Rhinestone Cowgirls** take on the **All-Scar Army** between sets by **Jesse Dayton** and **Two Hoots & a Holler**. 6pm.

As **TCB** was going to press, **Pitchfork.com** reported that **Daniel Johnston** has been hospitalized in Waller since last Wednesday with what is believed to be Lithium poisoning. More details next week.



# Realms of Inspiration

Erik Hokkanen's World-View

BY MARGARET MOSER

Feodor Rojankovsky's illustrations for Golden Books in the Fifties and Sixties often told a different story than the children's tale being spun. To those raised on Arthur Rackham and A.A. Milne, Rojankovsky's artwork, featuring babushka-wearing grandmothers, oddly painted furniture, and dumpling-cheeked tots in snowy backgrounds, looked decidedly, well ... Russian, Scandinavian. In a way, Erik Hokkanen's music is like Rojankovsky's art.

Sure, the strains of Stephane Grappelli imbue the longtime Austinite's violin playing, and the ghost of Django Reinhardt accompanies him on the guitar, but Hokkanen can really fiddle around. Western swing? Sure thing. Vintage jazz? With pizzazz. Gypsy surf? That's his turf. Yet one track on his latest release, *Melodrama*

**Tucking his Finnish roots inside a teacher's heart, wrapping it in spiritual awareness and coating in a love for music, there sits Erik Hokkanen.**

*Sweetheart*, gives it all away: "Viinjarvi Valsi" is the song he's wont to introduce live as one his Finnish grandmother inspired.

Aha! Finnish! Not the typical Scots-Irish-English background found so often with singer-songwriters, but then there's nothing typical about Erik Hokkanen. From his puckish face to his classical inflections, he's like a *matryoshka*, a Russian nesting doll. On the surface, he's a colorfully carved design of influences. Twist him open and there's a teenage boy rooting through his older brothers' rock & roll collection. Open again and there's a man of deep spiritual interests and beliefs. Peel apart once more and reveal an academic's love of teaching music. Pry apart to the last piece and discover his Finnish roots.

Scandinavian countries have always mirrored American music with a twist. Think Shocking Blue, ABBA, the Cardigans, Bettie Serveert, even Björk from neighboring Iceland. Yet Finland, over in its little corner near Russia, has produced its wild array of contemporary artists such as digital composer Mika Vainio, surf rockers Laika & the Cosmonauts, alt-rockers Hanoi Rocks, and the folksy chorale of Värttinä. With a dash of whimsy, Hokkanen's music touches in and around all those sounds, then soars into the atmosphere.

It's a beautiful place to be.

*continued on p.64*

# SHORT STORY CONTEST



## **RULES** (PLEASE ALSO READ REGULATIONS) ----->>

- 1) Your work must be unpublished, typewritten, and must be no more than 2,500 words.
- 2) All entries must be accompanied by a separate cover letter that contains the name, address, and phone number of the author, as well as the title of the story.
- 3) The author's name must not appear anywhere in the manuscript.
- 4) Only one entry per person.

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## **REGULATIONS**

Manuscripts must be the original work of the contestant, unpublished (and not under consideration of being published), typed and double-spaced on one side of 8.5-by-11-inch paper, and no longer than 2,500 words. Contestants must submit one copy of the manuscript and a cover sheet containing the name, address, and phone number of the author and the title of the work. Names and copyright markings must be omitted from the manuscript, which will go to screeners and judges anonymously. Do not send originals – no entries will be returned. Staff members of *The Austin Chronicle*, freelancers who have contributed more than one article since October 2004, and first- through fifth-place winners from the 2004 ShortStory Contest are not eligible to enter. Copyright remains in the name of the author, but *The Austin Chronicle* reserves the right to publish the winning entries and any honorable mentions in *The Austin Chronicle* and to reproduce them electronically on our online edition.

All entries must be postmarked by December 12, 2005. **NO ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS.** Winners will be notified by January 30, 2005. (No phone calls please.) Please read all rules and regulations thoroughly.

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## Rock & Roll in Spats

Erik Hokkanen appears at Magnolia Cafe on a blustery November afternoon bearing gifts of blue corn muffins and spelt bread baked in the shape of a heart. His cheeks are tinted by the brisk wind, or is it the high from his two recent recordings? With the summer release of a live CD with the Hip Replacements, his swing string band, Hokkanen followed it up with *Melodrama Sweetheart*, the second album he's made with the She-Wolves.

"The She-Wolves are my dream band: the Tosca string quartet with a string section," beams Hokkanen. "I'd done a previous recording with the quartet, but *Melodrama Sweetheart*, with the string bass and percussion, was the big band. I'd been going to see the girls play with Glover Gill down at Cedar Street and loved that stuff, another gypsy strain.

**"There's a lot to the ethnic thing. It's in the blood. There's that whole ancestral history, like your tribe. If you reawaken that, all of a sudden you're doing clog dances you didn't know how to pronounce."**

"So I got with the girls and we tried some basic arrangements. I've learned to write for twin fiddles or three instruments, so I was taking my knowledge and spreading it around. As things developed, they got more complex, a natural music progression. I was hearing things that came from further realms of inspiration. It built my composing chops. *Melodrama Sweetheart* is that in full force. The sincerity is in the music, all the styles."

And what styles there are! Hokkanen's quirky music has highlighted the soundtracks of numerous locally made films, including *DOA*, *The Newton Boys*, and *Texas Chainsaw Massacre III*. In *Michael*, John Travolta's rebel archangel kicks up his heels on the street to

"Erik's Two-Step." No wonder he's sought as a studio sideman and toured not only the U.S., but Mexico, Europe, and Scandinavia with other groups as well as on his own.

Being part of a band, however, has its drawbacks, especially in a town such as Austin, where country and blues dominate, singer-songwriters sit in the spotlight, and instrumentalists often take the back seat.

"I ain't giving Dale Watson any problems," Erik acknowledges of the instrumentalist's plight, "but I know I'm unique. I was hired on to be a staff fiddler for the Kerrville Festival. We'd go to Houston, Dallas, San Antonio for some of those preshows, teasers. I'd back up songwriters then get featured on a tune, but the songwriters would get to do three tunes and the instrumentalists one. I remember feeling perturbed at the idea that the song was the thing. Tell Django that.

"Let's face it, when you hear someone sing, 'I wanna tell you a story ...' Boom! It's so easily digested. It's easy on the ears, and people are disposed to vocals. One reason I didn't go to Nashville was that I didn't want to be one of the boys in the band dressed in a purple suit and standing off on the side while the country star did their thing. I think it started with Frank Sinatra, when the bobby-soxers went crazy over him. He's the one who went from being in a band with a vocalist to a star vocalist with a band. By the time Elvis came along, the star was up front and the boys were in the back.

"I really enjoyed the swing-band, big-band style, where everyone's a wild man. 'Wow, look at Count Basie's soloist Lester Young! Benny Goodman's got Cootie Williams and Charlie Christian! Duke Ellington has Johnny Hodges!' They were the instrumentalists, and they were the stars on the ball team. Rock & roll in spats.

"There are a lot of fine songwriters. When I did Kerrville, I met many good writers. It's okay if you're Hank Williams, John Lennon, or Richard Thompson, but I feel that playing well and singing is your musicianship. Of course, there's showmanship and persona and charisma, and that'll sell as fast as gun smoke."

## Imprint in the Blood

Since moving to Austin from Florida in the mid-Eighties, Hokkanen's played with a variety of acts around town. Junior Brown and Don Walser sought his talents early on, and he's

## ERIK AND THE SHE-WOLVES

*Melodrama Sweetheart*

## ERIK HOKKANEN & THE HIP REPLACEMENTS

*Alive in Austin*

In a town brimming with able noisemakers, a select group of musicians' musicians possesses razor-sharp ears and multistyle skills that send others back to the woodshed, like Austinite Erik Hokkanen, a composer and singer who's equally fire-fingered on fiddle, mandolin, and guitar. Since moving from Florida in the Eighties, this third generation Finn has gone from busking to leading bands, two of which help Hokkanen release his 11th and 12th albums. The She-Wolves are the celebrated Tosca String Quartet, here in the studio, while the Hip Replacements are Hokkanen's electric band, captured during a weekly Flipnotics gig. Hokkanen weaves strands of jump blues, Bob Wills, twang, rockabilly, Django Reinhardt, and bluegrass into his sonorous signature sound, full of energy, deep melody, and humor. Both outfits sound terrific – *Melodrama's* string arrangements particularly shine – but the overall MVP is Hokkanen's compositional gifts, on display in all but four of 33 total tracks. And save for the not-quite-there vocals in *Melodrama's* "Ruby's the One" and "Help Me Shine Again," clunkers are scarce. Then again, consummate artists aren't immune from making bad commercial decisions. No surprise Hokkanen would want two complementary documents of his talents, but curiously the same five tunes show up twice. Hearing these songs realized by two groups demonstrates their flexibility, but Hokkanen & Co. would have been better off culling the crème from each platter to fashion an easy Best of 2005 release. Either way, both albums should land Hokkanen and his friends some well-deserved credit.

(*Melodrama Sweetheart*) ★★★

(*Alive in Austin*) ★★★

– David Lynch

taught at the Natural Ear Music Camp for kids. He teamed with fellow Scandinavian Erik Moll as Erik & Erik, and with the Bad Livers' Mark Rubin and Danny Barnes for the Mad Cat Trio. Lumisudet, Finnish for the Snow Wolves, are a quartet of native players he performs with overseas, their name inspiring the She-Wolves. He's released more than a dozen albums, including *Erik and the Offbeats* in 1987, *Erik & Erik* in 1992, *Kaustinen Texas* (with Lumisudet) in 1995, *Swing the Night Away* in 1996, and *Mad Cat Trio*, released in 1998.

A trip to Finland in 1987 first opened his ears to integrating Finnish music with the patchwork American styles he'd mastered, beginning a series of journeys there that continues today. His roots played a major role in his upbringing ("Mom and dad grew up in Finnish Harlem in New York City and met dancing at Finn Hall"), and he listens to the stirrings of his heart.

"There's a lot to the ethnic thing. It's in the blood. There's that whole ancestral history, like your tribe. If you reawaken that, all of a sudden you're doing clog dances you didn't know how to pronounce.

"The Finnish language is not Germanic. It has roots in Asian-Hungarian. I'm just mad about gypsy and those other roots. Finland is known for sad waltzes in folk music. It's the northern tribes' version of the Appalachian murder or love ballad. It's that folk tradition of the troubadour tells the story. I got into it

through gypsy swing. That gypsy strain is universal. Born out of the land."

## Love Affair With the Earth Mother

During a trip to Finland in 1998, Hokkanen was made a professor of music in the Folk Music Department at Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. That trip saw a second recording with Lumisudet, the evocatively titled *In the Heart of a Waking Dream*. His longtime awareness of native influences was acute by 2000, and he continued studies into the culture of Native Americans.

"I was living out in the woods in Dripping Springs at a buddy of mine's cabin. I was running around in the woods doing Native American stuff, learning skills, basically having a love affair with the Earth mother.

"Finns always have a country place to go, and we had a cabin when I was young, an hour north of Orlando. My brother loved British folk rock, like Fairport Convention, and went on to write an electric mandolin book with Richard Thompson. When I was 18, Richard came to Florida and spent a week with us in the woods. I think it was around *Shoot Out the Lights*. They went fishing, and he caught a bass. That's what we had for supper.

"One night we played all night, jamming up in the woods. Richard brought his guitars and showed me some licks. He used to tell me,

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# Five From the Erik Hokkanen Collection

**Erik & the Offbeats, *Blue Corn* (1989):** "Blue Corn was like, 'I'm an instrumentalist, I'm going to make an all instrumental album.' The material was coming forth, so I had to develop it, nurture the fresh tunes into our repertoire, age them a little with familiarity, but keep them of the moment. I was like a doting dad with my baby who didn't want anybody else playing on it."

**Mad Cat Trio (recorded 1993/released 1998):** "Playing with Danny and Mark was a ball. When they weren't doing the Bad Livers and I wasn't doing the Snow Wolves, we had gigs as the Mad Cats. It was basically like the boys getting together to play ball on the sandlot."

**The Snow Wolves Orchestra, *Earth Swing* (1994):** "That was the beginning of the orchestra, and the parent album of the She-Wolves to come. That's one of my personal favorites of me going pretty much nuts by myself. It took me years to finish."

**Erik Hokkanen & Lumisudet, *In the Heart of a Waking Dream* (recorded 1998, released 2002):** "Me and my Snow Wolf brothers is like me and my schizophrenic self. I was back over in Finland, living there for three months being a professor at Sibelius, back with my friends. We came up with this wild music."

**Erik & the She-Wolves (recorded 2001, released 2003):** "That album is the miracle of the independent network. It took time to put all the pieces together, like a puzzle. A couple of tunes were live from the John Aielli show, some of it came from a house session. Half of the album was recorded in a nice studio. The Tosca girls were out with David Byrne then, so sometimes it was nine months between times we got back together with our She-Wolves baby." — M.M.

'Erik, you've got some good things going on there.' At the end, I thanked him, and his exit line was, 'We'll have more fun tomorrow.'

That cabin in the wilderness near Dripping Springs fed Hokkanen's soul and provided the perfect setting for what became *Melodrama Sweetheart*. Tucking his Finnish roots inside a teacher's heart, wrapping them in spiritual awareness coated in a love for music, there sits Erik Hokkanen, matryoshka.

"I was sitting in the cabin with blank music paper. This was before the girls in Tosca went on tour with David Byrne and we were playing Tuesdays at Flipnotics. I worked for months with a basic repertoire, and we played a lot during that time. Then I'd go back to the woods and just write and write and I felt it, the spirit, the inspiration. What I wrote became *Melodrama Sweetheart*.

"It's like setting a trap, waiting for something to happen with that hair-trigger. It's meditation, your willingness to give yourself over to that.

"Sometimes," Hokkanen pauses, "we're outside the physical realm." ■

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by Bob Spitz  
Little Brown, 983 pp., \$29.95

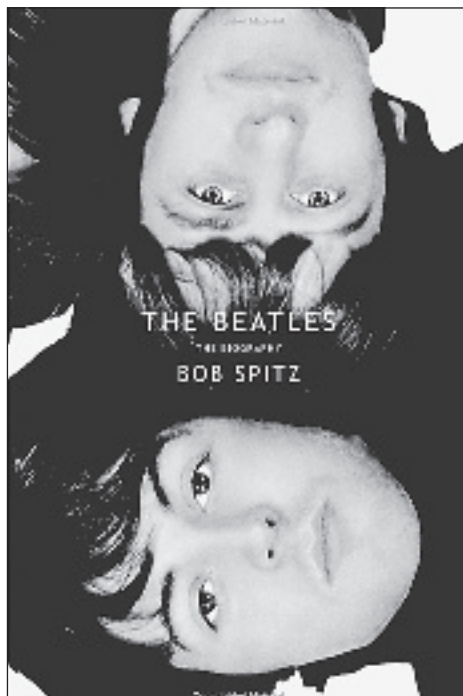
**WITH THE BEATLES**

by Lewis Lapham  
Melville House, 147 pp., \$12.95 (paper)

**THE BEATLES: 365 DAYS**

by Simon Wells  
Harry N. Abrams, 744 pp., \$29.95

Although superfans have made sport of finding mostly minor factual errors in its 900-plus pages, Bob Spitz's marathon Beatles bio is an engrossing account of the band's formative years. It takes Spitz more than 400 pages to get the Beatles to America. Lingering in Liverpool's bleak post-war landscape, he painstakingly describes how the band's perfect mix of talent, determination, and fortuity emerged in a manner no one could've anticipated. From John Lennon and Paul McCartney both losing their mothers at the cusp of adolescence to Ringo Starr's childhood illness, the mind boggles at how much they overcame. Spitz breathes life into the Beatles' Hamburg residencies, for which they played all night, every night, honing their delivery into nut-tight precision. Given his past experience representing Elton John and Bruce Springsteen, Spitz dissects the Beatles as a business entity; between Brian Epstein's slow demise and the appearance of Allen Klein, the author paints an almost unbelievable scene of the world's biggest band having no managerial rudder whatsoever. Oddly, the book loses steam when the Beatles arrive in the U.S., the narrative becoming more clipped as the band comes apart. Despite falling well short of the "definitive article" hype surrounding it, *The Beatles* remains a qualified success. *Harper's* editor Lewis Lapham confines *With the Beatles* to the Fab Four's journey to Rishikesh,



India, to meet with spiritual guru Maharishi Mahesh Yogi. Lapham's account is on-the-spot circa 1968, without longer-term analysis of the visit's significance. As such, it's a charming but mostly unnecessary souvenir. For sheer enjoyment, Simon Wells' *The Beatles: 365 Days* is a bonanza of mostly unfamiliar photos from the Getty Images archive. Even though you know how the story ends, it still strikes an emotional chord. Listening to the Beatles while thumbing through this well-captioned picture book on a sleepy Christmas afternoon may be the best gift a fan could wish for. — Greg Beets

**JACKIE WILSON: LONELY TEARDROPS**

by Tony Douglas  
Routledge, 272 pp., \$19.95 (paper)

First with Tony Douglas' pulpy Jackie Wilson: *Lonely Teardrops*, and more recently in Peter Guralnick's epic *Dream Boogie*:



*The Triumph of Sam Cooke*, comes the template for the *Boogie Nights* of music biopics: *The Sam & Jackie Story*. Acknowledging Ray Charles' pioneering path out of the church, as well as forgotten angel Clyde McPhatter, soul's twin towers of pop success routinely upstaged each other across interwoven paths and particularly their 1960 tour together. That both stallions of song found time to perform while thigh-high in booze and broads in an era of segregationist peril makes their parallel rises and falls all the more riveting. Cooke remains the champion of contemporary recognition, but Wilson's operatic tenor endures as an instrument unmatched in the annals of voice. His thick, voluptuous, perfectly scaled trill lives forever in "Reet Petite," "Lonely Teardrops," and "Your Love Keeps Lifting Me Higher and Higher," yet like Cooke, the spirit soaring through Wilson ultimately transcends all the material. The same might

be said for *Lonely Teardrops*. Rife with typos and speculation (i.e., "stories differ"), Douglas' sensationalistic tone never dims its subject's seminal impact. Formative years dissolve in 34 pages, scores of Wilson's survivors confess to the sins of Babylon over and over ("Jackie was owned outright by the mob," writes the author), and the fact that the ex-boxer from Detroit, who died in 1984 at the age of 49, couldn't dance offstage ink the singer's first biography. Screen dreams are made of this. — Raoul Hernandez

**TOMMY DORSEY: HIS LIFE AND TIMES**

by Peter Levinson  
Da Capo, 321 pp., \$27.50

From the mid-Thirties through the mid-Forties trombonist Tommy Dorsey led one of the most popular American swing bands. Frank Sinatra became a national idol by performing with Dorsey's outfit, and when the swing era ended and rock & roll was taking over, it was Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey who introduced Elvis Presley to a national television audience. Levinson covers all aspects of Tommy's life, from his music to his ceaseless womanizing, and does a solid job. Dorsey was born to a poor coal-min-



**GIFT GUIDE**

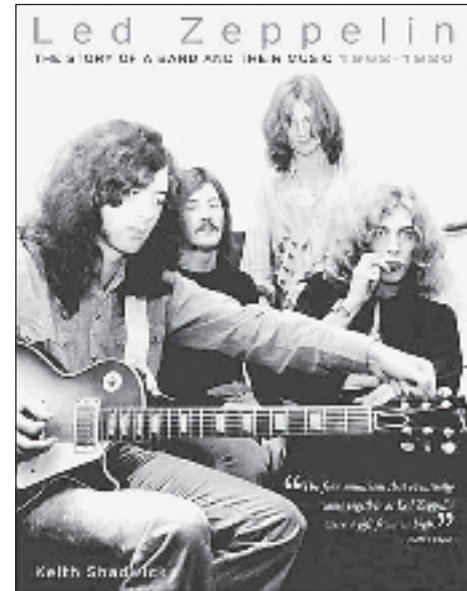


ing family in eastern Pennsylvania, his father switching professions to be a music teacher in middle-age. He brought out the best in his sons' playing so they didn't have to suffer in the mines as he and his neighbors did. And he was successful: By the time Tommy and Jimmy, who was two years older than Tommy and played alto sax and clarinet, were teenagers they were already accomplished performers. By 1925 both had established themselves among the elite of New York studio musicians, often working together despite vicious personal quarrels. In 1935 they split up, each becoming the leader of a popular swing band. Tommy was a strict disciplinarian and led a polished band that had produced a number of hits even before Sinatra joined them. Mainly concerned with popular success, he had a conservative musical philosophy and was known as a superb ballad player, with a smooth, warm tone and outstanding breath control. Sinatra was among many artists who learned about phrasing from him. In the Fifties, Jackie Gleason used his influence to get the Dorseys co-leading a band again on television. They were surprisingly popular, but both paid for their unhealthy lifestyles by dying before the age of 55. — Harvey Pekar

**SPREADIN' RHYTHM AROUND: BLACK POPULAR SONGWRITERS, 1880-1930**

by David A. Jasen and Gene Jones  
Routledge, 437 pp., \$24.95

Tracing fine lines through a history plagued by bold acts of repression, *Spreadin' Rhythm Around: Black Popular Songwriters, 1880-1930* highlights the obscured successes of African-American music between Reconstruction and the Depression. Shackled by the stringent expectations of a white market driven by racist stereotypes, black talents often resorted to minstrelsy and "coon songs" as their only ways to make a reasonable living in show business. In the process, underlying African-American innovations including ragtime, blues, and jazz crept their way into the favor of Tin Pan Alley and Broadway. Authors David A. Jasen and Gene Jones characterize artists including James A. Bland, James Reese Europe, Eubie Blake, and Fats Waller as not only vastly influential songwriters but also as performers and entrepreneurs navigating dynamic careers in hostile waters. While the book offers plenty of resourceful information on the compelling lives of these musical pioneers, its tone remains squarely academic to the point of a dry, listless read. Nonetheless, the emphasis placed on influential songs such as W.C. Handy's "St. Louis Blues" and James P. Johnson's definitive stride version of "The Charleston" illustrates the tendency for black creativity to penetrate the furthest reaches of



**LED ZEPPELIN: THE STORY OF A BAND AND THEIR MUSIC 1968-1980**

by Keith Shadwick  
Backbeat Books, 320 pp., \$29.95 (paper)

Mud sharks and all, Led Zeppelin bestrode the Seventies like a rock & roll re-creation of the ancient myths: two fair-haired boys, a whale of a drummer, and a skinny guitar wizard, goaded by the fates into immortality and doomed to a tragic end. Even today their albums outsell a healthy percentage of so-called "new" music, as they stoke the flames with periodic releases like last year's 3-DVD opus. Their story, which began when seasoned London session men Jimmy Page and John Paul Jones met up with Birmingham boys Robert Plant and John Bonham in that epochal year 1968, is far too epic to be confined to the printed page, but Keith Shadwick doesn't let that stop him. Shadwick has several similar Herculean undertakings under his belt — *Jimi Hendrix: Musician, The Illustrated Story of Jazz* — so he's up to the task, daunting as it is. He begins with Zeppelin's origins in the wake of the Yardbirds' split and microscopically parses every last bit of recorded material and utterance to *Melody Maker* until Bonham's untimely 1980 demise, after which, he writes, "It is the story of a band, not four individuals, and it ends here." And that's it. Not for anyone who thinks the story begins and ends with "Stairway to Heaven," Shadwick's lavishly illustrated tome spells it out step by step, song by song, tour by tour, until there's no more tale left to tell. It's a tale for the ages, to be sure, and this hefty volume beckons you to open the cover and ramble on. — Christopher Gray

white society. Whether published as illustrated sheet music or as piano rolls, the songs of African-Americans stand right alongside those of their white counterparts as an integral facet of American pop culture. — Robert Gabriel

**BILLY F GIBBONS: ROCK + ROLL GEARHEAD**

by Billy F Gibbons with Tom Vickers, photography by David Perry  
MBI Publishing, 192 pp., \$29.95

The first book about and by ZZ Top's Billy F Gibbons, the most enigmatic Lone Star cat to strap six-strings over his shoulder, is also the first high-concept book in which a rock celebrity

continued on p.68

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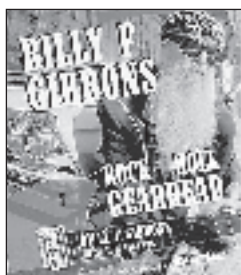
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speaks extensively about his guitars and his cars in a large coffeetable format book loaded with pictures and visuals. While certainly appealing to the visually oriented MTV generation much in the same way the cars 'n' girls videos by ZZ Top revived the career of the blues rock power trio and took them to a whole other level, this three-part book, divided up into sections devoted to the Life, the Cars, and the Guitars, doesn't leave a whole lot of room for specifics. So readers learn about the influential role family maid Big Stella Matthews played in turning Gibbons on to blues music, how blazing hot the Moving Sidewalks were in their heyday, and the under-reported role Billy Etheridge played in the creation of ZZ Top – more details about the Rev. Billy G than any previous book, including Robert Draper's out-of-print paperback bio. It's what's left out that will have hardcore ZZ-o-philes wanting more. When manager/sven-gali Bill Ham rates one more mention than I do (full disclosure, you can find me mentioned on page 50), you know there's a whole lot more to say – when pictures don't get in the way.



– Joe Nick Patoski

**STEVE EARLE: FEARLESS HEART, OUTLAW POET**

by David McGee  
Backbeat, 330 pp., \$17.95 (paper)

2004's *Hardcore Troubadour* by Lauren St. John remains the definitive biography of Steve Earle, making the need for this document questionable.



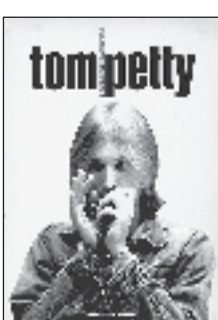
Nevertheless, *Fearless Heart* distinguishes itself by being less a detailed look at the Texan troubadour's life and more a behind-the-scenes account of the making of his albums. Separating Earle's roller-coaster life from his music is nearly impossible, so the multiple marriages, crazed drug use, and steadfast rebel-

liousness are touched upon but never overemphasized. What's left are talks with contemporaries like Rodney Crowell and Rosanne Cash, who offer enlightened insight into Earle's first days in Nashville and his influence after his initial success. McGee precedes discussions with producers Tony Brown and Richard Bennett with some of their own personal histories; all the more fascinating because Brown worked with Elvis Presley and Bennett with Neil Diamond. Peter Rowan reveals some of the drama associated with Earle's comeback album, *Train a Comin'*, and Ronnie McCoury exposes his side of the truth on why the Del McCoury Band pulled out of *The Mountain* tour. What's missing is Earle's perspective. According to McGee, the songwriter at first agreed to cooperate with the project, then quit responding to interview requests. Unfortunately, this led to a major player like Ray Kennedy, who produced albums with Earle as the Twang Trust, having minor input and the current band of Dukes being nowhere to be found. Although incomplete, McGee has unearthed some valuable information, combined with a superb discography and definitive session information. – Jim Caligiuri

**CONVERSATIONS WITH TOM PETTY**

by Paul Zollo  
Omnibus Press, 376 pp., \$24.95

Classically catchy, immediately eternal, and uniquely American, Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers have conquered radios internationally with perfect rock & roll that cuts to the chase and resonates with every listen. There's something about Petty's warbly voice and Mike Campbell's masterful guitar that pulled them out of the British lexicon and made the boys from Gainesville, Fla., home-grown heroes. Paul Zollo's biography isn't some rumination on his idol or an editorialization of Petty's outbursts and dramas. It's simply the story told by the "Refugee" of the South. Presented in Q&A style, *Conversations With Tom Petty* is a bountiful picture of the notoriously private songwriter. His formative days



**CONJUNTO**

Photographs by John Dyer, with essays by Joe Nick Patoski and Juan Tejeda  
University of Texas Press, 121 pp., \$19.95

Don't let the stylishly somber cover fool you. Inside John Dyer's lithe book are vibrant, living portraits of some of the greatest conjunto and Tejano music legends captured in their element – on stage, in cantinas, in living rooms, and in their back yards. The old-timers are included, of course: Valerio Longoria, Henry Zimmerle, Johnny Degollado, as well as performers lesser known to the casual fan, like Lupita Rodela. Alongside legendary singer-songwriter Lydia Mendoza, Rodela is one of a handful of featured women. "All the early conjunto greats are dying," Juan Tejeda writes in his preface. His deeply personal, insider description of conjunto music is both tutorial and reluctant eulogy for a tradition whose future sometimes appears tenuous. Yet, the book resonates with something rare in this day and age: dignity. Smartly, key figures behind the music are also included. The striking portrait of bajo sexto-maker Alberto Macías silently speaks to the value of craft and tradition, passed down from his father, now passing to his son and grandson. An introduction by Joe Nick Patoski gives a historic and personal take on the music. Delightful close-ups of graphics that adorn cantinas face each portrait and select song lyrics with brief synopses appear throughout. Tejeda's amazingly distilled captions are perfect; the photos do the talking. While not an exhaustive scholarly work, *Conjunto* is a stunning album that conjunto music fans will relish. More importantly, it will entice those unfamiliar with the form to discover the music for themselves. – Belinda Acosta



in Mudcrutch, his epiphanic connection to the concrete wall that shattered his hand ("Did [cocaine] affect your songwriting?" "No. I think it affected my breaking my hand"), even the rarely-spoken-of arson of his California home, are all revealed by the musician who lived to tell. Broken into two parts – "Life" and "Songs" – *Conversations* is peppered with rare photos explained by Petty and the stories of the genesis of specific songs. Anyone who grew up listening to the man in the top hat, or who paced him through the last 30 years will relish the words. After all, there aren't many songwriters who can hold court with Dylan, Orbison, and Harrison. Charlie T. Wilbury, word for word. – Darcie Stevens

**ELECTRIC LADYLAND: WOMEN AND ROCK CULTURE**

by Lisa L. Rhodes  
University of Pennsylvania Press, 310 pp., \$24.95 (paper)

Q: "What's your ideal groupie?"  
A: "Someone who writes for a national paper."  
That telling exchange, posed by journalist Richard Goldstein to the Who's Keith Moon, explains as much as anything in this exhaustively researched and probing book on the perceived role of women in rock & roll during a time when conservative America still had tremendous difficulty distinguishing the sexes based on hairstyle alone. Rhodes examines the feminine mystique, such as it was, as it related (and still does) to Marshall amps and the male-dominated music industry, both onstage and off. This should be required reading for musicians of either (or, taking into account glam, neither) sex, such as Ondi Timoner's film *DiG!* has become a tour bus staple. Rhodes' arguments,

chief among them that it was the women in and around rock that gave the genre its sex appeal beginning in the mid-Sixties, are rife with anecdotal evidence. From Janis Joplin's libidinous howl at 1967's Monterey Pop Festival, mirrored by countercultural birth-pangs ranging from the rise of FM radio, to the Stonewall riots and the pill, to the ascension of first- and second-generation groupie culture, it's the backstage history of women like Cynthia Plaster Caster, Penny Lane, and the *Chronicle's* Margaret Moser, who describes losing her virginity to Blue Cheer's skin-banger, that paved the way for current estrogen-rockers as diverse as Liz Phair and Courtney Love and, one hopes, beyond. – Marc Savlov

**THE COMPLETE ANNOTATED GRATEFUL DEAD LYRICS**

Annotations by David Dodd  
Free Press, 480 pp., \$35

An integral part of the Grateful Dead legacy is their treasure trove of remarkably compelling songs, many grounded in American folk tradition but also reflective of the expanded consciousness and spirituality of their times. Robert Hunter was the band's principal lyricist, and his collaborations with Jerry Garcia produced the Dead's most memorable and enduring work. Songwriter John Barlow's ventures with guitarist/vocalist Bob Weir were also fruitful, if to a lesser degree. David Dodd, a librarian by profession and the co-editor of *The Grateful Dead Reader*, has compiled all of the Dead's original songs along with selected traditional and cover tunes and has painstakingly annotated them with historical, cultural, biblical, and literary references. His own research is augmented with intriguing insights from band members and fans who have contributed



**ALL OVER THE MAP: TRUE HEROES OF TEXAS MUSIC**

by Michael Corcoran  
University of Texas Press, 176 pp., \$19.95 (paper)

"Researching a story about long-dead bluesmen is fueled by random payoffs, much like slot machines and singles bars." That's a line from Austin music scribe Michael Corcoran's new collection on Texas music, *All Over the Map*. It's also an observation that bears on many critical anthologies – not to mention *Map* – that attempt to arrange decades worth of disparate articles into a cohesive whole. A longtime ink-slinger with the *American-Statesman*, Corcoran got his start locally as a critic and columnist at the *Chronicle* back in the Eighties, so it's possible this paper should take some of the blame for the unevenness of his greatest-hits volume. The profiles cover acts from the world of hip-hop, blues, rock, gospel, Western swing, country, and beyond, and while he professes a special interest in the obscure and forgotten, Corcoran's best stories deal with familiar faces, like Willie Nelson, Ray Wylie Hubbard, and the late Gatemouth Brown. For the most part, Corcoran's workmanlike prose avoids the tricky turns of phrase that too many so-called rock critics prefer to actually talking about the music, but that doesn't save the author from the occasional stinker. ("Houston-based hip-hop is the new punk rock"?!) The real shame is that there's great potential in a book of Corcoran's "musical detective work" and his dedication to setting the record straight on many long-lost African-American heroes of Texas music. – Dan Oki



ideas to his long-standing Web site. Dodd has made Hunter's 1990 collection of lyrics, *A Box of Rain*, all but obsolete. Here, some Hunter songs, like "Terrapin Station" and "Ramble On Rose," contain up to eight pages of annotations. Nearly 200 original illustrations by artist Jim Carpenter add a visual bonus. Dodd sometimes gets carried away with the printing of seemingly endless verses of similarly titled songs or various arcane minutia, which only bogs down the reader. Nevertheless, rather than being insulated in a psychedelic bubble, these songs show how the Dead consistently tapped into timeless and universal themes that perceptively related to their fans on both a personal and communal level. — Jay Trachtenberg

### THE BILLBOARD ILLUSTRATED ENCYCLOPEDIA OF JAZZ & BLUES

edited by Howard Mandell

Billboard Books, 352 pp., \$45

Here's yet another oversized coffeetable music book billed as an encyclopedia. This one should actually be useful to beginners. It's divided into chapters by decade, in which the story of blues and jazz is told chronologically. A myriad of photographs illustrate said story, yet it's more complete



than the average volume of this type. It lists acts considered important alphabetically, and attempts to assess the merit, characteristics, and influence of their work. Happily there's a large number of entries about great, unsung performers here, as well as the usual pieces on Louis Armstrong and T-Bone Walker. The superb 1920s and 1930s trumpeter Jabbo Smith and wonderful bluesman Magic Sam get mentioned. B.B. King is cited, but so is the lesser-known, though important, Freddie King. What's really interesting is the inclusion of some blues- and R&B-influenced pop music performers, including Janis Joplin and Eric Clapton. They have ability, and the editors aren't too snobbish to give them their due. It's disappointing that Wynton Marsalis is taken so seriously, but hey, it goes with the territory. It should also be pointed out that not much groundbreaking commentary is included here. If you don't need much more information about great performers than their names, birth years, and instruments, this may suit you well. — Harvey Pekar

### SWAG 2: ROCK POSTERS OF THE '90S AND BEYOND

by Spencer Drate & Judith Salavetz

Harry N. Abrams, 160 pp., \$29.95 (paper)

At 160 pages, *Swag 2: Rock Posters of the '90s and Beyond* flips through like an exhibition catalog rather than a serious overview of the rock poster's second most prolific decade. Stacked atop 2003's first volume, also 160 pages, the total page count still doesn't match last year's mammoth *Art of Modern Rock: The Poster Explosion*, 492 glossy, coffeetable-crushing pages that follow up Paul Grushkin's biblical first *Art of Rock* volume from 1987. *Swag 2's* foreword acknowledges the bigger issue: "In the past, the only way you could see a poster

was in person or in a magazine or book such as this one. .... The Internet has changed all that." See GigPosters.com. Not helping the printed cause, this sequel's unifying aesthetic — if there is one — feels haphazard at best, while



biographical information on individual artists and organizations reads like it was supplied by the parties involved and thus varies widely in usefulness. Not that artists don't jump out and that Austin isn't represented: wily vets Danny Garrett, Guy Juke, and Bill Narum vs. new guard Jared Connor, Billy Perkins, and Jamie Ward. The organically tweaked folk-art style of S.F.'s Joel Elrod; Santa Cruz's Jim Phillips and his high gloss, 20th century sideshow styles, complemented by Berkeley's Justin Walsh and his Pythonesque upending of Victorian formality; Tara McPherson's Teletubby cuddly; this paper's Jason Stout and his updated Fillmores, softened. Perkins' owlish souvenir to starman Bowie's 2003 Backyard blowout, one of the best posters this town has produced. Now that's swag. — Raoul Hernandez

### I HOPE YOU ARE ALL HAPPY NOW

Photographs by Nicholas Zinner

Evil Twin Publications, 211 pp., \$19.95 (paper)

Rock & roll photography has always hinged on random moments: Paul Simonon smashing his bass on the cover of *London Calling* or a shirtless Syd Barrett in the middle of an acid trip. Yeah Yeah Yeahs guitarist Nick Zinner has attempted to capture the randomness of the rock mythos — and life on tour — with varying degrees of success and bodily fluids. *I Hope You Are All Happy Now* seems to be his sentiment, as a majority of the photos are sweaty crowds from a year's worth of YYY concerts. That's the boring part. The entertaining part is the backstage rigmarole: the trashed hotel rooms, Conor Oberst smoking a doob, the vomit, the bruises, couples making out, a box of dildos, YYY singer Karen O after falling offstage, blood and tattoos. Especially fun is a trashed backstage room



during SXSW, complete with empty Mr. Gatti's box. It's Zinner's eye for the debauched balanced with the beautiful that saves this book from being a spread in *Vice* magazine. Photos of messy hotel beds with crisp white sheets are intercut with bar urinals filled with piss. Picturesque shots of French cobblestone streets flow into photos of an underground Nazi bowling alley. Gazing upon a rock star's bloody hand is no less a random moment than Iggy bleeding in silver pants, but it's also a study of a time period. The YYYs and all the other Brooklyn bands of the early 21st century were poised to devour America with asymmetrical haircuts, and Zinner's book shows the implosion with random precision. — Audra Schroeder

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## LEAD STORY

"Cow-tipping" (the legendary prank of sneaking up on a dozing cow and pushing her over) was exposed as a near-impossibility by researchers at the University of British Columbia, according to a November report in *The Times* of London. Calculating the newtons of force required to topple an average cow (estimating the angles between left hooves, right hooves and the point of push, and the resistance of the cow to downward pressure), Dr. Margo Lillie found that two people could exert the required force only if the cow made no reaction at all to the initial touch, but that more than likely, a successful tipping would require at least five people.

## LATEST RELIGIOUS MESSAGES

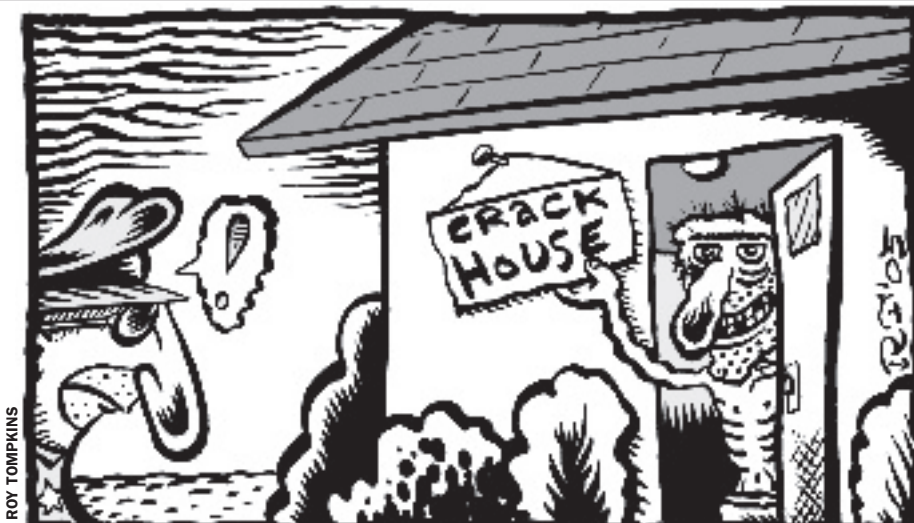
Adam Turgeon, 27, and Lisa Wagner, 26, were arrested in October for vandalizing the Annunciation of the Lord Catholic Church in Decatur, Ala., which they both said they were moved to do by Jesus Christ himself. Turgeon explained that the couple, independently, had experienced visions of Jesus, and when they found themselves in services on Oct. 2, they re-enacted the part of their dreams in which they wrecked the church's altar as a protest against "manmade religion" and idolatry. Turgeon said he was especially bothered by people who balance their checkbooks during church services and by religions that believe only parts of the Bible.

## CULTURAL DIVERSITY

- Prozac Nations: An official adviser to the Blair government warned in September that Britain urgently needed 250 special treatment centers, staffed by 10,000 therapists, to deal with what he called the country's "biggest social problem": a national epidemic of "unhappiness." And in October, German companies donated the equivalent of about \$35 million for a media campaign to make their countrymen feel better about themselves. (Sample script: "[O]utdo yourself. Beat your wings and uproot trees. You are the wings. You are the tree. You are Germany.")
- Prominent Spanish entertainer Juan Manuel Fernandez Montoya ("Farruquito"), 23, was married in Seville in September to a teenage bride in a televised ceremony that included, for the cameras, the so-called Gypsy custom of the "test of the handkerchief," in which the bride's friends use the garment to ascertain whether the "three drops of blood" (said to be present in a virgin) will appear. (Mrs. Fernandez Montoya evidently passed, but women's organizations in Spain were outraged.)

# NEW WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



Police in Memphis, Tenn., reported in October that they had closed down a crack house on Rosamond Street, a task made easier because the resident usually announced the start of business hours by hanging out a sign reading, "Crack House."

- Japan's Pro Baseball Owners' Association decided in August that, beginning next season, leaders of cheering sections at its games will be required to submit to background checks and be licensed. Permits will be required for anyone who plays drums or trumpets at the game, waves flags or banners, or leads organized chants. Owners say organized-crime gangs were moving into the cheering sections and shaking down fans for tips.
- Strange Customs: 1) New Zealand's road safety manager acknowledged in October that the recently enacted Community Roadwatch program does indeed permit police to issue a traffic ticket solely on the say-so of another driver (if there is evidence that the reported vehicle was at the scene and provided the complainer is willing to go to court). 2) Reuters reported on the annual November ritual in Finland in which the income-tax agency makes public everyone's tax records for the previous year. (Personal disclosures of income are considered vulgar in Finland, but apparently the November ritual is welcomed.)

## LEAST EFFECTIVE PROTEST

On Nov. 2, about 45 demonstrators lined up outside the Alliant Techsystems headquarters in Edina, Minn., to protest, for the 512th consecutive Wednesday, the company's work making military weapons that "indiscriminately" kill civilians. However, Alliant says it long ago stopped making those munitions (e.g., land mines, cluster bombs), although it still makes bullets. In fact, much of Alliant's work these days is on "alternative" military weapons that limit civilian casualties. According to a report in Minneapolis' *Star Tribune*, the demonstrations have taken on a life of their own as a regular gathering for the area's peace protesters, thus amusing and bemusing many Alliant employees.

## PEOPLE DIFFERENT FROM US

1) The Royal Meteorological Society, seeking evidence of global warming for a journal article, happened upon data collected by a fellow named David Grisenthwaite, 77, of

Kirkcaldy, Scotland, who has logged detailed information about every single time he mowed his lawn since 1984; he has inadvertently documented that grass-growing season is longer lately. (Grisenthwaite said he also memorizes transit bus timetables.) 2) In England's Lincoln Crown Court, in October, municipal parking employee Julie Wall, 46, was sentenced to three years in prison for embezzling the equivalent of about \$1 million over 10 years (spending nearly the entire amount on Elvis Presley records and memorabilia, most of which were found unopened at her home). (Said her lawyer, "She simply wanted to own [the items].")

## LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

1) Barbara King, 35, was arrested in Largo, Fla., in October on a warrant for forgery and prescription fraud; when police knocked on her door, a man told them that she wasn't home, but a 4-year-old girl standing alongside said, "Mommy's in the closet!" 2) Christina Goodenow, 38, of Medford, Ore., was arrested in October for using a stolen credit card, but a conviction would be especially disastrous for her since she just won \$1 million in the lottery with a \$1 ticket she bought with the credit card (thus voiding the ticket).

## READERS' CHOICE

In November, a jury in Westmoreland County, Pa., awarded Ken Slaby \$46,200 for genital injuries inflicted by his vengeful ex-girlfriend, Gail O'Toole, in 2000. While Slaby was napping (according to a report in the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*), O'Toole had glued Slaby's buttocks cheeks together, his penis to his abdomen, and his scrotum to his leg, all as payback for his having moved on with his life after their breakup. (O'Toole said it was all part of consensual sex between them, but she had earlier pleaded guilty to simple assault for the incident.)

## IRONIES

- In October, martial arts instructor Andrew Jacobs was arrested for allegedly assaulting two 10-year-old girls in their bedroom in Vienna, Va. (but being fended off by them based on skills they learned as students at Mountain Kim Martial Arts Center, where Jacobs was their teacher). Jacobs told police his plan was to tie the girls up so he could steal things from the home.

Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or [weirdnews@earthlink.net](mailto:weirdnews@earthlink.net)  
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ben white florist

Free Roses!

Drop off a new or used coat for coats for kids

Nov. 14 - Dec. 1 and get 6 FREE ROSES!

PLUS ..

Rio Roses  
\$5.00  
dozen

3200 S. Congress  
447-3577

music & cartoons for big kids

[adult swim]

on 4 screens!

IT'S BAAACK ...IN PAJAMAS...

[sundays @ 7pm]

\$1 LoneStar Tallboys 7-9pm \$4 Jaeger & Tallboy ALL NITE  
7pm - "Dirty & Hairy Film Festival" DVD  
8pm - Troy Dillinger  
9pm - Gerald R Stokes: experiMentalist  
10pm - [adult swim] live

FREE [adult swim] STUFF FOR EVERYONE!!!

wear pajamas win prizes

401 Sabine

RedRum Club

(4th St - 1 block W of IH35)

CHRONICLE

[austin swim].org





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**NEWS**

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## Where Trust Is Earned Real News, Real Early.

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**DAYBREAK 5-7AM**  
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Watch the Chronicle's 'Best of Austin' on **DAYBREAK** FRIDAYS 5-7am



# calendar

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1 - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

c

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f

ILM p.84 +

m

USIC listings p.96

## this week

### COMMUNITY LISTINGS

(PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM ARTS, FILM, AND MUSIC) BY DIANA WELCH

## Thursday 01

**AFTER GAZA: FACTS ON THE GROUND, FUTURE POSSIBILITIES** with Stav Adivi, one of the highest-ranking officers among the 620 Israeli Defense forces to refuse to serve in the occupied territories. 7pm. UT Campus, Welch 2.246, Speedway & 24th.

**AN INTRODUCTION TO RADICAL FORGIVENESS** for those wanting to deal with issues of anger, resentment, guilt, abuse, or low self-esteem. 7-10pm. Celebration!, 3110 Guadalupe, 476-9299. \$25.

**AUSTIN DAZE BENEFIT** (See Club Listings) 9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.

**BIKES ACROSS BORDERS COMMUNITY BIKE SHOP** 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free. [bikesacrossborders@riseup.net](mailto:bikesacrossborders@riseup.net).

**BOARD GAME NIGHT AT VENTANA DEL SOUL** 6pm. 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. Free.

**COMMUNITY DINNER** Sup with the folks of the Rhizome Collective. Donations of pots, pans, food containers, spices, and the like are welcome. Volunteer prep, 4-6pm; community dinner, 6-7pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free.

**FIRST THURSDAY** Music, food, and shopping. (See Club Listings) South of the river, on S. Congress. Free.

**INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT VOLUNTEER NIGHT** 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695.

**LAS POSADAS** commemorates the search for a room by poor preppers Mary and her old man Joseph, Mexican-style, with a candlelit procession that ends in a fiesta with tamales, buñuelos, and punch. 5:45pm. St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8400.

**LEARN TO MAKE HOLIDAY TEABREADS AND QUICKBREADS** 7-9pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2535. \$45 (\$22.50, accompanying friend). [www.naturalepicurean.com](http://www.naturalepicurean.com).

**NATIONAL TRANSIT TRIBUTE TO ROSA PARKS DAY** is today. So, henceforth, every year on this day, a rose will be affixed to one front seat on every Cap Metro bus to honor the memory of the late Parks. Come hear the story of the Montgomery bus

### 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 Dec. 16 issue is Monday, Dec. 5.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the Chronicle, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Kate X Messer or Kate Getty (The Gay Place): [gayplace@austinchronicle.com](mailto:gayplace@austinchronicle.com).

Mark Fagan (Sports): [gameplans@austinchronicle.com](mailto:gameplans@austinchronicle.com).

Diana Welch (everything else): [calendar@austinchronicle.com](mailto:calendar@austinchronicle.com).

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor, 454-5766 or [brenner@austinchronicle.com](mailto:brenner@austinchronicle.com).

boycott from CMTA employees. 10-11am. Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 472-8954. Free.

**RECEPTION AND FUNDRAISER FOR JOHN COURAGE** Meet the Democratic candidate for U.S. House of Representatives, 21st Congressional District. 5:30-7:30pm. Resistencia Bookstore, 1801-A S. First, 627-1808. \$25. [nicolettrue@hotmail.com](mailto:nicolettrue@hotmail.com).

**SETON SOUTHWEST HOLIDAY BAZAAR** 6:30-9pm. Seton Medical Center, 324-9018. \$15. [www.setonfund.org](http://www.setonfund.org).

**STROKE SCAN SCREENINGS** 866/935-7226. \$105. [www.bodybusiness.com](http://www.bodybusiness.com).

**TOAST OF THE TOWN** The Young Women's Alliance, Young Men's Business League, and Catalyst 8 host this event promoting community involvement. With Texas Monthly's Evan Smith. 6-8:30pm. Tambaleo, 302 Bowie, 472-3213.

**WHAT HATH EARLE WROUGHT: WHY YOU SHOULD CARE ABOUT TRMPAC AND THE DELAY CASE** is a public policy forum featuring Randall "Buck" Wood and Terry Scarborough. Moderated by The Quorum Report's Harvey Kronberg. 7:30pm. Bass Lecture Hall, UT campus, LBJ School of Public Affairs, Red River between Dean Keeton & Manor Road. Free. [kennardwright@yahoo.com](mailto:kennardwright@yahoo.com).



## Party at the Yard Dog

(SEE FRIDAY)

**WORLD AIDS DAY INTERFAITH SERVICE** 7pm. Tarrytown United Methodist Church, 2601 Exposition, 472-3111. Free. [www.interfaithcarealliance.org](http://www.interfaithcarealliance.org), [www.worldaidsday.org](http://www.worldaidsday.org).

**WORLD AIDS DAY SERVICE & OPEN HOUSE** (See "The Gay Place") 4pm. Wright House Wellness Center, 4301-B N. I-35, 467-0088. [nicole@thewrighthouse.org](mailto:nicole@thewrighthouse.org), [www.thewrighthouse.org](http://www.thewrighthouse.org).

**ART OPENINGS** (See Visual Arts)

Gallery Lombardi, North Hills Gallery, Wet Salon

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)

**70mm Extravaganza** @ Paramount, 3:30pm  
**Beyond the Rocks** @ Paramount, 8pm  
**Dust** @ GRG 102 (UT campus on 24th), 7pm  
**Overlord** @ Paramount, 1pm  
**The Fantastic Planet** @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings)

Lomita Flamingo Cantina  
**The (International) Noise Conspiracy** Emo's  
Jon Dee Graham, Tom Freund Cactus Cafe  
Neil Michael Hagerty Alamo Drafthouse Downtown

## the young ones

**TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL FILM COMPETITION** South by Southwest announces the call for entries for the younger component of the 2006 Film Festival, scheduled for March 10-18. Deadline for entries: Mon., Dec. 12. (See Offscreen) [www.sxsw.com/film/submit/texas\\_students](http://www.sxsw.com/film/submit/texas_students).

**COATS FOR KIDS** This annual community project pits area schools against one another in a cutthroat race to collect the most warm coats for chilly kids. Distribution Day, Sat., Dec. 10. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 467-8982 x231. [www.jlaustin.org/coats](http://www.jlaustin.org/coats).

**GUITAR CLASSES FOR GIRLS** taught by a degreed female instructor. Ages 6 and older. 809-7799. Group classes starting at \$10 (private classes available). [emilycmarks@hotmail.com](mailto:emilycmarks@hotmail.com).

**BOOKKIDS MAD SCIENCE** event offers really cool, really fun science experiments in celebration of the movie Zathura. Thu., Dec. 1, 10:30am. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

**NIJA/CREATIVE MOVEMENT FOR GIRLS** ages 7-11. Wednesdays. Body Vida Studio, 1115 S. Congress, 447-9900. [www.bodyvida.com](http://www.bodyvida.com).

**GRIFFIN SCHOOL FALL ART OPENING** Check out original art, theatre, and music by the coolest kids in town. Thu., Dec. 1, 6:30pm-8:30pm. Griffin School, 710 E. 41st, 454-5797.

**CONNECTING CHILDREN TO BOOKS** features the wonderful Miss Tiffany with a story each Friday. Fridays, 10am. Connections Resource Center, 825 E. 53rd Ste. E-101, 478-5725 x214. [www.connectionscenter.org](http://www.connectionscenter.org).

**MCCALLUM FINE ARTS ACADEMY PROSPECTIVE STUDENT WORKSHOP** Register for this free workshop Dec. 2. Sat., Dec. 10, 1-4pm. McCallum High School, 414-7506. [www.austinschools.org/campus/mccallum/academy.html](http://www.austinschools.org/campus/mccallum/academy.html).

**WHOLE FOODS MARKET ICE SKATING RINK** is open for business! Through Jan. 1. Mon.-Thu., 10am-3pm. Fri., Dec. 2. Whole Foods Market, 9607 Research Blvd. #300, 345-5003. \$5.

**AMERICAN YOUTHWORKS COMMUNITY ART SHOW & SILENT AUCTION** A chance to check out AYW student artwork with live music throughout the evening. All proceeds go to AYW's student art program. (See Club Listings) Fri., Dec. 2, 6-9pm. American YouthWorks, 1900 E. Ben White, 472-8220. \$5.

**FREE PHOTOS WITH SANTA** Through Dec. 25. Saturdays, 11am-6pm; Sundays, 2-5pm. Mitchie's Fine Black Art & Gift Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901.

**THE BOY, THE KING, AND THE CHIHUAHUA** Salvador M. SeBasco signs copies of his illustrated tale. Sat., Dec. 3, noon-4pm. Hastings, 2000 S. I-35, Round Rock, 512/244-2223. Free.

**THE TOYS TAKE OVER CHRISTMAS** Scottish Rite's Children's Theatre presents the Second Youth Family Theatre's playful holiday performance for kids ages 4 and older. Dec. 3-18. Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 2:30pm. Scottish Rite Theatre, 207 W. 18th, 472-7247. \$5 (\$8, adults; \$7, seniors). [www.scottishritechildrenstheatre.org](http://www.scottishritechildrenstheatre.org).

**AISD MAGNET FAIR** gives interested students and parents a chance to meet with representatives from the LBJ High School Liberal Arts and Science Academy, Kealing Advanced Academics Magnet, and the Fulmore Middle School Humanities and Law Magnet for International Studies. Sat., Dec. 3, 9am-noon. LBJ High School, 7309 Lazy Creek Dr., 414-9986.

**FAVORITE FACES** Create an album of family favorites! Sat., Dec. 3, 10am-11:30am. Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 Congress, 936-4649. \$6 members, \$8 nonmembers. [www.thestoryoftexas.com](http://www.thestoryoftexas.com).

**SHARING WITH SANTA** Visit with Santa, shop for your family in the Elf Room, and bring a new or gently used unwrapped toy to give to Blue Santa. Sat., Dec. 3, 10am-1pm. Trinity Child Development Center, 5801 Westminster, 928-2212. [trinitycdc@hotmail.com](mailto:trinitycdc@hotmail.com).

**JOHN R. ERICKSON, "HANK THE COWDOG" PROGRAM & BOOK SIGNING** Sat., Dec. 3, noon-2pm. Bastrop High School West Campus & Gym, 512/321-5441.

**SCULPTOR TO BE! WORKSHOP FOR KIDS** RSVP Sat., Dec. 3, 1:30-3pm. Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum, 605 Robert E. Lee, 445-5582. \$7.50.

**BARBARA BEERY** signs copies of her second children's cookbook, *Batter Up Kids Sensational Snacks*. Sat., Dec. 3, 2pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.

**DAVID KIRK** signs copies of his Miss Spider book, *The Listening Walk*, and his *Nova the Robot Fixes His Spaceship*. Sun., Dec. 4, 2pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

**YMCA CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY** Sun., Dec. 4, 3pm-5pm. Austin Music Hall, 208 Nueces, 263-4146. [www.austinyymca.org](http://www.austinyymca.org).

**CIRCLE OF LIGHT** celebrates the holiday season with an emphasis on the multicultural, with musical performances of Christmases in the Americas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Diwali, and Ramadan. Tue., Dec. 6, 7pm. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500. \$15 (\$10, children & seniors). [www.creop.org/circleoflight](http://www.creop.org/circleoflight).

*A Tribute to Townes Van Zandt at*

# Antones

Thursday, Dec. 8

doors open at 9:30pm, show at 10

\$15 at door | a portion of the proceeds to benefit SIMS foundation

A night honoring Townes Van Zandt's music and the film *Be Here to Love Me* which opens in Austin Friday, Dec. 9



The evening will feature special performances by

And You Will  
Know Us By  
The Trail of Dead

Bill Callahan

Colin Gilmore

Jimmie Dale Gilmore

Joe Gracey

Knife in The Water

Kimmie Rhodes

Will Sexton

JT Van Zandt

and a few surprise guests

*"Townes is the best songwriter in the World and  
I'll stand on Bob Dylan's coffee table and say that!"*

— Steve Earle

Antone's is located at 213 W. Fifth Street.

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AUSTIN TEXAS

THE AUSTIN  
**CHRONICLE**  
PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**PALM**  
RESTAURANT & BAR

# Friday 02

**CENTER FOR WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES** hosts Dr. Michele Rountree to discuss the integration of HIV/AIDS risk assessment, educational/prevention programming, and policy within domestic violence shelters. See Web site for map. Noon-1pm. UT Campus, GEB 3.312 (Dean's Conference Room). [www.utexas.edu/maps/main/buildings/geb.html](http://www.utexas.edu/maps/main/buildings/geb.html).

**CREATING A CULTURE OF PEACE** is a nonviolence training for personal and social change. Fri., noon-9pm; Sat., 9am-9pm. Asbury United Methodist Church, 1605 E. 38½, 719-4283. \$65 (meals and materials included). [liz@2quakers.net](http://liz@2quakers.net), [www.austinpeacecenter.org](http://www.austinpeacecenter.org).

**GREYSHEETERS ANONYMOUS** is a supportive program of abstinence from compulsive eating. 7:30-8:30pm. St. Catherine of Siena, 4800 Convict Hill Rd., Rm. 210. [www.greysheet.org](http://www.greysheet.org).

**MESSAGE THERAPY AT THE CROSSROADS** addresses the opportunities and challenges facing massage therapists today. RSVP 7-8pm. Lauterstein-Conway Massage School and Clinic, 374-9908. Free. [sarahs@tcschool.com](mailto:sarahs@tcschool.com), [www.tcschool.com](http://www.tcschool.com).

**MORALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT** Learn how to make your means mean something good. 7:30pm. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3208 Exposition Blvd. Free.

**NOCHE NAVIDEÑA** Help raise money for Mexic-Arte at this gala featuring a silent auction of Mexican folk art, delicious food, a handcrafted nativity scene made entirely from corn husks, and more. 6-10pm. Mexic-Arte Museum, 419 Congress, 480-9373 x30. \$30 (\$25, advance). [www.mexic-artemuseum.org](http://www.mexic-artemuseum.org).

**SOS HOLIDAY PARTY AND SILENT AUCTION** 6-11pm. Mercury Hall, 615 Cardinal, 236-1226. \$10. [tonya@sosalliance.org](mailto:tonya@sosalliance.org), [www.sosalliance.org](http://www.sosalliance.org).

**SPCA OF GREATER AUSTIN CRITTER ART BENEFIT** 6-9pm. Art on 5th, 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. \$20 (\$30, couple). [www.spcacofgreateraustin.org](http://www.spcacofgreateraustin.org).

**THORNTON ROAD STUDIOS ART SHOW & SALE** 5-10pm. Thornton Road Studio Complex, 2311 Thornton Rd., 443-1611. [www.thorntonroadstudios.com](http://www.thorntonroadstudios.com).

**YARD DOG HOLIDAY PARTY** featuring new drawings by Jad Fair. 7-9pm. Yard Dog Folk Art, 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613. Free. [www.yarddog.com](http://www.yarddog.com).

**ART OPENINGS** (See Visual Arts)  
**Art on 5th, Bolm Studios Gallery**

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)  
**PrizeWhores** @ KLRU-TV, 10pm  
**Sinus Christmas Show** @ Alamo Downtown, 7, 9:45pm

# Saturday 03

**ACC FUNDRAISER FEATURES FILM FESTIVAL FAVE** A screening of *Christmas in the Clouds* raises money for ACC's Radio, Television, and Film program. (See Special Screenings) 7pm. Arbor Cinema @ Great Hills, 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742. \$20. [www.amcreativityassoc.org/clouds.htm](http://www.amcreativityassoc.org/clouds.htm).

**ASHERA PROJECT** Abstinence-only sex education is a bunch of baloney, and everybody with half a brain knows it. Help the Ashera Project raise money for its teen pregnancy prevention and youth empowerment programming at Reagan High School. With appearances by sex-ed activist Shelby Knox and Rev. Jim Rigby, live music, and a silent auction. (See Club Listings) 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress, 707-9637. \$5. [www.asheraproject.org](http://www.asheraproject.org).

**ASIAN HOLIDAY BAZAAR** 10am-3pm. Asian American Cultural Center, 11713 Jollyville, 336-5069. Free.

**AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET** 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, Fourth & Guadalupe, 236-0074. Free. [www.austinfarmersmarket.org](http://www.austinfarmersmarket.org).

**CELEBRATION! GRAND OPENING** features two day of snacks and live music, plus free psychic readings on Saturday and free massage on Sunday. 10am-7pm. Celebration!, 3110 Guadalupe, 453-6207. Free.

**CPR/FIRST AID CLASS** 2-3pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar, 750-0586. \$25.

**FOOD NOT BOMBS** feeds people delicious, healthy, and free food. Cooking: 11am-2pm. House of Commons, 2610 Rio Grande; serving: 2-5pm. Republic Sq. Park, Fourth & Guadalupe, 974-6700. [fnaustin@goutside.net](http://fnaustin@goutside.net).

**GERMAN BOOK SALE** All proceeds go to the German-Texan Heritage Society. 11am-4pm. The German Free School, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927.

**GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET** Enjoy free glühwein, cider, and cake while pawing through such German fare as papier mâché Santas, blown-glass ornaments, embroidered linens, and Bavarian Toilework items. 10am-4pm. German-Texan Heritage Society, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927 or 866/482-4847. [info@germantexans.org](mailto:info@germantexans.org), [www.germantexans.org](http://www.germantexans.org).

**HOLIDAY COOKIES CLASS** 10:30am. Juniper Hills Farm, Dripping Springs, 830/833-0910. [www.juniperhillsfarm.com](http://www.juniperhillsfarm.com).

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE** Horse-drawn carriages, live music, and the obligatory visit from Santa lure in the shoppers. 11am-3pm. Galleria Oaks Shopping Center, 13376 Research Blvd., 335-1161.

**INDEPENDENCE BREWING COMPANY** hosts a free tour and beer tasting at their South Austin brewery. 1pm. 3913 Todd Ln. [www.independencebrewing.com](http://www.independencebrewing.com).

**INDEPENDENT TEXANS MEETING** The organization that seeks to mobilize independent voters. 3:30pm. Austin Toll Party and Independent Texans Headquarters, 4533 Avenue A #208. [www.indytexans.org](http://www.indytexans.org).

**ITALIAN COOKING CLASS** 6pm. 345-8941. \$50. [eringgenberg@austin.rr.com](mailto:eringgenberg@austin.rr.com), [www.geocities.com/atasteofitalyinaustin/](http://www.geocities.com/atasteofitalyinaustin/).

**JOHN AIELLI'S HOLIDAY SING-ALONG** Every year, KUT's morning host leads the official tree lighting at the Capitol. After the carols, stroll down Congress, where the stores stay open late to benefit from your holiday cheer. 6-7pm, Tree Lighting & Holiday Sing-Along; 5-9pm, Congress Ave. Holiday Stroll.

**PROJECT TRANSITIONS HOLIDAY SWING** (See "The Gay Place") 8pm-midnight. Dell Center, 7300 Hart, 454-8646. \$55, \$65. [www.projecttransitions.org](http://www.projecttransitions.org).

**SHOAL CREEK VOLUNTEER WORKDAY** Sign up online. [www.austinparks.org/contact.html](http://www.austinparks.org/contact.html).

**SOUTH MANCHACA ART MARKET** 9am-2pm. 11800 Manchaca Rd. [www.soaustin.com](http://www.soaustin.com).

**THE FUNDAMENTALS OF COOKING FOR DISEASE PREVENTION** 8:30am-4pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2535. \$250 (\$125, accompanying friend). [www.naturalepicurean.com](http://www.naturalepicurean.com).

**TOUCHED TWICE** is a multidisciplinary performance that uses color, poetry, piano, violin, and movement to stimulate all of your senses at once. 8pm. Austin Waldorf School, 8702 South View, 288-5942. \$15 (\$8, students; free, kids). [www.austineurythmy.org](http://www.austineurythmy.org).

**USING THE POWER OF YOUR VOICE: THE CITIZEN'S LOBBYIST AT THE CAPITOL** The Travis County Green Party teaches you how to lobby your state legislators in this nonpartisan two-hour training. 11am-1pm. Manchaca Library, 5500 Manchaca. Free.

**WEST SIXTH ST. ARTISTS' MARKET** 10am-6pm. 709 W. Sixth, 698-8099. [www.6thstreetmarket.com](http://www.6thstreetmarket.com).

**WILL CRAWL FOR FOOD** A bunch of Guinness fans with hearts of gold, known as the 1759 Society, troll the pubs till they fill their shopping carts with food donations for the Capital Area Food Bank. Or fall down drunk, whichever comes first. 1pm. B.D. Riley's Irish Pub, 204 E. Sixth, 494-1335. [www.bdrileys.com/map/FoodCrawl\\_PR\\_12-03-05.doc](http://www.bdrileys.com/map/FoodCrawl_PR_12-03-05.doc).

**WORLD CAN'T WAIT FUNDRAISER** raises money for this campaign to drive out the Bush regime. 8pm-1am. 901 Edgecliff. [www.worldcantwait.org](http://www.worldcantwait.org).

**YELLER DAWG DEMOCRATS BRUNCH & DISCUSSION** 11am. Tres Amigos, 1801 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 327-1776. [bmcafee@austin.rr.com](mailto:bmcafee@austin.rr.com).

**CREATING A CULTURE OF PEACE** Fri., noon-9pm; Sat., 9am-9pm. Asbury United Methodist Church, 1605 E. 38½, 719-4283. \$65 (meals and materials included). [www.austinpeacecenter.org](http://www.austinpeacecenter.org). (See Friday)

**THORNTON ROAD STUDIOS ART SHOW & SALE** 11am-5pm. 2311 Thornton Rd., 443-1611. [www.thorntonroadstudios.com](http://www.thorntonroadstudios.com). (See Friday)

**LITERA** (See Arts Listings)

**Monica F. Anderson** *Mitchie's Fine Black Art*

**ART OPENINGS** (See Visual Arts)

**Dougherty Arts Center, Las Manitas Avenue Cafe, Studio 107**

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)

**Christmas in the Clouds Benefit** @ Arbor, 7pm  
**Cicadas** @ Alamo Draffhouse Downtown, 1:30pm  
**No Pain, No Gain** @ Metropolitan, 3pm  
**Sinus Christmas Show** @ Alamo Draffhouse Downtown, 7, 9:45

# day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

**Albert, Texas**, sits at the end of one of the prettiest drives in the Hill Country. Heading west of Blanco, FM 1623 is the road you should take out-of-town visitors on to show them the rugged beauty of the Central Texas landscape.

The two-lane blacktop winds through the hills toward Stonewall like a magic carpet. The farm-to-market road is lined with the reds and golds of a dry autumn, deer that failed to avoid the occasional vehicle, a llama ranch, quaint farmhouses, cattle and sheep grazing in the fields, a historic cemetery, and scenic views of the Blanco River Valley. Five miles from the intersection of FM 1623 and U.S. 290, the ghost town of Albert spreads out beside the country road.

Since last June the ghosts have come alive. That's when Robert Cave opened the Albert Icehouse in what was once the wood shop of the old Albert General Store. "The original general store and bar were where the barbecue pavilion is now," Cave says. It was torn down sometime around 1985, so he built a replacement, using the parts from the old workshop, that looks more like an old store than the one it replaced.

A little less than two years ago, Cave became the owner of Albert, Texas — lock, stock, and barrel. He was making one of his frequent journeys between Austin and Luckenbach when he saw a for-sale sign on a small house on picturesque Williams Creek. When he inquired about the price, it turned out that the house came with 13 acres, a dance hall, and a lot of history. What better place to put a playground and snack bar for Sunday drivers?

According to *The Handbook of Texas*, the origins of Albert date back to 1877 when German settlers began establishing ranches in the area. A stop on the Fredericksburg to Blanco stage route, the town was originally called Martinsburg.

In 1892, Albert Luckenbach sold his store in his father's settlement a few miles up the road and moved to Martinsburg. As postmistress, his wife Sophie, or Minnie, as most people called her, had named the original settlement after her husband's family. When appointed to the new post office on Williams Creek, she changed the name from Martinsburg to her husband's first name. The town's population peaked at 50 in 1925. Today,

the sign outside the beer and wine bar claims the population to be four.

After selling life insurance in Austin for 17 years, Cave couldn't resist the adventure of buying his own town in the Texas Hill Country. "We spent a year dreaming about what it could be before we started construction," Cave says. His goal was to provide a relaxing atmosphere where day-trippers could pull off the road, grab a snack and refreshments, and hear some picking and storytelling before heading down the road.

"We talked to a lot of people about what they thought the place should be like," Cave says. He built a large deck and placed picnic tables under the sprawling limbs of an old oak tree. Most important to everyone, especially the ladies, was having nice restrooms. The cinder-block facilities are the proverbial brick outhouse. Heated and cooled, the washrooms are up to most anybody's standards. "I spent more money on the restrooms than I did on the bar," Cave says.

Someday, Texans won't have to go to London to visit the Albert Hall. Next on Cave's list of improvements is to renovate the old dance hall that saw its good times decline about the time that Lyndon Johnson attended the two-room school next door. "I leave the doors unlocked so people can see in there," Cave says of the tin building with a slight lean, "but it's pretty spooky in there."

Albert, Texas, is 62 miles from downtown Austin. To get there take U.S. 281 to Blanco and head west at the stoplight on FM 1623. The Albert Icehouse opens Monday through Thursday, 4 to 10pm; Friday, 2pm to midnight; Saturday, 10am to 1am; and Sunday, 10am-10pm. There is always free music on Saturday afternoons, and who knows, the new owner of the town might be one of the pickers. For information, call 830/644-2042 or visit their Web site at [www.alberttexas.com](http://www.alberttexas.com).

755th in a series. **Day Trips, Vol. 2**, a book of Day Trips 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

# out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

**WALKWAY OF LIGHTS** opens for the holiday season with more than 100 lighted sculptures that visitors can walk through and around. Through Jan. 1. Lakeside Park, Marble Falls, 830/693-2815. [www.marblefalls.org](http://www.marblefalls.org).

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS:** Bastrop River of Lights, Wimberley's Bullockville Lighting Display, Wimberley's Pioneer Town, Wimberley's Emily Ann Trail of Lights, Hill Country Regional Lighting Trail, all through Jan. 1. [www.tex-fest.com](http://www.tex-fest.com).

**TEXAS FURNITURE MAKERS SHOW** presents the work of artisans using wood, iron, steel, ceramics, stone, and fibre to make unique home furnishings. Thu.-Sat., Dec. 1-3, 10am-4pm; Sun., Dec. 4, 1-4pm. Kerr Arts & Cultural Center, Kerrville, 830/895-2911. [www.kackkerrville.com](http://www.kackkerrville.com).

**MAIN STREET ARTISAN STROLL** features artists, musicians, and performers lining the sidewalks in downtown displaying their wares, and entertaining strollers. Thu., Dec. 1, 5-9pm. Round Rock, 512/341-8788. [www.mainstreetstroll.com](http://www.mainstreetstroll.com).

**LAS POSADAS PROCESSION & FIESTA** re-enacts Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem and their search for lodging with caroling, prayers, and a candlelit procession to the fiesta that includes pinatas, hot chocolate, tamales, mariachis, and ballet folklórico. Sat., Dec. 2, 6pm. Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio, 210/434-6711 x2272.

**CHRISTMAS AT THE LBJ BOYHOOD HOME** opens the historical site to visitors wishing to step back to the 1920s to see lamp-lit Christmas decorations. Sat., Dec. 3, 10, 17. LBJ Historical Park, Elm St., Johnson City, 830/868-7863.

**A DICKENS' CHRISTMAS** kicks off the holiday season with a street party filled with entertainers, snow machines, carriage rides, food, arts and crafts, and thousands of holiday lights. Sat., Dec. 3. Clark Library, 217 S. Main, Lockhart, 877/519-7057.

# Sunday 04

**CENTER FOR TEXAS MUSIC HISTORY BENEFIT**  
(See Club Listings) 4pm. Saengerhalle, 255 Saengerhalle, New Braunfels, 830/625-HALL. \$15 (\$10, advance tix available at Sundance Records, San Marcos). [www.txstate.edu/ctmh](http://www.txstate.edu/ctmh).

**DIAMOND WAY BUDDHISM MEDITATION MEETING** 7pm. 5900 Dunbury, 371-9803. [www.diamondway.org/austin](http://www.diamondway.org/austin).

**ESPERANTO CLUB MEETING** 3pm. *Texpresso*, 2700 W. Anderson, 467-9898. [www.esperantoaustin.org](http://www.esperantoaustin.org).

**GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION AND OPEN HOUSE** Noon-3pm. *Texas Culinary Academy*, 11400 Burnet #2100, 837-2665. Free. [aolson@txca.com](http://aolson@txca.com).

**HAPPY LIVING WITH JUSTICE** offers a free yoga practice, followed by a meeting to increase aware-

ness on environmental, peace, and justice issues. Locations vary. 4-6pm. 292-8093. Free. [happylivingwithjustice@gmail.com](mailto:happylivingwithjustice@gmail.com).

**HENRY MUSEUM VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION** 3-5pm. O. Henry Museum, 409 E. Fifth, 472-1903. Free. [www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/ohenry.htm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/ohenry.htm).

**INSIDE BOOKS VOLUNTEER NIGHT** 7pm-12mid. *Rhizome Collective*, 300 Allen, 385-3695.

**LIBERTARIAN DISCUSSION GROUP** hosted by Terry Liberty Parker. 6:30pm. *Hickory Street Bar & Grille*, 800 Congress, 477-8968. Free. [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/libertarian](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/libertarian).

**RHIZOME IMMERSION DAY** Learn about rainwater harvesting, worm composting, wind and solar energy, biofuels, and more on this tour of the Rhizome Collective's urban sustainability demonstration site. 2pm. *Rhizome Collective*, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free.

## the GAY place BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

**WORLD AIDS DAY & WRIGHT HOUSE OPEN HOUSE** Celebrating wellness and education, awareness and community. Because that's what today is for. Because an open dialogue and remaining informed about AIDS needs to be an everyday reality. Not just one of 365, not just by tucking a red ribbon on your lapel, but by joining the community, because today is the day to do it. The lineup is stellar: opening prayer by Rev. David Hoster, a welcome by Congressman Lloyd Doggett, and occasion/remembrance by Andrew Allen and Shantay Abudu. *Thu., Dec. 1, 4pm-7pm. Wright House Wellness Center, 4301-B N. I-35, 467-0088. nicole@thewrighthouse.org, www.thewrighthouse.org.*

**WORLD AIDS DAY INTERFAITH SERVICE** Remembrance and hope. A night to memorialize those lost along the way, answering the need for renewed awareness, renewed spirits, and renewed memory. All faiths welcome to join in the community of hope and gathering. *Tonight! Thu., Dec. 1, 7pm. Tarrytown United Methodist Church, 2601 Exposition, 459-5883. roger@interfaithalliance.org, www.interfaithalliance.org.*

**CAMP CAMP!** Monthly queer performance night. Come ready to fill your 10-minute slot! *Thu., Dec. 1, 8pm. Bouldin Creek Coffeehouse & Cafe, 1501 S. First, 416-1601. Free. campcamp@letterboxes.net.*

**FIRST FRIDAY DINNER CLUB** This group of professional gay men and women meets on the first Friday of each month. Hence the name. *Fri., Dec. 2. joshloker@prideofaustin.com, firstfridays-subscribe@yahoo.com.*

**RETREAT FOR WY'MN WRITERS** This weekend join facilitators Dr. Joni Jones/Omi Osun Olomo and Sharon Bridgforth for Finding Voice in the Bones, an intensive weekend retreat for intermediate and advanced wy'mn writers of all genres. *Fri-Sun., Dec. 2-4. sharon@sharonbridgforth.com, www.wymnwriting.blogspot.com.*

**HOLIDAY SWINGERS!** This weekend is Project Transitions' annual holiday hullabaloo featuring the Sentimental Journey Orchestra and the Studebakers! Get your tickets at BookWoman, Tapelenders, and Top Drawer Thrift Store. *Sat., Dec. 3, 8pm-12mid. Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart, 454-8646. \$55. www.projecttransitions.org/holidayswing.*

**HOLIDAY COOKIES CLASS** Over the river and through the woods to Onion Creek Kitchens at Juniper Hills Farm you'll go to share some holiday good times with a class of grade-A cookie bakers! And guess what? You get to take home the spoils. Yum. *Sat., Dec. 3, 10:30am. Juniper Hills Farm, Dripping Springs, 830/833-0910. juniperhillsfarm@earthlink.net, www.juniperhillsfarm.com.*

**WHEN PIGS FLY** Campy. Gutsy. Naughty. That's right, to combat all the turkey dinners and family hubbubbing, Naughty Austin presents the comic musical that is hitting every hot town on the map with queer fever, and costumes, ridiculously flamboyant costumes. Mermaids, Vegas, and gargoyles. Sounds like more fun than your in-laws. *Dec. 8-Jan. 28. Thu-Sat. Arts on Real Theater, 2826 Real, 472-2787. www.artsonreal.com.*

For more gay stuff, see *Calendar online*: [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com). Send gay bits to [gayplace@austinchronicle.com](mailto:gayplace@austinchronicle.com).

The Austin Eurythmy Ensemble presents

## Touched Twice

Saturday, December 3rd, 2005  
8:00 p.m.

Austin Waldorf School Performing Arts Center, 8700 South View Rd.

**Admission:**  
\$15 general admission  
\$8 students & seniors  
Age 14 and under no charge

**Tickets:**  
Austin Waldorf School Main Office  
(512) 288-5942  
[www.austix.com](http://www.austix.com), 474-TIXS  
[www.austineurythmy.org](http://www.austineurythmy.org)  
Or at the door

**Onsite childcare available.**  
Call (830) 868-7884 for information.

Community In Concert  
Austin Symphonic Band  
Richard Floyd, Director

Music  
for  
All Seasons

Sunday, December 4, 3:00 pm  
Reagan HS PAC  
Hwy 290 @ Berkman Drive

[www.asband.org](http://www.asband.org)  
Tickets — 474-TIXS

This concert is sponsored in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts

**THE TEXAS MEMORIAL MUSEUM**

**HOLIDAY SHOPPING EVENT** 20% OFF ALL PURCHASES!

**SPECIAL BOOK SIGNING!** Photographer Laurence Parent and Author Joe Nick Patoski will sign their book TEXAS COAST on Thursday, December 8th from 9 to 7pm.

Thursday, December 1st - Thursday, December 8th  
Thursdays 9 am-7 pm Saturday 10am-5 pm  
Weekdays 9 am-5 pm Sunday 1 pm-5 pm

Call 232-5505 Or 232-4278 for directions and parking

2400 TRINITY STREET WWW.TEXASMEMORIALMUSEUM.COM

## Past Lives, Present Lessons

### HOW TO FIND DIVINE LOVE TODAY

Awaken past-life memories • Connect past-life lessons with present challenges • Resolve karma and heal the present

A FREE four-week workshop

Tuesday evenings, December 6, 13, 20, & 27, 7:00-8:30 pm

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512.837.8888  
M-F 8-5:30

Serving the Professional Artist for 85 years!

**TEXANS SEEKING LIBERTARIAN NOMINATION FOR NOVEMBER 2006** Come and meet the might-be candidates. 5-7pm. La Palapa, 6640 Hwy. 290, 459-8729.

**ZILKER TREE LIGHTING** 6pm. Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700. Free.

**CELEBRATION! GRAND OPENING** Noon-5pm. 3110 Guadalupe, 453-6207. Free. (See Saturday)

**THE FUNDAMENTALS OF COOKING FOR DISEASE PREVENTION** 8:30am-4pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2535. \$250 (\$125, accompanying friend). [www.naturalepicurean.com](http://www.naturalepicurean.com). (See Saturday)

**WEST SIXTH ST. ARTISTS' MARKET** 10am-6pm. 709 W. Sixth, 698-8099. [www.6thstreetmarket.com](http://www.6thstreetmarket.com).

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)  
**"I Had an Abortion," "The Abortion Diaries," and "43%"** @ Alamo Downtown, 6:30pm  
**Best of the AV Geeks** @ Alamo Downtown, 6pm

## Monday 05

**AUSTIN AGAINST WAR MEETING** 7pm. 2107 San Antonio, 323-9778. [www.austinaagainstar.org](http://www.austinaagainstar.org).

**AUSTIN CYCLING ASSOCIATION MEETING** 7pm. LCRA Board Room, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. [www.austincycling.org](http://www.austincycling.org).

**AUSTIN TRAVEL CIRCLE MEETING** 7pm. Austin International Youth Hostel, 2200 Lakeshore, 444-2294. Free. [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austintravelcircle](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austintravelcircle).

**CAPITOL CITY HIGHLANDERS PIPE BAND** offer free lessons at their practices each week. 5:30-6:30pm. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 346-3123 or 567-1282. Free.

**CENTRAL AUSTIN TOASTMASTERS MEETING** 6-7pm. Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, 2200 Justin. [www.tmd55.org/centralaustin](http://www.tmd55.org/centralaustin).

**DEVELOP YOUR PSYCHIC ABILITIES** RSVP ... with your mind! 7-9pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$100, four-week course.

**FREE LEGAL ADVICE** These night clinics are open to everyone, offer child care, and are right on the bus line. 6-7pm. Martin Middle School, 1601 Haskell. Free.

**HEALING CLINIC: HEALINGS WITH CLAIRVOYANT PROGRAM** 6:45-7:30pm. Call for exact location, 560-5193. [intuitiveguide@yahoo.com](mailto:intuitiveguide@yahoo.com), [www.intuitivestudiesaustin.com](http://www.intuitivestudiesaustin.com).

**OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS MEETING** Call for location. 327-2802. Free. [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org).

**THE AUSTIN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION** Present your ideas, issues, and concerns during citizens' communications at each meeting. 5:30pm. One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd., 974-3251.

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)  
**Sound Unbound: Developments in Late 20th-Century Jazz** @ Alamo Downtown, 9:45pm

## Tuesday 06

**AUSTIN HERB SOCIETY HOLIDAY BAZAAR** 9:30am. Zilker Park Botanical Gardens, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 477-8672. [www.austinherbsociety.org](http://www.austinherbsociety.org).

**AUSTIN LIBERTY DOLLAR MEET-UP** Curra's Grill, 614 E. Oltorf, 444-0012. [www.austinsilver.com](http://www.austinsilver.com).

**AUSTIN/CAPITAL CITY BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S MONTHLY NETWORKING LUNCHEON** 11:30am-1pm. Tien Hong, 8301 Burnet, 459-6922. Free (lunch not included). [austinbpw@yahoo.com](mailto:austinbpw@yahoo.com).

**COMPUTER CLUB OF AUSTIN MEETING** deals with Windows and Apple convergence. 6:30pm. Thompson Conference Center, Red River & Dean Keeton, 258-6192. [www.ccaustin.org](http://www.ccaustin.org).

**DIAMOND WAY BUDDHISM MEDITATION MEETING** 7pm. Texas Union, UT Campus, 24th & Guadalupe. [www.diamondway.org/austin](http://www.diamondway.org/austin).

**GUIDED-IMAGERY MEDITATION** 7-8pm. Wellness by Design, 4701 Westgate Ste. C-301. Donations accepted. [www.wellnessbydesign.us](http://www.wellnessbydesign.us).

**HOUSE THE HOMELESS MEETING** 3-4pm. 500 E. Seventh. [www.universallivingwage.org](http://www.universallivingwage.org).

**HOW TO CREATE A HEALTHY INTEGRATIVE LIFESTYLE** RSVP 6:30-8:30pm. Regensis Integrative Health Centers, 1700 S. Lamar #322, 326-3737. Free. [www.regensisihc.com](http://www.regensisihc.com).

**IGNITE YOUR INVENTIVENESS** 7-9pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$95, supplies included.

**LIGHTING OF THE PEACE TREE** 6pm. University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola, 929-0551.

**MEDICARE PART D INFORMATION SESSION** Learn about new Medicaid prescription drug benefits. 9:30-11am. United Way of Williamson County, 101 E. Old Settlers Blvd. #160, Round Rock, 512/255-6799. Free. [info@unitedway-we.org](mailto:info@unitedway-we.org).

**PAST LIVES, PRESENT LESSONS - HOW TO FIND DIVINE LOVE** 7-8:30pm. Austin Eckankar Center, 223 W. Anderson, 453-0331. [www.eckankar-texas.org](http://www.eckankar-texas.org).

**SIERRA CLUB MEETING** 6:15-7pm. LCRA Board Room, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. [www.texas.sierraclub.org/austin](http://www.texas.sierraclub.org/austin).

**STONEWALL DEMOCRATS MONTHLY MEETING** 7:30pm. Magnolia Cafe South, 1920 S. Congress, 383-1754. Free. [www.stonewallaustin.org](http://www.stonewallaustin.org).

**TRICHOTILLOMANIA SUPPORT GROUP MEETING** for chronic hair-pullers. 7pm. Austin Java Co. Free. [austintrich@yahoo.com](mailto:austintrich@yahoo.com).

**BIKES ACROSS BORDERS COMMUNITY BIKE SHOP** 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free. [bikesacrossborders@riseup.net](mailto:bikesacrossborders@riseup.net).

**THEATRE** (See Arts Listings)  
**The Dionysium** Alamo South Lamar

**CLASSICAL MUSIC** (See Arts Listings)  
**Austin Symphony: Handel's Messiah** Riverbend Centre

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)  
**The Ringer Premiere** @ Paramount, 7:30pm  
**The Singing Blacksmith** @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm  
**American Matchmaker** @ Alamo Downtown, 9:45pm

## Wednesday 07

**AUSTIN INDYMEDIA COLLECTIVE MEETING** Open to everybody, so don't be shy. Austin Indymedia wants to teach you how to make your voice heard. 5-6:30pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free. [www.austin.indymedia.org](http://www.austin.indymedia.org).

**AUSTIN NORML MEETING** 9pm. Opal Divine's Freehouse, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308. [info@austinnorml.com](mailto:info@austinnorml.com), [www.austinnorml.com](http://www.austinnorml.com).

**AUSTIN SINGING INSTITUTE VOCAL LIBERATION CLASS** RSVP 7-10pm. Music Lab, 1306 W. Oltorf, 554-8771. \$50. [guy@guymonroe.com](mailto:guy@guymonroe.com), [www.austinsinginginstitute.net](http://www.austinsinginginstitute.net).

**AUSTIN WOMEN IN BLACK** encourage all those opposed to war to join them in their weekly vigil. Noon-1pm. Texas State Capital Building. [www.austinwomeninblack.org](http://www.austinwomeninblack.org).

**DEMOCRACY FOR TEXAS MEETUP** 7pm. Mother Egan's Irish Pub, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747. Free.

**EASTSIDE ARTISANS MARKET** 7pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. Free.

**FREE LEGAL ADVICE** These night clinics from Volunteer Legal Services & Texas RioGrande Legal Aid are open to everyone, offer child care, and are right on the bus line. 6-7pm. Webb Middle School, 601 E. St. Johns. Free.

**HOW TO WRITE GRANTS AND PROPOSALS** 9am-4pm. AGE Building, 3710 Cedar, 451-5315. \$140.

**INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD HAPPY HOUR** 5:30-7pm. Casino el Camino, 517 E. Sixth, 469-9330. [www.iwww.org](http://www.iwww.org).

**KEVIN ALTER AND THE AIA ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITION** 6:30pm. Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart, 735-8058. \$10 general, \$8 JCAA members. [crystal.connally@jcaonline.org](mailto:crystal.connally@jcaonline.org), [www.jcaonline.org/culturalarts](http://www.jcaonline.org/culturalarts).

**LINKING LANGUAGES SPANISH CLUB** Open to everyone. 7pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 263-1465. Free.

## Sports BY MARK FAGAN

### THE MAIN EVENT

**AUSTIN ICE BATS** The first 3,000 attendants score a free puck! And, following the game, fans will be treated to the UT hockey alumni game. Vs. Corpus Christi: Sat., Dec. 2, 7:30pm. Travis County Expo Center, 7311 Decker Ln., 977-PUCK. [www.icebats.com](http://www.icebats.com).

### THE HOME TEAMS

**ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball** Vs. Hawaii-Hilo: Sat., Dec. 3, 3pm. Vs. Central Missouri State: Mon., Dec. 5, 7:30pm. Vs. East Central: Thu., Dec. 8, 8pm. **Women's Basketball** Vs. East Central: Thu., Dec. 8, 6pm. [www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm](http://www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm).

**UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Volleyball** NCAA playoffs (see box for more): UT vs. Louisiana State: Fri., Dec. 2, 7pm. Hawaii vs. Texas State: Fri., Dec. 2, 5pm. Winners from Friday play Sat., Dec. 3, 6:30pm. **Gregory Gym. Men's Basketball** Vs. Texas-Arlington: Sat., Dec. 3, 5pm. Frank Erwin Ctr. **Women's Basketball** Vs. Duke: Sun., Dec. 4, 12:30pm. Vs. Stephen F. Austin: Thu., Dec. 8, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center. **Women's Swimming** Texas Invitational: Thu.-Sat., Dec. 1-3, all day. Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swimming Center. **Men's Swimming** Texas Invitational: Thu.-Sat., Dec. 1-3, all day. Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swimming Center. [www.texassports.com](http://www.texassports.com).

**CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball** Vs. Mississippi College: Thu., Dec. 1, 7:30pm. Vs. Louisiana College: Sat., Dec. 3, 3pm. **Women's Basketball** Vs. Mississippi College: Thu., Dec. 1, 5:30pm. Vs. Louisiana College: Sat., Dec. 3, 1pm. [athletics.concordia.edu/athletics.htm](http://athletics.concordia.edu/athletics.htm).

**THE AUSTIN VALKYRIES WOMEN'S RUGBY CLUB** It's never too late to join. Practices are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-9pm and all interested women are invited. Burnet Middle School, 3000 S. I-35, 841-8289. [www.austinvalkyries.com](http://www.austinvalkyries.com).

**TEXAS ROLLERGIRLS** The Tucson Roller Derby Saddletamps are back for a grudge match after losing to the Texas Rollergirls last year. The Sons of Hercules perform during halftime. Sat., Dec. 3, 6:30 (doors). Playland Skate Center, 8822 McCann, 452-1901. Advance tickets \$10, \$12 at the door. [www.txrollergirls.com](http://www.txrollergirls.com).

**AUSTIN TOROS** The 1-1 Toros have added former first-round draft pick Marcus Fizer to their roster. Vs. Albuquerque: Sun., Dec. 4, 3pm. Austin Convention Center, 236-8333. \$8-27. [www.nba.com/dleague/austin](http://www.nba.com/dleague/austin).

**LONESTAR ROLLERGIRLS** The Rhinestone Cowgirls (regular-season champs) face off against the all-star All-Scar Army. Live music from Jesse Dayton and Two Hoots & a Holler. Sun., Dec. 4, 6pm (doors). Thunderdome, 1901 E. 51st St., Austin Studios, Hangar 5, 428-GIRL. \$10. [www.txd.com](http://www.txd.com).

## RECREATION & FITNESS

**HOOPZONE** is a nonprofit organization committed to providing the best basketball training experience for Austin's youth. Go by and check out their facility, which consists of 23,000 square feet of gym space, 11 basketball hoops, a strength and conditioning center, two regulation-sized courts, and much more. Improve your fundamental skills and have fun learning the game. HoopZone, 826 Rutland, 837-5553. [www.hoopzone.net](http://www.hoopzone.net).

**HILL COUNTRY SPEED** is a local outdoor recreational, fitness, and speed-skating group located in the Austin area. All skill levels are represented and welcome at most events. Wed., Dec. 7. Location tba, 292-9942. [www.austinonline.com](http://www.austinonline.com).

**SOFT-TIPPED DART LEAGUE** Sign up for new league and/or dart tournaments. Subs needed, no cover. Thursdays, 8pm. Sam's Town Point, 2115 Allred Dr., 282-0083.

**TAI CHI CHUAN** Saturdays, 10:30am-noon. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$8 (\$36, six-week course).

**AUSTIN ROCK GYM** has a free ladies' night climbing clinic. Mon., Dec. 5, 7:30pm. Both locations. Austin Rock Gym, 4401 Freidrich, 416-9299. Free. [www.austinrockgym.com](http://www.austinrockgym.com).

**WILD GOOSE QI GONG** Wild Goose Qigong combines physical and mental techniques to increase and circulate one's "Qi" (internal energy) by interpreting the movements of geese. Saturdays, noon-12:30pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$5.

**WEEKLY CHESS TOURNAMENT** All are welcome at this weekly tournament. Cash prizes, yo. Mondays, 7pm, Dobie Mall, second floor food court. \$1 entry fee.

**KIDFISH** This free event pairs people with disabilities with pro bass fishermen for an afternoon of mentorship and fun. Sun., Dec. 5, 10am. Lake Austin, 476-7044.

**AUSTIN SIERRA CLUB** All general meetings are open to members and nonmembers alike. Tue., Dec. 6, 7pm. LCRA Hancock Building (in the board room), 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. [www.texas.sierraclub.org/austin](http://www.texas.sierraclub.org/austin).

## RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

**THE AUSTIN CYCLING ASSOCIATION** has plenty of bicycling activities to offer this bike-loving city. Check their Web site for details. [www.austincycling.org/rides.html](http://www.austincycling.org/rides.html).

**DECKER CHALLENGE 20K** The possibly chilly and definitely hilly race will benefit the Town Lake Trail Foundation. It's associated with the Travis Co. Wellness Center Brown Santa 5K and Kid's K to be held on the same day and place. Sun., Dec. 4, 8am. Travis Co. Exposition Center, 423-2291. [www.active.com/framed/event\\_detail.cfm?event\\_id=1242680](http://www.active.com/framed/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1242680).

**WILD BASIN WILDERNESS** has a plethora of available walks, hikes, and more. [www.wildbasin.org](http://www.wildbasin.org).

## UT Volleyball

UT's football team isn't the only Longhorn squad with national championship dreams. Last Saturday, the top-ranked Nebraska Cornhuskers volleyball team came to Gregory Gym looking to cap off an undefeated season but instead were sent home with a blemish on their record thanks to the Lady Longhorns. Down by two games, the Horns fought back hard to win the last three and consequently jumped from No. 11 to No. 7 in the national polls. They will take that momentum into the first round of the NCAA playoffs on Friday here at Gregory, as they host Louisiana State at 7pm. Also playing that night at Gregory (5pm) will be Hawaii (tied with the Horns at No. 7) and Texas State. The respective winners of those two matches will then square off Saturday night at 6:30pm for the right to advance to regionals at University Park, Pa., and then to the national Final Four at the Alamodome in San Antonio on Dec. 15 & 17. - Lee Nichols

Road Trip: It's a stellar field for the **NCAA Women's College Cup**, this weekend in College Station: three No. 1 seeds who are a combined 66-1-4 for the season. But the big story is the No. 1 seed who won't be there: North Carolina, which was upset by Florida State in a penalty-kick shootout last weekend. The first semifinal pits two unbeaten in **Penn State vs. Portland** (who won it all when the finals were in Austin two years ago); the second has giant killers **Florida State vs. UCLA**, who are averaging more than five goals a game in the playoffs and have yet to be scored on. Friday, Dec. 2, 3:30pm (Penn State-Portland, ESPN2) and 6:30pm (UCLA-Florida State, ESPN2); Sunday, Dec. 4, noon (ESPN2). Aggie Soccer Stadium, Texas A&M campus. An all-session pass is \$40 (\$35 youth); more info at [www.aggieathletics.com](http://www.aggieathletics.com).

**European Champions League:** Some big names - AC Milan, Manchester United, Glasgow Rangers - are among those needing good results on the last day of group play, next Tuesday-Wednesday, Dec. 6-7. ESPN2 will show games each day, both at 1:30pm: Tuesday: Liverpool at Chelsea; Wednesday: Manchester United at Benfica. - Nick Barbaro

## Soccer WATCH

## Ongoing Events

**COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS** needs volunteers during school hours to be tutors and mentors. Volunteers can choose the age group and school location they prefer. 462-1771. [www.cisaustin.org](http://www.cisaustin.org).

**SANTA'S RANCH** Drive through 10 acres of glowing elves, rocking reindeer, and the like. Get your yule tied on early. Through Jan. 1. Sun.-Thu., 6-10pm; Fri.-Sat., 6-11pm. South I-35, exit 199. 830/743-1293. \$12, vehicle (\$10 with nonperishable food item). [www.santasranch.net](http://www.santasranch.net).

**HOUSE THE HOMELESS THERMAL UNDERWEAR DRIVE** You've got until Christmas to donate \$10 and help keep somebody a little bit warmer this winter. Mail your tax-deductible donation to *House the Homeless*, PO Box 2312, Austin, 78768, 796-4366.

**THE 23RD STREET ARTISTS' MARKET** features original handcrafted work from local artisans. Daily, 10am-dusk; Third Thursday, 10am-10pm. 23rd & Guadalupe. [www.austinartistsmarket.com](http://www.austinartistsmarket.com).

**FREE CONFIDENTIAL AND ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING** Mondays & Tuesdays, 8am-7pm; Wednesdays & Fridays, 8am-noon. The CARE Program, 1631-E E. Second, 804-3650. Free.

**WILD IDEAS: HOLIDAY SHOPPING** features artists, artisans, and special guest appearances. Dec. 2-4. Fri.-Sat., 9am-5:30pm; Sun., noon-5pm. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Ctr, 4801 La Crosse, 292-4100.

**DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR DISASTER AID EXTENDED** For survivors of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the deadline to apply for aid from FEMA is now Wed., Jan. 11, 2006. 800/621-FEMA. [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

**PROJECT HOLIDAY HELP CAMPAIGN** The family shelter Lifeworks has received a record number of requests for help from kids and families in need this holiday season. Here's how you can help: Adopt a youth or a family, which asks that you spend some of that holiday bonus on kids and their families; sponsor or volunteer at the Lifeworks holiday party; or participate in the Gift Card Drive and Backpack Drive. 'Tis the season, guys. Lifeworks, 1800 Lavaca, #110,

735-2222. [holidayhelp@lifeworksweb.org](mailto:holidayhelp@lifeworksweb.org), [www.lifeworksweb.org/projectholidayhelp.asp#sponsorapp](http://www.lifeworksweb.org/projectholidayhelp.asp#sponsorapp).

**FAMILY FRESH START** Work with a Foundation Communities social worker to provide friendship, transportation, and help to a family trying to access resources, get child care, and find work. Volunteers also needed to participate in Housing Fresh Start and Financial Fresh Start. E-mail for info: [april.watkins@foundcom.org](mailto:april.watkins@foundcom.org).

**NW SERIES PEACE PROGRAM** needs caring people to host English-speaking high school exchange students from Germany, Brazil, Korea, Nepal, Italy, Albania, Hungary, and Thailand for the upcoming school year. 442-0379.

**AUSTIN GI RIGHTS HOTLINE** is in urgent need of office space (we're talking just a desk and a filing cabinet, here) from which to operate the hotline, beginning in February. Folks willing to donate space to help the anti-war movement should contact Liz, 663-9352.

**KAZI 88.7FM** didn't receive much support during their on-air fundraiser, but it's not never too late to donate! In addition to being home to a steady rotation of hip-hop, jazz, gospel, reggae, and R&B, KAZI is the only local radio station that carries the progressive news show *Democracy Now!*. KAZI 88.7FM, 8906 Wall #203, 836-2887 or 836-9544. [www.kazifm.org](http://www.kazifm.org).

**HELP SPONSOR A FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS** Bring a nonperishable food item and select a piece of art, yours for only 75 cents. *Mitchie's Fine Black Art & Gift Gallery*, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901.

**CONTINUING RELIEF EFFORTS FOR GULF COAST EVACUEES** For updated survivor information, resources, and community-action calls, see our Web site. [www.austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/hurricane2.php](http://www.austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/hurricane2.php).

**KEEP AUSTIN BEAUTIFUL** is accepting applications for the KAB Awards, which recognize those who are making a difference in their community's environment. Check the Web site or call before the deadline of Fri., Dec. 9. 391-062. [www.keeapaustinbeautiful.org](http://www.keeapaustinbeautiful.org).

**GEM CAPERS 2005** is a gem and mineral show featuring jewelry, beads, fossils, and more. Dec. 2-4. Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 10am-5pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 404-4020. \$5 (\$4, seniors; \$2-50 cents, kids).

**METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB: TEXAS, THEN & NOW: A 30,000-MILE ODYSSEY** 7-8:30am. UT Club, Darrell Royal Memorial Stadium, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman, 479-9460. \$15 members & first-time guests. [mbcaustin@mbcaustin.org](http://mbcaustin@mbcaustin.org), [www.mbcaustin.org](http://www.mbcaustin.org).

**NAVIGATING WORLD WAR II TEXAS: THEN AND NOW** is a new photographic exhibit from the Texas Historical Commission. Check it out during the opening reception. 3pm. *Gethsemane Lutheran Church*, 200 W. Anderson. Free.

**NO KIDDING! GAME NIGHT** 7-9pm. Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar, 294-7930. Free. [www.austinnokidding.com](http://www.austinnokidding.com).

**THREADGILL'S CHRISTMAS BUREAU BENEFIT** (See Club Listings) 6-10pm. *Threadgill's*, 6416 N. Lamar, 451-5440; 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304. \$10.

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)  
**The Visitor** @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid  
**Xanadu** @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm

## Thursday 08

**CENTRAL EAST AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING PUBLIC MEETING** University Hills and Windsor Park residents, business owners, and property owners have a chance to meet with city of Austin planners to start figuring out such developments as bus routes, park, and business planning, as well as school, affordable housing, and crime and safety issues. 6:30pm. *Winn Elementary School*, 3500 Susquehanna, 974-3564. Free. [lee.heckman@ci.austin.tx.us](mailto:lee.heckman@ci.austin.tx.us).

**CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF AUSTIN HOLIDAY MARKET** features music, food, beverages, and holiday shopping. 5-9pm. *Children's Hospital of Austin*, 601 E. 15th, 324-8678. \$20. [chovolunteers@seton.org](mailto:chovolunteers@seton.org).

**FAMILY FUN HOLIDAY DESSERTS** 7-9pm. *Casa de Luz*, 1701 Toomey, 476-2276. \$45, \$22.50 for accompanying friend. [www.naturalpicture.com](http://www.naturalpicture.com).

**ODD TRIBES: TOWARD A CULTURAL ANALYSIS OF WHITE PEOPLE** UT associate professor of anthropology John Hartigan Jr. takes a good look at white trash. 8pm. *MonkeyWrench Books*, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free.

**SASSY CONFERENCE HAPPY HOUR** 5-7pm. *Sicola's and Eden Day Spa*. [www.sicolas.com](http://www.sicolas.com), [www.edenadayspa.com](http://www.edenadayspa.com), [www.sassyconference.com](http://www.sassyconference.com).

**SECULAR ORGANIZATIONS FOR SOBRIETY/SAVE OURSELVES MEETING** 7:30pm. *Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church*, 3315 El Salido Pkwy., Cedar Park, 219-9008. [sos\\_austin@yahoo.com](mailto:sos_austin@yahoo.com).

**BIKES ACROSS BORDERS COMMUNITY BIKE SHOP** 6-10pm. *Rhizome Collective*, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free. [bikesacrossborders@riseup.net](http://bikesacrossborders@riseup.net).

**BOARD GAME NIGHT AT VENTANA DEL SOUL** 6pm. *Ventana del Soul*, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. Free. (See Thursday 12/1)

**COMMUNITY DINNER** Volunteer prep, 4-6pm; community dinner, 6-7pm. *Rhizome Collective*, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free. (See Thursday 12/1)

**HOW TO WRITE GRANTS AND PROPOSALS** 9am-4pm. *AGE Building*, 3710 Cedar, 451-5315. \$140. (See Wednesday)

**INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT VOLUNTEER NIGHT** 6-10pm. *Rhizome Collective*, 300 Allen, 385-3695. (See Thursday 12/1)

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)  
**Saved by the Bell After-School Experience** @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm



"Best outdoor events."  
- The Austin Chronicle Readers Poll



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2:30-3:30 ..... Mundi

4:00-5:30 ..... HerbPharm & Maria Vitaboy

Sunday Dec 4th

10:30-11:00 ..... Purly Gates

11:30-12:30 ..... Christy & Dan Foster

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## The Santaland Diaries

Zachary Scott Theatre's Santa's Workshop, through Jan. 8

Running Time: 1 hr, 30 min

What can one do to lively up an event that appears year after year? Even when it's a perennial audience-pleaser, a show needs an infusion of new blood, or Happy Christmas Juice, to keep it fresh enough to keep bringin' 'em back after another twelvemonth's passed. Sometimes a principal actor may be called to Hollywood, thus necessitating a change of performers and, pow, there's your infusion right there.

The Zachary Scott Theatre Center's version of David Sedaris' *The Santaland Diaries* – which is to say, Zach Artistic Director Dave Steakley's version of it – returns to the stage this season with Lee Eddy as the Macy's Little Elf, and your reviewer couldn't be more pleased. But your reviewer is predisposed, having witnessed many of Eddy's previous outings,

to admire the lanky woman's excursions on the boards. Let's get it out of the way, then: Her performance is top-notch and invigorating and filled with all the rubber-faced mugging and freaky movement and ad-lib genius one expects of a Lee Eddy performance. She imbues Crumpet, the gamely struggling Macy's elf, with a personality so believably bittersweet and endearing that you'd think she'd written the show herself.

Actually, Eddy did write part of the show herself; at least a small part. Before the main Sedaris section begins, director Steakley has preluded that narrative with a medley of naughty-but-nice seasonal songs (wonderfully performed by Meredith McCall, with Jason Connor tickling the 88s), into the middle of which is placed Lee

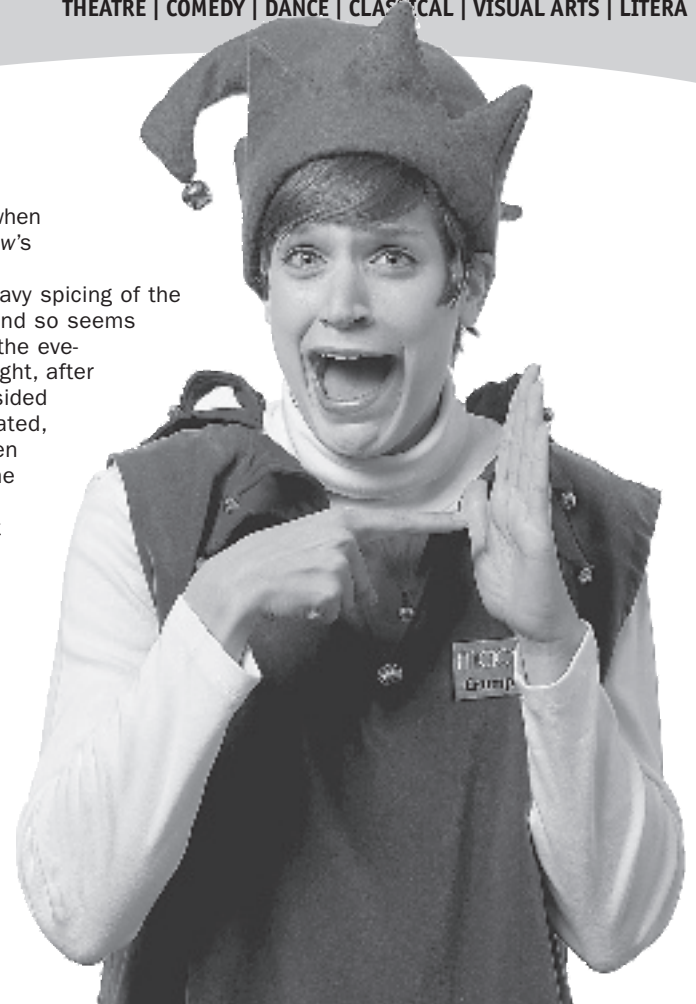
Eddy's original monologue about the Halloween when she, as a little girl, dressed up as *The Cosby Show*'s Vanessa Huxtable.

This addition is in keeping with Steakley's heavy spicing of the Sedaris tale with his usual pop-culture tropes and so seems just another welcome piece of candied pear in the evening's performative fruitcake. Until second thought, after one's chuckles at the onstage antics have subsided and there's homeward-bound traffic to be navigated, and a thought of "What the hell was a Halloween piece doing in a Christmas show?" occurs to the wandering mind.

Well, how could anyone resist giving a spotlight to Lee Eddy's own material? Especially since that material, at its best, at least matches the most celebrated of Sedaris' own works? One – Steakley – should have resisted, we think, if only to preserve the Christmas-specific integrity of the show. Unless one – Steakley – has some Grand Plan in mind, the clever schemer.

Could it be that Steakley, now that he's lassoed Eddy into the Zach stable of talents, is considering a new production of the performer's original, one-woman *Ladee Leroy Show*? Wouldn't that be wonderful! For those who haven't already experienced the extreme delight of Lee Eddy performing her own work. And especially for those impressed, as was your reviewer, by what an infusion of Eddy can do for a holiday classic.

– Wayne Alan Brenner



## Theatre

### OPENING

**SEA HORSE/THE DUCK VARIATIONS** is a double-header from Bravura Theatre Company: a play by Edward J. Moore and a play by David Mamet. *Through Dec. 18. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3:30pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. www.hydeparktheatre.com.*

**VIOLET CROWN RADIO THEATRE: KING KONG** The stalwarts of this retro-style, Golden Age of Radio group unleash the Eighth Wonder of the World in all his live audio glory, with Foley effects, full costumes, and an intriguing backstory. Directed by Mark Finn. *Dec. 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 8pm. Extra show: Sun., Dec. 4, 3pm. The Hideout Theater, 617 Congress, 443-3688. \$15 (\$12.50, online; pay what you wish, Dec. 1). www.violetcrownradio.com.*

**ROCKIN' CHRISTMAS PARTY** ZACH's annual, wintertime, Motown-inflected musical spectacular comes a-jingling and a-tinseling and a-sha-la-la-ing back to the stage, with the Beehive Girls and friends decked out in holiday finest and belting tunes fit to melt even the Cold Miser's permafrost heart. What's the director's first name? Dave. And you know the rest. *Through Jan. 1. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 & 8pm; Sun., 2:30 & 7pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. www.zachscott.com.*

**BLACK NATIVITY** Pro Arts Collective presents Langston Hughes' classic gospel play, featuring rafter-shaking musical numbers (with Jacqui Cross, Atwell Tinnon, and more) choreographed and directed by Jason Ansara Brooks. For the sharp current resonance, this version's set on the rooftops of New Orleans during "a natural disaster of Biblical proportions." *Through Dec. 18. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 3pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 474-TIXS. www.austinplayhouse.com.*

**PALE IDIOT** The Rude Mechanicals bill this as "a psychological drama Foucault might have written if he had seen more Jerry Lewis films," which might be cause for a teensy bit of trepidation, except that it's by Kirk Lynn (and was in fact the first work of Lynn's that Rude Mechs did in this town) and is revived here, as a Second Stage production, in all its critically and popularly lauded brilliance, under the direction of the talented Michael Mergen. *Through Dec. 17. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. \$12 (\$10, students,*

*seniors, ACoT; pay what you can, Thursdays). www.rudemechs.com.*

**XMAS UNWRAPPED: A HOLIDAY BURLESQUE** Looking for a way to warm your cockles this season? We daresay the Jingle Belles – Monika Bustamante, Olivia Jane Ellis, Hildreth England, Shannon Grounds, Kelsey Kling, T. Lynn Mikeska, and Sharon Sparlin – will provide all the stripalicious, holiday-song-filled heat required. And with Mical Trejo as your MC? You can put down that *Sugarplum Fairy* swimsuit issue, boyo, and check out some real yuletide action. *Dec. 2-17. Thu.-Sat., 10pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY, 695-7405. \$15 (\$10, Thursdays). www.hydeparktheatre.com.*

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL ROASTING ON AN OPEN FIRE** is the possibly multiple-personality-disordered Rob Nash performing Dickens' classic through scarily spot-on impersonations of Mae West, Judy Garland, Humphrey Bogart, Katherine Hepburn, Cary Grant, and the like. How one man can be so talented, one show so delightfully twisted, only Santa knows for sure – and Nash probably has him locked in a dungeon somewhere. *Dec. 2-Jan. 7. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. (No shows on Dec. 24-25.) The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$10-30. www.vortexrep.org.*

**UBU TRILOGY** Zach Scott's Performing Arts students, under the direction of the irrepressible Jon Watson, present copious excerpts from Alfred Jarry's absurdist classic, with all sorts of added Dada thrills. *Dec. 2-11. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale, 476-0594. \$12 (\$7, students; \$2 discount if you bring your own original, Dada-inspired piece of art).*

**THE TOYS TAKE OVER CHRISTMAS** is performed by the award-winning Second Youth Family Theatre for the holiday enjoyment of kids ages 4 and older. *Dec. 3-18. Sat., 10am; Sun., 2:30pm. Austin Scottish Rite Theatre, 207 W. 18th, 472-7247. \$8 (\$7, seniors; \$5, children younger than 12).*

**TWO DONUTS** UT's Department of Theatre & Dance, under the direction of Coleman Jennings, presents this fantastical, Spanish-spiced tale by Jose Cruz Gonzales. Magical realism and puppetry make this especially suited for younger kids. *Sat., Dec. 3, 8pm. Brockett Theatre, UT campus. 477-6060. \$8 (\$7.50, faculty and staff; \$5, students).*

**BEAUTY SHOP: UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT** is a touring comedy from Shelly Garrett, set in, yes, a beauty shop. The "new management" is a midget, see, and we imagine hilarity ensues. *Sun., Dec. 4, 7pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress,*

*472-5470. \$35 (\$30, in advance from Mitchie's Fine Black Art Gallery). www.austintheatrealliance.org.*

**★ THE DIONYSIUM** presents a holiday extravaganza of intellectual delights, featuring *Roe v. Wade* attorney Sarah Weddington lecturing on the Supreme Court appointment process, a serious debate ("Resolved: That the United States Should Discourage Energy Consumption With a Heavy Tax on Gasoline"), a comedic debate presented by Jodi Egerton, readings from Will Rogers, and more of the usual heady hoo-hah – with Graham Reynolds on keyboards. *Tue., Dec. 6, 7:30pm. Alamo South Lamar, 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320. \$5. www.dionysium.com.*

**WHEN PIGS FLY** Naughty Austin shreds the boundaries of extravagance and camp with this musical comedy revue directed by Blake Yelavich from a script by Dick Gallagher, Howard Crabtree and Mark Waldrop. Mermaids, show girls, gargoyles, and more. *Totally over the top – any top. Dec. 8-Jan. 14. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Arts on Real, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. www.artsonreal.com.*

### CLOSING

**PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD** Now here's a classic, hey? John Millington Synge's old-school screwball comedy about sex and (rumors of) violence is brought jauntily to life under the direction of Karen Jambon for Different Stages. *Through Dec. 3. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 474-8497. \$14-16 (\$5-20, Thursdays). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

**ON THE RAZZLE** is a Tom Stoppard adaptation of an old Austrian farce, directed by the redoubtable Christina Moore for Southwestern's theatre department. The original farce is the same source that eventually led to *Hello, Dolly!*, and this one's chockful of Stoppardian wordplay and period-piece shenanigans. *Dec. 2-4. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Jones Theatre, Southwestern University, Georgetown. 512/863-1378. \$12 (\$10, students, seniors).*

### ONGOING

**THE PLIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS** is the Not Quite Rite players' pun-filled, corny revival of old-time melodrama wherein you, the audience, cheers the heroes and boos the villains. Writers: Fred J. Cusick and Diane Moore. Director: Ron Dodson. Suggestion: check your irony at the door, yo. Live piano accompaniment by the lovely Laura Phelan. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 2-10, 8pm. Scottish Rite Theatre, 207 W. 18th, 469-SHOW. www.scottishritetheatre.org.*

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL** David Stahl stars as Scrooge in the Neil Bartlett adaptation of Dickens' classic yuletide heartwarmer. Nine actors playing more than 50 roles aid and abet Stahl, with fantastic costume and design, all under the direction of Michele Polgar, with musical direction by Michael McKelvey. *Through Dec. 18. Wed.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 & 8pm; Sun., 2pm. The State Theater, 719 Congress, 472-7134. \$31-33. www.austintheatre.org.*

**LA PASTORELA** Teatro Vivo's Rupert Reyes directs this traditional story of shepherds overcoming manifestations of evil that attempt to thwart their Christward journey. It's a night of theatre, music, and dance, as presented by the Austin Latino Theater Alliance. *Through Dec. 11. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Tillery Street Theater, 701 Tillery, 474-8497. \$12 (\$8, seniors, students; pay what you wish, Thursdays). www.lapastorela.com.*

**SHEAR MADNESS** The longest-running comedy in Zachary Scott Theatre's history is back, under the direction of Alice Wilson and Dave Steakley. Paul Portner's script provides murder among the curlers in this funny whodunit where you play armchair detective, uncover the secrets, and help an outrageous cast of characters solve the crime amidst a trendy Austin hair salon. Now with Robert Newell! *Held over through Dec. 27. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$28-38. www.zachscott.com.*

**★ THE SANTALAND DIARIES** David Sedaris' acerbic holiday treat returns to Zach Scott with a brand new elf, and OMG! It's Lee Eddy! Fresh from her stint in *Keepin' It Weird*, the woman noted as Best Actress in the *Chronicle*'s recent "Best of Austin" issue dons the elfin haberdashery for a show, also featuring the talents of Meredith McCall and pianist Jason Connor, that will turn any coal in your stocking into diamonds. Directed by who? Yes: Dave Steakley. *Through Jan. 8. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 & 8pm; Sun., 2 & 6pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$28-38. www.zachscott.com.*

### DINNER THEATRE

**MURDER ON THE MOVIE SET** Investigate the interactive comedy murders perpetrated by Gary Payne's Capitol City Mystery Players – and dine on Italianate food while doing so. This time around, audience members are cast as extras in a Hollywood project that takes a turn for the humorously homicidal. *Sun., Dec. 4, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$29.95. www.meatballs.com.*

**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 Dec. 16 issue is Monday, Dec. 5.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the Chronicle, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail: Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy. [brenner@austinchronicle.com](mailto:brenner@austinchronicle.com).

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical. [dance-classical@austinchronicle.com](mailto:dance-classical@austinchronicle.com).

Ric Williams, litera. [litera@austinchronicle.com](mailto:litera@austinchronicle.com).  
Benné Rockett, visual arts. [art@austinchronicle.com](mailto:art@austinchronicle.com).

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor. [brenner@austinchronicle.com](mailto:brenner@austinchronicle.com).

**AUDITIONS**

**ALICIA** Zachary Scott Theatre Center announces auditions for actors and acting interns for Project InterAct's bilingual (English/Spanish) production based on the Lewis Carroll works. Project InterAct is a group of adult actors who tour area schools, so weekday morning availability is necessary.

Actors of all ethnicities are encouraged to audition, strong casting consideration given to actors fluent in both English and Spanish with some physical training in their background. Prepare a one-minute comic monologue, dress comfortably. E-mail resumes in advance for appt. Sat., Dec. 3, noon-3pm; Tue., Dec. 6, 6-9pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0594 x233. [zach@zachscott.com](mailto:zach@zachscott.com)

**FRONTERAFEST: LATINO ACTORS NEEDED** To perform in *Among the Sand and Smog*, a new play about the disappearances and murders of young women in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. Needed: females (ages 18-45); males (ages 25-30). E-mail résumés and inquiries to the address provided below, or call 569-6101. [johnsmithat@hotmail.com](mailto:johnsmithat@hotmail.com).

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN SOUGHT** for two roles (ages 50-60) in a five-minute, intensely dramatic scene, to be part of Fronterafest 2006. Modest compensation available. Call for appt. 345-4437. [arbaustx@aol.com](mailto:arbaustx@aol.com).

**FRONTERAFEST: GENERAL** Short comic piece needs actors (two male, one female), plus tech/stage manager/director. Pay is minimal. Call Hal at 278-1365.

**RED CANS** is the newest from Rubber Repertory, and they're looking for "physically flexible and/or petite performers" to help create this daring new show (with rehearsals in January). Dancers and athletes encouraged to audition. Call for appt. 470-1735. [www.rubberrep.org](http://www.rubberrep.org).

**16MM FILM: FATHER'S DAY** Wanna be in a low-budget movie? These folks are looking for a teenage Latino sk8r boy and a middle-aged Latino rancher-type man. E-mail your headshot and résumé before Dec. 4. [info@estebandido.com](mailto:info@estebandido.com).

**TEXAS YOGA ASANA CHAMPIONSHIP**

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**Ballet East Dance Company and Rodolfo Mendez, Artistic Director Presents:**

In its upcoming fall production, *Divine Release*, Ballet East Dance Company explores deep feelings stirred by recent events, and the spirit touched deep within us in the darkest times that can radiate strength and compassion.

Guest choreographers Regina Larkin and Sharon Marroquin along with Melissa Villarreal and Amberlee Cantrell of Ballet East will premier original works.

8 PM, Thursday-Saturday, December 1-3  
2 PM, Sunday, December 4

\$10.00-adults  
\$6.00-senior citizens, children  
children admitted free on Sunday

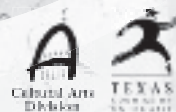
Dougherty Arts Center  
1110 Barton Springs Road

Divine Release

general info  
512.385.2838  
[www.balleteast.org](http://www.balleteast.org)  
[mendestein@juno.com](mailto:mendestein@juno.com)

ticket info  
512.474.TIXS

Sponsored by  
Ballet East Dance Company Board of Director  
City of Austin Arts Commission, Texas Commission on the Arts



**To Purchase Tickets**

- [www.AustinTheatre.org](http://www.AustinTheatre.org)  
- (866) 4GET-TIX



**KATHY GRIFFIN**

Thursday, January 26, 2006 - 8 pm

Julia, Brad, Jen, Nicole, Tom and Angelina may be A-list celebrities, but Griffin is proud of her self-proclaimed status on the D-List. If you love celebrity gossip (and who doesn't?), you won't forgive yourself for missing an intimate evening with comedienne Kathy Griffin. The fiery redhead's wild monologues on life, sex, celebrity and nearly anything in between may make you blush (if you still can) while making you chuckle.

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**ISAAC WITTY** D 6 - C 10  
**J. R. BROWN** Dec. 13-18  
**THE ROOSTER** DARREN CARTER NOV 29 - DEC 3  
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# Comedy

## IN THE CLUBS

**CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB** 8120 Research Blvd. #100, 467-2333. [www.capcitycomedy.com](http://www.capcitycomedy.com).

**Open Mic Comedy** Sit back and relax with a cold one while you watch seasoned pros and up-and-comers knocking themselves out humorously for your benefit (and to benefit the Austin Children's Shelter). *Sundays, 8pm. \$2 (free, college students).*

**Darren "The Rooster" Carter** is cock of the walk, alright, and he's gonna talk some talk to keep you crowing 'til the sun goes down. Rockin' Rodney Yarborough opens. *Dec. 1-3. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$4.50-12.*

**Isaac Witty** Whattaya mean, "That's not his real name," huh? A comedian can't be named "Witty"? He's supposed to be, what, Isaac Schadenfreude instead? Isaac Dogshit-Bandersnatch Weatherby IV, maybe? But, no, this one's Witty, damn it, and Jimmie Roulette opens for him. *Dec. 6-10. Tue.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$4.50-12.*

**ESTHER'S POOL** 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. [www.estersfollies.com](http://www.estersfollies.com).

**Esther's Follies** wreaks some havoc on seasonal tribulations with a preview of the upcoming governor's race, Tom Delay's brush with the law, and George Bush's crony Karl Rove dodging special prosecutor's bullets. Much comedy-riddled song and dance, with magician Ray Anderson and featured guest Stuart "Isn't that Carol Channing?" Moulton. *Reservations highly recommended. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military.) Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.*

**THE HIDEOUT THEATER** 617 Congress, 443-3688.

**Steel Cage Improv** Bars do not a prison make, they say, and so this steel cage is in the mind. But the mind, like love, is one fuck of a battlefield. And so's the Hideout's stage as two improv troupes duke it out to determine, evolutionarily, which gets to continue to next week's show. Oh baby, the gloves are off for this one. *Fridays, 10:30pm. \$6.*

**Maestro** Your talented Heroes of Comedy and their guests battle it out improv-style from audience suggestions, creating a sort of spontaneity death-match on the Hideout's upstairs stage. *Recommended. Saturdays, 10:30pm. \$7.*

**Crop-Cream Twosome** Two of Austin's finest (and scarily smart) improv groups – **The Knuckleball Now** and **Get Up!** – take the place of ye olde *Start Trekkin'* for an extended run that's sure to land them in intellectual prison if not directly on Comedy Central. Holy shit, these guys are good! *Saturdays, 9pm.*

**Improv Threerfer** brings you three Austin improv troupes in one show. Why, it's a veritable triumvirate of trapezius-spraining sprightliness! *Fridays, 9pm. \$6.*

**VELVEETA ROOM** 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116.

**Spite Club** features two comics competing against each other in three rounds: insults, trivia, and freestyle comedy. The audience decides the winner; loser pays the bar tab. John Rabon hosts. *Thursdays, 9:30pm. \$5.*

**John Rabon** is a ribald rockabilly rebel who will mock and embrace any such label given him. Really – just give it a try. And? Michael Stansbury and Art Mack open. Art Mack? Oh, we simply adore Art Mack 'round here. *Sat., Dec. 3, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

# Dance

**BALLET EAST DANCE COMPANY: DIVINE**

**RELEASE** In its latest creation, BEDC explores deep feelings stirred by recent events, as well as how even in the darkest times, our inner spirit can radiate strength and compassion. New York's Joyce Trisler Danscompany member, Regina Larkin, guest choreographs the premiere of one piece, and Sharon Marroquin, The Chronicle's Choreographer of the Year last year premieres another. Also on the bill, original works by Melissa Villarreal and Amberlee Cantrell. *Dec. 1-4. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 474-TIXS. \$10 (\$6 seniors, children; children admitted free to the Sunday matinee). [www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty).*

## 1,001 NIGHTS

**ARARAT** Almost every night of the week, beautiful belly dancing accompanies your Mideast feast. *Nightly, times vary. Ararat, 111 E. North Loop. 419-1692.*

**DESERT PASSION MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE THEATER** This month's alcohol- and smoke-free belly dance show features male dancer Drakon, joined by a bevy of belly dancers of the female variety. Middle Eastern refreshments available. *Fri., Dec. 2, 8pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 750-7037. \$8 (free, kids). [www.desertpassion.com](http://www.desertpassion.com).*

## TWO LEFT FEET

**SPANK DANCE COMPANY: DANCE CLASS**

Explore the dynamics and fundamental principles of movement and develop strength, flexibility, rhythm, and spatial awareness while having fun! No experience required. *Through Dec. 14. Wednesdays 7:30-8:45pm. The Center of Contemporary Dance and Movement Arts, 304 E. Fifth. \$5 (first class free to new students). [www.spankdance.com/ccdma.htm](http://www.spankdance.com/ccdma.htm).*

**FIRST FRIDAY CONTRA DANCING** Easy and fun, contra dancing'll put you in the swing of things. *Fri., Dec. 2, 7:30pm beginners lessons; 8-11pm main dance. Carpenter's Hall, 400 Josephine. 970-4919. \$8 (discount for AFTM members).*

**MORE ON THE FLOOR** Phone the dancelene to find what other opportunities can set your body in motion: presentations, workshops, master classes, and more. *416-5700 x3262. Or check out the Movin' Easy calendar online. [www.movineasy.com](http://www.movineasy.com).*

**DANCE INTERNATIONAL** Open to current, former, and new students (DI, UT, and other), these ballroom and Latin sessions are a great way to practice with your feet. *Parties: Sundays, 6-8pm.*

Practices: *Tuesdays 8-9pm. 8611 Green Valley Dr., 232-2623. [www.dancein.org](http://www.dancein.org).*

**AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS** Latin, swing, and other dance music in a nonsmoking, alcohol-free venue. No partner required, all ages welcome. *Saturdays, 8pm. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek. \$6 (\$4, members, students). **ABD classes** Five-week sessions, beginners to advanced dancers. *Tuesday & Thursday nights. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st. Prices vary. [www.austinballroomdancers.org](http://www.austinballroomdancers.org).**

**AUSTIN SCANDINAVIAN DANCING** Traditional Swedish and Norwegian dances. Beginners welcome, no partners needed. New classes start every month. *Thursdays, 7:30-9:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0598 or 453-9633. \$3.*

**AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE** You don't need a partner, and every dance will be taught before you stride out on your own. With live music. *Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. \$3. [www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm).*

**AUSTIN SCOTTISH HUNTER DANCERS** Come alone or with a partner; beginners always welcome (kilts optional). *Thursdays, 7-9pm. Quicksilver Dance Studio, 8711 Burnet. First session free. [www.austinscd.org](http://www.austinscd.org).*

**SQUARE DANCE LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS** *Thursdays, 7:30-9:30pm. South Austin Senior Activity Center, 3911 Manchaca, 264-2642. \$45 (\$22.50, youth).*

**AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE** A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners lesson starts the evening. *Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$4 (\$2, members). [www.austinswing syndicate.org](http://www.austinswing syndicate.org).*

Ballet East Dance Company brings a little New York to the heart of Austin with their *Divine Release* at the Dougherty Arts Center.



## NOTES & ENCORES

**FIELDWORK: CALL FOR ENTRIES** Choreographers, writers, performance artists, actors, comics, acrobats: If you can perform it, Fieldwork wants it. This six-week workshop provides emerging and established artists the opportunity to present works-in-progress to peers, to receive "rigorously honest feedback, in a strictly directed format, as the work develops." It all culminates in performances at Café Dance. *Starting February 12, 2006. Contact Peggy Lamb for details. 833-0179. \$75. [www.messagepublications.com](http://www.messagepublications.com).*

# Classical Music

**UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC** Among the highlights of UT's School of Music's great classical program this week: **Texas Piano Quartet** The Texas Piano Quartet consists of four outstanding musicians on the faculty of the School of Music, all of whom have distinguished themselves as soloists, nationally and internationally. Formerly known as the Faculty Piano Quartet, Anton Nel, piano; Brian Lewis, violin; Roger Myers, viola; and Bion Tsang, cello have adopted a new name celebrating their import role on the UT campus and in the state. In addition to this performance, the Texas Piano Quartet will make its New York City debut December 19 in Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall. *Fri., Dec. 2, 8pm. Bates Recital Hall. \$17 (\$15, faculty & staff; \$10, UT students). **Concert Band** This band is comprised of 50 to 60 outstanding woodwind, brass, and percussion performers. *Sun., Dec. 4, 7pm. Bates Recital Hall. Free. [www.music.utexas.edu](http://www.music.utexas.edu).**

## NOTES & ENCORES

**UT CHORAL ARTS SOCIETY: AUDITIONS**

Experienced choral and solo singers are invited to audition for a limited number of openings in each section. Spring concerts include Rossini's *Messe Solennelle* in February and an all-Brahms program in April. *471-0806.*

## OPENING

**ST. CECILIA BAROQUE FESTIVAL** Following last season's successful festival comes its encore with three days of early music for voices and Baroque period instruments performed by some of Austin's best early music artists. **Discover Vivaldi** Authentic 18th-century Venetian vespers music featuring newly discovered works by Vivaldi performed by the First Presbyterian Church Chorale, Baroque Festival Orchestra, and Baroque Festival Soloists under the direction of James A. Brown. *Fri., Dec. 2, 8pm. \$15 (\$12, seniors, students). **Fa La La Follia** Kindle your holiday spirit with Renaissance and Baroque Christmas music performed by Austin's fun and knowledgeable period chamber ensemble, La Follia Austin Baroque. *Sat., Dec. 3, 8pm. \$15 (\$12, seniors, students). **Baroque Vespers Service** Featuring music by Bach for orchestra and chorus, performed by the Redeemer Presbyterian Church Chorus and the Baroque Festival Orchestra directed by George Dupere. *Sun., Dec. 4, 5, & 7pm. Free. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 345-8866 x43.***

**AUSTIN HANDBELL ENSEMBLE** AHE performs traditional favorites and contemporary arrangements for this festive season. You can't help but admire/be astonished as 14 performers accomplish the musical equivalent of playing one piano with 28 separate index fingers! With bells. Two in-town performances. *Thu., Dec 1, noon. Central Presbyterian Church, 200 East Eighth. Sun., Dec., 11, 8pm. Hope Presbyterian Church, 11512 Olson. 326-2575. Free. [www.austinhandbells.org](http://www.austinhandbells.org).*

**AUSTIN SINGERS: A (MOSTLY) ENGLISH CHRISTMAS** The 60 voices of the Austin Singers (and you, ready reader) are joined by organ, string orchestra, and oboe under the baton of newly appointed artistic director Ara Carapetyan for a rich holiday program. Geoffrey Bush's *Christmas Cantata*, William Mathias's *Ave Rex*, and John Rutter's *What Sweeter Music* are featured, as well as lush arrangements of familiar carols with audience participation (see, this is where you feature!). *Sat., Dec. 3, 8pm. University Presbyterian Church, 2203 San Antonio St., 314-5532. \$15 (\$12, seniors, students).*

**SAINT NICOLAS: A CANTATA BY BENJAMIN BRITTEN** The St. David's Parish choir is joined by the Austin Children's Choir and the St. Michael's Parish Choir, as well as the Orchestra of St. David's for this fascinating work honoring the near-

## Visual Arts

### EVENTS

**WEST END GALLERY NIGHT** Stroll through seven of Austin's prestigious fine art galleries on the first Thursday of every month. Participating galleries include Stephen L. Clark, Wally Workman, F8 Fine Art, Urban Roots, Lotus Asian Art, ArtWorks, and Art on 5th. It's a relaxing way to wind up a busy day, or the perfect way to start an evening with friends. Event: *Thu., Dec. 2, 6-8pm.* 480-0242. [www.artaustin.org/westend.htm](http://www.artaustin.org/westend.htm).

**BORDERLANDS: TEXAS POETRY REVIEW** It's a reading and photographic presentation featuring poets published in the fall/winter issue. The work of photographer Jesse Herrera, whose series "Semana Santa" includes images from Spain and Mexico, will be on display. Reading: *Thu., Dec. 1, 7pm.* 827 W. 12th, 499-8828.

**CREATIVE RESEARCH LABORATORY** presents "Heydays," events by students at the Department of Art and Art History. Music and screenings of video art: *Tue., Dec. 6, 6-10pm.* Transmedia performances: *Thu., Dec. 8, 8pm.* Creative marathon for exhibition: *Sat., Dec. 10, 10am-10pm.* Exhibition: *Dec. 10-Jan. 14.* 2832 E. MLK, 322-2099.

**THE GRIFFIN SCHOOL** presents their fall art opening, showcasing the creations - visual art, of course, but also theatre, music, and film - of their multifaceted students. *Thu., Dec. 1, 6:30-8:30pm.* 710 E. 41st. [www.griffinschool.org](http://www.griffinschool.org)

**HOLIDAY STROLL ON THE AVENUE** On December 3, the tree at the Texas State Capitol will be lit. Following a singalong presented by KUT, people will stroll down Congress Avenue, where merchants and restaurants will be open late for the festivities. "Hermanados en el Arte," a joint exhibit between the Sister Cities Association of Austin and Saltillo, will be on display at La Peña Gallery, and Las Manitas will host the closing reception for "Festival de las Plantas." *Sat., Dec. 3, 6-8pm.* 227 Congress, 477-6007.

**MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM** presents Noche Navideña, a Christmas gala that benefits their educational programs, complementing the exhibition "Collecting Latin American Art." Reception: *Fri., Dec. 2, 6-8pm.* Exhibition: *Through Dec. 31.* 419 Congress, 480-9373. \$30 (\$25, in advance).

**REFLECT TIME** is a video installation by Sally Weber. This inaugural piece of First Night Austin's New Year's Eve Celebration of the Arts will be installed in the windows of this historic building and shown daily from dusk to midnight. *Through Jan. 15.* 101 W. Sixth, 477-7884.

**THE VARIETY SHOW** presents the varied concepts and mediums of local and not-so-local visual artists, as curated by Mike Parsons and friends, in near phantasmagoric proportions at that new gallery called Shiny Object. *Sat., Dec. 3, 6-9pm.* 509 W. 18th, 469-5901. [www.shiny.tv](http://www.shiny.tv)

**THORNTON ROAD STUDIO SALE** features more than 30 artists, open studios, and demonstrations. Enjoy locally crafted art and meet the artists in their studios. Event: *Sat., Dec. 3, 11am-5pm.* 2309 & 2311 Thornton, 474-9400.

**STITCH & BITCH** in conjunction with the exhibition "Stitch in Time," is a modern-day sewing circle. *Tue., Dec. 6, 7-9pm.* 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. [www.womenandtheirwork.org](http://www.womenandtheirwork.org).



This CD's from 1999, but *Conspirare's Christmas at the Carillon* with Cynthia Clawson is back to the present for your choral pleasure.

mythological deeds of St. Nicholas (of Bari Italy, not the North Pole). *Sun., Dec. 4, 4pm.* St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6317 W. Bee Caves Rd., 327-1474. Free.

**AUSTIN SAENGERRUNDE DAMENCHOR** It's a free concert of German Christmas music performed by the Kinderchor (children's choir), Damenchor (women's choir), Männerchor (men's choir) and Gemischtechor (mixed choirs). Following the concert, there will be a sing-along of Christmas carols. Refreshments will be served. *Sun., Dec. 4, 2:30pm.* Saengerrunde Hall, 249-0263, 659-7822. Free.

**AUSTIN SYMPHONY: HANDEL'S MESSIAH** It's the big one in the big venue, once again, as ASO, led by Kenneth Sheppard, is joined by the many voices of Chorus Austin for Handel's seasonal masterwork, probably the world's most well-known oratorio, hallelujah! As ever, a quartet of excellent guest vocalists joins the ranks; this year it's Mela Dailey, soprano, Elizabeth Cass, alto, Christopher LeCluyse, tenor, and Brett Barnes, bass. *Tue., Dec. 6, 8pm.* Riverbend Centre, 4214 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 476-6064, 888/4-MAESTRO. \$15-35. [www.austinsymphony.org](http://www.austinsymphony.org).

**CAROLING AT NOON** This advent season, join guest choirs for noonday caroling. Each concert ends with a candlelight sing-along of "Silent Night." This week: Women's choir, Cantamos, from First Baptist Church, directed by Louise Avant. *Thursdays, 12:05pm (lunch at 12:30pm).* *Through Dec. 22.* St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. Seventh, 472-1196. Free concert, free parking in the St. David's parking garage (\$6 lunch). [www.stdave.org](http://www.stdave.org).

**CONSPIRARE: CHRISTMAS AT THE CARILLON** Conspirare celebrates the holiday season with its unique and critically acclaimed series. Cynthia Clawson joins Craig Hella Johnson and those divine voices for this "collage" concert, in which the listener is treated to a provocative and delightful merging of musical and literary styles. *Thu., Dec. 8, 8pm.* The Carillon, 2630 Exposition. *Fri., Dec. 9, 6pm.* The Carillon. *Sat., Dec. 10, 2:30 & 8pm.* First English Lutheran Church, 3001 Whitis. *Sun., Dec. 11, 2:30 & 8pm.* The Carillon. *Wed., Dec. 14, 7:30pm.* St. Mary's Cathedral, 10th & Brazos. 476-5775. [www.conspirare.org](http://www.conspirare.org).

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KENNY SHEPPARD, DIRECTOR

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2005

Riverbend Centre, 8 pm

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Tickets: \$15, \$20, \$35

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# The Fourth Season: Works by Ray Donley and Rosanne Olson

F8 Fine Art Gallery, through Dec. 31

“And thus too, it happened, that before the last echoes of the last chime had utterly sunk into silence, there were many individuals in the crowd who had found leisure to become aware of the presence of a masked figure which had arrested the attention of no single individual before.” – “The Masque of the Red Death,” by Edgar Allan Poe

A full array of masks, mostly implied with others as illusive as time or place, populate the paintings of Ray Donley and photographs of Rosanne Olson. Both groups of works suggest that the division between the profane and sacred can appear perfectly seamless. Conveniently, the dialogue established between their works appears to focus on personal mythology and relationship to the self.

Donley is a painter who has fully embraced the figurative mode. A sense that all the portraits are both part of and separated by their participation in a secret society binds them in intrigue. Some of the figures are adorned with masks while others wear frontlets or have painted faces. Donley's painting makes excellent theatre as personas are exchanged between the figures. The paintings are communicable in large part because the viewer can grasp the characteristics depicted – avoidance, deceit, insecurity, and judgment. The figures seem to maintain that they are played by their roles. If, for instance, one of the figures unmasked the other, embraced and kissed, how would this act alter the other individual figures' intentionality?

Rosanne Olson's work evokes a place between the subconscious and the incorporeal. Her masked figures are creatures of ambiguity and disguise, dancing the dance of seduction and leisure. These images, like fairy tales, compress and heighten reality, becoming a landscape between what is remembered and what is lived. Her masked figures derive meaning, even as they imbue meaning contextually within the landscape. How each image is perceived, like a mask, will change drastically depending on the perspective of the viewer as spectator or collector.

Donley and Olson bring to their works fantasy, desire, and the poetic lure of many inner worlds. Being masked displaces meaning from who you are to how you behave, allowing the mask wearer to behave at once playful and sinister. “The Fourth Season” emerges as an exhibition full of metaphor for both disguise and liberation. – *Benné Rockett*



## OPENING

**GALLERY LOMBARDI'S XMAS EXPO** offers the unique wares of fine art from more than 50 area artists, including Alejandra Almuella, Tom Besson, Nancy Lay, Sharon Smith, and Rick Van Dyke. Reception: *Thu., Dec. 1, 7-10pm.* Exhibition: *Dec. 1-Jan. 7, 910 W. Third, 481-1088. www.gallerylombardi.com.*

**ART ON 5TH** is hosting a benefit for the SPCA of Greater Austin. Featured artworks include sophisticated wine-drinking dogs and pot-bellied pigs on skateboards. Event: *Fri., Dec. 2, 6-9pm. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. \$20. www.spcagreateraustin.org.*

**BOLM STUDIOS GALLERY** presents Austin painter Andy St. Martin's latest crop of rich images (which he refers to as “compounded symbols at the service of painterly messaging”). Reception: *Fri., Dec. 2, 7-10pm.* Exhibition: *Dec. 2-16. 5305 Bolm #10, 385-1670.*

**STUDIO 107** presents “Holiday Punch,” featuring the work of Bennie Flores Ansell, Candace Briceno, Jonas Criscoe, Leona-Scull Hons, and many more. Reception: *Sat., Dec. 3, 6-9pm.* Exhibition: *Dec. 3-31. 411 Brazos #107, 477-9092.*

**ARS IPSA: TEMPORARY DIVIDERS** features assemblage, printmaking, and installation by Logan Hill, Heather Johnson, Laura Latimer, Ted Ollier, Cliff Riley, and Emilio Villarruel. Exhibition: *Dec. 6-31. Reception: Thu., Dec. 8, 7-11pm. Second & San Antonio, 633-2282. www.arsipsa.com.*

## CLOSING

**IRON GATE STUDIOS** “All of the Above: A Survey of Reproducible Media” includes new work by Austin artists Jacqueline May, Jonas Criscoe, Mari Guzman, Jessica Blanche, Satch Grimley, and recent West Coast transplants Matt Rebholz and Stephanie Wagner. *Through Dec. 3. 2205 E. Fifth, 495-9994. www.irongatestudios.org.*

**SLUGFEST GALLERY** presents “A Studio Portrait,” prints by Jill Thrasher, an elaborate and accomplished suite of woodcuts, linocuts, lithographs, and mixed-media prints using the studio's grounds as her inspiration. *Through Dec. 3. 1906 Miriam, 477-7204.*

**PRO-JEX GALLERY** presents “Nudeworks 13,” the 13th annual exhibit of fine art nude photography, featuring Austin photographer Neil Coleman. Coinciding with the exhibition will be new jewelry designs from Personal Adornments by Beth McElhane and reception music by Love Vandals. *Through Dec. 3. 1710 S. Lamar Ste. C, 472-7707.*

**ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY** presents Paul McLean's “A Prayer for Clean Water,” an exploration (through a variety of media) predicated on water as a prerequisite for life and a vehicle for dreaming. *Through Dec. 4. 3001 S. Congress, 448-8400. www.stedwards.edu.*

**D BERMAN GALLERY** presents “The Blue Paintings” of Denny McCoy, where it's blue on blue as far as the canvassing eye can see. *Through Dec. 2. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.*

## ONGOING

**EYE CONTACT ART** showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and sometimes (in rotation) others. *12400 Amherst #102. 825-8577. www.eycontactart.com.*

**ART PALACE** presents “On Virgin Island,” a rowdy, riotous exhibition by Austin artist Ali Fitzgerald. Not to be mistaken for barren terrain and dewy sunsets, this work represents the oversized spectacle that is truly Texas. *Through Dec. 15. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. www.artpalacegallery.com.*

**ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY** is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. *78 San Marcos, 457-0171.*

**AUSTIN ART GLASS** This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. *1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinarartglass.com.*

**BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS** features unique handmade glass art and jewelry made by the staff and friends of the studio. *5241 N. Lamar, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.*

**BLUE SKIES FRAME COMPANY** “Landscapes of Death Valley” showcases the photography of Gordon MacGregor in the Let's Get Small Gallery. *4408 Medical Pkwy., 302-4779.*

**★ THE FACE OF TEXAS: PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHAEL O'BRIEN** includes 43 of O'Brien's large-scale photographs that celebrate the individuality and independent spirit of Texas through portraits of its people – a fascinating and diverse array of native and adoptive Texans, from powerful big-city movers to unique small-town characters. *Through Jan. 8. 1800 Congress, 936-8746. www.thestoryoftexas.com.*

**CORONADO STUDIOS** The Serie Project, a non-profit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix Ave., 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.*

**CULTURAS DE ARTE** is a new gallery featuring Mexican folk art (statues, paintings, home decor, masks, and more) as well as unique works by profetor Julian Orozco. *3311 N. I-35 Ste. C, 473-2302. www.artculturas.com.*

**DIBONA STUDIO** Here's a studio/gallery devoted exclusively to the work of Joyce DiBona, including her newest oil paintings and a recently completed sculptural tattoo series. *404 W. Milton, 851-2646.*

**BIRDS OF A FEATHER** is new works based on an avian theme by Barry George and Sharon Smith. This two-person show incorporates sculpture, mixed media, and folk art that combines words, birds and fowl play. *Through Nov. 29. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty.*

**F8 FINE ART GALLERY** presents “The Fourth Season,” with works by painter Ray Donley and fine art photographer Rosanne Olson. Donley unveils haunting portraits executed in his rich Baroque style. Olson proves to be part shaman, part shutterbug by merging animal intuition with human form in dark fairy-tale images. Reception: *Thu., Dec. 1, 6-8pm.* Exhibition: *Through Dec. 31. 1137 W. Sixth, 480-0242. www.f8fineart.com.*

**FIRE ISLAND HOT GLASS STUDIO** Specializes in functional and decorative works in glass for home and garden. Glassblowing demos: *Saturdays, 9am-noon. 3401 E. Fourth, 389-1100. www.fireislandglass.com.*

**FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY** presents the photographic work of Kim Francois. *309-B Bowie, 320-0072.*

**GALLERY SOCO** carries original art in various media, currently featuring works by Sylvia Angeli, Cheryl Tamborello, Jeff Scott, Lisa Fittipaldi, and others. *1714 A S. Congress, 442-5144.*

**HARRY RANSOM CENTER** “Ansel Adams: A Legacy” is an exhibition of 126 photographs that Adams assembled to demonstrate and commemorate his life's achievement in photography; it's the largest known collection created by Adams. *Through Jan. 1. 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/HRC/HRHC.*

**KATHY WOMACK GALLERY** features original works by native Texan Kathy Womack. *411 Brazos #100. www.kwomack.com.*

**LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY** presents “Slacker Economy,” a solo exhibition by Conrad Bakker, featuring hand-carved and painted reproductions of consumer products. Included in this exhibition will be 30 carved VHS videotapes of Richard Linklater's 1991 film, *Slacker*. Exhibition: *Through Jan. 7. Reception: Sat., Dec. 10, 6-8pm. 300 West Avenue #1318, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.*

**MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART** has an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork and craft items on display. *6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.*

**OSWALD GALLERY** presents Jerry Uelsmann, legendary pioneer of photomontage and multi-negavite printing, and Maggie Taylor, renowned contemporary photo collage artist. Uelsmann and Taylor, married since 1989, represent the polar opposites in photographic process; Uelsmann works in the darkroom, while Taylor works digitally. *Through Jan. 3. 714 Congress #200, 494-9440.*

**PHOTOGECKO STUDIOS** presents an array of film/digital artist John Campbell's black-and-white photographs. Monthly First Thursday events debut

new images along with live music. *1413 S. First, 797-9375. www.photogecko.com.*

**PRO-JEX GALLERY** Now in its new post-fire location, this friendly and locally owned business offers original fine art photography and picture framing. *1710 S. Lamar Ste. C, 472-7707.*

**ROSEMINN GALLERY** Prints and paintings by William B. Montgomery, Margie Crisp, and Helen Kwiatkowski make this slightly out-of-town venue a must-see for the true art aficionado. *Through Dec. 24. 116 Depot, Elgin, 512/285-3478. www.roseminn.com.*

**UMLAUF SCULPTURE GARDEN & MUSEUM** presents “Modernist: Seven From the University of Texas.” Works by David Adickes, Constance Forsyth, Seymour Fogel, John Guerin, Charles Umlauf, and Donald Weismann. *Through Dec. 30. 605 Robert E. Lee, 445-5582. www.umlaufsculpture.org.*

**URBAN ROOTS GALLERY** presents “Confession” by E. Moises Diaz, exploring everyday emotions through abstracted acrylics on paper. *Through Dec. 1. 1202-A W. Sixth.*

**WOMEN & THEIR WORK** presents “Stitch in Time,” works by nine women artists working in fiber. The broad array of artists' materials encompasses wool yarn, embroidered thread, upholstery fabric, vinyl, and recycled material. Reception and Sale: *Thu., Dec. 1, 9am-9pm.* Exhibition: *Through Dec. 23. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.*

## SPACES

**DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY** is a working studio and gallery of stained & leaded glass and mosaics artwork. *701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.*

**ARTURO'S** presents paintings by Stanislav Grezdo. *Through Dec. 13. 314 W. 17th, 469-0380. www.stanislavgrezdo.com.*

**ARTWORKS GALLERY** features tropical butterflies artfully displayed in plexiboxes designed by G.W. Clark. *1214 W. Sixth, 472-1550.*

## CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

**AUSTIN ART IN PUBLIC PLACES** is issuing a Request for Qualifications to Texas artists interested in creating unique artwork for the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. The budget for the project is \$120,000. The complete RFQ is listed on the AIPP Web site. Deadline: *Jan. 6. 505 Barton Springs Rd. #850, 974-9312. www.ci.austin.tx.us/aipp.*

**DIVERSEARTS** is gearing up for its 17th annual Austin Jazz and Arts Festival. They're seeking volunteers to assist with preproduction and various responsibilities during the event. All inquiries should be addressed to Harold McMillan via e-mail; specify “Volunteer” in the subject line. *1705 Guadalupe #234, 477-9438. info@diversearts.org.*

**FLATBED PRESS** is pleased to announce its classes and workshops for the fall. Their most popular offerings are back, plus several new ones: a Thursday night open shop, monoprinting and collage, a new and simpler form of lithography, artists' Web site development, and career development. *2830 E. MLK, 477-9328. \$60-250. www.flatbedpress.com.*

**IDEA @ THE BREADFACTORY** has an open studio space for a female writer or artist, with 24-hour access, a security system, and participation in the East Austin Studio Tour. *701 Tillery, 472-3349. www.idea-art.org.*

**IRON GATE STUDIOS DARKROOM** offers their black-and-white darkroom with 24-hour access for \$75 a month. Check their Web site for details. *2205 E. Fifth, 495-9994. www.irongatestudios.org.*

## Litera

### READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

**JOURNALIST LISA DICKEY** traveled through Russia and documented it for *The Washington Post*. She'll talk about her trip, a re-creation of one she'd taken 10 years earlier *Tue., Dec. 6, 2-3pm. Texas Union, Room 4.206.*

**TEXAS NAFAS** presents the new Texas Poet Laureate Alan Lee Birkelbach in a reading at the Poetry Society of Texas' 2005 festival. Texas Nafas airs every *Saturday 11am and 10pm on Channel 16. farid@texasnafas.org.*

**WRITING ON THE AIR** salutes Mark Twain, featuring a performance by actor Hal Holbrook portraying the great author. *Sat. Dec. 3, 4pm. KOOP 91.7FM.*

## 'Chronicle'/Fadó Spelling Bee

This year's *Chronicle*/Fadó spelling bee was, as usual, a gathering of logomaniacs, verbi-vores, and drinkers of all literacy levels. This year saw a change in personnel, with librarians from the Austin Public Library system assuming the role of pronouncers, which kept charges of psellism to an unprecedented minimum – "tzimmes" being the only challenged pronunciation. Mix 94.7's Goofy Ron warming up the crowd by administering an Aaron Spelling Test (get it?) and giving away tickets for Hootie and the Blowfish, who do still exist. The glitz didn't end there, however, as a correspondent from *Inside Edition* covered the event, and even pretended to participate in it, reading the spelling of the word "coccyx" from a cue card with believable difficulty.

Erica Albright, last year's winner, was eliminated in the first round on a word that this year's winner Geoff Thevenot declared "really tough." Thevenot placed second last year after winning the year previous and said, "If I didn't win this year I'd have been happy to see her win." "Scolecite" was the word that took Thevenot out last time, and "eristic" (a word he considers a little easy) brought him victory this year. Though he didn't win last year, he did walk away with something unexpected: a new job. An audience member at the 2004 spelling bee was so impressed with Thevenot's spelling skills, he offered him a position as a copy editor, which he accepted.

Thevenot said he did spelling bees as a child but nowadays only competes once a year when the *Chronicle*/Fadó Adult Spelling Bee rolls around. Asked what makes a good speller, Thevenot explained, "To some degree it is innate, to some degree it's a fascination with the way words are put together." He said his fascination with the English language stems from the fact that "it is so rich, because of its borrowings." What's Thevenot's favorite word? "Kwashiorkor" – an English word for childhood malnutrition derived from one of the Kwa languages of Ghana – because of, unsurprisingly, the tricky spelling.

– Jess Sauer



**SOUPE COOKBOOK 2005** It's a *Stone Soup* release party. Sat., Dec. 3, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. [www.bookpeople.com](http://www.bookpeople.com).

**DAVID KIRK** The best-selling author of the Miss Spider series presents his famous children's books as part of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center's Wild Ideas: The Shopping Event. Sat., Dec. 3, 1-3pm. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse, 292-4100. [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org).

**NINA FOX** presents her latest novel, *Marrying Up*. Definitely recommended. Sat., Dec. 3, 1p-3pm. Mitchie's Fine Black Art & Gift Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. [www.mitchie.com](http://www.mitchie.com).

**MONICA F. ANDERSON** presents her *When a Sista's Fed Up*. We recommend again. Sat., Dec. 3, 3-6pm. Mitchie's Fine Black Art & Gift Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. [www.mitchie.com](http://www.mitchie.com).

**JOE NICK PATOSKI** presents his *Texas Coast*. Photos by Laurence Parent. Great photos, great commentary. Can't you just hear his drawl? Fri., Dec. 2, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. [www.bookpeople.com](http://www.bookpeople.com).

**BORDERLANDS: TEXAS POETRY REVIEW** celebrates its fall/winter issue with an evening of poetry, photography, and refreshments. Join photographer Jesse Herrera, whose series "Semana Santa" includes images from Spain and Mexico, and several poets featured in this issue. Always recommended. Refreshments. Thu., Dec. 1, 7pm. 12th Street Books, 827 W. 12th, 499-8828. Free. [www.borderlands.org](http://www.borderlands.org).

**JOHN DUFRESNE**, the James A. Michener Center for Writers' visiting fiction writer, presents his work. Dufresne is the author of three novels (*Louisiana Power and Light*, *Love Warps the Mind a Little*, and *Deep in the Shade of Paradise*), two story collections (*The Way That Water Enters Stone* and *Johnny Too Bad*), and a book on fiction craft (*The Lie That Tells a Truth*). Highly recommended. Thu., Dec. 1, 7:30pm. Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 471-1601. Free. [www.utexas.edu/academic/mcw](http://www.utexas.edu/academic/mcw).

## WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

**STORY CIRCLE NETWORK** is a nonprofit organization for women, offering monthly reading and writing circles and more, in North, Central, and South Austin. 454-9833. [www.storycircle.org](http://www.storycircle.org).

**ALAN LEE BIRKELBACH** The 2005 Poet Laureate of Texas is the featured guest of Poetry in the Arts. There is also a holiday potluck luncheon with hot cider and cookies provided. RSVP via e-mail as to the dish you will bring. Door prizes and an open mic. Always recommended. Sat., Dec. 3, 2pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 453-7920. [margrettel@aol.com](mailto:margrettel@aol.com).

**AUSTIN AREA INTERRELIGIOUS** Ministries Book Club has special guest Dr. Davidson Loehr discussing his *America, Fascism and God*. Mon., Dec. 5, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. [www.bookpeople.com](http://www.bookpeople.com).

**NATURE BOOK CLUB** shivers into *Winter World: The Ingenuity of Animal Survival* by Bernd Heinrich. Associated with the Travis Audubon Society. Thu., Dec. 1, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. [www.bookpeople.com](http://www.bookpeople.com).

**MILWOOD BOOKCLUB** speaks on *The Mother Tongue: The English Language and How It Got That Way* by Bill Bryson. Tue., Dec. 6, 7pm. Milwood Branch Library, 12500 Amherst.

**AUSTIN WRITER'S BLOCK** is a supportive group of writers open to anyone struggling to get that stubborn writing project going, as well as to those who want a fresh critique on their completed work. No membership fee. Tuesdays, 4:30pm. Mozart's Coffee Roasters, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 653-7872. [www.mozartcoffee.com](http://www.mozartcoffee.com).

## SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

**WRITE ON, AUSTIN, AGAIN!** Dagoberto Gilb wants participants to leave this workshop with one or more developing story ideas for publication. Gilb's most recent book, *Gritos*, was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award for Criticism. This is part of Mayor Will Wynn's Book Club program. Tue., Dec. 6, 7-8:30pm. Ruiz Library, 1600 Grove, 974-7400. [www.writeonaustin.org](http://www.writeonaustin.org).

## OPEN MICS

**POETRY UNDER A CHINA MOON** is a new open mic venue hosted by the omnipresent Kathleen Romana and Eric Wheeler. Every first and third Friday, 7-9pm. Little Chinatown, 4636 Burnet.

**LITTLE CHINATOWN** open mic with your hosts Eric Wheeler and Kathleen Romana. Every first and third Friday. Fri., Dec. 2, 7-9pm. Little Chinatown, 4636 Burnet.

**NEO-SOUL LOUNGE** is hosted by B. Fran. Wednesdays, 8:30pm. Antonio's Tex Mex, 7522 N. I-35. [www.southflavas.com](http://www.southflavas.com).

**EXPRESSIONS** presents Festive Seasons with poets Chris the Future, Laurie Coker, Michele Darien, Herman Nelson (get well soon), and John Berry. Music by Miniature Mundi and Ky Hote. Round-robin open mic follows potluck and features. All ages welcome. Children's area. Moderated reading. Sat., Dec. 3, 7pm. Austin Bahai Center, 2215 E.M. Franklin, 926-8880. Admission is a plate of food for the potluck and cans of food for the Poets Pantry. [www.austinbahai.org](http://www.austinbahai.org).

**AUSTIN JAVA COMPANY** features open mic poetry and spoken word with your hosts, Rhiannon and Christopher Robin. Thursdays, 6-10pm. Austin Java Cafe & Bar, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829. [www.austinjava.com](http://www.austinjava.com).

**THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM** Mike Henry captains the crew that has all the best of stand-up, performance art, theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one electrifying evening. \$100 in prizes every week; open mic precedes the main event. Wednesdays, 8pm. Ego's, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091. [www.austinslam.com](http://www.austinslam.com).

**GENUINE POETRY** is hosted by Eric Wheeler and Kathleen Romana. Mondays, 7-9pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. [www.genuinejoe.com](http://www.genuinejoe.com).

**HIDEOUT MIC** is always an Open Universe event with your newest host, Bevin Shaw. Mondays, 7-10pm. The Hideout Coffeehouse, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 or canned food for Poets' Pantry. [www.thehideout.org](http://www.thehideout.org).

**LA TAZZA FRESCA** presents a special event in their twice monthly readings. This first of the year is "The Candlelight and Blue Tour" with poet Ivan Miller and guitarist Dusty (Dirty) Deering. Wed., Dec. 7, 8-10pm. La Tazza Fresca, 519 W. 37th, 653-9140.

**RUTA MAYA** is hosted by Aaron Sanders and Mark Maslow. Bring canned food for the Poets' Pantry. Tuesdays, 6-8pm. Round robin: 6-7pm. Sign-up list: 7-8pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. [www.freespeechart.com](http://www.freespeechart.com).

**POETRY KARAOKE** The Poetry Karaoke Orchestra backs your poetry on the porch, with hosts Ivanho and Chris the Future. Bring canned foods for the Poets' Pantry. Tuesdays, 8-10pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. [www.rutamaya.net](http://www.rutamaya.net).

## MISCELLANEOUS

**MONSTER BOOK SALE** is the Friends of the Austin Public Library's annual fundraiser. Every week until they stop. One dollar for paperbacks and children's books, \$2 for hard covers, with hundreds of books, CDs, DVDs, and more to choose from. Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10am-2pm; Thursdays, 7-9pm. 1800 S. Fifth in the old South Austin Post Office. 440-1241.

**MORE POETRY!** *like some dark bergman film i see a bleak lighthouse & a winter's sea — someone so lonely — yet inside a fire brightly lit as if inside each loneliness there is a meadow filled with honied lights & red laughter — lonely woman or someone on holiday dancing with lovely ghosts — how naked beneath her robe he touches her & there is no other — the ice like breaths of heated memories — like lace slips she bought just so he could watch them fall from her white shoulders — and this ache is beautiful — this ache is as exquisite as a full moon glistening on snow or how longing is not emptiness but a memory of how to open a heart. Namaste. Vaya con dios.*

## POEM OF THE ISSUE

& the geese fly east  
two  
as if last winter were subtracted &  
i read of deep snows how the bowl  
empties

– Ric Williams,  
" & there is a lotus & a mouth & we open "

# Going for Baroque.

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1501 W. 5th St (just off MoPac)  
Mon - Sat 10-6, 481-1111

**Critter Art Show**  
SPCA Benefit & Artists Reception  
Fri. Dec. 2, 6-9pm. Tix \$20, 2 for \$30  
Artists Reception: Sat. Dec. 3, Noon-4pm

## First Descent

D: Kemp Curly, Kevin Harrison. (PG-13, 110 min.)

Do you remember the Snurfer? It was a mid-Sixties precursor to today's snowboards that was developed by a retired chemical engineer from Michigan with the unlikely name of Sherman Popper. His grand idea – essentially a surfboard for the ski slopes, with a steering rope mounted to the front – ended up under scads of Christmas trees starting in 1965. (I barely recall a much smaller version of myself being trounced by a Snurfering big kid on some snowbound, upstate New York hillock ages ago. The image must have stuck, though, since I ended up glued to a skateboard from for a solid decade beginning in 1984.) This vertiginous documentary (which really ought to be playing on IMAX screens) echoes skateboarding's parallel history and Stacy Peralta's brilliant doc *Dogtown and Z-Boys*, as well as that director's more recent *Riding Giants*, in which pro surfers are towed out to sea to tackle the biggest waves in the world. The

five subjects of *First Descent* – 40-year-old snowboarding legend Shawn Farmer, 39-year-old Nick Peralta, plaid-clad Vermont teen Hannah Teter, Norwegian superstar Terje Haakonsen, and red-haired, teen slope rat Shaun White – are shuttled out to the far back country of Alaska's tallest and most inaccessible peaks via helicopter and then, one by one, rocket down the crag-encrusted, gorge chutes like buckshot fired from God's own 20-gauge. In a word, it's gnarly. In between these "first descents," the filmmakers unravel the brief history of snowboarding, including the surreally appropriate incident at the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan, wherein Canadian Ross Rebagliati very nearly lost the sport's very first Olympic gold medal after testing positive for marijuana use. ("He should have been given a second medal for being able to ride stoned," confides one powder-happy wag.) Along with narration from Henry Rollins and music from the likes of Black Flag, Minor Threat, and Face to Face, there's much made about how snowboarding is a sport in its infancy. That's true. Unlike skateboarding, which came up in a relatively slow progression from street to pool to ramp to corporate sponsorship and the XGames over nearly three decades, snowboarding moved from a Banned Everywhere status to the Olympics in less than half that time, which doesn't make it any less of a sport, per se, but clearly drew the corporations and big-money outfits much faster. In many ways, it's skating on frozen adrenaline outbursts: The jumps are far higher, the risks far more dangerous (at one point the filmmakers, seasoned snowboarding pros themselves, catch Haakonsen's wild, near vertical riding as it initiates a mammoth avalanche), and the rewards not just financial but mental, physical,



and spiritual as well. *Final Descent's* ace in the hole, though, is in its cross-generational quintet, which allows for a cutaway cross-section of the sport's best and brightest to be observed as they do what they do best. The garrulous, bearded Farmer, in particular, comes to be something of a big brother figure to Teter's blonde, blue-eyed teen superboarder. It's a gas to see the age difference melt away atop a wind-whipped, 7601-foot-high mountain peak as the chopper lifts off, leaving both filmmakers and subjects with only one way down from what appears to be the roof of the world. Awesome. – Marc Savlov  
★★★½ Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

## New Reviews

### AEON FLUX

D: Karyn Kusama; with Charlize Theron, Marton Csokas, Jonny Lee Miller, Sophie Okonedo, Frances McDormand, Pete Postlethwaite. (PG-13, 95 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Oscar-winner Theron stars as the secret agent of the title in this live-action adaptation of MTV's futuristic cartoon series. McDormand plays the character's Handler, and it's all directed by *Girlfight's* Kusama. – Marjorie Baumgarten  
Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

### ALL THAT I NEED

D: James Hergott; with James Hergott, Audra J. Morgan, Tom Trudeau, Ross Seymour, Patrick Frericks, Amber Ojeda, Kent Vaughan. (R, 80 min.)

Movies this bad don't often get released anymore, a circumstance that instantly raises the curiosity factor of *All That I Need*. Although the film's national release is quite

limited, it is still an impressive accomplishment considering its technical weaknesses and gross cynicism toward human nature. The story is about a pyramid scheme that goes awry, much to the surprise of every single character in the film. Writer-director Hergott also plays leading man James, the character who's at the top of this particular pyramid. The film's narrative structure is based on the various meetings of the pyramid clubbers, each gathering growing larger as the people on the bottom continue to bring in fresh blood. Hardly anyone can resist James' pitch because, as the movie reveals time and again, we are all slaves to our greed. Furthermore, our greed is bottomless. Shot in mock documentary style, this low-budget movie's conceit is that James has a camera crew following him for his school thesis project. Yet Hergott and DV cameraman Charlie Smith interpret this style as requiring the most jittery handheld camerawork possible, which includes unsteady, unnecessary, and too-fast zooms and pans swishing past our faces with eyeball-straining constancy. The largely inexperienced acting crew – which grows to mob size by the final meetings – add little to the

film's supposedly vérité feel. The scenes seem like one improv session followed by another, which grow noisier and more out of control as the characters start speaking over one another, and incoherent camera zooms further confuse the situation. Crescendos of noise and pounding music become more frequent as the original club members go from gung ho participants to angry and betrayed stooges (or what James calls "fair-weather friends"). Shot around Newport Beach, Calif., it's hard to believe that so many of the area's super-affluent residents would fall for such a transparent scam, although I think James' saving grace is supposed to be the fact that he totally believes in his investment plan. Otherwise, there are no likable or sympathetic characters in *All That I Need*, and you have to begin to wonder whether this whole movie production isn't one more example of an shaky business scheme. By the time of the movie's final coda, in which James delivers a redemptive monologue to the camera, you may also wonder whether *All That I Need* is some reformed sinner's idea of a community-service penance. The ultimate, meaningless lesson in James' speech is

"Don't chase rainbows in your life. Chase dreams." At its most perverse, *All That I Need* reminds one of that beloved maker of bad movies Ed Wood, whose passion for angora sweaters and dressing in women's clothing led him to some of his most urgent and singular work. Substitute angora sweaters for pyramid schemes, and maybe, just maybe, we'll find filmmaking conducted at its most passionate. – Marjorie Baumgarten  
½ Metropolitan

### APARAHAN

D: Prakash Jha; with Ajay Devgan, Nana Patekar, Bipasha Basu, Mohan Agashe, Ayub Khan. (NR)  
Not reviewed at press time. Brand new Bollywood film deals with the socio-political reality of the kidnapping industry that thrives on collusion between politicians and the police. – Marjorie Baumgarten  
AMC Barton Creek Square

### CHRISTMAS IN THE CLOUDS

D: Kate Montgomery; with Timothy Vahle, Mariana Tosca, Sam Vlahos, M. Emmet Walsh, Sheila Tousey, Rosalind Ayres, Graham Greene, Jonathan Joss, Rita Coolidge, Lois Red Elk. (PG, 96 min.)

This Native-American romantic comedy, which won the Audience Award at the 2001 Austin Film Festival, arrives in theatres four years late but seasonally right on time. It owes a small debt to *White Christmas*, sharing with that Bing Crosby crooner a hotel-resort setting and a threat to the resort's livelihood by way of snow that refuses to fall. But *Christmas in the Clouds* plays the holiday card smartly, using it for window-dressing and not much else. And what window-dressing – when Mother Nature finally cooperates with a blanket of white over mountain vistas in Utah, the effect, lensed by Steven Bernstein, is breathtaking. The resort, too, is something to behold: The film was shot on location at the Sundance Resort, here called the Sky Mountain Resort. Sky Mountain's GM, divorcé Ray Clouds on Fire (Vahle), and his staff are all up in a tizzy over the impending arrival of an anonymous travel writer, whose rating could make or break the struggling resort. The travel writer, an alcoholic curmudgeon named Stu O'Malley (Walsh), checks in right around the same time as a leggy widow from New York named Tina (Tosca). Tina's using an alias, too – the better to scope out her previously unmet pen pal, Ray's father, Joe Clouds on Fire (a wonderfully cheeky Vlahos). Mistaken identity ensues, with Ray confusing Tina for the travel writer, Tina confusing Ray with her adored pen pal, and Stu confusing a pet mouse done up in war paint with signs that his lush life has finally degenerated into all-out hallucination. Also in the mix are Native American icons Graham Greene (as a vegetarian chef on a mission to convert carnivores) and Wes Studi, with a Borscht Belt cameo as himself, overlording a bingo game. At its best, *Christmas in the Clouds* is sweetly daffy; Montgomery, a first-time writer/director, doesn't have the control yet to steer entirely clear of the cornball. There are several ill-advised fantasy sequences (revolving around the front desk clerk's romance-novel fetish), and a few of the players appear plucked from the aw-shucks-and-yuks school

of TV acting (Walsh, a seasoned screen pro, is the worst of the lot, and looks about one rib eye and whiskey sour shy of a massive coronary). But there's an abounding sweetness to it all that only a real grump could deny. This is a Hallmark movie with high production values – and so what? It's gently funny and genuinely good-hearted, family-friendly stuff. Fair warning, lest I get any angry letters: There is a long liplock that tastefully cuts to two consenting adults in bathrobes the morning after; I'll leave it to Mom and Dad to explain what happened to those 12 hours and combined six layers of clothes. I imagine kids will be too distracted by that marvel of a mouse anyway, and wondering how war paint would look on Fido back home. – Kimberley Jones

★☆☆ Arbor

**GARÇON STUPIDE**

D: *Lionel Baier*; with *Baier, Pierre Chatagny, Natacha Koutchoumov, Rui Pedro Alves, Khaled Khoury*. (NR, 94 min., subtitled)

It's not exactly that Loïc (Chatagny) is stupid, though his brainy best friend Marie (Koutchoumov) clearly outpaces him. And he does have to look "Hitler" up in the dictionary. But, really, he's amoral, and that's his failing. He's capable of learning but not terribly interested in it: He likes picking up guys through Internet personals, then picking their pockets while they're showering. Things change when he meets Lionel (director Baier, who is mostly unseen but still present onscreen through his character's voice and point-of-view shots), who asks him real questions about who he really is and what he wants out of life. Greatly to his credit, Baier avoids the pitfalls of gay-identity moviemaking: specifically, the film doesn't over-rely on its dialogue, and its storytelling is elliptical and episodic rather than classically narrative. It feels gimmicky at times – the use of split-screen wears thin – but it also feels fresh and different overall. Loïc's character is fully realized through his exploits and given dimension by his relationship with Marie, which is the real centerpiece of the story. They differ not just by gender and orientation but by something even more fundamental: their philosophy of human-object relations. Loïc doesn't associate sex with love, or even with "feelings" – it feels better but is otherwise similar to his work inspecting chocolate bars in a candy factory – and Marie simply doesn't understand. Chatagny is a novice actor with more energy than technique, but Koutchoumov balances him with

## Openings

*Aeon Flux* (PG-13)

*All That I Need* (R)

*Aparahan* (NR)

*Christmas in the Clouds* (PG)

*First Descent* (PG-13)

*Garçon Stupide* (NR)

## Ratings

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

☹ La bomba

a quiet gravity, and together they carry the film, even when Baier gets busy juxtaposing explicit group sex with images of factory equipment and objects from a museum of animal oddities (example: a six-legged sheep). The performances add a necessary element of human accessibility. Without them, the movie would be conceptual and cold. As it is, it loses momentum with a third-act subplot about a local soccer star (Alves) with whom Loïc becomes obsessed; though it provides more philosophical grist for Baier's mill, it disrupts the rhythm – purposefully, I'm sure, to make the point of his potential transformation – and Loïc's tale sputters to its conclusion. *Garçon Stupide* is interesting enough to merit an audience broader than its intended niche, though it isn't perfect. Moreover, its outlook on human sexuality is pretty grim, so don't bother bringing a date – unless you want to pick his pockets and pilfer from his medicine cabinet. – Marrit Ingman

★★★ Arbor



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FRI, DEC 2	THE SINUS XMAS SHOW OBSCURE HOLIDAY SPECIALS WITH THE SINUS BOYS	9:45
SAT, DEC 3	UT FOOTBALL THE SINUS XMAS SHOW TRAILERTHON 4: THE ITALIAN COLLECTION	12:00 7 & 9:45 11:45
SUN, DEC 4	UT FILM LOOP SCREENING BEST OF THE AV GEEKS 2005 THE MOULIN ROUGE SINGALONG	1:00 6:00 8:30
MON, DEC 5	BRITCOMS: SHAUN OF THE DEAD SPINOFFS MUSIC MONDAYS: SOUND UNBOUND	7:00 9:45
TUE, DEC 6	AFS ESSENTIAL: THE SINGING BLACKSMITH AFS ESSENTIAL: AMERICAN MATCHMAKER	7:00 9:15
WED, DEC 7	SINUS SHOW & ROLLERGIRLS: XANADU BRITNEY JUSTIN CHRISTINA: MMC SINGALONG WEIRD WED (FREE) THE VISITOR	7:00 9:45 MIDNIGHT
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# Showtimes

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

### IN THE MIX

*D: Ron Underwood; with Usher Raymond, Chazz Palminteri, Emmanuelle Chriqui, Robert Costanzo, Robert Davi.* (PG-13, 95 min.)

This vehicle for hip-hop star Usher is no blinged-out Beamer rough-riding it over to Jay-Z's joint to wallop some cheeba up off'n the Zeezer's haid; it's more of a Yugo, as in "You go to this wannabe straight-to-video tripe, you deserve what you get." Usher has always had something of a squeaky-clean image about him, and this DJ-meets-Mafia-princess story is predictably mired in a mix of gangster/gangsta clichés so thick and meaty it's a wonder Francis Ford Coppola – or Chef Boyardee – hasn't already filed suit. The younger bracket of Usher's fan base may well find laughs galore in between the rampant stereotyping, but director Underwood (and writer Jacqueline Zambrano) aren't doing the singer's film career any favors. Here Usher is cast as Darrell, once the playground playmate of the aforementioned Mafia-princess-to-be, Chriqui's Dolly – daughter of Palminteri's mob boss Frank – and now a rising star on the New York City DJ circuit. Asked to spin at the surprise shindig Frank is throwing in honor of his daughter's impending graduation from law school, Darrell instead ends up taking a bullet meant for the old man, thereby ensuring his already good graces with the Family and also putting him at the top of the short list of Dolly's roving protectorate. In short order he's literally driving Miss Dolly around town, introducing his charge and her lackluster, white-bread beau to the wonders of way uptown, collar greens, and ebullient, top-heavy women named Big Momma. It's borderline racist, especially Palminteri's character, who sees only shades of grey until he catches wind of Darrell and Dolly's emerging love story. From there on out, he's all about black and white, and never the twain shall meet. The Italian slur "eggplant" gets a runaround here as various nefarious characters mutter, mumble, or manhandle the word in Darrell's Teflon presence; he may be too cool for school but he can still detect the overripe tang of epithetery directed his way. Too bad Usher couldn't have calibrated his own BS detector with a tad more accuracy. *In the Mix* isn't even offensive enough to warrant as many jibes as I've already cast its way; it's so pocketful-of-posies boring that its theatrical release is the real shocker. Schlock like this used to go straight to the video shelves (come to think of it, Underwood's godawful *The Adventures of Pluto Nash* also, amazingly, made it to the big screen) and there lie forgotten and rightfully forlorn. No such luck here. Consider this brick No. 1 in the fall of the house of Usher.

– Marc Savlov

✦ CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

**MILLENNIUM THEATRE** 1156 Hargrave, 472-6932. Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.

**The Fog:** Fri-Sat, 6:00, 8:30; Wed-Thu (12/8), 3:15, 5:15

**Roll Bounce:** Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 1:00, 3:15pm; Wed-Thu (12/8), 10:30am, 1:00pm

**PARAMOUNT THEATRE** 713 Congress, 472-5470.

**AFF:** *The Ringier Premiere:* Tue, 7:30pm

**ROUND ROCK 8** 2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.

**\*Aeon Flux:** Fri, 1:45, 4:50, 7:50, 10:15; Sat, 11:10am, 1:45, 4:50, 7:50, 10:15pm; Sun, 11:10am, 1:45, 4:50, 7:50pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:45, 4:50, 7:50

**Chicken Little:** Fri, 2:20, 4:30, 7:40, 9:40; Sat, 10:10am, 12:15, 2:20, 4:30, 7:40pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 2:20, 4:30, 7:40

**\*Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire:** Fri, 3:00, 6:30, 7:00, 10:00; Sat, 11:00am, 12:45, 3:00, 6:30, 7:00, 10:00pm; Sun, 11:00am, 12:45, 3:00, 6:30, 7:00pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 3:00, 6:30, 7:00

**\*Just Friends:** Fri, 1:30, 4:20, 7:30, 9:50; Sat, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:30, 9:50pm; Sun, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:30pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:30, 4:20, 7:30

**\*Rent:** Fri, 1:10, 4:10, 7:45, 10:30; Sat, 10:00am, 1:10, 4:10, 7:45, 10:30pm; Sun, 10:00am, 1:10, 4:10, 7:45pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:10, 4:10, 7:45

**Walk the Line:** Fri, 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:10; Sat, 10:00am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:10pm; Sun, 10:00am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:10pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:00, 4:00, 7:10

**\*Yours, Mine & Ours:** Fri, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:30; Sat, 10:20am, 12:30, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 2:40, 5:00, 7:20

**Zathura:** Fri, 4:15, 10:20; Sat, 10:15am, 4:15, 10:20pm; Sun, 10:15am, 4:15pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 4:15pm

**TINSELTOWN NORTH** North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville), 512/989-8540.

**\*Aeon Flux:** Fri, 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 9:25am, 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20

**Chicken Little:** Fri, 12:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:45, 4:25, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 9:10am, 9:35, 10:50, 11:30, 12:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:45, 4:25, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 12:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:45, 4:25, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10

**Derailed:** Fri, 1:10, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 10:15am, 1:10, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:10, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05

**\*First Descent:** Fri, 1:45, 4:35, 7:25, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 10:45am, 1:45, 4:25, 7:25, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:45, 4:35, 7:25, 10:20

**Get Rich or Die Tryin':** 6:55, 9:50

**\*Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire:** Fri, 11:40am, 2:35, 2:50, 3:05, 3:20, 6:15, 6:30, 6:45, 7:00, 9:55, 10:10, 10:25pm; Sat-Sun, 10:55am, 11:10, 11:25, 11:40, 2:35, 2:50, 3:05, 3:20, 6:15, 6:30, 6:45, 7:00, 9:55, 10:10, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 11:40am, 2:35, 2:50, 3:05, 3:20, 6:15, 6:30, 6:45, 7:00, 9:55, 10:10, 10:25pm

**\*The Ice Harvest:** Fri, 11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45pm; Sat-Sun, 9:15am, 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45pm

**\*In the Mix:** Fri, 1:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45

**Jarhead:** Fri, 12:25, 3:35, 6:50, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 9:10am, 12:25, 3:35, 6:50, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 12:25, 3:35, 6:50, 9:50

**\*Just Friends:** Fri, 12:10, 2:40, 5:05, 7:40, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 9:40am, 2:10, 2:40, 5:05, 7:40, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 12:10, 2:40, 5:05, 7:40, 10:05

**The Legend of Zorro:** 7:10, 10:15

**Pride & Prejudice:** Fri, 12:40, 3:50, 7:00, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 9:30am, 12:40, 3:50, 7:00, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 12:40, 3:50, 7:00, 10:15

**Rent:** Fri, 12:20, 3:40, 7:05, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 9:00am, 12:20, 3:40, 7:05, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 12:20, 3:40, 7:05, 10:20

**Saw II:** 6:30, 9:15

**Walk the Line:** Fri, 12:15, 12:45, 3:30, 4:00, 6:45, 7:10, 9:55, 10:30, 11:00; Sat-Sun, 9:05am, 9:25, 12:15, 12:45, 3:30, 4:00, 6:45, 7:10, 9:55, 10:30, 11:00pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 12:15, 12:45, 3:30, 4:00, 6:45, 7:10, 9:55, 10:30, 11:00

**\*Yours, Mine & Ours:** Fri, 11:55am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00pm; Sat-Sun, 9:30am, 11:55, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 11:55am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00pm

**Zathura:** Fri, 1:45, 4:20; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:45, 4:20

**TINSELTOWN SOUTH** South I-35 at Stassney, 326-3800.

**Derailed:** Fri-Sun, 10:40am, 1:40, 4:25, 7:25, 10:05pm; Mon-Mon, 11:10am, 12:8), 1:40, 4:25, 7:25, 10:05

**Dreamer: Inspired by a True Story:** Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 1:35, 4:55, 7:35, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:35, 4:55, 7:35, 9:55

**FlightPlan:** Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:50, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:50, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20

**The Fog:** Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:35, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:30, 4:30, 7:35, 10:00

**Good Night, and Good Luck:** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:35, 7:25, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:35, 4:35, 7:25, 9:45

**Jarhead:** Fri-Sun, 10:55am, 1:10, 1:50, 3:55, 4:40, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:10, 1:50, 3:55, 4:40, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:20

**\*Just Friends:** Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:30, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00

**The Legend of Zorro:** Fri-Sun, 10:35am, 11:00, 1:25, 2:00, 4:15, 5:00, 7:15, 8:05, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:25, 2:00, 4:15, 5:00, 7:15, 8:05, 10:15

**Pride & Prejudice:** 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:40

**Rent:** Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 11:20, 1:45, 3:30, 4:35, 6:45, 8:00, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:45, 3:30, 4:35, 6:45, 8:00, 9:50

**Saw II:** Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 1:20, 3:45, 7:00, 7:40, 9:45, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:20, 3:45, 7:00, 7:40, 9:45, 10:25

**Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit:** Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 12:50, 3:25pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 12:50, 3:25

**Yours, Mine & Ours:** Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 11:20, 1:00, 1:55, 3:30, 4:45, 7:05, 8:00, 9:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:00, 1:55, 3:30, 4:45, 7:05, 8:00, 9:30, 10:10

**WESTGATE 11** South Lamar and Ben White, 899-2717. Discounts daily before 6pm.

**Aeon Flux:** 11:50am, 2:30, 5:05, 7:35, 10:30pm

**Chicken Little:** 12:35, 2:40, 4:45, 6:50, 9:20

**Derailed:** 12:10, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40, 10:15

**Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire:** Fri, 11:25am, 12:00, 12:50, 3:00, 3:45, 4:25, 6:20, 7:00, 8:00, 9:35, 10:15pm; Sat, 11:25am, 12:00, 12:50, 3:45, 4:25, 6:20, 7:00, 8:00, 9:35, 10:15pm; Sun-Thu (12/8), 11:25am, 12:00, 12:50, 3:00, 3:45, 4:25, 6:20, 7:00, 8:00, 9:35, 10:15pm

**Just Friends:** 12:05, 2:35, 4:55, 7:30, 9:50

**No Pain, No Gain:** Sat, 3:00pm

**Rent:** 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:10

**Walk the Line:** 11:30am, 12:20, 2:50, 3:40, 6:30, 7:10, 9:30, 10:20pm

**Yours, Mine & Ours:** Fri-Sun, 12:15, 2:25, 4:50, 7:05, 9:25; Mon-Tue, 12:15, 4:50, 9:25; Wed, 12:15, 2:25, 4:50, 7:05, 9:25; Thu (12/8), 12:15, 2:25, 4:50

**BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC)** Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360), 306-9190. Matinee discounts before 6pm.

**Aparahan:** 2:00, 5:10, 8:15

**Capote:** Fri-Sat, 1:50, 7:35; Sun-Wed, 1:50, 7:15; Thu (12/8), 1:50pm

**Derailed:** Fri-Wed, 2:35, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45; Thu (12/8), 2:35, 9:45

**Dreamer: Inspired by a True Story:** Fri-Sun, 1:30, 4:00; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:40, 4:00

**Good Night, and Good Luck:** Fri-Sat, 1:05, 3:20, 5:50, 8:10, 10:10; Sun, 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10; Mon-Thu (12/8), 2:05, 4:30, 7:05, 9:20

**The Ice Harvest:** Fri-Sat, 1:25, 3:45, 6:15, 8:20, 10:25; Sun, 1:25, 3:30, 5:45, 7:50, 9:55; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:30, 3:30, 5:45, 7:50, 9:55

**In Her Shoes:** Fri-Sat, 4:20, 10:00; Sun-Wed, 4:20, 9:40; Thu (12/8), 9:40pm

**Jarhead:** Fri-Sat, 4:35, 9:40; Sun-Wed, 4:35, 9:35

**Just Friends:** Fri-Sat, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:55, 10:20; Sun-Thu (12/8), 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30

**Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang:** Fri-Sat, 2:50, 5:35, 8:05, 10:15; Sun-Thu (12/8), 2:50, 5:35, 8:00

**The Legend of Zorro:** Fri-Sat, 7:10, 10:05; Sun-Thu (12/8), 7:00, 9:45

**Prime:** Fri-Wed, 2:10, 7:20; Thu (12/8), 1:55pm

**Rent:** Fri-Sat, 1:15, 2:15, 4:15, 5:15, 7:15, 8:30, 10:05; Sun, 1:15, 2:15, 4:15, 5:15, 7:05, 8:30, 9:50; Mon-Thu (12/8), 1:30, 2:15, 4:15, 5:30, 7:05, 8:30, 9:50

**Saw II:** Fri-Sat, 8:10, 10:20; Sun, 7:15, 9:25; Mon-Wed, 7:55pm

**Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit:** Fri-Sat, 1:35, 3:40, 5:40; Sun, 1:00, 3:00, 5:20; Mon-Wed, 1:35, 3:40, 5:40; Thu (12/8), 1:35, 3:40

**Yours, Mine & Ours:** Fri-Sat, 1:00, 2:05, 3:10, 4:30, 5:25, 7:05, 7:45, 9:20, 9:55; Sun, 1:00, 2:05, 3:10, 4:30, 5:25, 7:00, 7:45, 9:20; Mon, 1:45, 2:30, 4:05, 5:05, 7:15, 9:15; Tue-Thu (12/8), 1:45, 2:30, 4:05, 5:05, 6:15, 7:15, 8:25, 9:15

**DOBBIE THEATRE LANDMARK** 2025 Guadalupe (Dobbie Mall, second floor), 472-FLTM.

**Capote:** Fri, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50; Mon-Thu (12/8), 7:10, 9:50

**The Constant Gardener:** Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40; Mon-Thu (12/8), 7:00, 9:40

**The Dying Gaul:** Fri, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00; Mon-Thu (12/8), 7:30, 10:00

**Naked in Ashes:** Fri, 4:20, 7:20, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:30; Mon-Thu (12/8), 7:20, 9:30

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**\*Aeon Flux:** Fri-Sat, 10:15am, 12:40, 2:55, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50, 12:05am; Sun-Thu (12/8), 10:15am, 12:40, 2:55, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50pm

**Chicken Little:** 12:15pm

**\*Chicken Little (in DLP digital):** 11:00am, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00pm

**Get Rich or Die Tryin':** 11:05am, 1:45, 4:35, 7:15, 10:15pm

**\*Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire:** Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 1:20, 4:45, 8:10, 11:45pm; Sun-Thu (12/8), 10:00am, 1:20, 4:45, 8:10pm

**\*Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30, 11:15; Sun-Thu (12/8), 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30

**Just Friends:** Fri-Sat, 10:05am, 12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:05, 9:25, 11:40pm; Sun-Thu (12/8), 10:05am, 12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:05, 9:25pm

**Rent:** 10:15am, 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 10:20pm

**Saw II:** Fri-Sat, 3:15, 5:10, 7:40, 9:50, 12mid; Sun-Thu (12/8), 3:15, 5:10, 7:40, 9:50

**Walk the Line:** 10:00am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00pm

**Yours, Mine & Ours:** Fri-Sat, 10:20am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:15; 11:20pm; Sun-Thu (12/8), 10:20am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:15pm

**GATEWAY THEATRE** 9700 Stonelake Blvd., between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.

**Aeon Flux:** 11:30am, 12:00, 2:00, 2:30, 4:25, 5:10, 7:10, 7:45, 9:40, 10:20pm

**Chicken Little:** 12:05, 2:35, 4:50, 7:40, 9:45

**Chicken Little (in digital 3-D):** 11:20am, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:15pm

**Derailed:** 7:25, 10:05

**Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire:** Fri-Tue, 11:15am, 11:45, 12:15, 12:45, 3:00, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 10:30pm; Wed, 11:15am, 11:45, 12:15, 12:45, 3:00, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 10:30pm; Thu (12/8), 11:15am, 11:45, 12:15, 12:45, 3:00, 4:15, 4:45, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 10:30pm

**The Ice Harvest:** 11:05am, 2:40, 5:00, 7:50, 10:25pm

**In the Mix:** 11:35am, 2:10, 4:35, 7:25, 10:05pm

**Jarhead:** 12:10, 3:10, 6:55, 9:50

**Just Friends:** Fri, 2:15, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10; Sat, 11:40am, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10pm; Sun, 2:15, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10; Mon, 2:15, 4:40, 10:10; Tue-Thu



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<b>THE HARVEST</b> (12:45) 3:10 7:15 10:35	<b>good night, and good luck.</b> (12:30) 3:00 7:30 10:30	<b>DERAILED</b> 11:20 3:00 7:00 10:30
<b>UT vs COLORADO</b>	<b>DEC. 3RD SAT</b>	<b>DAVE MATTHEWS</b> 11:20 3:00 7:20 10:10

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 Interests: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Child 2: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Interests: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Child 3: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
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# First Runs

\*Full-length reviews available online at [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com). Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

## ★ THE ARISTOCRATS

D: Penn Jillette, Paul Provenza. (NR, 86 min.)  
 "The aristocrats!" It's the non sequitur punchline to a filthy joke well-known among comedians. The joke – which at its mildest includes multigenerational incest, bestiality, necrophilia, and coprophagia – tends to get raunchier as the joke-tellers attempt to outdo all the perversions that came before. At its most pure, this documentary becomes an essay about individuality. Directors Jillette (of the magic duo Penn & Teller) and Provenza (primarily a comic actor) recognize that the joke is merely a vessel for the personal exercise of style. Comedians as diverse as George Carlin, Phyllis Diller, Robin Williams, the Smothers Brothers, Eddie Izzard, and dozens more all put their signature on the joke or tell stories about legendary versions they have heard. Usually, formal attempts at analyzing what makes a joke funny annihilate the humor, along with the messenger. *The Aristocrats* is the rare analysis of the workings of comedy that doesn't destroy the humor in the process of taking it apart. (08/26/2005) – Marjorie Baumgarten  
 ★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village

## ★ CAPOTE

D: Bennett Miller; with Philip Seymour Hoffman, Catherine Keener, Clifton Collins Jr., Chris Cooper. (R, 98 min.)  
 Capote is a good film, but it hasn't closed the book on the subject, not by a long shot. First-time screenwriter Dan Futterman has narrowed his focus to the years surrounding Capote's work on the seminal *In Cold Blood*. The film provides an absorbing, if limited, look at the writing life: its physical and mental demands and its moral ambiguities. Director Miller (*The Cruise*) has created a film that is confident, mature, and measured, but I wonder if it isn't too controlled. The beats are all there; Capote's trajectory begins with a reporter's initial impartiality, slides into complicity, takes a hard-right turn into ruthlessness and ends, finally, near catatonia as the killers' execution date looms. But the film doesn't linger in these states long enough.

The fault does not lie with Hoffman (who doesn't so much act out Capote's distinctive mannerisms and high-pitched lisp as channel them); his performance is undeniably great. Everything else – solid, satisfying though it may be – falls short of that greatness. (10/28/2005) – Kimberley Jones  
 ★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Dobie

## CHICKEN LITTLE

D: Mark Dindal; with the voices of Zach Braff, Garry Marshall, Joan Cusack, Steve Zahn, Don Knotts, Patrick Stewart, Amy Sedaris, Catherine O'Hara. (G, 80 min.)  
 Boys and girls, here we have an animated family movie about being ugly, being tormented by your peers, being bad at sports, and being neglected by your parents, who are humiliated by your mistakes and idiosyncrasies – and that last part really hurts. It is funny at times, but *Chicken Little* is painful to watch for all ages, despite a voice-talent roster to make the angels weep. The story's all over the place, and the movie rips through its screen time with such frenzied insouciance that the fancy visuals barely register, as if animated family fare can be cranked out on somebody's lunch hour and the real work is in the marketing. The movie isn't interested in whether *Chicken Little* is paranoid or mistaken. It's not even very interested in the psychology of panic. Rather, that little scrapper will have his day, so you can damn well bet the sky is actually falling. (11/11/2005) – Marrit Ingman  
 ★ CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

## ★ THE CONSTANT GARDENER

D: Fernando Meirelles; with Ralph Fiennes, Rachel Weisz, Bill Nighy, Danny Huston, Pete Postlethwaite, Gerard McSorley, Hubert Koundé. (R, 129 min.)  
 The title – borrowed from the eponymous John Le Carré novel – makes the movie sound like a Merchant-Ivory yawn, but this canny and well-crafted thriller is anything but boring. Meirelles (*City of God*) presides ably over this international production, which has style, heart, smarts, and guts to spare. Its puzzle-box intrigue plot does almost everything a movie can do in two hours – make people fall in love, attack multinational corporations, stage a tribal raid against the panorama of an African veldt – without sacrificing the logic of its storytelling. As much as this is a movie about corruption, murder, fraud, greed, and the separate

# Cicadas

**Cicadas (2000)** D: Kat Candler; with Brandon Howe, Lindsay Broockman, Bryan Chafin, Paul Conrad, Don Cass. (NR, 93 min.) Special screening of Candler's lovely 2000 film *cicadas* is being shown to help raise production costs for her current feature-in-progress *jumping off bridges*. Behind-the-scenes footage from this teens-in-turmoil story will be shown and there will also be a Q&A. (\*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Saturday, 1:30pm; \$10.



worlds inhabited by the foreign service and the peoples of Africa, it is also a movie about the separate worlds inhabited by husbands and wives. The film manages at once to be broadly political and intimately personal, anchored in place by the two leads and a strong supporting ensemble. (09/02/2005) – Marrit Ingman  
 ★★ Dobie

## DERAILED

D: Mikael Håfström; with Clive Owen, Jennifer Aniston, Melissa George, Vincent Cassel, RZA, Xzibit, Addison Timlin, Giancarlo Esposito. (R, 107 min.)  
*Derailed* is an appropriately grim and stylish bit of latter-day film noir that goes a long way toward burying the memory of Rachel Green but does nothing to mar memories of Barbara Stanwyck, film noir's double-indemnifying queen of the duplicitous dark (as if). As ad exec Charles Schine, Owen is saddled with the requisite loving wife, Deanna (George), and enough personal problems to give Job a run for his shekels. To make matters worse, but infinitely more interesting, he finds himself on the train eyeing a leggy bank exec (Aniston). As so often happens, one thing leads to another, and from there leads to a hotel-room quickie, which, naturally, leads to the sudden violent eruption of Cassel's scheming LaRoche. There is a horrific rape, a pistol-whipping, and then things get really interesting. For a moment, anyway. Håfström's direction is mournfully, soggyly, assured, but for some reason *Derailed* never fully engages our sympathies. (11/18/2005) – Marc Savlov  
 ★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

## DREAMER: INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY

D: John Gatins; with Kurt Russell, Dakota Fanning, Kris Kristofferson, Elisabeth Shue, Luis Guzmán, Freddy Rodriguez, Oded Fehr. (PG, 98 min.)  
 You could call it *Seabiscuit Jr.*, but this horsey heartwarmer does something very surprising in spite of its underdog sports-movie formula, its sun-dappled beauty shots of Kentucky thoroughbred farms, and its shameless emotional manipulation of innocent viewers who are jerked between the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat in almost every scene: It manages to be a watchable, even enjoyable movie about and for girls, and in our world of candy-coated sparkly pink crap, that's a rare and commendable thing. *Dreamer* is not – I repeat, is not – challenging or avant-garde cinema; Gatins (in his directorial debut) is the scribe of *Coach Carter* and *Hard Ball*, and he's never met a cliché he didn't like. But the movie has a lot going for it if you look at it right: Hayseed farm kid and broken-down abused animal join forces to fight Big Money assholes and beat them at their own game. (10/21/2005) – Marrit Ingman  
 ★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown South

## THE DYING GAUL

D: Craig Lucas; with Peter Sarsgaard, Patricia Clarkson, Campbell Scott. (R, 101 min.)  
 Playwright and screenwriter Craig Lucas debuts as a director of his own material with *The Dying Gaul*, a nasty little story about interpersonal deceptions and Hollywood ethics. At first glance, it appears to be a telling drama about smart people confined by their circumstances and the various mind games they inflict on themselves and others. By the end of the film, relationships have turned

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## Xanadu

**Xanadu (1980)** D: Robert Greenwald; with Olivia Newton-John, Gene Kelly, Michael Beck. (PG, 88 min.) **Sinus Show and Texas Roller girls.** The Sinus guys attempt to improv jokes over footage of the Texas Roller girls in action. Then, both sides will celebrate by desecrating the roller-disco-musical *Xanadu*. A prize of two season passes to the derby will be given to the best performer of a roller-disco song, videoke style. (\*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Wednesday, 7pm.



so corrosive that the characters leave an ugly aftertaste in the mind of the viewer. Greatly adding to the film's palatability are the three central performances at the heart of the movie. Even though the film's characters treat each other with apparent kindness, love, and respect, they're all engaged in various degrees of manipulation and deceit. The story whips itself along until it reaches such a ferocious conclusion that you may wonder if there was something you missed along the way to explain the intensity of the venom that suddenly gushes forth. (11/25/2005) - Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Dobie

### FLIGHTPLAN

D: Robert Schwentke; with Jodie Foster, Peter Sarsgaard, Sean Bean, Marlene Lawston, Erika Christensen, Kate Beahan. (PG-13, 93 min.)

In *Flightplan*, which aims to be a Hitchcockian-type thriller set within the tight quarters of a jetliner, Foster plays a grieving aeronautics engineer who, with her 6-year-old daughter (Lawston), is accompanying her dead husband's body home for burial on an intercontinental flight from Berlin to New York. Once the flight takes off, Pratt and her daughter stretch out for a nap, but when Pratt wakes up three hours later her daughter is missing. The early parts of the movie set a creepy tone.

The last third of the movie devolves into a vicious and far-fetched cat-and-mouse chase. Director Schwentke's sleek images reveal a bent for weird angles and disorienting viewpoints, while the script (by Peter A. Dowling and Billy Ray) maintains a contemptuous attitude toward the disinterested flight crew and its obnoxious passengers - all 425 of them. *Flightplan* should have remained grounded for repairs. (09/23/2005) - Marjorie Baumgarten

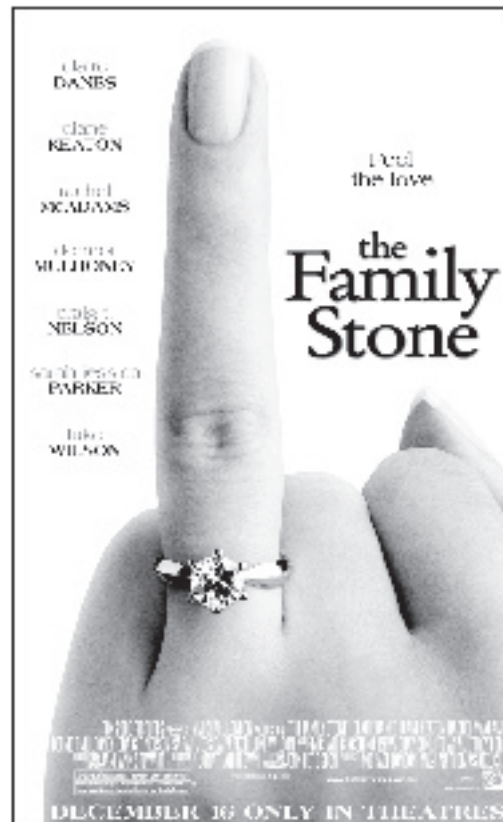
### THE FOG

D: Rupert Wainwright; with Tom Welling, Maggie Grace, Selma Blair, DeRay Davis, Rade Serbedzija, Kenneth Welsh, Adrian Hough. (PG-13, 100 min.)

This inept reimaging of a John Carpenter's shocker is a monumentally bad remake of an exceptionally chilling genre favorite. Like Carpenter's 1980 original, Wainwright's film posits a seaside California fishing village that, on the eve of its centennial, is suddenly overrun by a demonic fogbank, the victim of a generation-spanning vendetta that can only be rescinded through blood. Wainwright's new take has none of Carpenter's low-budget panache, instead recasting the sleepy community of Antonio Bay into Antonio Island, a hotbed of hip-hop radio overseen from the deejay's lighthouse perch by a woefully miscast Selma Blair. *Smallville*'s Welling plays a

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**Best of the AV Geeks** (NR) "Best of the AV Geeks" finds wonders galore in those old 16mm educational film strips and training films. Skip Elsheimer, the founding geek of Raleigh, N.C.'s AV Geeks, will be on hand to present bizarre treasures from his collection of more than 8,000 films. (\*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Sunday, 6pm.

local fisherman with a dirty bloodline and, bizarrely, an African-American sidekick-cum-first-mate (Davis) apparently onboard to give the script an entirely unnecessary dose of urban spin. As the fogbank makes headway against the wind and breaches the shoreline, Graeme Revell's boisterous score kicks into overdrive, mauling the characters onscreen at least as much as the spirits enshrouded within the fog. (10/21/2005) - Marc Savlov  
\* Millennium, Tinseltown South

## GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN'

D: Jim Sheridan; with Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson, Terrence Howard, Adewale Akinnouye-Agbaje, Joy Bryant, Tory Kittles, Ashley Walters, Bill Duke. (R, 117 min.)  
This streetwise tale of Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson's life so far (despite the title, anyone with even a passing interest in rap knows how the story turns out) is so loaded with great, riotous bouts of melodrama that if it were fiction it'd be laughed off the screen. Unlike 8 Mile (Curtis Hanson's fleet, edgy portrait of Eminem, who had a hand in producing this film), 50 Cent's life story feels bloated and profane. And even before he's shot in the mouth (along with another eight hits elsewhere) he sounds as though he's rapping through a mouthful of sand. Which, of course, is part of his tuggish appeal. Broad across and rippling with muscle, 50 Cent mumbles his way through his hits. Sheridan directs with an eye toward the twisting melodramatics, mapping out what seems like a thousand street-level indiscretions, which, in the end, add up to less than a buck. (11/11/2005) - Marc Savlov  
★★ Highland, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North



All That I Need

## ★ GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK

D: George Clooney; with David Strathairn, Robert Downey Jr., Patricia Clarkson, Ray Wise, Frank Langella, Jeff Daniels, George Clooney, Dianne Reeves. (PG, 93 min.)

Director and co-screenwriter George Clooney strikes just the right tone in this screen story of TV newsman Edward R. Murrow's courageous battle in the Fifties against the Commie-baiting Sen. Joseph McCarthy. Filmed in lovely black and white that blends smoothly with the historical footage used in the film, *Good Night, and Good Luck* also manages a successful merger between gripping entertainment and understated cautionary tale. The story's implications for the present are there for the taking but are never pounded home. The film does not attempt a rounded portrait or biographical survey of this journalist's journalist. Nor does it attempt to lionize the man and his deeds. Instead, the film provides a more general portrait of the times and the fear and paranoia that ran rampant because of the Communist witch hunts and loyalty oaths that were de rigeur in the workplace. As the revered Murrow, Strathairn delivers the performance of his career. (10/21/2005) - Marjorie Baumgarten  
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown South

## ★ HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE

D: Mike Newell; with Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Robbie Coltrane, Ralph Fiennes, Michael Gambon, Brendan Gleeson, Jason Isaacs, Gary Oldman, Alan Rickman, Maggie Smith, Timothy Spall. (PG-13, 157 min.)

This fourth *Potter* film is qualitatively different from its cinematic forebears: It doesn't linger on the gothic curlicues of its source material, it moves straightforwardly from place to place, and it emphasizes the emotional development of its characters with dramatic interplay rather than expressionistic, atmospheric gloom. Newell understands that the real thrust of the source material - at least in this particular book - is its characters' passage into adolescence, so he keeps a tight rein on author J.K. Rowling's airy digressions into magical whimsy and takes us right into the heart of the beast: teenage hormones, fallings-out with friends, meeting weird kids from other schools, being hated by your schoolmates, fearing your new teacher yet again, and having to slow dance. Parents should be aware that it's more explicitly violent - hence the PG-13 rating, a first for the series - but really its execution is more adult in a variety of ways, and correctly so. (11/18/2005) - Marrit Ingman  
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

## THE ICE HARVEST

D: Harold Ramis; with John Cusack, Billy Bob Thornton, Connie Nielsen, Oliver Platt, Randy Quaid. (R, 90 min.)

It's Christmas Eve in Wichita, Kan., and the stage is set for dastardly yet comic film noir doings, but *The Ice Harvest's* difficult genre-straddling never quite congeals. Instead of an action comedy that's as slick as ice, Ramis' new film is more like a river of slush, neither here nor there. The professionalism of all involved - from comedy veteran Ramis

## No Pain, No Gain

**No Pain, No Gain** (2005) D: Samuel Turcotte; with Gus Malliarodakis, Dennis Newman, Joe Hursley, Kim Travis, Don Phillips Jr., Crystal Calderoni, Sean Corrigan, Everett Skaggs, Ken Thomas. (NR) A small-town Ohio champion bodybuilder with a genius IQ longs to be respected for his mind, so he journeys to Los Angeles, determined to beat his nemesis with natural science instead of steroids. Filmed mostly in Austin, the film also features cameos by the like of Harry Knowles and Julie Strain. A special red-carpet event is scheduled at the Metropolitan. @Lakeline, @Metropolitan, @Gateway, @Westgate, Saturday, 3pm.



and sardonic leads Cusack and Thornton to the script by Richard Russo and Robert Benton and the delightful secondary performances by Quaid and Platt - ensures that *The Ice Harvest* is always dependable. Yet this level of obvious quality is also what dooms the movie: It never quite lives up to its potential. Indicative of the film's unwillingness to really plumb the depths of the darkness it has set in motion is its substitution of a redemptive ending for the dark finale that concludes Scott Phillips' original novel. (11/25/2005) - Marjorie Baumgarten  
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

## ★ IN HER SHOES

D: Curtis Hanson; with Cameron Diaz, Toni Collette, Shirley MacLaine, Mark Feuerstein, Candice Azzara, Ken Howard, Norman Lloyd, Brooke Smith, Francine Beers, Richard Burgi. (PG-13, 130 min.)

Maggie (Diaz) is an irresponsible good-time girl whose job opportunities are limited by her closet dyslexia; Rose (Collette) is a single lawyer who sops the plainness of her life by buying dozens of designer shoes. Diaz, Collette, and MacLaine all turn in wonderful performances, and if this were all Hanson managed to accomplish with this sisters-in-emotional-crisis movie then he still will have released the best chick flick of the year so far. Hanson takes a prosaic and overly schematic script by Erin Brockovich screenwriter Susannah Grant (who adapted from the novel by Jennifer Weiner) and spins it into box-office gold. At times, the continuous crosscutting between the two sisters feels as though the film is clobbering home the idea of the women as each other's complement, but even if these *Shoes* are not perfectly stitched the fit is nevertheless comfortable and the look is polished. (10/07/2005) - Marjorie Baumgarten  
★★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square

## JARHEAD

D: Sam Mendes; with Jake Gyllenhaal, Peter Sarsgaard, Jamie Fox, Lucas Black, Chris Cooper, Brian Geraghty, Jacob Vargas, Evan Jones. (R, 123 min.)

Things we learn from watching *Jarhead*: War is not hell, war is purgatory, with sporadic excursions to the Delta House to Get This Party Started, Motherfucker; girlfriends/wives are not to be trusted, ever; the Iraqi desert looks sublime when Red Adair's not in town; screenwriter William Broyles Jr. is still a pro at manufacturing gripping narratives out of men waiting for something, anything to happen. With *Jarhead*, the director of *American Beauty*

has adapted Anthony Swofford's 2003 bestseller about his maddening stint with the Marines during the first Gulf war into an equally maddening movie that portrays Our Boys as either tentative heroes, forever on the cusp but never quite allowed to achieve greatness, or borderline psychotics, preprogrammed for mayhem that never arrives, and who then, consciously or unconsciously, turn the savagery of combat inward. Mendes' film sports a wealth of grimly beautiful imagery but lacks any noticeable tone, political or otherwise. War not only dehumanizes, the film seems to be saying, it also infantilizes. (11/04/2005) - Marc Savlov  
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

## JUST FRIENDS

D: Roger Kumble; with Ryan Reynolds, Amy Smart, Anna Faris, Chris Klein, Christopher Marquette, Julie Hagerty. (PG-13, 96 min.)

*Just Friends* is a tepid romantic comedy with a side order of vitriol. The script, by Adam "Tex" Vegas, ricochets between over-earnest romantic comedy staples and a noticeable lack of any consistent tone. Chris Brander (*National Lampoon's Van Wilder* smarm-master Reynolds), to his horror, finds himself stranded in the home town he fled a decade before. Back then he was a strapping 275-plus high school nice guy, who was lovesick for local cheerleader (Smart) but woefully cast in the role of Best Friend 4-Ever. The film's romantic resolution is never in any doubt, although Reynolds and Smart play off each other like pinballs bathed in nitroglycerin. There's both too much recriminatory splicing and not enough good, old-fashioned canoodling going on to make you believe in their mutual destiny for more than a passing moment. Kumble's direction is diffidently garish, and the film feels just a few degrees left of sanity. (11/25/2005) - Marc Savlov  
★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

## ★ KISS KISS, BANG BANG

D: Shane Black; with Robert Downey Jr., Val Kilmer, Michelle Monaghan, Corbin Bernsen, Dash Mihok, Larry Miller, Angela Lindvall. (R, 103 min.)

Blammo! The directorial debut of screenwriter Shane Black (*Lethal Weapon*, *The Long Kiss Goodnight*) is a suckerpunch-and-a-half, a trippy tribute to L.A. noir, a genre-busting blitzkrieg



Christmas in the Clouds

attack on Hollywood pretentiousness that's just as full of it as the pulp paperbacks and their myriad filmic offshoots that it lampoons. It's also a doozy of a comedy, matching the dark wit of Ross MacDonald's *Law Archer* novels to the stylized theatrics of Matt Helm-era Dean Martin. The film is heavy on the narration, but Black's love of self-reflexive, genre-skewing conventions drenches the film in blood reds and Sunset Strip purples and drops a wink and a grin while doing it, over and over, making *Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang* the sort of in-joke affair film geeks lust after but so rarely receive. Downey is a fantastic smear of fatalistic pettiness; it's a bravura performance, one that Kilmer has to run to keep up with. (11/11/2005) — Marc Savlov

★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway

**THE LEGEND OF ZORRO**

D: Martin Campbell; with Antonio Banderas, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Adrian Alonso, Rufus Sewell, Nick Chinlund, Julio Oscar Mechoso, Raul Mendez. (PG, 130 min.)

What started out as a promising return to form for that mythic Mexican buckler of swash has, in a single sequel, devolved into *The Mummy Returns*-lite, or, if you prefer, *Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Box Office*. Adding a tyke to the mix, in this case Alonso's Joaquín de la Vega — pint-sized scion of pop Alejandro, aka Zorro — is as old a Hollywood standby as the hairs on Freddie Bartholomew's cadaver's chin and twice as ticklish. While it may add a key demographic to the moviegoing mix, it also just as often alienates those fans who found the original material just

fine sans Fauntleroy-isms, as is the case with this pulling, strained-beets-and-formula sequel to 1998's top-notch *The Mask of Zorro*. Whereas the Zorro of yore was a cunning subversive with libidinous guerrilla panache literally leaking from his very pores — Ché with a bullwhip — this new take is something akin to *Leave It to Zorro*. (10/28/2005) — Marc Savlov

★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

**NAKED IN ASHES**

D: Paula Fouce. (NR, 108 min.)

"The world wouldn't run without saints and yogis," declares Shiv Raj Giri, one of the handful of subjects in this documentary about Hindu mysticism. Director Fouce, in her debut, follows a loosely organized group of such spiritual voyagers through a series of holy festivals and pilgrimages and trips to Indian ashrams; the result is a largely factual portrait of the yogi life, sufficiently detailed to attract a general audience but not as inquisitive and lyrical an approach as the subject matter probably deserves. Westerners who are already curious about spiritual renunciation and the performance of austerities should probably check the film out, and it's a slam dunk for the classroom setting, but Fouce doesn't delve deeply enough into the heavyweight matters to make the film a true documentary, nor is there enough of a narrative in her nonfiction to suggest a strong creative presence behind the camera. (11/25/2005) — Marrit Ingman

★★ Dobie

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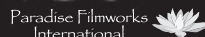


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## Beyond the Rocks

**Beyond the Rocks (1922)** D: Sam Wood; with Gloria Swanson, Rudolph Valentino. (NR, 81 min.) **Association of Moving Image Archivists.** Long believed to be lost, this silent feature was recently discovered within a collection donated to the Nederlands Filmmuseum and restored by their archivists, who will be present at the screening to describe the research and restoration process. The film is a romantic drama based on a novel by Elinor Glyn and is especially rare for its pairing of two big stars (a practice still uncommon in 1922). For more on the conference see [austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-11-25/screens\\_feature.html](http://austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-11-25/screens_feature.html). (\*) @Paramount, Thursday, 8pm; free.



## ★ PRIDE & PREJUDICE

D: Joe Wright; with Keira Knightley, Matthew Macfadyen, Brenda Blethyn, Donald Sutherland, Rosamund Pike, Jena Malone, Tom Hollander, Judi Dench. (PG, 127 min.)

This fresh adaptation shakes the dust off Jane Austen's novel and gives it a good airing out. The result is a witty and lovesick skirmish of the sexes that exceeds all expectations. The prickly courtship between the headstrong Lizzie Bennett (Knightley) and the sullen Mr. Darcy (Macfadyen) is one of English literature's great romantic entanglements, and this screen version of *Pride & Prejudice* imbues their rocky relationship with a vitality that's missing from most paint-by-number love stories. While the class and gender stratifications in Austen's world may be uncomfortably retro for a contemporary audience, the film makes good use of them in contrast to the more egalitarian interactions between Lizzie and Darcy. Indeed, for all the talk about a woman's need for marital protection and the manner in which the Bennett daughters flutter about every time there's a bachelor afoot, there's a plucky feminism in this movie, embodied by Knightley's eye-opening performance as Lizzie. (11/11/2005) — Steve Davis

★★★★ Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

## ★ PRIME

D: Ben Younger; with Uma Thurman, Meryl Streep, Bryan Greenberg, Jon Abrahams, Annie Parisse. (PG-13, 105 min.)

You don't have to be Jewish to enjoy this light romantic comedy, but it helps. Younger's film plays at times like a more youthful ode to the city along the lines of Woody Allen's *Manhattan*: It replaces Gershwin with Jay-Z, while turning the tables on the Allen and Mariel Hemingway May-December romantics. Here, it's the 37-year-old divorcée Rafi (a luminous Thurman), who, at the behest of her analyst Dr. Metzger (Streep), strikes out to discover what she's been missing: some much-needed 23-year-old *shvantz* and its attendant all-encompassing Jewishness that arrives in the form of aspiring artist David Bloomberg (Greenberg). The film's central question then branches out into one of doctor-patient ethics in addition to the propriety of the characters' ages, and from there to a ribald, no-holds-barred examination of everything from a mother's love to why men stray. What makes *Prime* work as well as it does, though, is the genuine sparks between its two lovestruck leads. (10/28/2005) — Marc Savlov

★★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square

## PrizeWhores

**PrizeWhores (2001)** D: Jenn Garrison. (NR, 78 min.) **SXSW Presents.** A glimpse at the lives of three "prize whores" — individuals who organize their lives around the plethora of free giveaways sponsored by radio stations, music venues, and movie houses. (\*) @KLRU-TV, Friday, 10pm.



## RENT

D: Chris Columbus; with Rosario Dawson, Adam Pascal, Taye Diggs, Wilson Jermaine Heredia, Jesse L. Martin, Idina Menzel, Anthony Rapp, Tracie Thoms. (PG-13, 135 min.)

Jonathan Larson's ecstatic and life-affirming update of *La Bohème* is no less relevant today than it was before it garnered a Pulitzer Prize, four Tony Awards, and three OBIEs. Even though both play and film are set in New York City's East Village of 1989, *Rent*, for all its feel-good desperation and plague-battered bonhomie, arrives with the curious but unmistakable air of an artifact from another time, even another world. The characters, a band of starving artists cast in the finest Bohemian tradition, are young enough to make merry in their sprawling, unheated lofts, and to manhandle life by the jugular scruff, even as their generational T-cell count plummets faster than the mercury on the Battery come November. Viewers will recognize the virtue inherent in optimistically blowing a Bronx cheer toward death's ivory grin and will revel in the film's contagious passions. However, it arrives as a loud, guitar-driven musical with only one solidly memorable showstopper, and grating, workmanlike direction by Columbus. (11/25/2005) — Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

## ROLL BOUNCE

D: Malcolm D. Lee; with Bow Wow, Chi McBride, Mike Epps, Wesley Jonathan, Kellita Smith, Meagan Good, Nick Cannon, Brandon T. Jackson, Busisiwe Irvin. (PG-13, 112 min.)

*Roll Bounce* triumphs on almost all counts, hot-wiring a penchant for sports film clichés to some seriously spot-on Seventies nostalgia that looks and feels true not only in its attention to period detail but also in its all-important portrayal of teenage camaraderie and its attendant angst. Young

(but not Lil') Bow Wow plays Southside Chicago rollerskating champ X who, along with his trusty band of low-rent buddies, spends the summer of '78 mourning the recent death of his mother and the closing of his local skate palace by taking his A-game uptown and sticking it to the man. At times, *Roll Bounce* feels as though it's one long parade of coming-of-age film clichés, but Malcolm Lee's tight, focused direction — coupled with a disarmingly irony-free script from Norman Vance Jr. and some smart, funny performances — helps the film rise above any stereotyped profiling. *Roll Bounce* is the sort of teenage summer fare that just doesn't get made that much anymore. (09/23/2005) — Marc Savlov

★★★ Millennium

## SAW II

D: Darren Lynn Bousman; with Donnie Wahlberg, Shawnee Smith, Tobin Bell, Franky G., Glenn Plummer, Dina Meyer, Emmanuelle Vaugier, Beverley Mitchell. (R, 91 min.)

*Saw II* is a nasty piece of work, reveling as it does in outright sadism and dancing dangerously close to having no idea in its grimy head other than how best to mindfuck its characters into oblivion. At the latter it does a fine job, dispatching an octet of strangers, who have awoken imprisoned in the booby-trapped house of horrors of serial killer Jigsaw (Bell). Jigsaw's modus operandi, carried over from the first film, is to awaken the nascent survival instinct in his prey, thereby making them better people as a whole. It's something of a flawed bill of goods he's selling, however, as his elaborate contrivances and befuddlements continually net him not the finer specimens of humanity he allegedly seeks, but shell-shocked, thousand-yard stagers and rat-food tartare. However, with nary a decent, connective character in sight, the film quickly becomes little more than a strenuous battle for survival among the already damned. (10/28/2005) — Marc Savlov

★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

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**★ SHOPGIRL**

D: Anand Tucker; with Claire Danes, Steve Martin, Jason Schwartzman, Bridgette Wilson-Sampras, Sam Bottoms, Frances Conroy. (R, 104 min.)

Shopgirl is a rare Hollywood offering: a romantic story without the romance, a love story without the hearts and flowers. Danes is perfection, undergoing a range of emotions that we discern only from her face and demeanor rather than any lines of dialogue or plot development. Without her performance, Shopgirl would probably be another creature entirely. Martin, despite doing one of the best versions of his familiar suave sophisticate, still tracks in a degree of smarm, perhaps most evident in the narrating voiceover, which is unnecessary and unfortunately lends the story a slight whiff of condescension (a tone ushered in by the story's very title). Ultimately, Shopgirl stands out as an elegant work, one that provides a welcome look at love, romance, and heartbreak without the encumbrances of the usual Hollywood folderol. Yet, there still seems something evasive about the film's elegant bearing, as if when scratched deeply it would appear as vacant as all the other Hollywood love stories. (11/04/2005) - Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Arbor, CM Barton Creek

**★ THE SQUID AND THE WHALE**

D: Noah Baumbach; with Jeff Daniels, Laura Linney, Jesse Eisenberg, Owen Kline, Halley Feiffer, William Baldwin, David Bengier. (R, 80 min.)

The opening line lays it all out on the table: "It's Mom and me versus you and Dad." Young Frank (Kline) is merely delineating sides for a family game of tennis, but when that family - the Berkman of Park Slope, Brooklyn, circa 1986 - soon after dissolves in divorce, the opposing camps are pretty neatly summarized the same. Fifteen-year-old Walt (Eisenberg) sides with their father, Bernard (Daniels), a once-famous author whose reputation is in freefall. Frank is less obvious about it, but his heart is with his mother, Joan (Linney), whose own writing career is just taking off. There are no heroes here. Bernard is a pompous poseur; Joan, an unapologetic philanderer. Walt's a mini-Bernard in the making, and Frank is utterly neglected. The Berkman are all comical figures, but Baumbach never denies them their humanity. This is humor served not with a smirk but with a helpless shrug. (11/04/2005) - Kimberley Jones

★★★★ Arbor

**★ WALK THE LINE**

D: James Mangold; with Joaquin Phoenix, Reese Witherspoon, Robert Patrick, Shelby Lynne, Ginnifer Goodwin, Larry Bagby, Tyler Hilton, Dallas Roberts, Johnathan Rice, Shooter Jennings, Waylon Payne. (PG-13, 136 min.)

Musician Johnny Cash circumvented the rowdy mantrap of diminishing rock & roll returns by giving up his one true love - little white speed pills - for his other one true love - young Memphis country and gospel sasspot June Carter (Witherspoon), a powder keg of padlocked passions whose sparks ignited for her music, friends, family, and also, to her dismay, this black-clad baritone with the quiver in his voice and the arrow in his heart. Joaquin Phoenix as Cash is the next best thing to having been there, I suppose, and although the sinner man's early successes and echoing woes look chaotically entertaining indeed in that hellishly dashing sort of way young doomsters can exude, the wreckage he leaves in his wake is quick and obvious and banal. Only the steady output of his lonely locomotive guitar and plaintive, almost homely, voice made this bad Cash worth anybody's jukebox dime. (11/18/2005) - Marc Savlov

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

**★ WALLACE & GROMIT: THE CURSE OF THE WERE-RABBIT**

D: Nick Park, Steve Box; with Ralph Fiennes, Helena Bonham Carter, Peter Sallis, Nicholas Smith, Peter Kay, Liz Smith. (G, 96 min.)

Enough with the CGI animation, Disney, DreamWorks, et al.: Between Tim Burton's smashingly fine Corpse Bride and this excellent new outing from Nick Park and UK-based Aardman Animations, the limitations of pixelated renderings are revealed in full, and they don't hold a guttering candle to the tactile warmth and sheer organic

wizardry of Aardman's stop-motion animation. This film is a brilliantly conceived and executed bit of Brit wit, perfect for both kids and their parents and anyone even remotely interested in laughing themselves silly. Here the oblivious garage inventor and his pal are running a pest-control service in rural England. Thanks to a scientific miscalculation that results in the accidental creation of a gigantic, vegetable-crazed rabbit, the pair are thrust into a battle of wits with both their hare-y nemesis and local 'toff scoundrel Victor Quartermaine (Fiennes). It's a ripping good yarn, breathlessly paced and seamlessly edited but, most important, resoundingly and surpassingly fun. (10/07/2005) - Marc Savlov

★★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown South

**YOURS, MINE & OURS**

D: Raja Gosnell; with Dennis Quaid, Rene Russo, Linda Hunt, Sean Faris, Katija Pevec, Danielle Panabaker, Rip Torn, Jerry O'Connell. (PG, 88 min.)

If you can't wait to see Cheaper by the Dozen 2, you can currently go see this new supersized family comedy, itself a remake of the 1968 Henry Fonda and Lucille Ball original. It won't spoil your appetite or even leave much of an impression, as tame and uninspired as it is. On the other hand, it won't offend any sensibilities or desecrate the memory of the original - and will definitely make The Brady Bunch look like an example of prudent family planning. Quaid endures more than his share of comic falls and scrapes, while the kids all unite in various schemes to break their parents apart. Too many of the seams show in Yours, Mine & Ours and inter-

rupt any potential flights of comic fancy. Of the 18 child performers, only Pevec and Panabaker as rival sisters show any real gift for acting. (11/25/2005) - Marjorie Baumgarten

★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

**★ ZATHURA**

D: Jon Favreau; with Jonah Bobo, Josh Hutcherson, Dax Shepard, Kristen Stewart, Tim Robbins, Frank Oz, John Alexander, Derek Mears. (PG, 113 min.)

With his follow-up to Elf, actor-turned-director Jon Favreau sticks with family-friendly filmmaking, this time taking on the film version of Chris van Allsburg's bestselling children's book Zathura. This film succeeds in a way that neither of the previous van Allsburg film adaptations (Jumanji, The Polar Express) managed: It's infused with a greater sense of fun and realism. Favreau keeps the picture throttling forward with a carefree charm: a space adventure that goes forth with a Buck Rogers attitude as silly gizmos, robots, and monsters turn from mildly goofy to dangerous and threatening in the blink of an eye. The tone of the fantasy and the effects are just right: enough to surprise and startle everyone and even spook the littlest ones, but so gleefully defiant of the laws of physics and aeronautics that it's clear the film's only objective is to have a good time. (11/11/2005) - Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North

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 Fri. - Thu. 11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00

**CHICKEN LITTLE (G)**  
 Fri. - Thu. 12:15

★ AEON FLUX (PG-13)  
 Fri. & Sat. 10:15 12:40 2:55 5:20 7:35 9:50 12:05  
 Sun. - Thu. 10:15 12:40 2:55 5:20 7:35 9:50

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 Fri. - Thu. 10:00 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00

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# Special Screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (\*) indicates full-length reviews available online: [austinchronicle.com/film](http://austinchronicle.com/film).



*Overlord* is part of the Association of Moving Image Archivists screenings today at the Paramount.

## THURSDAY 01

**70mm Extravaganza Association of Moving Image Archivists.** Curated by Grover Crisp of Sony Pictures Entertainment, this program will present some of the best in restoration of the rare 65mm format, including footage from some Hollywood films of the Sixties and Seventies, plus some shorts newly restored by the Academy Film Archive. (\*) @Paramount, 3:30pm; free.

**Beyond the Rocks (1922)** See p.92.

**Overlord (1975)** D: Stuart Cooper; with Brian Stirner, Davyd Harries, Nicholas Ball, Julie Neesam. (NR, 85 min.) **Association of Moving Image Archivists.** After winning the Silver Bear at the Berlin International Film Festival in 1975, this British film about the Allied invasion of Europe slipped into obscurity. Using lots of newsreel and documentary war footage, the film creates a story about a soldier preparing for D-Day. The film has been recently revived by the Telluride and London film festivals. For more on the conference see [austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-11-25/screens\\_feature.html](http://austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-11-25/screens_feature.html). @Paramount, 1pm; free.

**The Fantastic Planet (1973)** D: René Laloux; with the voice of Barry Bostwick. (PG, 72 min.) **Movies & Music.** This animated classic about anti-totalitarianism will be presented with a new score by musician Neil Hagerty of Pussy Galore, Royal Trux, and the Howling Hex. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45pm.

## SPACES

**Dust (2001)** D: Milcho Manchevski; with Joseph Fiennes, David Wenham, Adrian Lester, Anne Brochet. (R, 127 min.) **Department of Radio-TV-Film, UT Film Institute, and Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies.** Set in the Old West, Macedonia under the Ottoman Empire, and contemporary New York, Manchevski uses a narrative approach similar to that in his brilliant *Before the Rain* to blend resonant love stories and politics of the past and present. Milcho Manchevski will be in attendance for a Q&A following the screening. @GRG 102 (UT campus on 24th), 7pm.

## 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 Dec. 16 issue is Monday, Dec. 5.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): [specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com](mailto:specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com); Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): [calendar@austinchronicle.com](mailto:calendar@austinchronicle.com).

## FRIDAY 02

**Sinus Christmas Show** (NR) **Sinus Show.** In a now-annual tradition, the Sinus Show crew hurl their best zingers at favorite holiday movies and TV specials. Some old bits from past years are mixed with lots of new material. Milk and cookies will be served. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

**Videoke** Act out scenes from various movies and win prizes. See [www.originalalamo.com](http://www.originalalamo.com) for details. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

## SPACES

**PrizeWhores (2001)** See p.92.

**What the #\$\*! Do We Know? (2004)** D: Mark Vicente, Betsy Chasse and William Arntz; with Marlee Matlin, Elaine Hendrix, Robert Bailey Jr., Armin Shimerman, Barry Newman. (NR, 108 min.) Quantum physics, intent and possibility, science and fantasy ... goofy cult or educational primer? (\*) @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1608 Barton Springs Rd.), 10pm; free.

**What the #\$\*! Do We Know? (2004)** @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1206 Parkway), 10pm; free. (See above)

## Offscreen

**A Tribute to Townes Van Zandt** is an after-party, open to the public, following the Alamo Drafthouse's preview screening of *Be Here to Love Me*. This shindig helps benefit the SIMS foundation, and features live music from, among others, JT Van Zandt, ... Trail of Dead, Jimmie Dale Gilmore, and Kimmie Rhodes & Joe Gracey. *Thu., Dec. 8, 9:30pm. Antone's, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424. \$15.*

**Movie Lovers' Sundays: From Comic Book to Super Heroes** *ReelDeal* regular Martin Thomas leads a lively class exploring the history and styles of characters who have evolved from comic books into three-dimensional movie idols. Avengers? Assemble! And register in advance. *Sundays, Dec. 4-11. Austin Museum of Art Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 323-6380. www.theartschool.amoa.org.*

**Reel Women International Film Festival** RW's second international film will be held March 23-26, in Los Angeles, Calif., and they're accepting submissions now. Categories include: features, documentaries, shorts, animation, and student films, all of which must be directed by women or written and produced by women. Check their Web site for more information. [www.rwiff.com](http://www.rwiff.com).

**SXSW Film Festival 2006: Call For Entries** Submissions in all categories are now

## SATURDAY 03

**Christmas in the Clouds Benefit Screening (2001)** D: Kate Montgomery; with Tim Vahle, Sam Vlahos, MariAna Tosca, M. Emmet Walsh, Graham Greene. (PG, 94 min.) **Austin Community College Radio, Television and Film Program Benefit.** Montgomery's debut feature is a romantic comedy set in a Native American ski resort. The director and several cast members will conduct a Q&A after the screening. Proceeds benefit ACC's Radio, Television and Film program. Tickets may be purchased at [www.amercreativityassoc.org/clouds.htm](http://www.amercreativityassoc.org/clouds.htm) also include admission to an afterparty. @Arbor, 7pm; \$20.

**Cicadas (2000)** See p.88.

**No Pain, No Gain (2005)** See p.90.

**Sinus Christmas Show** @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45. (See Fri., 12/02)

**The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975)** D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.) Austin *Rocky Horror* fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for 28 years straight. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

**Trailerthon 4: The Italian Connection** Two hours of three-minute wonders from the Alamo's recently acquired archive of obscure Italian crime, action, and horror film trailers. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid.

## SUNDAY 04

**"I Had an Abortion," "The Abortion Diaries," and "43%" Texas Abortion Conversation.** "Speak Out: I Had an Abortion" by Gillian Aldrich documents the stories of 11 women representing a huge span in age, race, religion, region, class, sexuality, and politics. "The Abortion Diaries" by Penny Lane is a documentary that features 12 disparate women, who also speak candidly about their experiences with abortion. "43%" by Rebecca Fitz is a 2002 Cinematexas Documentary Award winner. For more information contact Diana Philip at 877/922-7287 or at [jdpchick@yahoo.com](mailto:jdpchick@yahoo.com). (\*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 6:30pm; \$10, free to participants in the Texas Abortion Conversation conference held earlier in the day.

**Best of the AV Geeks** See p.90.

**Bus Nut: Extreme Bus Adventure 2** Sixteen-millimeter bus disaster and safety films will be screened onboard a moving school bus. The 8:15pm show is sold out. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45am, 8:15pm.

**Moulin Rouge Sing-Along (2001)** D: Baz Luhrmann; with Nicole Kidman, Ewan McGregor. (PG-13, 127 min.) If Nicole can do it, so can you. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 8:30pm.

being accepted by the festival, and applicants can submit via the festival Web site. If not applying online, print out the pdf version of the film entry form, complete it by hand, and include a synopsis of no more than 50 words, director's bio, cast and crew list, and a list of previous and planned screenings. Send it, along with the processing fee and your DVD or VHS screener, to: *SXSW Film, PO Box 4999, Austin, 78765. Deadline: Dec. 5. www.sxsw.com/film.*

**Texas High School Film Competition** will be part of the 2006 SXSW Film Festival. The competition is open to all Texas high school students enrolled in the ninth through 12th grades for the full 2005-06 academic year. Only films completed in 2005 will be considered; all films chosen as finalists will be shown in a special program as part of the regular SXSW Film 2006 schedule. Check the Web site below for more details. *Deadline: Dec. 12. www.sxsw.com/film/submit/texas\_students.*

**The Austin Movie Show: Film Tournament 2.0** will keep the popular show keeping on, yea verily, even though the Austin Music Network is no more. Not only will the Austin Movie Show be shown 6-8pm on Sunday nights, but their Film Tournament 2.0 will start up the same night, following the show from 9-11pm. For details about submitting a short film to be considered, check their Web site. [www.austinmovieshow.com](http://www.austinmovieshow.com).

## MONDAY 05

**Britcoms: Shaun of the Dead Spinoffs** D: Edgar Wright; with Jessica Stevenson, Simon Pegg, Julia Deakin, Mark Heap, Katy Carmichael, Nick Frost. (NR) **Vulcan Video.** The creators and stars of *Shaun of the Dead* became famous with the TV comedy *Spaced*, and the "Danger 50,000 Zombies" episode will screen. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm; \$1.

**Sound Unbound: Developments in Late 20th-Century Jazz (2005)** D: Anne Heller. (NR, 80 min.) Loosely traces the metamorphosis of bebop into free jazz through interviews and vintage performance clips of jazz greats and special commentary by modern composer John Cage. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm; \$1.

## SPACES

**The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill (2005)** D: Judy Irving. (G, 83 min.) Examination of a man's complex relationship with a flock of wild parrots. (\*) @Cafe Mundi, 8pm; free.

**Twin Peaks and Carnivale** An episode of *Twin Peaks* screens at 7pm, followed by an episode of *Carnivale* at 8pm. Popcorn provided. @Beerland, 7pm; free, 21 and over.

## TUESDAY 06

**American Matchmaker (1940)** D: Edgar G. Ulmer; with Leo Fuchs, Judith Abarbanel, Jedel Dubinsky, Anna Guskin, Celia Brodtkin. (NR, 87 min.) **Austin Film Society: Hollywood Detour - The Independent Mind of Edgar G. Ulmer.** Yiddish comedy about a young man who sets up a modern match-making business. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm; AFS members free, \$4 general admission (online reservations at [www.austinfilm.org](http://www.austinfilm.org)).

**The Ringer Premiere (2005)** D: Barry W. Blaustein; with Johnny Knoxville, Katherine Heigl, Brian Cox. (PG-13, 94 min.) **Special Olympics Texas and the Austin Film Festival.** This is the Austin premiere of this new Farrelly Brothers production, which was filmed in Austin and San Marcos and includes several local residents and Special Olympics Texas Athletes. Expected guests include star Johnny Knoxville, director Barry Blaustein, and producers Peter Farrelly and Bradley Thomas. A reception to be held at 6pm requires a separate ticket and ensures reserved seating. Call 835-9873 x2924 to purchase tickets. @Paramount, 7:30pm.

**The Singing Blacksmith (1938)** D: Edgar G. Ulmer; with Moyshe Oysher, Miriam Risell, Florence Weiss, Anna Appel, Luba Wesoly. (NR, 107 min.) **Austin Film Society: Hollywood Detour - The Independent Mind of Edgar G. Ulmer.** Spoken and sung entirely in Yiddish, this relic from the Yiddish stage focuses on a young man's avoidance, then acceptance, of marriage. Featuring the operatic voice of Cantor Moyshe Oysher. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm; AFS members free, \$4 general admission (online reservations at [www.austinfilm.org](http://www.austinfilm.org)).

## IMAX Theatre

For ticket prices and showtimes call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see [www.thestoryoftexas.com](http://www.thestoryoftexas.com).

**Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3-D (2005)** D: Mark Cowen; narrated by Tom Hanks. (NR, 40 min.) What could be better than the illusion of walking on the moon? Tom Hanks co-produced and narrates this exploration of the lunar surface drawn from NASA footage and CGI images. Many famous actors read passages from *The Lunar Surface Journals*, based on the personal reminiscences of the 12 men who have walked on the moon.

**Texas: The Big Picture (2003)** D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.) Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as Texas is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips. The film won't do anything to bust the tried-and-true stereotypes about native Texans or the state's history, but here in Texas we tend to like it that way.

**The Polar Express: An IMAX 3-D Experience (2004)** D: Robert Zemeckis; with Tom Hanks, Michael Jeter, Peter Scolar, Nona Gaye, Eddie Deezen. (G, 100 min.) Chris van Allsburg's magical tale of the Christmas Eve re-education of a Santa-doubting adolescent screens in all its dimensions.

SPACES

**Documentaries and Short Films**

Screenings on the back patio every Tuesday.  
@Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1206 Parkway), 8pm; free.

**WEDNESDAY 07**

**Britney, Justin, Christina: The MMC Sing-Along** It's *The Mickey Mouse Club* gang like you've never seen them. The folks at the Alamo have taken their hit videos and added subtitles for this pop sing-along. The event also includes karaoke contest and drinking games. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

**Nudge 2.5: A Micro-Digital Film Festival Austin FilmWorks.** This is the fourth installment of screenings of projects made by students at Austin FilmWorks. "Classic Shorts" screens at 7pm on Wednesday; highlights include "Against Medical Advice" by John Merriman, "Abuela's Home" by Miguel Alvarez, "Love Me Tender" by Courtney Davis, "Transference" by Guy Juke, "The Gift" by Elizabeth Slaughter and Lisa Walker, and "Lovely Texas" by Siri Hutcheson and Camille Cook. At 9pm on Wednesday is the "New Shorts" program of films made in and outside of AFW, and highlights include "Breakdown" by CC Stinson and Neobe Velis, "Travis Love" by Aaron Boyette, "Pointy, Pointy" by Roy Rutngamlug, "The Case of Clyde Baxter" by Aaron Dixon, "How a Noose Is Worth the Happiness of Paradise" by John Paul Bujonch, "Le Cafard" by Melissa Salpietra, and "Weathered" by Elizabeth Mims. Screening on

Thursday at 7pm are final projects of Spring 2004 Production One and Two classes. For more info see [www.austinfilmworks.com](http://www.austinfilmworks.com). @Arbor, 7, 9pm.

**The Visitor (1979)** D: Giulio Paradisi; with Mel Ferrer, Glenn Ford, Lance Henriksen, John Huston, Joanne Nail, Sam Peckinpah, Shelley Winters. (R, 112 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** Supernatural thriller about a possessed child with a cast that includes John Huston, Shelley Winters, Lance Henriksen, Sam Peckinpah, and Franco Nero as Jesus. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

**Xanadu (1980)** See p.89.

**THURSDAY 08**

**Be Here to Love Me: A Film About Townes Van Zandt Premiere (2005)** D: Margaret Brown. (NR, 99 min.) Lyrical film portrait of the brilliant but self-destructive songwriting legend Townes Van Zandt. Sold out. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

**Nudge 2.5: A Micro-Digital Film Festival** @Arbor, 7pm. (See Wed., 12/07)

**Saved by the Bell After-School Experience** Three of the most popular episodes of the TV series *Saved by the Bell* will be chosen by audience applause vote. There will also be a *Saved by the Bell* look-alike contest and admission includes an early Nineties survival kit, complete with slap bracelets, Koosh balls, friendship bracelets, and Jessie's Keep Alert Caffeine Pills. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.



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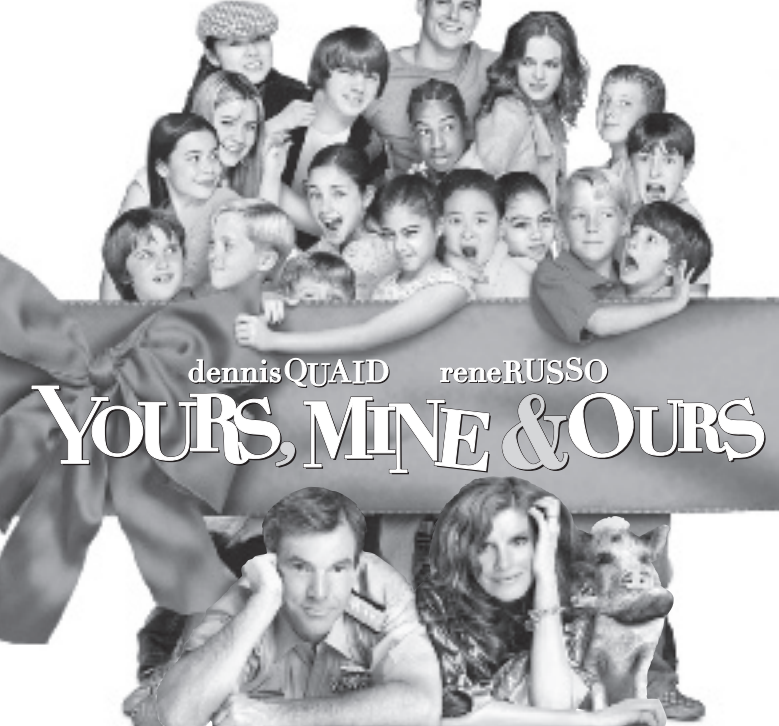
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## Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey

STUBB'S, FRIDAY 2

Seasoned jam-band renegades Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey meander telepathically through renditions of Dave Brubeck, Charles Mingus, the Beatles, Brian Wilson, Jimi Hendrix, Neil Young, the Flaming Lips, and Björk. The Tulsa trio offers its third studio disc, *The Sameness of Difference* (Hyena), as guided by legendary Atlantic Records producer Joel Dorn. Austin treasure D-Madness conjures sessions by Stevie Wonder, seamlessly switching between keyboard, drums, and bass as syrupy lyrics spew joyfulness. Drae and Hacienda open. — Robert Gabriel

## Jones Family Singers

VICTORY GRILL, FRIDAY 2

See "TCB," p.61, for more info.

## Phosphorescent

EMO'S, SATURDAY 3

Matthew Houck's Athens, Ga., outfit Phosphorescent bubbles with introspection. This year's lovely *Aw Come Aw Wry* on local imprint Misra is a faded photograph of an anxious man learning from the world around him. Houck's crackling warble lends itself to candor and passion without melodrama. He's a friend, a shoulder to cry on, a weathered diary. San Diego's Castanets provide the quiet before the storm, and locals Peter & the Wolf and Devendra Banhart cohort Jana Hunter bring the folk strum. — Darcie Stevens



## ECFA 10-Year Anniversary

RUTA MAYA INT'L HQ, WEDNESDAY 7

Let's face it, trying to survive playing free jazz is not an easy proposition, even in an open-minded musical town like Austin. "The hardest part is getting musicians to commit to playing in the group because there's no money in it," laments local saxophonist and composer Carl Smith.

For the past decade, with dedication and fortitude, Smith has led the ECFA Trio through innumerable incarnations. The music's not only challenging to the ear, it's also difficult to play, another potential disincentive for musicians. ECFA's combination of modern classical, free improv, bebop, free jazz, and punk requires both concentration and total abandon.

"I try to harness the energy of punk on my horn," explains Smith.

Despite crowds that aren't particularly large, Smith is quick to note, "I've usually gotten a really good response from Austin audiences and fellow musicians, and venues like Beerland, Church of the Friendly Ghost, and End of an Ear Records have always been supportive."



The current edition of ECFA is a year old and includes Holland Hopson on soprano sax and electronics and Jason Friedrich on drums.

"Electronics are underused in jazz, but it adds a nice textural quality to our sound," says Smith.

ECFA has recently completed a period of studying the jazz masters and then presenting tributes to the likes of Ornette Coleman, Eric Dolphy, and Thelonious Monk. Smith is back concentrating on his own compositions now with the music he wants to play. His 2004 album, *Die Mitte*, now released on the French Lenke Lente imprint, is the result.

"The sound and the music are a bit different because of the two saxophones, but it's still ECFA." — Jay Trachtenberg

## Hell's Belles

STUBB'S, SATURDAY 3

They're rolling thunder, pouring rain, coming on like a hurricane. Or so say the late-night SXSW revelers who let there be rock to this Seattle quintet of ladies who cover AC/DC. Guitarist Adrian Conner has the Angus, down to the schoolgirl uniform, and the only question is why isn't Austin's Bon Scott — Jason McMaster — on this bill? Not that the Southern gentlemen of local trio Honky won't stomp their *Balls Out Inn*. All for free. — Raoul Hernandez



## MF Doom

LA ZONA ROSA, MONDAY 5

Deadpan rap from a hole in a mask: MF Doom works hip-hop into a frenzy of mechanical proportions. Delivering punch lines on top of punch lines, the former Zev Love X assumes the cold metallic certainty of a calibrated pendulum working overtime to meet its lyrical fate. Whether melding minds with Dangermouse, Madlib, or Ghostface, Doom maintains relentless thought-patterns that unfold as rhythmic animation. Nashville's Count Bass D and the Doom-produced John Robinson Project draw themselves into Doom's foreboding cartoon. — Robert Gabriel



## Japanther EMO'S, THURSDAY 8

Using only tape loops, telephone receivers, guitar, and drums, Brooklyn duo Japanther create some sort of chaotic seven-headed beast that's neither Japanese nor pantheresque. On their latest, *Master of Pigeons* (Menlo Park), Ian Vanek and Matt Reilly exude more sloppy, choppy blastitude and buckets of sweat. Local one-man band Daniel Francis Doyle explodes with beautiful cacophony off his upcoming *Who Are Your Customers?* on local imprint Furniture, and Tia Carrera pick-me-up Vitamins support with Corruption Is King opening. — Audra Schroeder

## The Glass Family CD Release

CONTINENTAL CLUB, THURSDAY 8

Watching a band go from sloppy newborn to tightly wound, indie rock greatness will make anyone proud, and with the release of the Glass Family's debut, *Sleep Inside This Wheel* (I Eat Records), local showgoers are beaming. Michael Winningham's delicate voice leads his Family members through perfectly structured tales of loneliness and exuberance beneath layers of softly rolling guitar. Local faves Zykos and instrumental warriors Cue open the show with Waxploitation! spinning funk and soul between and after. All wrapped up in a bow. — Darcie Stevens



## Soundcheck BY DARCIE STEVENS

### BUTTERCUP, F FOR FAKE

Ruta Maya Int'l HQ, Friday 2

San Antonio's experimental popsters hit with local all-star cousins F for Fake and Los Mescaleros.

### BAVU BLAKES, D-MADNESS

Red Eyed Fly, Friday 2

Local hip-hop troubadours mix with Houston's V-Zilla and local white boys in black ties, Vehicular.

### RANDY BRECKER

Elephant Room, Friday 2

One half of the Grammy-winning Brecker Brothers brings his trumpet to the basement.

### BIRTHDAY SUITS

Room 710, Saturday 3

The Japanese drum & guitar duo screams *Cherry Blue*.

### MISS LAVELLE WHITE'S CHRISTMAS

Saxon Pub, Saturday 3

Miss Lavelle's soulful holidays, take one.

### JUNIOR BROWN

Continental Club, Sunday 4

Down Home Chrome with the guit-steel country legend.



Birthday Suits

### ADRIENNE YOUNG & LITTLE SADIE

Cactus Cafe, Tuesday 6

The Floridian folk fiddler teaches *The Art of Virtue*.

### RED LIGHTNING

Momos, Tuesday 6

Morrissey guitarist Alain White strikes out on his own.

### THE TEXAS SAPPHIRES, DRAG THE RIVER

Emo's, Wednesday 7

Local traditional country slingers follow Coloradoan alt.country.

### ANA EGGE

Flipnotics, Thursday 8

Songwriter-siren wades *Out Past the Lights*.

### KING'S X

La Zona Rosa, Thursday 8

Revisit the Nineties with these Houston rockers.

### INVINCIBLE CZARS

Flamingo Cantina, Thursday 8

Time for *The Nutcracker Suite*.

## Blowfly RED EYED FLY, SATURDAY 3

After a triumphantly vulgar stand at SXSW earlier this year, Miami-based porn-rap pioneer Blowfly rolls the booty bus back through Austin to promote his latest Alternative Tentacles release, *Fahrenheit 69*. Combining vintage T.K. Records funk with underground punk, nobody busts a dirty rap nut quite like Blowfly. He runs for president on a platform of getting everybody laid and lambastes R. Kelly with "I Believe My Dick Can Fly." Local prurient popsters the Old-Timerz set the stage along with Schllong Daddy. — Greg Beets

## Powerman 5000, Wicked Wisdom

BACK ROOM, SUNDAY 4

See "TCB," p.61, for interview with Wicked Wisdom's Jada Pinkett Smith.

## Jose Feliciano

ONE WORLD THEATRE, SUNDAY 4

Jose Feliciano's now annual Austin holiday appearances gift us all. His Latino-blues vocal style and classical Spanish guitar first hit radio in the late Sixties when he translated the Doors' "Light My Fire" into his own jazzy signature tune. Along the way, Feliciano collected two Grammys and a plethora of other awards. Expect to hear instrumentals from his not-yet-released *Six-String Lady*, as well as the exuberantly traditional seasonal offering "Feliz Navidad" at the perfect time of year. — Margaret Moser

live music VENUES ▶ p.100

CLUB LISTINGS + roadshows ▶ p.102



**Thu 1** Blake & Fallon ~ Johnny Goudie 8pm

**Fri 2**  
**Kirk Smith**  
Bellevue 9pm

**Sat 3**  
**Will T. Massey**  
Eric Hisaw 9pm

**Sun 4** Christmas with Micaiah Ward 6:30pm  
David Newbould 8pm

**Mon 5** Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory 8:30pm

**Tues 6** El Orbits ~ Rokkatone 8pm

**Wed 7** An Evening with Ana Egge

**thur 8** Matt the Electrician ~ Shane Bartell

**fri 9** Billy Harvey ~ Graham Wilkinson

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**Sat ★ Dec 10** **IAN MOORE** **Wed ★ Dec 14** **FREAKWATER**

**Thur ★ Dec 15** christmas show! **TISH HINOJOSA** **Fri ★ Dec 16** **SLAD CLEAVES** **Sat ★ Dec 17** **HOT JAZZ CARAVAN and PARIS 49**

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1/28	★ CHRIS THILE	2/21	★ ROBINELLA
	★ MIKE MARSHALL	2/24	★ HAPA

The Cactus is located inside the Texas Union. Happy Hour 4-7pm, Monday-Friday. Tickets @ the door & all shows @ 9pm unless otherwise noted. 23rd & Guadalupe. 475-6515.  
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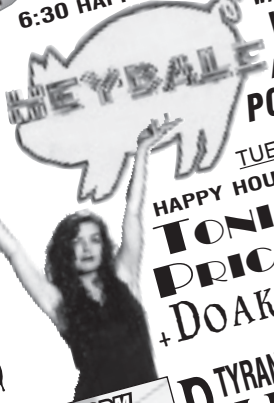


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MATINEE 3-7PM  
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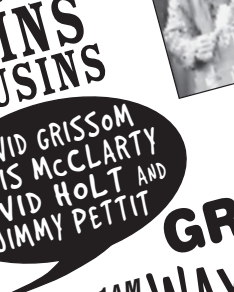
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11PM ZYKOS  
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**CANARY HUT PUB**, 11005 Burnet Rd., 837-7117  
**THE CANARY ROOST**, 11900 Metric, 836-6360  
**CAROUSEL LOUNGE**, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790  
**CEDAR STREET**, 208 W. Fourth, 495-9669  
**CENTRAL MARKET CAFE**, 4001 N. Lamar, 206-1000  
**CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH**, 4477 S. Lamar, 899-4300  
**CHARLIE'S**, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481  
**CHEAPO DISCS**, 914 N. Lamar, 477-4499  
**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE**, 119 Cheatham, San Marcos, 512/353-3777  
**CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO**, 5406 Balcones, 454-2666  
**CINDY'S GONE HOG WILD ICEHOUSE**, 5496 Hwy. 71 W., 247-4600  
**CIRCLE COUNTRY CLUB**, 9926 Circle, 301-4661  
**CLUB ONE 15**, 115 San Jacinto, 472-4115  
**COFFEE CREATOR**, 9402 Parkfield Dr., 719-4544  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB**, 1315 S. Congress, 441-2444  
**COOL RIVER CAFE**, 4001 Parmer, 835-0010  
**COPA BAR & GRILL**, 217 Congress, 479-5002  
**COTTON CLUB**, 212 E. Davilla, Granger, 512/859-0700  
**CUBA LIBRE**, 409 Colorado, 472-2822  
**CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN**, 1 Woodcreek Circle, Wimberley, 512/847-5950  
**DAN MCKLUSKY'S**, 301 E. Sixth, 473-8924  
**DARWIN'S PUB**, 223 E. Sixth, 474-7399  
**THE DETOUR**, 1113 RR 620 N., Lakeway, 512/266-2279  
**THE DIAMOND BALLROOM**, 2410 E. Riverside Ste. E3, 440-0062  
**DONN'S DEPOT**, 1600 W. Fifth, 478-0336  
**THE DRINK**, 325 E. Sixth, 236-0050  
**THE DRISKILL**, 804 Brazos, 474-5911  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE**, 301 E. Fifth, 472-1860  
**EGO'S**, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091  
**EL MERCADO MUSIC LOUNGE**, 1302 S. First, 447-7445  
**EL SOL Y LA LUNA**, 1224 S. Congress, 444-7770  
**ELEMENT**, 301 W. Fifth, 480-9888  
**ELEPHANT ROOM**, 315 Congress, 473-2279  
**ELYSIUM**, 705 Red River, 478-2979  
**EMO'S**, 603 Red River, 477-EMOS  
**EVANGELINE CAFE**, 8106 Brodie #110, 282-2586  
**FAD**, 214 W. Fourth, 457-0172  
**FIREHOUSE LOUNGE**, 605 Brazos, 478-3473  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA**, 515 E. Sixth, 494-9336  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE**, 1601 Barton Springs Rd., 322-9750  
**THE FOUNDATION**, 307 W. Fifth, 472-4256  
**FOX & HOUND**, 401 Guadalupe, 494-1200  
**FREDA'S SEAFOOD GRILLE**, 10903 Pecan Park, 506-8700  
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**GALAXY CAFE**, 9911 Brodie Ln. #750, 233-6000  
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**GIDDY UPS**, 12010 Manchaca, 280-4732  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON**, 5434 Burnet Rd., 458-1813  
**GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL**, 730-A W. Stassney, 326-4466  
**GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL**, 2401 W. Howard, 255-8003  
**GREEN MESQUITE BBQ & MORE**, 1400 Barton Springs Rd., 479-0485  
**GREEN PASTURES**, 811 W. Live Oak, 444-4747  
**GRUENE HALL**, 1601 Hunter, New Braunfels, 830/606-1281, 830/629-5077  
**HABANA CALLE 6**, 709 E. Sixth, 443-4252  
**HANOVER'S**, 108 E. Main, Pflugerville, 512/670-9617  
**HEADHUNTERS**, 720 Red River, 236-0188  
**HICKORY STREET BAR & GRILLE**, 800 Congress, 477-8968  
**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE**, 617 Congress, 476-0473  
**HIGHLAND MALL**, 6001 Airport  
**HILL'S CAFE**, 4700 S. Congress, 851-9300  
**HILLTOP TAVERN**, 5996 Hwy. 21, Maxwell, 512/357-6731  
**HOLE IN THE WALL**, 2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747  
**IRON CACTUS NORTH**, 10001 Stonelake Blvd., 794-8778  
**IT'S ITALIAN**, 14735 Bratton, 252-1444  
**JACK'S BACKYARD**, 6901 N. I-35, 451-5008  
**JC'S STEAKHOUSE**, 5804 N. I-35, 407-9393  
**JO'S HOT COFFEE**, 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800  
**JOVITA'S**, 1619 S. First, 447-7825  
**LA CABANA GRILL**, 21103 Hwy. 71 W., 264-0916
- LA PALAPA**, 6640 Hwy. 290, 459-8729  
**LA ZONA ROSA**, 612 W. Fourth, 472-2293  
**LAGO MUSA HALL**, 5905 Lohmans Ford, Lago Vista, 512/267-9310  
**LAS PALOMAS**, 3201 Bee Caves Rd. #122, 327-9889  
**LATITUDE 30**, 512 San Jacinto, 472-3332  
**LONGBRANCH INN**, 1133 E. 11th, 472-5477  
**LUCKY LOUNGE**, 209-A W. Fifth, 479-7700  
**LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE**, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, 512/558-7399  
**MAMBO KINGS CLUB**, 611 E. Seventh, 845-3918  
**MANUEL'S**, 310 Congress, 472-7555  
**MARIA'S TACO XPRESS**, 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261  
**MI CASA GALLERY**, 1700-A S. Congress  
**MIDNIGHT RODEO**, 2201 E. Ben White, 443-2623  
**MOMOS**, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848  
**MONKEYWRENCH BOOKS**, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925  
**MOONRIVER**, 2002 N. Pace Bend Rd., Spicewood, 512/264-2064  
**MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB**, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747  
**MOTHER'S CAFE**, 4215 Duval St., 451-3994  
**MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS**, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 477-2900  
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**MULLIGAN'S**, 900 RR 620 S., 263-3305  
**MUNCHIES**, 1003 1/2 Cuernavaca, 263-0111  
**NASTY'S**, 606 Maiden, 453-4349  
**NAT'S PUB**, Lakeway Plaza, Lakeway, 512/263-2855  
**NORTH BY NORTHWEST**, 10010 Capital of TX Hwy., 467-6969  
**NUENO LEON**, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097  
**NUNO'S ON SIXTH**, 422 E. Sixth, 833-5133  
**NUTTY BROWN CAFE**, 12225 Hwy. 290 W., 301-4648  
**THE OFFICE LOUNGE**, 1207 Leander Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-1137  
**OILCAN HARRY'S**, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823  
**ONE WORLD THEATRE**, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500  
**OSLO**, 301 W. Sixth, 480-9433  
**PAGGI HOUSE**, 200 Lee Barton Dr., 499-8835  
**THE PALLADIUM**, 13800 Dragline, 989-7450  
**PARAMOUNT THEATRE**, 713 Congress, 472-5470  
**PARDNERS**, 1110 Palm Valley, Round Rock, 512/244-1204  
**THE PARISH**, 214 E. Sixth, 478-6372  
**THE PARLOR**, 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965  
**PEDRO'S PLACE**, 1601 Guadalupe, 472-2369  
**PLUSH**, 617 Red River, 478-0099  
**PODER**, 2604 E. Cesar Chavez, 472-9921  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL**, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318  
**POODLE DOG LOUNGE**, 6507 Burnet Rd., 465-9468  
**THE PUB**, 1826 Mays, Round Rock, 512/246-8007  
**RACK DADDY'S**, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577  
**RADISSON**, 111 E. Cesar Chavez, 478-9611  
**RAGGEDY ANNE'S**, 2113 Wells Branch Pkwy., 251-9647  
**RANDY'S ICE HOUSE**, 1321 W. Second, Taylor, 512/352-7993  
**REAGAN HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**, 7104 Berkman  
**REAL'S PIZZA & CAFE**, 13450 Research, 335-5115  
**RED EYED FLY**, 715 Red River, 474-1084  
**RED FEZ**, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120  
**RED'S SCOOT INN**, 1308 E. Fourth, 320-0004  
**REDRUM**, 401 Sabine, 275-6575  
**REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB**, 9901 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 342-7977  
**RHINOS & JOCKS ROUND ROCK**, 2120 N. Mays #100, Round Rock, 512/246-9444  
**RILEY'S TAVERN**, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132  
**RIVERBEND CENTRE**, 4214 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 327-9416  
**ROADHOUSE**, 1103 Wonder, 218-0813  
**ROMEO'S**, 1500 Barton Springs Rd., 476-1090  
**ROOM 710**, 710 Red River, 476-0997  
**ROPER'S NIGHTCLUB**, 2113 Wells Branch Pkwy., Ste. 5000, 990-4991  
**ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE**, 11800 Lamar, 835-2414  
**RUTA MAYA**, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637  
**SABA BLUE WATER CAFE**, 208-D W. Fourth, 478-7222  
**SAENGERHALLE**, 255 Saengerhalle, New Braunfels, 830/625-HALL  
**SAKE ON SIXTH**, 621 E. Sixth, 478-8788  
**SAM'S TOWN POINT**, 2115 Allred, 282-0083  
**SAO PAULO'S**, 2809 San Jacinto, 473-9988  
**SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM**, 101 E. Main, Round Rock, 512/310-1200  
**SATELLITE CAFE**, 7101 Hwy. 71 W. Ste. E1, 301-1883  
**SAXON PUB**, 1320 S. Lamar, 448-2552  
**SHENANIGANS**, 13233 Pond Springs Rd., 258-9717  
**SHOAL CREEK TALLON**, 909 N. Lamar, 474-0805  
**SHOOTERS BILLIARDS**, 6015-E. Whitestone, Cedar Park, 512/260-2066  
**SHOOTING STARS COFFEE**, 6539 N. Lamar, 377-3334  
**SKY LOUNGE**, 416 Congress, 477-3151  
**SOUND ON SOUND**, 106 E. North Loop, 371-9980  
**SOUTH FORTY**, 629 W. Ben White Blvd., 444-9329  
**SPEAKEASY**, 412 Congress, 476-8017  
**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**, 3501 Red River, 472-8301  
**STARDUST CLUB**, 11940 Manchaca, 280-8590  
**STARLIGHT TERRACE AT THE OASIS**, 6550 Comanche Trail, 266-2442  
**STUBB'S BAR-B-Q**, 801 Red River, 480-8341  
**T.C.'S LOUNGE**, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200  
**TAMBALEO**, 302 Bowie, 472-3213  
**TAVERN ON THE GRUENE**, 830 Gruene Rd., Gruene, 866/828-3761  
**TAZ COUNTRY**, 2700 W. Pecan, Pflugerville, 512/990-5526  
**TEXAS BAR & GRILL**, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300  
**THE CROSSINGS**, 13500 FM 2769, 258-7243  
**THINGS CELTIC**, 1806 W. 35th, 472-2358  
**THREADDILL'S WORLD HQ**, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304  
**THUNDERDOME**, 1901 E. 51st, hangar 5, 799-2645  
**TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL**, 2201 College, 443-4200  
**TRIPLE CROWN**, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos, 512/396-2236  
**TROPHY'S**, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969  
**THE VELVET SPADE**, 912 Red River, 482-8404  
**VENTANA DEL SOUL**, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447  
**VICTORY GRILL**, 1104 E. 11th, 391-0174  
**VIVO**, 2015 Manor Rd., 482-0300  
**VUE**, 416 Congress, Upstairs, 477-3151  
**THE WATER TANK**, 7309 McNeil, 331-9831  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH**, 600 N. Lamar, 472-5400  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE**, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245  
**WHEATSVILLE CO-OP**, 3101 Guadalupe, 478-2667  
**WHISKY BAR**, 303 W. Fifth, 481-8599  
**Y BAR & GRILL**, 7720 Hwy. 71 W., 394-0220  
**YARD DOG FOLK ART**, 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613  
**Z'TEJAS**, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 **CALICO KINGS** 9:30PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3 **CALICO KINGS** 9:30PM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5 **JAMES GOSSETT** FREE SHOW 9:30PM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6 **JAZZ NIGHT KKQ** 9:30PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7 **LATIN WEDNESDAY THE BREW** 9:30PM  
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 Patrick Fleming

12/3 SATURDAY  
 Blaggards

12/4 SUNDAY  
 Emerald Exiles

12/5 MONDAY  
 XBOX TOURNAMENT  
 FIFA 2006

12/6 TUESDAY  
 Tea Merchants

12/7 WEDNESDAY  
 Pub Quiz

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**Thurs. Dec. 1**  
**Bonnie Bishop** 8pm  
**CAROLYN WONDERLAND** 11pm  
 James Hand Happy Hr. 6pm No Cover

**Fri. Dec. 2** 11pm  
**W.C. Clark**  
**Dime Store Poets** 9:30pm  
 Renee French 8pm  
 HHr. The Regulars 6pm; No Cover

**Sat. Dec. 3** 10pm  
**Miss Lavelle White's Christmas**  
 12am **Tracy Conover**  
 w/ special guest  
**Malford Milligan**  
 8pm **Cyril Neville & Tribe 13**

**Sun. Dec. 4**  
**The Resentments**  
 w/ Stephen Bruton, Scrappy Jud Newcomb,  
 Bruce Hughes, Jon Dee Graham  
 & John Chipman 7pm  
 10:30pm **Walter Tragert**  
 Jay Thomas 12am

**Mon. Dec. 5**  
**GUY FORSYTH**  
 7pm **Lisa Hayes** 8:30pm  
 Sahara Smith 11pm

**Tues. Dec. 6**  
 closed for function

**Wed. Dec. 7** 11:30pm  
**White Ghost Shivers**  
 8pm  
**Seth Walker**  
 Pauline Reese HHr. 6pm

**COMING TO THE SAXON:**  
 12/9 - Chip Taylor & Carrie Rodriguez  
 12/12 - Ray Benson  
 12/13 - Monte Montgomery  
 12/16 - The Damnations

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9:30pm

Fridays & Saturdays  
**SALSA DANCING**  
Dj Fablan & Dj Alvaro  
9:30pm

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## club listings

### Thu 01

**311 CLUB** Murphy, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)  
**ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR** Carlo Nuccio, W.C. Clark (1:00)  
**ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR** Bill Small (3:30)  
**ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH** The Deweys (12:30)  
**ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE DOWNTOWN** Fantastic Planet w/ Neil Michael Hagerty & the Howling Hex (7:00, 9:45)  
**ALICE'S RESTAURANT** Chicken Fried Vandiver Tribute w/ Flying \$ Bunkhouse Band (7:00)  
**ANTONE'S** Alive CD Release (7:45), Scott H. Biram, the Hotrod Hillbillies (10:30)  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Michael Austin & Chris Gage  
**AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR** Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)  
**AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR** Poetry Karaoke Open Mic (8:00)  
**BECK'S ON CONGRESS** Seth Walker (8:00)  
**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega (10:00)  
**BOAT HOUSE GRILL** Open Mic w/ Sidney  
**BRENTWOOD TAVERN** Ryan Young  
**BROKEN SPOKE** Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes  
**BROWN BAR** mr.ripley  
**CACTUS CAFE** Tom Freund, Jon Dee Graham  
**CAFE CAFFEINE** Greg Klyma, Bill Passalacqua  
**CAFE MONDI** Avenue Elle (5:00)  
**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke  
**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke  
**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** The Hummingbirds, Heart Project  
**CEDAR STREET** Gaila Trickey (6:00), Sauce (9:30)

### CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE

The Danhandlers  
**CLUB ONE 15** Haydn Vitera (9:00)  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Onion Creek Crawdaddies (6:30), Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins, Mother Truckers, Chilli Cold Blood (10:00)  
**COOL RIVER CAFE** Kalico Kings (9:15)  
**COTTON CLUB** Eric Neznik (8:30)  
**DARWIN'S PUB** J.T. Coldfire  
**THE DETOUR** Open Mic w/ David John, Big Steve, Easy Dave (8:30)  
**DONN'S DEPOT** Murphy's Inlaws  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Bobby Doyle w/ Tammy Sommerville (7:30)  
**EGO'S** Sixgun Republic, 2 Hoots & a Holler (8:30)  
**EL SOL Y LA LUNA** Chinampa (7:30)  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Whit Smith's Jazz Caravan, Pete Rodriguez Quintet (6:00)  
**EMO'S** Nightmare of You, Danko Jones, the (International) Noise Conspiracy  
**EVANGELINE CAFE** Slim Richey  
**FADÓ** DJ Gerry (10:00)  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA** The Mockery Birds, Brothers & Sisters, Lomita, the Black  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Blake & Fallon, Johnny Goudie (8:00)  
**THE FOUNDATION** Coy West  
**FOX & HOUND** Danny Britt (6:00)  
**FREDA'S SEAFOOD GRILLE** Jazzopoly (7:00)  
**GIDDY UPS** Open Mic w/ Roy & Ted  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Heybale! (9:00)  
**GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL** Kris Farrow (7:30), Noltey (9:00)  
**GRUENE HALL** Walt Wilkins (7:30)  
**HANOVER'S** Karaoke

Acts are chronologically listed. Schedules are subject to change, so please call clubs to confirm lineup. Times are given where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

HELLO, CLUBS AND BANDS: Club listings deadline is generally Monday, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Send venue name, address, phone number, acts, and times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax 458-6910; phone 454-5766 x159; or e-mail [clubs@austinchronicle.com](mailto:clubs@austinchronicle.com).

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

**HEADHUNTERS** Trash Rockets, Dave's Not Here, Hard Knocks & the Heads  
**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Xperimental Deviations w/ Liz Gomez (6:45)  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Dubb Sicks, Vehicular (10:00)  
**JC'S STEAKHOUSE** Adam Donmoyer, Bill Forrest (7:00)  
**JOVITA'S** Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)  
**LA PALAPA** The Lonely Knights (8:00)  
**LUCKY LOUNGE** Matt White (9:00)  
**MAMBO KINGS CLUB** Recon Thursday w/ Loki, Secret Agent, Durhdy, Jungle Jim, B-1, DJ Mattis  
**MI CASA GALLERY** Trio Cienfuegos (7:00)  
**MOMOS** Christina Bell, Rachel Loy, Ryan Desiato, Little Gentlemen (8:00)

## roadshows

### DECEMBER

#### THU 1

**Neil Michael Hagerty & the Howling Hex**, Alamo Draffhouse Downtown  
**Tom Freund**, Cactus Cafe  
**Sixgun Republic**, Ego's  
**The (International) Noise Conspiracy**, Danko Jones, Nightmare of You, Emo's  
**The Mockery Birds**, Flamingo Cantina  
**Kelly Hicks**, MonkeyWrench Books

#### FRI 2

**Rodney Crowell**, Kathleen Edwards, the Greencards, Austin Music Hall  
**Junius**, Beerland  
**Randy Brecker**, Elephant Room  
**Cage**, Camu Tao, Slow Suicide Stimulus, Assasyn Dynasty, Emo's  
**Clap!Clap!**, Mad Happy, Flamingo Cantina  
**Roger Creager**, Midnight Rodeo  
**David Barnes**, the Parish  
**V-Zilla**, Red Eyed Fly  
**Single File**, Redrum  
**The Chromatics**, Room 710  
**Buttercup**, Ruta Maya

**Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey**, Drae, Hacienda, Stubb's Bar-B-Q  
**The Jones Family Singers**, LZ Love, Victory Grill  
**Jad Fair**, Yard Dog Folk Art

#### SAT 3

**Jaap Blonk**, 709 Rio Grande  
**Greatness in Tragedy**, Antone's  
**Havana NRG!**, the Diamond Ballroom  
**Phosphorescent**, Castanets, Emo's  
**Exeter**, Flamingo Cantina  
**Will T. Massey**, Flipnotics Coffeespace  
**Papa Grows Funk**, the Parish  
**Clay McClinton**, Poodie's Hilltop Bar & Grill  
**Blowfly**, Red Eyed Fly  
**Jonny Danger**, Nick Jones, Redrum  
**Birthday Suits**, Room 710  
**The Deadly Companions**, Sound on Sound  
**Hell's Belles**, Stubb's Bar-B-Q  
**DJ Signify**, Blockhead, Johnny Fiasco, the Velvet Spade

#### SUN 4

**Powerman 5000**, Wicked Wisdom, Back Room  
**Junior Brown**, Continental Club

**Caesar Brothers' Funk Box**, Flamingo Cantina  
**Jose Feliciano**, One World Theatre

#### MON 5

**Saves the Day**, Senses Fail, Early November, Emo's  
**MF Doom**, Count Bass D, John Robinson, La Zona Rosa

#### TUE 6

**Adrienne Young & Little Sadie**, Cactus Cafe  
**Swamp**, Mr. Dibbs, Ground Opening, Emo's  
**Red Lightning**, Momos

#### WED 7

**Drag the River**, Scott Reynolds, Emo's  
**The El Orbits**, Flipnotics Coffeespace

#### THU 8

**David Wilcox**, Cactus Cafe  
**Japanther**, Emo's  
**King's X**, Mardo, La Zona Rosa  
**The Nadas**, Momos  
**Trifecta**, Redrum

See [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com) for complete listings.



WEEKEND DANCERS

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LIVE MUSIC | DJ's NIGHTLY

**TUESDAYS:**

Rock-n-Roll Bingo [10:00-12:00]  
\$2 WELLS FROM 9-2 | "FANTASTIC PRIZES"

**WEDNESDAYS:**

Krunkaoko [9:00]  
HIP HOP KARAOKE W/ DJ MEL & DAVE MIRANDA

**THURSDAYS:**

"DJ's Starsign & John Angle" [10:00]  
ELECTRO, MOTOR BOOTY, FUNK, HIP HOP,  
ROCK & DANCE  
\$3 MEXICAN MARTINI'S ALL NIGHT.

**HAPPY HOUR**

UNTIL 9 DAILY  
ALL NIGHT SUNDAY & MONDAY

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Let The Good Times Roll!  
8106 Brodie Lane  
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**LIVE MUSIC SCHEDULE**

THURSDAY DEC 1 • 7PM  
**SLIM RICHEY**

FRIDAY DEC 2 • 10PM  
**LARRY LANGE & THE LONELY KNIGHTS** \$5 Cover

TUESDAY DEC 6  
**BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM**  
**GENE TAYLOR 8PM**

WEDNESDAY DEC 7  
**COWBOY JOHNSON 6PM**



South Austin's Best Cajun Cuisine, lunch & dinner 7 days a week!

**SMOKIN' ON THE DECK**

444-6117 3003 S. Lamar

**Happy Hour**  
Every Day 3-7pm

\$1 off selected appetizers  
\$2 Lonestar beer  
\$3 well drinks  
\$4 specialty drinks

we now have  
**UT & NFL GAMES**  
On the big screen!



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Steak | Martinis | Jazz | Champagne

**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
now taking reservations  
Les & the Funk Mob 10pm-2am

**THREADGILL'S**  
American Food & Music Southern Style

**WORLD HEADQTS.**  
301 W. RIVERSIDE DR; 512.472.9304

SUN. 12/4 @ 11AM

**DURDEN FAMILY**

MON. 12/5 @ 8PM

**ELIZABETH MCQUEEN & JASON ROBERTS**  
From Asleep At The Wheel

TUES. 12/6 @ 8PM

**CYRIL NEVILLE'S TRIBE 13** \$10  
WEATHER PERMITTING

WED. 12/7 @ 6PM

**CHRISTMAS BUREAU Fundraiser**

**JIMMY LAFAYE**  
**CAROLYN WONDERLAND**  
\$10 **SLIM RICHIE**  
and many more!

Stop by either location for your holiday shopping! We have cookbooks, gift certificates, t-shirts and much more!

**OLD NO. 1**  
Oldest Live Music Venue in Austin  
6416 N. LAMAR BLVD; 512.451.5440

THURS. 12/1 @ 7:30PM

**RAILROADED**

WED. 12/7 @ 7:30PM

**Rocky Ivy**

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**THE HOLE IN THE WALL**  
Live Music Since 1974  
ALL SHOWS NO COVER  
HAPPY HOUR Mon-Fri 1-7

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 10PM  
**VEHICULAR DUBB SICKS**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 10PM  
**JANE BOND GRETCHEN PHILLIPS**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 9PM  
**ONION CREEK CRAWDADDIES ELANA FREMERMAN TRIO**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 9PM  
**ROKKATONE BLACK JOE & COOL BREEZE REBECCA GATCHELL**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 9:30PM  
**BILLY HARVEY PAUL MINOR**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 7PM  
**WT SPECIAL RIDGETOP SYNCOPATORS ROGER WALLACE**

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**jams for toys**

'Tis the Season to Rock for Tots at Paggi House

Come to this historical venue to listen to great music and donate to a great cause, helping Toys for Tots celebrate this holiday season.

Thursday Dec. 1, 9pm  
**Paggi House**  
200 Lee Barton Drive 78704  
www.paggihouse.com

Cover \$5, or \$3 with a new toy **CHRONtourage**

There will also be a silent auction with items donated by local businesses, including Austin Java Coffee Company, Waterloo Records, Starlite, Flemings, and many more!

**come meet the CHRONtourage!**

# LITTLE WOODROW'S

## North Austin

Parmer Lane & McNeil

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425 FREE Parking Spaces



**THE ULTIMATE SPORTS-WATCHING EXPERIENCE**

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"STEAK NIGHT"

Happy Hour til 7pm M-F

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515 SIXTH ST. 512-494-9336  
13 GREAT YEARS LIVE MUSIC

THURS 12/01 ROCK DOORS 8:30, SHOW 9  
**THE BLACK LOMITA**  
BROTHERS & SISTERS  
THE MOCKERY BIRDS

FRI 12/02 PORN/ROCK DOORS 8:30, SHOW 9  
**CLAP! CLAP!**  
HAUNTING OBOE MUSIC  
MADHAPPY  
PROM NITE

SAT 12/03 PUNK/ROCK DOORS 8:30, SHOW 9  
**WINE LORD**  
A SECULAR END  
SMILE AND NOD  
FLY BY FIRE

TUES 12/06 REGGAE/SKA DOORS 8:30, SHOW 9  
**DJ MIGUEL**  
SPINS ALL NIGHT LONG  
NO COVER. HAPPY HOUR TIL 10

WEDS 12/07 THOTEROCK DOORS 8:30, SHOW 9  
**THE POORPOSTURE**  
WATCHING THE MOON, BELHOME  
GOODBYE STRANGER, JUST GUNS

12/08 - invincible ezars do the motorcraacker suite  
12/09 - ghostland observatory, the wldt, haunting oboe music, the mercera, dj erin  
12/10 - dubzilla w/ dj drez, grimy styles and more  
12/11 - cochino  
12/15 - zom zomo ed release  
12/16 - catch a fire (late), navira thermas & capt. bringdown (early)  
12/22 - ambush, the cutoff  
12/31 - reggae/kub new years w/ grimy styles, tribal nation, mau mau

WWW.FLAMINGOCANTINA.COM

### club listings << FROM THURSDAY

**MONKEYWRENCH BOOKS** Steve Arceri, Night Viking, Kelly Hicks (8:00)  
**MOTHER'S CAFE** Doc Grauzer (6:00)  
**NAT'S PUB** Open Mic w/ Big Jim  
**NUNO'S ON SIXTH** Blues Jam w/ Dewayne Davis (8:00)  
**NUTTY BROWN CAFE** Texas Renegade  
**THE OFFICE LOUNGE** Karaoke w/ Jamie  
**OSLO** DJ Kurupt (11:00)  
**PARAMOUNT THEATRE** *Beyond the Rocks* Screening w/ Peter Stopschinski & Graham Reynolds (8:00)  
**PLUSH** Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** The Weary Boys  
**POODLE DOG LOUNGE** Lonesome County (9:30)  
**THE PUB** Karaoke w/ Al  
**RADISSON** Kent Mayhew (5:30)  
**RANDY'S ICE HOUSE** Karaoke (8:00)  
**RED FEZ** Nothing New All-Stars w/ DJ Chicken George, Mike Swing, Gibby, DJ Manny  
**RED'S SCOOT INN** The Nortons (8:30)  
**REDRUM** Zoo Zeventeen, Vagrant Truth, Ember, Fractious, Rubitraw  
**REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB** Marc Devine Quartet (8:30)  
**RILEY'S TAVERN** Karaoke  
**ROADHOUSE** Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)  
**ROMEO'S** Jacinta (6:30)  
**ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE** Dave Jorgenson  
**RUTA MAYA** Austin Daze w/ Grupo Fantasma (9:00)  
**SAXON PUB** James Hand (6:00), Bonnie Bishop, Carolyn Wonderland (8:00)  
**SHENANIGANS** Billy D  
**SHOAL CREEK SALOON** The Hi-Flyers (8:00)  
**SKY LOUNGE** Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M  
**T.C.'S LOUNGE** The Leghounds (9:00)  
**TAMBALEO** DJ Starsign, John Angle (10:00)  
**TEXAS BAR & GRILL** Open Mic w/ Henry Craft  
**TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL** Annoying Instrument Orchestra (7:30)  
**TRIPLE CROWN** Paul Logan, Thrift Store Cowboys, Black Water Gospel  
**TROPHY'S** Tracy, the Murdocks, Things That Go Pop, Midgetmen  
**THE VELVET SPADE** Topaz (10:00)

**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** The Walking Contradictions  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH** The Hudsons (6:00)  
**WHISKY BAR** Loxsly, DJ Orthopedic, Ben Craven  
**Z'TEJAS** Thomas Hughes & Mike Malone (6:00)

## Fri 02

**219 WEST** DJ Trace  
**311 CLUB** Murphy, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)  
**ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR** Erin James (3:30)  
**ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR** James Thomas (3:30)  
**ALICE'S RESTAURANT** Lawrence Glass, Bob Rose, Foscoe Jones, Carley Wolf (6:00)  
**AMERICAN YOUTHWORKS** Art Show & Silent Action w/ Chris Gleason (6:00)  
**ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE** Fabulous Chevilles (8:00)  
**ARTURO'S UNDERGROUND CAFE** gfire (7:00)  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** George Enslé  
**AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR** Acoustic Happy Hour (6:00)  
**AUSTIN MUSIC HALL** The Greencards, Kathleen Edwards  
**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Pubcrawler  
**BARCELONA** Blakk w/ DJ J.A.M.O.N.  
**BECK'S ON CONGRESS** Combo Mahalo (8:00)  
**BEERLAND** Junius  
**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega (10:00)  
**BOAT HOUSE GRILL** Slim Richey, Yo Gadio  
**'BOUT TIME** DJ Kim Hicks  
**BRENTWOOD TAVERN** Rick Muir  
**BROKEN SPOKE** Alvin Crow  
**BROWN BAR** DJ Gray, Late Night w/ mr.rIPLEY (9:00)  
**BUSTER'S BBQ** Paul Cox Open Mic (7:00)  
**CACTUS CAFE** Rajamani Ensemble  
**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke  
**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke  
**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Mad Cowboys (6:30)  
**CEDAR STREET** Sean Phillips (6:00), Rayvon (9:30)  
**CENTRAL MARKET CAFE** Cienfuegos (6:30)  
**CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** Mary Welch y los Curanderos (6:30)  
**CHEAPO DISCS** Rescue Mission, Sound of Confusion, Black Angels (5:00)  
**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** The Gougers  
**CLUB ONE 15** DJ Crash (9:30)  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** The Blues Specialists (6:30), Grady, the Booze Weasels (10:00)

**COOL RIVER CAFE** Kent Mayhew, the Sophisticates (6:45)  
**COPA BAR & GRILL** The Brew (8:00), DJ Troydon, DJ Spettro, DJ Daddy J, DJ Jamon (10:00)  
**COTTON CLUB** Allie Danielle (8:30)  
**DAN MCKLUSKY'S** Bobby Doyle (7:00)  
**DONN'S DEPOT** Donn & the Station Masters  
**THE DRISKILL** Kirk Hale, Suzi Stern, George Oldziej (6:00)  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Kat Edmunson (8:00)  
**EGO'S** Crawling With Kings, White Ghost Shivers (8:30)  
**ELEMENT DJ 2DQ** (10:00)  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Elana Fremerman, Randy Brecker (6:00)  
**EMO'S** Assasin Dynasty, Slow Suicide Stimulus, Camu Tao, Cage  
**EVANGELINE CAFE** Larry Lange & the Lonely Knights (10:00)  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Prom Nite, Mad Happy, Haunting Oboe Music, Clap!Clap!  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Bellevue, Kirk Smith (9:00)  
**FREDA'S SEAFOOD GRILLE** Jazzopoly (7:00)  
**GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE** Open Mic  
**GIDDY UPS** Kanady & the Drivers  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Dane Sterling (9:00)  
**GRUENE** Hall Wayne Mills, Kevin Fowler (8:00)  
**HANOVER'S** The Adventures Of...Eric Tessmer  
**HEADHUNTERS** Bricks ATX, Patrick Godbey Band, Bloodline, Blood of Patriots, Born to Lose  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Gretchen Phillips, Jane Bond (10:00)  
**JC'S STEAKHOUSE** Adam Donmoyer, Bill Forrest (7:00)  
**JOVITA'S** Melancholy Ramblers, Thrift Store Cowboys, Black Water Gospel (6:00)  
**LA CABANA GRILL** Blues Jam w/ Li'l Steph (8:00)  
**LA PALAPA** Karaoke w/ Big Jim  
**LAGO MUSIC HALL** Brigit's Kiss (10:00)  
**LUCKY LOUNGE** Anagen (8:00)  
**MARIA'S TACO XPRESS** Leeann Atherton (7:00)  
**MIDNIGHT RODEO** Roger Creager  
**MOMOS** Hurts to Purr CD Release, Wendy Colonna, Johnny Goudie (8:00)  
**MOONRIVER** Mojo  
**MR. NATURAL** Will Dunlap (7:00)  
**NORTH BY NORTHWEST** Liz Morphis  
**NUTTY BROWN CAFE** Al Monti Band  
**THE OFFICE LOUNGE** Capitol Suspects  
**OSLO** DJ Kunal M (10:00)  
**PAGGI HOUSE** DJ Skot Kees (9:00)

wednesdays  
8:00-12:00  
\$5.00 burger  
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THURSDAYS

**Nuthin' New ALL STARS**

featuring

- ▶ DJ Chicken George
- ▶ DJ Manny
- ▶ DJ Mike Swing
- ▶ DJ Gibby

ROTATE WEEKS

thurs Nuthin' New All Stars 10:00-2:00

fri DJ Chicken George 10:00-2:00

sat Buddy Quaid Band 8:30-10:30  
DJ Kurv 10:30-2:00

sun DJ Kurupt 10:00-2:00

mon DJ In/Verse  
motown and funk 10:00-2:00

tues TWIST UP DJ Manny 10:00-2:00

wed SATISFACTION  
DJ Shane 10:00-2:00

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**BROKEN SPOKE**  
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 THU., DEC. 1 **CHAPARRAL W/ JEFF HUGHES**  
 FRI., DEC. 2 **ALVIN CROW**  
 SAT., DEC. 3 **DERAILERS**  
 TUE., DEC. 6 **HARDCORE COUNTRY**  
**JAMES M. WHITE & ALVIN CROW** NO COVER  
 WED., DEC. 7 **LUCKY TOMBLIN**  
 6AM-10AM **BLUE SANTA BREAKFAST**  
**SAM & BOB KVET RADIO LIVE**

PHOTO BY M. DAPRA

**NASTYS**  
 Develop a Nasty Habit  
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3  
**ORIGINAL LIVE MUSIC**  
**TOTAL FOXES**  
 BASIN STREET • THREE POT OFFY  
**Mondays**  
 Hip-Hop with DJ Mel & Jah Mighty  
**Tuesdays**  
 \$2 Pints & Free Pool  
**Wednesdays**  
 \$6 Domestic Pitchers,  
 \$2.50 Well Drinks  
**Thursdays**  
 \$1.75 Anheuser-Busch Bottles  
 (Bud Lt., Bud Ice, Busch)  
**Fridays**  
 Shot & a Beer \$4.00

Full Liquor Bar & Beer Garden  
 Happy Hour M-F • 6-8

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52 Import and  
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FRI DEC 2  
**JACOB FRED**  
 JAZZ ODYSSEY  
 WITH **THE LYMBY SYSTEM**  
**D MADNESS & DRAE**  
 AND **HACIENDA**  
 SAT DEC 3  
 ALL FEMALE AC/DC COVER BAND **FREE SHOW!**  
**HELL'S BELLES**  
 FIRST AUSTIN APPEARANCE SINCE  
 CHARLES & CHARLIE'S SXSW PARTY  
 WITH **HONKY**  
 AGES 18 AND OVER

**GOSPEL BRUNCH SUN DEC 4**  
 WITH **THE BELLS OF JOY**

WED DEC 7  
 FIRST ANNUAL ROCKED-OUT CHRISTMAS SHOWCASE

**THE GENE POOL**  
 WITH **ROCK BOTTOM CHOIR**  
 AND **THE SONNIE BROTHERS**

THU DEC 8  
**RADIANT DYNAH**  
 AND WITH **ISOLA**

FRI DEC 9  
**THE GOURDS**

SAT DEC 10  
**THE LORD HENRY**  
 WITH **THE HOURLY RADIO**  
 AND **BLACK TIE DYNASTY**

TUE DEC 13  
**THE LOVEMAKERS**  
 AND **THE SHAWNTS REVENGE**  
 WITH **ROCK KILLSKID** AND **ASTRA HEIGHTS**

FRI DEC 30  
**BURDEN BROTHERS**

SAT DEC 31  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
**SOUTH AUSTIN JUG BAND**  
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**WATERLOO Ice House**

6TH & LAMAR  
 6-8PM EACH THURS.  
**HAPPY HOUR WITH THE HUDSONS**  
 ★ FRI., DECEMBER 2 ★  
**BAIENGLUA**  
 AND  
**UT AFRO POP ENSEMBLE**  
 ★ SAT., DECEMBER 3 ★  
**JARED CRUMP**  
**JOHN KUHNS**

38TH & MEDICAL PARKWAY  
 5:30-7:30PM EACH TUES.  
**HAPPY HOUR WITH BRIAN KREMER**  
 8-10PM EACH WED.  
**HAPPY HOUR WITH PTARMIGAN**  
 6-10PM EACH THURS.  
**HAPPY HOUR WITH THE WALKING CONTRADICTIONS**  
 ★ FRI., DECEMBER 2 ★  
**MATT SCHNEIDERMAN**  
 ★ SAT., DECEMBER 3 ★  
**NICOLE GILBERT**

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**Central Market** show times: 6:30 - 9pm  
**Free Live Music on the Patio**

**Central Park** under the oaks  
**Westgate** under the moon tower

FRIDAY DECEMBER 2  
**CIENFUEGOS**  
 cuban

SATURDAY DECEMBER 3  
**COMBO MAHALO**  
 hawaiian

SUNDAY DEC 4 12 - 2:30 PM  
**EDDIE HOBIZAL QUARTET**  
 jazz

FRIDAY DECEMBER 9  
**JOHN ARTHUR MARTINEZ**  
 country

FRIDAY DECEMBER 2  
**MARY WELCH & LOS CURANDEROS**  
 latin

SATURDAY DECEMBER 3  
**TEYE**  
 flamenco guitar with dancers

SUNDAY DEC 4 12 - 2:30 PM  
**SCOTT SPARKS**  
 folk

FRIDAY DECEMBER 9  
**COMBO MAHALO**  
 hawaiian

UPCOMING NO. LAMAR SHOWS:  
 DEC 10 - Atash  
 DEC 11 - David Webb  
 DEC 16 - Donna Hightower

UPCOMING WESTGATE SHOWS:  
 DEC 10 - 1001 Nights Orchestra  
 DEC 11 - Sean Hopper Trio  
 DEC 16 - The Christmas Show

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 café open 7AM-9 PM Sunday-Thursday  
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 free music • great food  
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 free music • great food  
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**SHOAL CREEK SALOON**  
 Catfish Color T.V.  
 909 N. Lamar 512.474.0805

**LIVE MUSIC**

THURSDAY DEC 1  
**The High Flyers** 8:00

FRIDAY DEC 2  
**Robyn Ludwick** 7:00

TUESDAY DEC 6  
**Shinola** 9:00

WEDNESDAY DEC 7  
**DICKIE LEE ERWIN** 8:30

THURSDAY DEC 8  
**The High Flyers** 8:00

Now Serving Whiskey!  
 LATE NIGHT HAPPY HOUR 8-10PM TO 11PM  
 Smoking Room 18 and Up

Indoor Smoking  
 OUTDOOR PATIO  
 16 Televisions  
 Shuffle Board  
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 POOL TABLE

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club listings ◀◀ FROM FRIDAY

**THE PALLADIUM** Vibe  
**PARDNERS** DJ Dancin' Don (7:00)  
**THE PARISH** David Barnes  
**PLUSH** Micasa Tu Casa w/ Tarek, MC Flint (10:00)  
**PODER** Housewarming w/ Nelson Saga (5:00)  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Joe "King" Carrasco  
**POODLE DOG LOUNGE** Texecution (10:30)  
**RACK DADDY'S** Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)  
**RAGGEDY ANNE'S** Karaoke  
**RED EYED FLY** Vehicular, V-Zilla, D-Madness, Bavu Blakes  
**RED FEZ** Thrill Night w/ Chicken George  
**REDRUM** The Artillery, Anguish for Augustine, This Side Up, Single File, the Ivory Class, Sealea  
**REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB** East Side Kings (8:30)  
**RILEY'S TAVERN** Buck Jones & the Haggards  
**ROADHOUSE** Train Wreck  
**ROOM 710** The Chromatics  
**ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE** Turtle Creek (7:00)  
**RUTA MAYA** Crack, Los Mescaleros, F Is for Fake, Buttercup (9:00)  
**SABA BLUE WATER CAFE** DJ Rhythmic (10:00)  
**SAENGERHALLE** Honeybrown CD Release  
**SAM'S TOWN POINT** Open Mic w/ Theo Alexander (9:30)  
**SAXON PUB** The Regulars (6:30), Renee French, Dimestore Poets, W.C. Clark (8:00)  
**SHENANIGANS** Fusion  
**SHOAL CREEK SALOON** Robyn Ludwick (7:00)  
**STARDUST CLUB** Redneck Boys  
**STUBB'S BAR-B-Q** Hacienda, Drae, D-Madness, Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey  
**TEXAS BAR & GRILL** The Extractors  
**TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL** Susanna Sharp & Catavento (7:30)  
**TRIPLE CROWN** Callous Taoboy, Sigma Prime & W-ILL, MC Eats, Trip 7  
**TROPHY'S** The Unbearables, the Lemurs, the Lord Henry  
**VICTORY GRILL** Tribute to T-Bone, Freddie, Stevie, & Gate w/ Gary Clark Jr., Mike Keller, Seth Walker, Eve Monsees; Scott H. Biram; LZ Love; the Jones Family Singers (8:00)  
**VUE** Mumbojumbo w/ DJ Supafly, Nathan Castle, Mike C.  
**THE WATER TANK** Karaoke w/ R.J.  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH** Bailengua, UT Afro Pop Ensemble  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Matt Schneiderman  
**WHISKY BAR** Maneja Beto, DJ POW, DJ Hannibal  
**YARD DOG FOLK ART** Jad Fair (7:00)  
**Z'TEJAS** Kris Kimura Trio (7:00)

**BOAT HOUSE GRILL** The Stepsiders (6:00)  
**'BOUT TIME** DJ Kim Hicks (9:00)  
**BRENTWOOD TAVERN** A Band Named Sue  
**BROKEN SPOKE** The Derailers  
**BROWN BAR** mr.ripley (10:00)  
**CACTUS CAFE** Susan Gibson, Jimmy LaFave  
**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke  
**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke  
**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** New Glow, the Ugly Beats  
**CEDAR STREET** Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)  
**CENTRAL MARKET CAFE** Combo Mahalo (6:30)  
**CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** Teye & Belen (6:30)  
**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Lucky Tomblin Band  
**CLUB ONE 15** Cut Creator (9:30)  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Redd Volkaert (3:00)  
**COOL RIVER CAFE** Kent Mayhew, Funky Brass Factory (6:45)  
**COPA BAR & GRILL** Ring the Alarm w/ DJ Baby G, JahMighty (10:00)  
**COTTON CLUB** Deryl Dodd (9:00)  
**DAN MCKLUSKY'S** Mac Bynum (7:30)  
**THE DIAMOND BALLROOM** Havana NRG! (10:00)  
**DONN'S DEPOT** Albert & Gage  
**THE DRISKILL** Pat Griffin, Suzi Stern, George Oldziej (6:00)  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Abra Moore (8:00)  
**EGO'S** Black Joe Lewis & the Cool Breeze, the Weary Boys (8:30)  
**EL SOL Y LA LUNA** Crash Bam Boom (7:30)  
**ELEMENT** DJ 2DQ (10:00)  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Gnappy (9:30)  
**ELYSIUM** Haven w/ DJ Void, the Gothfather  
**EMO'S** Early: Leaving July, Closed Hand Promise, Near Miss, Firekills; Outside Later: TXRD Afterparty; Inside Later: Jana Hunter, Peter & the Wolf, Castanets, Phosphorescent  
**FADO** The Blaggards (10:00)  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Fly by Fire, Smile and Nod, Exeter, A Secular End, Winelord  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Eric Hisaw, Will T. Massey  
**GALAXY CAFE** Paul White Quartet (7:00)  
**GIDDY UPS** Speedy Sparks, Charlie Prichard, Will Indian & Rusty Traps  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Karen Poston (9:00)  
**GRUENE HALL** Seth Walker (1:00), Charlie Shafter Band, Cooder Graw (9:00)  
**HANOVER'S** Anagen, Pushmonkey (9:00)  
**HEADHUNTERS** Straight Razor Suicides, American Graveyard, Turbo 350, 3 Bad Jacks  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Elana Fremerman Trio, Onion Creek Crawdaddies (9:00)  
**JOVITA'S** Jodi Adair, the Eggmen: (5:30)  
**LA PALAPA** Karaoke w/ Big Jim  
**LATITUDE 30** Jacinta (9:30)  
**LUCKY LOUNGE** Primm (8:00)  
**MIDNIGHT RODEO** Wade Bowen  
**MOMOS** Kacy Crowley, Colby Logan CD Release, Sidehill Gougers (8:00)  
**MOONRIVER** 4 Feet Down  
**MULLIGAN'S** Love Machine  
**NORTH BY NORTHWEST** Steven Doster & Will Sexton  
**NUNO'S ON SIXTH** Jeff Banks Band (10:30)  
**NUTTY BROWN CAFE** Michael Myers  
**THE OFFICE LOUNGE** Code Blue  
**THE PARISH** Papa Grows Funk  
**PLUSH** Turntable Manners w/ DJ Tats, Dirty Harry  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Clay McClinton  
**POODLE DOG LOUNGE** Chili Cold Blood (10:00)  
**THE PUB** Karaoke w/ Billy D.  
**RED EYED FLY** Schlong Daddy, Old-Timerz, Blowfly  
**RED FEZ** DJ Kurv (10:30)  
**REDRUM** Jonny Danger LP  
**Release w/ M.O.S., Nick Jones, Meridian Prime**  
**REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB** Cienfuegos (8:30)

**RILEY'S TAVERN** Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings  
**ROADHOUSE** Johnston Brothers  
**ROOM 710** Birthday Suits  
**ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE** The Lawmen  
**RUTA MAYA** Ashera Project Benefit w/ Luna Tart, Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (6:00)  
**SABA BLUE WATER CAFE** DJ Sugar (10:00)  
**SAO PAULO'S** Central Time (7:30)  
**SATELLITE CAFE** Sheridan, Erik Hokkanen (8:00)  
**SAXON PUB** Cyril Neville's Tribe 13, Miss Lavelle White's Christmas Show, Malford Milligan w/ Todd Potter (8:00)  
**SHENANIGANS** Heroes  
**SHOOTERS BILLIARDS** The Starters  
**SHOOTING STARS COFFEE** Obatallah (1:00)  
**SOUND ON SOUND** Manikin CD Release, the Deadly Companions (6:00)  
**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH** St. Andrew's Ball (8:00)  
**STARDUST CLUB** Diamond Simon  
**STUBB'S BAR-B-Q** Honky, Hell's Belles  
**TEXAS BAR & GRILL** Capitol Suspects  
**TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL** Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)  
**TRIPLE CROWN** The Word Association, Sach, Blueprint + Manifest, Greenhouse Effect  
**TROPHY'S** Little Brother Project, Shawn Nelson & the Ramblers  
**THE VELVET SPADE** Groovement w/ Johnny Fiasco, Blockhead, DJ Signify (9:00)  
**VIVO** DJ Tomas (7:00)  
**THE WATER TANK** Karaoke w/ R.J.  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH** John Kuhns  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Nicole Gilbert  
**WHEATSVILLE CO-OP** Arts & Crafts Festival w/ TAR (3:00)  
**WHISKY BAR** I Cafe w/ Vengo, DJ Hannibal, DJ Klassen  
**Z'TEJAS** Tres (7:00)

Sun 04

**219 WEST** DJ Trace  
**ALICE'S RESTAURANT** Whitey Ray Hult, Dixie Beal & the Group W Bench, Johnny Tequila (noon)  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Texas Swing Kings  
**AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR** Jazz Brunch (11:00 am)  
**B.B. ROVERS** Jollyville City Limits Open Mic w/ Brian Shirk, Austin Songwriters Group Open Mic w/ Jimmy Mac (7:00)  
**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Irish Tune Session (8:00)  
**BACK ROOM** Wicked Wisdom, Powerman 5000  
**BECK'S ON CONGRESS** Gina Dvorak (7:00)  
**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega (10:00)  
**'BOUT TIME** Karaoke w/ Margaret Miller  
**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke  
**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke  
**CEDAR STREET** Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)  
**CENTRAL MARKET CAFE** Eddy Hobizal (noon)  
**CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** Scott Sparks (noon)  
**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Grant Mazak  
**CINDY'S GONE HOG WILD ICEHOUSE** Open Mic w/ DavidJohn (3:00)  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** The Possums, Junior Brown (9:30)  
**COPA BAR & GRILL** Jazz Chamber Ensemble (6:00)  
**COTTON CLUB** Can't Hardly Playboyz (5:00)  
**THE DRINK SHU** (9:00)  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Mac Bynum (7:00)  
**EGO'S** DJ Big Poppa E (8:30)  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Darin Layne Trio (9:30)

Sat 03

**219 WEST** DJ Trace  
**311 CLUB** Catherine Denise, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)  
**709 RIO GRANDE** Jaap Blonk w/ Chris Cogburn, Kurt Newman (8:00)  
**ALICE'S RESTAURANT** Lawrence Glass, Marshall Ford, Jelly Jar's Birthday Bash, White Ghost Shivers (6:00)  
**ANTONE'S** Greatness in Tragedy, Rachel Loy, Wideawake  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Central Texas Bluegrass Assoc. Night  
**AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN** Grub Dog (10:00 am)  
**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Eric Tessmer  
**BECK'S ON CONGRESS** Slim Richey & Cat's Meow (8:00)  
**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega (10:00)



live music nightly

DECEMBER  
 thur 1  
 fri 2  
 sat 3  
 sun 4  
 mon 5  
 tue 6  
 wed 7

Happy Hour 6-8 *	Headliners 9:30
Gaila Kenneally	Sauce
Shawn & Phil	RayVon
	Les & the Funk Mob
	Les & the Funk Mob
Kevin Ahart	Jukebox Heroes feat. Robert Wagner
Seela & Friends	Texas East Side Kings
Trent & Dave	Spazmatics

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**DAVID BARNES**  
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**JUSTIN ROSOLINO**  
 SAT 12/3 ..... DOORS 9PM ALL AGES  
 STRAIGHT FROM NEW ORLEANS

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 ALL STAR FUNK LINEUP  
**JOHNNY SKETCH & THE DIRTY NOTES**  
 VOTED BEST ROCK BAND IN NEW ORLEANS 2004  
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 SAT 12/10 ..... DOORS 9PM ALL AGES

**ROUGE WAVE**  
**MAZARIN**  
 TIX @ WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO RECORDS  
 SUN 12/11 ..... DOORS 9PM ALL AGES

**AMERICAN ANALOG SET**  
 TIX @ WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO REC + END OF AN EAR  
 12/31 .... NEW YEAR'S EVE ... TIX ONSALE NOW  
**GRUPO FANTASMA**

**MANEJA BETO**  
**DJ STARSIGN**  
 TIX @ WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO RECORDS  
 2/16/06 .... JUST ANNOUNCED ! TIX ONSALE NOW  
**MEAT BEAT MANIFESTO**

+TINO CORP. in DUB  
**DALEK**  
**DJ MIGGY OF SUB OSLO**  
 TIX @ FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO REC + END OF AN EAR  
 2/19/06 ... TIX @ FRONTGATETICKETS.COM ... 7PM

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**SATURDAY 12/3**  
 \$5 COVER 7PM-10PM BEATLES TRIBUTE!  
**THE EGGMEN**  
 JODI ADAIR 8:30-8:00PM

**SUNDAY 12/4**  
**BROTHER T & THE JUBILEE**  
**GOSPEL BRUNCH!** 12:30-2PM NO COVER!  
**JELLY JAR** 6-8PM  
 JO GAROLL PIERCE 2:30-4PM

**TUESDAY 12/8** NO COVER EVERY THURSDAY IN DEC. NO COVER!  
**MARY WELCH Y LOS CURANDEROS**  
 8-10PM JODI ADAIR 8-7:30PM

**TUESDAY 12/7** 8-10PM  
**JANE BOND**  
 NO COVER! CLAY JEFFREY 6-7:30PM

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 TWO TONS OF STEEL 12/9  
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 TIME IS THE ENEMY KRYONIC  
 \$2 ICEHOUSE PINTS, \$5.00 ICEHOUSE PITCHERS

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2**  
 AUSTIN INDIE ALLIANCE PRESENTS  
**MEVYN**  
**SHRAPNEL**  
 HALIX RAINSLIVER SPIC  
 75¢ WELL DRINKS 9-10:30  
 \$5.50 BUD ICE PITCHERS  
 FREE SHOW 6-8: CHRIS GATES

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3**  
 EXTREME TEXAS METAL & THE BACK ROOM PRESENT  
**VESPERIAN SORROW**  
 EXULCERATE DISFIGURED  
 DAGON FOREVER MOURNE  
 ANCIENT MALUS  
 \$1 WELLS, \$1 DRAFTS 8-10:30  
 DECEMBER 4 (all ages)



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**WICKED WISDOM**  
 FEATURING JADA PINKETT-SMITH  
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 TICKETS HERE OR FRONTGATETICKETS.COM  
 (2PM: MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL! 4 GIANT SCREENS! 50¢ HOT DOGS, GIVEAWAYS \$1.75 HIGH LIFE, \$5.50 BUD ICE PITCHERS)  
 10P, 12PM \$1.75 BUD ICE LT, \$3.50 DOOR 10 DRAFTS  
**POOL TOURNAMENT NIGHT!**

**WED., DECEMBER 7**  
 2HR BONE PRODUCTIONS & ATV RECORDS PRESENTS  
**LEON LYRIC**  
 BIG CHOP NEALDO  
 plus PRIZES for the SEXIEST LADIES!  
 9p-1a: **KARAOKE In the PATIO**  
 \$1.75 LONE STAR, \$5.50 ZIEGENROCK BOTTLES

12/8: **LUCID DEMENTIA, ADRIAN & THE SICKNESS, WARRIOR, REND**  
 12/9: **MEET FIST, FORCE FED, BLOOD OF PATRIOTS, CONDEMNED UNIT, MACAVA**  
 12/10: **POWDERBURN, KRITICKILL, BLESS THE BROKEN, TRANSPARENT**

**UPCOMING SHOWS:**  
 12/16: J. DEAN PRODUCTIONS presents **DEVIN THE DUDE & THE ODD SQUAD**  
 1/20: DAG PRESENTS **BEAUTIFUL CREATURES, BROKEN TEETH, BACKLIT**  
 3/6: DAG PRESENTS **IN FLAMES**  
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**MATT WHITE**

**FRIDAY DEC 2 8PM**

**ANAGEN**

**SATURDAY DEC 3 8PM**

**PRIMM**

**SUNDAY DEC 4 10PM**

**EVERYDAY PEOPLE**

**TUESDAY DEC 6 11PM**

**BOOM BOX**

**WEDNESDAY DEC 7 9PM**

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**THURSDAY DEC 8**

HAPPY HOUR WITH THE 'LEGENDARY'  
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**THURSDAY DEC 8**

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MONDAY	groove attack w/dj skorcha d
TUESDAY	jazz ft. ephraim owens
WEDNESDAY	wayback w/out creator
THURSDAY	rock en espanol ft. haydn vitera
FRIDAY	blend fridays w/live entertainment
SATURDAY	uptown saturdays w/out creator

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**club listings << FROM SUNDAY**

**ELYSIUM** Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice  
**EMO'S** Groundwork Music Project Benefit w/ Beth & Jason, Sober Daze, Neal Kassanoff & the Infidels, AUX, the Applicators  
**FADO** Prize Mic  
**FIREHOUSE LOUNGE** Industry Night  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Nawlins Ya Ya Jam w/ Caesar Brothers Funk Box, Hot 8 Brass Band  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Christmas with Micaiah, Mark Ambrose (6:30)  
**FRIENDS** Blues Jam w/ Walter Higgs (9:00)  
**GIDDY UPS** Karaoke w/ Good Time Charlie & Steve Douglas  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Redd Volkaert (4:00)  
**GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL** Ted Hall's Blues Jam (7:30)  
**GREEN PASTURES** Jacques Vilmain (11:00 am)  
**GRUENE HALL** Matt the Electrician (12:30), Adrienne Young & Little Sadie (4:00)  
**HEADHUNTERS** Ehnthershiftheory, Mad Life, Rivethread  
**HIGHLAND MALL** Festival of Giving w/ Trish Murphy (6:30)  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Rebecca Gatchell, Black Joe & Cool Breeze, Rokkatone (9:00)  
**JO'S HOT COFFEE** Sinner's Brunch: Tina Rose & the Jo's House Band (12:30)  
**JOVITA'S** Brother T. Jubilee Gospel (12:30), Jo Carol Pierce, Jelly Jar: (2:30)  
**LUCKY LOUNGE** Everyday People (10:00)  
**MANUEL'S** Brunch w/ Alex Coke (11:30 am)  
**MARIA'S TACO XPRESS** Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers (10:30 am)

**MOMOS** Tucker Livingston, Warren Hood & the Hoddiums w/ Mike Keller, Rich Russell (8:00)  
**MOONRIVER** Karaoke w/ Magnolia (9:30)  
**MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB** Anniversary Irish Brunch w/ APD's Outlawed Pipes, Gilmer & Moore, Cluan, Tea Merchants, Ed Miller (noon)  
**MUNCHIES** The XProphets (noon)  
**NUOVO LEON** Mariachi Relampago (1:00)  
**NUTTY BROWN CAFE** Java Jazz  
**THE OFFICE LOUNGE** Karaoke w/ Mrs. K  
**OILCAN HARRY'S** Jacinta  
**ONE WORLD THEATRE** Jose Feliciano (5:00, 7:30)  
**PLUSH** Car Stereo Wars  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Annie "Fannie" Warner Tribute (2:00)  
**POODLE DOG LOUNGE** Sunny Sweeney (8:30)  
**THE PUB** Karaoke w/ Big Al  
**RACK DADDY'S** Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)  
**REAGAN HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER** Austin Symphonic Band (3:00)  
**RED FEZ** DJ Kurupt  
**REDRUM** Dirty & Hairy, Troy Dillinger, Gerald R. Stokes, [adult swim] (6:00)  
**RILEY'S TAVERN** Open Mic w/ Sterling Finlay  
**ROADHOUSE** Open Mic w/ Josh RUTA MAYA Monster Big Band (7:00)  
**SAENGERHALLE** Center for Texas Music History Benefit w/ Randy Rogers Band, Micky & the Motorcars, Sunny Sweeney Band, Dr. G. and the Mudcats  
**SAXON PUB** The Resentments, Jay Thomas, Summer Wardrobe (7:00)  
**SHENANIGANS** Karaoke w/ Billy D  
**STARLIGHT TERRACE AT THE OASIS** The Brew  
**TAZ COUNTRY** Karaoke w/ Big Al

**THE CROSSINGS** Sunday Singing at Seven w/ Walt & Tina Wilkins (7:00)  
**THINGS CELTIC** Celtic Song Session (2:30)  
**THUNDERDOME TXRD** w/ Jesse Dayton, 2 Hoots & a Holler (6:00)  
**TRIPLE CROWN** Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz & Holly Aiken (9:00)  
**THE WATER TANK** Open Mic w/ Patrick  
**WHISKY BAR** Awesookysooky w/ DJ Orthopedic, DJ Klassen

**Mon 05**

**ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR** Kat Nelson (3:30)  
**ANTONE'S** Rob Roy Parnell (6:00); Mark Goodwin & MG3 (9:00), Roscoe, Riley Osbourne, Derek O'Brien, Frosty (11:00)  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned  
**'BOUT TIME** Karaoke w/ Margaret Miller  
**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke  
**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke  
**CEDAR STREET** Kevin Ahart (6:00), Texas Eastside Kings (9:30)  
**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Monte Montgomery Unplugged  
**CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO** Rich Demarco (6:30)  
**CLUB ONE 15** AJ Vallejo's Glow Lounge (9:30)  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Paris '49 (6:30), Heybale! (10:00)  
**DONN'S DEPOT** Frank Cavitt  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Mac Bynum & Joe Morales (7:15)  
**EGO'S** Darling New Neighbors (8:30)  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)  
**EMO'S** Early November, Emanuel, Senses Fail, Saves the Day

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SHOW 7:30PM

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THURSDAY DECEMBER 1 / \$5

**RACHEL LOY** 9:30  
**CHRISTINA BELL** 8  
**LITTLE GENTLEMEN** 12

FRIDAY DECEMBER 2

**JOHNNY GOUDIE** 12

**WENDY COLONNA** 10  
**HURTS TO PURR**  
CD RELEASE 8

SATURDAY DECEMBER 3 / \$5

**THE SIDEHILL GOUGERS** 11:30  
**COLBY LOGAN**  
CD RELEASE 9:30  
**KACY CROWLEY** 8

SUNDAY DECEMBER 4

NEW START TIME! 9PM-12MIDNITE!

**WARREN HOOD**  
& **THE HOODLUMS**  
**TUCKER LIVINGSTON** 8 **RICH RUSSELL** 12

MONDAY DECEMBER 5 / NO COVER

**WELCOME TO ODDVILLE**  
A NIGHT OF MUSIC & COMEDY  
\*\*FEATURING COMEDIANS\*\*  
**KYLE ALLRED & FRED JONES**  
**RYAN HOLLEY** 10  
**JOHNNY GOUDIE** 11  
**ELISE EVANS** 12  
DOORS AT 8

TUESDAY DECEMBER 6 / \$10

**ALAIN WHYTE (OF MORRISY)**  
& **RED LIGHTNING**  
W/ SPECIAL GUESTS THE POSSUMS/DOORS AT 8

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7 / \$5

**THE HEATHENS**  
FEAT BRIAN KEANE, COLIN BOOOKS, ELDRIDGE 9:30  
**GOINS, GORDY QUIST, ED JURDI & MORE**  
**KACY CROWLEY** 8  
**DREW SMITH** 12:30  
LATE NIGHT HAPPY HOUR EVERY WEDNESDAY

UPCOMING SHOWS

12/09 **5591** SOLD OUT

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**PUSHMONKEY** 12/17

**BREEDLOVE** DEC 30 & 31

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San Marcos, TX (512) 396-2236  
www.triplecrownlive.com

- Th 1 Paul Logan 6pm  
Black Water Gospel,  
Thrift Store Cowboys 9pm
- Fr 2 Callous Taoboy 6pm  
Trip 7, Sigma Prime & W-ILL,  
Emcee Eats 10pm
- Sa 3 Greenhouse Effect (Blueprint & Manifest),  
Sach, Word Association 9pm
- Su 4 Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly or Nate
- Mo 5 Cody Richardson 6pm  
Aster, Happy Families, The Normans 9pm
- Tu 6 Patrick Harkins 6pm
- We 7 Moondog 6pm  
Ginn Sisters 9pm
- Th 8 King Tears 6pm  
Green Mountain Grass, Foscoe Jones 9pm
- Fr 9 Dancin' Bare 6pm  
Scott Biram 9pm
- Sa 10 Strong Rock, Apse Affinity,  
Subtle Creeps 10pm

# REDRUM CLUB

512-275-6576 www.redrumclub.com

- Thursday, December 1, 8:00 P.M.  
Happy 21st Birthday, Alex (Fractious)  
Interz, Fractious, Amber, Yagrad, Truth, Zoo Services
- Friday, December 2, 7:00 P.M.  
Travis' B-Day Bash  
Sealbe, The Lucy, Cass, Single File (Denver, Co.),  
This Side Up, Argish or Augustine, The Artillery
- Saturday, December 3, 8:00 P.M.  
Johnny Danger Album Release Party  
Johnny Danger of W7, Meridian Prime, Rhine Irvine,  
Nick Jones (San Antonio, Tex.), Lali Jack, Drake Jerald,  
Zemural, Master of Self
- Sunday, December 4, 7:00 P.M.  
[adult swim], American Idol, Family Guy, The Simpsons
- Monday, December 5, 7:30 P.M.  
Inclispans E.K., What We Know
- Scam Phonics, Southern Iran
- Thursday, December 8, 8:00 P.M.  
Kinetic, Triseta (Killern, Tex.), Silenced, Krypton
- Friday, December 9, 8:00 P.M.  
East Ball Casualty (Album Release), Schil, Paperwork
- Saturday, December 10  
Early Show 5:00 P.M.  
Jryline (Dallas, Tex.), Vera Anneti (Kansas City, Mo.)  
Late Show 8:00 P.M.  
Natchel's Irish Wake (last Show)  
Natchel Taylor, Bari to base, Air Tight Mibs,  
Captain Bringdown and The Buzzkillics
- Sunday, December 11, 7:00 P.M.  
[adult swim], American Idol, Family Guy, The Simpsons
- Monday, December 12, 7:30 P.M.  
The Dog and Pony Show (Hollywood, Lali), Harmono
- Thursday, December 15, 8:00 P.M.  
People Skills, Killer Tunes of Uganda, Happening
- Friday, December 16, 8:00 P.M.  
Redrum/Vince Lab Battle of the Bands Final Round
- Saturday, December 17, 8:00 P.M.  
Grey Haven, Ultra Hyde, Yagrad, Smokin' Gun, Exter
- Sunday, December 18, 7:00 P.M.  
[adult swim], American Idol, Family Guy, The Simpsons  
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**VELVET SPADE**

NO COVER

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1**  
**TOPAZ LIVE**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2**  
**WELCOME GRINCH'S GALA**  
(RESERVED FOR PRIVATE FUNCTION)

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3**  
**GROOVEMENT** FEATURING  
**DJ BLOCKHEAD w/ DJ SIGNIFY**  
ALSO FEATURING  
**DJ JOHNNY FIASCO**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4**  
**CELEBRATE INSIDE OUR MAIN ROOM**  
YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE! OPEN TO PUBLIC!

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 5**  
**Mondays with Malone** NO COVER  
**FREE BBQ with JJ Usher LIVE**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6**  
**CORD • THOMAS CUNNINGHAM**  
**THE PROFESSIONAL AMERICANS LIVE**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7**  
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**club listings << FROM MONDAY**

**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE**  
David Newbould

**FRIENDS** Eric Tessmer (7:00)

**GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL** Marvin Boterra & Friends

**HICKORY STREET BAR & GRILLE** Karaoke (7:30)

**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Open Mic Poetry & Reading (7:00)

**JACK'S BACKYARD** Karaoke w/ Stars Across Texas (9:00)

**LA ZONA ROSA** John Robinson, Count Bass D, MF Doom (8:00)

**LONGBRANCH INN** Singer-Songwriter Night

**MOMOS** Welcome to Oddville, Johnny Goudie (10:00)

**MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS** John Wilson, Je Renee, Carl Koonce

**NASTY'S** Blow Pop w/ DJ Mel, Jahmighty

**NUNO'S ON SIXTH** Butt Rockin' Blue Monday with the Texcellorators (9:00)

**RED FEZ** Motown w/ DJ Inverse

**REDRUM** Southern Drama, Scare Mondelos, What We Know, Los Hispanos U.K.

**REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB** Marc Devine (6:00)

**RILEY'S TAVERN** Clay McClinton

**RUTA MAYA** Carolyn Wonderland & Matt Hubbard (8:30)

**SAXON PUB** Lisa Hayes, Sahara Smith, Guy Forsyth (7:00)

**SPEAKEASY** James Gossett (9:30)

**THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ** Elizabeth McQueen & Jason Roberts (8:00)

**TRIPLE CROWN** Cody Richardson, the Normans, Happy Families, Aster

**TROPHY'S** The Meshbanes

**THE WATER TANK** Acoustic Jam

Open Mic w/ Tony Fant

**WHISKY BAR** DJ Tako

**EMO'S** Ground Opening, Mr. Dibbs, Swamp

**EVANGELINE CAFE** Brennen Leigh, Gene Taylor

**FADO** Tea Merchants (8:00)

**FIREHOUSE LOUNGE** Deep Sessions w/ DJ Toddy B

**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory

**FRIENDS** Erin Jaimes & Her Bad Habits, Alan Haynes (7:30)

**GIDDY UPS** Desperate Times

**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Billy Dee (9:00)

**GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL** Stop the Truck

**GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL** Open Stage w/ Felix the Kid

**HABANA CALLE 6** Trey Lanshe (8:00)

**HANOVER'S** Pete Benz & Friends (7:30)

**HEADHUNTERS** Streetlight Suzy, Camisade, Devola

**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Josh (8:00)

**HOLE IN THE WALL** Paul Minor, Billy Harvey (9:30)

**IT'S ITALIAN** "Frankly Singing" w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

**JOVITA'S** Jodi Adair, Mary Welch w/ Los Curanderos (6:00)

**LUCKY LOUNGE** Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa, John Pointer (11:00)

**MOMOS** Red Lightning (9:00)

**NUNO'S ON SIXTH** The Painkillers (8:00)

**THE OFFICE LOUNGE** Karaoke w/ Billy D

**ONE WORLD THEATRE** Circle of Light w/ Tina Marsh & the Creative Opportunity Orchestra (7:00)

**OSLO** Lucy's Wild w/ DJ Shane

**PLUSH** Mentalnote

**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Troubadillos

**POODLE DOG LOUNGE** Open Mic w/ Kid Valance

**THE PUB** Karaoke w/ Justin

**RANDY'S ICE HOUSE** Karaoke (8:00)

**RED EYED FLY** The Hat Madder

**RED FEZ** Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:15)

**REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB** Denia Ridley w/ Marc Devine (6:30)

**RHINOS & JOCKS ROUND ROCK** Karaoke w/ Mr. K.

**RIVERBEND CENTRE** Handel's *Messiah* w/ the Austin Symphony Orchestra, Chorus Austin (8:00)

**ROADHOUSE** Karaoke w/ Dragon

**ROMEO'S** Jacinta (6:30)

**ROPER'S NIGHTCLUB** Open Mic w/ Cory Michael (9:00)

**ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE** Tony Maserati

**RUTA MAYA** Poetry, Music Open Mic (6:00)

**SAM'S TOWN POINT** Open Mic w/ 70 Thru Selma (9:00)

**SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM** Jim Ivy's Jinxstreet Band (7:00)

**SHENANIGANS** Karaoke w/ Rae Rae

**SHOAL CREEK SALOON** Shinola (9:00)

**SPEAKEASY** KKQ (9:30)

**TAMBALEO** Rock & Roll Bingo (10:00)

**TAVERN ON THE GRUENE** Songwriters Open Mic w/ Jerry Martin & Sam Sanchez (8:00)

**TEXAS BAR & GRILL** Karaoke w/ Raquel

**THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ** Cyril Neville & Tribe 13 (9:00)

**TRIPLE CROWN** Patrick Harkins (6:00)

**TROPHY'S** Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis

**THE WATER TANK** Karaoke w/ RJ

**WHISKY BAR** D-Madness, DJ Aquaman

**ANTONE'S** Shawn Pittman, Seth James (9:00)

**APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL** Marty Linville

**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland

**AUSTIN MUSIC CO-OP** Laydeez Open Mic

**AUSTIN'S PIZZA** Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)

**BECK'S ON CONGRESS** Parker Worsham (8:00)

**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega (10:00)

**BRENTWOOD TAVERN** T. Jarrod Bonta

**BROKEN SPOKE** Lucky Tomblin

**BROWN BAR** DJ Manny

**CAFE MUNDI** Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)

**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke

**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke

**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Will Ivy Band, Dollar Dan & the Change (7:00)

**CEDAR STREET** Trent & Dave (6:00), 80's Party w/ the Spazmatics (9:30)

**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle

**CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO** Jacinta (7:00)

**CIRCLE COUNTRY CLUB** Karaoke (8:00)

**CLUB ONE 15** Les & the Funk Mob (9:00)

**COFFEE CREATOR** Je Renee, Cherilyn, John Wilson (8:30)

**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gary Clark Jr. (6:30), Jon Dee Graham, James McMurtry (10:30)

**CUBA LIBRE** Havana Nights w/ the Cdaques (8:00)

**CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN** Jam Night w/ Dennis Lee

**DONN'S DEPOT** Matt Wilson

**THE DRISKILL** Kirk Hale

**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Bobby Doyle (7:00)

**EGO'S** Austin Poetry Slam, Shane Bartell's Loveseat (7:30)

**ELEPHANT ROOM** Jazz Pharaohs (6:00), Combs Night w/ UT, TSU, ACC (9:30)

**ELYSIUM** Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice

**EMO'S** Scott Reynolds, Drag the River, the Texas Sapphires

**EVANGELINE CAFE** Cowboy Johnson (6:00)

**FADO** Patrick Fleming (9:00)

**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Just Guns, Goodbye Stranger, Belhome, Watching the Moon, Poor Posture

**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** El Orbits, RokkaKtone (8:00)

**FRIENDS** John McVey (10:30)

**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Justin Trevino (9:00)

**GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL** Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier

**GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL** Karaoke w/ Ian of Echosystemz (8:00)

**HEADHUNTERS** Juan Hitter, Tough Shit Elliot, Jagged Edges, Slabtrash

**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Tim Doyle (11:45 am), Woode Wood & Beth Lee (noon, 7:00)

**HILL'S CAFE** Brennen Leigh, Sunny Sweeney (7:00)

**HILLTOP TAVERN** Open Mic

**HOLE IN THE WALL** Roger Wallace, Ridgetop Syncoptators, W.T. Special (7:00)

**JC'S STEAKHOUSE** Adam Donmoyer

**JOVITA'S** Clay Jeffrey, Jane Bond (6:00)

**LA PALAPA** Bobby Fuente & the Flames (8:00)

**LAS PALOMAS** Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)

**LUCKY LOUNGE** Damesviolet (9:00)

**LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE** Electric Mayhem

**MOMOS** Kacy Crowley, the Dishonorables, Drew Smith (8:00)

**MOONRIVER** Karaoke w/ Magnolia

**MULLIGAN'S** Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)

**ONE WORLD THEATRE** Circle of Light w/ Tina Marsh & the Creative Opportunity Orchestra (7:00)

**OSLO** SongsAlive! (6:00)

**Tue 06**

**1920S CLUB** Mac Bynum (7:00)

**219 WEST** Crucial Prophet

**311 CLUB** Murphy (8:30)

**ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR** Karen Abrahams (3:30)

**ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH** Dionysium w/ Graham Reynolds (7:30)

**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Texas Olde Time Fiddlers Jam

**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Open Mic (7:30)

**BASTROP SENIOR CENTER** The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

**BECK'S ON CONGRESS** Chad Tracy (8:00)

**BRENTWOOD TAVERN** Thompkins & Adamson

**BROKEN SPOKE** Hardcore Country w/ Alvin Crow, James M. White

**BROWN BAR** DJ Gray (9:00)

**CACTUS CAFE** Adrienne Young & Little Sadie

**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke

**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke

**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Coffee Sergeants, Jerm Pollet & the Total Foxes

**CEDAR STREET** Super Fantastic Duo w/ Seela Green (6:00), Trent Durham Band (9:30)

**CHARLIE'S** Margaret Wright

**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Ryan Turner Band

**CLUB ONE 15** Ephraim Owens Quartet (9:30)

**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Doak Short (5:30), Toni Price (6:30), Barfield (11:00)

**CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN** Open Mic w/ Bonnie & Blythe (9:00)

**DONN'S DEPOT** Donn & the Station Masters

**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Bobby Doyle (7:00)

**EGO'S** Redd Volkaert (8:30)

**EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE** "Writers Who Rock" Songwriters Night w/ Christine Young, Melissa Mullins (7:00)

**ELEPHANT ROOM** Stanley Smith (4:00), Big Band (9:30)

**ELYSIUM** Sappho's Isle w/ DJ Amerykah & DJ Doja

**Wed 07**

**1920S CLUB** Liz Morphis (8:30)

**219 WEST** The SG Project (7:00)

**311 CLUB** Devren (8:30)

**ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR** Redd Volkaert (3:30)

**ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH** Sara Shansky (1:00)

**AGAVE** Eric Tessmer (9:00)

# Antones

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DOORS 7PM • SHOW 7:45PM

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SAT DEC 3RD DOORS 8PM • SHOW 9PM • TICKETS ON SALE NOW

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FRIDAY 12/11/04 DOORS 7PM • TICKETS AT THE DOOR

**Blue Monday**  
ROSCOE • RILEY • DEREK • MIKE & FROSTY  
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HAPPY HOUR WITH BOB BOY PARNELL - 6PM NO COVER

WED DEC 7TH DOORS 8PM • SHOW 9PM • TICKETS ON SALE NOW

**SETH JAMES**  
with SHAWN PITTMAN

THU DEC 8TH DOORS 7:30PM • SHOW 8PM • TICKETS AT THE DOOR

A TRIBUTE TO  
**TOWNES VAN ZANDT**  
featuring  
...And You Will Know Us By The TRAIL OF DEAD  
BILL CALLAHAN - JIMMY DALE GILMORE  
COLIN GILMORE - JOE GRACEY - KIMMIE RHODES  
WILL SEXTON & more special guests  
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THE SIMS FOUNDATION

FRI DEC 9TH & SAT DEC 10TH DOORS 8PM • SHOW 9PM

**DEL CASTILLO**  
2 NIGHTS!  
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THU DEC 15TH DOORS 8PM • SHOW 9PM • TICKETS AT THE DOOR

**HALLOW** with JAMES SPEER  
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FRI DEC 16TH & SAT DEC 17TH

**SOULHAT**  
12/17 with CHEYENNE KIMBALL  
DOORS 8PM • SHOW 9PM • TICKETS ON SALE NOW  
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SUN DEC 18TH DOORS 8PM • SHOW 9PM • TICKETS ON SALE NOW

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with SPECIAL GUESTS  
STUNTA  
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DOK HOLIDAY  
J-KID & GLUTCH

FRI DECEMBER 30TH DOORS 8PM • SHOW 9PM

**THE SCABS**  
TICKETS ON SALE THIS SATURDAY at 10AM!

SAT DECEMBER 31ST DOORS 8PM • SHOW 9PM

**NEW YEARS EVE**  
**BOB SCHNEIDER**  
with BILLY HARVEY  
TICKETS ON SALE THIS SATURDAY at 10AM!

FRI JAN 13TH DOORS 7PM • SHOW 8PM • TICKETS AT THE DOOR

**VMG SHOWCASE**  
**VALLEJO**  
with DIRTY WORMZ  
TRUTH FOR LEO - TYRONE WJGH  
also a special performance by  
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SAT JAN 21ST DOORS 8PM • SHOW 9PM • TICKETS ON SALE NOW

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- FRI 12/2 BUCK JONES & THE HAGGARDS
- SAT 12/3 CHADD THOMAS & THE CRAZY KINGS
- SUN 12/4 OPEN MIC w/ STERLING FINLAY
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MON DEC 5 DOORS 8 • SHOW 9

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MAD VILLAIN  
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Women Seldom grow old. The Live from Planet X Tour  
**DOOM**  
featuring COUNT BASS D & JOHN ROBINSON

THU DEC 8 DOORS 8 • SHOW 9

**KING'S**  
WITH MARDO

WED DEC 21 DOORS 8 • SHOW 9

**7TH ANNUAL SONGWRITERS SHOWCASE**  
FEATURING:  
ROGER CREAGER • RANDY ROGERS • BILLY JOE SHAVER  
CORY MORROW W/ WADE BOWEN • FRED ANDREWS (OF HONEYBROWNE)

THU DEC 29 DOORS 8 • SHOW 9

**OLD 97'S**

SAT DEC 31 DOORS 8 • SHOW 9

**JOE ELY'S ELECTRIC BAND**  
NEW YEARS EVE!  
RECKLESS KELLY  
PATRICIA VONNE

THU JAN 19 DOORS 8 • SHOW 9

**ACOUSTIC SHOW**  
**LOS LOBOS**

SAT FEB 11 DOORS 8 • SHOW 9

**BIG HEAD TODD AND THE MONSTERS**  
JACKIE GREENE  
ON SALE SAT!

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RINGERS

SPORTS LOUNGE

club listings ◀ FROM WEDNESDAY

**PLUSH** Original Block Party w/ DJ Tats (10:00)  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones the Singing Bartender  
**POODLE DOG LOUNGE** Diamond Simon (9:00)  
**THE PUB** Jam Session w/ Frank RAGGEDY ANNE'S Karaoke  
**REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE** "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)  
**RED FEZ** Glam Rock w/ DJ Shane, DJ Linda  
**REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB** Marc Devine Trio (7:00)  
**RILEY'S TAVERN** John Deery  
**ROADHOUSE** Karaoke w/ Billy D  
**ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE** Glenn Collins Open Mic  
**RUTA MAYA** Holland Hopson, Bee vs. Moth, ECFA Anniversary Show/CD Release (8:00)  
**SAKE ON SIXTH** Get Broke Wednesdays w/ Merrick Brown  
**SAM'S TOWN POINT** Ramsey & the Scientists (9:00)  
**SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM** Round Rock Blues Jam w/ Mark Goodwin  
**SAXON PUB** Pauline Reese (6:00), Seth Walker, White Ghost Shivers (8:00)  
**SHOAL CREEK SALOON** Dickie Lee Erwin (8:00)  
**SHOOTERS BILLIARDS** Shooting Star Karaoke (8:00)  
**SOUTH FORTY** Karaoke w/ J.R. the DJ (9:00)  
**SPEAKEASY** The Brew  
**TAMBALEO** Krunkaoko w/ DJ Mel (10:00)  
**THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ** Christmas Bureau Benefit w/ Carolyn Wonderland, Jimi Lee, Renee French, Bill Mutschler, Stonecastle Family Band, Ginger Leigh, Cooper's Uncle, Natalie Zoe, Frank Meyer, Jimmy LaFave, Slim Richey's Dream Band (6:00)  
**TRIPLE CROWN** Moon Dog, Ginn Sisters  
**TROPHY'S** 3 Balls of Fire  
**VENTANA DEL SOUL** The Grinding Wheel (7:00)  
**VICTORY GRILL** The Blues Specialists (5:30)  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Ptarmigan  
**WHISKY BAR** DJ Hobo D, DJ Aquaman, DJ Kon Karne  
**Y BAR & GRILL** Singer-Singwriter Night w/ Jenni Lord  
**Z'TEJAS** Stephen Doster, Will Sexton & Friends (6:00)

Thu 08

**311 CLUB** Murphy, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)  
**ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR** Big Sam, Los Flames (1:00)  
**ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR** Ana Egge (3:30)  
**ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH** Brandon Jenkins (12:30)

**ALICE'S RESTAURANT** Chicken Fried Vandiver Tribute w/ Flying \$ Bunkhouse Band (7:00)  
**ANTONE'S** A Tribute to Townes Van Zandt w/ J.T. Van Zandt, Will Sexton, ...And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead, Bill Callahan, Jimmie Dale Gilmore, Colin Gilmore, Kimmie Rhodes & Joe Gracey (10:00)  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Frank Meyer  
**AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR** Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)  
**AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR** Poetry Karaoke Open Mic (8:00)  
**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Eric Tessmer  
**BECK'S ON CONGRESS** Amanda Cunningham (8:00)  
**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega (10:00)  
**BOAT HOUSE GRILL** Open Mic w/ Sidney  
**BROKEN SPOKE** Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes  
**BROWN BAR** mr.ripley  
**CACTUS CAFE** David Wilcox (7:00, 9:30)  
**CAFE CAFFEINE** Owen Egerton, Jerm Pollett, Les McGeehee  
**CAFE MUNDI** Avenue Elle (5:00)  
**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke  
**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke  
**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** The Dentones, Rice Moorhead  
**CEDAR STREET** Gaila Trickey (6:00), Sauce (9:30)  
**CLUB ONE 15** Haydn Vitera (9:00)  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Onion Creek Crawdaddies (6:30), Cue, Zykos, the Glass Family CD Release, Waxploitation (10:00)  
**COTTON CLUB** Josh Peek  
**DARWIN'S PUB** J.T. Coldfire  
**THE DETOUR** Open Mic w/ David John, Big Steve, Easy Dave (8:30)  
**DONN'S DEPOT** Murphy's Inlaws  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Bobby Doyle w/ Tammy Sommerville (7:30)  
**EGO'S** Sunny Sweeney, 2 Hoots & a Holler (8:30)  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Kat's Meow, Ephraim Owens Quartet (6:00)  
**EMO'S** Corruption Is King, Vitamins, Daniel Francis Doyle, Japanther  
**FADO** DJ Gerry (10:00)  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA** The Nutcracker Suite w/ the Invincible Czars (8:30)  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Ana Egge (8:00)  
**THE FOUNDATION** Coy West  
**FOX & HOUND** Danny Britt (6:00)  
**GIDDY UPS** Open Mic w/ Roy & Ted  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Heybale! (9:00)  
**GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL** Kris Farrow (7:30), Noltey (9:00)  
**GRUENE HALL** Susan Gibson (7:30)  
**HANOVER'S** Karaoke  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Alice Spencer & Her Monkey Butlers, Wrinkle Neck Mules, Shootin' Pains, Passed Out Flyers (8:00)

**JC'S STEAKHOUSE** Adam Donmoyer, Bill Forrest (7:00)  
**JOVITA'S** Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)  
**LA PALAPA** The Lonely Knights (8:00)  
**LA ZONA ROSA** Mardo, King's X (9:00)  
**LONGBRANCH INN** The Ridgeway Syncopators (9:30)  
**LUCKY LOUNGE** Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00), 8 Million Stories (10:00)  
**MAMBO KINGS CLUB** Recon Thursday w/ Loki, Secret Agent, Durhdy, Jungle Jim, B-1, DJ Mattis  
**MOMOS** Steven Clarke, Rachel Loy, the Nadas, Jeremy Scott Echols (8:00)  
**MOTHER'S CAFE** Doc Grauzer (6:00)  
**NAT'S PUB** Open Mic w/ Big Jim  
**NUNO'S ON SIXTH** Blues Jam w/ Dewayne Davis (8:00)  
**THE OFFICE LOUNGE** Karaoke w/ Jamie  
**OSLO** DJ Kurupt (11:00)  
**PLUSH** Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Ryan James  
**THE PUB** Karaoke w/ Al  
**RANDY'S ICE HOUSE** Karaoke (8:00)  
**RED FEZ** Nothing New All-Stars w/ DJ Chicken George, Mike Swing, Gibby, DJ Manny  
**RED'S SCOOT INN** The Nortons (8:30)  
**REDRUM** Kryonik, Silenced, Trifecta, Kinetik  
**REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB** Marc Devine Quartet (6:00)  
**RILEY'S TAVERN** Karaoke  
**ROADHOUSE** Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)  
**ROMEO'S** Jacinta (6:30)  
**RUTA MAYA** Guy Forsyth (6:00)  
**SAXON PUB** James Hand (6:00), Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore (8:00)  
**SHENANIGANS** Billy D  
**SHOAL CREEK SALOON** The Hi-Flyers (8:00)  
**SKY LOUNGE** Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M  
**TAMBALEO** DJ Starsign, John Angle (10:00)  
**TRIPLE CROWN** King Tears, Foscoe Jones, Green Mountain Grass  
**TROPHY'S** Box Cutters, Stone Dakota, Melanoma  
**THE VELVET SPADE** Topaz (10:00)  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** The Walking Contradictions  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH** The Hudsons (6:00)  
**WHISKY BAR** Shim Shams (11:00)  
**Z'TEJAS** Thomas Hughes & Philippe Vieux (6:00)

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SERIOUSLY, I AGONIZE!!!

FOR EXAMPLE, IN THAT LAST PANEL I STRUGGLED WITH "THE WORD 'AGONIZE.' SHOULD IT BE 'PONDER,' 'THINK ABOUT,' 'Ponder,' OR 'WORRY ON?'

IS MY STYLE OK? WHAT ABOUT MY COMMENT? SHOULD I HAVE A SEXY GIRL CHARACTER? WHY AMN'T I MORE POPULAR?

HEADLINED KILL ME I BALANCE GETTING IT DONE PERFECTLY AND GETTING IT DONE. IT ALWAYS HURTS.

WHAT I'M SAYING IS, CARTOONING IS HARD WORK!!!

WOULD YOU SHUT UP!!

PERSON WITH A REAL JOB.

## TROUBLETOWN by Lloyd Dangle

IT HAS BECOME SUCH A COMMON TOPIC THAT IT'S NO LONGER A SHOCK TO HEAR ABOUT TORTURE ON TV.

THIS TECHNIQUE SOFTENS UP DETAINEES BUT SOUNDS LIKE A LAUNDRY BOARDING? PROCEDURE.

WHAT IS WATER-BOARDING?

IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU TURN TO JIM BEAM AND JOHNNIE WALKER FOR ASSISTANCE IN GETTING YOUR CARTOONS DONE!

DO YOU THINK IT OUGHTA BE LEGAL TO TORTURE TERRELL OWENS? JUST KIDDING.

HEE! HEE!

I ASSUMED IT WAS THE BOOZE TALKING WHEN I HEARD OR THOUGHT I HEARD TUCKER CARLSON SAY THIS:

WHY IS LEAKING THE NAME OF A CIA AGENT SO WRONG — BUT REVEALING OUR SECRET EASTERN-EUROPEAN TORTURE PRISONS ISN'T?!

NOT FAIR!

DID HE ACTUALLY DEFEND SECRET SOVIET TORTURE GULAGS BY SAYING THAT TATTLING IS THE BIGGER CRIME?

HA! HA! NAH, I MUST BE OUT-OF-MY-MIND DRUNK! NOBODY WOULD MAKE THAT ARGUMENT!

I BETTER LAY OFF THE HARD STUFF.

BUT THE NEXT DAY, SENATE AND HOUSE LEADERS, FAIST AND HASTERT, CALLED FOR AN INVESTIGATION NOT OF THE PRISON'S THEMSELVES, BUT OF THE LEAKER.

BACK AGAIN?

I SWEAR — IF IT HASN'T HAPPENED ALREADY — IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL SOME NUMBSKULL TROTS OUT THIS LINE OF REASONING:

HITLER, STALIN, AND CALIGULA ALL USED TORTURE. WHY SHOULD WE HAVE ANY LESS?

**Mood-Ring Cycle (nie)**

SOMETIMES MARLYS HAS FRIENDS AND THEN SHE DOESN'T RIGHT NOW ALL THE GIRLS ARE HATING HER AND MARLYS IS HATING THEM RIGHT BACK.

FORGET THEM. DON'T WANTTA SIT WITH THEM IN RATHER BE AT THE SPAZ TABLE.

GIRLS HAVE NEVER WANTED ME. NO PART OF ME MATCHES WHAT THEY NEED TO HAVE TO MATCH. I COULD SAY THE SAME BACK THEY HAVE CALLED ME A BOY. MAYBE I AM.

ACTUALLY DONCHA EVEN CARE IM CRYIN' ARNA?? DONCHA EVEN NOTICE MY AGONY?

MARLYS IS A GIRL, BUT SHE ISN'T VERY GOOD AT IT. THEY CALL HER A BABY FOR CRYING SO EASY AND GETTING MAD SO EASY AND FOR HER VERY DRAMATIC SPAZ-OUTS.

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF LIKING AND HATING? OR OF GIRL, BOY, TRAITOR, SPAZ? MARLYS GETS MAD AND SHE CRIES EASIER THAN ME, BUT SHE GETS HAPPY EASIER TOO. SHE LAUGHS WAY MORE EASIER. MAYBE THAT IS THE MEANING.

YOU'RE ON YOUR SIDE? I WISH I WAS DEAD!

YOUR MARLYS! WHO IS THE MEANING OF THIS?

MY OWN COUSIN IS A TRAITOR!

SORRY MRS. DING. SOMETIMES THE OFFICE K, MRS. DING.

## BITTER YETI IN THE CITY by Jason Stout

EVERY CARNIVAL NEEDS SOME WACKY MIRRORS!

HALL OF GLASS

OBESSE MINORANT AGGRESSIVE

ARROGANT IN DEBT

I KNOW, I KNOW. THEY'RE JUST REGULAR MIRRORS, NO NUTTY SHAPES.

BUT THIS IS AMERICA SHMAMERICA, AND I ASSURE YOU...

THEY WILL REFLECT YOUR PATRIOTISM!

COME HAVE CRAZY FUN.

## MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS

According to one study by the American Sociological Association, more young black men have done prison time than have served in the military or earned a college degree.

**Port wine and chocolate go well together.**

Sturdy shoes first came into widespread use between 40,000 and 26,000 years ago. The oldest shoes in the world are about 9,000 years old, and they're from California.

**Female bottlenose dolphins are taught by their mothers to use marine sponges to look for food.**

A second look at some 40-million-year-old fossils suggests that the closest living relative of whales is the hippo.

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

454-5767

austinchronicle.com/class

# CLASSIFIEDS

## 100 JOBS

- 110 Art/Design
- 115 Beauty/Salon/Spa
- 120 Entertainment/Casting
- 125 General
- 130 Healthcare
- 135 Hospitality
- 140 Legal
- 145 Office/Clerical
- 150 Non-Profit
- 155 Professional
- 160 Research Study
- 165 Retail
- 170 Sales/Marketing
- 175 School/Training
- 180 Technical

## 200 HOUSING

- 210 Reader Notice
- 215 Apartment/Condo/Townhome
- 220 Duplex/Houses
- 225 Vacation
- 230 Commercial
- 235 Roommates
- 240 Real Estate For Sale

## 300 BUY/SELL/TRADE

- 310 Antiques/Collectibles
- 315 Appliances
- 320 Baby/Kids Stuff
- 325 Clothing
- 330 Computers
- 335 Electronics
- 340 Free Stuff
- 345 Furniture
- 350 Garage/Estate Sales
- 355 General
- 360 Jewelry/Accessories
- 365 Pets/Pet Supplies
- 370 Recreational
- 375 Tickets/Entertainment
- 380 Tools
- 385 Trades
- 390 Wanted to Buy

## 400 SERVICES

- 410 Business
- 415 Computers
- 420 Counseling
- 425 Health/Wellness
- 430 Home
- 435 Financial
- 440 Fitness/Training
- 445 Legal
- 450 Licensed Massage
- 455 Psychic/Astrology
- 460 Travel
- 465 Miscellaneous

## 500 NOTICES

- 510 Activities
- 515 Classes/Workshops
- 520 Discussion Groups
- 525 Events
- 530 General
- 535 Lost & Found
- 540 Volunteers
- 545 Legal Notices

## 600 MOTOR

- 610 Cars
- 615 Trucks
- 620 SUV's
- 625 Motorcycles
- 630 Recreational
- 635 Parts
- 640 Repairs

## 700 MUSIC

- 710 Equipment for Sale
- 715 Music Instruction
- 720 Musicians Available
- 725 Musicians Wanted
- 730 Recording Studios
- 735 Rentals/Services
- 740 Shameless Promotion

## PERSONALS

Lovers Lane  
Easy Street  
Shot in the Dark  
Messages



## 110 ART/DESIGN

### ART

#### AUSTIN ROCKS

\$300-\$800/wk. TO START  
Expanding Art Co. seeks 10 enthusiastic people who like to work w/ other fun guys & gals. Must like \$, music & travel. No exp. nec. Mgmt. training avail. For immediate interview, Call 512-926-7300 ext. 3

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER** Sign, Banner and Graphics co. needs someone w/ Flexi experience. Position starts as p/t and goes to f/t quickly. Email resume to austingraphics@aol.com

### ART

#### AUSTIN ROCKS

\$300-\$800/wk. TO START  
Expanding Art Co. seeks 10 enthusiastic people who like to work w/ other fun guys & gals. Must like \$, music & travel. No exp. nec. Mgmt. training avail. For immediate interview, Call 512-926-7300 ext. 3

**BARBER/HAIRSTYLIST** wanted.commission,p/f,any info cindy:4425300w,4161065h

**COLORIST/HAIRSTYLIST** 1 of each, full time. Instant color client opportunity. Hair stylist must be versatile w/ men and women. Colorist must excel highlights, lowlights, etc. Beautiful salon across from Lakeline Mall. Current staff has been together 3.5 years. High commissions + benefits. Austin Hair Works, Bill, 336-7800

**HAIRSTYLISTS / NAIL TECHS** Lease \$130/wk. Downtown location. Lots of walk-ins. 320-5907.

**HAIR STYLIST** needed, up to 50% commission. Ongoing training provided. Organic Hair & Beauty Center, an upscale salon in Round Rock. Call Nicky 255-6763

**HAIRSTYLIST** Alante Salon is seeking a professional, experienced Hairstylist. Great atmosphere in a high foot-traffic area. Guadalupe & 21st/UT. Chair rental or commission option. Call 638-2872.

**HAIRSTYLIST** Start your dream now in old S. Austin. Hairstylist needed full or part time. Chair Lease. 1704 Evergreen Ave. 576-4683

**HAIRSTYLIST** 2 weeks Free Rent! Urban Betty Boutique, located in the upscale 26 Doors Shopping Ctr. Close to UT & Dwtin. Chair rental is \$225/wk with 15% commission on retail. PureOlogy, Wella, Loma, & Matrix. Call 371-7663 or email chelle@urbanbetty.com

**HAIRSTYLIST**- Upscale salon in NW (across from North-cross Mall). Chair lease \$100/wk, or comm. 1st week free. Call Lee 791-6186

**MESSAGE THERAPIST** Massage Therapist wanted at Anti-Aging & Wellness Center. Call Dr. Hall 407-9595.

**NAIL TECH** desired at Orbit Salon. Upbeat salon full of nice people. 512.480.0382 http://www.orbitsalon.net

**SALON** Avant Garde Salon-Spa voted best in Austin...is now accepting applications for guest service representatives as well as all other Salon/Spa positions. Only Day Makers need apply. employment@avantsalon.com http://www.avantsalon.com

## 120 ENTERTAINMENT CASTING

**ACTORS** Dancers and Models needed for theatrical events. Males & Females, all types. Call today 440-7171.

**CASTING \*MOVIE EXTRAS\*** earn \$150-\$300/Day. All Looks/Types Needed. No Experience Necessary. TV, Music Videos, Commercials, Film, Print. Call Tollfree 7 days! 1-800-260-3949 x3025. (AAN CAN)

## 125 GENERAL

**APARTMENT LOCATORS** Needed for expanding Downtown groovy office. Real estate license required. Call 472-9100, or fax resume to 472-1723

**ASSOCIATES** \$1000 per day/ptnl. Returning phone calls, no selling, Not MLM, Call Mike 618-355-1761



**Midtowne Spa of Austin is seeking a Assistant Manager who is customer service oriented, honest, self motivated, and can work evenings & weekends.**

Apply in person or email resume to austinmg@midtowne.com

5815 Airport Blvd. Austin, TX 78752

**CLEANER** Cleaners Wanted. Clean Commando is recruiting cleaners to fight dirt and dust and restore cleanliness to people's lives. Work mostly daytime hours cleaning houses, some weekends, and occasional evening starting at \$8 hr. E-mail resume to cleancommando@hotmail.com or fax 512-326-9055.

### CONSTRUCTION

A national construction corporation has an immediate opening for a talented and experienced Superintendent/QC Manager for our Killeen, TX job site. We need a qualified, energetic person to join our team. Candidates should be computer literate with excellent organizational skills. Related degree and/or certifications preferred. Seven to ten years construction management experience preferred. Excellent salary and full benefits package is available as well as a company 401(k) plan. If you are looking for a job to grow and develop your career, and are one of the best in your field, this is your opportunity. For immediate consideration fax or email your resume with Salary History & Requirements to 1-800-732-3270 or resumes@mccconstruction.com. Attn: HRFH. EOE/M-F/VETS/ADA

**CONSTRUCTION** Exterior high rise building calking and cleaning. Exp. preferred. Good physical condition, English, car, phone required. Call Forrest 444-5144

**COURIERS** Commission wages + gas allowance. Dependable vehicle & cell phone needed. Mon-Fri 8am-5pm. Call 459-7472

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** Major corporation seeking quality candidates for local offices. Must be able to work well with others. \$16/hr start, FT. Email hrdesk@inbox.com

### DRIVERS

**\$1,000 Student Sign-On Bonus**  
Company-Paid CDL Training  
**NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED**  
Earn up to \$37,000  
Your First Year  
P.A.M. TRANSPORT  
Driver Training Hotline  
1-877-825-8645  
Apply online at www.otrdrivers.com

**DRIVERS** Start a new career. Get your commercial drivers licence. 4 weeks training. Jobs available upon completion! 1-800-343-9115

### EDUCATORS NOW HIRING!

Early Childhood Educators. Infant - School Age positions. Subs/14 locations, Excellent Benefits, Experience required. Call Tera, 459-0258 steppingstoneschool.com

### GYMNASTICS COACH

Recreational gymnastics coaches wanted. Call 231-0600

**HOME BUSINESS PAID IN ADVANCE!!** \$1000+/WK stuffing envelopes from home. Earn \$4/envelope. Guaranteed! 100% legit. www.stuffingformoney.com

### INFORMATION PROCESSOR

At home work! Need help processing client applications. 2000.00 minimum per month. Experience desired but not required. Inquire at tcdatacorp@yahoo.com

**KENNEL/MAINT. TECH** Maint/Kennel Tech Part time position available at South Austin Veterinary Hospital. M-F 7am-2pm fax 892-7811 or email to: info@ctvsh.com

### PART TIME



**Do You Enjoy Art and Cooking Projects, Reading, and Fun Activities with Children?**

Apply today to be a role model working with elementary age children in the afternoons. Pay range \$8.75-\$9.35/hr. EOE. Sites at 60 elementary schools. Apply at Extend-A-Care for Kids, 55 North IH 35, www.eackids.org, or call 472-9929 x408.

### RECEPTIONIST

For doctors office. Are you dependable, professional, and eager to help people? \$8/hour, full time with benefits, train and advance, Far West Optical. 343-0432

**SALES AGENTS** (Rose Girls) needed to sell roses in the hottest nightclubs in Austin, earn extra cash while having fun. Immediate positions, leave message at 797-0101, or terrisia@hotmail.com

**SALES PROS** No commute. Triple your income in 2006. We'll teach you the skills. (800) 627-4519 www.financialadrenaline.com

**TOW TRUCK DRIVERS** needed, must have experience and good driving record. Call robert, 452-9843.

## 130 HEALTHCARE

**HEALTH ATTENDANT** Attention Nursing & Pre-Med majors, seeking energetic & cheerful Home Health attendants. \$10/hr. Will train, all shifts avail. Call Cindy Mon-Fri. 8am-5pm for appt. No LATE Calls to Clinic Please. 512-371-3036

### NURSE PRACTITIONERS:

#### ARE YOU REDI?

**RediClinic** Recruiting Family Nurse Practitioners. Join our **RediClinic** in San Antonio & Round Rock.

**RediClinic** is revolutionizing healthcare by providing fast affordable health services in your neighborhood retailer.

We are looking for Family Nurse Practitioners to:

- Diagnose and treat patients to GET WELL!
- Evaluate, test & vaccinate to help patients STAY WELL!
- Bilingual a plus!!!

Please contact **Donna Ewing**

877-935-0333 ext: 240  
donna.ewing@RediClinic.com  
EEO

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-6pm  
Deadlines: Tuesday, 1pm  
Phone: 512-454-5767  
Email: classifieds@austinchronicle.com

# 135 HOSPITALITY

**ALL EXPERIENCED PT** wait-staff needed. Apply in person 3-5, M-F at The Austin Club, 110 E. 9th St. Or fax resume to 477-3863

**ALL**



## FOOD SERVERS HOST/HOSTESS

Please apply:  
Monday - Friday  
10-11am, 2-5pm.  
2002 Manor Rd.

**ALL**



Now Hiring:

- PM Busser \$12+/hr
- Experienced PM Server

**Upscale, fast paced. Voted Austin's Favorite Restaurant by Austin Chronicle Reader's Poll.**  
Please Apply Mon.-Fri between 2pm-5pm.  
8127 Mesa Dr./ 346-7900

**ALL**



508 E. 6th Street  
512-236-1707

Hiring all positions  
MC's  
DJ's  
Bartenders  
Barbacks  
Security  
Servers  
Porters  
Apply between 1-6,  
Monday through Saturday

**ALL** Tired of the same restaurant? Try Japanese. Potential for big money. Hiring chef trainees, superstar servers and more. Kobe Japanese Steakhouse. 13492 Research Blvd., Ste. 380, NW corner of 183 and Anderson Mill Rd.

**BAKER** We are looking for an experienced pastry baker, PT, days, 2-4 shifts a week. Commercial bakery exp. only. Apply at Quack's Bakery, 411 East 43rd St.

**BARTENDER** \$300/day potential. No exp. nec. Training provided. 1-800-965-6520 x207.

**BARTENDER/COCKTAIL** Roadhouse Bar & Grill, Round Rock. Part time Bartender and Cocktail needed. Females strongly encouraged to apply. Call 218-0813. Apply in person. TABC

**DANCERS & WAITRESSES**

## The Landing Strip

**MAKE BIG \$\$\$**

FT/PT, flex. sched., no exp. nec., 745 Bastrop Hwy, one mile from the airport.  
385-2878.

ENTERTAINMENT

# JOY

**MAKE LOTS OF MONEY!** and have lots of fun as an **Entertainer or Waitress** at Joy of Austin Men's Club. No experience necessary. Will train. Apply in person, Exit 250 IH35. 218-8012.

**MNGMNT OPPORTUNITY**

Little Woodrow's is now accepting application's for a management position at our new Parmer Ln. location. For consideration please drop off your resume at 6301 Parmer Ln. #501 or fax to:  
512-250-1377

**SOUS CHEF** Creative Sous Chef/Kitchen Mgr. 2-3 yrs. exp. managing high volume Tex-Mex restaurant. Great opportunity. Be willing to relocate. Call 720-231-0155

**TABC CERTIFICATION**

www.sixthstreetcertification.com

Call for Class Schedule  
576-7223

**WAIT PERSON** Dirty Martin's Hamburgers FULL or PT, Exp. required, Current TABC certificate needed & Exp. references. Apply 3-5 M-F, 2808 Guadalupe

**WAITPERSON & BUSSERS** Upscale restaurant seeking - Wait person & Bussers. To apply please fax resume to: 512-264-7216 attn Justin or stop in after 4:00 at 21814 Hwy 71 West. Call 264-2223

**WAITSTAFF**

## La Morada

Mexican Restaurant

Have fun at work and bank some cash, flexible hours. No exp. necessary. Apply for our team at 12407 N. Mopac Expy (next to HEB) or call 836-6611

# 145

## OFFICE/CLERICAL

**BOOKKEEPER AND OFFICE MANAGER** Exciting non-profit organization (www.austin-international-rescue.org) needs energetic self-starter to support South-Austin-based office, bookkeeping and other responsibilities. Strong accounting and computer skills required. Experience with 501(c)3 corporations and/or legal background a huge plus. 15-20 hrs/wk. Make a difference! Aaron: 750-5096

**OFFICE PERSON** needed. Be computer literate. \$8.50/hr, 20-40 hours/week, flex. Call 444-2100.

**VETERINARY RECEPTIONIST** Full-time receptionist position open in a busy Central Austin veterinary clinic. Must have recent experience as a receptionist in a busy clinic environment. Full range of benefits available. Fax resume and three work related references to 477-9944.

# 150 NON-PROFIT

**ACTIVISM JOBS** with **SIERRA CLUB \$300-\$500/week**

- Save Arctic Wildlife Refuge!
  - Work with Great People!
  - Make a Difference
- Career opportunities & benefits available.  
Call Heidi 512-479-9804

**ACTIVISM • 512-326-5655**

## Earth Warriors Needed.....

**Apply within.** We cultivate the activist within you!

- M-F 2:30-10:30P \$375+/wk
- Pd. Train., bonuses/benes.
- Prev. Exp./College Pref'd.

www.texasenvironment.org

# 160

## RESEARCH STUDY

**MENTAL HEALTH** FutureSearch Trials is currently conducting INPATIENT and OUTPATIENT research studies for people with:

## DEPRESSION, ANXIETY, BIPOLAR DISORDER

Participants should be at least 18 years of age. Be able to provide written informed consent. Financial compensation to those who qualify.

Call 380-9595

ANXIETY

## ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM GENERAL ANXIETY DISORDER?

Millions suffer with General Anxiety Disorder (GAD) - constant worry, fear and tension, often without an apparent cause. This constant anxiety can interfere with daily life and be harmful to one's well being. Medical researchers are enrolling men and women in a research study evaluating an investigational drug for GAD.

**To participate, you must be 18 years or older, and:**

- Diagnosed with General Anxiety Disorder
- Willing to participate in a clinical research study.

**Participants will receive:**

- Supervised medical care and medical tests related to the clinical research study.
- Investigational study drug
- Compensation for time and travel

**Call to participate an investigational medication study.**

**(512) 323-2622**

Community Clinical Research  
http://www.communityclinical.com

**WISDOM TEETH**

## WISDOM TEETH?

Are you having wisdom teeth pain? SCIREX in Austin is looking for men and women to participate in a research study evaluating an investigational medication for post-operative pain.

Qualified study participants may have their wisdom teeth removed, at no charge, by an experienced oral surgeon. Study participants may receive financial compensation.

For more information call:

**320-1630**



COMMON COLD

## DO YOU THINK YOU MIGHT BE COMING DOWN WITH A COLD?

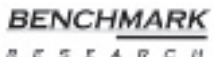
Males and Females ages 18-65 years old wanted to participate in a research study testing the effects of a nasal spray as compared to a placebo (no active ingredients) for the common cold. Interested subjects should call when first symptoms of cold appear

**MAKE 2 VISITS AND EARN UP TO \$100**

For more information, please call

**1-800-369-2875**

http://www.benchmarkresearch.net



**DEPRESSION**

## ARE YOU STILL FEELING DEPRESSED?

Have you tried medication, but it just didn't help?

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical study researching an investigational medication for people with depression, who are not responding to treatment.

Eligible study participants may receive study-related: medical care, research medication, laboratory work, and evaluations, at no cost.

**NOW ENROLLING FOR A MAJOR DEPRESSION CLINICAL STUDY**

CALL TODAY:  
COMMUNITY CLINICAL RESEARCH

**(512) 323-2622**

DONOR PROGRAM

## SEMEN DONORS NEEDED

Fairfax Cryobank seeks college educated men 18-39 to participate in 6 month donor program. Avg. \$150 per specimen. Call today for free application or apply online at http://www.123donate.com.

**HEARTBURN**

## DO YOU SUFFER FROM FREQUENT HEARTBURN?

Benchmark Research is conducting a research study of an investigational medication used for heartburn. In order to qualify for this study:

- You must be 18 years of age or older
  - You must have a history of heartburn at least 2 days per week over the past month
- If you qualify for this study: All study-related office visits, examinations, lab work and investigational medication or placebo will be provided to you.

Compensation up to \$160 will be paid to qualified participants for their time.

Contact

**1-800-369-2875**

For More Information



**WEBSITE** Vocals? Check. Guitar player? Check. Keyboards? Check. Still looking for that magic drummer to make your dreams come true? They might be online...check out [austinchronicle.com/classifieds](http://austinchronicle.com/classifieds).

SHINGLES VACCINE

## HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR INVESTIGATIONAL VACCINE TRIAL

Benchmark Research is currently conducting a clinical research study of an investigational vaccine for Herpes Zoster (shingles). All eligible participants in this study will also receive a flu vaccination.

**IN ORDER TO QUALIFY**

- Eligible participants must be 50 years of age or older
  - Participants must be in overall good general health
- Participation in this study will include all study-related office visits, lab work, and investigational medication

Compensation up to \$210 will be paid to eligible participants for their time and effort

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL**

**1-800-369-2875**

http://www.benchmarkresearch.net



ENTRY-LEVEL MGMT

Major sports/entertainment co. is under expansion. We need 10 manager trainees to run new office in Austin area. We will train. Positions available immediately. call Sandy Koller 512-407-8756. http://www.marlinmarketinginc.com

**PROMOTIONS** Need money now? Can't wait for a paycheck? No Experience Needed. Company Training Provided, Great Incentives Available, 27 Positions Available. Starting at \$2,250 per month. Call 512-401-2103 Now.

**SALES** Learn from the best. CEO income. 100% support. No commute. 800-615-7854 milliondollarminds.net

**SALES PT**, work from home for a sports management systems company. Generating leads, strong closes, knowledge of MS Office. Great for stay-at-home Mom. [sales@assignbyweb.com](mailto:sales@assignbyweb.com)

**SALES/BOOKING AGENT** Int. talent agency Sales/Booking agent position. 3 yrs. minimum music industry exp. Email resume to: [assistant@maximustalent.com](mailto:assistant@maximustalent.com) or go to [www.maximusTalent.com](http://www.maximusTalent.com) **DO NOT CALL**

# 175 SCHOOL TRAINING

**DIRECT CARE** Outdoor-oriented person needed to work in a therapeutic wilderness camp for emotionally disturbed boys. Awake night positions available. Call 9am-4pm, 801-4846

# 170 SALES MARKETING

**ASSISTANTS GENERATE** \$1000/day or more returning phone calls. NO Sales No Lies. Change your financial future. 1-800-242-0363 ext 4185

## Company-Paid CDL Training

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**\$1,000 Student Sign-On Bonus**

**No Experience Needed**

**Earn up to \$37,000/1st yr**

**Driver Training Hotline**  
**1-877-825-8645**

Apply Online at:  
**www.otrdrivers.com**

## SAMSUNG AUSTIN SEMICONDUCTOR

\*\*PART TIME HOURS\*\*

MANUFACTURING SPECIALIST

18-24 hrs/wk

9am-3pm OR 9pm-3am shifts available

3-4 days/wk

\*\*\*Perfect for school schedules\*\*\*

Entry level positions

Must be 18 years of age

HS diploma or GED required

Able to walk/stand for extended shifts

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pin # 521032651

FAX RESUME & COVER LETTER TO

989.8993

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Are you worth

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min. wage or a little more?

IF NOT

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Need to fill 10 opening entry level positions  
NO EXP. NEC. • \$2250/mo. min. • If qualified

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WORK WITH THE BEST  
RECEIVE PAID BENEFITS  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Austin's leading Comprehensive Child Development/Early Education Program is accepting applications for the following positions:

- **SOCIAL SERVICE WORKER** BS with some experience in direct services or some college with lots of direct service experience. Reliable transportation.
- **MENTAL HEALTH WORKER** BA or BS in Human Services or related field. Experience with mental health services preferred. Reliable transportation.
- **FOOD SERVICE WORKER** High school diploma or GED. Reliable transportation.

All applicants must be at least 18 years of age.

Apply in person at **Child Inc.:**  
818 E. 53rd St., Austin, TX 78751  
EOE

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**YOGA**  
Love Your Work, Love Your Life...  
Grow a Career as a Certified Yoga Teacher, Yoga Therapist, Drama Therapist, Yogic Nutritionist, Yogic Counsellor or Medical Yoga Practitioner. Programs starting soon. Visit: [www.yogavision.com](http://www.yogavision.com) or call 416.544.9642

**180**  
**TECHNICAL**

**HANDYPERSON** When needed. Ideal for semi retired person. \$10/hr. Send brief resume including 2 references to Namat Ent. PO BOX 4703 Austin TX 78765

**MANUFACTURING SPECIALIST**



**SAMSUNG AUSTIN SEMICONDUCTOR**  
**\*\*PART TIME HOURS\*\***

**MANUFACTURING SPECIALIST**  
18-24 hrs/wk

9am-3pm OR 9pm-3am shifts available  
3-4 days/wk  
**\*\*\*Perfect for school schedules\*\*\***

**Entry level positions**  
**Must be 18 years of age**  
**HS diploma or GED required. Able to walk/stand for extended shifts**

**APPLY ONLINE**  
[www.us.manpower.com/](http://www.us.manpower.com/)  
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pin # 521032651

**FAX RESUME & COVER LETTER TO 512.989.8993**

**APPLY IN PERSON AT MANPOWER.** located on the NE corner of I35 and Parmar Ln. @ TechRidge Center behind Chili's



**SOFTWARE DEVELOPER (SDEV)**  
**Job Description**  
Design and develop commercial software products using C, C++, C#, Java, and T-SQL. Will work with clients to define software requirements for new software products; provide customer support for existing software products; travel to client sites less than 25% of time in connection with support and development duties.

**Required Skills:**  
Must have BS in Computer Science or Physics + =3 yrs. exp. or a MS in Computer Science or Physics + 1 yr. exp. = Knowledge of database design, TCP/IP client/server architecture, and data-centric software development required.

**This position is located in Austin, TX.**  
**Please send resume and salary requirements for immediate consideration to: [employment@mm-games.com](mailto:employment@mm-games.com)**

**Or fax to: 512-334-7697**  
**For additional information and to see all available positions go to: [www.multimedialogames.com](http://www.multimedialogames.com)**  
Equal Opportunity Employer

**SOFTWARE ENGINEERS (QA)** Inovant, a Visa Company, currently has opportunities in Austin, TX for Software Engineers (QA). Some travel required. Mail resume to: Inovant, PO. Box 8999, San Francisco, CA 94128, Attention: Kiah Edwards M2-9A. Please refer to 1117.123. EOE.

# Healthy Volunteers Needed for Investigational Vaccine Trial

Benchmark Research is currently conducting a clinical research study of an investigational vaccine for Herpes Zoster (shingles). All eligible participants in this study will also receive a flu vaccination.

## IN ORDER TO QUALIFY

- Eligible participants must be 50 years of age or older
- Participants must be in overall good general health



Participation in this study will include all study-related office visits, lab work, and investigational medication

Compensation up to \$210 will be paid to eligible participants for their time and effort

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 1-800-369-2875**



# FutureSearch Trials



is currently conducting INPATIENT and OUTPATIENT research studies for people with:  
**DEPRESSION**  
**ANXIETY**  
**BIPOLAR DISORDER**

Participants should be at least 18 years of age. Be able to provide written informed consent. Financial compensation to those who qualify.

**CALL 380-9595**

# WISDOM TEETH?



**A**re you having wisdom teeth pain? SCIREX in Austin is looking for men and women to participate in a research study evaluating an investigational medication for post-operative pain.

Qualified study participants may have their wisdom teeth removed, at no charge, by an experienced oral surgeon. Study participants may receive financial compensation.

**For more information call: 320-1630**



ANXIETY

ANXIETY

## ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM GENERAL ANXIETY DISORDER?

Millions suffer with General Anxiety Disorder (GAD)—constant worry, fear and nervousness, often without an apparent cause. This constant anxiety can interfere with daily life and enjoyment. The good news? Being Medical researchers are enrolling men and women in a research study examining an investigational drug for GAD.

To participate, you must be 18 years or older, and:

- Diagnosed with General Anxiety Disorder
- Willing to participate in a clinical research study

Participants will receive:

- Superior medical care and medical tests related to the clinical research study
- Investigational study drug
- Compensation for time and travel

Call to participate in an investigational medication study.

**(512) 323-2622**



www.communityclinical.com

## Are You Still Feeling

### Depressed?

Have you tried medication, but it just didn't help?

*You may be eligible to participate in a clinical study researching an investigational medication for people with depression, who are not responding to treatment.*

*Eligible study participants may receive study-related: medical care, research medication, laboratory work, and evaluations, at no cost.*

**NOW ENROLLING**

For A Major Depression Clinical Study. Call Today.

Community Clinical Research

**512-323-2622**

Bristol-Myers Squibb

CL-K0030-BROWN 11/2005

## Do you suffer from frequent heartburn?

Benchmark Research is conducting a research study of an investigational medication used for heartburn.

**In order to qualify for this study:**

- You must be 18 years of age or older
- You must have a history of heartburn at least 2 days per week over the past month



*If you qualify for this study:*

*All study-related office visits, examinations, lab work and investigational medication or placebo will be provided to you.*

*Compensation up to \$160 will be paid to qualified participants for their time.*

**Contact**

**1-800-369-2875**

**For More Information**

**BENCHMARK**  
RESEARCH

www.benchmarkresearch.net

## Do you think you may be coming down with a cold?

MALES AND FEMALES  
AGES 18-65 YEARS OLD  
WANTED TO PARTICIPATE IN A  
RESEARCH STUDY TESTING THE  
EFFECTS OF A NASAL SPRAY  
AS COMPARED TO A PLACEBO  
(NO ACTIVE INGREDIENTS) FOR THE  
COMMON COLD

INTERESTED SUBJECTS SHOULD CALL WHEN FIRST SYMPTOMS OF COLD APPEAR

MAKE 2 VISITS AND EARN UP TO \$100



For more information call:

**BENCHMARK**  
RESEARCH

**1-800-369-2875**



# HOUSING

## 215

### APT/CONDO TOWNHOME

**78704** <http://AustinCool.com>  
Large decks overlooking greenbelt \$544 693-7231

**78704** <http://AustinCool.com>  
Wooded view, Walk dwn, big dogs ok 693-7231 \$780

**78704** <http://austincool.com>  
Greenbelt trail at doorstep W/D in unit \$560 693-7231

**78704** <http://austincool.com>  
Zilker 2Bed, wooded view, W/D con. \$745, 693-7231

**78704** <http://Austincool.com>  
Barton Hills studio, small prop. \$510 693-7231, broker

**78704** <http://austincool.com>  
Cool loft close to dwn and Whole Foods. \$542, 693-7231

**78704** <http://AustinCool.com>  
Walk dwn, pool view, most bills paid, \$655, 693-7231,

**AUSTIN** <http://Austincool.com>  
Newly remodeled TH, wood floors, \$750 693-7231

**AUSTIN** <http://Austincool.com>  
3.5 acre estate setting, 100 yr oaks, 693-7231 \$575

**AUSTIN** <http://Austincool.com>  
Townlake large bdrm Dwnthn access, \$445 693-7231

**AUSTIN** <http://Austincool.com>  
Huge SW condo, W/D creek view 693-7231 \$698

**AUSTIN** <http://austincool.com>  
Huge SW 2 brn condo with W/D \$698, 693-7231

**CENTRAL** Hidden South Central condo. W/D & cable included. Large private patios & fireplace. 1/1 \$575, 1,050 sq ft 2/2 \$775.  
APP 474-4900. <http://www.bestaustinproperties.com>

**CENTRAL** Downtown Living. 1/1 700sf. \$1075 [atxrelo.com](http://atxrelo.com) 444-0505

**CENTRAL**  
**Completely Remodeled 1 & 2 Bedrooms! Brentwood Townhomes.**

Plush Berber carpet, new tile, lush green landscaping and more improvements to come...Offering Specials.

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**CENTRAL** Cornerstone Place Condo 24 & Rio Grande. Super 1/1 Washer /Dryer Covered Parking Avail Now call PMT 476-2673.

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**RAW, MODERN WAREHOUSE STYLE APARTMENTS!**  
Concrete floors, modern track lighting, exposed metal accents and all new appliances. Artist/Musician's Paradise  
1BDRM... \$539  
2BDRM/2BA... \$649  
4BDRM... \$1099  
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**CENTRAL** UT 1 blk., 9ft ceiling, free cable, HS internet, 2/2, 1000+ sq ft, \$1450. 3/2.5 penthouse, 2124 sq ft. \$2400 Serious, quiet smokeless petless. 2901 Swisher. 477-3388 472-2097

**CENTRAL** Best 78704 deal! 1br \$535, 2br \$635 featuring lots of natural light, W/D conn, private patios. Lush landscaping, superb mgmt. APP 474-4900 <http://www.bestaustinproperties.com>

**CENTRAL** On Town Lake, minutes to Auditorium Shores, Texas shaped pool, granite countertops. Eff's, 1's, 2's, 3's starting at \$579. 231-1400. Agent

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Downtown studio 693-7231 \$910, walk Whole Foods

**CENTRAL** #1 Greenbelt trail access. W/D in unit. Walk to shops/restaurants! Large balcony, \$560 (+\$200 off!) 693-7231 <http://Austincool.com>

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**GATED COMMUNITY 5 Mins to Dwnthn**  
Cable Paid  
Ceramic Tile  
1-1 \$495; 2/2 \$595  
3/2 \$695. LSL 326-5757

**CENTRAL** STAINED POLISHED CONCRETE FLOORS! Unique artist's/musician's warehouse apartments. 1BDRM Flat... \$539. Huge 2BDRM...\$649, 4BDRM Flat \$1099. Call Team Leasing (512) 416-8333.

**CENTRAL** 1 block to SoCo Restaurant/Shopping district. Rare find 2/2... \$825, 3/2... \$945! Plus one month free! Call TEAM LEASING (512)416-8333.

**CENTRAL** On Town Lake Hike-and-Bike trail. Ceramic tile, modern appliances, free cable! Big 1BDRM \$495. Huge 2/2, \$605! Call TEAM LEASING. 416-8333.

**CENTRAL** Best Deal, Eff \$479, 1bd \$569, 2bd \$719, water/gas paid. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

**CENTRAL** San Pedro Square twnhm/condo 2704 San Pedro spacious & private 2/2.5 two story hardwood floors reserved parking mostly owner occupied with caring neighbors \$1095. Call John at PMT Realtors 476-2673, 748-4002

**CENTRAL**  
**\$200 OFF FIRST MONTH!**  
Releasing for JANUARY Walk/Bike/Bus to campus.  
**EFF'S \$415** (balcony/cable paid)  
**EFF'S \$485** (balcony)  
**1/1 \$625 ABP** (625sqft)  
**2/2 \$765** (1,000sqft)  
NINE LOCATIONS. OWNER MANAGED. WAUGH PROP, INC  
**(512) 451-0988**

**CENTRAL MARKET UP-TOWN.** Nice small community 1-1, \$599. 2BR, \$799. Now@ausapts.com 258-8224.

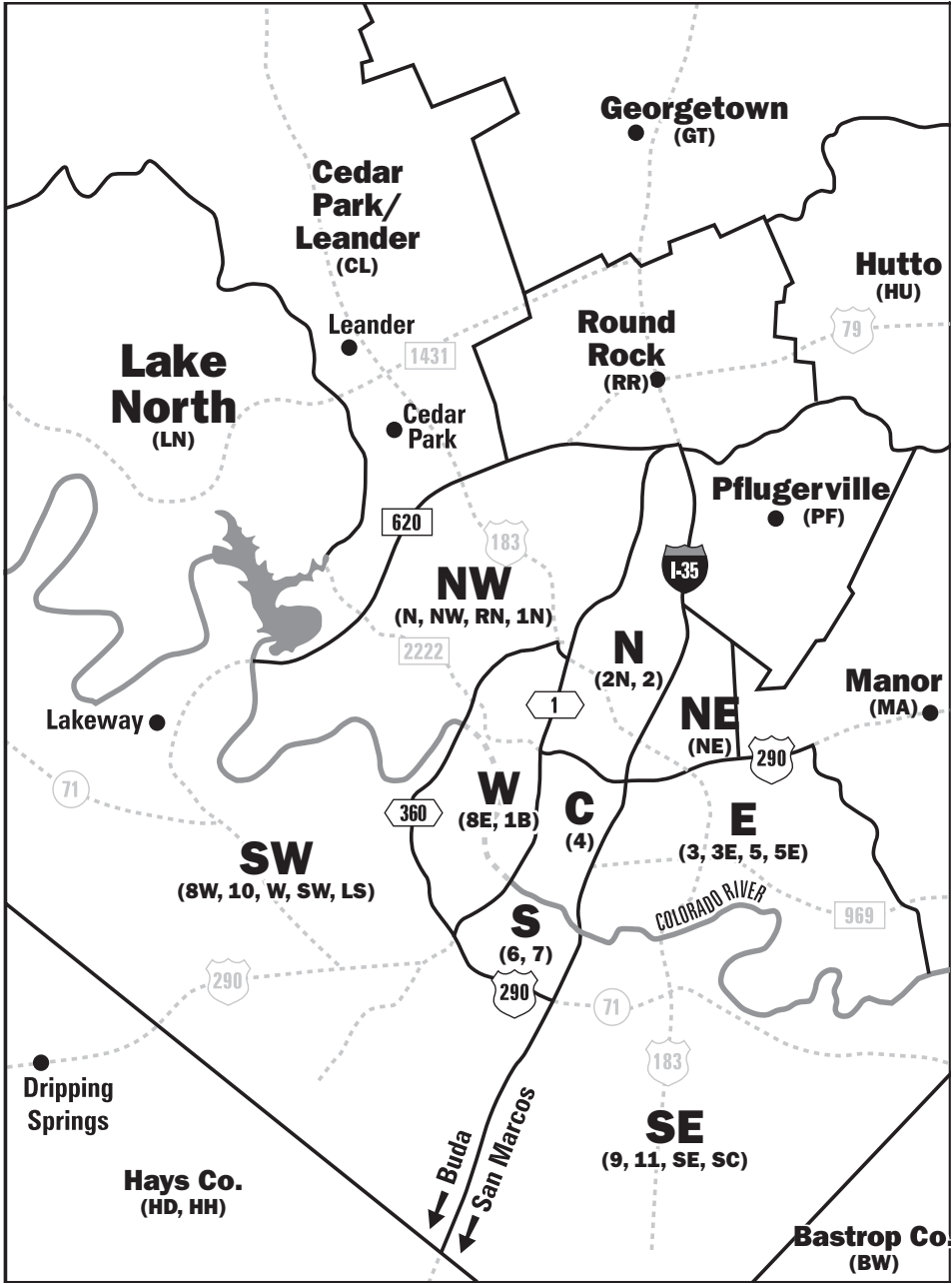
**CENTRAL** Hidden Travis Heights community on Greenbelt! 1BDRM, \$599. 2BD/2BA, perfect roommate plan, \$825, \$99 total move in! Nothing more to pay until December. Call Team Leasing 416-8333.

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Stained concrete floors, amazing amenities. Call for prices. See narrated video tour and thousands of photos and floor plans @ <http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com> or call 828-4470 for current availability.

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Hyde Park Area Avail. NOW!  
Enjoy apartment living in a residential neighborhood. Close to eateries, grocery stores, sports/health centers. Walk/Bike/Bus to campus.  
**EFF'S \$415** (cable paid)  
**EFF'S \$485** (central air)  
**1/1 \$585** (two story)  
Also effs, 1 and 2 bedrooms available in January. NINE LOCATIONS. OWNER MANAGED. WAUGH PROP, INC  
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**CENTRAL** Winchester Condos - 2414 Longview Grand 2/2 with great view  
W/D, pool, hot tub, covered reserved parking available now \$900 Call PMT Brokerage 476-2673

**CENTRAL** #1 Downtown elegance. City views, hardwoods, rooftop deck, W/D. Lofted ceilings. 693-7231 <http://Austincool.com>

**CENTRAL** Mopac & 45th, central courtyard, pool. 1br \$550, 2 br \$725, 2 br TH \$825. 231-1400. agent

**CENTRAL** TREETOP CONDO MOPAC @ 2222 1/1 w fireplace, washer/dryer, vaulted ceilings, new appls & carpet, overlooks Dry Creek. Great location w/ 2 pools/1 hot tub. \$695 M + DEP avail now. 713 SF Parking assigned. 512-217-1812

**CENTRAL** FashionAire Apartments @ 1405 W. North Loop 1/1's starting at \$525, & 2-1's at \$650. Apartment homes beautifully situated around courtyard w/sparking pool. Approx. 700 SF. 452-2245 for appt. (Beck & Co. R.E.S., Inc.)

**CENTRAL** Georgian Condo 22nd & Pearl Great 2/1.5 Two parking W/D Avail Now till Jul 31 @ \$795 Call PMT 476-2673

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**CENTRAL** Hyde Park - Small 1 BR w/ patios, vaulted ceilings. 4205 Speedway. Paid Water. CACH. 450 sf. \$575. 451-0414.

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**SEXY DOWNTOWN LOFTS** in the heart of the warehouse district, hardwoods/stained concrete floors, 16ft ceilings, great views.  
See narrated video tour and pictures/floorplans for this property @ <http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com> or call 828-4470 for current availability.

**CENTRAL** Villas of Anderson Mill, 3/2 townhome, close to pool, new flooring, master down, huge double garage w/ ample storage. \$1100/mo, Rita, Realtor, Homestead Realty, 468-2867

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**CENTRAL** hwdwd floors, 2 in. blinds, dshwh, w/d conn. Kara Kay Skaggs KW 470-8855

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**CENTRAL** FashionAire Apartments @ 1405 W. North Loop 1/1's starting at \$525, & 2-1's at \$650. Apartment homes beautifully situated around courtyard w/sparking pool. Approx. 700 SF. 452-2245 for appt. (Beck & Co. R.E.S., Inc.)

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**Central Warehouse District Lofts & Flats**

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  - 1br - \$445 free cable, bus line
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  - 2br thome - \$595 free cable, bus line
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**2/2... \$825**  
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 Most Bills Paid!  
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**CENTRAL** 1/1, 750 sq.ft. cement & ceramic tile flrs, beautiful landscaping, patios & small yards, built in bookshelves, great shopping & easy access to Mopac & 183. Near Justin Ln. \$99 dep. Starting @ \$550. 6710 Burnet. Tonia 467-9589 no app fee.

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- Anywhere in Austin area.
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  - Best specials.
  - Fast friendly service.
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- Give us a call at 828-4470.**

**CENTRAL** Split level 1-1 by Zilker, S. Lamar. Small community. Tranquil tropical court yard. Huge private patios, built in bookshelves. \$530. Mandy, agent 468-7891, austinapartmentsguide.com.

**CENTRAL** Wedgewood Condo 2802 Nueces great 2-1 with pool and parking available NOW \$850 cal PMT 476-2673

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**HUGE DECKS!**  
**DOWNTOWN VIEWS!**  
**Lots of Trees!**  
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**Great Prices Too!**  
 From \$435  
 2/1 \$650.  
 LSL 326-5757.



**CENTRAL** Shoal Creek area, on Capitol Metro bus, 1bd \$625, 2bd \$725. avignon-realty.com, 236-0002.

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•Hip neighborhood, mins. from dwtn. small pool, long term residents, starting @ \$475!  
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**512•241•1111**  
**lease@aptsaus.com**

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**SOUTH CENTRAL** 1703 Antler, 3/2/2, stainless appliances, gourmet kitchen, screen porch w/sky lights, tile, berber, custom paint, \$1,250. MRG - 443-2526.

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2BR/1.5B, with master down, made fully recent. Connected to 8th and 9th Sts., woods, School, Great Yrd.

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**220**  
**DUPLEX/HOUSES**

**CENTRAL** Lamar/And Ln. Lrg 2/1, w/d, new contemporary design, open flr plan, fenced, pets ok, private, 2001 AIA Tour, avail 12/12, \$1395, (512)217-8635

**CENTRAL** yet secluded! HP area 2/1 Duplex on quiet cul-de-sac; CA/CH, H/W floors, DW, fridge, disposal, F/S W/D, pantry, lockable O/D storage, track lighting, W-H & ceiling fans, Nice doggies welcome, no extra deposit! Avail. 12/1 \$1095 454-4404

**CENTRAL** Remodeled, very clean 2-1, fourplex, yard avail; W&D, 2013 Cullen Ave., rent \$730-780, most pets ok, Call Trenton Cox 779-7253 NOW!

**CENTRAL** 1131 Salina, close to downtown. 3/2, recently remodeled, new countertops and fixtures. Ceramic tile, \$850. Call, MRG - 443-2526.

**CENTRAL** Holiday Special - \$200 off 1st month on both units! Pease/Old Enfield, spacious & spotless! 2/1 in 6-plex, 1 covered parking, new stove & refrigerator, excellent carpet, laundry onsite (NO W/D connections), window a/c's, no indoor smoking. Very quiet neighbors. Best deal in area! Small pets welcome. \$895. Also, 1-1 for \$695 (new carpet). 1504 Windsor Rd. (at Enfield Rd.) Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollolex@yahoo.com

**CENTRAL** 4br/2.5ba house, great for roommates! 1.5 miles from UT, Now Available. Call 512-292-7037 http://www.nataliebroder-sen.com/rentals/

**CENTRAL** SPACIOUS 2-1, near 35th & Jefferson (3907 Idlewild Rd.) Great neighborhood, hrdwds, CACH, LG YRD. \$1400/mo. 300-9703, broker.

**CENTRAL** Holiday Special - \$300 off 1st month! Gigantic 2/2 1/2 duplex + huge upstairs bonus room (Colorado cabin style - can be 3rd bedroom w/ full bath), fenced yard, patio, concrete floors downstairs, new carpet upstairs, CA/CH, all appliances, W/D connections. No indoor smoking. Pet friendly! \$895 + water. 8612-B Bowling Green (near Burnet/183). Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollolex@yahoo.com

**CENTRAL** 1211 E. 52nd St. 2/1, hrdwds. \$750/mo. Most util pd. Avail Jan. 1st. Lease/deposit. Call 472-1077

**CENTRAL** 17th & Nueces - Large efficiency. Glass enclosed porch makes a great bedroom or office area. Long Vanity Area with Built-in Drawers and Walk-in Closet. Covered Parking, Walk to UT/Downtown. 500 sf. \$600. 451-0414.

**CENTRAL** Holiday Special - \$200 off 1st month! Rose-dale, spacious 2-1 duplex nestled under gigantic oak tree, brand new carpet, CA/CH, indoor W/D connections, one covered parking space, quiet neighborhood. No indoor smoking. Cats welcome! \$875. 4706-A Shoalwood. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollolex@yahoo.com

**CENTRAL** rollolex WelcomeHomeLeasing.com Laura Creteau, Realtor 554-2920 cell

• **934 E. 54th STREET** - 51st & Airport. Stone house w/ fridge, stove, DW, W/D.

Garage. Lot is 200 ft. Hardwoods, FP. Save money on utilities with New CACH, on-demand water heater. \$1,350

• **1303 BROADMOOR** - near 51st & IH-35. HUGE 3BD/2.5BTH, 3 living areas, over 1,800 ft. CACH, gas FP, fridge, gas stove, DW, W/D, ceiling fans. Floors are ceramic tile, new carpet, fresh paint, covered deck across entire back of house. HUGE yard. \$1350 rent, \$1350 deposit

• **4511 ROSEDALE** - by 45th St. Adorable 40s 2/1 house in old central neighborhood, close to downtown and UT. Dark hardwoods, recent CACH, fridge, gas stove, DW, W/D conns, garage. Fenced yard, pets ok. \$1,200 rent, \$1,200 deposit.

• **506 IRMA** - close to Highland - brick 3/1 house - new carpet & paint, CACH, W/D conns, fridge & stove. Small fenced yard, pets ok. \$750

**CENTRAL** DUPLEX \$675 2/1 carport, W/Dconn, dishwasher, 458-4412. 7711A Meadowview

**CENTRAL** Travis Hts. hwdw floors, storage, sec. syst, 2in.blinds, w/d conn, dwsh, bus st. KaraKay Skaggs KW 470-8855

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**CENTRAL** 3/2 House with fireplace. w/2 Car Garage. 2705 Ashdale. CACH, Ceiling Fans, W/D Conn. Dishwasher. Private Fenced Yard. 1284 sq.ft. \$1095. 451-0414.

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**CENTRAL** Charming cottage with white picket fence. Front unit of duplex in bohemian Swede Hill Area. 1bd, garden. Walking distance to dwntwn. \$700/mth ABP 476-0251 after 5pm

**CENTRAL** 1211 E. 31st St. 2-1 house. Near UT, hrdwds flrs, w/d conn, storage shed, out back patio & porch, corner house. \$1095. Avail now. Beck & CO. 474-1470.

**CENTRAL** Why rent? Mixed use project in North Loop Neighborhood. Four ground level commercial units (900-1300sf) & four second story residential units (1100-1800 sf). Must see! www.satsuma53.com For more info, call 791-1584 Roland, agent.

**CENTRAL** Campus - 2020 Nueces. Walk to U.T. 1 Bedroom w/ Loft or 2/2 w/ Large Balcony, Ceiling Fans, Walk-in Closet. Paid Water & Trash. January Move-in. 451-0414.

**CENTRAL** Central - Quiet complex in old Austin residential neighborhood. 650 sf 1/1. Paid Water. On-site Pool & Laundry. \$650. 451-0414.

**CENTRAL** \$1195.00: Great Home in Zilker neighborhood. 2/1. Newly remodeled kitchen. Hardwood flrs, W/D connections, fresh paint. A must see! Pets okay. Bryan 731.4840, bwiest@gmail.com

**CENTRAL** Rosedale duplex: 1103-B W. 39th 1/2, 2/1, \$1025. Fenced yd, CACH, free W/D & DW. New paint, carpet. No common walls, vaulted ceiling. Near Seton, CMarket. Pets OK. 797-5224. http://www.novatus.net

**CENTRAL** 608 B Kawnee 2-1-1 CACH, W/D connect, fenced and maintained yard \$650. www.cbimmanagement.com 658-9493.

**CENTRAL** ROSEDALE, charming spacious 2-1.5 in 4-plex, CACH, windows galore! Balcony & patio. Non-smoking, onsite laundry. Cats ok. \$750/mo (\$300 off first month!) 5005 Lynnwood, Call (512) 899-8383.

**CENTRAL** Early 1900's house, East side, 2/1 high ceilings, Hrdwds, porch, lots of shade, pets ok, \$700, avail 12/17 825-2100

**CENTRAL** Great North Central location! 3-2 excellent condition, two living areas, bonus office, covered patio, garage, fireplace, built-ins, large fenced yard, DW, disposal. Avail. January. Medium sized pets negotiable. No indoor smoking. \$1,050. 7006 Priscilla. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rolando 731-6799, rollolex@yahoo.com

**CENTRAL** 1211 E. 31st St. 2-1 house. Near UT, hrdwds flrs, w/d conn, storage shed, out back patio & porch, corner house. \$1095. Avail now. Beck & CO. 474-1470.

**CENTRAL** West Campus - Efficiency in Small, Quiet Complex. 1013 West 23. Full Kitchen, CACH, Ceiling Fan, Walk-in Closet, On-site Laundry, Covered Parking. 410 Sq.Ft. January Move-in. \$500. 451-0414

**CENTRAL** 2br-1ba Allandale 3304 McElroy 900 S.F Duplex in upscale Neighborhood Water/Wastewater paid. New roof, paint, tile flooring, Fenced Back yard, Patio, Brick, W/D Connections, Carport, Storage Room & ceiling fans in three rooms. \$850 Month. Call Owner 512.381.5307 Available now.

**EAST** Charming cottage 3 Bdm, \$800/mo. hwdw flrs, dishwasher, CACH, 4502 Glomar. Sky Realty 415-2109

**EAST** - 2/1 House owned by local artist. 2206 13th Street. Many artistic features, Wood flooring, Laundry Room, Carport with Storage Room, Claw Foot Tub, Remodeled Kitchen with tile countertop & gas stove. 800sf. \$925. 451-0414.

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• **2004 Built Home. 3 BDs, 2.5 Baths. Sprinkler system, wood blinds, large kitchen. Great community. Close to I-35 and new Cabellas. Ready Now. \$1325 mth. 259 Clarence Ct. Look under Property for Lease at http://www.EanesProperties.com for photos 263-7333 or 293-0276**

**NORTH** Two Great One-Story Homes. Large 3 or 4 bd/2.5 ba, custom blt in '02-ONLY \$1275/mo. Also- Charming 3/2 w/huge yard & cov'd patio-ONLY \$1000/mo. Photos & info: www.quigleyteam.com

**NORTH** 9223 Singing Quail 3/2 with 2 car garage, end unit, 1,500sqft., cathedral ceilings, master down, \$895. Call MRG (512) 443-2526.

**NORTH** Change your life... change your address! Incredible makeover, 2-3 bedrooms w/tile floors, new carpet & paint, crown moulding, 1-car garage, fenced yard. All new appliances, sinks, light fixtures. Metric/Braker area, \$775-\$850. Available now or Prelease. Call today. PPM Pioneer Property Mgmt. (512) 293-2887.

**NORTH DUPLEX** \$675 2/1, carport, W/Dconn, dishwasher, 458-4412. 7711A Meadowview.

**NORTH** 4bd/2ba/office, sunroom/fireplace/breakfast, large mstr/fmly, 2 car garage, many upgrades, avail 1/1/06. \$1400/mo. 512-917-2686.

**NORTH** 3/1; near UT; screen porch; native gardens; bright walls; tile; www.helloaud.com

**NORTH** 9424 Hunters Trace, 3/2 house, \$995, near Metric & 183, nice & large, covered back deck, 2 car garage, laundry room in garage, fenced backyard, quiet neighborhood, 474-1470 Beck & Co.

**NORTHEAST** clean 3/1, FM969/183, hrdwds, CACH, W/d conn, lrg yrd, 6402 Johnny Morris Rd, \$800. 472-2097

**NORTHWEST** 2/2 with loft, garden home, 8330 Fathom Circle #401, Master bedroom up & down, fireplace, \$895. Call today MRG (512) 443-2526.

**NORTHWEST** Arboretum area, beautiful 4/2.5, 3, 2, 3 FPs, granite countertops, new paint, big lot, beautiful trees, huge master. \$1950/mo. 512-426-4843

**NORTHWEST** Move in Special! 3/2.5 home, Hunters Chase Short term ok! \$ 1200. Jo, Broker 633-2604

**NORTHWEST** Allendale. Large 2/2.5 two-story duplex w/ garage, W/D Connections. Available Now. Only \$1150! Call The Taylor Company 512-481-8600.

**NORTHWEST** Duplex: 2/1, off Jollyville. mo free - special. \$725/mo Jo, Broker 633-2604

**ROUND ROCK** 2/1, upgraded tile, fresh carpet, new applic. remodeled. \$695 Call Gina Hendrix, realtor 657-6509

**ROUND ROCK** 3/2 dplx, fenced yard, 1 car garage, fireplace, ceiling fans, & much more. \$750/mo. \$700 dep. Scowden Properties, Realtor. Call 255-6181

**ROUND ROCK** Ample light, fantastic Location, Great New Home. 3 bed., office/study, 2 baths, covered porch, fenced back yard, Green belt, all appliances included, community Pool/playground, RRISSD Janette 257-0748

**ROUND ROCK** 2/1 duplex on Nicole Cir. Fenced yard, W/D Conn, one-car garage. Pets negotiable. Available December, only \$625.00. Call The Taylor Company 512-481-8600.

**ROUND ROCK** \$1095 Great Home in Cat Hollow. Newly remodeled 3/2 with hwdw flrs, new carpet, new ceramic tile in kitchen, formal dining, access to park & neighborhood swimming pool. Excellent Round Rock schools. Pets Okay. Bryan 731.4840 or email at bwiest@gmail.com

**ROUND ROCK** Darling 3 Bdr single story home near Dell, walk to work. Fenced back yard, 2 full baths, open kitchen, living w/ fireplace, very nice. \$950/mo, Rita, Realtor, Homestead Realty, 468-2867

**SOUTH** CENTRAL 4414 Dudley 3-2-2, CACH, W/D connect, fenced yard. Avail. 1-1 \$1100. 658-9493 www.cbimmanagement.com

**SOUTH** Tanglewood Forest 2-1, concrete finish flrs, FP, vaulted ceilings, sm fenced yard, good pets considered, \$795, 565-2855 Sharon/agent.

**SOUTH** OAKHILL 6802 Convict Hill, 4/2, story, 2 car garage, balcony on master bdrm, quick access to 290, \$1300 474-1470 Beck & Co.

**SOUTH** Great central locale near St. Eds, SoCo, & Downtown. Unique 2-plex (no common walls) Big, bright 2/1, almost 1,000sqft. Enjoy fireplace, gorgeous tile, vaulted ceilings, CACH, ceiling fans, private patio, plus shuttle/Metro at door! \$795/mo. Water paid, Parker Lane. Owner, (512) 441-0941.

**SOUTH** 6801 SHIRE COVE, 3/2, near William Cannon/Manchaca, \$725 474-1470Beck & Co.

**SOUTH** CENTRAL: Manchaca/Dittmar, new 1 story home, 1329 sqft. 3/2, \$895/mo. + deposit. 512-577-9878

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**SOUTH/CENTRAL** 3402 Willowrun Units B&C. Nice triplex on a quiet culdesac off S.Congress.1 BR/1BA for \$550 or 2 BR/1BA for \$650. Tiled kitchen, dining & baths, Berber carpet.Laundry Rm. on site. Sec 8 OK Call Paula Taylor RE/MAX (512)784-8776.

**SOUTH** 3 bdr/2bath, 2 car garage, fenced, CACH, \$895, \$600 deposit. 1012 Stone-oak. Call Ronnie 447-5323

**SOUTH TRAVIS HEIGHTS!** Pre-leasing for December. Half off 1st month's rent! Fully remodeled 1947's cottage. Swanky kitchen, hardwoods, Private fenced yard, 2-1, of-ice, 1 large open living, CACH, pets considered. Total \$1495/mo. Owner/Agent, 565-2855 Sharon.agent.

**SOUTHWEST** Great House located in Circle C. Realtors welcome. Call Elissa 512.799.4437

**SOUTHWEST** 3619 Leafield Dr. #A, 2/1, 695-0070: \$725, duplex, carport, charming fenced backyard, patio/overhang, shed/storage, new appliances, pet friendly

**SOUTHWEST** Brand new home in great community off Manchaca/Dittmar. 3bd/2.5ba, 1700sq.ft. \$1215+dep. 805-453-0169

**SOUTHWEST** 3114 Honey Tree, Westlake 3/2/2. Hardwood floors, pool and hot tub maintained, covered deck, custom wood paneling, cathedral ceiling, track lighting, intercom system, wood shutters. \$1,995. Call MRG 443-2526.

**SOUTHWEST** For Rent: 3,2,2 8109 Cattle Drive, (near Brodie and Wm.Cannon) Great shape, good neighborhood. 950.00/month, call 301 3213.

**WELLS BRANCH** For Lease in Wells Branch - \$1,495 per month for this beautiful 3/2.5/2 two story home! 2,687 sq. ft. Backs to hike and bike trail. Close to schools and shopping! Contact Kathy or Winona at 448-5866.

**225 VACATION**

**MARTINDALE** December Special getaway home. On San Marcos. \$100/nightly, \$500 weekly, or \$1000/mo. 2B/2B, NS. 921-1399, http://www.marilisa.com/vacationrental.htm

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**230 COMMERCIAL**

**CENTRAL** Affordable Therapist's Room PT (Massage or Psychotherapy) ABP Central. Beautiful, 470-6525.

**MEXICO** Beautiful ranch 40 min. outside Guanajuato. House, dams, well, barn, trees, etc. Plenty of water. Peaceful. 22.23 acres. \$290,000 usd. Request pho-tos at: ybarrar@gmail.com

**MEXICO GUANAJUATO.** 1950's old stone juvato factory. Several large rooms in ruins with interesting walls. View of the mountains. 14,768 sq.ft., \$125,000 usd. Request photos at: ybarrar@gmail.com

**MEXICO GUANAJUATO.** Commercial lot just below the monument of el Pipila. In-credible views of whole city. Use: restaurant. 2204 sqft. \$62,000 usd. Request photos at: ybarrar@gmail.com

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**CENTRAL** French Place. Two rooms available in cute 3/1. Hardwoods, lots of light, CACH. Contact: alove\_@hotmail.com or 965-3091

**CENTRAL** Clean nice veg home. hard wood flrs, wash/dryer, yard, parking \$375 cristina\_tzintzun@yahoo.com (512) 423-2828

**CENTRAL** Orange Tree Con-do Roomate Needed Spring Semester Share Huge 2/2 Big bedroom with Private en-trance covered reserved parking \$595.  
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**CENTRAL FEMALE** room-mate wanted: cat-friendly, NON-smoker. Apt complex North UT, CA/CH, laundry, your own bedrm/full bath, \$525/mo, Call Afra 797-1032

**CENTRAL** roommate wanted to cover lease from dec. 12th to june 31st. master bedroom and private bathroom. central location. 214-929-1927

**CENTRAL**/East 1bed with private bath in new home, \$400/month, plus 1/3 util. have cat with a God complex. Carl 512-589-4775.

**EAST** \$240/mo + 1/4 util! Owner onsite; good roommates; CACH. Windsor Park home. Nonsmoking. call 602-957-6400.

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**NORTH** Hi we are 2 females seeking a male /female roommate to share our large house. Call me on my cell 404-264-0780,thanks

**NORTH** austin 450.00 a month all bills paid fully furnished room with cable tv dvd and vcr. house has a gameroom hottub pool gym and movie theater near bus lines students welcome

**NORTHEAST** 5 bedroom, 3 bathroom, awesome house in university hills. artist, musician, friendly female preferred. master bedrooms are open, large 2 living rooms, fireplace, kitchen, 2 car garage, large yard. \$400. We want to create a music house, please call or write e-mail shantioceansky@yahoo.com or call 985-792-8244 message for ocean.

**NORTHEAST** austin 300.00 a month, fully furnished room with cable tv. House has a gameroom hot tub pool gym.

**NORTHWEST** Rmmt to shr 3BD/2bth house in quiet nghbrhd.Cbl,W/D,near bus. Kids on the wk-end ok.Dpst \$150.00.736-8469 lve msg.

**NORTHWEST** Bring your dog! One acre, NICE 3/2 @ 620&183. Teacher musicians/beagle seek female roomie. 425ABP 250-0057 Jaqueline

**ROUND ROCK** F/M roommate wanted to share 3/2.5 Must like cats. Satellite included. Room furnished or not! call 512-914-5818

**SOUTH** roommate for 2/2 @ riverside/arena \$288+half electric.pay no rent til jan.1st,lease ends july.440-0708 or lekeisha.hughes@gmail.com

**SOUTH** You are looking For a room? 1000s of rooms & roommates. From \$200/Mo www.easyroommate.com

**SOUTH** Hi we are 2 females seeking a male /female roommate to share our large house. Call me on my cell 404-264-0780,thanks

**SOUTHEAST** Looking for Roommate to Share NICE BIG New house 4-2.5 Located 6mi form downtown. Pool table, Wireless Internet, Garage, backyard w/ covered porch, 3 living areas. 448-4491

**SOUTHWEST** Roommate needed house austin.Female preferred.young professional. \$300 investinaustin @hotmail.com 512-825-3102

**WEST** Mailroom Needed Lrg Bedroom with bath Nice Area off Mopac/Far West \$380/Month + half utilities Contact Ray: 702-336-7335

**WEST** Large room available for \$400. Hardwood floors, huge garage. Neighborhood swimming hole & boat launch. Call 689-8029

**WIMBERLEY** Moving in December, to a 1990 house on 9 wooded AC, full of oak trees space for 1 room mate, a very peacefull place, michael 912-1234

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**CENTRAL** Condo: Large 3/ 2.5. Townhome, EZ access! \$99,995 Jo Broker 633-2604

**CENTRAL TRAVIS HEIGHTS/ SOCO.** The Terrace Condominiums. Exciting new community nestled amongst some of Austin's most sought after & hip locals. Curras Grill, Guerro's, Hotel San Jose, St. Edward's and great retail are all within a 1/2 mile radius. Located in Travis Heights a block off the famed SoCo strip, this is an opportunity to invest in a lifestyle often thought unimaginable until now. Prices starting at \$99,000 will make these investments sell quickly! Call Van Heuven Properties at 512.619-6009 for details. www.downtownaustinliving.com

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**CENTRAL** Mixed use project in North Loop Neighborhood. Four ground level commercial units (900-1300sf) & four second story residential units (1100-1800 sf). Must see! www.satsuma53.com For more info, call 791-1584 Roland, agent.

**CENTRAL** Darling French Place home at great price! 2/1/2 w/ large yard. \$189K Hardwoods & tile. Utility room & all Appliances. Rebecca, 415-9876. Coldwell Banker United Realtors. OPEN HOUSE, Sunday 2-4pm, 1714 East 38 1/2 Street.

**CENTRAL** 3009 Locke Lane Beautifully remodeled home in 78704! 3BR/1B, 2 living areas & an open layout. MLS 9468797, \$219,999. Call Cristina for more details! 512-789-0309

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**NORTH CENTRAL** 1202 Artesian Circle, near Lanier. Beautiful remodel! Fresh carpet, paint, appliances! 3/2, two living, huge cul-de-sac lot, covered patio. \$129,500 Carrie broker 801-0436. Austin REAL Pros 458-3730

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**NORTHWEST** 4812 Pelham 3/2.5/2 Remodeled and move-in ready. Call Thelene Gilmore, REALTOR® 512-656-6470. Horizon Realty

**NORTHWEST** Hunters Chase. 3/2.5, recent carpet, paint.Motivated Seller! \$172,500 Jo, Broker 633-2604

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**BOXER PUPPY** Moving, must sell! "Isis"-14 wks, potty trnd & great w/ dogs, cats & kids! SWEET! Paid \$350/ Asking \$250. No papers but PUREBRED & GORGEOUS flash Brindle!!! All shots/vet records !!! Will be great for breeding (brindle/fawn lines). Email for pics at profilady@yahoo.com. South/Central Austin. Will deliver.

**KITTEN** Persian/himalayan male, born in Sept, \$200. 586-6780, cell. Serious inquires only. Parents on premises.

**KITTENS** Five adorable grey/blue kittens up for adoption. They are approximately 10 weeks old, very playful, and ready for a good, loving home. Interested? Please call 476-9191 to meet with a kitten.

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**LAB MIX**, f/m, black, 40 lbs, 2 y/o, spayed, shots, affectionate & likes to hug, needs good home & room to run! Call (512) 289-7343.

**LOVABLE DOG** Australian Shephard mix, needs loving home. Up to date on all shots. please call 512-215-0103.

**MIN SCHNAUZER** Salt and pepper, male, intact, 2yrs, shots, microchipped, to good home with yard, \$100. 512-698-9016

**MINIATURE PINCHERS** 2 red miniature doberman pinchers 10 weeks old. 1 male 1 female, litter box trained. (512) 328-2842

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ALL



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  - \*...George Carlin...\*
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# to YOUR HEALTH

by James Heffley, Ph.D.

*Q. Some of my symptoms match symptoms that I have read about for a problem called "leaky gut syndrome." Is there any test to determine if I have it, and any treatment if I do?*

A. "Leaky gut syndrome" is pretty much described by the name. Large spaces develop in the gut wall, allowing unwanted substances to pass from the intestinal tract into the body. At first it might sound like a good thing, and that a leaky gut should be better able to absorb nutrients. However, the gut does more than just digest our food and absorb the nutrients. It is also responsible for keeping out toxins, bacteria, undigested food, and other things that are harmful to us.

Even in healthy people, small amounts of undigested food and toxins can enter the body through the gut. One of the key functions of the liver is to remove this material before it circulates throughout the whole body. In leaky gut syndrome, the liver is forced to work overtime and its reserves can be depleted. The result is often the appearance of food allergies or sensitivity.

The leakiness or "permeability" of the gut can be measured directly using certain sugars. One sugar, mannitol, is well absorbed by a healthy gut but not used for energy, so it is excreted unchanged. Another sugar, lactulose, is very poorly absorbed by a healthy gut and ordinarily will not show up in urine. By measuring the amount of each of these sugars in the urine after taking a measured dose of both, it is possible to calculate gut permeability. Normally the lactulose level in urine is only about 3% of the mannitol level, so if the lactulose level is higher, this means that the gut is allowing excessive lactulose (and other substances also) to be absorbed.

Recently a protein was identified that makes gut permeability worse. Named "zonulin," it was first found as a toxin derived from the organism that produces the deadly disease cholera. Zonulin damages the tiny places in the gut wall that control absorption. Such damage is associated with conditions like celiac disease and Crohn's disease in which the gut's barrier to bacteria is lost.

Rebuilding the gut so that it functions as it should, by allowing the absorption of essential nutrients while prohibiting absorption of unhealthy substances, is made more difficult because the gut itself is damaged. Repair starts with supplements of amino acids such as L-glutamine, which gives the gut the energy to rebuild, and glycine, which helps the liver in its detoxification work. Adding the friendly intestinal bacteria such as acidophilus and bifidus reduces the population of unfriendly bacteria and so reduces the risk of infection. Essential fatty acids, especially the omega-3 family, are important ingredients of the gut membrane and help reduce the inflammation that usually accompanies a leaky gut. B-vitamins and vitamin C, magnesium, zinc, and trace minerals such as selenium are useful for healing in many ways. Digestive enzymes help ensure that undigested particles of food are not present to stimulate your body's immune response.

In addition to supplements, minimize sugar and caffeine in your diet, and concentrate on high-fiber vegetables and the vegetables that are high in antioxidants, such as onion and broccoli, and the colorful fruits. You may even need to leave off nourishing foods temporarily if you find through your own experience that your stomach is upset after eating them.

James Heffley, Ph.D., is a certified clinical nutritionist. The information he provides is for educational use only. If you believe you have a medical problem, see your physician.

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# Free will ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsy for Dec. 1 to Dec. 7

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21):** In her profile on poet John Ashbery in *The New Yorker*, Larissa MacFarquhar reports that his Manhattan apartment is deeply chaotic. "Everything needs to be open and nothing is ever closed," she quotes Ashbery's partner as saying. "Drawers. Cabinets. Closet doors. Everything! All possibilities must be available at all times." This happens to be my exact prescription for you, Sagittarius. Make your heart as innocent as possible. Suspend your opinions. Judge nothing. Be hungry for the raw truth and beauty that can be captured with the aid of naked receptivity. Oh, and keep all your cabinets and drawers open.

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19):** You might want to listen to "Doing the Unstuck," a song by the Cure. It could prod you to do what you know you should, which is expel yourself forcibly from the rut you're lodged in. "It's a perfect day for letting go/for setting fire to bridges," the lyrics advise, "for rip-zipping and button-popping/for dancing like you can't hear the beat." Maybe some of you are protesting, "But I want to use logic to think my way out of this jam." Here's what I have to say in response: You probably won't get unstuck with your rational mind alone, which is why you should do irrationally constructive things like singing liberation songs very loudly.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18):** Did you know that the world has become dramatically more peaceful in the last 14 years? The 2005 Human Security Report documents how wars, coup d'états, and genocide have declined 40% since 1991. Weapons sales between countries have dropped 33%, and the number of refugees has diminished 45%. I hope this shocking data, which should have been trumpeted on the front page of every newspaper, will inspire you to throw yourself with rebellious exuberance into this week's assignment: Ignore the cynical masochists who preach doom and gloom, and take up the cause of zoom and boom. The astrological omens say this is your special time to explore the frontiers of pleasure, harmony, integrity, and freedom.

**PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20):** Singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen has recorded 11 albums, including *Death of a Ladies' Man*, produced by the legendary Phil Spector. Spector used unusual methods to provoke Cohen's genius, like holding a gun to the singer's head and demanding a more emotional delivery. I don't recommend that you enlist the services of a nut like Spector, nor do I think you should resort to such outrageous goads. I do, however, hope you'll find ways to give yourself friendly shocks that will move you to raise your expectations of yourself.

**ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19):** As I meditated on your immediate future, I got a vision of you making your way through an obstacle course - scurrying across booby-trapped terrains, shimmying through tunnels, climbing over barriers, leaping across ditches. Curiously, there was not the least bit of stress etched on your face. On the contrary, your eyes were wide and your expression was exultant. You seemed to regard this not as an ordeal, but as a welcome opportunity to expand your resourcefulness.

**TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20):** In 1953, Ena Bridge got engaged to Tony Baker in their hometown of Kent, England. But they broke up and lost touch with each other until recently. Now they're engaged again, planning to go through with the marriage they shrunk back from 52 years ago. I regard them as your good luck charms, Taurus. Soon you, too, will be returning to the site of a long lost dream, or revisiting a desire you abandoned years ago, or exploring a potential union you gave up on in the past.

**GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20):** I was born in Texas near a facility that manufactured nuclear weapons. When I lived in South Carolina, my neighbor was a bigoted Klansman. During my time in Philadelphia, I found a hand grenade on the sidewalk. I was shot in North Carolina and beaten up in Michigan. I've almost been arrested on fraudulent charges twice, once in New York and once in Washington. Despite it all, I love America - every part of it, the red states as well as the blue states. I love its loudness, unpredictability, extravagance, and contradictions. I'm intrigued by the bizarre myths at the heart of the public discourse and entertained by the hysterical tone of that discourse. Now, using my example as inspiration, Gemini, proclaim your appreciation for influences that sometimes drive you half-crazy.

**CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22):** "Dear Rob: Whenever I'm beset by fear, I sleep with the shield I made for myself. It's a hubcap on which I've glued a bunch of protective symbols, like a million dollars in Monopoly money, the fragment of a mirror I stole from the hospital where I was born, the toothbrush of an ex-lover I'm still good friends with, 20 Tamiflu pills arranged in the shape of a peace sign, a notebook page on which I wrote my best dream ever (in which my mom and dad were Mother Teresa and the Dalai Lama), a library card from Princeton with both my name and Einstein's on it, a painting of a mutant butterfly dive-bombing a rainbow that's on fire, and a bumper sticker that reads 'Adrenaline is my drug of choice.' -Laughing at My Anxieties." Dear Laughing: I love your shield idea so much I'm recommending it for my Cancerian readers while they're in their "I Love to Worry" season.

**LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22):** Of course I want to do everything I can to help you make your dreams come true. But right now there's a more pressing concern. You've got to dream bigger and hotter and wilder. You need to demand more from your imagination and conjure up more daring fantasies. Here, then, is a prescription from your soul doctor: In the coming week, spend at least 10 minutes a day brainstorming at the outskirts of your understanding.

**VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22):** Passing a video store window in San Francisco, I spied a poster advertising a set of DVDs for all seven years of some old TV program. What show it was, I couldn't tell. Most of the sign was obscured. But the blurb at the very top promised that "You may never get up off the couch again" - presumably because you'd become so immersed in the world of the TV show that you'd have no need to actually go out and live your own life. While I don't usually recommend that you pursue this kind of escapism, Virgo, it's perfectly fine - maybe even healthy - to do so now. Please feel free to disappear from the grind for a few days. If necessary, flee into an alternate reality.

**LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22):** "Every act of conscious learning requires the willingness to suffer an injury to one's self-esteem," wrote psychiatrist Thomas Szasz. "That is why young children, before they are aware of their own self-importance, learn so easily; and why older persons, especially if vain or important, cannot learn at all." I hope this observation is a sufficiently gentle preparation for your assignment, Libra. Are you ready to make the entire world your classroom, to expand your capacity to be taught, and to master a slew of new tricks? I hope so. To pull it off, you must be willing to let your ego die.

**SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21):** Biologist Francis Crick (1916-2004) won a Nobel Prize for co-discovering the DNA molecule. Naturally, he didn't have any use for the religious right's pet dogma, Intelligent Design. But neither did he fully endorse evolution. That theory says Earth's first life forms arose from organic molecules, which in turn coalesced from inorganic matter. In Crick's opinion, that process was impossible because there wasn't enough time for such a stupendously complex series of events to unfold, given the fact that our planet is only 4.6 billion years old. To address the discrepancy, Crick favored the theory of "directed panspermia," which proposes that life arrived here via an advanced extraterrestrial civilization. Your assignment, Scorpio, is to do as Crick did: Carve out a middle ground between two competing perspectives, transcending the narrow definitions that each of them uses to frame the big questions.

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AS A MEMBER OF THE T.A.M.T. ALL TEXAS REGISTERED MASSAGE THERAPISTS SHALL:

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- Recognize the scope of massage therapy and refer to other health care professionals when appropriate for the client's/patient's health and well-being.
- Administer all treatments in a professional manner with respect for the client/patient confidentiality, boundaries, safety and privacy.
- Maintain honest and accurate records, a clean and professional work environment and high standards of personal hygiene.
- Respect the client's/patient's right to continue, modify or discontinue massage therapy at any time, and respect the integrity of each person by avoiding any sexual conduct or activities involving their client's/patient's.
- Respect all ethical health care practitioners and work together amicably to promote health and natural healing.
- Invest in their communities by fostering an understanding and acceptance of massage therapy as a valuable health service, abide by all laws governing the practice of massage, and work for the repeal of revision laws detrimental to the legitimate practice of massage.

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**545 LEGAL NOTICES**

**AUCTION** Notice is here by given that AT YOUR DOOR SELF STOR! will offer for sale at public auction to satisfy a warehouseman lien. The public auction will begin on the 21st day of December, 2005 at 10:00 A.M. The goods will be sold at the following location: At Your Door Self Stor! 3815 A Jarrett Way #140 Austin TX 78728.

Barbara Hayes, Jim Foster, Dolores Clifton, Natarajan Nagamutha, Sheila Knight, Grace Shamel, Debra Wright, Ronald Jarvis, Harry Pomerleau, Deborah Jones, Tina Walker.

The goods generally consist of household goods or office goods and will be available for inspection between 8am and 10 am the day of the sale. The goods may be sold individually or as lots and will be sold for cash or credit card only. No checks will be accepted. For additional information you may contact (512) 733-1003. NO CHILDREN PLEASE.

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**Cause No. GN504038**  
To: DERRICK B. DORN Defendant(s), in the herein-after styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday

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next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the 9th day of January, 2006, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 201st Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, on the 9th day of November, 2005, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number GN504038, in which ROSALIND ANN LOTT, LEONARD CHARLES SCOTT, AND ARLEATHA ELIZABETH WILLIAMS Plaintiff(s), and DERRICK B. DORN Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows:

BEING AN ACTION AND PRAYER FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT FOR PARTITION, HEIRSHIP, REIMBURSEMENT, AND ATTORNEYS' FEES RE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5103 SINGLE SHOT CIRCLE, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78723, WHICH MAY BE FURTHER DESCRIBED (LEGALLY), AS FOLLOWS: LOT 16, FORT VIEW HILLS SECTION ONE, A SUBDIVISION IN TRAVIS COUNTY TEXAS, ACCORDING TO PLOT OF RECORD IN VOL 85, PAGE 105A OF THE PLOT RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS.

ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, this the 22nd day of November, 2005.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA

Travis County District Clerk  
1000 Guadalupe,  
P.O. Box 1748  
Austin, Texas 78767  
By/s/Samuel  
Martinez, Deputy  
REQUESTED BY:  
SANDRA M. FITZPATRICK  
14313 MOWSBURY DRIVE  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78717  
(512) 310-0894

#### LEGAL NOTICES

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE accepts LEGAL NOTICES at the low rate of \$21 per column inch.

Notarized affidavits of publication and audited circulation statements are provided upon request.

Call Jessica @ 512-454-5765 ext. 176 for more info.

#### NOTICE

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Fleet Fuel Card Services, RFP P060060-LD  
Opens: December 12, 2005 @ 10:00 a.m.

Proposal statements should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents 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. Proposers should use unit pricing or

lump sum pricing, as appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

**NOTICE** Schroeder Construction Company, Ltd. is soliciting bids from MBE/WBE Subcontractors for the following City of Austin Project: Walnut Creek Service to Annexed Areas Water and Wastewater Improvements Project A. CIP NO. 3960-227-7937 and 4570-237-8937, Bid date 12-8-05 @ 10 AM Areas of specialty: Trenching, Boring, Fencing, Photo/Video, Asphalt Paving, Erosion Control, Clearing, Hauling & Surveying. Call Susan 512 219-6001.

**NOTICE** This is to notify Theresa Andrade/Lee of the court hearing (case #JG592) on 12/30/05 at 8:00 am. In regards to Shadina Lee and Ramon Franklin petitioning the Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County to award Guardianship over Reneka Madison.

**Notice is hereby given that Universal Media, LLC DBA Alexander's Gentleman's Club has filed an application for a sexually oriented business license to be located at 1800 Grand Ave Pkwy, Bldg 1, Suite A Pflugerville, TX 78660, Lot 1, Block "A", North Park, Section Two, Travis County, Texas. Behzad Bahrami is required to obtain an Operator's License to operate the sexually oriented business. Behzad Bahrami, Member-Manager.**

**NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES** Pursuant to the Texas abandoned vehicle motor act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off by the Travis County Sheriff's Office unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

- unknown owner  
1991 Dodge Caravan LP# H99 BDA (FL); VIN# 1B4GK44RXMX630918
- unknown owner  
1999 Geo Metro LP# UKL 097 (KY); VIN# 2C1MR2221X6713621
- unknown owner  
1999 Freightline Trailer LP# P17964 Indiana
- unknown owner  
boat, wht/blue
- unknown owner, trailer, wht

**NOTICE OF LIEN SALE**  
In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at the Uncle Bob's Self Storage locations listed below; And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following addresses to the

highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash Only.

**Uncle Bob's #231**  
8227 North Lamar  
Austin, TX 78753  
(512) 833-0855

**Tuesday, December 13th, 2005 @ 10:00 A.M.**  
908 Chaka Hill - household goods, furniture, boxes  
920 Pedro Carret - household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, appliances

7736 Dawana Burghardt - furniture  
704 Kenneth Pierce - furniture, tools  
535 Daniel Alicea - household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools  
1319 Kim Buys - furniture  
510 Lionel Ceballos - household goods, furniture, TV's or stereo equip.

**Uncle Bob's #276**  
1251 County Road 170

**Round Rock, TX 78664**

(512) 310-0279

**Tuesday, December 13th, 2005 @ 11:00 A.M.**

1120 Steve D. Orsborn - household goods, TV, boxes  
1123 Boyd Anderson - washer, dryer, boxes, furniture, TV, shelves, household goods  
2103 Linda Balderas - household goods, boxes  
2136 Shannon Curran - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., office equip., office machines  
2421 Megan Nuss - household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., office equip., office machines  
3238 Tim Pruneit - household goods, furniture  
4321 Victor Mata - furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.  
5104 Richard Garcia - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances  
6406 Shelly Spicer - household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip., landscaping equip.  
6410 Milton Ward - household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, TV's or stereo equip.  
8109 Austen Horton - household goods, tools  
9222 Karlos Jackson - household goods, boxes, TV's or stereo equip.

**Uncle Bob's #197**  
5547 McNeil Drive  
Austin, Texas 78729  
(512) 336-8390

**Tuesday, December 13th, 2005 @ 12:00 Noon**  
601 Mark Flynn - household goods  
901 Carrie Davis - household goods, boxes

#### AV1215 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDED AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

**DECEMBER 15, 2005 @ 10:00 AM @ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 220 RALPH ABLANEDO, AUSTIN, TX 78748**

053160648	1990	BUIC	4DR	W97MLD	TX	3G4AH54N9LS641284
053210039	1994	CHEV	4DR	V91ZJH	TX	1G1LDS5M2RY290856
055056824	1988	HMDE	UT	CGYJ22	TX	UNK
055056887	1992	FORD	PK	3PMP03	TX	1FTEX15YONKB96796
055059478	1994	HYUN	4DR	730AFC	CO	KMHJF32MR4U566278
055059486	1993	CHEV	4DR	G60NVN	TX	1G1LTS3T2PY187558
055059619	1992	DODG	4DR	R3DRRW	TX	1B3XC46RSND791582
055059773	1985	LINC	4DR	LHG10H	TX	1LNBP96F7F749873
055059777	1995	PONT	4DR	454DLG	TX	1G2WJ52M1SF236701
055059787	1989	MERC	2DR	XHM48L	TX	1MEPM604XKH663362
055059788	1994	MITS	CP	R63J2P	TX	4A3CF44E0RE097268
055059792	1995	FORD	PK	82MT24	TX	1FTCR10A2SPB05067
055060198	1988	TOYT	4DR	Z05YWD	TX	JT2SV21E2J0106122
055060200	1998	PLYM	4DR	X10DTF	TX	1P3ES47C8WD518608
055060208	1998	OLDS	4DR	Z822SJ	TX	1G3HN52K5W4843676
055060238	1991	NISS	2DR	YHNS5W	TX	1N4BE32A1MC773125
055060278	1987	FORD	VN	RRD59V	TX	1FDEE14N7HHB23855
055060285	1986	AMER	LL	T51VCG	TX	1JCHB7826GT027092
055060287	1986	TOYT	4DR	V44PYB	TX	JT2AE82E0G3382996
055060291	1996	DODG	4DR	THK07S	TX	1B3EJ46XTH180983
055060323	1977	OLDS	4DR	Y07DVH	TX	3G29R7R171210
055060326	1996	PLYM	4DR	TYR8J3	TX	3P3ES47C9T319444
055060539	1983	CHEV	PK	5DPS88	TX	1GDCD14H5DS109448
055060662	1984	VOLV	4DR	D13HFJ	TX	YV1AX4749E1015155
055060666	1976	FORD	4DR	P53WSS	TX	6J63H147560

1028 Patrick Montgomery - household goods, office equipment  
1318 Nicole Murchison-Southard - household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, appliances, TV's or stereo equipment, account records  
1506 Gregory Roberts - household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, appliances, TV's or stereo equipment  
1710 James Hayes - household goods, furniture, boxes

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE TANGLEWOOD SELF STORAGE**

**ABSOLUTE STOR-N-LOK MINI STORAGE**

Tanglewood Self Storage and Absolute Stor-N-Lok wishing to avail themselves to the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives notice of public sale under said Act to Wit; This sale will be held on

**December 19, 2005** beginning at 10:00 am at Tanglewood Self Storage, 9910 Slaughter Creek Dr, Austin, Texas 78748 and immedi-

ately following at Absolute Stor-N-Lok 1607 Matthews Lane, Austin, Texas 78745. The property in the storage units at each location in the name is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's lien. The property contents of all storage units sold at this sale are purchased "AS IS", "WHERE IS" for CASH to the highest bidder. We reserve the right to refuse any bid or to cancel any public sale advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials. All spaces contain household items unless otherwise noted.

**TANGLEWOOD SELF STORAGE, 9910 Slaughter Creek Dr., Austin, TX 78748, (512) 282-7807:** Michael K. Ford - fishing equipment, hot water heater, various saws, tool boxes and tools; Falan C. Ballard; Delinda M. Trevino; Chad Malin; Darwin 'Nick' Compton - Shelves, boxes, yard equipment; Renufo Rodriguez - washer, dryer, microwave; Joe Sanders - work table, Christmas items; Michael Vazquez - four 15 inch tires with rims and full size spare, Kenwood radio, three speaker boxes; Mark S.

Elliott - 1982 Ford Bronco; Charles B. Hazel, Jr. - yard equipment, camping and fishing gear; Nicole Evans; Cynthia E. Huster; Robert C. Halbert; Isaac Carey; Anthony K. Adams.

**Absolute Stor-N-Lok, 1607 Matthews Lane, Austin, Tx 78745 (512) 4425021.** Brenda Ballard, Macy Ramirez, Steven Brown, Destiny Gaynor, Thea Eblen, Rose Degollado - new construction materials, Ricardo Gil, Christian McColgan-1967 VW truck. All units contain furniture and house goods.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE** Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, BEN

WHITE MINI STORAGE located at 405 E. BEN WHITE BLVD, AUSTIN, TX 78704, POND SPRINGS MINI STORAGE located at 13444 POND SPRINGS ROAD, AUSTIN, TX 78729, and MOPAC SELF STORAGE located at 12900 N. MOPAC, AUSTIN, TX 78727 will hold a public auction of property to satisfy a landlord's lien. Auction to begin at 10:00 A.M., **Tuesday December 20th 2005 at 405 E. BEN WHITE BLVD to be followed by an auction at 11:00 A.M., December 20th 2005 at 13444 POND SPRINGS ROAD and concluded by an auction at 11:30 A.M. December 20th 2005 at 12900 N. MOPAC.** Property will be sold to the

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by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

## READER SOUNDS OFF ABOUT TOUCH SCREENS

Dear Tom and Ray:

I've been looking around for a new car, and I noticed that touch screens are becoming more common as part of the dashboard controls (e.g., Toyota Prius, Acura MDX, Lexus 330, etc.). I hate them. I think they are unsafe and, moreover, just tacky. You have to take your eyes off the road to use them, plus at night you have this bright screen screwing with your night vision. What is your opinion of this trend? It's OK if you want to have an LCD for the navigation system, but it should be optional, and if you do have an LCD for navigation, it shouldn't be used for other stuff (heater, radio). It's been driving me crazy, and I had to get it off my chest. By the way, I'm no Luddite - I'm a retired computer-graphics software developer, and I love gadgets.

- Dan

TOM: I couldn't agree more, Dan. If you had been reading our column regularly instead of using it to line your bird cage, like most people do, you'd know that we've taken carmakers to task for this very issue.

RAY: These touch screens, iDrives, and Multi-Media Interfaces force you to take your eyes off the road. What kind of moronic engineering is that?

TOM: You used to be able to adjust the heat in your car by reaching over and twisting a dial, sliding a lever or pushing a button. You could do it by feel. Radio volume? Same thing. Change the station? You know where the tuning knob is - reach over and give it a twist.

RAY: But with these idiotic systems, you have to drill down through several layers of hierarchical menus, each time looking at a screen to make your selection, and all the while hoping that nothing happens on the road in front of you while you're busy trying to figure out how to make the computer switch the radio from AM to FM.

TOM: Automakers must figure that we're easily impressed by lights and beeps and screens. And I guess some of us are. But using visual controls to operate basic, frequently used automotive functions is a dangerous step backward in auto safety. Not to mention a complete pain in the keister.

RAY: So if you don't like these things, the clearest, loudest message you can send is to not buy a car that requires you to use a video screen for basic, everyday functions like heating, cooling, and audio. Make it a deal-breaker.

\*\*\*

It's never cheaper in the long run to buy a new car. Want proof? Order Tom and Ray's pamphlet "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Used Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

\*\*\*

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at [www.cartalk.com](http://www.cartalk.com).

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on



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## CONTINUED 545 LEGAL NOTICES

highest bidder for cash. Deposit for clean up and removal is required for successful bidder. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property in each space may be sold by item, in batches, or by the space. Auction hosted by Dave Burton Auctions Lic. # 6581. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following:

Micah Koreski, Jacklyn R. Avila, Yancy Blount, Mark Dotson, Cheryl Ray, John Hughes, Arthur L. Muro, Scott Rutledge (2 units), Robert R. Salazar, Joyce J. Felix, Aaron Butemeyer, Donna M. Jones, John M. McKay, Michael A. Lorber, Erika Yenni, Sonya Waters, Rob Freeman, Charles Lee, Sherrie King, Debbie Lucio.

Sale items to include: chairs, boxes, couches, tools, ladders, beds, bed frame, dressers, tables, kids toys, lamps, bikes, desk, pictures, shelves, aquarium, lawn mower, microwave, stereo equip, TV, washers, dryers, fishing poles, rug, file cabinet, futon, books, printer, chest, portable AC, electronics, clothes, speakers, fridge, doll house, drill press, table saw, ent. center, end tables, shop tools, misc. household items.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**  
Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, Texas Storage Park, which is located at 10013 Hwy. 620 N. Austin, TX 78726, will hold a public auction of property be-

ing sold a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 am on December 19, 2005. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash or equivalent.

Luis Osorio: household goods, furniture, power tools, camping & sports equipment, pool & foosball tables, and more.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Texas Holdings, LTD., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien pursuant to chapter 59 of the Texas property code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, **NO CHECKS**, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 20th of DECEMBER, 2005 at each self-storage facility at which it is described below: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE.**

**9:30 a.m. 20 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 1033 E. 41st Street, Austin, TX 78751**

2029 FELICIA HOLLOWAY, WASHER, CHAIRS, TIRE  
3001 ANNA BELL, CHAIRS, DRESSER, BOXES  
3023 CASSANDRA DANIELS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
4158 MARTHA TOWNE, LOVESEAT, RUG, BOXES  
4174 FRANCIS HUNTER, BIKE SEWING MACHINE, BAGS  
4192 TAMMIE SCOTT, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

**10:30 a.m. 20 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 10100 Nth IH-35, Austin, TX 78753**

C054 JAMES PLEASANT, COFFEE TABLE, TIRES, BOXES  
C056 JESSICA GARCIA, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
D057 REBECCA FISHER, COMPUTER, BAGS, BOXES  
D086 LEROY SCOTT, BIKE, PICTURES, BOXES  
D112 PATRICIA WILLIAMS, DRESSER, SUITCASE, BOXES  
E033 ALVIN RAY COLES, DESK, LAMP, RUG

**11:30 a.m. 20 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 937 Reinli, Austin, TX., 78751**

105 SEBRINA HOUSTON, MATTRESS, SUITCASE, BOXES  
235 MARY ESQUIVEL, TABLE, DRESSER, BOXES  
243 ROBIN McMURREY, MICROWAVE, CHAIR, BOXES  
303 BRENDA DAVIS, VACUUM, FISH TANK, BOXES

394 LAURA BILANSKY, COFFEE TABLE, TRUNK, RUG  
401 SONIA ORTIZ, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
778 ROBERT CASSES, SOFA, LOVE SEAT, LAMP  
780 MARY BAKER, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

**12:30 p.m. 20 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 8101 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753**

135 CHRISTINE WILLIAMS, WASHER, GOLF CLUBS, TRUNK  
222 LUIS MARTINEZ, COFFEE TABLE, SOFA, LAMPS  
227 EMMA ROBINSON, TOOLS, CAR SEAT, TOTES  
537 CHERRY DAVIDSON, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

549 JOSEPH RICHARDSON, TV, BOXES, TOTES  
621 LYNEISHA MORRIS, END TABLE, SOFA, LAMP  
1111 PHEENA ALEXANDER, MIRROR, BOOK CASE, CLOTHES

1206 VINCENT PRICE, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
1330 WAYNE CURTIS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

1332 HOWARD RAUSCHER, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
N1374 RONNIE BURGESS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
N3533 JUAN GUERRA, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

S1101 RENESIA TAYLOR, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
S1107 SHAUN GUTIERREZ, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
2083 KENNETH MILLER, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

3029 MARK GUERRA, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
3031 RICK VAUGHN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
3152 FREDRICK CANTU, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

**2:30 p.m. 20 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 8525 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753**

A071 DIANA ROJAS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
A087 CLYDE SANDERS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
A101 ANTHONY MORRIS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

B024 HEWAN TADESSE, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
C001 KIMBERLY KRAUSE, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
D027 KEITH IVORY, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

H010 RICKY GREEN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
H017 JENNIFER BATCHELOR, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
H042 DONNA CALLENS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

**3:30 p.m. 20 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 8128 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753**

C022 CHRIS BROWN, CHAIRS, DRESSER, MIRROR  
E066 VICKIE PUGH, TABLE, DRESSER, BOXES  
E105 AUBREY SMITH, DESK, SOFA, MATTRESS

**4:00 p.m. 20 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 9205 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 787**

A063 RUBEN DELUNA, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
C024 ISSAC BUENTELO, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
C071 ALICIA JOHNSON, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

C080 SONYA BENJAMIN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
D014 GILBERT URIBE, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
D038 CRYSTAL THOMPSON HILL, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

F029 DAN BAIRD, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT  
F050 SHON SCHAEFFER, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

**4:30 p.m. 20 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 10931 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759**

E050 SHON SCHAEFFER, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

**5:00 p.m. 20 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 12915 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78750**

3023 LAURA RICH, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS

Shurgard Storage Centers wishing to avail themselves to the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives notice of public sale under said Act to Wit; this sale will be held on **December 21, 2005 beginning at 10:00 am at the Shurgard Storage Center located at 9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, Texas.** This sale will continue to each designated address listed below after the completion of each location sale. The property in the storage units at each location in the tenants' name is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's lien. The property contents of all storage units sold at this sale are purchased "AS IS", "WHERE IS" for CASH to the highest bidder. Shurgard Storage Centers reserves the right to refuse any bid or to cancel any public sale advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials. All spaces contain household furniture unless otherwise noted.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, TX 78748 (512)282-9990;** Joseph E. Neal, Tim Bond, Tonya Joy.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 2121 IH 35 South, Austin, TX 78741 (512)693-9733;** Donna/Lupe Donley, Allen Sterling, Naomi Sanchez.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 6726 Bee Caves Road, Austin, TX 78746 (512)327-9113;** Jeff Bowman.

**SHURGARD STORAGE OF OAK HILL, 5220 US 290W, AUSTIN, TX 78735 (512)892-3037;** Shandra Rabe.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 13675 N. Hwy. 183, Austin, TX 78750**

(512)249-0085; Cynthia Gonzalez, Benito Chapa, Jason Gilbert, Patrick Tolbert, Kandawami Sukumoran, Brian Hoke.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 10001 N IH 35, Austin TX, 78753 (512)837-6516;** Jana Banigo, Robert Sykes.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 1517 Round Rock Ave, Round Rock, TX 78681 (512)255-7050;** John Stevenson, Rebecca Wildman, Richard Rowlinson, Robin Gurkin, Damon Dusing - '63 Cadillac Convertible.

### NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF GLENN RUPE CAPPS, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. 83782, styled Estate of Glenn Rupe Capps, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on November 15, 2005, to Ann Schlesselman Capps.

Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representative of the estate in care of her attorneys at the following address: c/o Graves, Dougherty, HEARON & MOODY A Professional Corporation Attn: Julie Frey P.O. Box 98

401 Congress, Suite 2200 Austin, Texas 78767-0098

All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 28th day of November, 2005.

GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY A Professional Corporation P.O. Box 98

401 Congress, Suite 2200 Austin, Texas 78767-0098 (512) 480-5600 Telephone (512) 478-1976 Telecopier

By: /s/ Julie Frey State Bar ID No.: 00792283 Kevin Holcomb State Bar ID No.: 09824000 ATTORNEY FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

### NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF HAROLD L. BARTZ

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Harold L. Bartz were issued on November 29, 2005, in Cause No. 83,875 pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: Ms. Joan E. Bartz Claims must be presented in care of the persons designated above at the post office address as follows:

6713 Tulsa Cove Austin, Texas 78723

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 29th day of November, 2005.

Charles E. Munson State Bar No.14674500 6303 Sprucewood Cove Austin, Texas 78731 (512) 505-5955

ATTORNEY FOR THE EXECUTOR

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**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARY FRANCES HALL, DECEASED** Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration for the Estate of Mary Frances Hall, deceased, were issued on November 22, 2005, in Cause No. 83,832 pending in the Travis County Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to Richard Morgan Hall and Julia Mae Hall as Independent Co-Administrators. The residence of the Independent Administrators is in Travis County, Texas. The post-office address for claims is:

Estate of Mary Frances Hall  
Gilman & Associates, P.C.  
1411 West Avenue, Suite 100  
Austin, TX 78701

All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated: November 22, 2005  
Gilman & Associates, P.C.  
1411 West Avenue, Suite 100  
Austin, TX 78701  
Attorneys for the Administrators

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS** Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Judith S. Pietsch, Deceased, were issued on November 22, 2005, in Docket No. 83,837, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Roy V. Pietsch. The residence of the Independent Executor is in Austin, Travis County, Texas, the mailing address is:

c/o Scofield & Scofield, P.C.  
1411 West Avenue, Suite 200  
Austin, Texas 78701-1537

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 22nd day of November, 2005.  
Scofield & Scofield, P.C.  
Attorneys for the Estate  
By: /s/ Frank E. Scofield

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS** Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Thomas (Tom) Lee Llewellyn, Deceased, were issued on November 22, 2005 in Cause No. 83848, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to Mary Frances Llewellyn.

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 to Mary Frances Llewellyn, c/o Judith DeBerry, 4408 Spicewood Springs Rd., Austin, Texas 78759.

DATED November 28, 2005.  
By: Judith Gres DeBerry,  
Attorney for the Estate

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS** Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jose Garza (Deceased) were issued on November 8, 2005, in Cause No. 83809, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Amelia Estrada (Executor) of Travis County, Texas. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Executor, addressed as follows: Estate of Jose Garza, c/o J. Maxine Jenks, Attorney, 604 West 35th Street, Austin, Texas 78705. All persons having claims against the Estate

which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Signed this date November 28, 2005. J. Maxine Jenks,  
Attorney for Amelia Estrada,  
Independent Executor of the Estate

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

On October 18, 2005, Harry G. Garner was issued original letters testamentary for the Estate of Clementine Fox Garner, Deceased, in Cause No. 83,555 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the executor is c/o Donald F. Carnes, 400 W. 15th, Suite 808, Austin, Texas 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.

Harry G. Garner, Independent Executor of the Estate of Clementine Fox Garner

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

On September 7, 2005, George W. McDonald was issued original letters of independent administration for the Estate of Violet Bernice Browning, Deceased, in Cause No. 83,334 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the executor is c/o Donald F. Carnes, 400 W. 15th, Suite 808, Austin, Texas 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.

George W. McDonald, Independent Administrator of the Estate of Violet Bernice Browning

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that request for issuance of original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Michael Scott Davis, Sr., Deceased, was made on September 7, 2005, in Cause No. 83,287, pending in Probate Court No. One (1) of Travis County, Texas, to REX L. KESLER, who was appointed as the Administrator of the Estate of the Deceased by order signed August 23, 2005. The address of the Administrator is 14202 Champion Forest Drive, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77069. Notice of claims should be forwarded to Rex L. Kesler, Administrator for the Estate, at the address stated in the preceding sentence.

All persons having claims against the Estate of Michael Scott Davis, Sr., which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. EXECUTED this 23rd day of November, 2005.

/s/ Rex L. Kesler, Administrator of the Estate of Michael Scott Davis, Sr., Deceased

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**DRUMMER WANTED:**  
**BAND** with insanesolos needs drummer(20 +yo)readytoplay.JuanCarlos:(512)826-3879

**DRUMMER WANTED: MOD** rock/pop basher ala kenny, keith, charlie, or meg white, 217-5430, wilkid@austin.rr.com

**DRUMMER WITH PRACTICE** space is seeking musicians to play jazz with. 431-1637

**FANS OF HORROR,** sci fi films. play your instrument while werewolves murder the audience. 771 7617

**FILM PRODUCER** **LOOKING** for a local rock bands of various styles for soundtrack to feature film in development. Artists selected will be compensated. Please send Demo CD's for consideration to:New Palace Films c/o Gabriel Horn "Attn: Soundtrack" P.O.Box 340028 Austin, Texas 78734 (gabrielhorn911@hotmail.com)

**FRONT MATURE FEMALE** wanted for serious variety band. versatile styling needed dubieone1@yahoo.com

**GUITAR & FEM** vox need 2nd guitar,2ndfem vox,bass,drums bit'o punksa angie\_the\_singer@yahoo.com

**KEYBOARD PLAYER** **AND/OR** accordion player needed for spanish music group. e-mail: sidmed1@yahoo.com phone#: (512) 480-0439

**LEAD SINGER(VERY VERSATILE)LOOKING** to join Variety/Classic Rock Band. 512-506-9676

**LEAD VOCALIST NEEDED** for Genesis tribute. Chops, presence, and rehearsal 1x/week in N. Austin required. Jim 512-921-2590

**LIKE BLACK SABBATH?** play drums for us armageddonit@hotmail.com myspace.com/armageddonit

**LOOKING FOR DEDICATED** musicians to fill line up. my influences are chimera,killswitch,bloodsimple.call rob (512-964-8564)

**LOOKING FOR GREAT** Industry Exposure? Contact me at enyinnaogbaa@yahoo.com Hip-Hop/R&B and Live Musicians Only!

**LOW-END-HIGH-END-NOISY-BASSIST NEEDED.** **INFU:GODHEADS,LO,ISIS,OM,MELVINS,SLEEP,JERUSALEM.** Contact: John Kelly- 512-971-9180

**NEED BASS/DRUMS FOR** cover band. 70s-00s with comedic flair. Have paid gigs. Vox preferred. No stoners. mike@dumbdistraction.com

**ORIGINAL FOLK ROCK** Band seeks lead singer. Blues/Rock experience a plus. Contact John - Email: jbartx@yahoo.com, Phone: 461-5075.

**PUBLISHED POET** **LOOKING** for songwriting partner (guitar and/or keyboard) to turn lyrics into songs.

**ROCKABILLY IN RAW** form,early sun style.think jack earls etc. who's in? beachcrib@hotmail.com 512-565-5365

**SEEKING LEAD GUITARIST** w/effects for casual jam. Influx are BTS, ModestMouse & more. Tom 740-5461

**VOCALIST-FUN CLASSIC ROCK** covers-we 40-50's with jobs-Talented lead vocalist moving away. Practice weekly, 1-2 gigs/month. Tim 444-8880

**VOCALS AND KEYS** needed for electronic, atmospheric and shoegaze band- Ladytron, Lush, Hooverphonics, Air, Slowdive. Call 512-282-0022

**WANTED: STANDUP SLAP** Bass & Trap Drummer - Lead Gretsch and vocal/rhythm looking to start sumptin'. Early 50's rock. Scotty Moore, Carl Perkins'ish style. North Austin area. Email: american1music@yahoo.com

**WANTED: STANDUP SLAP** Bass & Trap Drummer - Lead Gretsch and vocal/rhythm looking to start sumptin'. Early 50's rock. Scotty Moore, Carl Perkins'ish style. email: american1music@yahoo.com

**WICKED ONE STUDIOS** seeks hip hop and R&B dancers.791-4383, wickedonestudios@sbcglobal.net

**WICKED ONE STUDIOS** seeks Hip Hop DJ. Donna 791-4383, wickedonestudios@sbcglobal.net

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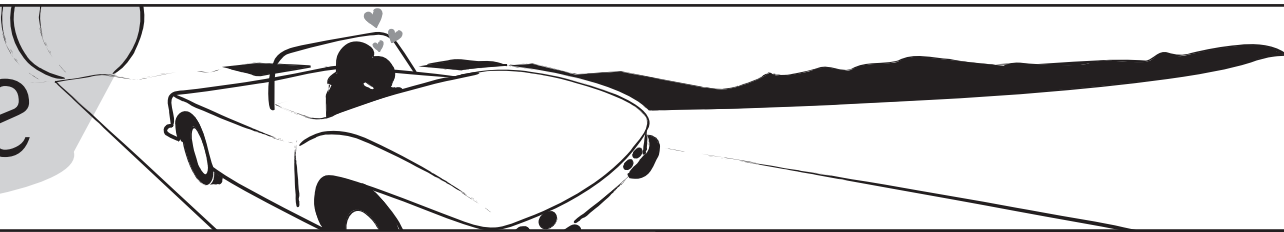
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# Lovers Lane



## women SEEKING men

**HAVE BIBLE-WILL TRAVEL**  
I love to travel-learn-help people. I'm Athletic-Funny-Spontaneous. Can you serve and go where God leads and love me deeply? I'm as honest as they come...love God/life with me? pr3130, 23, #114851

**THREE WORDS? IMPOSSIBLE**  
none of this matters. it is either there or it isn't. let's meet. stacez, 26, #114850

**SEEKING MAN 4CONVERSATION**  
Looking for a man who knows the difference between living and surviving. Must meet stringent set of qualifications. E\_Bovary, 29, #101353

**SUNSHINE**  
I am a beautiful Caribbean woman HIV+ & very healthy. I am not race specific and just want to meet someone real. HIV+ or open to the idea please reply. whoru, 31, #101326

**HIGH STRUNG FEMALE**  
36 WSF, no kids, never married. Younger men looking for an older women need not apply. Looking for someone honest, caring, attractive, and wants to explore a meaningful relationship. buckaustink, 36, #101305

**REAL AUSTIN NATIVE**  
I'm easy-going and fun, uninhibited but I know when to act like a lady. I need a guy that makes me smile when I think about him. AustinNative, 22, #101292

**CREATIVE, NATURAL, FUN-LOVING**  
professional woman wanting to live life to the fullest. Open minded and sincere. Don't like head games or manipulation. Looking for someone special. lifeit, 51, #101271

**SEEKING MRS. DEGREE**  
I have accomplished much in my life (educated, well traveled, home owner, etc.) and now I want MORE! I am looking for a man to experience the rest/best of life. Mercier90, 34, #101272

**ALOT LIKE LOVE**  
42, young at heart, intelligent, considered pretty/attractive, professional career,blonde, petite. Why don't I have a boyfriend/husband? Too busy, but I'd make time for the right man. Seeking 40-50. tamarastars, 42, #101252

**SEXY NATIVE AMERICAN**  
I'm a nice hard working female looking for a intelligent, funny, loving guy

to become e-mail buddies. Maybe something more! Lets give it a shot... Very social out going person. 101242, 43, #101242

**SEXY, LADY W/BIG.....**  
I'm into nature and learning more about natural living. I'm looking for attractive, young looking, or feeling man. I like adventure and travel. I enjoy people, music, dining, comedy, sports.... funlunvlady, 44, #101234

**NICE, CARING, COUNTRY**  
I'm 5'7 brown hair and hazel eyes. I will be honest I am overweight but not obese. So I am looking for someone who doesn't care about my weight. seurose, 24, #101202

**TALL, YOUNG, INTRESTED**  
I'm in a relationship but looking for some wild discreet fun with attractive men who would like the same, multiple men has also been an intrest of mine. tieyourshoes, 19, #101187

## men SEEKING women

**UNAPOLOGETIC PETER PAN**  
Seeking uninhibited, vivacious Tinkerbell, Wendy or Ms. Hook for rediscovery of Neverland. Age is unimportant if you are ageless. Rainbow ladies, moonwomen, stardchildren or the Queen of Outer Space preferred. Footloose, 53, #114852

**INTROSPECTIVE, NOT INTROVERTED**  
honest, fit, penetrating, blunt, bullshit-free, dry, wry, understated, intense, inquisitive, indefinable, secretly sweet, soulful, silly (verging on ridiculous), offbeat (follow my own drummer), simultaneously self-destructive and self-preserving, reflective. Guyser, 37, #114847

**NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION!**  
Handsome SWM 42-kind, romantic, loyal, easygoing-enjoys great music, food, film, vino-resolves to find Miss Right for fun, adventure, excitement and LOTS more(hopefully love) for 2006! Let's "Happy New Year" together! handsomehottie, 42, #101369

**BETTER AFTER WORK**  
I'm the one friend that friends come to when they need anything. I spend more time smiling than frowning and I'd rather make love than fight. midnite\_rider, 48, #101368

**UNIQUE „BIG HEART.**  
I LIKE DOING A WIDE RANGE OF STUFFHave a good heart.I enjoy being out doors.I like having someone that depends on me.I enjoy making love in the early morning. Izzy, 63, #101360

**CLYDE SEEKS BONNIE**  
Creative, funny, young soul seeks to meet same for friendship and maybe more. Age, race not important. Be non-prejudiced, happy, few hangups and eager to live life to its fullest. david7272, 33, #101356

**TALK NERDY 2ME**  
I am a HOPLESS ROMANTIC I'm always doing nerdy romantic things.Snuggling is the bestest thing on a rainy day. Love music and reading and hanging with friends. wickedkarma, 27, #101355

**CAN'T BE BROKEN**  
I am a dreamer, a hopeless romantic and know exactly where i will be in 10 years. Would love to meet a care-free soul to spend some time with. 101328, 53, #101328

**ISO HIGH-HAT BABY**  
Good old-fashioned musician with day job. Would-be dancer. Punctuation junkie. Bicycle gangster. Wags, 37, #101278

**TINY, TATTOOED, TENACIOUS**  
Current UT student- Social work Degree. Petite Pierced and Tattooed body. Caring, insightful,loyal, and radically honest. Looking to build a small island of intimacy in this sea of civilized bullshit. gnomewolf, 35, #101342

**AUSTIN NEWBIE**  
looking for that certain someone. Prez, 24, #101341

**DOG SEEKING TIGER**  
We've tried the other stuff - let's give this Chinese Zodiac a shot! I'm a 1958 Dog hoping to find a 1962 Tiger who's single and living in N/NW Austin. Dog\_seeking\_Tiger, 47, #101337

**STUCK IN SEVENTIES**  
I'm 51, 5'10", brown hair, blue eyes. Divorced 6 years, 25 lbs overweight but loosing slowly. I'm looking for a full time relationship without going to bars or crowded places. jderryberry, 52, #101334

**WHO LOVES SEX**  
I'm a single white man looking for a girl that likes alot of sex. I don't like girls that smoke or use drugs. Let me here from you soon. austinman, 45, #101333

**FOGHORN LEGHORN**  
SWM, 42, HWP, home owner, stable, educated. Looking for a SF that I can get to know and like, and one that wants the same of me. 26-35, HWP. RehnMahn, 42, #101332

## women SEEKING women

**BIG TEDDY BEAR**  
Looking for a person who is honest and cares about people. A person who can have a good time and not a drunk. Have been in along term relationship. Pecosjohn, 52, #101343

**COUPLE SEEKING LADY**  
In short we're looking for a Bi lady that can love us and can be loved by us. The next move is yours.. Reply or Delete.... SouthAustinCpl, 33, #101316

**HONEST LOVABLE CUTE**  
I love nature and having a trustworthy, honest woman to share this with. I'm an adventurous person that loves spontaneity. Are you ready to start living? lookn2love, 51, #101259

**TO CUTE**  
ok i am esy going just out of ltr and looking for that special some one i like long talks love kids like spoil my spouse you wont be disappointed. aalls5, 35, #101189

## men SEEKING men

**PLAYFUL? LIVING CONSCIOUSLY?**  
See the rosy side of life first. I want to have hot passionate times with a man who is okay with change, intelligence and expressions. Looking for benefits with friend. nowliveit, 43, #101288

**NICE FUN GUY**  
Hi. I'm an outgoing fun guy who can also be happy as a home-body. I'm looking for a sincere, fun guy to be

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friends with. Let's give it a try! Austin-pax, 49, #101238  
**YOUNGSTAR SEEKS SECURITY**  
Me I'm a attractive 20 yr old latin male from austin. I'm seeking a man 21+ who are independent and can be himself not to mention knows what he wants. tootieboy, 21, #101168

**VAMPALICIOUS BUTTERFLY WOMAN**  
Join me for some fun in the sun, camping, wine tasting, disco dancing, movie watching, exotic music viewing, pool playing, half priced book hunting, and watching hot air balloons fly. wingbtrfly, 31, #101084

## JUST friends messages

**MUSICIAN SEEKS PARTNER**  
Passionate pennywhistler - playing from earth-shakingly low to blissfully high ones - seeks creative partner to perform, and record amazing, neo-neo-traditional Celtic music. Also has recording studio, guitar, harp, keyboards. LisahnG, 56, #114843

**BEST WURST** - Tall man with long blond hair and goofy smile. Cant wait to get your sausage again.

**BIG DADDY: LIL** darlin loves you so much!! We're so lucky!!

**BRITNEY... COME OVER** and let me kiss you already.

**BRITNEY...I THINK ABOUT** you.

**DAVE I'M STILL** thinking of you... thinking of you... thinking...

**HANDSOME JOEL~HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Love, Jenfuzzedoutmama

**HEY BECK~IT'S BEEN** fun and I think I deserve an A. It's very "important" to me!~Rose

**I FEEL SO** lost without you, Cowboy. I wish you would come back to stay.

**I'M SORRY** I ever wasted my time on you, again.

**JOHN B. KOREAN** Cowboy. I'm crazy about you and I'll wait. -T

**MY HEART'S BROKEN,** but you take the pain away. It's the only reason I like you.

**RAMSHACKLE YOU ARE** going to answer for what you did

**SO SCARED TO** let you go, so scared to keep you. PF

**SOMETIMES YOU DONT** realize what you have until its gone.

**SONYA, HAVE YOU** found yourself? If so, find me. J

**TWEET, OH MAAMA,** don't....forget me and how I will always love you. Miss your talky, talky, smiles, Kisses. You were so special.

**UT BEN BLDG AM-** You: handsome dude with forearm tattoos. ME: girl admiring you

**YOU NEEDED TO** distance yourself - is this far enough? Can we talk now?

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# a Shot in the Dark

**HOTTIE SERVER**  
You, hot waitress who brings me migas and a pancake once a week. How about bringing it to me in bed? When: Saturday, Nov. 26. Where: Kerbey. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #900077

**HOUSE OF TORMENT**  
Boy on the bus. We had a short chat about tie-dye, red hair, and bad jokes before you had to go to work making pizzas. Mansion of Terror girl. When: Wednesday, Nov. 16. Where: N. Austin bus. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900076

**CUTE ROSEDALE DOGWALKER**  
Day after thanksgiving, 4PM. 47th and Sinclair, Rosedale. You: Cute boy in blue walking dogs. Me: Boy on bike.

Thanks for the smile. I shoulda said hi. When: Friday, Nov. 25. Where: 47th and Sinclair, Rosedale. You: Man. Me: Man. #900075

**HEY LIFE IT**  
We just talked on the phone, I am wanting to see your picture When: Tuesday, Nov. 29. Where: in the chronicle. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900074

**WHICHWAY IS CONGRESS?**  
That was the only dumb thing i could shout when i saw you.You:long red hair,incredible smile.Me:man in black,black glasses.I think you are beautiful and want to take you to dinner. When: Tuesday, Nov. 29. Where: 6th and Congress. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900073

**GROCERY SHOPPING TONIGHT**  
cute boy in shorts/knit cap: you passed by and gave me the sweetest smile. sorry i didn't return the favor, I was dazed from yoga and caught off guard. thanks! When: Monday, Nov. 28. Where: randalls on ben white. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900072

**NATHAN, PLAYING POOL**  
It was too early when you left with your friend who kept dropping his keys. Been worried ever since! Let me know you got to the Kensington Apts. okay... When: Friday, Nov. 25. Where: Ginny's Little Longhorn. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900071

**AMAZING EYES...**  
Mysterious & Handsome man, We parked next to each other outside of Warehouse Liquors, spoke with you briefly, I gave you my name, thought your eyes were amazing too. drinks? When: Friday, Nov. 11. Where: Liquor Store on S.1st. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900070

**SEXY LATINO DAVE**  
You:Sexy latino w/hot chick tattoo on forearm. Me:red headed tattoo lover. You showed off your sexy dancin moves...i hope you'll show more in the bedroom! Wanna start w/coffee? \*\*kisses\*\* When: Sunday, Nov. 27. Where: Elysium. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900069

**GLJ**  
from then, to now, a range of emotions, happily perplexed, simply smiling. i have missed you. When: Sunday, Nov. 27. Where: Dale, TX. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900068

**EASTBOUND TOWNLAKE NOD**  
Thanks for the Westbound "Good Morning" when we crossed again later under the Congress bridge. If you're single, let me know. I can change that. If not, do you cheat? When: Sunday, Nov. 27. Where: Town Lake trail. You: Man. Me: Man. #900067

**DEAR MR. DARREN**  
you stole my heart on cold winter nights. please give it a good home or return it to it's original owner. let

me untie the knots. When: Sunday, Nov. 27. Where: work and then everywhere. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900066

**HEB BRODIE LANE**  
You: coupon-using cutie sporting grey Tech T. Me: guy in red T, black cap lucky to see you on almost every aisle, joked about following each other. Coupon-clipping and wine? When: Sunday, Nov. 27. Where: HEB Brodie & Wm Cannon. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900064

**LOVELY LUCINDA MARIE**  
Riverside Dogpark. You black lab eating a stick while I sniffed your butt. Me shaggy mutt with a goat mama. Woof Woof. Kibbles? When: Sunday, Nov.

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# EASY STREET



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## HORNY NEED MORE!

29 yr old married HF, seeking discreet sex partner for occasional romps in the sack. you must be discreet. 26-35 hispanic male. no long term relationships. speak spanish. **2noty2bniece**, 29, ☎, #114844

## TREAT ME RIGHT

BBW, newly single, looking for d/d free male to win my affections, and travel with me. No, you're not dreaming. Meet me. **TreatUright**, 38, #101247

## LETS PLAY

I'm a 34 year old ,BBW who is married with kids , who is looking for someone to play with on the side. Must be fun, single, and open minded. **Angel\_Love71**, 34, #101147

## DISCREET LOVER

Older white male lover, married, 5-9, 230 lbs, loves pleasing partner seeking discreet lady for no-strings fun and mutual pleasure. **funtimeatx**, 53, #114855

## MIDDLE AGELESS

I'm a trim, slim, discreet, fun-loving, uninhibited, appropriate, clean guy who seeks women and couples for erotic flings. I want to meet likeminded, openminded people. Responsive to your desires/fantasies. **neoleotwo**, 53, #101371

## POWERCOCK

I like a woman who wants more than she needs to get that extra wow. Visually I really like well endowed women all areas. It helps reassure wont go hungry. **showoffx12**, 49, #101362

## SEX HUNTER.

looking for a woman that wants some action. Must want to have fun all over her body/mine. Or a couple, man and woman, who are into swinging/sharing his wife. **realgood**, 39, #101344

## LONGING4 GROUP FANTASY

Professional dwm looking for fantasy fulfillment. Looking for women that

want a safe, clean, ddf, good looking and polite man to be a part of a3-some and possibly moresome. **ubetiwill**, 40, ☎, #101339

## FREE ORAL

I am a super honest guy who is looking to please only. I don't want anything in return just let me please you orally, or with toys. **I3on77**, 28, #101340

## HOT OPEN MIND

Open-minded DDFBiWM seeking fun with DDFBiM, BiMCouple, BiM/FCouple. Willing to try anything except pain. Late afternoon, evenings, my place or yours. Age, race unimportant. Birthday is soon, help me celebrate! **MRD**, 48, ☎, #101338

## LOOKING4FUN

I am a clean cut good looking professional male looking for someone to be with on occasion. I promise I can and will satisfy you and fulfill your needs. **cicc99**, 34, #101336

## STRAIGHT SWM, SELECTIVE.

Self-employed, professional. O.k. looks (never had any complaints), good build, good guy. I'm not strange or weird-just horny, sometimes lonely, & a little kinky (ie. 2-girls, a couple or combination, watching, etc.) Into attractive, well-built uninhibited women, up to mid-40's, for no-strings recreational sex & friendship. (Attached/unattached). Discreet. No-strings. **PleasurePal4U**, 56, #101312

## CUDDLY MAN

I am a 30's something professional male looking for friendship growing to more touching, caressing, and intimate situation if so desired. I am married w/ids so discretion is very important. **CuddlyMan**, 36, #101297

## ATTRACTIVE FUN ACTIVE

6.2 weight proportionate male looking for attractive slim to avg. female for

fun, dating and more. **DEAN678734**, 45, #101296

## WILL TRY ANYTHING

im into older women so dont be shy too get in touch with me. i know exactly how to please you. **blahblah**, 18, #101277

## BADGUY

Badboy looking for good or bad girl. **Badguy**, 25, #101284

## DEEP IMPACT

MBM 40's, youthful, endowed, hard body fit, smooth dark skin, seeking married/single females 35-55; HWP, for mutual exploration of unfulfilled needs/latent desires. Understand your need for discretion and honesty, expect same. **DrillFella**, 45, ☎, #101268

## MONOGAMOUS SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP

I am looking for an attractive lady, HWP, who is looking to indulge her inner pervert. Interested in discreet encounters a couple times a week. **Chris78758**, 32, #101251

## WORKING MAN'S SPECIAL

Private attention for a masculine male who enjoys being touched all over. Plus - husky, hairy and in fairly good shape. Hot hands and total relief by mature bi-male. South. **maJichands**, 60, ☎, #101363

## SEXY OPENMINDED SAFE

i am a goodlooking young man seeking discreet encounters. **josh**, 28, #114854

## LAKELOVER

Horny older man (Bimwm) with time looking for what you got . Like it all and often. Enough said here. Let's talk. **keto**, 56, #101372

## NAUGHTY BOY

available for very pretty, very feminine transexual, naughty female or hot & sexy couple. I am a handsome, generous SHM. **miko**, 44, ☎, #101366

## TITILATING TONGUE DELIVERS

I love to use my tongue to give you pleasure. I am a healthy intelligent man looking for a woman or a couple. Discreet no strings attached fun experiences desired now. **pleasuredoctor**, 42, ☎, #101309

## LOOKING TO SUB

Want to be the fuck toy/slut/whore of a m/f couple or group. Keep me naked, expose me to your friends, have me suck/fuck/fucked by/lick/etc. you and all of your friends. **slutboy**, 28, #101300

## SURRENDERING TO PASSION

hi, i've waited to explore these desires and am ready to find a person to explore with, am interested in transgender tops as i'm attracted to both sides of my sexuality. **littleshy50**, 55, #101279

## SEEKING SEXY SHEMALE

seeking a sexy transexual lady (not crossdressers) for mutual pleasure. I am primarily a top but don't mind a little switch. **Chris0013**, 32, #101258

## HOT HORNY HETEROS

Seeking other H/W couples. She's a raven haired green-eyed orally fixated cigarette smoking lollipop sucking cutie. He's a blonde thin horny hard-bodied tattooed he-man. Chemistry is everything. **TwoMuchFun**, 33, ☎, #101351

## SEARCHING FOR BOYTOY

Looking for no-pressure, laid-back fella to share me on occasion with my hubby. Big/tall guys really turn me on, but character and personality come first. Don't like arrogance or one-upmanship. **TheJOYride**, 45, #101261

## FIRM SMOOTH PRETTY

Pretty dressed in heels and very handsome dressed in jeans. I've been longing for a man for a long long time. Spank me. **jackie69**, 47, #101254

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## THE luv doc

### X-Mas Unwrapped! A Holiday Burlesque

Friday, Dec. 2, 10pm  
 Hyde Park Theatre • 511 W. 43rd  
[www.hydeparktheatre.org](http://www.hydeparktheatre.org)

You know what Christmas doesn't have enough of? Nudity. Cold weather notwithstanding, Christmas just isn't a very skin-centric holiday. Oddly, even Jesus isn't wearing his birthday suit in most nativity scenes. He's all swaddled up like a mummy. Can't have the baby Jesus spazzing out and doing the Macarena or thrashing around trying to latch onto Mary's milkbags. That would be unGodly, wouldn't it? Really the only ones going native in the nativity scene are the cherubim, who appear to be blissfully freeballing despite a humiliating degree of shrinkage. Maybe it's because they pioneered arrested development. Of course, back in the BC angels couldn't just send off for a complimentary trial-sized sample of Levitra. They had to get their bone on the old-fashioned way, and a mangerful of farm animals, wiseguys, hay and placenta probably wasn't doing the trick. Angels just aren't freaky like that anyway. Remember Sodom? The original Sin City? Lot tried to offer up his daughters to keep the randy citizenry from "knowing" the angels he was hiding in his house. Wow. Talk about literally leaning over and taking one for the team. Without a lot of theological stretching, it can be safely deduced that angels don't vacation in Amsterdam or Thailand and that they're pretty much chill about not rocking big timber. Clearly God is not a size queen, but back in the day He had a thing against tan lines. Adam? Eve? Garden? Serpent? Quince? Yes, God loves us, but he loves us better naked. So, if you're looking to add a little holiness to your Holiday season, look no further than the Hyde Park Theatre, where this Friday the Jingle Belles will be performing X-Mas Unwrapped! A Holiday Burlesque. Think about it: All the shameless schlock of Christmas dressed down and done dirty by six bawdy burlesque babes. Hallelujah!

## Win a Trip for Two to Beautiful Winterpark Colorado!

You're fun, athletic, adventurous and love to travel, right? Who wouldn't want to go on a ski vacation with you to Winterpark, Colorado? Exactly. So take action. Go to [austinchronicle.com/loverslane](http://austinchronicle.com/loverslane) and fill out a free profile with a picture and you could be shushing down the slopes this Winter! But hurry! The person who fills out the best profile before January 6 wins!

\* Package does not include airfare. You must fill out a free profile and upload a picture to enter.

**20. Where: Riverside Dogpark. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900063**

### EMBER

you are my sweet Goddess; You can smash my stereo anytime! ...sigh... love, Pod **When: Saturday, Nov. 26. Where: in my dreams. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900062**

### VISIBLE CHANGES, B.C.M

only guy that looks young enough to be around my age, 20 or so, your really attractive, like to hang out sometime, hopefully not at the mall. **When: Wednesday, Nov. 23. Where: Visible Changes in Barton Creek Mall. You: Man. Me: Man. #900061**

### DRUMMER 311 CLUB

Thanksgiving eve. Smiled at each other

outside. Me, talking to M, long black coat. Never got your name. Wanted you to approach me... need a closer look at those tatoos. **When: Thursday, Nov. 24. Where: 311 Club/6th St.. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900060**

### ACC TIA @AQUARIUM

You're 23 (don't look 26) & while DC is sketchy, you'll make a nice Staff Ass(istant). But I lost your# so I can't call you in 3days unless you see this. **When: Saturday, Nov. 26. Where: Downtown - Aquarium bar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900059**

### DREAM OF GENIE

aka you. On flight to Vegas on the 11/03/2005. You: art history undergrad about to take the GRE, birthday

12/27/1976. Me just the lucky guy sitting next to you. **When: Thursday, Nov. 3. Where: plane. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900058**

### BEAUTIFUL JADE,

you know who i am, i'm your secret/not so secret admirer, of course. - pb **When: Thursday, Nov. 24. Where: in paper. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900057**

### IH35 SOUTHBOUND

Southbond on IH 35 in traffic the day before Thanksgiving. I was in a silver convertible, I glanced over and we both were laughing on our cell phones. **When: Wednesday, Nov. 23. Where: IH35 Southbound. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900056**

### BAD BOY, CONTINENTAL

11/21 You: Kyle, leather jacket, smoldering eyes that took my breath away. Me: Hot, breathless and limp-kneed. We talked at bar; later I invited you to breakfast @ Kirby Ln. Warm me again? **When: Monday, Nov. 21. Where: Continental Club. You: Man. Me: Woman. ☎ #900055**

### ROVING LIQUOR PURVEYOR

You said you remember me, but not sure from where. I haven't forgotten you. You said see'ya round. I paid cash. You short. Me tall. In Westlake. See'ya round. **When: Tuesday, August 23. Where: @ work. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900054**

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