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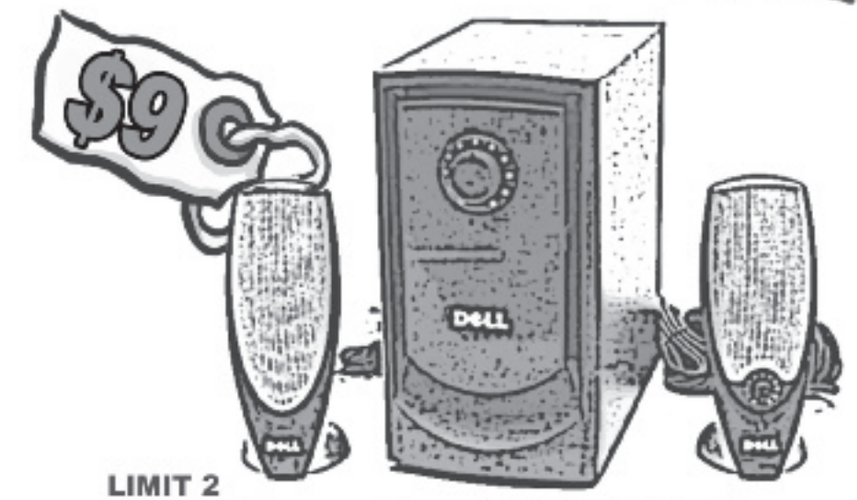
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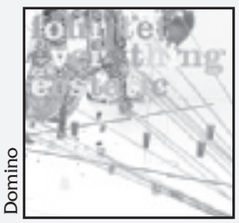
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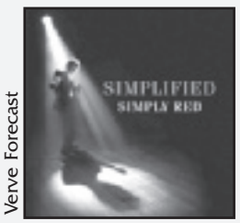
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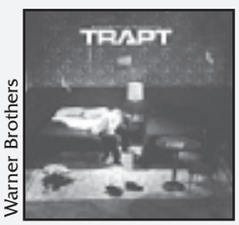
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JEWELRY AND FOLK ART

For the Sake of the Song

'Be Here to Love Me' captures the poetry and loss of the late great Townes Van Zandt

BY LOUIS BLACK

There was a time that this column would have been deep into reporting on South by Southwest 2006 by now, as planning is already moving at full speed. As has been true for any number of years, there is so much news about SXSW, in so many places, that I relax.

The following news is so terrific, however, that I'm breaking it:

The keynote speaker for SXSW Music 2006 is Neil Young, who will have a conversation with director Jonathan Demme. Neil Young, Jonathan Demme – it just lights me up.

(An aside: When you are involved with running something like SXSW, you have to learn to live with incorrect – if not outright hostile – misperceptions on many people's parts. I'm not protesting this, as it would be foolish. For those of you who figure we make Shakespeare's Shylock look generous, Donald Trump look hip, major labels tasteful, and the current Republican administrators and legislators honest, I agree. You have us nailed: It is all about money and power; we are corrupt, bloated, insensitive, and grotesque. There; that's done.

The months spent planning for SXSW are among the very best times of the year: exhilarating, depressing, stressful, overwhelming, fascinating, satisfying, devastating, tedious, and revelatory. I wouldn't even try to write about how much we love what we do, how honored we are to do it, and how the staff is absolutely passionate about music, film, new media – culture in general.

End of aside: SXSW had never asked Neil Young to keynote before, I think, because it didn't even occur to us that it was possible.)

Roland Swenson runs SXSW; he is the managing partner, with day-to-day as well as long-term, visionary responsibilities. *Chronicle* Publisher Nick Barbaro and I are Swenson's partners, but we follow his lead.

Roland has a sharp, biting wit; he cuts with the precisely worded understatement, parries with just the right barb, so nonchalantly delivered. Though he is genuinely witty and sharply funny, one probably would not find the terms "jovial" or "avuncular" used to describe him.

Under control, focused, cognizant of literally thousands of details, Swenson is the consummate professional, leading many other professionals in doing their goddamn best to execute this event at the highest level. All of us derive a genuine and deep pleasure from this happening, but we are also more reserved than effusive (well, not me, but most everyone else). Out of necessity, Swenson always maintains a certain emotional reserve.

Roland loves music, though only those who know him well realize the depth of his passion and knowledge. He especially loves Neil Young (Roseana Auten, Roland's wife, has a different take, but that's for another column). Over the past few days, as it began to look more and more likely that Young would keynote, one of the best parts has been watching Roland's delight and anticipation. Mind you, he hasn't been blowing whistles, squeezing whoopee cushions, giddily singing, or chorus-line dancing. The excitement has been in his smile, his eyes, and his manner. There's radiance reminiscent of the Roland of more than 25 years ago, when we were all so much younger and so excited about embarking on this great adventure (our whole involvement with the Austin music scene, predating – though later including – SXSW). The satisfaction is personal, but so deep that being around Roland has served to remind me of how this long strange trip is more fun right now than it has ever been.

□

On the cover this week is Townes Van Zandt. Margaret Brown's film *Be Here to Love Me: A Film About Townes Van Zandt* opens on Friday. The film has earned some amazing reviews and absolutely passionate plugs.

I'm one of the film's executive producers (see disclaimer in the next section). After seeing part of the film a few years ago, I was knocked out by its quality, especially in relation to Van Zandt's performances. Even though there have been many Van Zandt albums released, none has come close to capturing the intoxicating emotional density of Townes live. An intuitive, four-dimensional performer, he was a richly evocative writer, musician, and singer. The footage of Townes performing comes so much closer than anything else to capturing his magic.

I took advantage of an opportunity to help the production. Paul Stekler suggested that, as a way of thanking me, Margaret Brown should name me an executive producer (along with Chris Mattson and Stekler). I was touched, though within days this honorary title (or so I thought) translated into an intense and ongoing commitment. I don't think there has been a single day since that I haven't worked on the film.

The film is Margaret's. It represents her creative brilliance, aesthetic determination, and cinematic vision. My job was to facilitate, consult, counsel, and strategize. The work of an executive producer, as I'd long suspected, isn't really describable or quantifiable.

If it were up to me, the film would have been much more of a straight-ahead biography. Instead, though Brown very much tells his story and offers an extraordinary sampling of his music, it is a more meditative and resonant work. Designed to emulate the texture and atmosphere of Van Zandt's songs, it is a consideration of a life in which everything else has been given up in pursuit of art. The impact of this decision on family, friends, and Van Zandt himself are as much key elements of the film as any piece of biographical information or observations offered by the many songwriters interviewed. Lee Daniel's impressionistic cinematography sucks us in until we can taste, touch, and smell Townes' world.

I'm inordinately proud of *Be Here to Love Me*, especially because I made the conscious decision to trust Margaret and help her achieve the film in her head rather than try to coerce or coax her into coming closer to the one in mine.

Margaret's gamble – on a work that is as much of poetry as detail, more ambitious

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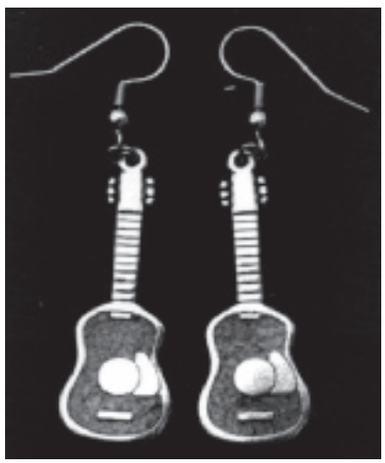
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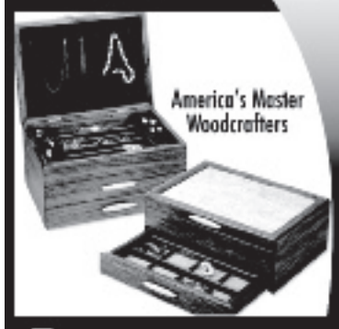
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than explicit, and more richly toned than slavish to chronology – paid off in a big way. Filmmakers, artists, and especially musicians have responded to it in the most intimate ways. At a New York screening, I watched Suzanne Vega and Steve Van Zandt as they leaned forward, almost literally sucking in the film. Walking in Toronto, film producer Maggie Renzi turned to me, saying, "You know, I think we liked the film more than you did. By the end John [Sayles] and I were holding hands and crying."

After seeing the film, Jonathan Demme wrote:

"That Margaret Brown has fashioned such a thrilling piece of pure cinema, with its magical and original fusion of sound and image, makes *Be Here to Love Me* a triumph on the contemporary film front in a way that is every bit as exciting and important as her loving evocation of Townes Van Zandt and his breathtaking body of work. She has moved the whole 'possibilities of film' thing a big leap forward, especially as regards the blending of film and music, image, sound and thought. My enthusiasm knows no bounds on this picture!"

This is the most intimately and critically I've ever been involved with a film. The work itself was a pleasure and an education. The reaction is just gravy.

□

Okay, even a dead person would be raising the question of conflict of interest here: SXSW, Jonathan Demme (whose films I'm writing a book about), and Townes Van Zandt – celebrating work with which I'm associated. I'm an executive producer of the film; Van Zandt is on our cover; and Anne S. Lewis, my wife, wrote the remarkable interview cover story.

Inherent to the core idea of *The Austin Chronicle*, from the point when we first began conceptualizing it, is that the paper is of the community, not just about it, and that the people who create it are often (and welcome to be) involved in the communities they cover.

If the staff did not think this was an appropriate cover, they would have derailed it. Whereas I was certain that Margaret Brown's film shouldn't be given the cover simply because of my involvement, I also felt that it shouldn't be deprived of the cover for that reason. Townes is an Austin legend, a profound and ongoing influence on Texas songwriters. Margaret Brown is a creative teammate of a whole younger generation of Austin filmmakers who have established their own identities and attracted significant, serious critical attention. And, hell, the cover art is by Guy Juke!

Now for those who think this is cheap rationalization or off-the-cuff equivocating, I have good news: This is the first in a series of meditations on conflict of interest in general and especially here at the paper. Part 2 is next week!

(No. 1 in a series, collect them all.) ■

POSTMARKS

20 Years in Prison?

Dear Editor,

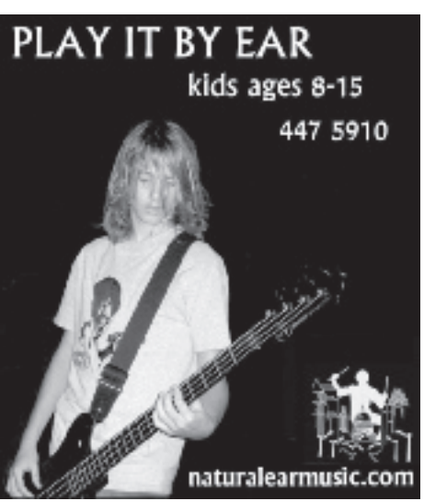
Two young men agreed to settle their differences in a way that went terribly wrong ["Justice or Vengeance?," News, Nov. 4]. My heart aches for the parents of the son who lost his life. My heart aches as one of the parents of the other son who also lost his life. I am Brandon Threet's mom. I have no desire to add to the McArdle family's grief, and we continue to pray for them, but I cannot surrender my son's life to cold vengeance attempting to pass for justice. Brandon is not the person portrayed by the prosecutor who committed a character assassination of my son in court. He is not mean, angry, or violent; he is just the opposite. In fact he has so many friends that during his trial they couldn't all fit in the courtroom; for five days they waited outside on the benches to be there for him. This shows his true character; four seconds of a video does not define my son. Those two lawyers do not define my son. They portrayed lies to the jury. If only our defense lawyer had introduced them to the real Brandon, this awesome young man who had no criminal record of any kind. His upbringing being: an A/B honor student, a Sunday school student, a hard worker and responsible young man. He is an awesome, bighearted, compassionate, caring, loving son, grandson, brother, nephew, and friend to many. He was a young man of tender age and through provocation, alcohol, and fear, reacted to a blow that he received at the onset of the fight. He felt the need to defend himself; he never meant to seriously hurt anyone. I cannot undo what happened that night; I wish to God I could. I wish to God someone could. Brandon will live with the events of that night every day for the rest of his life. He struggles daily with remorse and sadness. Brandon was not the only guilty party that night. Equally guilty are those who took another young man's life, my son's, this time through cold vengeance, political ambition, and client neglect. As compelling as the video is, there is much more to this story.

During a two-year investigation many facts have surfaced; we know that our son should not have to spend 20 years in prison. We only want the whole truth and the facts of the story to be heard. Brandon's father and I along with our family members are determined to put forth every possible effort to have the oversentencing and injustice done to our son corrected. Thank you to Kevin Brass and *The Austin Chronicle* for making our voices heard. Thank you to our family, friends, and many supporters that keep our son and our family strong, and for our legal team, investigator, and those continuing to work hard for Brandon, we are forever grateful.

Sincerely,
LisaRhea Threet
LaPorte

continued on p.12

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





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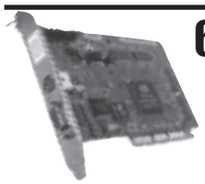


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'Aortic,' Not 'Brain'

Dear Editor,

Just FYI, Marc Savlov wrote, in his review of *Rent* [Film Listings, Nov. 25], that Jonathan Larson died in the following manner: "brain aneurysm felled the 35-year-old writer a brief four months before the play's debut."

In fact, Larson died of an aortic aneurysm three months before the debut – according to a recent interview with his father on TV.

I am a huge fan of Marc's reviews and just wanted to help out.

Thanks,
Ryan Locker

[Editor's note: We stand corrected on the cause of death. And more specifically, Larson died on the night of the last dress rehearsal, right before the play premiered at the New York Theatre Workshop, and three months before the play opened on Broadway.]

My Grandson to Keep

Dear Editor,

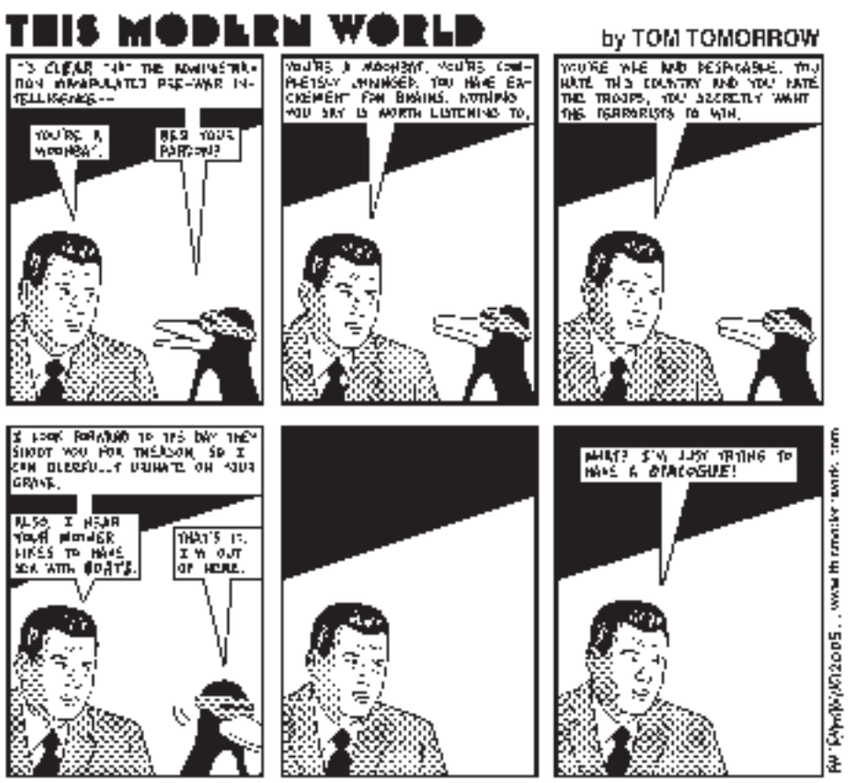
"When I lay me down to sleep, I pray to the Lord my grandson to safely keep."

The "not knowing" is constant – not knowing where he might be, is he sick, or cold, or hungry? Is he OK? I have not received a letter, is something wrong? Has he been moved again?

Yes, I travel this road every day and night. Brandon is my grandson, my only grandchild ["Justice or Vengeance?," News, Nov. 4]. I worry about him and what he has to deal with every day locked in that prison – my feelings cannot be explained in words. Loss comes in so many forms and so many ways. I pray not only for Brandon and myself as we have a special bond and understanding, but also for our family and friends affected. The McArdle family is in my thoughts and prayers also.

It would be easier to give in and tell myself I just can't go on; but my faith, my family, and my respect for Brandon's wish that I go on with my life drives me to get up every day, go to work, and carry on. Often the threads of weakness surface and it takes all my inner strength to regain composure. As I get older, I worry I won't be around to see Brandon home, but I refuse to think negatively. I am the matriarch of the family, and I will remain strong and provide support. I have faith and trust that God will guide our family, friends, and legal counsel through this maze. The same faith that pulled us through these past few years. I truly feel sympathy for those who do not share in this philosophy or some other faith, because without it, I would not have the choice to go forward – those threads of weakness would multiply and I would wallow in my own grief and self-pity, forsaking all others. I elect to go forward, not only for myself but also for Brandon, my family, and my friends.

Sincerely,
Joyce Clark (GrandMadre)
Clear Lake



Militant Moderates, Step Up!

Dear Editor,

Hurrah for you, John Romano ["Postmarks," Dec. 2], but don't just resign yourself to it – *get mad*! Out here in Northwest Austin I'm the militant moderate. A pox on extremists at both ends of the political spectrum. But especially a pox on the hard-core, right-wing, moronic thieves who have stolen our Republican Party. Their phony self-righteous arrogance is positively insufferable. You should tell them that at every opportunity and at the top of your lungs. I do. They will continue to ride herd over our party until people like you and me rise up and take it back from them. Vote for moderates from either party. We found one in District 50 in Democrat Mark Strama. Now some simple-minded right-winger thinks he can unseat Strama. Not while I have the strength to lift a fist in protest. Fight back. Tell Tom DeLay, Alan Sager, John Cornyn, and even George Bush that we are the real Republicans and they are just thieves.

Scott Sexton

continued on p.14

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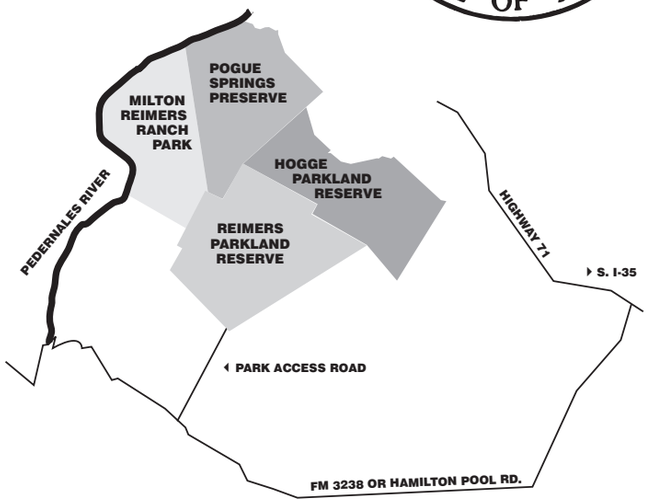
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British Tipping Correction

Dear Editor,

I have just read your article on tipping – an excellent and eye-opening piece for a European who likes to visit the States and enjoys eating out ["Split Parties," Food, Nov. 4].

But it misinforms readers; in Europe – and especially the UK – the 10% service charge is more often 12.5% and is not automatically added to a bill. It often is, but not always.

Should you receive very poor service you do not have to pay it. You can simply cross it out and note your decision on the bill and pay the lesser total.

However, I wouldn't recommend it. As the article points out, European service is often cold and will quickly become positively arctic should you do so.

Alan Tovey
London, England

austinchronicle.com/postmarks
UPDATED DAILY

There Was a .41

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed the story about the Dylan-Cash session in Nashville ["Page Two," Dec. 2]. Actually, a Colt .41 revolver was produced around 1900 for a while.

I know this not because of any knowledge about guns, but because a Huddie Ledbetter song described an altercation involving a Colt .41 and a woman. My reaction was the same as yours, that he had used a number that rhymed. Research proved me wrong.

Philip Key

Denial Is an Ugly Thing

Dear Editor:

My response to William Trey Andrews ["Postmarks," Dec. 2]:

How many police shootings have occurred in the last two years because of young troublemakers on drugs, resisting arrest and running from the scene, brutal attacks on a police officer, possession of a weapon, etc?

Tell the whole story, not just the part of it that suits you, Mr. Andrews. I sure hope the second a thug attacks an officer, he is brought to justice. And the fact that neighborhoods actually defend their foolishness to the point where they call police and the entire city of Austin "racist" is absurd. You can justify their acts all you want, but in the end, they are only the victims of their own behavior. Denial is an ugly thing.

Elizabeth Shelton

R.I.P. None Too Soon

To Jeremiah (whiny-butt) Patoka,

In answer to your question as to how soon you might meet your demise as a result of your (freely chosen) days as a bartender ["Postmarks," Nov. 25], all I can say is that it'll be none too soon.

Dirty smoker,
Thomas Boggs

Oh, Stephen!

Oh, Stephen,

I can't say *thank you* enough for including the Y.O. Ranch New Year's Eve bash in your column ["After a Fashion," Arts, Dec. 2]. We would *love* to have you join us! Thanks again, darlin'!

Tiffany Schreiner
Y.O. Ranch

Strong Support for Christmas!

Dear Editor,

I would like to see the stores that are selling Christmas trees do this: One side of the store will have trees labeled "Holiday Trees," and the other side of the store will have trees labeled "Christmas Trees." My money is on the Christmas Trees blowing right out the front door and the Holiday Trees spending Christmas alone.

Judith Matula

Real Soul Music

Dear Editor,

Thanks so much for the Erik Hokkanen article ["Realms of Inspiration," Music, Dec. 2] – I loved it, especially the very apt *matryoshka* doll metaphor. Ms. Moser captured well some of what makes this accomplished musician unique, charming, innovative, and such a treat to listen to ... descriptors that could be used on Austin itself, I think (or at least on the Austin I hope still exists). Erik's music and character radiate sincere fun and real soul, and I have never seen

continued on p.16

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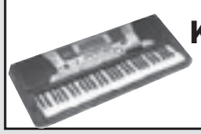


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Jeanine Sih Christensen

Why No Mention Of Whitley's Death?

Dear Editor,

I must admit that I was more than surprised that the *Chronicle* failed to mention the passing of Chris Whitley in last week's issue. (If by chance there was and I simply missed it, then my apologies.) I was even more surprised to hear mentions of it in places like *Time* magazine, CNN, and the front of the Yahoo news page. There was a most accurate, articulate, and honorable obituary to the man in a Nashville paper **(www.nashvillescene.com/Stories/Arts/Music/2005/12/01/Chris_whitley_1960_2005/index.shtml)**.

Perhaps the *Chronicle* is just planning a larger article or tribute to a musician/songwriter whose scope and body of work have been an immensely powerful and influential contribution to music. A truth that we will most likely see deepen over time.

Nathan Hamilton

[Editor's note: Please see this week's "TCB," p.73]

Cash Would Have Known

Louis,

Upon reading "Page Two" with my customary relish last week [Dec. 2], I found a minor error. There is indeed a .41 caliber pistol, and I'm betting that Johnny Cash was no complete stranger to it either, **www.fishandhunttexas.com/41_remington_magnum.htm**.

Keep up the good work.

John Nelson

Refuse to Learn English

Dear Editor,

Citizens should become aware of and ask their U.S. senators to vote against the Closing the Health Care Gap Act, which would create a new federal government health care bureaucracy dedicated to servicing immigrants, legal and illegal, who refuse to learn the English language.

The act is a veiled attempt to appease Spanish-speaking voters at the expense of our health care system and our heritage. The act would actually hurt immigrants by making it easier for them to not learn English and harder to obtain health care as doctors steer clear to avoid federal intervention. The current decline of English as our nation's language and the alarming decline of our fragile health care system would both be accelerated by this act.

Gerard Kern

Black Is Just a Tape Loop

Dear Editor,

Re: Louis Black's "Page Two" column Dec. 2: Yes, Louis, you are a tape loop.

Tom McMahon

'Holiday Baking' Thanks

Dear Editor/Virginia Wood,

I just read with pleasure your article [Gift Guide, Food, Dec. 2] on my newest cookbook, *Holiday Baking*, and I wanted to personally thank you. This book is near and dear to my heart, and I truly enjoyed writing it. And, *yes*, you *must* try the Amazing Left-Over Eggnog and Cinnamon Roll Bread Pudding ... it truly is a keeper! Thank you again.

My best,
Sara Perry
Portland, Ore.

Hell's Belles Rocked Stubb's

Dear Editor,

Someone really needs to mention how unbelievable Hell's Belles (AC/DC tribute band) were Saturday night [Dec. 3] at Stubb's [Music Listings, Dec. 2]. That entire place vibrated with energy and sweat. In fact, they rocked our asses right off our torsos. Thanks!

Shauna Shannon

Bus Riders, Rise Up!

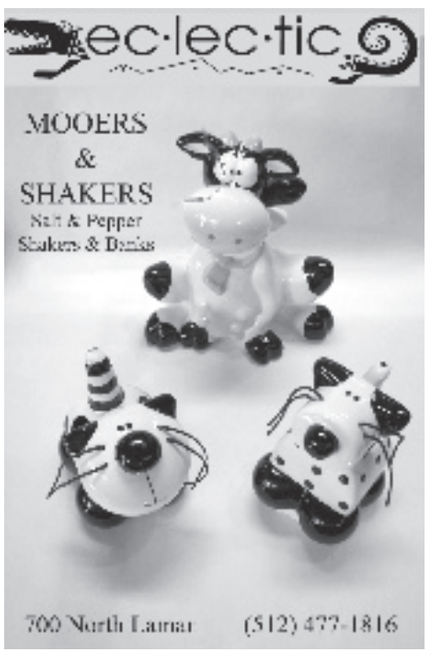
Dear Editor,

Today, I became inspired seeing a seat reserved for Rosa Parks on my usual bus route to write the following call to action:

I call on everyone to rise up against the oppression caused by backpacks on the bus

continued on p.18











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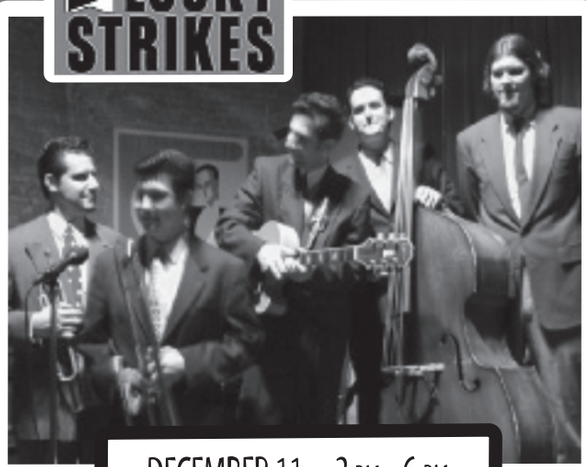
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system. I don't know how many times I've had to ride standing up and be slung around whenever the driver throws on the brakes because a backpack has refused to give up its seat while its owner silently and deliberately buries their head in a book and does nothing.

Down with people who need an extra half a seat to read their newspaper when the bus is full! Down with people who sit on the aisle seat instead of scooting over and making room even though they obviously see you standing up for an entire five-mile journey! And down with the young and able-bodied who can't give up their seat for senior citizens and pregnant women!

Suzanne Schroeder

The Art of Doublespeak

Sir:

From reading Louis Black's recent opinions, I have gathered that he doesn't understand life here in the United States of Soviet Republicans (USSR) – also known as the Reds ["Postmarks," Dec. 2]. Here, our government has mastered the art of doublespeak. For example, when Karl Rove recently impugned liberals by saying they were unwilling to fight for America, he really meant that he and his cohorts were the ones who avoided fighting for the US by avoiding military service. When the Reds' leaders say they support veterans, they are really saying they are cutting veterans benefits. When the Reds say they support freedom, they really mean that they enjoy trampling on people's freedoms by reinstituting the Patriot Act and offering amendments to limit free speech. When they say they want freedom for Iraq, they really mean they want their corporate friends to have a free hand in Iraq in the search for oil and profit. When they say they support "Clear Skies" they really mean they want their corporate contributors to have a clear path to do what they want to the environment. Or, more recently, when they rant about their opponents (from the Democratic People's Republic) as being unpatriotic, they really mean they themselves have lost their patriotism by exposing a CIA operative to the public for political gain. If Louis will keep all of this in mind, he will have an easier time adjusting to life here in the USSR.

Jay Williams

Cannabis Prohibition Must End

Dear Editor:

Kudos to Angel Raich for continuing to stand against the prohibitionist zealots who would "protect and serve" by incarceration ["Weed Watch," News, Dec. 2]. It is hard to find a more noble and heroic stand since Rosa Parks refused to relinquish her seat.

Medicine ought to be freely chosen with a physician's guidance, and without fear of arrest. The right to preserve one's life is fundamental. That holds true for liberty and the pursuit of happiness, as well.

In a nation with thriving alcohol and tobacco industries, it is absurd that any responsible adult must live with the life-diminishing, pervasive fear of arrest for cannabis.

The injustice, harm and financial burden of cannabis prohibition must end. It has no moral authority.

Richard Steeb

Shut Alex Jones Up!

Dear Editor,

Alex Jones is a Nazi turd – an arrogant, narcissistic, megalomaniacal, power-mad, piece of filth – an Auslander, a foreigner, a punk, a fake! Alex Jones is a bucket of feces, a piece of trash! Alex Jones is a fascistic boot-licker, a pathological liar, a pus bag! Alex Jones represents everything that's wrong with America! Alex Jones is a Nazi death-camp operator, a eugenicist, a sociopath! Alex Jones is a total bloodthirsty murdering invading criminal! Alex Jones is a deep occultist, an adherent of Adolph Alios Hitler! Alex Alios Jones ... Adolph Alios Hitler!

If I sound deranged, it's because those are not my words. I was using Alex Jones' own words against him. Those nasty names are direct quotations from Jones' *InfoWars* show on PACT/ACTV. They are all things Alex has called people – mostly innocent people.

So Noam Chomsky is a "mongoloid idiot." Our mayor is a "pathological liar." Bono of U2 is a "little idiot," "a globalist, an Illuminist." One of our former mayors was "a police-state maven." The governor is "effeminate." Arnold Schwarzenegger is a "Nazi turd." I myself "represent everything wrong with America." It goes on forever – a breathtaking legacy of verbal slime.

"Nazi turd," indeed. Alex Jones has been feeding at the public trough of our community access channels for about 10 years now. In this time he has almost certainly called you and everyone you know a Nazi or a fool.

We've got to get this guy off of PACT. Please e-mail the City Council immediately and demand they throw Alex Jones off of PACT. And don't give me any First Amendment jive. Free speech does not cover incontinent slander. Alex has totally shredded his First Amendment rights through prolonged abuse. Call the City Council now, or you're a Nazi turd.

Perry Logan

How About 'Matched'?

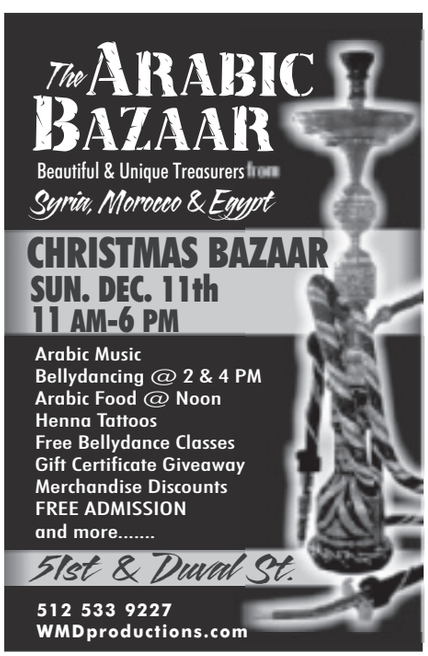
Dear Editor,

Here's a try at redefining an old/new social situation: Committed homosexual couples should have all the legal rights of heterosexual couples, i.e., inheritance, hospital visitation, and so on. But the union should not be called marriage, because marriage already has a definition, and that definition is a heterosexual union. If we try to change the definition to make it inclusive, it would be like saying, "Both oranges and apples are fruits, so we'll just call apples 'oranges,' too." No. That's erroneous. So all we need is a *new word*. How about "matched" instead of "married"?

"Tim and Jim were matched last Saturday. Their match took place at No Saints Church." And, instead of bride and groom, they are matchmates. Y'all OK with that? Probably not. Anyone have a better idea?

Leoda Anderson









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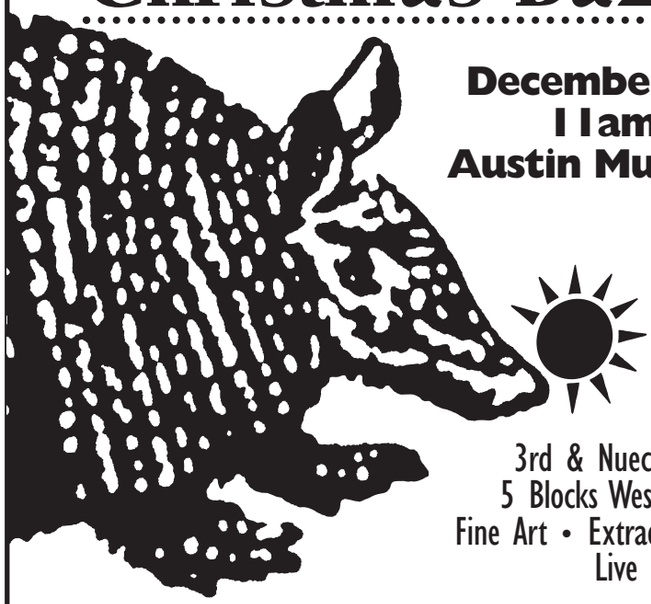


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- **Limit Development Subsidies** to companies that seek to build in the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer.
- **Minimize Grandfathering** of development in the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer that tries to evade the voter-approved Save Our Springs ordinance and build under weak rules.
- **Officially ask AMD not to build in the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer.**

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"Open Government Online" Charter Amendment

- **Make Austin a leader in online, open, and participatory democracy.**
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- **Give neighbors and citizens online access** to development application information.
- **Increase Efficiency** for the same reason businesses are moving toward electronic filing.
- **Increase Participation in Local Democracy** by reducing closed door meetings and requiring citizen access to timely information, not after the fact, when it's too late to make a difference.

Endorsed by ACLU Central Texas, Public Citizen, Gray Panthers, Consumers Union, SOS Alliance, People for Efficient Transportation, Independent Texans and others.

Go to www.CleanWater-CleanGovernment.org for complete text of both proposed charter amendments and how you can help collect signatures and sign on.

news

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34 BLOODTHIRSTY KILLERS OF CIRCLE C



PHOTOS BY JANA BIRCHUM



Dec. 1 marked the 50th year since Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama, bus to a white man, a decision that led to her arrest and helped kick off the civil rights movement. Capital Metro, in conjunction with transit agencies around the country, marked the occasion by "reserving" the front seat on each of its buses for Parks, who passed away Oct. 24. A rose was placed on the reserved seats in her honor.

Quote *of* the WEEK

"The State of Texas has not met its burden in showing that the proposed congressional redistricting plan does not have a discriminatory effect."

– December 2003 staff memo of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, concluding that the proposed Texas re-redistricting plan (now in place) violated the Voting Rights Act. The staff was overruled and the memo suppressed by DOJ officials, as reported in the Dec. 2 *Washington Post*.

HEADLINES

- **Tom DeLay and Co.** may have laundered corporate money in the 2002 state legislative campaigns, but they did not conspire to violate the election code – at least under state laws concerning conspiracy in 2002. That was the Monday decision of District Judge Pat Priest, who dismissed the election code charge against DeLay and two others, each of whom still face felony charges of money-laundering and conspiring to money-launder.
- *The Washington Post* obtained a copy of a suppressed 2003 **Department of Justice memorandum** recommending rejection of the Texas re-redistricting plan passed by the Lege. The nonpartisan staff of the voting section of the DOJ's civil rights division said the proposed congressional map violated minority voting rights. Bush political appointees overruled staff and then embargoed the memo. The plan was used for the 2004 elections; an appeal is pending before the U.S. Supreme Court. See p.30.
- One green, one greedy: **Silicon Laboratories Inc.** announced a move of its headquarters to the CSC building Downtown, and away from its current HQ in Southwest Austin, leased from Stratus Corp. Almost simultaneously, **AMD** announced it will buy its proposed new headquarters site in Southwest Austin from Stratus, along with options on neighboring tracts; the AMD plan is opposed by local environmental groups over concerns that it threatens the Edwards Aquifer. See p.23 and p.26.
- The citizens **Bond Election Advisory Committee** moved closer to a final proposal for the City Council, and its draft recommendations (currently in the neighborhood of $614 million overall) are the subject of a public hearing tonight, 7-10pm, Town Lake Center, Room 130. Another hearing is scheduled for Jan. 5.
- AISD fourth- and eighth-grade students outscored most other large urban districts on the **National Assessment of Educational Progress**, a trial test for math and reading. Of 11 districts tested, AISD was second in fourth-grade reading and math, second in eighth-grade math, and first in eighth-grade reading. See p.25.
- Also in education news, a recent national study by Central Connecticut State University ranks Austin as the **"most literate"** city in Texas. And, as you may recall, Travis was the only county in Texas to reject the anti-gay Proposition 2 last month. Draw your own conclusions.

NAKED CITY

- Trammell Crow and Stratus properties have officially closed the deal on their purchase of the former **Huntsman Chemical** site in North Austin. Environmental remediation costing $3 million will begin right away and last 12-18 months, followed by construction of "Crestview Station," a $100 million development featuring 1,100 homes and 150,000 square feet of commercial development centered around the Capital Metro rail station planned just off the intersection of Airport and Lamar. The 73-acre site – bounded by Lamar on the east, Morrow on the north, and the rail line to the south and west – backs up to the existing Crestview neighborhood. *– Lee Nichols*
- Democratic wrangling in the **House District 48 special election** is proceeding according to plan. The GOP plan, that is. Without a consensus among three Democratic hopefuls to allow a "unity" candidate – Kelly White – to be the sole challenger against Republican Ben Bentzin, and with residency requirements preventing candidate Andy Brown from running in the Jan. 17 contest, the Democratic field is now down to two: former Eanes school board member Donna Howard, and former AISD board president Kathy Rider. Brown reportedly moved into the district in May – not enough time to qualify him for the January election to fill the unexpected vacancy created with Todd Baxter's departure, but Brown could run in the March Democratic primary for the November regular election. Because White had come close to beating Baxter in 2004, some Dem leaders believed she stood the best chance of beating the deep-pocketed Bentzin in a special election that leaves little time for campaigning and fundraising. But with Howard declining to move out of the way, White, who is (or was) handling Howard's fundraising, took herself out of the equation. In a statement on Tuesday, White said: "I refuse to

continued on p.23

POINT AUSTIN

The Schroeder File

For APD and Austin, Knee's decision was the right one

BY MICHAEL KING

There's plenty of blame to go around in the Daniel Rocha police shooting, beginning with the damn fool decision of the 18-year-old Rocha to try to get away from the police. But teenagers make instinctive and bad decisions all the time – indeed, youths running madly and foolishly from the cops is a time-hallowed pop culture cliché. The principle reason we give police officers guns is that we believe they are both mature enough and sufficiently trained to distinguish between those rare occasions when deadly force is truly necessary and the many more times that it isn't. APD Chief Stan Knee concluded that in the June 9 shooting, Officer Julie Schroeder had irresponsibly failed to make that distinction, and for that and other reasons – including directly endangering the life of her fellow officer, Sgt. Don Doyle – he decided to fire her, a decision supported, he said, by all of Schroeder's superiors.

"Not only did Officer Schroeder's entire chain of command agree that all the charges should be sustained," wrote Knee in his Nov. 18 termination memorandum to the Civil Service Commission, "they unanimously agreed that indefinite suspension [termination] was the appropriate discipline."

There have been plenty of times at the *Chronicle* that we've disagreed (or worse) with Knee and the APD brass – indeed, Knee, a favorite of the *Statesman* editorial board, generally declines to talk to us – but this is not one of those times. I have written here previously (Nov. 4) that based solely on her own admissions, Officer Schroeder is no longer qualified to be an armed police officer, and nothing in the now voluminous APD and Citizen Review Panel Schroeder file persuades me that any other decision is possible. Both the CRP and Knee concluded that Schroeder panicked under pressure and shot Rocha without a reasonable belief that anyone's life was in danger – the only rational or officially permissible reason to use deadly force. Under those circumstances, dismissing Schroeder from the police force is the only way to make certain she will never be in a position to make the same mistake again.

Again, quoting Knee, in the curious language of police dismissals: "While it is never an easy decision to terminate an officer's employment, I believe that it is in the best interests of the Department, the community, and Officer Schroeder, that she be indefinitely suspended."

A Matter for Arbitration

That does not, however, mean Knee's decision will stick. We now enter a very gray period of administrative review, as Schroeder appeals her dismissal to an arbitration hearing (entirely within her rights) that may well end with her reinstatement. She'll be able to point first to a Travis Co. grand jury decision not to bring an indictment in the shooting. But the standards for a criminal indictment are of necessity much higher than any departmental disciplinary decision, including termination. More on point, she and her lawyer can

continued on p.22

also rely on the APD Internal Affairs investigation that concluded Schroeder did not violate departmental use-of-force policy in shooting Rocha, a conclusion that Knee forcibly rejected in making his termination decision.

Reading through the IA file, it's entirely understandable why Knee wasn't persuaded. The IA investigators based their conclusions on what they say was Schroeder's "reasonable belief" (although a mistaken one) that Rocha might have grabbed her Taser, and may have intended to use it on Doyle, and thereby may have grabbed his gun, and thereupon shot Doyle or her or both. That's the aftermath logic Schroeder gave the investigators, with supportive agreement from Doyle, though it's clear from Doyle's own recounting that he never believed anyone's life was in danger by Rocha and is only concurring in what Schroeder says she believed.

The IA argument is strained and reads that way. Even more tellingly, Schroeder's testimony suggests that she convinced herself of her own deeper reasons for the shooting long after the fact. In the video re-enactment she performed for investigators the day immediately after the shooting, she says nothing of being afraid for her life or even Doyle's. Instead, she recounts only her sudden loss of her (improperly holstered) Taser and her instinctive belief that Rocha must have taken it, and might use it on Doyle. "That's not gonna happen!" she says, reporting that she instantly reached for her gun and fired. By the time she sat for her interview, she had no doubt inserted in her own mind the steps concluding that she must have believed Doyle's life was in danger, the only possible justification for shooting. She no doubt believes that now.

"Fortunately for Sgt. Doyle ... the width of Daniel's skin might have been the only thing that saved Doyle from being shot by his petrified fellow officer."
– Citizen Review Panel on the shooting of Daniel Rocha

But as Knee's memo explains at length, that was not a reasonable belief at the time; furthermore, in leaping up to shoot Rocha, Schroeder came very close to shooting Doyle as well. That result was far more likely than that the smaller Rocha, clearly determined to flee, would instead decide to overpower both officers with a Taser he didn't know how to use, take one of their guns, and turn on them. Knee points out that Schroeder says she took care to lean sideways, confirm shirt colors, and direct the shot away from Doyle; but if she had time to do all that, she had time to check Rocha's hands for the Taser or, better, use several alternative methods to subdue him. In fact, Doyle may well have remained in the direct path of Schroeder's bullet, according to the forensic evidence. On the same subject, the less restrained CRP report points out, "fortunately for Sgt. Doyle, in a twist of irony, the width of Daniel's skin might have been the only thing that saved Doyle from being shot by his petrified fellow officer."

In addition to the shooting itself, Schroeder was fired (and Doyle was disciplined) for other violations of policy, including improper holstering of the Taser and the utter failure of both to follow the rules on automatic videotaping of such incidents. What the arbitrator may find on all these questions is uncertain, but throughout the file is a running acknowledgment of the embarrassment brought on the APD by what appear to be routine violations of standing policy. (And nobody even mentions the fundamental looniness of this entire penny-ante narcotics stakeout that created the conditions for a phony, melodramatic, and possibly illegal traffic stop that panicked everybody involved and led inexorably to an entirely unnecessary death. That, alas, is a subject for another day.)

Bad Precedent

The legal process is far from complete in the Schroeder case (Sgt. Doyle has accepted his own 28-day suspension), and the politics have barely begun. The Austin Police Association has understandably come to its fellow officer's defense, although the form that defense has taken – attacking Knee as unfit for his office and calling for his dismissal – is, to say the least, unfortunate. (By rights, the APA should logically be calling for the dismissal of all of Schroeder's superior officers, and perhaps that is yet to come.) The APA has every right to dispute Knee's decision, but personalizing the argument and also using it as an unguided weapon against the entire citizen review process will only polarize the community more than the shooting itself has already done.

The CRP is generally to be commended for its overall performance in the Schroeder review, a difficult test case. But that performance was badly undermined by someone's leaking the panel's recommendation to fire Schroeder and demote Doyle (an unjustified overreach) prior to Knee's decision. The APA has filed a grievance over the matter, and its president, Mike Sheffield, has denounced the leak as an attempt to apply public pressure to Knee. Police Monitor Ashton Cumberbatch counters reasonably that the leak could just as easily have been an attempt to undermine the CRP's decision, and an independent investigation is under way. "If anyone in my office had anything to do with it," Cumberbatch told me, "they know they're fired." He also insists the leak does not undermine the justice of the panel's recommendation.

In the wake of Knee's decision, the cop rumor mill is on overdrive, with some loudly bruiting their belief that City Manager Toby Futrell improperly put direct pressure on a reluctant Knee to fire Schroeder. Knee's thorough and careful memorandum – which may yet get shot down in arbitration – argues very much otherwise. Although Futrell has publicly supported the chief's decision, my own (admittedly dithering) sources over at City Hall do not confirm any direct interference. Should it appear to the arbitrator that there was any outside (especially political) interference in an APD personnel decision, he or she could find a violation of due process. (For the record, although the *Statesman* has been loudly demanding the City Council throw more of its weight publicly behind Knee, the city charter explicitly prohibits council members from involvement in personnel matters – especially foolhardy when they have not been finally resolved.)

More likely to cause a problem for Knee at arbitration is APD's notoriously inconsistent disciplinary precedent. Most specifically, Knee is likely to have a very hard time explaining why Schroeder should be dismissed now, when in 2003 he did not fire Officer Scott Glasgow for shooting Jesse Lee Owens. The Owens shooting took place in circumstances quite similar to the Rocha shooting, and involved some of the same and arguably some much more egregious violations of APD policy. The CRP also recommended Glasgow's firing; Knee instead decided a 90-day suspension was sufficient. I frankly don't know how Knee will argue his way out of that one. But if he can't do so, not just the APD, but the whole city, will be the worse for it.

For the moment, the Schroeder decision, unhappy as it is, stands as Chief Stan Knee's finest moment, as well as a reflection of the Office of the Police Monitor and the Citizen Review Panel's maturation. Both the APD administration and the OPM/CRP could use a good bit of judicious tinkering. But we have reason to be proud that in this case at least, our city's police discipline and its monitoring process worked well – both for a better police force and a more just community. ■

BESIDE THE POINT

CHAMPIONS VS. COUNCIL, ROUND 2222

The never-ending **Champion zoning epic** trumbles on, with City Council lending initial but still tentative rezoning approval last week to the three legendary tracts of Northwest land at Loop 360 and RM 2222. Another protracted legal battle dangled over the dais like the sword of Damocles – or in the case of the gray-coiffed, grandmotherly Champion sisters, a fasces of knitting needles. The more permissive zoning of the triptych of tracts would, if it is sustained through three readings, allow for up to 11,000 car trips a day to a proposed mixed-use development still in the design stages. Yet with hurdles to the final approval and a continuing neighborhood outcry, the Champions have yet to emerge fully victorious. (For recent background on the case, see "Another Round This Week in Champion Sisters Fight," Nov. 18; for a historical perspective, see "Swelling Up: The Long, Winding, and Ever-Growing Road," Sept. 10, 1999.)

The decision is but the latest in a long running legal struggle between the city and the sisters, whose family has owned the land since the 1860s. At issue in the proposed zoning changes – which allow for an amount of development neighborhood groups along 2222 and in the Jester neighborhood north of the intersection oppose – is a jump from 6,400 to 11,000 car trips, in what those groups call an already crowded area. Those citizens (mostly well-heeled themselves, in keeping with the territory) spent four hours ardently making their case against the rezoning, as well as what they see as a City Council unable or unwilling to implement any workable or realistic zoning limitations. The proposed trip allowance derived from a mediated agreement reached in August that suspended the Champions' latest lawsuit against the city, which claims the trip limit constitutes a breach of contract. Apparently not confident in the city's case – the details a matter for executive session only – city attorneys agreed to nearly double the trip allowance; if council doesn't concur, goes the thinking, the lawsuit resumes, with Austin risking a loss (thereby being forced to eat the Champions' likely astronomical legal costs). The litigious grannies brook no trifling – a 1996 settlement from their 1993 lawsuit established the grandfathered development and watershed regulations on the tracts, which abide by regulations from the 1970s.

Over Thursday's nearly four hours of testimony, public anger at the council's apparent impotence surfaced several times. "You asked if we wanted the city to be sued?" said the legal counsel for the Jester Homeowners Association, responding to a plaint from Council Member **Jennifer Kim** that "there's very little we can do, if anything" back in court, should a judge side with the Champions. "The city has already been sued," he responded. "It's a matter of an aggressive defense." He marveled at the city's reticence. "I keep hearing about … 'What if there are no trip limits?' Where would that come from? We're going to roll back to when they owned the land in 1950 and say there weren't any trip limits in 1950? I've never heard of a City Council not being able to put trip limits [in a zoning case]."

Indeed, the fact that no mechanism exists to responsibly control amount of trips in the Champion corridor, without losing the meager regulations on the tracts already, is baffling. Several folks argued that since the corridor can't in fact physically accommodate much more than 11,000 trips, the "limit" was really anything but. **Raul Alvarez** noted that this was his third time voting on the tracts in six years, and complained, "It seems like they're being allowed to develop to the maximum, and we are not really receiving anything."

Nevertheless, the first reading passed 4-2, with Kim joining Alvarez in voting no. More tellingly, the yes votes were less than enthusiastic; **Lee Leffingwell** halfheartedly supported the rezoning only as a first reading – buying time to further examine neighborhood complaints and mull the city's legal recourse. And an added wrinkle is a likely 6-1 supermajority needed on third reading, because a valid neighborhood petition against the zoning exists on one of the three tracts.

With Kim and Alvarez dissenting, and **Brewster McCracken** absent but in light of past ballots a likely no, the Champions and council each have a hard road ahead, if they hope to stay outside of the courthouse. Luckily for procrastinators (and their attorneys), council only reconvenes once more this month (Dec. 15) – with no time for Champions on the agenda. Just wait 'til next year.

– Wells Dunbar

participate in a divisive election against a fellow Democrat. I urge fellow Democrats to remember that this special election was engineered to create chaos on our side and a sanitized candidate on theirs – we must all do our part to show that neither is the case." *– Amy Smith*

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals came to Austin this week to hear oral arguments in connection with a Houston woman's quest to have ruled unconstitutional the display of a King James Bible outside the Harris Co. civil courts building. Houston real estate broker and lawyer Kay Staley filed suit against Harris Co. in August 2003, arguing that the **neon-lit Bible display** is a clear violation of the First Amendment's Establishment Clause. After a brief trial, in August 2004 Federal District Judge Sim Lake (a conservative Reagan appointee) agreed with Staley and ordered county officials to remove the Bible, opining that the display had no secular purpose and sought to advance Christianity. Harris Co. officials were undone, and although several – including former State District Judge John Devine – testified at trial that the Bible display does promote religion, county officials decided to plow ahead with an appeal to the 5th Circuit. Staley's attorney, Randall Kallinen, says the county's appeal is more about politics than principle. "This is all a political game," Kallinen said. County officials "know they will lose, but they're just trying to get publicity for their political benefit at the expense of the Harris County taxpayers." *– Jordan Smith*

Advanced Micro Devices says it will buy the 58 acres slated for its new campus location to have better design control over the project it plans to build at Southwest Parkway and William Cannon. The company had initially planned to lease the property from Stratus Properties but agreed instead to buy it for $21.25 million. Both parties say the price – roughly $350,000 per acre – is based on the fair market value in the area, reflecting high demand for a shrinking supply of available land. "A lease arrangement would have required that the buildings be designed with the needs of other future tenants in mind," AMD spokesman Travis Bullard said, adding that the purchase agreement is a sign of AMD's long-term commitment to environmental protection and the Austin community. It also provides AMD with five-year options on three adjacent Stratus tracts. The site is controversial because of its location in the Barton Springs watershed; opponents say there's still time to convince AMD to pull out of the deal, because it isn't expected to close until early 2006. "Building massive employment centers in the heart of the Barton Springs watershed dictates massive secondary residential and commercial growth," said Save Our Springs Alliance leader Bill Bunch. "All their 'greenbuilding' wash will do nothing to alleviate this devastation." *– A.S.*

Travis Co. Precinct 5 Constable Bruce Elfant has joined Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott in bemoaning a version of the new federal appropriations bill, passed by the House just before Thanksgiving, which would reduce funding for **child support enforcement activities**. (A Senate version of the same bill keeps the child support funding; the two versions are currently in conference committee.) In Texas alone, according to the Congressional Budget Office, the cuts would reduce child support collections by as much as $1.2 billion over 10 years. Funding for Travis Co. would be slashed by more than $700,000 over the next five years and up to $1.3 million over the next decade, according to Elfant's office. "The major goals of the federal child support program are to lift children out of poverty and off of government assistance," Elfant said. "The proposed cuts would have the opposite effect." Late last month Abbott penned a letter to the Texas delegation, voicing his opposition to the proposed cuts, which he said would impact 1 million Texas children who receive child support payments. *– J.S.*

On Dec. 9 and 10, members of Amigos en Azul, the Hispanic police officers' association, and the Hispanic Firefighters Association will do battle on the b-ball court in an effort to answer the age-old question: **Guns or Hoses**? That's right – a three-on-three basketball tourney on Friday and Saturday, from 9am to 6pm, at the Pan American Recreation Center, 2100 East Third. Admission is $1 and all proceeds will go to the Amigos en Azul scholarship fund. For more info, see **www.austinpolice.com**. *– J.S.*

Former City Manager **Jesus Garza** will move up the ranks at Seton Healthcare Network with the retirement this summer of Pat Hayes, Seton's executive vice-president and chief operating officer since 1998. Hayes will leave her post July 1, but will continue with Seton as an independent consultant. Hayes has enjoyed success at Seton, although the ride has had its share of bumps along the way. While Hayes was filling in as interim president and CEO in 2002, the hospital network rankled community leaders and health care advocates with the clumsy handling of its plans to shift the most profitable portion of Brackenridge's operations – the Children's Hospital – to Seton's control. It took months of wrangling before the issue was finally resolved, with Seton agreeing to a number of conditions in order to take the hospital private after completion of a new facility at the former Mueller Airport. Before that, a Catholic Church edict, prohibiting Seton from providing birth-control services at Brackenridge, threatened to leave low-income women in the lurch, forcing the city to create a "hospital within a hospital" with the Women's Hospital at Brackenridge. Garza, whose new role at Seton takes effect March 1, served as city manager from 1994 to 2002, when he left to join the LCRA. His stint there was brief, however, because Seton made him an offer he couldn't refuse – the job of president and CEO of Brackenridge and three other Seton facilities. *– A.S.*


JOHN ANDERSON
Jesus Garza

The Travis County **Milton Reimers Ranch Park** – formerly known as Reimers Ranch and allegedly home to primo mountain biking, rock climbing, and fishing – officially became Travis County's newest park last Thursday. The 2,400-acre acquisition, about 30 miles southwest of Austin, features almost three miles of Pedernales River frontage and includes the Pogue Springs and Hogge Reserves, known for deep canyons and panoramic Hill Country views. It's the largest parkland acquisition in the history of Travis Co. "With this purchase, Travis County has ensured the protection of its natural beauty, an important source of its drinking water, and a permanent contribution to the region's high quality of life now and for future generations," said Valarie Bristol, director of external affairs for the Nature Conservancy of Texas. You can check out the park for free until Jan. 1, before the county institutes a $8-per-car fee. For more, see **www.co.travis.tx.us**. *– Daniel Mottola*

If you'd like to take a walk on the wildlands, check out the brand new **Slaughter Creek Trail**, opening to the public Friday, Dec. 9 at 10am with a ceremony commemorating the historic public/private partnership that made it possible. Visitors can take guided tours of the trail, the first of six public access paths planned for city Water Quality Protection Lands around town. After 18 months of developmental planning, 20 community partners – including Austin Metro Trails and Greenways, the Austin Ridge Riders Mountain Bike Club, and the Hill Country Foundation – agreed to build, operate, and maintain the trail while undertaking public education about wildlands. The groups provided cash, labor, in-kind donations, and grants for the project; the city kicked in the land, permitting, and support. The trail-head is located 0.8 miles south of Slaughter Lane on FM 1826, just south of the Slaughter Creek crossing. A similar trail on Bull Creek is nearing implementation, along with four more trails north and south of the Colorado River. *– D.M.*

BEYOND CITY LIMITS

If you fled Louisiana in the wake of **Hurricane Katrina or Rita** and the jobless benefit checks you were receiving from the Louisiana Department of Labor have stopped appearing in your mailbox, there's a reason. Since Nov. 27, the LDOL has required those receiving Unemployment Insurance or Disaster Unemployment Assistance due to the hurricanes to file weekly job-hunt updates. (The department's requirement that applicants file weekly unemployment claims was initially waived, so that those out of work due to the disasters could get benefits quickly.) Also, displaced workers who were collecting jobless benefits before Katrina and Rita may qualify for two extra weeks of assistance if they start giving the LDOL weekly job-search updates. (Anyone applying for unemployment benefits has 26 weeks of eligibility within a 52-week period, so post-hurricane applicants don't have to worry about extensions yet.) As of Dec. 1, the LDOL was sending unemployment benefits to about 67,100 displaced workers with Texas addresses, spokeswoman Lisa Honore said. According to the Austin-based Center for Public Policy Priorities, about 77% "of jobless evacuees are receiving Unemployment Insurance, while the remaining evacuees are receiving Disaster Unemployment Assistance." See **www.cppp.org/research.php?aid=476** to learn about the latest choices for displaced workers receiving unemployment assistance, as well as to find out where to go for more unemployment rule change information. Contact the LDOL at 800/430-8076 or visit **www.laworks.net**. *– Cheryl Smith*

The National Federation of Independent Business released last Thursday its quarterly **"Texas Small-Business Conditions"** report, which surveyed 1,500 companies statewide that employ 250 or fewer people. According to the report, 60% of small business owners across the state reported being plagued by increased purchasing prices and high energy costs over the past three months. "Texas small-business owners are resilient and find a way to make things work even in a climate of rising energy and materials costs, but we need to remember that small businesses in the southern section of the state are struggling right now as they try to recover from the damage of Hurricane Rita," said Will Newton, NFIB state director. Small businesses comprise 97% of Texas' business community and employ more than half of the state's workforce, according to the NFIB. The Austin Independent Business Alliance points out that shopping at locally owned businesses puts three times the dollars into our economy as shopping at national chains does, and that if each household in Travis County simply redirected $100 of planned holiday spending from chain stores to locally owned merchants, the local economic impact would reach approximately $10 million. Read the full report at **www.nfib.com**. *– D.M.*

What do Tony Blair, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Bill Richardson … and **Roger Duncan** have in common? No, not good crossword puzzle names. They're all cited as "Individuals who stand out for their efforts to cut gases that cause global warming" in a special online extra of the Dec. 12 issue of *Business Week* (**www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/05_50/b3963417.htm**). British Prime Minister Tony Blair is No. 1 for his extraordinary efforts to cut greenhouse gases, California Gov. Schwarzenegger is No. 4 for the same in his state, and New Mexico Gov. Richardson is No. 18 for both New Mexican and Western efforts. Austin Energy Deputy General Manager Duncan clocks in at a lucky No. 13, because "for the last three years, Austin Energy has topped all U.S. utilities in sales of renewable energy. More than 7,500 homeowners and 350 businesses are GreenChoice customers – and 90% of the companies have opted to buy renewable energy exclusively. Duncan's chief worry: running out of enough clean energy to satisfy growing demand." No doubt Solar Austin is working on that problem right this minute … *– Michael King*

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The Battle of the Bonds – Take Your Turn

Bonding ain't easy. Just ask anyone on the city's **Bond Election Advisory Committee**, the group assembled to sort and separate city staff's and citizens' "needs" from "wants." With the committee's initial round of work almost done, last week members released their draft recommendation, which, if they have their way, will hover just above the $600 million mark. With two public input meetings left – one tonight – it's a good time to review the ups and downs, the winners and losers in the package thus far. The inside jockeying continues, the public now weighs in again, and the various competing interests will persist in advocating for their favored expenses as the package moves toward City Council review. For your consideration:

• **Transportation and facilities funds** have seen the most reduction from their original needs assessment. Since the initial assessment served only as a starting point, the dramatic cuts to both (with transportation nearly halved) haven't necessarily been unexpected. The biggest cut in transportation was **funds for street construction**, which opened at $150 million and have limped in at $65.7. As Austin (and especially Downtown) strives to become more pedestrian friendly, we'll see more emphasis on **bikeways and sidewalks** – those funds were mostly untouched. It's likely, however, that the folks at Public Works – who told council that the needs list still contemplated a good deal of deferred maintenance – will squawk at such a radical reduction.

• Setting **facilities funding** was even more frustrating, as that subcommittee had to tinker with several items that normally don't belong in the lofty realms of a bond election – sexy stuff like roof and pool repairs, heating, venting and air conditioning maintenance, which presumably should be paid out of ongoing tax receipts. Look for these approximately 90 items to get financed by more traditional measures. Of the bigger items still fighting for survival – namely **new EMS, police, fire, and animal shelter facilities** – the axe may yet fall on one or more.

• **Drainage money** also twirled down the pipe, with financing cut for an ambitious program that never got off the ground – $42 million was initially suggested for the long-debated tunnel and related improvements on **Waller Creek**, but it has been scrubbed from the draft recommendation. Downtown stakeholders, who have been looking for sustenance for this project for some time, may try to resuscitate it when (or if) the plans come to council for approval, but with popular support waxing for many other creek and anti-flooding programs, they'll have a fight. Despite cuts, the bulk of the money – $74.2 million – still goes to multiobjective projects which, as the city puts it, "combine flood control, erosion control and water quality protection."

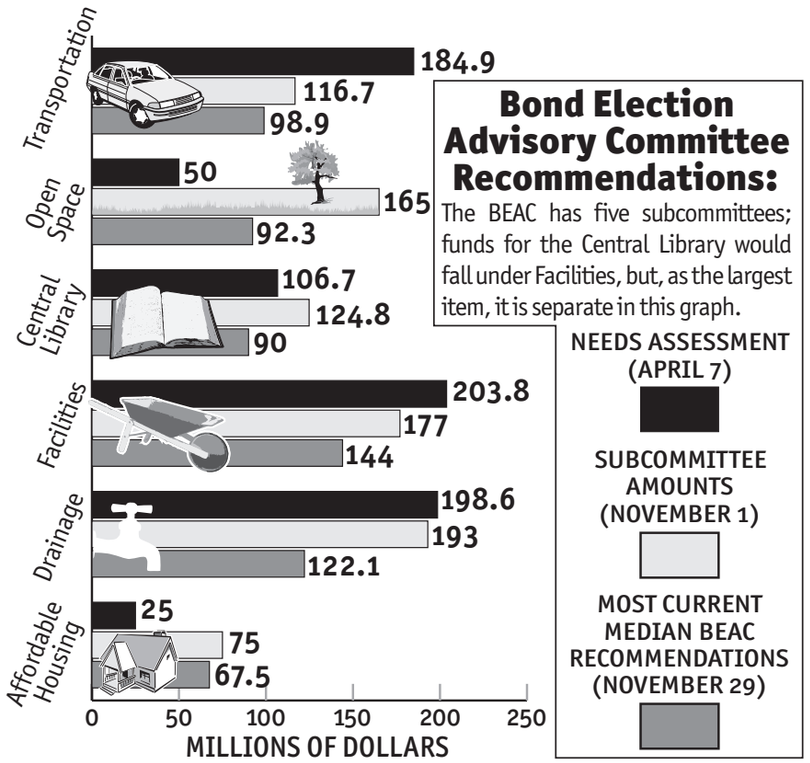
• Which brings us to **open space and affordable housing** – both highly popular with activist constituencies and both coming into the gate markedly low (the word "placeholder" was repeatedly used to describe the initial allotments). Due to a concerted effort from advocates like the new coalition **Housing Works**, initially meager money for housing is now at $67.5 million, with a push to round it up to $75 million likely at council. Open space opened at $50 million (twice housing's designated funds), reflecting a current push by environmental groups to get the city to combine with Travis Co. to acquire as much water protection and other open land as possible. The $25 million seemed slated for a boost, but some members grumbled that $50 million is more than enough. Consider that argument still very much in progress.

Further confounding the open-space debate is Mayor **Will Wynn**'s late-innings call for a possible delay in the bond election altogether, as the current draft proposal doesn't contain, he says, enough funds to deal with surrounding development along **SH 130**, which is currently being built. $47 million for open space around the highway was in fact added initially by the subcommittee. That number has fallen to $21.5 million, however, because it butted against rock solid **Parks and Recreation funding** and aquifer protection – still expected to rise from its current $45.3 million. One speculation is that the number of **Envision Central Texas** members on the BEAC gave Wynn a false sense of security that SH 130 funds would magically appear – failing an explicit directive from him or the council, its unlikely they will. Nobody yet knows if that will delay the whole bond project until at least November. What we have here is a failure to communicate.

Which leaves the **central library**. According to supporters (and library staff), it can't be built for a cent less than its currently proposed $90 million. The original allotment ($106 million) would permit a partial build-out, the top two floors unfinished, while the rejected subcommittee recommendation ($124 million) proposed covering the entire construction. Defenders say it's still doable at $90 million, but will require a little help from friends – like those redeveloping the **Green Water Treatment site** on Town Lake, a potential site. Bundling in items like parking would stretch the dollars, as will contributions and fundraising by groups like the **Library Foundation**.

Public hearings are tonight (Thursday), 7pm, Town Lake Center, and Jan. 5. The final full committee votes on the package are scheduled for Jan. 9 and 10, before submitting to council.

– Wells Dunbar



Schroeder Sues Knee and City

Austin Police Officer **Julie Schroeder**, who was terminated last month in connection with the June 9 fatal shooting of 18-year-old **Daniel Rocha**, on Dec. 6 filed suit against APD Chief **Stan Knee** and the **city of Austin**, seeking an injunction to keep Knee from interfering with her ability to investigate and build a case that could result in her reinstatement.

According to the court filing, Knee "ordered" APD investigators – presumably homicide and Internal Affairs detectives who worked the criminal and administrative inquiries into the officer-involved shooting – not to talk to Schroeder's attorney, **Tom Stribling**. Although the investigators told Stribling they were willing to be interviewed, Stribling wrote in the court filing, Knee "ordered such witnesses not to speak with [Stribling] or anyone else representing [Schroeder] concerning the facts [of the case] so as not to 'compromise' the City's case" against Schroeder. "As police officers, the failure to obey this order would be insubordination and would subject them to disciplinary action up to and including indefinite suspension from duty," Stribling wrote.

In deciding to terminate Schroeder, Knee disagreed with IA investigators' determination that Schroeder's use of deadly force against Rocha fell within department policy. Presumably, the alleged gag order would prevent Schroeder from gathering additional information about the investigators' conclusions – and, perhaps, from questioning Knee's motives for disagreeing with those conclusions. Knee and APD administrators were unavailable for comment, however.

Stribling said he isn't aware of any other case where Knee has attempted to similarly thwart an officer's ability to appeal their termination to an independent arbitrator, a provision of state civil service law.

– Jordan Smith

Sheriff's Unions Back Eckhardt for Precinct 2 Commissioner

On Dec. 5, the two unions representing 1,300-plus employees of the **Travis Co. Sheriff's Office** announced that they are throwing their combined clout behind political newcomer **Sarah Eckhardt**, who is seeking to oust incumbent County Commissioner **Karen Sonleitner** from her Precinct 2 seat in the March Democratic primary. The **Travis Co. Sheriff's Officers Association**, the older and larger of the two unions, has been at odds with Sonleitner since at least 2002, over what TCSOA Vice President **Alex Leo** calls Sonleitner's "pitting" of one "group against another." That year the TCSOA split and the **Travis Co. Sheriffs' Law Enforcement Association** was born. The newer, smaller union represents primarily the law enforcement officers within the sheriff's office, while the TCSOA, still the larger of the two groups, represents the office's corrections officers. At issue was **pay equity** between the two groups of officers; in 2002 Sonleitner allegedly said, privately, that she supported a scale that would promote parity, but then came out against the measure during commissioners' meetings – a move that resulted in the TCSOA's backing Sonleitner's opponent, **Jeff Heckler**. Leo says that during this year's budget discussions, Sonleitner did a repeat performance – privately supporting the officers' proposals then publicly backing away.

Such is the backdrop in front of which both the TCSOA and the TSLEA announced Monday that they have endorsed Sonleitner's Democratic opponent, Eckhardt – a former assistant county attorney and the daughter of **Robert Eckhardt**, former congressman from Houston and co-founder of *The Texas Observer*. For the TCSOA, says Leo, the decision to back Eckhardt was solely a question of "character." "We cannot trust her," he said of Sonleitner. "It's a character issue." It was not an easy decision, Leo says, because "we're fully aware that by not endorsing Karen, she's going to come after us" politically.

In response, Sonleitner told the online Austin politics newsletter *In Fact Daily*, "The associations made it clear that the only hope of getting their political endorsements was to vote for what they wanted – regardless of whether it was affordable to taxpayers. I refused to link my budget vote – past, present, or future – to any election process. I was not going to stop doing my job for fear of the loss of a political endorsement.

"Many of these officers have seen their salaries double over the past 10 years," Sonleitner continued. "I voted for each and every one of those raises and the officers deserved each and every one of those raises. We've taken our sworn officers from admittedly low wages when I arrived on the scene in 1995 to the highest paid corrections officers in the state and the highest paid County Sheriff's deputies in the state."

AISD Students Fare Well in NAEP Results

Lo, the rejoicing was great in Austin ISD last week, after the **National Center for Education Statistics** announced that Austin students outperformed the nation in math and peer urban districts in reading, as measured by fourth- and eighth-grade scores on the standardized National Assessment of Educational Progress. "We are very pleased with our NAEP results. AISD ranks as one of the best urban school districts in America, and we are proud of our students' performance," Superintendent **Pat Forgione** said.

The scores were released as part of the **Trial Urban District Assessment**, which compared Austin's NAEP scores to those in other urban districts and the nation as a whole. Of 11 districts in the TUDA, only Charlotte, N.C., performed better than Austin. In math, Austin fourth-graders beat the national average by five points and other large cities by 14 points, while eighth-graders exceeded the national average by three points and their urban peers by 16 points. AISD students didn't beat the national average in reading, but they did beat their urban peers by 11 points in fourth grade and seven points in eighth grade.

Averages, however, can conceal as much as they reveal. The reasoning behind a separate assessment for urban areas is that cities have higher percentages of poor and minority students, who typically fare worse on standardized tests. This is certainly true in AISD, where white students' scores averaged about 10 to 20% higher than those of black and Hispanic students.

The demographic profiles of urban districts themselves vary significantly, however. Unlike many cities, Austin still has many middle-class families and pockets of wealthy students who drive up average scores. Only about 60% of its students are considered poor, while most assessed districts had many more – in Cleveland, for example, a tragic 100% of public school students are poor. Still, even when broken down by race and income, the data shows Austin students typically holding their own or outperforming their peers – Hispanic fourth-graders got better math scores than other Hispanic fourth-graders, for example, and African-American eighth-grade math students beat others of their demographic.

While this fact speaks to AISD's curriculum and management, to **Ed Fuller**, a professor of education at UT, it also shows the importance of maintaining a socioeconomically diverse student body. "Austin has advantages because it's not all poor and minority," he said. However, "the district still has such large achievement gaps and that's what bothers me." – *Rachel Proctor May*

For his part, **Brett Spicer** of the TCSLEA says he's not as interested in dishing on Sonleitner – although he says there is a "tremendous amount of truth" to Leo's account – as he is in promoting Eckhardt, an "awesome" candidate, who will be a good steward of taxpayer funds, and who understands the importance of a "comprehensive" public safety program. Eckhardt "understands what good government is," Spicer said. "I think it's time for a change; I know it's time for a change." – *Jordan Smith*

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Silicon Labs to Move Downtown, Out of Watershed

You know times have changed when the words "environmental concerns" or the like aren't mentioned, at least publicly, as a factor in **Silicon Laboratories Inc.**'s decision to move out of the Barton Springs watershed and into downtown.

But both the **Save Our Springs Alliance** and developer **Beau Armstrong**, who says he came "very, very close" to sealing a deal with the company in Southwest Austin, agree that the company's decision to move downtown was in part due to concerns about expanding in environmentally sensitive terrain.

The Austin computer chip company announced plans last week to buy one of two buildings owned by **Computer Sciences Corp.**, the one just west of City Hall. Silicon Labs has signed a letter of intent to buy the six-story building while continuing to lease existing space and maintain a presence in Southwest Austin through 2009. The company is expected to begin moving some of its 500 employees to the CSC site in mid-to-late 2006. The building comes with a 99-year ground lease with the city. Silicon Labs will also seek some form of tax incentives from the city as part of its move downtown.

"Nav Sooch is a very thoughtful guy, and I think that [the watershed location] was something he was concerned about." – Beau Armstrong

The CSC buildings are the product of a city-inspired deal that started in the late Nineties to lure CSC downtown instead of locating at the **Terrace office complex** southwest of Zilker Park and Barton Springs Pool. Some six years after CSC's celebrated decision, which was helped along with a handsome incentives package, another watershed debate has erupted over **Advanced Micro Devices**' plans to build a new campus on the **Lantana tract** off of Southwest Parkway. Lantana, a 500-acre mixed-use development, is also where Silicon Labs currently leases about 140,000 square feet of space, and where it was in negotiations with Armstrong to expand up to 500,000 square feet of office space over the next seven to eight years.

But in late summer or early fall, Silicon Labs unexpectedly switched gears and began looking for a site downtown. "We got very, very close to a deal with them," said Armstrong, chief executive officer of **Stratus Properties**, which owns Lantana. "But [board Chairman] **Nav Sooch** decided that, from his standpoint, he'd be better off running his business downtown, and I respect that." Armstrong said he was informed that Silicon Labs had met with Save Our Springs Alliance leaders before deciding to halt negotiations on the Lantana site. "I was disappointed because we'd worked hard to try to keep them, but I understand," Armstrong said. "I was made aware of [the SOS meetings], but not until after the fact. I would think that that probably played some role in the decision."

He continued: "Nav Sooch is a very thoughtful guy, and I think that [the watershed location] was something he was concerned about. I think also that he needed to be in a different environment to be able to attract the kind of people he's trying to attract."

With Silicon Labs' decision to look outside of Southwest Austin, Armstrong then talked to the company about becoming a tenant in his **Block 21** project, a multiuse development in the works north of City Hall and an important jewel in the city's plans to turn this area of downtown into a vibrant destination district.

While not specifically addressing Block 21, Mayor **Will Wynn**, responding Monday by e-mail while on an economic development trip to New York City, said he also discussed a downtown move with Silicon Labs officials. "I extolled the virtues of downtown Austin to Silicon Labs executives frequently, and continue to do so," he said, adding that he even chatted up downtown to company officials while running in Silicon Labs' July 4 marathon relay. "I work hard at developing and maintaining key relationships with the executive teams of Austin employers. Not all corporate decisions are based on incentives."

Because Silicon Labs expects to eventually outgrow the CSC building's 175,000 square feet (36,000 of it occupied by other tenants), Armstrong says the company could still end up on Block 21. "It's still possible, but they have a number of expansion options downtown," he said. "Every real estate guy with blood pumping through his veins is trying to talk to them about anchoring their project."



Silicon Labs will buy the CSC building in the block west of City Hall.

Apparently pivotal in Silicon Labs' decision to pull out of Southwest Austin were two meetings the homegrown technology company had earlier this year with the Save Our Springs Alliance. (Company executives also met separately with a retired technology executive and an Austin developer, both of whom asked not to be identified because they prefer to work through private channels to discourage companies from locating in environmentally sensitive areas.) The first meeting, in mid-March, included Silicon Labs' former Chief Executive Officer **Dan Artusi**, Chief Financial Officer **Russell Brennan**, and Director of Corporate Communications **Shannon Pleasant**, and, from SOSA, **Bill Bunch**, **Colin Clark**, and board Chair **Dick Kellerman**. Bunch and Clark said they provided a general overview of the watershed area and gave the executives a map of the aquifer and other documents as back up material. "We walked through the science of protecting the aquifer, gave a history of the SOS ordinance and the Smart Growth policy about steering people into the desired development zone," Bunch said. "They were very open and they asked a lot of questions."

In July, Silicon Labs' Pleasant requested a follow-up meeting and met with Bunch and Clark at the SOS office. "[Pleasant] came back to us with specific questions about the eco-location map. She really wanted more information to help make an informed decision," Clark said. "At that point," said Bunch, "it became clear to us they were seriously looking elsewhere, because she was reaching out for more information." – *Amy Smith*







State May Have Executed Innocent Man

After years of official reassurances that Texas' capital punishment system is, well, infallible (including more than one such condescending assurance from former Gov. **George W. Bush**), new evidence in an old death case suggests that the state has executed at least one innocent man.

An investigation by the ***Houston Chronicle*** suggests that **Ruben Cantu**, who was executed in 1993, may in fact have been innocent. Cantu, who at 17 was sentenced to die for a 1984 robbery and shooting murder in San Antonio, steadfastly maintained his innocence in the slaying of **Pedro Gomez**, but was convicted based on the testimony of an alleged accomplice, then 15-year-old **David Garza**, and on the eyewitness testimony of **Juan Moreno**, who was with Gomez the night he was killed and barely survived the shooting. Moreno now says he was pressured by police to identify Cantu as the shooter, and Garza says it was another local teen with him the night of the killing, not Cantu. According to the Houston daily, Garza pled guilty to robbery in exchange for the state dropping a murder charge, but says he never told police that Cantu was his accomplice. Amazingly, Garza was never compelled to testify at Cantu's trial. The daily also reports that a third witness, **Eloy Gonzales**, who, like Garza, never testified at Cantu's trial, says that he and his brothers were actually with Cantu in Waco on the day of the Gomez murder.

In the wake of the recent revelations, Bexar Co. District Attorney **Susan Reed** (a former district judge who in the late Eighties denied one of Cantu's appeals) says her office will reopen and review the Cantu case. Still, state Sen. **Rodney Ellis**, D-Houston, says the enormity of the situation cries out for an additional, state-led investigation. "There ought to be an independent review in addition to the fine work coming out of [Reed's] office," he told the *Houston Chronicle*. "The public has a right to know if the state of Texas has made a mistake in the administration of the death penalty."

Kathy Walt, spokeswoman for Gov. **Rick Perry**, seemed less than impressed with the recent revelations – the recanted testimonies are hardly "unique," she said. "We've had these kinds of confessions before in other death-penalty cases," she told the daily. "It's happened before." *– Jordan Smith*

Kidnappings in Iraq Hit Home

On Nov. 26, four human rights workers were kidnapped in Bagdhad. A video of the hostages that was originally obtained by the **al Jazeera** news network shows them sitting beneath crossed swords mounted on the wall behind them. Though it has been reported that their captors, the **Swords of Righteousness Brigade**, believed the men to be spies, **Tom Fox**, 54, of Virginia; **Norman Kember**, 74, of London; **James Loney**, 41, of Toronto; and **Harmeet Singh Sooden**, 32, of Canada, are all members of the Chicago-based **Christian Peacemakers Team**, a nonmissionary group whose past work was instrumental in exposing the abuses that the U.S. military was inflicting on detainees held at **Abu Ghraib**. More recently, the members of the group accompanied Palestinian-Iraqi refugees to the Syrian border, alerting the **United Nations** to what **Refugees International** is calling a "silent exodus" of 500,000 people.

"I've been watching these kinds of clips since 1979," said **Texans for Peace** founder **Charlie Jackson**. "But, to see people I know, now, on the other end, it's disconcerting. It could have been me just as easily." Jackson has been to Iraq three times on CPT delegations, and was scheduled to be a part of the most recent delegation but opted, at the behest of his family, against spending two consecutive Thanksgivings in Iraq.

Though he worked with both Fox and Loney, Jackson is particularly close to the latter. The two met on Jackson's first trip to Iraq back in 2002, and they were riding in the same car when it flipped, decapitating fellow CPT member **George Weber** and landing Jackson in an Iraqi hospital for two weeks with three fractured vertebrae and two cracked ribs. Loney not only pulled both men from the car, he was also responsible for returning Weber's body back to his family in Canada. Based on his experiences with the men, Jackson remains hopeful. "Knowing Tom and Jim, I suspect that they are working on dialoging and using the situation to achieve a better outcome."

Those holding the CPT members have threatened to kill them unless all those being held in U.S. and Iraqi detention centers are released by Sat., Dec. 10. *– Diana Welch*









Advocacy Groups Call Proposed EPA Rule Changes Dangerous

Proposed rule changes at the **Environmental Protection Agency**, backed by the Bush White House, would drastically alter the requirements for reporting releases of dangerous chemicals. It's touted as a tax-dollar-saving way to decrease the paperwork burden on small businesses, but environmental groups, first responders, and health advocates are livid, claiming the change would cause 922 communities nationwide, more than 10% of the nation's ZIP codes, to lose all **numerical data on local polluters**, hindering emergency planning and risking public health.

The program they want to gut is the **Toxic Release Inventory**, regarded as the nation's premier tool for notifying the public about toxic pollution and said to have been invaluable following the Gulf Coast hurricanes. It was signed into law by President Reagan in 1986, in response to a deadly chemical disaster in **Bhopal, India**, on Dec. 4, 1984, where thousands died in a **Union Carbide** pesticide plant poison gas cloud. "On the anniversary of the deadliest chemical accident in history, [the EPA] wants to help corporate polluters hide toxic pollution," said **Luke Metzger**, of **Texas Public Interest Research Group**, which says 217 Texas facilities would no longer be required to report **toxic chemical releases** to the public, and communities in 56 ZIP codes will lose all information about chemical releases in their neighborhoods.

A TexPIRG report released last Thursday outlined the three-fold change proposed for the program. It includes: "a rule to propose that companies be allowed to release ten times as much pollution before they are required to report their releases; a rule that would allow companies to withhold information about some of the most dangerous chemicals, such as lead and mercury; and a notification to Congress that [EPA] Administrator [Bob] Johnson intends to release a rule next fall to change the frequency of reporting to the program from every year to every other year."

The EPA claims that the change to every-other-year reporting will result in a negligible loss of reporting data as well. Environmental groups disagree. "The EPA's proposed toxic data cutbacks will result in an inaccurate picture of pollution at the local level, hamper our ability to prepare for emergencies, and provide an incentive for facilities to pollute in our communities," said **Tom Natan**, director of research for the **National Environmental Trust**. He pointed out that many nonproduction emissions (also known as upset emissions) or releases due to accidents and routine maintenance, which account for millions of tons of emissions each year, may go unreported under the new rules. He said accidents such as the Bhopal disaster and the recent 100-ton toxic benzene spill in China fall into this category.

The EPA is accepting public comment on the proposed TRI changes through Jan. 13, 2006; a form is available at the NET Web site, **www.net.org**. For more info, see **www.texpirg.org** and **www.epa.gov/tri**.

– Daniel Mottola



JANA BIRCHUM

Coinciding with U.S. Supreme Court arguments in the *FAIR v. Rumsfeld* case, the Campus Anti-War Network arranged protests Tuesday around the nation against the on-campus presence of military recruiters, including this rally at Austin Community College's Rio Grande campus. The suit, brought by a group of law schools under the organization Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights, challenges the Solomon Amendment, which allows the federal government to restrict funding for universities that bar military recruiters from campus. Many of these schools particularly object to the policy because they have nondiscrimination policies; they say that being forced to give access to the military, which uses the "don't ask, don't tell" policy to discriminate against homosexuals, forces them to violate their own rules.

Austin's Energy Independence Challenge

Last Wednesday evening, Mayor **Will Wynn** accepted on behalf of the city the **Energy Freedom Challenge: America's Race to Independence Through Renewable Energy**, kicking off a national contest to be the first city to generate 50% of its energy from renewable sources such as wind, solar, and biomass. In addition to carrying on Austin's reign as the No. 1 utility in the country for renewable energy sales, Wynn said he hoped to lead the 1,000-member U.S. **Conference of Mayors**, as its newly appointed Energy Committee chair, "to meet what should be our fundamental goal, absolute American energy independence … [which] will start with conservation and end with renewables."

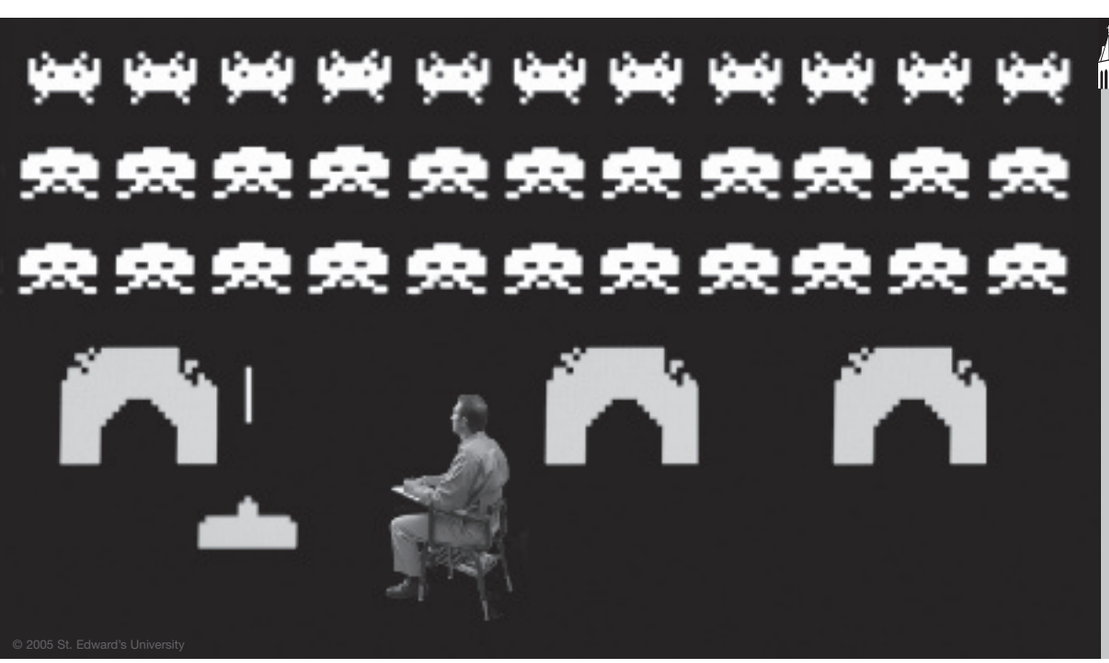
Though the Challenge got funding through the **U.S. Department of Energy's Million Solar Roofs program**, it represents another localized initiative making leaps and bounds toward developing a green power infrastructure, while federal legislators have remained largely complacent about using the United States' vast renewable energy resources. Thanks in large part to the congressional leaders, enriched by fossil fuel energy cash, this country has passed up three opportunities to establish an ambitious national renewable energy quota, all but denied climate change, and continued to lavish oil and gas companies with subsidies as they get rich increasing our dependency on foreign energy.

Local clean energy advocates **Solar Austin** and D.C.-based Union of Concerned Scientists developed the Challenge, aimed at reducing our reliance on unstable, polluting energy sources and helping to accelerate homegrown clean energy technologies at the municipal level, by providing public information, and facilitating communication between cities. Solar Austin will administer the campaign, working locally to increase the market for renewable energy, encouraging people to install solar systems, and to subscribe to **Austin Energy**'s **GreenChoice** 100% program. In making Austin the first city to accept the Challenge, Wynn envisioned channeling the "perfect storm of consumer demand for renewable energy, its free market cost effectiveness, and the dramatic desire for this country to be energy independent."

The city of **Portland** has already beaten Austin to the goal of powering all of its city buildings with renewable energy. Portland also invests nearly $2 million per year in conservation, has helped weatherize 20,000 apartments and 2,000 low-income homes in the past 10 years, and through the city's 1991 **City Energy Challenge Program** – designed to increase energy efficiency in all sectors by 10% by the year 2010 – they have saved $2 million per year, more than 15% of the city's energy bills.

For more info, see **www.solaraustin.org**, **www.ucsusa.org**, or **www.millionsolarroofs.org**.

– Daniel Mottola



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School Finance: Where We Are and How We Got Here

It was panic time at the Capitol. Lawmakers, sinking under the weight of a Texas Supreme Court decision that declared the state's **school finance system** to be teetering on the brink of constitutionality, had begun to tinker with state maps that would consolidate the wealthiest school districts in the state with the poorest. Shift one line. Move another one. Maybe, just maybe, the state could dodge the bullet.

No, no, school districts cried. That won't work. County education districts, meant to collect and disburse school district taxes on a county-by-county basis, already had gone down at the polls. First, school districts floated the idea of consolidating tax bases. Then they talked about one district "buying" per-student tax credits from neighboring districts. And then, finally, they spoke of sending money to the state to be redistributed.

And, thus, **Robin Hood** was born – as a way to avoid school district consolidation.

So school district boards must be thinking, with some chagrin, that what goes around eventually comes around, indeed. Ten years after Robin Hood was created, every penny has been wrung from property-wealthy school districts for the state coffers, we're back where we started, pondering a tax structure the court has declared unconstitutional and a system that the court says is drifting toward inadequacy. What wasn't fixed in the system in 1993 remains broken in 2005. It's no wonder the House is eyeing consolidation again, even if it's only to keep rural Republicans in line.

Even those lawmakers who created Robin Hood – a school finance system that recaptures and redistributes property wealth so that it's evenly (more or less) disbursed across the state – called it a short-term fix to a long-term tax squeeze. As the crank has slowly turned, more and more money has been sucked from local taxpayers, with state dollars playing less and less of a role, especially in those school districts with moderate and high property wealth.

Don't expect the Supreme Court to come to the rescue. Unlike more prescriptive states like New York and New Jersey, the Republican-exclusive court has limited itself to telling lawmakers the tax system fails to meet constitutional muster and setting a deadline (June 1) for it to be fixed – leaving the details to the Lege.

Consider the court's comments in the ***West Orange-Cove*** opinion. The structure of the current tax system is unconstitutional, but recapture is not necessarily wrong. School districts lack meaningful discretion with their tax dollars, but that doesn't necessarily mean the system requires new money or that the state should pay more. The adequacy challenge – whether the state has kicked in enough money to pay for the standards it set for Texas schoolchildren – is still around the corner. And oh, by the way, consolidation might be a good idea, too. As if that wouldn't cause a statewide stampede of angry football coaches (and jock parents) on the Capitol.

With so much between the lines, people read what they want to in this ruling. At last week's House Public Education Committee meeting, Chair **Kent Grusendorf**, R-Arlington, found much to anoint his committee's conservative interim charges. He leapt on the benefits of "competition" and the need to study "choice," and touted a review of administrative costs and salaries. Where the court spoke of the wisest use of educational dollars, Grusendorf saw a case for legislation on merit pay for teachers – opposed by teacher organizations.

The question is whether those reforms might be part of the special session package next spring. The buzz around Speaker of the House **Tom Craddick**, R-Midland, these days is that, given the court-imposed June 1 deadline, the goal should be a plain vanilla tax bill, minus education reform and possibly minus property tax relief. That would be a departure from the GOP position of the recent sessions, that no new money for schools would come without additional accountability for school districts, and some guarantee that property tax relief would be a lasting, rather than fleeting, solution. That dictum was met with an equally resolute, if minority, push from Democrats that no new taxes would come without new money for the public schools.

And those jockeyings don't even touch the hot-button issues on specific taxes. Combined with the personal animosity between Craddick and Lt. Gov. **David Dewhurst**, the conflicts produced a rather spectacular session meltdown for Gov. **Rick Perry**, who dared to call the first, and second, special sessions.

Education lobbyists, already soured on the last round of education bills, predict that it would be foolhardy to attempt education reform this spring, given how badly it failed last summer. They should know, since House Republicans blame them for the defeat of the school finance bill and currently are targeting "taxpayer-funded lobbying" as a menace to society.

So the spring session is Perry's to call, likely only after a Republican primary challenge from Comptroller **Carole Keeton Strayhorn**. A crop of almost two-dozen education advocates – presumably more moderate than their opponents – are ready to go head-to-head with GOP incumbents. Even Grusendorf, who carried the school finance bill, could have an opponent – former state board of education member **Diane Patrick**, a UT-Arlington professor in educational administration. Even a handful of electoral wins could easily change the dynamics of the frequently deadlocked House, giving Perry much to ponder as to what he might want to accomplish before the next regular session. – *Kimberly Reeves*



JOHN ANDERSON

Word around the Capitol is that Speaker of the House Tom Craddick (right, with Reps. Steve Wolens and Norma Chavez) will push for a plain-vanilla school funding bill, minus the education reform and property tax relief demands that have been centerpieces of Republican ideology in the previous failed sessions.

Laney Won't Run in '06

Former House Speaker **Pete Laney**'s announcement last week that he won't seek reelection in 2006 offered up yet another reminder of how bad things are now at the state House. The senior state Democratic rep from Hale Center, whose amiable, bipartisan leadership in his five terms as speaker won him routine praise from then Gov. **George W. Bush**, promised to remain active in the public arena in Austin after leaving office next year. In 2000, Bush called on Laney to introduce the president-elect to the nation and later hosted the former speaker and wife **Nelda** at the White House on several occasions. Two years later, Laney lost his leadership post to ex-friend and Midland Republican **Tom Craddick**, in a GOP upset that sent several Democrats packing and relegated Laney to the sidelines, along with any semblance of bipartisan good will in the House.

Laney's retirement opens the door for a Republican to succeed the West Texas cotton farmer. But Laney said he hopes that his conservative district will elect someone who is committed to work with members on both sides of the aisle. "My decision not to run again comes at a time when more than ever we as a state and as a nation need to encourage bipartisan leaders to get involved in public service," he said in a statement. "West Texas has produced some of the most influential leaders in our state's history, and I want us to continue that legacy." During one of two failed special sessions on school finance this year, Rep. **Senfronia Thompson**, D-Houston, tried to drum up support for Laney to run for governor next year by selling T-shirts with the message: "Save Texas. Laney for Gov – 06." – *Amy Smith*

Horses Stolen! Barn Door Confirmed Unlocked!

Whatever happens in the **Tom DeLay**, et al. trial next month – one conspiracy felony stricken this week, a couple more for the Sugar Land Bug Man to exterminate – the ill-gotten gains of the perpetrators remain in their possession. That would be the remade **Texas congressional delegation**, and along with it a Republican stranglehold on the U.S. House. As if we needed any confirmation, last week ***The Washington Post*** acquired a copy of the officially suppressed **Department of Justice memorandum** prepared by the **Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division**. As long suspected, the professional staff of the division unanimously recommended that the **re-redistricting map** forced upon the Legislature by DeLay and his cronies should be rejected, because it did not sufficiently protect the rights of minority Texans – indeed, it was "retrogressive" as that term is defined in the constitutional challenges brought before the U.S. Supreme Court. According to the memo's analysis, the GOP map illegally "reduces the level of minority voting strength," by reducing the number of congressional districts with significant minority voting influence by at least two and possibly three districts.

The eight career Civil Rights staffers who prepared the analysis were not only overruled by Bush administration political appointees, their Dec. 12, 2003, "Recommendation Memorandum" was subjected to an internal gag order. Despite suspicions about its contents, the memo was unavailable until the *Post* obtained a copy last week.

Redistricting maps rejected by the DOJ cannot be appealed; the approval meant that Democratic and minority plaintiffs went to federal court under a much higher standard of proof to persuade the court that the map was biased against minorities. They lost, and the map was approved and installed for the 2004 elections, although a voting rights case against it is still pending before the U.S. Supreme Court. Since the DOJ memorandum relies heavily on the court's 2003 ***Georgia v. Ashcroft*** decision – especially the doctrine of "totality of circumstances" – in its analysis of the maps, its contents may have some weight in determining whether the court might take up the appeal. Attorney General **Alberto Gonzales** is defending the DOJ's action, saying the matter has been settled in court, but lead plaintiffs' attorney **Gerald Hebert** told *Quorum Report*, "There is compelling evidence that this violates the law. … You can't just say, 'This is my decision, go ahead and violate the law.'"

Of course, the Supremes didn't have a problem with such niceties in ***Bush v. Gore***, and it remains to be seen whether Travis Co. DA **Ronnie Earle** will have any better luck in prosecuting the corporate money shell game established by DeLay and his cronies at **Texans for a Republican Majority Political Action Committee** – which effectively seized the Lege and made possible the entire re-redistricting fiasco in the first place.

– *Michael King*

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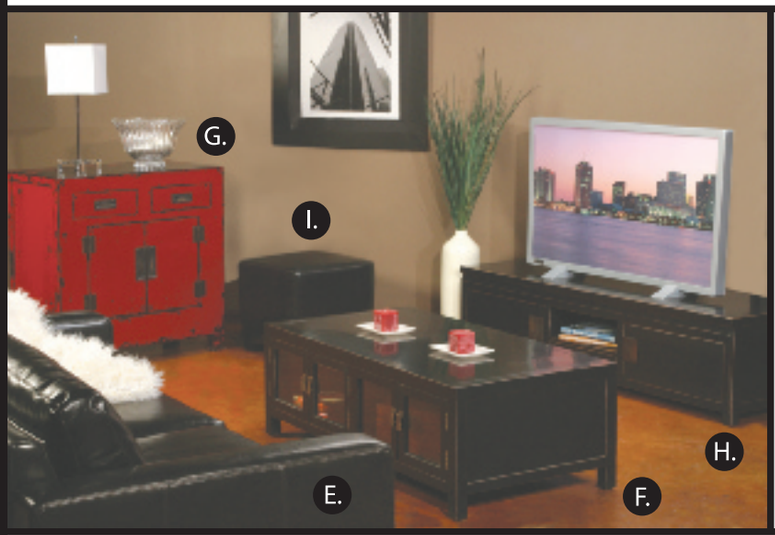


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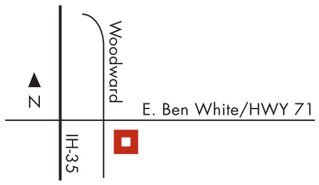
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2) The complete collection of speeches, including his world-famous resignation, given just one year into his second term (see No. 4)

3) Fun Factoid calendar. Did you know, for example, that Agnew was raised as a Democrat?

4) T-shirt of Agnew's police mug shot for bribery charges (he copped a plea on tax-evasion charges instead)

5) A copy of Agnew's 1980 autobiography, *Go Quietly … or Else*

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COUNTERPUNCH

CounterPunch bills itself as "America's Best Political Newsletter," and if you like your politics untamed, up-to-the-minute, and from the (radical) left, the on- and off-line journal edited by Alexander Cockburn and Jeffrey St. Clair is just your holiday speed. Cockburn's an acidic Anglo-Irish transplant taken root in the weedier portions of northern California, whence he excoriates troglodytic Republicans and mewling Democrats with equal relish. St. Clair is a Great Northwest ecological warrior (originally from Indiana) who also takes time to record obscure but riveting music and books. They are joined by a small army of independent left and libertarian thinkers, on the Web at the heavily traveled **www.counterpunch.com**. Real aficionados support their efforts buy subscribing to the biweekly print edition. (800/840-3683, or write to PO Box 228, Petrolia, CA 95558.)

TEXAS DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATE

Don't forget to give generously to the Texas Democratic Party. The gift they could use most: viable candidates for statewide office. Why did the GOP sweep the statewides last election? Maybe it's because voters had a choice for governor between the sleazy, filthy-rich oilman who gave money to Bush … or the Republican. And it's no better this time around – some Dems have reportedly asked Kinky Friedman to abandon his independent campaign and become a donkey. Please, if you have any spare candidates, send one today.

EAST AUSTIN SEGWAY TOUR

There's only one way to see historic East Austin – by Segway! This Christmas, "keep it weird" with a fun and funky look at life east of the freeway, where the condos are cool, the music is hot, and the living is easy! The trip begins with Sparks-tinis, a popular Eastside quaff, at the Peacock Lounge, conveniently located by the Pedernales (pronounced ped-urnal-ees) Lofts. From there, we'll move to groove to the East's indigenous rhythms – with a stop at the storied Longbranch Inn! Long a watering hole for Austin's R&B pioneers, the proud tradition is carried on by the culturally significant Austin artists we'll find on their jukebox, like … And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead. Lastly, we'll grab lattes and end the day at the grand entrance to East 11th, admiring its quirky outsider art mosaic as the sun sets. Hey, how fast can these Segways move in a pinch? Just kidding! Uhh, no, really … how fast can they go?

WEED WATCH HOLIDAY EDITION

***Busted! Drug War Survival Skills From the Buy to the Bust to Begging for Mercy*, by M. Chris Fabricant, defense attorney; illustrated by R. Crumb (Harper, 365 pp., $13.95)**

New York City defense attorney M. Chris Fabricant's first book isn't just for the casual drug user on your shopping list. Instead, *Busted!* is one part War on Drugs survivalist guide and one part lesson in civil liberties – and a damn good read. Fabricant does a superb job of detailing the current state of Fourth Amendment law (that is, your constitutional right to be free from unlawful search and seizure) – with a dose of Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, and 14th Amendment learnin' thrown in – with real-life examples culled from the files of the unwinnable War on Drugs. Broken down into sections like "How (Not) to Possess Drugs: From Your Ass to Your Roommate's Stash" and "Trial? You Don't Get No Stinking Trial!" *Busted!* offers a practical look at the current state of civil liberties – and, for your dope-smoking pal, a host of good tips to "stay out of jail and out on bail." At just $13.95, *Busted!* is a real legal steal, available at **www.drugwarsurvival.com**.



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THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

GIVING CIRCLES

Why don't you become a philanthropist?

"Holy John D. Rockefeller," you say: "Do I look like Bill Gates or Michael Dell? I'm no gabillionaire, able to plaster my name on museums and such."

No, no – not that kind of philanthropist, but a much more modest type. In fact, chances are that you're already one, giving small annual donations to all sorts of educational, religious, civic, and other charitable groups. In fact, the middle class and even poor people tend to be more charitable than the rich, giving a bigger percentage of their meager incomes than those with billions of bucks.

But there's another way to organize your giving so that you might have a bigger impact, as well as have a good time doing it. A growing number of ordinary folks are forming "giving circles" with their friends, family, co-workers, and ... well, with whomever you choose. Your circle might meet once a month or so to pool your small donations – maybe $10 or $20 or $50 each. Then, you jointly choose a nonprofit group, a family, or a person to receive the money.

By pooling, your funds have a greater impact on the recipient, and by jointly making decisions the whole charitable process becomes more personal. By the way, don't forget to find ways that'll make your circle gatherings fun – meet for a picnic, have a little beer and wine, add some music, and otherwise get in the joyous spirit.

You don't have to be rich or a big shot. A nurse in Greenville, S.C., for instance, started a circle of women who meet for a monthly potluck supper, rotating the meeting among the homes of members. Even with average monthly giving of about $25, they've done such meaningful projects as paying for two years of nursing school for an East African woman. "You feel more personally involved," says the founder of this circle. "And it makes us feel more connected."

If you feel you need help in starting your own circle, there is a giving forum with tips and examples. Go to **www.givingforum.org**.

HALLIBURTON'S 'TCNS'

Is any low too low for Halliburton?

This giant government contractor with tentacles running straight into the White House has previously been caught overcharging U.S. taxpayers and shortchanging U.S. troops for its work in Iraq. But now we learn that Halliburton has been profiting in Iraq by mistreating foreign workers.

By "foreign," I don't mean Iraqis, even though thousands of folks there are desperate for jobs. Instead, I mean impoverished Asian laborers brought by the thousands into Iraq from southern India, Thailand, and the Philippines to work for Halliburton on U.S. bases as cooks, electricians, launderers, custodians, etc. They are mostly twentysomethings – powerless and exploited.

When recruited, most have no idea they are headed for a war zone. Once there, they are branded as TCNs – Third Country Nationals – which is both a derogatory term and an assurance of third-class treatment, at best. They are paid a fraction of what other Halliburton workers get, and their meager paychecks are often several months behind, keeping them in debt and in place. They work 12-hour days and are allowed only one day a month off – without pay.

The TCNs are housed in cramped trailers jammed end to end with bunk beds. They're not allowed to eat with the Americans, nor do they even get to eat the same food – their's is shipped in from elsewhere and often is cold and tasteless. They cannot use the Internet, the phone center, or the recreation facility. Even though their bases regularly come under attack, TCNs are issued no body armor or helmets.

It's bad enough that Halliburton is doing this at all, but it's far worse that it's doing it under our flag, in our name. What must Iraqis and Asians think as they watch how one of our country's most favored corporations treats workers who are nonwhite and poor?

To learn more, go to the globalization watchdog group CorpWatch: **www.corpwatch.org.**

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**.

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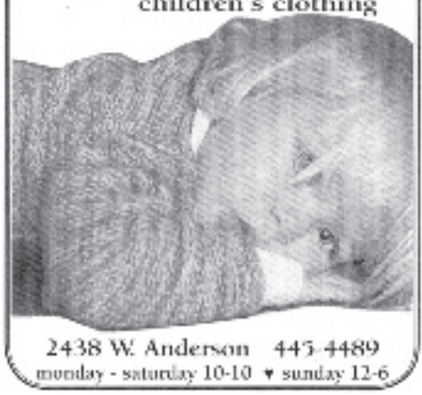
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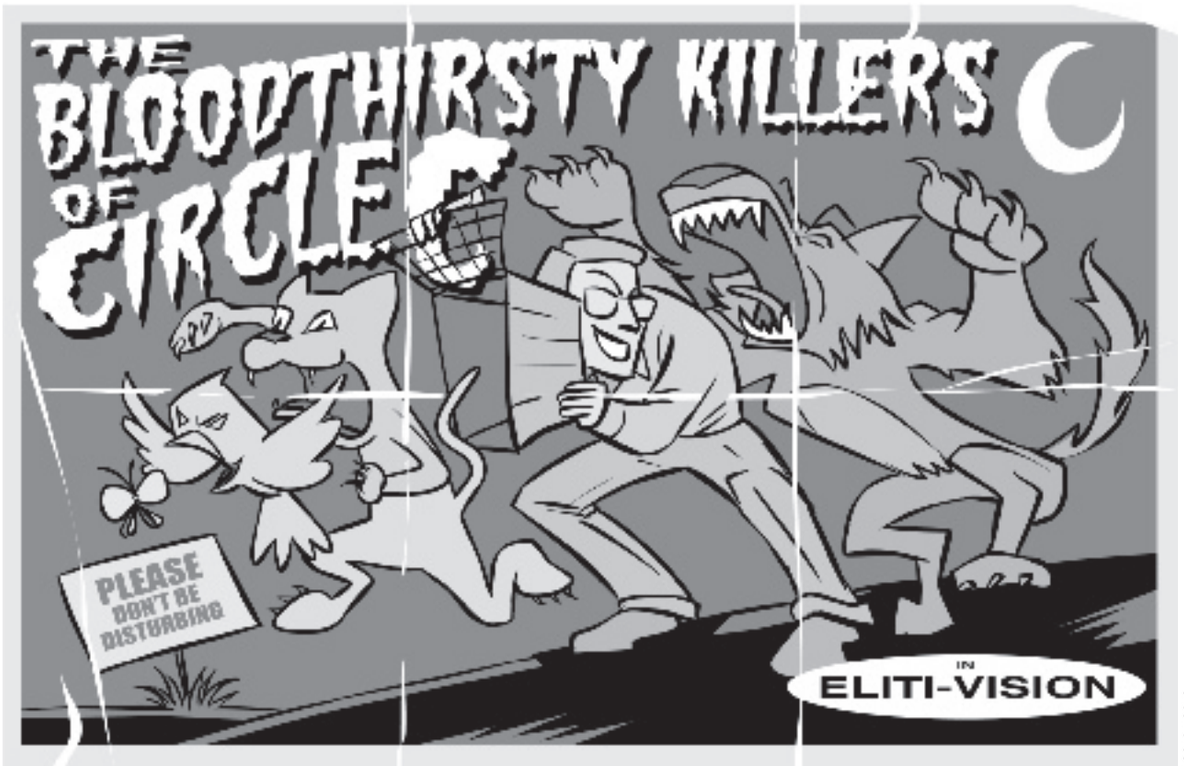
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JASON STOUT

Victims take flight! ... Officials shrug! ... Stealthy predators stalk the suburban streets!

BY RACHEL PROCTOR MAY

Bexley Road looks like any other street in Circle C, a gentle curve lined with tall homes of limestone and brick. The garage doors are all neatly closed, and not a blade of grass grows taller than six inches. But don't let the calm, uniform, even antiseptic appearance fool you: Bloodthirsty killers are on the loose.

"They hide in my thickets," said concerned resident Susan Schaffel, sitting in an arbor built of cedar logs and surrounded by thick stands of sage and holly. "They lay low, they creep, and they lunge."

The killers in question have whiskers, self-important attitudes, and names like Miss Princess. They are, in short, her neighbors' cats, which roam the otherwise peaceful cul-de-sacs in search of prey. An estimated 150,000 feral cats – wild, unowned creatures – also lurk in central Texas. While reptiles, amphibians, and insects all fall to their deadly claws, the victims that Schaffel most mourns are birds. Schaffel doesn't only mourn, she acts, and some of her actions have others in the Circle C Ranch and animal communities aflutter. While everyone involved seems to have a species to blame, the spat raises serious issues of how native and intruder species can coexist in profoundly unnatural landscapes.

Stop the Insanity!

Like most new subdivisions, the homes in Circle C are surrounded by tall privacy fences that allow each resident to craft a backyard utopia. For some, that means a St. Augustine lawn as smooth and green as a shamrock shake. For Schaffel, it's a thick wildscape of native trees and shrubs enclosing a paisley-shaped patch of turf. In one corner is a pond, in another are strawberries and basil, and above it all hang the bird feeders, more than a half-dozen of them. There's peanuts for the cardinals, suet for the wrens, and high in the air, a tasteful white mansion, in miniature, for the purple martins. The entire yard is designed to draw birds to her yard like hungry truckers to Waffle House.

It works. Showing off her handiwork last Wednesday, Schaffel was surrounded by little grey and sulphur butterflies dipping into the lantana blossoms, and berry-munching wrens rustling through the undergrowth. The blond-haired, flip-flop-clad Schaffel, who looks a solid decade younger than her AARP-eligible years, kept up a steady burble of "Look at that butterfly! Isn't that awesome? Look at how stunning this is!" at each flutter or flit. But with God-knows-how-many house cats and feral cats perpetually on the prowl, the birds flit at their own peril. Schaffel is sick of it. Actually, she's been sick of it for years – in 2001 she led a failed effort to pass a cat leash law in the city of Austin, and she says in her five years as a Circle C resident she's personally trapped 18 cats, which she delivered to Town Lake Animal Center to slay no more. (One of those cats she trapped on multiple occasions; the neighbor who owned it paid repeatedly to reclaim it but did not stop letting it outside.) Her latest battlefront, however, is trying to convince the Circle C Ranch Homeowner's Association to enforce its own rules.

"You read our bylaws and it clearly states that animals need to be contained on your property – … Mockingbird!" Schaffel interrupted herself and dashed over to a corner of her lot where a small grey bird was indeed rustling around in her yaupon. The bylaws she refers to are the Circle C covenants, 20 pages of rules and regulations that govern what, when, and how you may build and behave in the master-planned community. In addition to prohibiting visible swing sets or solar panels, basketball nets, oil-drilling operations, mobile homes, and "stylistic ornamentations or details that are out of character with the community image," Circle C's covenants are clear on the issue of free-roaming animals: dogs and cats cannot leave their owners' property without a leash. Unfortunately for Schaffel, the community may have an Architectural Control Committee, but it has no animal control committee – meaning the felines flout the rules with impunity.

"We also have coyotes. That also takes care of the cats."
– Heather Venhaus, Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center

"This is insanity," said Schaffel. "I just don't understand why a non-native species is allowed to prey on our wildlife. What are we doing to our native species? What are we doing to our birds?"

Steve Urban of the CCHOA board of directors doesn't see it as quite so insane. "I think with all the other things we have to do in Circle C, the last thing I want to do is patrol neighborhoods and look for cats on leashes," he said. What could be more important than the wholesale slaughter of our beaked buddies? There's pool maintenance, transportation issues, the garbage contract, school construction, "and regular run-of-the-mill covenant violations," said Urban, such as "people not mowing their lawns or painting their house bright orange."

Urban isn't the only neighbor who fails to grasp the enormity of the situation. When Schaffel tried to rally the troops on the HOA online forum, only one other resident enthusiastically took up the cause. Others questioned her methods (i.e., the traps), while one man wondered whether birds really enhanced the community image, what with the poop on the cars and such. Urban agrees that birds have their downsides. "Some folks behind me have this big birdhouse," he said. "Every morning at 6am they're out there chirping and driving me crazy."

Come and Get It

Whatever your position on chirping or guano, Schaffel's concerns have merit. An oft-cited study from the University of Wisconsin (the state that last year considered legalizing the hunting of feral cats) estimates that some 100 million cats roam outdoors nationwide, killing hundreds of millions of birds each year. According to the American Bird Conservancy, which along with the Humane Society and the American Humane Association is running a "Cats Indoors!" campaign to convince pet owners to corral their kitties, some four dozen cities and counties have passed laws requiring cats to remain on owners' property. Cliff Shackelford of Texas Parks & Wildlife says that the agency considers cat predation a problem, but they can't do much about it. "We're concerned with it, but we don't have much jurisdiction over nonnative species," he said, adding that regulation would typically be a municipal or county matter.

Cats are only one of the challenges facing the modern bird, what with all the cell phone towers, wind turbines, and enormous, confusing picture windows in the McMansions sprouting up like bluebonnets in March. And one of the biggest problems is that those McMansions are sprouting up right where those bluebonnets (and other native species) used to grow. The American Farmland Trust estimates that nearly 200,000 acres of rural land in Texas is developed each year, destroying nesting sites and food sources. That's why TP&W and nonprofits like the Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center, just across the road from Circle C, consider backyard cultivation of native plants – as Schaffel has done – a virtuous and important pastime. It's also attractive and easy, said Heather Venhaus of the Wildflower Center. "The most important thing to do is define what species you want to attract, and then put in the food source, and make a home for that species," she said.

In short, if you want to bring animals to your yard, give them something they like to eat. For example, if you wanted to attract Felis catus, you might offer them thickets to hide in, a tasty array of cardinals and wrens, and perhaps a nice tin of tuna oil in a Havahart trap. This makes Circle C resident Ed Scruggs wonder whether Schaffel isn't simply creating her own problem. "It's like a buffet for the cats," he said of her yard. Scruggs says he's seen "maybe three" cats in his own neighborhood, and considers an entirely different species the bane of the bird feeder. "We have more problems with the squirrels than we do with the cats," he said. "They dangle with their back legs and get in somehow."

In short, one person's beloved species is another person's bête noire, and action on behalf of one species nearly always has implications for others. Just as bird-o-philes complain loudly about cats, there are butterfly and dragonfly aficionados who grumble about those vicious, monarch-munching purple martins. All in all, it's just a big, bloody smorgasbord out there

continued on p.36

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at Circle C, with too many species competing for the same, profoundly altered landscape. The question, then, is how to best provide for the most species in places where "nature" doesn't really exist, and where different people's priorities, pet causes, and pets come into direct conflict.

Avoiding Cat-astrophe

While human impacts on the environment are often impossible to undo, much could be done to better manage our cats. The question is what that might be. Feral cat advocate Missy Morgan agrees that the cats can't be blamed for trespassing at the Schaffel House Birdie Buffet, but she would nonetheless love to see fewer felines on the loose. Morgan, who keeps 28 formerly feral cats in her (non-Circle C) 800-square-foot house ("I don't recommend it"), favors trapping and sterilizing them (as well as passing an ordinance requiring Austinites to spay and neuter their pets.) "There are many people who would help [Schaffel] to trap, neuter, and release," Morgan said, "but she's on a rampage of luring neighborhood cats into her yard by offering them tuna, getting them in traps, and taking them to Town Lake to have them killed."

Schaffel opposes TNR (trap/neuter/release) programs because a sterilized cat will still kill; also, despite her reputation to the contrary, she says she no longer traps cats. In any case, doing the same for every free-roaming cat would be a practical, as well as political, impossibility.

The dilemma, then, is deep: Texas desperately needs more wildlife habitat, but because such good wildlife habitat is also good cat habitat, such efforts bring mixed blessings to native species. Efforts to destroy ferals or force people to confine cats are bound to be unpopular. For the time being, then, bird lovers have no choice but to try to educate their neighbors and to get creative. Shackelford traps cats, but rather than delivering them to a shelter, he hoses them down and lets them sit in the cage long enough to realize that life is more pleasant when they stay out of his yard. (He acknowledged that this is not official TP&W policy.) The Wildflower Center uses traps, and also benefits from the circle-of-life method of cat control. "We also have coyotes," said Venhaus. "That also takes care of the cats."

JOHN ANDERSON



"I just don't understand why a non-native species is allowed to prey on our wildlife. ... What are we doing to our birds?"
– Susan Schaffel

However, nobody wants to see the cats as snacks, least of all Schaffel. She says her campaign to keep pet cats indoors is as much about protecting cats from cars, catfights, coyotes, and kids with .22s as it is about the birds. A growing market of products exists to allow cats outdoor fun without endangering themselves or others, from screened-in enclosures to special cat-proof fences. The city of Austin, through the Town Lake Animal Center, also encourages cat confinement and has helped Schaffel fund the printing of 15,000 brochures on the benefits of keeping pet cats inside. Because pet cats are only part of Austin's cat problem – many of the roughly 13,000 animals killed at TLAC last year were litters of feral kittens – the city also encourages and helps fund TNR programs. As with any animal problem, however – be it cats, birds, coyotes, or those dastardly squirrels – TLAC director Dorinda Pulliam says the real problem is the people.

"I think we all have to begin to take seriously our cat responsibilities," she said. "If people don't want cats on their property, those people have the right to have their property to be cat-free. And we have the responsibility to keep our cats safe." ■



If You Fence It, They Will Stay

Does your kitty love to roll in the dirt? When confined safely indoors, does she cry and cry and cry and cry and cry and cry and cry? Various products exist to allow safe outdoor playtime where your cat will be content (or at least less audible). If you've got a sturdily fenced-in yard, Cat Fence-In swears that its unstable (and handsome) strip of horizontal chicken wire is impossible for cats to climb (www.catfencein.com). A similar inward-arching fence is available at www.purrfectfence.com. Or, you could build your own cat fence with instructions from the Feral Cat Coalition in San Diego (www.feralcat.com/fence.html). Alternately, many varieties of cat enclosures are available as well – we trust you know how to Google. ***– R.P.M.***





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BY MICHAEL VENTURA



JASON STOUT

I just loaded the stereo and hit Random. The first song to play was John Lennon's oh-so-Beatles-esque tune from *Plastic Ono Band*: "Look at me – who am I supposed to be?" When he was murdered 25 years ago he was 40 – five years older than I. He seemed to me then, as he seemed to so many, a kind of spiritual older brother. It is strange, listening to this tune, to realize that now I'm 20 years older than he lived to be. There's his photo on *Double Fantasy* and I think, "Look at you, man – still so young, and just getting a handle on how to be you." I've since learned how to be me, yet John Lennon still has the authority of an older brother. It's good to know that some immaturities never leave us.

I have no interest in mature retrospectives about John Lennon, because when Lennon meant the most to me I was anything but mature – 18 when the Beatles hit the scene; 26 when "Working Class Hero," "Mother," and "Look at Me" struck so deeply; and, when he died, still emotionally much younger than I had a right to be at 35. The night of Lennon's death my late father was just five years older than I am now, and, to my surprise, he called: "Mike, you gotta write about Lennon." "Don't know if I can, Pa." "You gotta. Read the *Playboy* interview and write about him." I was living in Echo Park, Los Angeles. I got into my car, found the magazine, stayed up all night and wrote a piece for the *LA Weekly*. It was printed about 25 years ago to the day that this *Austin Chronicle* hits the stands. The writing is touch-and-go, but it captures the pain fresh – and not only the pain. There's a kind of hope in it, because the youngish man who wrote it was a stranger to resignation. I'm no longer quite that man, and no one my age is a stranger to resignation. So, for all the piece's flaws, I'd rather hear that youngish Mike remember Lennon tonight. That essay is longer than my column space allows, but, truncated some, here it is:

I read the news today, of course, *oh boy*. Last year there were 21,256 murders in the United States of America. The number, and the percentage, is so staggeringly more than anywhere else in the world that you can't help but think we're at war with each other. The great majority of these people were killed not by burglars or muggers but by people they knew. We are at war with people we know. One broadcast said that what's-his-name – I don't even want to type his name – who killed John Lennon identified so strongly with Lennon that at times he used Lennon's name. He killed himself.

I read the news today. The *Playboy* interview. There's a lot of very lovely stuff in it. The bravery of a man intent, as Boris Pasternak would have put it, on "keeping life alive" – focusing his gifts on the details of intimacy, and on the fundamental, fecund, essential human unit: a man, woman, and child. Focusing on the exploration of how the members of that unit may combine with each other and with everyone and everything else in this frightening and frightened age.

And there is a lot of pitiful stuff in that interview. It is pitiful to see a man telling strangers what he has not said face-to-face to men whom he has known for 25 years. We are baffled by the people we know.

I read the news today. About a lucky man. The grandiose claims, the stupid exaggerations, made in print by music critics who should know better. What was *new* to rock & roll in the Beatles' early days was McCartney's music-hall sense of melody, a lilt that no rock melodies had yet achieved. The rest was Everly Brothers changes and harmonies, set to Chuck Berry-ish rhythms, with the brilliant sense of the refrain that soul music got from gospel. Not until Dylan [had] put out all his [early] acoustic albums *and* gone electric did Lennon and the Beatles write lyrics more profound than "She loves you Yeah Yeah Yeah" (a song I loved) … Lennon would have been the last to want credit for what he didn't do, and the first to cry out for a sense of human proportion.

Which is what was so impressive about the man. Presley died for his weaknesses; McCartney and Dylan seemed to have enshrined theirs. John Lennon faced his down. It was worth his life to be able to take a walk on a New York street. It was worth his fame and his macho and what other men would call his freedom to be able to bake bread for his kid. It was worth his art to give his love to somebody worthy of his love. (It didn't cost him his art – "Imagine," for one, is a very great song, especially for its melody; to combine lyricism with a solemnity, a profundity of sound, is something McCartney never broke through to on his own. Lennon's love didn't cost him his art, but he risked it.) In addition to being a great artist, he was a great man. He went the distance from being a teenager who beat up on his girlfriends to a 40-year-old who had the courage to register every vulnerability. For integrity, for the pure heart-fire of integrity, the clarity that is the ultimate purpose and gift of integrity, the only public male who can stand with John Lennon is Malcolm X. (Malcolm X who, like John Lennon, was only shot after he had conquered the violence in himself, making speeches about ballots instead of bullets.)

And Lennon was all the greater because integrity did not come naturally to him. Or better say: It did not come first. This was the commercial artist whose manager told him to shut up about Vietnam, and Lennon shut up – until he met Yoko Ono. This was the singer and musician who packed whole stadiums to the rim for top-dollar tickets, and then played a never-changing 20-minute set. *Twenty minutes*. "The Beatles music died then," I heard him say in a rebroadcast today, "we sold out." Who, by his own testimony, only thought that this was wrong when he realized it was boring.

Then he went to find where he belonged, to search it out through his inners and through a woman who could match his strength. The mystic poet of India, Kabir, wrote hundreds of years ago: "When the Guest is being searched for, it is the intensity of the longing for the Guest that does all the work. Look at me, and

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you will see a slave of that intensity." Without crediting him with other men's achievements, without making him an icon, those words can stand for John Lennon. Is there anything better to be said about anybody?

But that is John Lennon the man, and that is not enough to account for the common trembling of the heart that is being felt so deeply, by so many, at his death. Not trembling in fear, but trembling with a kind of vulnerability – a vulnerability that hasn't been shared in what seems like a long time. A vulnerability to history, and to each other, and to this tense present. John Lennon's face is superimposed over the Russian armies massing at the border of Poland. John Lennon's face superimposed over the White House. The homage that even heads of state are paying him – but that is really a bad joke, Reagan and the Soviet Union praising Lennon.

It is plainly more than homage to one man. For if most of us had been asked last week what we thought of John Lennon, or *if* we thought of John Lennon, we'd have spoken with respect, with more or less good wishes, but with a sense of distance, for it has been the better part of a decade since he's been a force in most of our lives. The man for whom it was a deep achievement of humility and courage to go to a restaurant or a movie with his wife; the artist who was so shyly glad that his new record had made the charts, who had been quietly afraid that it wouldn't; the man who had so merged with a woman that on the back of *Double Fantasy* their faces look uncannily, but uncannily, alike, a male and female embodiment of the same spirit; and in the *Playboy* interview, a 40-year-old whose wit was still boyish, jaunty, who seemed jaded about nothing at all – no, the world is plainly not garnishing homage to his man as he perceived himself. The homage, a collective emotion, is being paid to something that is itself a collective emotion. Our loss of John Lennon, our loss of innocence, our loss of each other – in sharing the loss, we lost less, we got some of it back.

There is a quiet fierceness to the mourning, and it is a celebration of discarded, discredited values. Values much needed, especially now. Right now. For our hearts have been wrenched, and the feeling is not all bad, not at all. We are coming together in a common memory – even people too young to remember are getting the memory through this, and really feeling it. We're feeling like a family again. [And that *is* what he wanted.]

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Holiday Wish Lists 2005

Give 'Til It Helps: Part One

Austin, we come to you again with hat in hand. This year you gave (Katrina) and gave (Rita) again. And it seems we don't stop asking. Well, what did you expect? You are a kind-hearted bunch who always manage to understand the human side of civil priorities. When the going gets tough, you do the right thing. Who'd you think we were going to ask? The jokers in charge? (We mean nationally, not you, *Hizzonor*.) Or the clowns that voted them in? No, Austin. We'll stick with you. We can count on you.

This year, as in so many previous years, we invited local public service outfits to get in on the holiday hjinks, and better yet, the end-of-the-year tax-write-off rush, and to submit their holiday wish lists. We have edited these lists as space dictates, and do encourage you to call your intended benefactee(s) for the details on what specifics kinds/brands/sizes of things they need. Here's a big hint: They always need your cash and love (i.e., volunteer hours).

So have at it Austin. Go share our bounty and show them all how much we appreciate the sacrifices they make and the good they do all year long.

This is part one of a two-part list. See next week for more!

– Kate X Messer; list compiled by Frank Rivera, Kristin Hillery, and Anne Harris



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6330 Hwy. 290 E. #350, 459-2272. **www.casatravis.org**

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'PUERTO RICO MI PATRIA':
Saving the Island for Themselves

"I grew up in the Bronx, New York, in a Puerto Rican neighborhood," says Dr. Ana Maria Maynard. "I was surrounded by Puerto Ricans who spent a lot of time celebrating our culture and longing to return home one day, and it gave me an incredible love for my culture. I moved to Austin after finishing my degree in computer engineering, and when I had my first baby, I thought about my childhood and how much I enjoyed living inside Puerto Rican culture, and I realized that I had no way to show that to my son. He was the initial inspiration for Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance."

What began as a wish for a child has become in just eight years an organization that recently was named the fifth Affiliated Puerto Rican Cultural Center in the United States, offering classes in dance and music and workshops on poetry, art, and food, as well as regular performances of traditional dance and music from Puerto Rico. On Dec. 11, you can experience the wealth that this culture has to offer through PRFD's original *obra*, *Puerto Rico Mi Patria*. "I wanted an exciting point in history that we could use to create a musical," says Maynard, "so I chose the British invasion of the island in 1797. Seven thousand British soldiers against 200 Spaniards – it's probably one of the most exciting moments in Puerto Rican history. By this time Puerto Ricans were a new, unique race of people, a mixture of the Spanish, the native Taino, and the African, and when they were called upon, 20,000 of them came from the mountains, coastlines, cities, towns, with their machetes and hoes and lances, and saved the island. They definitely didn't want to be British! This was the first time in Puerto Rican history that the people really acknowledged the island as their own. They weren't saving the island for Spain. They were saving the island for themselves. This was the point where the conscious collective was created.

"The first half of the show is traditional Puerto Rican folkloric music and dance: *bomba*, *plena*, *seis*, and *danza*. Some of the pieces will be performances by our professional company and some will be pieces by our students, and that's one of the great things about this show: It's a chance for our students to share the stage with us and get to perform the things we've been teaching them all year. We'll also have some salsa and some cha-cha. The second half of the show is the story of the invasion, which begins on a sugar plantation, where we see the hardships that slaves encountered. Eventually they run away to the town of Piñones, which was founded by runaway slaves. The British initially landed at Piñones, and there were no Spanish soldiers in sight, so the people of Piñones were the first to try and repel them. There's also a love triangle between a brigadier, a beautiful Spanish lady, and the brigadier's girlfriend, so a lot of fiery dances go on, including some flamenco performed by Jaleo Flamenco and the students from the Texas Empowerment Academy. Hardship, redemption, battles, a love story, and lots of tradition – a little something for everyone!" *– Barry Pineo*

Puerto Rico Mi Patria *will be performed Sunday, Dec. 11, 3pm, at Journey Theatre, in the Fine Arts Center at W. Charles Akins High, 10701 S. First. For more information, call 474-TIXS or visit* **www.prfdance.org**.

HEYDAYS (AGAIN):
Everybody Paint Now!

October 2004: In one of the more spectacular orgies of creativity all year, a handful of Austinites converged on an empty white gallery space inside Flatbed World Headquarters, and over the space of 12 hours transformed it into a phantasmagorical landscape of riotous color and whimsical shapes, fauna and flora, and geometric patterns. It was an exercise in concentrated art-making, with students and teachers from the UT community creating an immersive environmental artwork from a blank room. The evolution of that space, as beautifully documented on the Creative Research Laboratory Web site at **uts.cc.utexas.edu/~crlab/2004_10_heydays/october2.html**, is a wonder to behold. A week later, another blank gallery was turned over for a 24-hour marathon in which masked musicians played and a white rabbit contributed to the creation of an "art wonderland" (**uts.cc.utexas.edu/~crlab/2004_10_heydays/october9.html**). And it looks like the creation of it was a world of fun.

Well, guess what? This Saturday morning, that space in Flatbed will be blank again, and the folks at CRL are inviting anyone with an itch to draw, paint, or otherwise make a creative mark to join them in transforming it into something rich and strange. It's part of CRL's reprise of Heydays, the series of activities of which the two previous art marathons were a part. This year's 12-hour marathon starts at 10am Saturday, and CRL Director Hana Hillerova wants you, your friends, and your kids to drop by and draw, collage, paint, make puppets or costumes, sing songs, lift weights, or hula-hoop. Washable paint and tools will be available, but feel free to bring your own art-making supplies. Pick up a brush and go! *– Robert Faires*

The Heydays art marathon will take place Saturday, Dec. 10, 10am-10pm, at Creative Research Laboratory, inside Flatbed World Headquarters, 2832 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. For more information, call 322-2099 or visit **www.utexas.edu/cofa/a_ah/crlab.html**.





UBU UBU UBU:
Who's Your Dada?

History tells us that at the Paris premiere of Alfred Jarry's notorious *Ubu Roi* in 1896, the first line prompted a 15-minute riotous outburst from the crowd and a fight in the orchestra pit. When our own Rude Mechanicals presented the work at the now-defunct Electric Lounge a century later, audience members were provided with croissants and encouraged to hurl them at the actors (who frequently hurled them back). Given the mayhem that typically accompanies an appearance by Jarry's loathsome lout, one might suspect that a new show incorporating all three of the writer's *Ubu* plays would have inspired a rumpus that reduced the Blue Theater to rubble. But the matinee this past Sunday saw no fisticuffs or airborne baked goods or even exclamations of shock. Mostly it saw laughter and appreciative applause and proud smiles on the faces of the parents in the house.

Hold on, you say … *parents*?

Yes, parents. For the actors breathing life into this edition of the savage satire were teens, members of the Zachary Scott Theatre Center Junior Company, a troupe of home-schooled students who take classes at Zach's Performing Arts School. Some might suppose the material, what with its amoral ass of a protagonist (think Macbeth by way of Basil Fawlty), dark critique of society, and anarchic absurdist humor, not to mention the gushing flood of vulgarities throughout, would be a tad tough for a younger cast to handle. But hey, Jarry was just 15 himself when he wrote the first version of *Ubu Roi*, and director Jon Watson, who led the company through its debut production of *As You Like It* this time last year at the Blue, was confident that his crew was up to the task of realizing Jarry's mad world, "pschittens" and all. And he was right.

For although Watson's *Ubu Ubu Ubu* compresses *Ubu the King*, *Ubu Cuckolded*, and *Ubu Enchained* into a single 90-minute play, it doesn't soften the sharp stick that Jarry was jabbing in society's eye or stint on the nonsense that provided much of the inspiration for Dadaism and remains much of the appeal of the *Ubu* plays today. Pa and Ma Ubu are still the crass, churlish couple that make Albee's George and Martha look like Ward and June Cleaver, and the four students playing them (at one point the Ubus undergo a sort of magical plastic surgery to escape their enemies, not that it succeeds) find that low moral ground on which they crawl and imbue them with a winning comic coarseness. Everyone in the cast seems to thrive on the oddball illogic of the play, which leads to some quite polished comedy. And the whole enterprise is enlivened with animated dance breaks that seem to boogie in from way left field. Ubu in the midst of a Bollywood production number? It makes no sense, which is to say it makes perfect sense in this nonsense world. And it's part of the reason that this 21st-century *Ubu* provokes less outrage and more delight. *– R.F.*

Ubu Ubu Ubu *runs through Dec. 11, Friday and Saturday, 8pm, Sunday, 2:30pm, at the Blue Theater, 916 Springdale. For more information, call 476-0594 x1.*

J.G. BALLARD: CONVERSATIONS

RE/Search, 360 pp., $19.99 (paper)

J.G. BALLARD: QUOTES

RE/Search, 416 pp. $19.99 (paper)





Anyone possessing a twinge of nostalgia for the heady, innocently sex-positive cultural melange of the late 1980s and early Nineties (Foucault! Baudrillard! ACT UP! The Blonde Ambition Tour!) would do well to revisit the work of both British writer J.G. Ballard and his most devoted state-side resuscitator, RE/Search Publications. While Ballard's short stories were first published in 1956 and his first novel *(The Drowned World)* followed in 1962, it wasn't until the publication of 1984's semiautobiographical novel *Empire of the Sun* and Steven Spielberg's 1987 film adaptation that he was freed from the (somewhat misapplied) "science fiction" pigeonhole, and then only partially. RE/Search – the rad/punky San Francisco publisher of graphically riveting, encyclopedic studies of what were once fringe activities and avant-garde subjects *(Pranks!*, *Angry Women*, *Modern Primitives)*, begun and run by V. Vale in 1980 – was largely responsible for reviving, if not inciting, interest in Ballard's more respresentative work: creepy, futuristic novels and short pieces that served as both cultural critique and weird, cerebral pornography – most notably *Crash*, *High-Rise*, and *The Atrocity Exhibition*, all originally published in the 1970s. *RE/Search #8/9: J.G. Ballard* (1989) and the publisher's subsequent reprinting of *The Atrocity Exhibition* were perfect for a generation of edgy eggheads primed to appreciate a drily poetic, disturbing dystopian like Ballard.

While Vale's Ballard obssession shows no sign of abating, his talent for translating arcana is, fortunately, equally healthy. Two new RE/Search publications have gathered a huge hunk of what could have seemed like Ballardian detritus into a surprisingly linear collection, both complemented by the unsettling, surreal-ish photographs throughout. *Quotes* – contentwise, the slighter of the two – is just that: wit and wisdom culled from years of Ballard's work and interviews, with emphasis on the latter, meant to be consumed in small interludes. Chapter headings hint at the author's fixations ("Sex," "Surrealism," "Pathology and Death," "Swimming Pools"), and the aphoristic clips range from profound to bizarre to both at once ("[Margaret Thatcher] has a very powerful sexual and mythological aura. Like all great leaders, she promises not just a better future, but a more dangerous one!").

Conversations, previously unpublished interviews by Vale, musician Graeme Revelle, Survival Research Laboratories mastermind Mark Pauline, and others, starts creakily – it can at times seem repetitive, and the more recent interviews border on creating the impression we're eavesdropping on two fusty, left-wing conspiracy cranks, overeager to declare the "death" of any number of things (television, utopia, reason, the future) – but ultimately leaves the effect of having witnessed a long, riffy conversation among a group of incredibly intellectually free-ranging, earnest compatriots.

What emerges from both, after a fashion, is not Ballard's predictability, but his prescience: It's easy enough now to speak to the mass psychosis behind the global ascent of fundamentalism, the modern inability to understand reality in any but cinematic terms, or the idea that "people no longer need enemies; their great need is to be victims" (see: 9/11); it's just that Ballard has been pointing these things out since the beginning of his career – and unlike many of the theorists and activists who were his contemporaries, he does so through engaging characterization and epigrammatic wit. An unreconstructed Freudian, Ballard constantly circles the charged sex/death nexus, bringing our complicated relationship with technology irreversibly into the equation. Make no mistake, too, that (perhaps unlike oft-cited contemporary William Burroughs or David Lynch, a director Ballard admires), his cold, often erotic studies are in actuality morality tales, effectively disguised by their nuance and readability – in the end, Ballard's most nostalgia-proof achievement. – *Cindy Widner*

LUCIAN FREUD: 1996-2005

Knopf, 180 pp., $75



Lucian Freud, considered by many to be the greatest realist painter alive today, once said that he left the painting of faces till last, because "the head must be just another limb." Out of context, this oft-quoted line would support what some believe of Freud, whose nudes seem more naked than most: that his paintings are "brutally" real, unsentimentally depicting the individual alienation and objectification of the modern age. It's not a completely unfounded interpretation, as the figures in Freud's paintings are often sleeping or seem mentally elsewhere, their eyes downcast or averted and limbs splayed like discarded dolls. Upon closer investigation, however, Freud's portraits are some of the most humane and intimate around today. The rest of the above quote, wherein Freud says he wants "the expression to be in the body," points to the fact that although Freud's oeuvre is undoubtedly modern, his ethic isn't necessarily. The subjects of the portraits in *Lucian Freud: 1996-2005*, a compendium of his recent work, come in all varieties of age, size, and aesthetic appeal, and Freud pays equal attention to each, meticulously translating the whole of his subjects' presence, flaws included, into paintings that are beautiful for their honesty. The work brings to mind something Walt Whitman wrote: "The love of the Body of man or woman balks account – the body itself balks account/That of the male is perfect, and that of the female is perfect." Freud is painting the body electric in all its forms, and this book represents that endeavor well. – *Jess Sauer*

GIFT GUIDE

THE MODERN DRUNKARD: A HANDBOOK FOR DRINKING IN THE 21ST CENTURY

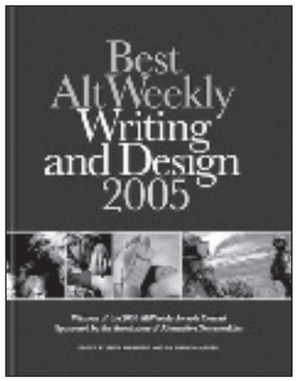
by Frank Kelly Rich
Riverhead, 205 pp., $14 (paper)



Frank Kelly Rich isn't interested in supplying readers with a few drink recipes or drinking games; he wants to restore the honor and respect that his heroes – the Rat Pack, Charles Bukowski, Ernest Hemingway, Winston Churchill, *Modern Drunkard* favorite Jackie Gleason – and society in general held for this sometimes maligned but still-treasured friend of all mankind: alcohol. Aside from the obvious (drunken driving), Rich wants his fellow drinkers to feel no shame and have no regrets for the booze-fueled tomfoolery in which they engage, but to revel in a life spent pursuing one own's heartfelt interests. Namely, drinking. Did you know that drinking alone is a truly enlightening pursuit? The chapter on how to drink at work and not get caught very well could save the reader a long wait in the unemployment line. Other integral aspects of imbibing covered here are the "86 Rules for Drinking," getting to "Know Your Bartender," "Party-Crashing Strategies," and "365 Excuses to Get Loaded" (if there need be a reason). Kelly's writing is imbued with a comic zeal that'll have you snorting up your gin and tonic before you can say, "Another round for all my friends." – *Mark Fagan*

BEST ALTWEEKLY WRITING AND DESIGN 2005

edited by Ruth Hammond and La Shonya NcNeil
Association of Alternative Newsweeklies, 254 pp., $19.95 (paper)

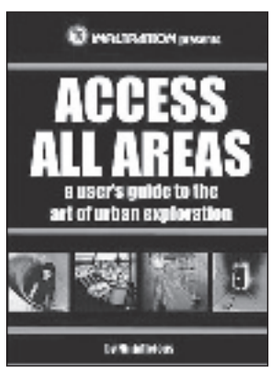


The best writing is often characterized by the quality of its surprises – not O. Henry-type twists, necessarily, but an unexpected word choice here or there or an eye-opening turn in narrative direction. This year's *Best AltWeekly Writing and Design* is full of these kinds of surprises: surprise, for instance, that you could give a damn about fermented cabbage in an article as silly-sounding as "Kraut in the Act," or surprise that you can mourn the dwindling numbers of elderly retirees who pass their time as trial buffs at a Chicago courthouse. These stories illustrate what separates workaday journalism from craft; they're the kind that inspire you to take out your highlighter. Comprising the 40 first-place winners (out of 13,000 submissions) of the 2005 AltWeekly Awards Contest, *Best AltWeekly* includes judges' comments – both positive and negative – about the winners in every category, from arts criticism to feature writing to editorial layout, and has a full-color section devoted to the design winners. This is the gift for the writer or journalist on your shopping list, to be kept on the reference shelf next to the *OED* and the *Chicago Manual* and the most recent *Best American Magazine Writing*, but you won't find it at a bookstore, so order it online, soon, at: **www.aan.org/2005awardsbook**.

– *Nora Ankrum*

ACCESS ALL AREAS

by Ninjalicious
Infilpress, 242 pp., $20 (paper)



Intended as a "how-to" manual for city hacking – the furtive art of infiltrating the metro underbelly – this triple-A directory of "urban exploration" has become a testament to the life of author Jeff Chapman, aka Ninjalicious, the late Torontoan behind *Infiltration*, "the zine about going places you're not supposed to go." Who doesn't relish the occasional vacant drainpipe? Or delight in sneaking around abandoned construction boondoggles? One might say the majority of the population, especially in light of securing the homeland über alles. The book muses on societal obedience: "Part of finding exploration sites involves casting off a certain restrained mindset ... and realizing that many of your boundaries are self-imposed, voluntary, and ultimately illusory." While it advocates a wild abandon that teeters precariously on issues of legality, it proposes a "take nothing but photos, leave nothing but footprints" ethos amid steps to create your own asphalt jungle adventure. The most stealthy aspect of the book, however, is not the advice on disguise or props or locating ripe sites, but Ninja's charming turns of phrase. The scads of research, including a kickass glossary and an "Urban Exploration Timeline," are well worth the price of admission, yes, but it's Chapman's wide eyes and undeniable lust for life that invite readers to wonder what discoveries await beyond the manholes, guard shacks, and No Trespassing signs and to recognize the true come-hither allure that transforms these commonplace fixtures from obstacles into portals, creating a very rough guide to the backstage of everyday life. – *Kate X Messer*

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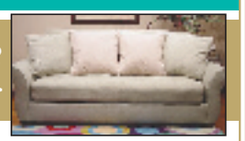


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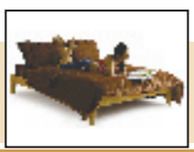


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AFTER A FASHION

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

CRASH COURSE Blocked by a car in a grocery store parking lot, all we could do was watch in disbelief as a woman's runaway shopping cart careened toward our car, smacking into the door before ricocheting into the path of another car. The woman was mortified that her cart had hit us; there was a long red mark along the door where the plastic bumper from the cart had dragged along it, and a dent at the top. She became panicky and began rubbing at the mark with her thumb. Then **Wilford Brimley** and his butch little female troll showed up – at least it *looked* like Wilford Brimley, but we'll just call them **not-Wilford** and **Butch**. At first it appeared that they were friends of the woman, and Butch, standing about 8 feet away, started yelling, "That's not damage! It's just dirt! Go wash your car!" Meanwhile the poor woman was scraping furiously with her fingernail and spit, trying desperately to remove the mark. She was actually doing a pretty good job of it, but then not-Wilford started in, "It's a parking lot, you piece of shit! Why is *she* supposed to be responsible for what happens to your car?" Meanwhile, Butch was in the background, weaving and moaning and chanting like a possessed, toadlike wraith, "There's no damage. She didn't do anything! Leave her alone!" We asked the woman for her insurance info and not-Wilford said, "Don't give her that! It's a parking lot! It's no one's fault!" and Butch piped in with, "Well, maybe if you'd tried to move your car faster …" I came unglued that this wretched little cretin was trying to make this our fault and shrieked at her. It became evident that they were not related to the woman in any way when she told them, "Just go away! You're making it worse!" Not-Wilford and Butch sauntered off spewing obscenities, and we dealt rationally with the woman, who was actually very nice. We were still there when not-Wilford and Butch came back by and gave the woman their contact info, but the woman said, "You didn't even see it happen and didn't look at the damage!" "Doesn't matter," smirked Butch. "We'll say we did anyway." Lovely citizens, dontcha think?

LOCAL SPIRIT When the **2006 Independent Spirit Awards** take place in Santa Monica in March, Austin will be well-represented as actress hometown **Cyndi Williams** goes head-to-head against **Laura Linney** and **Felicity Huffman** for **Best Lead Actress** for her work in the film ***Room***. Nominated for the **John Cassavetes Award**, ***The Puffy Chair*** stars local actor **Rhett Wilkins** (the film was directed by UT grad **Jay Duplass**), and Austin actor **Brent Smiga** plays a supporting role in the **Tommy Lee Jones** film ***The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada***, which was nominated for **Best Feature**. The three actors are represented by our own **Collier Talent** (**www.colliertalent.com**).

BETTER THAN EVER As plans are whirling for next year's **Texas Film Hall of Fame** awards on March 10, 2006, I'm already shivering with antici- … *pa*-tion. The gala committee alone is star-studded with the likes of **Marissa Tomei**, the gorgeous **Janine Turner,** and the legendary **Jerry Hall**, not to mention localebrities (thank you, **Mark Sullivan**), socialebrities such as jeweler extraordinaire **Nak Armstrong**, the delicious **Sarah Fox**, **Best of Austin** award-winning **Joel Mozersky**, the divine **Julie Thornton**, (sigh) my newest crush, the inimitable **Becca Cason Thrash**, and so many others! The committee is headed by the incredibly beautiful **Carla McDonald** (talk about a mind for business and a bod for sin!), and the *trés* glamorous **Alexa Wesner** (you should have *seen* her dress at **Arthouse**'s **Texas Excess** party). With the wickedly delightful **Deborah Green** and sleek and soignée **Chris Mattsson** chairing the auction committee, this event is making use of all the big girls, and is *sure* to be remembered as the **Battle of the Glorious Gowns** (I already *know* the smashing ensemble that **Austin Film Society** director **Rebecca Campbell** is wearing, since we snapped it up the minute we saw it last month). The announcements have been made that the staggeringly gifted producer/director/writer/editor **John Sayles** will be presenting; they'll be inducting **Matthew McConaughey** (how fortuitous for us that ***People*** magazine has just named him the **Sexiest Man Alive**), **Kris Kristofferson** (who belongs in the **Sexiest Man Alive Hall of Fame**, in my book), and **JoBeth Williams** (who has a surprising number of films making the rounds this year). True to history, look out for quite a few more bombshells to be announced as the great day draws near. Go to **www.austinfilm.org** and reserve your tables now! Be there or be Cher.



TODD V. WOLFSON

An antique Italian mirror set against stark modern graphics on the wall reflects various objets d'art with classic styling at Mercury, the fabulous new addition to the 2nd Street District.

'TIS THE SEASON Shop to your heart's content this Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 10-11 at the **2nd Street District**'s **Heavenly Holiday Event**. Who can resist free valet, free gift wrapping, complimentary spa services, and free child care at the **Austin Children's Museum**? We can't wait to see what **Estilo**, **Shiki**, and the sparkling new design, furniture, and gift shop **Mercury** have up their sleeves. We do know **Eliza Page** is presenting fabulous jewelry from **Maria Tucker**, noon-5pm on Saturday, and that other chic 2nd Street emporiums are sure to dazzle.

WINE AND DINE Please don't miss **AIDS Services of Austin**'s last **Red Ribbon Dinner** of the year is Monday, Dec. 12 at **Zoot**. Still wrangling with an overflow of patients from **Hurricane Katrina**, the group is offering tickets for this incredible dinner at $125 ($100 goes directly to ASA); these can be reserved at **www.asaustin.org**.

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

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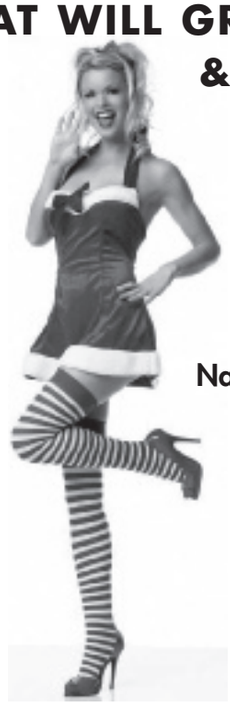
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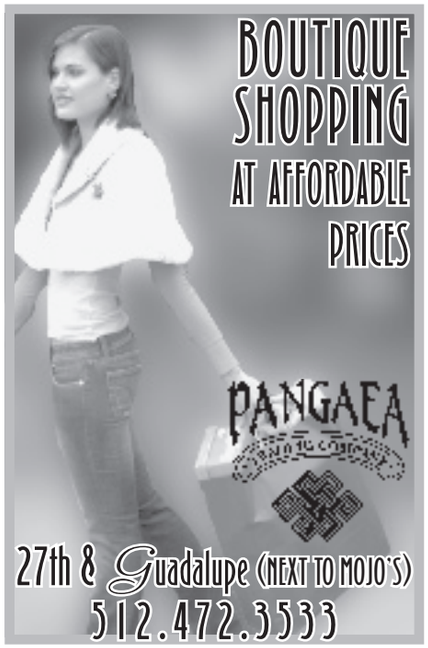

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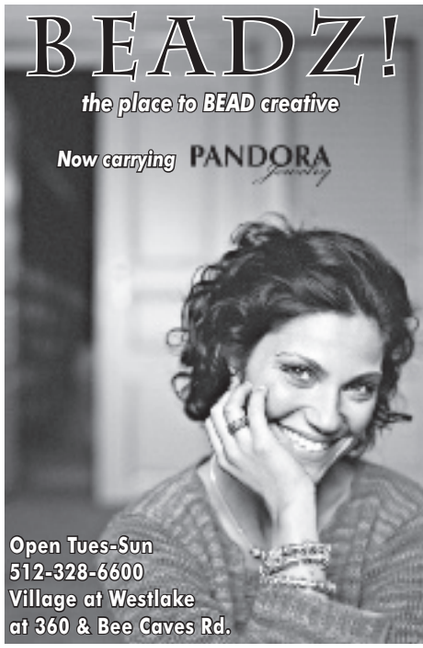

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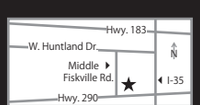

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food

52 LIQUID ASSETS **55** RESTAURANT ROULETTE

Giveable City

The treat of Austin eats

Looking for the perfect gifts for those food lovers on your list? The *Chronicle* food staff – Claudia Alarcón, Barbara Chisholm, Wes Marshall, MM Pack, Kate Thornberry, Mick Vann, and I – have already done plenty of research for you. We've checked out area farmers' markets, local independent specialty retailers, cooking schools, and Web sites searching for the most delectable and unique gift ideas. We say avoid those malls: Eat Austin for the holidays! – *Virginia B. Wood*

Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

This season, there's a mouthwatering selection of edible Austintatious gifts for every meal of the day. The holiday breakfast gift bag should include a **Kerbey Lane Pancake Mix Combo** complete with two bags of their famous pancake mixes, a mixing bowl, and a whisk, available at their restaurant locations while supplies last. **Spiceburst**'s Pomegranate Orange Butter is magnificent slathered on pancakes, waffles, biscuits, or scones, and a jar of McKemie HomeGrown's Blackberry Jelly will be welcome on any breakfast table.



GIFT GUIDE

Look for Spiceburst products at **www.spiceburst.com** and at **Farm to Market**, **Grape Vine Market**, **Breed & Co.**, and the **Sunset Valley Farmers' Market** (Toney Burger parking lot on 290 West), where you will also find McKemie HomeGrown. The final component to the breakfast package should be a couple of attractive mugs filled with authentic Mexican hot chocolate cones from **Kakawa Whole Bean Chocolates** (**www.cocoapuro.com**). Just grate or chop into very hot milk, stir vigorously with a whisk or molinillo, and enjoy luxurious hot chocolate. They're offering this seasonal treat wrapped in festive gold foil at their booth at the **Downtown Farmers' Market** (Fourth & Guadalupe).



JOHN ANDERSON

Farm to Market

A selection of local cheeses and condiments can easily fill up the lunchtime gift basket. You'll know what it means to make a genuine New Orleans muffuletta with the marvelous Olive Salad Mix from **Sgt. Pepper's** and the herb-flavored cheese spreads from **Full Quiver Farms** will impress the most discerning palate. Look for these on Saturday mornings at Sunset Valley. Fans of grilling and barbecuing will rave about Spiceburst's Savory Pomegranate Glaze (great on chicken, pork, or beef), their fiery island-inspired Rocket Sauce (squirted on sandwiches or into soups), or a combo pack of their flavored salts for rubbing and sprinkling. Their newest product, a brilliant ruby syrup called Pomegranate Squeeze, adds color and zip to sparkling water, sodas, champagne, and margaritas.

Barbecue-starved displaced Texans will rejoice at dinner time when they open the package you ordered from the **County Line** by going to **www.airribs.com**. Customize a gift box with everything from beef brisket, ribs, or steaks to pork ribs, smoked hams, and smoked whole turkeys or breasts to their custom sausage, barbecue sauce, bread mix, or homemade pecan pie. Throw in a Cowboy Talkin' CD and hunger and homesickness will be assuaged all in one meal! – *V.B.W.*

continued on p.50



JOHN ANDERSON

Sunset Valley Farmers' Market

Pickles for Hurricane Relief

While not exactly Austin-centric, think about some gifts of hot pickles that will support displaced food workers from across the hurricane-devastated Gulf Coast.

Bill Kamman, veteran pickle-maker in Louisville, Ky., has teamed with the Southern Foodways Alliance to produce and promote a special sweet-hot pickle called SOS Sharpies (stands for Spicy Old Southern-style) to benefit food and restaurant workers in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, and Texas. Ninety percent of the money generated by pickle sales will be disbursed through the New Orleans Hospitality Workers Disaster Relief Fund. So far, pickle sales have raised $25,000.

"Ever since I was a little kid," Kamman says, "I've loved homemade pickles and lots of other great things to eat that came out of Southern kitchens like the ones I grew up in. The food people of this region are a breed apart. They always show up at your door with something to eat when you're facing hardships. It's a barn-raising mentality – you just naturally want to pitch in and help."

Jars of hot pickles – what a terrific holiday gift. Order a case of SOS Sharpies by mailing a check for $135 ($15 is for shipping) made out to Pickle Relief Fund. Send it to PICKLES, 425 E. Burnett St., Louisville, KY 40217. For delivery by Christmas, the check must be received by Dec. 16. For more information, call 502/523-6154 or e-mail sossharpies@yahoo.com. **– *MM Pack***



JOHN ANDERSON

Katrina evacuee Noel Martin helps to stock shelves at the Capital Area Food Bank.

FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

We've devoted this week's entire section to promoting Austin food products and specialty retailers as great holiday gift ideas, and we're proud and happy to do it. However, at this time of year, it's important to remember that the less fortunate among us need food simply to survive. The devastating events of the past year have put a tremendous strain on our area's food safety net. The **Capital Area Food Bank** (8201 S. Congress, 282-2111) and all the Central Texas care agencies and food pantries it supports are in dire need of food donations. Please include a grocery bag of nonperishable food items on you holiday gift list. If you can't make it to CAFB to drop off your donation, food donations are being accepted at area **Randalls** and **RunTex** stores, as well as the **Crown Plaza Holiday Inn**. It will be some of the easiest shopping you do all year, providing a gift the recipients are guaranteed to treasure.

EVENT MENU: DEC. 8-15

Ring in the season tonight with those whisky-loving merry maltsters at **Opal Divine's Penn Field** (3601 S. Congress Ste. K100, 707-0237) at their third annual Whisky Festival. Brand ambassadors will be on hand to answer questions about the impressive line of malts they've assembled, appetizers will be served, and taxi vouchers will be available for a safe ride home. Tickets are $45 at the door for a product sample card and commemorative Opal's logo tasting glass; 7pm, Thursday, Dec. 8.

Help the folks at **Boggy Creek Farm** (3414 Lyons Rd., 926-4650) celebrate the bounty of their winter crops and farmer **Larry Butler**'s birthday this weekend. There will be hot soup and beverages, Breton music from **Bouree Texane**, artisan booths, and plenty of custom-made food products and organic produce. Go to **www.boggycreekfarm.com** for directions; 9am-2pm, Saturday, Dec. 10.

Meat lovers can learn the butchering and grilling secrets of Brazilian Churrascaria from Brazilian native **Tony Sousa** at a class titled **From Brazil to Your Grill** at **Casa Brasil** (5213 Evans, 407-9887). They promise the information and the food will be very satisfying. Tickets are $45, and seating is limited, so make reservations now; 2-5pm, Saturday, Dec. 10.

The historic downtown home that houses the **Tea Embassy** (900 Rio Grande, 330-9991) is decorated for Christmas and ready to welcome guests to shop and attend three days of holiday teas this weekend. Enjoy holiday cheer and a three-course tea menu prepared by **Amuse Bouche Catering** for $35 per person. Seatings at 1pm and 3:30pm, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Dec. 9, 10, and 11.

The chefs at the **Alamo Drafthouse** locations are preparing a mouth-watering lineup of holiday feasts to complement the movies opening this month. Go directly to the Web site at **www.originalalamo.com** for menus, prices, and screening times for the French feast accompanying *Moulin Rouge*, the exotic Narnian delights and wine pairings for *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, and the wild island luau to be served with Peter Jackson's *King Kong*.

The Perfect Basket

Austin is the gleaming buckle of the famous Cen-Tex barbecue belt, so it only stands to reason that a gift basket of local food should include some of our area's renowned smoky meats. So you'll need to borrow a friend's Seal-a-Meal (or get one of your own), grab some blue ice and a disposable ice chest, and head over to Elgin to visit **Cross Town Bar-B-Q** (202 S. Avenue C, 512/281-5594) for some of Carrol Grady's incredible brisket and sausage. Remember that you're not only eating some there for yourself, but getting some to go for the gift basket. Then, head on down Highway 183 to Buddy Ellis' **City Market** in Luling (633 E. Davis, 830/875-9019) for some of the best pork ribs to be had. Vacuum seal that spectacular BBQ, chunk it in the freezer, and you're half done. If you like BBQ sauce, one of the best local versions is Bubba D's (**www.bubbad.com**), made by airline pilot Dwain Ideus and usually found on the gourmet shelf with the barbecue sauces at many HEB stores.

Many of the following superb additions to complete your basket can be picked up all at once by heading over to the Burger Center for a Saturday morning visit to the Sunset Valley Farmers' Market. From **Pure Luck Farms** (**www.purelucktexas.com**), made by the Bolton family in Dripping Springs, we choose the Plain Chevre, their Chipotle/Smoked Jalapeno Chevre, and their luscious Claire de Lune goat cheeses. For a smearing medium, we suggest **Doctor Kracker's** (**www.drkracker.com**) German-style w heat crackers to accompany the cheeses.

Joy Smith of Austin produces **Joy Peppers**' (**www.joypeppers.com**) peach-jalapeño jelly (just one among many different fruit options) and the addictively wonderful bread-and-butter-style jalapeño slices. At Sunset Valley, you'll also find the booth of the Reeh family from Fredericksburg: **Hill Country Homestyle Canning** (**www.hillcountryhomestyle.com**). They make a bunch of different pickled and canned products, but their crispy habanero dills and the zippy hot garlic dill pickled okra or the sizzling habanero okra are all delicious (and the okra goes great in a Texas martini made with **Tito's Vodka**).

Larry Butler's smoke-dried tomatoes (marinated in olive oil) are available from the farmstand at **Boggy Creek Farm** (**www.boggycreekfarm.com**), while a bagful is available by mail-order. A great little lagniappe stocking stuffer is the Garlic Saltburst made by Trish Sierer (**www.spiceburst.com**). Lastly, you might consider adding a six pack of Blanco's **Real Ale Brewery**'s (**www.realalebrewing.com**) hoppy Rio Blanco Pale Ale or their malty Brewhouse Brown Ale to complete the perfect basket. – *Mick Vann*

Our Specialties

Shopping for fantastic finds for your foodie friends isn't all that hard in this town. We're lousy with high-end stores that cater to cooks, and, when Crate & Barrel opened, we officially arrived (with regard to kitchenware, that is). Anyone seeking gifts that can actually be consumed needn't resign themselves to mall kiosks offering bland salami and processed cheeses. Between Central Market and Whole Foods, specialty foods from every corner of the globe can be obtained to impress your most discerning food aficionados. But what about the touted locally produced products? The ones about which food writers rhapsodize, the ones that sustain a local grower or producer? And what if venturing out to the Land of the Big Boxes isn't your idea of a delightful holiday excursion, no matter how cute the teapot?



JOHN ANDERSON

Phlox Kitchen and Garden

Closer in and infinitely more intimate are two South Austin destinations that can go a long way to filling your food basket for the most discriminating food fan. What comes first, the food or the basket in which to hold it? If we go with repository first, then the first stop is **Phlox Kitchen and Garden** (1104 S. First, 462-9908). This newly opened boutique sits amid the expanding retail section that includes Love, Kick Pleat, and Sabia. Phlox, which is probably one-thirty-fifth the size of Williams-Sonoma, still manages to offer a choice array of stylish and unique kitchen and garden items. We spotted a breakfast kit consisting of a colorful bowl and coordinating mug packaged in an equally adorable hat box. Cool and serene Asian plates, bowls, and chopsticks are offered in aqua and green. Pop-art-inspired plates and salad tongs beg for tableside tossing. Merchandise comes locally and beyond, and as if the unique and stylish selection weren't enough, proprietor Leslie Moore couldn't be friendlier, and the prices are absolutely reasonable. The oversized buckets in oranges, reds, and blues are the ideal home for chilling beverages. Or a colorful repository for your ultra-special gift basket.

Take said basket and toss in a few Phlox finds before heading east to South Congress, where you'll complete the gift with food items found at **Farm to Market Grocery** (1718 S. Congress, 462-7220). While some markets search the world for the unique and tasty, owners Peg and Angela search the city for the same. The result is that their gem of a store is stocked with local treasures. **Le Marseillais** products, the sublime line from a former chef at Chez Nous are available here. We find the tapenade d'olives (green or black) irresistible. We've also been won over by the rich flavor of the eggs from **Alexander Family Farm**. **Mary Louise Butters Brownies** are insanely dense and delicious, as are the treats from **Temptation Chocolate**. **Chautauqua Foundation** smoked salmon is not only locally produced, but sales of the silky fish help provide funds for canoe trips for disadvantaged youth. Jams, salsas, soaps, flowers, and more provide endless selections for a treasure of a gift basket. The truth is, every shelf offers discoveries that cause spontaneous salivation. And all this shopping can be done within a 2-mile radius, leaving you plenty of time to grab a slice of genuine and super delicious New York pizza at **Homeslice Pizza** or a panini at **Enoteca** in celebration of your clever holiday shopping. – *Barbara Chisholm*

Goodies and Gadgets

Once you get to be seriously grown up, it gets hard for people to buy you Christmas gifts that you will actually like. Most of the things you want (that cost less than $25, anyway) you already have. That's where the beauty of the food gift comes in. Everyone eats food ... every day!

For the choc-o-holic on your list, you can't do any better than a dozen chocolate truffles from local chocolatier Edis Mendes. Making chocolates is what makes Edis happy, and her chocolates are magical. (Mere coincidence?) Each dozen is an assortment of her most popular flavors: espresso, Grand Marnier, Chambord, blackberry, and, of course, straight chocolate. **Edis' Chocolates** ($16 a dozen); call 452-6748 to order.

Pickles might not sound all that exciting, but people really, really like the kinds that you can't find in the store. Specifically, bread and butter pickles. Everyone loves them, nobody sells them ... except **P/2 Organic**. The best way to get them is to go to the **South Austin Farmers' Market** (open Saturdays from 9am-1pm) on South Congress at El Gallo restaurant, about two blocks south of Oltorf. Often, P/2 is the only vendor there; this is a very small (and therefore convenient) farmers' market at which to shop. P/2 Organic's Bread and Butter Pickles, Hot Bread and Butter Pickles, and Hot Sweet Chunk Pickles are the B*E*S*T Pickles I have *ever tasted*. This is the kind of gift a father-in-law would *really* appreciate ($4).

While it is not exactly a food gift (unless you grow some of your own food, like I do), one of the best gifts of all time is the Tubtrug from **Phlox Kitchen and Garden** at 1104 S. First. I myself received one as a gift last Christmas, and I have given five as gifts since. It is the greatest invention for gardeners since ... the trowel! It's a brightly colored flexible waterproof bucket, and I wish I had 10 ($14.95 for small and $16.95 for large).

Stocking Stuffers

Avocational cooking classes are a delightful gift for both singles and couples. Personal chef services could be just the thing for families with a new baby, friends who've just moved into a new house or gotten out of the hospital. Custom delivery of organic groceries would be a healthy way to show you care, and what cook wouldn't appreciate newly sharpened knives? – *V.B.W.*

COOKING CLASSES

Central Market Cooking School: 4001 N. Lamar, 458-3068, **www.centralmarket.com**

Culinary Academy of Austin: 6020-B Dillard Circle, 451-5743, **www.culinaryacademyofaustin.com**

Beth Pav's Cooking by Design: 431-8751, **www.cookingbydesign.com**

Gina's Kitchen: 917 W. 12th, 236-0705, **www.ginaskitchen.com**

Blair House Inn: 100 Spoke Hill Rd. in Wimberley, 512/847-1111, **www.blairhouseinn.com**

Breed & Co.: 3663 Bee Caves Rd., 328-3960, **www.breedandco.com**

Faraday's Kitchen Store: 1501 RR 620 N., 266-5666, **www.faradayskitchenstore.com**

Grape Vine Market: 7938 Great Northern Blvd., 323-5900, **www.grapevinemarket.com**

PERSONAL CHEF SERVICES

Pamela Nevarez – Eat Street: 350-4061, **eatstreet55@aol.com**

Abigail Donovan – Culinary Travels: 633-3690, **www.culinarytravels.biz**

Toni Scott – Dinner Made Simple: 826-8816, **www.dinnermadesimple-pcs.com**

Suzann Dvorken – The Accommodating Chef: 694-8037, **sdvorken@austin.rr.com**

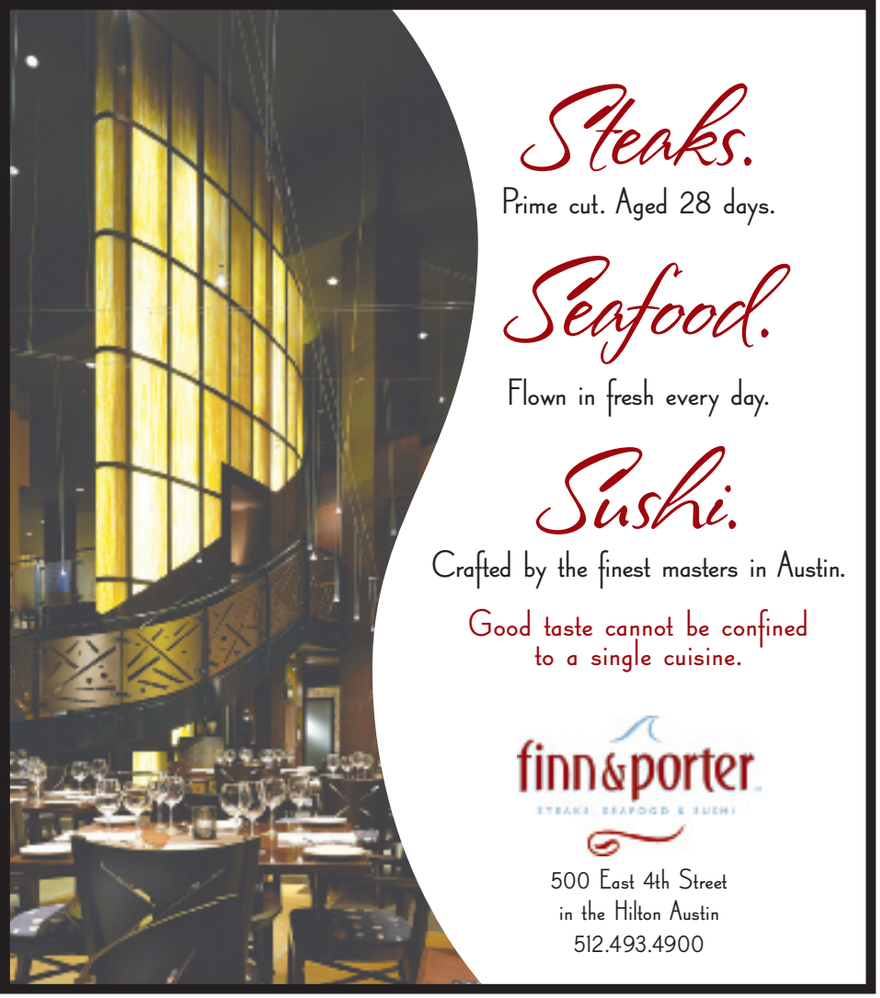
PLUS ...

Greenling Organic Delivery delivers baskets of organic produce from area growers and specialty stores to participating customers weekly. For gift certificates or to register, call 888/789-2352 or go to **www.austinorganicdelivery.com**.

The Sharpest Knife (4703 Burnet Rd., 467-9763): Take your knives to them or call for mobile service ($30 minimum – about 10 knives), and these guys will sharpen you right up. They also sell equipment.

Phlox also has a vast array of stunning kitchen items, all very reasonably priced. A bamboo cutting board is a great gift. Not only are they beautiful, they are also totally "green": Bamboo is a sustainable and ecologically responsible alternative to cutting down our precious hardwood forests. Plus, it's harder than hardwood ($20-30)! Groovy retro drinking glasses in either "Swirl" or Stripe" are $19.95 for a set of four. A very pretty gift, and I can't imagine anyone who doesn't need drinking glasses. Phlox has absolutely the best dish towel selection in town, too. Lots of 1950s-era designs, and some just plain lovely designs, and that most excellent gift: the Texas dish towel! Great for both die-hard Texans *and* those who live so far away that Texas is, to them, a mysterious and mythical Western land. – *Kate Thornberry*

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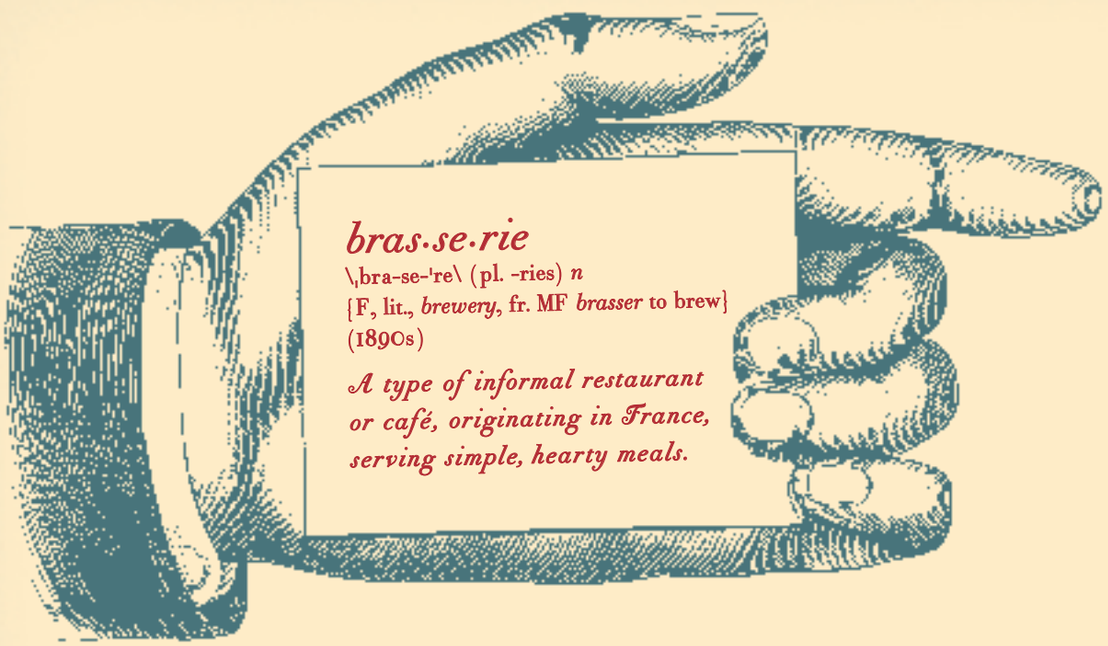


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Turning Up the Heat

A few years ago, I garnered a lot of brownie points by schlepping some sausage from **John Mueller's BBQ** (1917 Manor Rd., 236-0283) to an unnamed but barbecue-savvy restaurant critic in New York. This is my favorite Austin sausage – short, thick, smoke-reddened links spiced with black pepper – and I routinely carry it to barbecue-deprived friends in California, too. For gift-giving purposes, order a "cold pack" that has been cooked, wrapped, and chilled, ready for transport. Order cold packs two days in advance; it's $8.99 for a dozen sausages and $5.99 for six. Tell the lucky recipients to place a foil-wrapped package in a baking pan, add just a little water, and warm in a 350-degree oven for 20 minutes.

For the discerning chile heads on your list, Jill and Kevin Lewis of **Austin Slow Burn** concoct some marvelous jams and jellies by combining piquant peppers with sugar, spices, fruit, and herbs. My true love is Hot Apple Pie Jam flavored with vanilla and jalapeño, but Spiced Peach Jam with all-spice and habanero runs a very close second. Both the Habanero Jelly and the newest Cranberry Jam contain a hint of rosemary, and the Green Chile Jam has a fillip of lime. All of these can be served as a side for pork or lamb, paired with cheeses, or in an over-the-top PB&J sandwich (and when no one is looking, just enjoy an unadorned spoonful). Available at **Central Market**, **Whole Foods**, **Grape Vine Market**, **Farm to Market Grocery**, and **Tears of Joy Hot Sauce Shop** ($3-5 for a 6-oz. jar).

I'm allergic to malls, especially around the holidays. The **Tea Embassy** (900 Rio Grande, 330 9991, **www.teaembassy.com**) is the perfect antithesis of mall madness. This beautifully restored and appointed Victorian house contains an enormous array of artisan teas, unusual tea accoutrements, and related gift items that I've seen nowhere else. Tea consultant Carol Sims and son Jonathan Sims have created a calm oasis of pure aesthetic pleasure; you can shop peacefully while sipping a hot cup of something (like heavenly Almond Cookie green tea) or rest by the fireplace in one of the graceful armchairs. And the gifts: Where to begin? There are more than 100 varieties of teas from across the globe: green, white, flavored, Puerh, and a selection of caffeine-free Rooibos (red bush) teas from South Africa ($4-7 for 2 ozs.). Browse the English bone china teapots, delicate glass teapots and cups from Germany, sleek Japanese and Chinese pots, antique and modern teacups and mugs, infusers, warmers, custom-made cozies, and elegant teakettles. Not to mention exquisite children's tea sets, tea-themed books, calendars, notepads, cards, napkins, magazines, ornaments, jewelry, and even music. Don't worry if the wide world of tea is new to you: The Sims are available to assist, consult, and advise. Gifts from $4 to $400.

For seafood lovers in your life, think about a gift certificate to Quality Seafood Market (5621 Airport, 512/454-5827, **www.qualityseafoodmarket.com**). Available in any denomination, gift certificates can be used at the extensive fish counter, in the restaurant that specializes in Creole and Cajun seafood dishes (and serves the best fried oyster po'boy in town), for takeout, or at the brand-new, as-yet-unnamed oyster bar, where a dozen fresh oysters on the half shell will set you back a big $6.95, and beer and wine are available.

– MM Pack

The French Connection

I have great news for Austin food lovers, and just in time for the holidays! Until recently, the fabulous gourmet French specialties from **Le Marseillais** had been available for purchase only at the **Sunset Valley Farmers' Market** and lately at **Farm to Market Grocery** on South Congress. Now, chefs Eric and Martine Pelegrin also have a Web site – **www.bistrolemarseillais.com** – where one can place orders for home delivery and purchase gift certificates for any occasion. These will make a great gift for anyone with an appreciation for good food.

The Web site includes weekly menu offerings and an online order form. All one has to do is fill the online order form, leave a check and a cooler with ice outside on the designated delivery day, and, voilà!, dinner will be at the doorstep, with heating and serving instructions. The reusable containers are then washed and placed in the cooler to be picked up on the next delivery.

Every week they feature a different entrée ($25) that serves three to four people. They also offer side dishes for pairing, as well as soups, salads, and a small selection of their fine pâtés, terrines, vinaigrettes, spreads, and condiments. These are truly wonderful, and would make a great addition to the holiday table or party. I am quite partial to the pork or salmon rillettes ($8.50), the duck liver mousse ($8.50), and the chicken liver with mushroom and sherry mousse ($7), which come in 180-gram glass jars and are perfect for bringing to parties or as gifts to the host. Not all the products are always available, but they can be made for special orders with advance notice.

Customers will be added to the mailing list and will receive a weekly e-mail that is more like a mini lesson in French culinary history. It describes the featured entrée, its history, and other interesting facts, and it offers wine pairing suggestions available locally. All the entrées I have ordered so far have been spectacular, and the wine-pairing suggestions have been right on. I have found this is the easiest way to enjoy a no-hassle special dinner in the comfort of home.

For holiday gift giving, people can purchase gift certificates for $25 and up by e-mailing **gifts@bistrolemarseillais.com** or calling 383-0501. Gift certificates will be sent electronically. Since they do not accept credit cards at this time, payment arrangements will be made when orders for gift certificates are confirmed. Folks can also buy gift certificates directly at their kitchen during pick-up hours on Wednesday evenings (directions are on the Web site) from 5-7pm and at the Sunset Valley Farmers' Market on Saturdays from 9:30am-1pm. Although regular delivery routes are limited, gift certificates will be honored anywhere in Austin, and their delivery schedule for the holidays will remain as usual. Bon appétit!

– Claudia Alarcón

LIQUID ASSETS

Texas Wines With a Little Something Extra

When I lead Texas wine-tasting events, I always make sure that everyone – myself included – tastes the wines blind. The reason is simple: Most people still believe that Texas wines are somehow lesser than those of California, Europe, and Australia. So, just to keep everyone honest, I throw in a few ringers from around the world so that the tasters have to think about whether or not a wine is from Texas. The important point is that people are generally surprised by how good the Texas wines are.

For my Texas gift basket, I would put together a tasting assortment of similar Texas wines along with an interloper, and include enough bottle bags to cover each. Then to encourage a somewhat formal tasting, I'd also offer a set of preprinted tasting sheets with scoring areas for looks, aromas, flavors, and overall impressions. Keeping in mind taste and price tag, what follows are the wines I would choose.

Texas makes some great Sauvignon Blancs, ones that stand up to the classic French versions from the Loire Valley. Three of my favorites from Texas are from **Spicewood Vineyards** ($10), **Fall Creek Vineyards** ($12) and **Delaney Vineyards** ($11). All demonstrate the best of Texas' style with the grape; lighter and less grapefruity than the California or New Zealand versions, yet perfectly wonderful wines. Add a bottle of **Domaine des Corbillières Touraine** ($12), and you've got quite a tasting.

The other white that we make magic with is Viognier. At its best, and it's hard to find a bad version in Texas, it has seductive aromas of peaches and pears and a thick, rich mouthfeel. Three of Texas' best, in increasing order of oomph, are made by **McPherson Cellars** ($14), **Llano Estacado** ($14), and **Becker Vineyards** ($15). About the best bargain outside of Texas is California's **Cline Viognier** ($12), a perfect competitor for Texas' wines.

Moving to red wines, Texas is starting to hold its own in what Alamosa Wine Cellars winemaker Jim Johnson called "climate-adapted varietals." Syrah, or Shiraz as it's called Down Under, is showing good potential here at home. Aussie winemaker Craig Parker's **Flat Creek Estate Shiraz** ($19) is a bit light but has nice complexity. You'll have to drive to Mason to get it, but **Sandstone Cellars Syrah** ($15) is worth the drive (have lunch at Santos Taqueria next door). Finally, French winemaker Bénédicte Rhyne is making some wonderful wines out at **Ste. Genevieve**. Their premium Shiraz, under the **Peregrine Hill** label, runs about $9 and puts a lot of California wines to shame. Pair these Texas wines up with the best red wine bargain in the U.S., **Columbia-Crest Grand Estates Syrah** ($10).

Finally, if you want to splurge on your giftee, start with a bottle of **Fall Creek Meritage** ($40), a Bordeaux blend that regularly amazes folks with its depth of flavor and intense richness. Throw in a bottle of **Llano Estacado Viviano** ($40), a touch lighter but beautifully elegant. Throw them up against a 2002 **Château Gloria** ($38) from France's famed St. Julien. Then, for an extra soupçon of generosity, throw in one of California's better versions, the 2002 **Girard Napa Valley Red** ($40).





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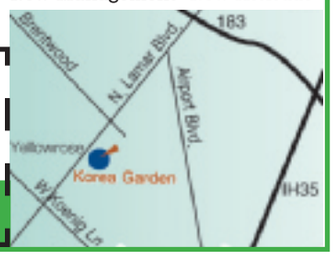
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DOWNTOWN

TEX-MEX: **ANGIE'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT** This homey restaurant serves up Tex-Mex breakfasts and huge $6 lunch specials. Their incredible homemade corn tortillas are one of their many claims to fame. ***900 E. Seventh, 476-5413 $$***

MEDITERRANEAN: **ATHENIAN GRILL** Tasty traditional Greek cuisine. Spit-roasted lamb, chicken, and gyros; an outstanding avgolemono soup; and tangy, creamy feta cheese dressing are among the highlights. ***705 Colorado, 482-8988 $$***

AMERICAN CAFE: **CAFE CAPRICE** The work of a seasoned chef with plenty of creative tricks up his sleeve. Indulge your impulse to try this place. ***900 W. 10th, 477-5576 $$$***

BURGER JOINT, PUB GRUB: **CASINO EL CAMINO** Famous for huge and juicy burgers with a variety of toppings, excellent hot dogs smothered in chili, and great hand-cut french fries. Great jukebox, too. ***517 E. Sixth, 469-9330 $***

DELIVERY, PIZZA: **DOMENICK'S PIZZERIA** Nothing beats a hot slice when you're making the nightly rounds on Sixth. ***414 E. Sixth, 477-5877 $$***

STEAKHOUSE: **HOFFBRAU** A vestige of old Austin since 1934 and an icon for generations, they serve up steak, potatoes, and beer in a former feed store. ***613 W. Sixth, 472-0822 $$***

AMERICAN CAFE: **MOONSHINE PATIO BAR & GRILL** Features an affordable American regional menu and a busy bar. ***303 Red River, 236-9599 $$$***

AMERICAN CAFE, BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **ROYAL CAFE** The daily lunch specials feature a choice of sandwich, plus tea, chips, and the food of kings, pickles – all under $4. ***400 W. 15th, 457-9917 $***

STEAKHOUSE: **RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE** A famous national steak house chain, Ruth's Chris serves top-grade aged prime beef with the traditional sides in an extremely expensive atmosphere. Full bar available. ***107 W. Sixth, 477-7884 $$$$***

TEX-MEX: **SERRANO'S** *Muchas* margaritas and full-service Tex-Mex overlooking the Symphony Square amphitheatre. ***1111 Red River, 322-9080 $$***

CAJUN/CREOLE: **SHOAL CREEK SALOON** A Cajun oasis next to Shoal Creek, with great South Louisiana chow, ice-cold beer, and a warm and fuzzy ambience. It's the friendliest sports bar in town. ***909 N. Lamar, 474-0805 $$***

BARBECUE: **STUBB'S BAR-B-Q** One of Austin's premier rhythm-and-grub joints. Damn good barbecue. The gospel brunch on Sundays has become so popular that reservations are a must for both seatings. ***801 Red River, 480-8341 $$***

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: **TEXAS CHILI PARLOR** An Austin legend serving good burgers, sandwiches, Tex-Mex, and, of course, chili in many varieties to satisfy all tastes, even vegetarian. Laid-back atmosphere with a very eclectic patronage. ***1409 Lavaca, 472-2828 $***

EAST

TEX-MEX: **BEJUCO'S RESTAURANT** Cabrito, enchiladas, tamales, and chile rellenos. Not open 24 hours, like the sign outside says, but you can get three squares a day there. ***2711-A E. Cesar Chavez, 476-7878 $$***

TEX-MEX: **CHAPALA JALISCO** This taqueria features cheap breakfast specials and Jalisco-style *barbacoa* by the plate or pound. ***2101 E. Cesar Chavez, 320-0308 $$***

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: **EL CHILE CAFE Y CANTINA** The bill of fare features some Tex-Mex dishes, several Interior specialties, and a number of good vegetarian options. ***1809 Manor Rd., 457-9900 $$***

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: **GENE'S NEW ORLEANS STYLE POBOYS & DELI** The royalty of New-Orleans-style soul food in Austin. The po'boys are the real deal, and the fantastic daily soul-food specials keep the place hopping at lunchtime. ***1209 E. 11th, 477-6600 $***

BURGER JOINT: **GUS'S GRILL** In addition to great, cheap hamburger baskets, the sampler platter allows you to try almost everything on the menu. ***3223 E. Seventh, 385-8898 $$***

TEX-MEX: **INOCENTE'S CAFE** A great place to sip an icy *agua de horchata*, enjoy good Tex-Mex cuisine, and soak up the flavor of the neighborhood. ***2337 E. Cesar Chavez, 479-0218 $$***

TEX-MEX: **LA INDIA BONITA** Eccentric hours, cozy-looking interior, terrific mural out front. ***1505 E. Seventh, 220-0819 $$***

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: **LAS CAZUELAS** Look for a dozen egg dishes for early risers, as well as Machacado and Nopales, Enchiladas Potosinas, and plenty of other Tex-Mex standards. ***1701 E. Cesar Chavez, 479-7911 $***

BARBECUE: **LEWIS' BAR-B-Q** Step up to the window of this unassuming concrete shack for a juicy chopped-beef sandwich or a link of smoky sausage, then have a seat at the picnic tables. ***1814 Harvey, 473-2225 $***

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: **MR. NATURAL** A juice bar, bakery, health food store, and vegetarian Mexican restaurant in one: your one-stop shop for soybean *ceviche*, pineapple empanadas, and queen bee royal jelly. ***1901 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-5228 $***

LAKE

AMERICAN CAFE, BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **CAFE LAGO** You'll be rewarded with fresh, delicious breakfast food, plus a healthy and inviting selection of soups, salads, and sandwiches. ***1200 Lakeway Dr., 261-8141 $***

CHINESE: **PAO'S MANDARIN HOUSE** Open 24 hours a day Monday through Friday, this Mandarin restaurant offers daily lunch and dinner specials. ***2300 Lohman's Spur #130, 263-8869 $$***

TEX-MEX: **ROSIE'S TAMALE HOUSE** With a quarter-century in Austin dishing out tamales and fajitas, they also boast homemade pralines. ***13436 Hwy. 71 W., 263-5245 $***

BARBECUE: **SMOKY J'S BAR-B-Q** A definitive Texas barbecue joint with a smoking pit out back, window service, and picnic tables. Meat is available by the sandwich, the plate, or the pound, and it's still BYOB. ***7008 RR 620 N., 331-4888 $***

THAI: **THAI SPICE CAFE** This menu offers fresh, fast, reliable versions of traditional Thai fare. ***1310 RR 620 S., 263-2221 $$***

recently reviewed

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 $$***

NORTH

CHINESE: **DIN HO CHINESE BBQ** A menu long on fresh seafood and meats, all authentically prepared, served, and priced. The best roast duck and *char siu* roast pork around. Get them to go or eat them there. ***8557 Research #116, 832-8788 $$***

INDIAN: **MADRAS PAVILION** Spiced vegetable dishes served with white and tamarind rices for lunch, and for dinner a wide selection of reasonably priced appetizers, *dosai,* and *uthappam.* ***9025 Research #100, 719-5575 $$***

JAPANESE: **MIDORI** Given its location, you'd expect lots of lunch traffic, especially considering the bargain lunch specials. A nice array of entrée choices is available for dinner and takeout. ***13435 Hwy. 183 N., 257-1411 $$$***

CAFETERIA/BUFFET: **MONGOLIAN BBQ** Have it your way, the Mongolian way. Choose your meat, choose your vegetables and sauce, and they'll fry it all up before your eyes. ***9200 N. Lamar #100, 837-4898 $***

PIZZA: **OASIS PIZZA** Start with crumbled feta, biting radish slices, and parsley garnishing a basket of hot flatbread. Kebob plates are another option, with tender meats and lightly charred vegetables. ***14735 Bratton #105, 251-5777 $***

JAPANESE: **ORIGAMI** Origami is considered one of the top five sushi bars in the area. It's known for its expansive selection of rolls, and the sashimi and sushi menus cover every conceivable want. ***110 N. I-35 Ste. 200-B, 238-6522 $$$***

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 $$$***

BARBECUE: **POK-E-JO'S SMOKEHOUSE** We swear by the moist and delicious pork loin and slices of smoked turkey breast, and the homemade hot sausage wraps are both cheap and addictive. So-so cobbler but very good banana pudding. ***9828 Great Hills Trail, 338-1990 $***

INDIAN: **SHALIMAR** Pakistani food that's second to none and a *gosht karahi* that'll really get your goat. Try the buffet, but it's even better to take a chance on the menu items. ***9310 N. Lamar, 719-3700 $$***

continued on p.56

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food :: RESTAURANT ROULETTE :: FROM P.55

TEX-MEX: **TAQUERIA ARANDAS #4** Mexican breakfasts, sweet horchata, and the sunny red and white interior could whisk the fog out of anyone's morning brain. *834 Rundberg, 835-4369 $*

BARBECUE: **TEXAS RIB KINGS** If you are crazy enough not to eat the excellent beef or pork ribs, take a chance on the chicken, turkey, or ham. *9012 Research, 451-7427 $*

NORTH CENTRAL

FINE DINING, ITALIAN: **ASTI TRATTORIA** For various Italian regional cuisines and an extensive wine list of mostly Italian and Cal-Ital selections, try this Hyde Park corner spot. *408-C E. 43rd, 451-1218 $$$*

BURGER JOINT: **DAN'S HAMBURGERS** One of several burger outlets operated by Austin's Hamburger King, Dan Junk, whose trademark has always been good, fresh food and friendly service. *5602 N. Lamar, 459-3239 $*

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **DOLCE VITA INTERNATIONAL BAR** Offers a delicious assortment of handmade Italian ice creams and fruit sorbets, along with a variety of coffee drinks, spirits, and cordials. *4222 Duval St., 323-2686 $*

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP, DELIVERY: **FOODHEADS** Mornings consist of cappuccino, espresso, pastries, and breakfast tacos. By lunchtime, you can choose from a staggering array of sandwiches, soups, salads, and side dishes. *616 W. 34th, 420-8400 $*

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: **JASON'S DELI** The sandwich selection ranges from traditional deli to wraps and pita pockets, plus there are special menu sections dedicated to heart-healthy and kids choices. *1000 E. 41st, 453-8666 $$*

STEAKHOUSE: **JC'S STEAKHOUSE** Superlative cheeseburgers and steaks that are above average, at slightly less than average prices. You definitely get your money's worth at J.C.'s, and you'll leave with a contented smile. *5804 N. I-35, 407-9393 $$*

JAPANESE, KOREAN: **KIMCHI SUSHI** Simply decorated Lincoln Village sushi bar also features a menu of Korean favorites. *6406 N. I-35 #2343, 453-4111 $$*

PIZZA: **THE PARLOR** Fine pizza, flowing pitchers, and a punk feel come together amid the strains of a stellar jukebox. *100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965 $$*

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

SOUTH

PUB GRUB: **AUSSIE'S VOLLEYBAR & GRILL** In addition to great appetizers and pub fare, they offer big-screen TVs and beach volleyball courts out back. *306 Barton Springs Rd., 480-0952 $*

ITALIAN: **ENOTECA VESPAIO** With a full bar and less expensive menu items, you'll still be sated Southern Italian style. Don't miss the mussels and french fries, but be prepared to share. *1610 S. Congress, 441-7672 $$$$*

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: **JO'S HOT COFFEE** The best people-watching spot in the 78704 ZIP code. Find the usual coffees and lattes, as well as a selection of baked goods that make perfect midday nibbles. *1300 S. Congress, 444-3800 $*

AMERICAN CAFE: **KERBEY LANE CAFE** Famously fabulous breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and a favorite of the late-night set. *2700 S. Lamar, 445-4451 $$*

TAKEOUT, TEX-MEX: **LA TAPATIA** Less Tex-Mex than Mex-Mex. Breakfast-taco fillings include the usual suspects – however, the meats definitely outshine all others. *1333 W. Ben White, 707-1585 $$*

INTERIOR MEXICAN: **LA TERRAZA** Offers standard Mexican fare served in a comfortable, clean atmosphere. Cold beer and cheap margaritas, with live mariachi twice a week. *1605 E. Oltorf, 444-0018 $$*

TEX-MEX: **LITTLE MEXICO RESTAURANT** One of our favorite things to do is enjoy a chile relleno or a plate of carne guisada and listen to the mariachi bands that play here weekly. *2304 S. First, 462-2188 $$*

CHINESE: **MANDARIN CHINESE RESTAURANT** Beer and wine served amidst quick but flavorful entrées gives the authentically Oriental decor an American twist. *212 E. Oltorf, 445-2225 $$*

TEX-MEX: **MAUDIE'S TOO** In this "Tex-Mex Heaven" they serve breakfast every day and make their margaritas with fresh-squeezed juices. *1212 S. Lamar, 440-8088 $$*

JAPANESE: **MIMOSA CAFE** This is not really a sushi restaurant; it's something more akin to a Japanese home-style restaurant. The menu offers everything from salads to sobas to sushi. *1530 Barton Springs Rd., 494-0203 $$*

TAKEOUT, TEX-MEX: **NUEVA ONDA** The migas tacos will make you wanna slap your mama, while the eggs and spicy onions cure whatever happened last night *2218 College Ave., 447-5063 $*

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: **POLVO'S** We're addicted to the tacos. Rolled by hand and packed with tasty fillings (try the al pastor). *2004 S. First, 441-5446 $$*

UT

TEX-MEX: **CHANGOS** Serving tasty choices near the Drag, they offer great mahi fish tacos, al pastor, and homemade tortillas. From the folks that brought you Manuel's downtown. *3023 Guadalupe, 480-TACO $$*

PIZZA: **CONANS PIZZA** Thick, cheesy Chicago deep-dish by the slice or pie. The lunch buffet will fill your stomach without emptying your wallet. *603 W. 29th, 478-5712 $$*

PIZZA: **DOUBLEDAVE'S PIZZAWORKS** Shoot pool, enjoy good beer specials, and stuff yourself with the campus area's greasiest and most satisfying indulgence: DoubleDave's pepperoni rolls. *3000 Duval St., 476-3283 $$*

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP, DELIVERY: **LONGHORN PO-BOYS & FALAFEL** It seems unlikely, but this tasty and unassuming sandwich shop makes some of the city's best and cheapest falafel. Famous for their stuffed grape leaves. *2901-B Medical Arts, 495-9228 $*

AMERICAN CAFE: **O'S CAMPUS CAFE** Serving healthy, unique, and delicious food at fair prices. They offer simple breakfasts of assorted tacos, French toast, and pastries, as well as a nice lunch selection. *24th & Speedway (A.C.E.S. Building on the UT campus), 232-9060 $*

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: **ROCK DOG** Chow down on the real deal in grilled dogs while staring at some truly inspired Austin music memorabilia. Great fries and desserts too. *2801 Guadalupe, 481-8282 $*

THAI: **THAI KITCHEN** The Drag location of this respected local Thai restaurant chain is popular with student diners – the authentic food is fresh, spicy, and affordable. *3009 Guadalupe, 474-2575 $$*

TEX-MEX: **TRUDY'S** A wide range of Tex-Mex with a slightly contemporary twist, and fans are crazy about the chipotle salsa and chips. The half-pound burgers are tasty and massive, and they also offer chicken-fried steaks. *409 W. 30th, 477-2935 $$*

WEST

CHINESE: **CHINATOWN** Chef's Specials shine – try the Crunchy Rabbit in Orange Sauce, Crispy Whole Fish in Red Chili Sauce, or the Peppercorn Chicken for proof. *3407 Greystone, 343-9307 $$*

FRENCH: **LA MADELEINE** Diners slide their trays down the cafeteria-style line to order quiches, salads, soups, and sandwiches on dense homemade bread and croissants. *3418 N. Lamar, 302-1486 $$*

INDIAN: **STAR OF INDIA** The house specialty is the Maharaja Dinner, a spread fit for royalty. Lesser mortals will be sated by one of the biryanis, or a tangy vindaloo. *2900 W. Anderson, 452-8199 $$*

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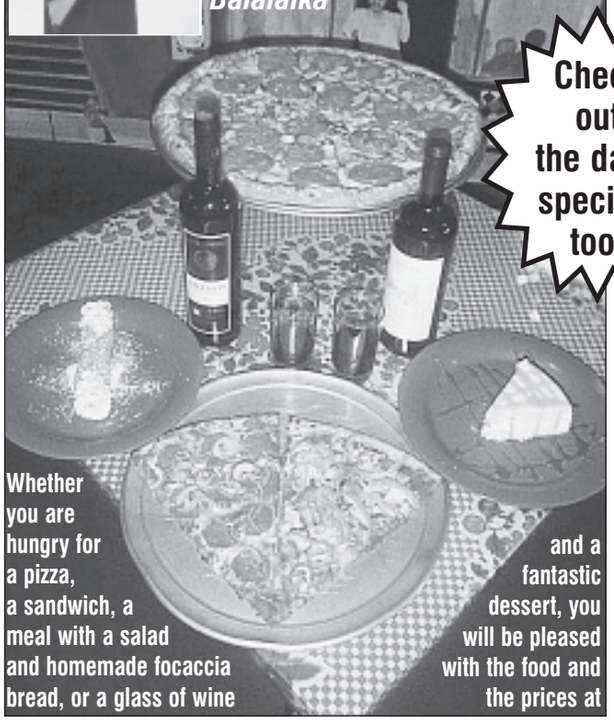
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screens

60 'BE HERE TO LOVE ME'
68 GIFT GUIDE: DVDs
70 TV EYE

Texas Documentary Tour
'Plagues & Pleasures on the Salton Sea'



It's hard to imagine how the hopes and dreams of so many – from so many divergent walks of life – could converge upon one fetid man-made lake in the California desert. The Salton Sea, created accidentally by an engineering error in 1905, has had, to say the least, a checkered past. Fifty years post its unintended creation, a dramatic increase in salinity transformed the 35-mile long, 15-mile wide freshwater lake into a small inland sea. Stocked with fish, it evolved into a primo sport-fishing, bird-watching, and water-skiing paradise; by the Fifties, it was a premier working-class vacationer's destination, attracting more visitors than Yosemite National Park.

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 7pm
Alamo Drafthouse Downtown
Co-director Chris Metzler in attendance
Admission: www.austinfilm.org

Then came the Hollywood glitterati and the speculators, who saw Salton Lake through French Riviera glasses: The resort-hotel and yacht-club era had seemingly arrived. Alas, hard times in the form of a real-estate boom that never took and a series of extreme weather events had disastrous consequences for the sea's ecology and its human habitation. An over-the-top salinity – 25% saltier than the Pacific Ocean – would be its ecological undoing, making it an attractive residence only to those who either love the smell of dead fish and birds and cheap land values or those still optimistic that the good times are just around the corner.

Directors Chris Metzler and Jeff Springer's *Plagues & Pleasures on the Salton Sea*, their first feature film (in a style reminiscent of Ellen Spiro's *Roam Sweet Home*), opens up this quirky world of the Salton Sea's remaining inhabitants. Metzler describes the film's production as "one huge acid trip" shot in probably the world's most difficult shooting environment. "It was 120 degrees in the summer, because it's the desert," he says, adding that the camera kept melting in the sun, and the lens was almost impossible to keep clean with all of the dust and sand. "But, because there's also this huge body of water, it's incredibly humid, so, within five minutes of getting out of the car, you're drenched, attacked by mosquitoes, and hit by the overwhelming stench of dead fish."

So, in this whacked-out outpost of civilization, what would Metzler pick as the most outrageous of outrageous experiences as he and Springer trained their melting camera and mic on the denizens of the Salton Sea?

"OK, I'd have to go with the time that religious folk artist Leonard Knight, who's built a mountain out of trash in the middle of the desert, randomly started speaking in tongues, a fact we only discovered 20 minutes later when he resumed talking in English. We sure didn't know what was happening, but there was something strangely apocalyptic about it, as the wind immediately kicked up in strength and the sun was setting in this glorious orange haze."

And who would be the narrator par excellence for this film? None other than the inimitable John Waters, clearly in his element here. "We'd always imagined John to be the ideal narrator for the film, but weren't able to get to him through traditional channels before the film screened at Slamdance," Metzler recalls. "Then, by pure chance, we bumped into a friend who said she knew Waters and offered to show him the film and ask him if he'd want to be the narrator. Waters called a few days later and said he loved the film, and we added his narration ... last June. Waters introduced our film at the Provincetown Film Festival, saying that even though he'd never been there, he imagined the Salton Sea to be as if the people of Baltimore had moved to Palm Springs." – *Anne S. Lewis*

Asking for It 'Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic'

Fresh from her scene-stealing turn in the 100-plus-comics doc *The Aristocrats*, gutter-mouth Breck girl Sarah Silverman has fashioned this year's funniest and most audacious comedy offering with her musical/sketch/stand-up concert film *Jesus Is Magic*. Razor-witted for sure, but Silverman's unblinking delivery also reveals a sublimely subtle physical performer that's wonderfully all doe eyes and scrunched noses, Valley girl gag-me-style tongue-wagging, and Picasso-painting side-mouth asides. And did I mention the rape jokes? Per her request, the *Chronicle* recently e-mailed some questions to America's new sweetheart and same old "dirty Jew." – *Steve Birmingham*

Austin Chronicle: *Your jokes about the Holocaust, AIDS, race, and 9/11 have serious shock value but don't come across as truly mean because foremost they're hilarious, and also you never break character (or are always you). Maybe midgets will beg to differ, but conceit and indifference take the real beating. Having typed that, are some things still off-limits for a laugh?*
Sarah Silverman: Only if it's not funny enough. The joke's gotta be funnier than it is upsetting. Of course, comedy is subjective, so there will always be people who don't find it funny, or don't find it funnier than it is offensive. Can't control that. I can only go by my own fucked-up gauge! To me, every time the laugh is about my ignorance and how obnoxious it is when mixed with arrogance. To me, it's silly and it makes me laugh. In short, I'm *hi-larious*.
AC: *Roger Ebert's review essentially said that you're funny but that the film doesn't work, and he totally dismissed Liam Lynch's direction. As an artist, do you even bother to process the potential validity of a negative review?*
SS: Sadly, it's all I focus on. I think he totally missed the point of Liam's direction. We didn't want any flashy bullshit during the stand-up part, because the comedy should stand on its own. It's super cheesy when stand-up has whacky camera angles and shit. But I can't help it, I like that Roger Ebert.
AC: *During his obscenity trial for* Pink Flamingos, *John Waters said that in the context of a jury seeing that film in a courthouse in the morning versus a midnight screening with a freewill audience that of course the picture was obscene.*



Although it's not logistically realistic, Ebert's review made me wonder whether or not it's almost incumbent upon the critic to see a concert film with an audience to have the full experience of collective flinching, gasps, and laughs.
SS: I agree. You have to watch it with a crowd. Otherwise it's like doing stand-up for one guy with his arms folded. It's like watching *Schindler's List* at a bachelor party. Context is everything.
AC: *So you left Bob Odenkirk's character in the film (and the audience) hanging. What is the Sarah Silverman dream?*
SS: To just continue doing shit I think is cool and have fun and always still have time for hanging out. And to be a leader in the black community.

Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic *opens in Austin on Friday, Dec. 9. For a review and show times, see Film Listings, p.94. For the extended transcript of this interview, see* **austinchronicle.com**.

DVD WATCH





SHOOT THE PIANO PLAYER
Criterion, $39.95
JULES AND JIM
Criterion, $39.95

Two of the French New Wave's most enduring classics, courtesy of writer/director François Truffaut, come to DVD this holiday season, both in fine, remastered form. Released in 1960, *Shoot the Piano Player* travels on the diminutive shoulders of its star, Charles Aznavour, who revels in all his deadpan glory as Charlie, a once-famous concert pianist reduced to the status of saloon musician by cruel circumstance and self-sabotage. To watch Charlie's face as he accompanies the manic Boby Lapointe in a frivolous, upbeat dance number is to trace the whole sad history of human resignation: While his fingers dance, the pianist dies. The appearance of Charlie's criminal brother at the beginning of the film forces Charlie out of himself and into the unnerving world of action, where guns, knives, hoodlums, and all manner of classic movie tropes abound. To no small degree, *Shoot the Piano Player* is about Truffaut's love for American cinema, a transparent and enthusiastic tribute to the art of making movies cleverly disguised as a movie. Aznavour underplays it all perfectly, his almost lifeless performance the life of the film. And as his fleeting, doomed love interest Léna, Marie Dubois is beautiful and elegant and blithe as only an ingenue in a New Wave film could be. Jeanne Moreau was, of course, the ingenue's ingenue, embodying all the New Wave movement's sadness and romance, and her performance in 1962's *Jules and Jim* is as iconic as they come. *Jules and Jim* made Truffaut's name and his legend and in some ways defined an era, but it hasn't aged as well as *Piano Player*. Its story of a love triangle between the two bohemians of the title and the bon vivant but tragic Catherine (Moreau), played against the background of the first half of the 20th century, begins carefree and sentimental but drags through its darkening and repetitive third act. Truffaut just never seems quite as comfortable with tragedy as he does with romance. Moreau, though, is brilliant (both sans and *avec* moustache), playing a tragically discontented woman who pines for affection and then recoils from its suffocating grasp, leaving the men who love her lost and found at the same time. With these two movies, Truffaut captures all the vitality and cinephilia of the New Wave he helped create in the 1950s. His jump-cuts, freeze frames, and discontinuities are the unhidden scaffolding of his master building and the revealed secrets of his art. Truffaut the personality shines on the DVDs' plentiful and fascinating extras. There's a wealth of interviews on the supplementary discs, both with the director himself and with several of his co-conspirators, including Aznavour and Dubois, who are as eloquent and insightful as critic Pauline Kael in her review of *Jules and Jim*. Being a film critic first and a film director second prepared Truffaut for the television promotional circuit (especially in mid-20th-century France, where the bar for celebrity interviews was, apparently, set a little higher than the puff-piece self-congratulation we've become accustomed to), and it's difficult not to be taken in by his obvious affection for these movies and by his eloquent intellectual and aesthetic defenses of them. – *Josh Rosenblatt*

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Star Wars Episode III – Revenge of the Sith **(20th Century Fox, $29.98):** I can't believe I haven't seen this. I can't believe I want to.

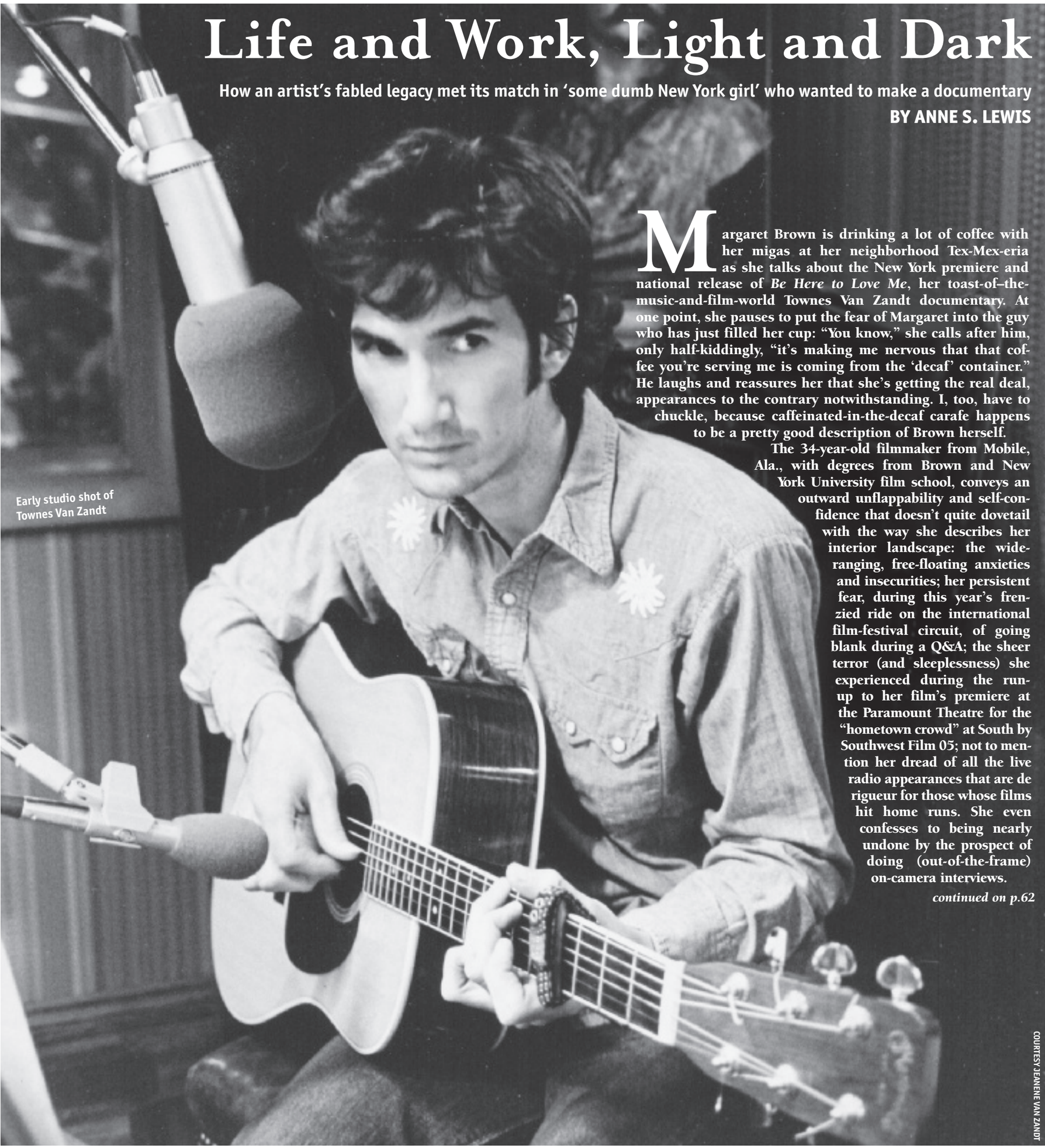
UPCOMING

Kind Hearts and Coronets **(Criterion, $39.95):** Alec Guinness shines playing eight separate roles, not one of them a Jedi Knight.

Life and Work, Light and Dark

How an artist's fabled legacy met its match in 'some dumb New York girl' who wanted to make a documentary

BY ANNE S. LEWIS



Early studio shot of Townes Van Zandt

COURTESY JEANENE VAN ZANDT

Margaret Brown is drinking a lot of coffee with her migas at her neighborhood Tex-Mex-eria as she talks about the New York premiere and national release of *Be Here to Love Me*, her toast-of–the-music-and-film-world Townes Van Zandt documentary. At one point, she pauses to put the fear of Margaret into the guy who has just filled her cup: "You know," she calls after him, only half-kiddingly, "it's making me nervous that that coffee you're serving me is coming from the 'decaf' container." He laughs and reassures her that she's getting the real deal, appearances to the contrary notwithstanding. I, too, have to chuckle, because caffeinated-in-the-decaf carafe happens to be a pretty good description of Brown herself.

The 34-year-old filmmaker from Mobile, Ala., with degrees from Brown and New York University film school, conveys an outward unflappability and self-confidence that doesn't quite dovetail with the way she describes her interior landscape: the wide-ranging, free-floating anxieties and insecurities; her persistent fear, during this year's frenzied ride on the international film-festival circuit, of going blank during a Q&A; the sheer terror (and sleeplessness) she experienced during the run-up to her film's premiere at the Paramount Theatre for the "hometown crowd" at South by Southwest Film 05; not to mention her dread of all the live radio appearances that are de rigueur for those whose films hit home runs. She even confesses to being nearly undone by the prospect of doing (out-of-the-frame) on-camera interviews.

continued on p.62

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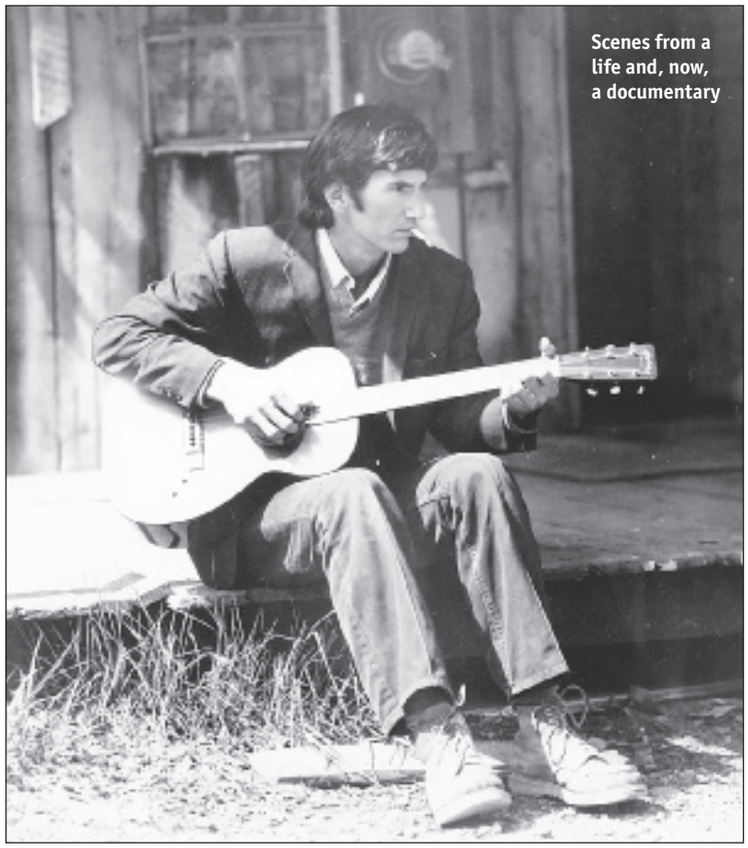
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Margaret Brown

LEE DANIEL


Scenes from a life and, now, a documentary



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JEANENE VAN ZANDT

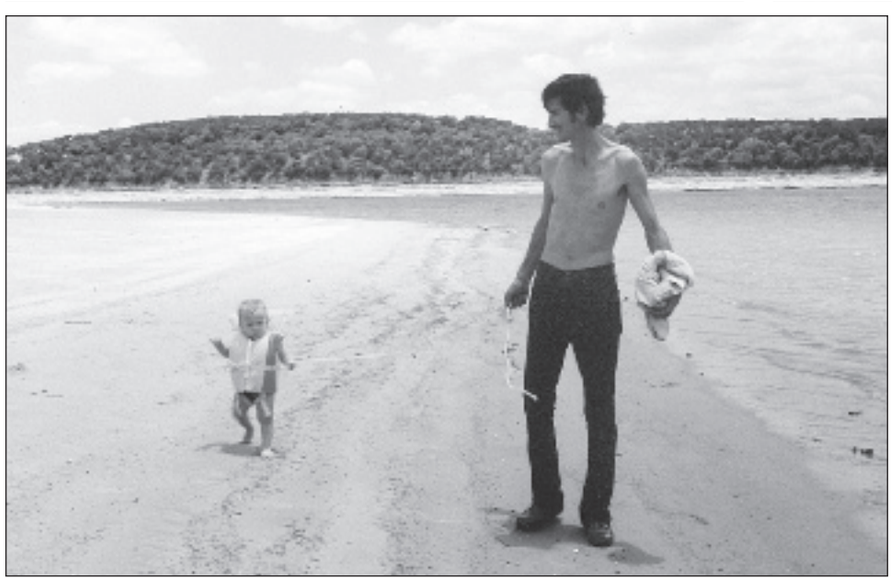
"My only agenda was to do something that I felt emotionally represented what Townes brought to people, as well as what he did to his family. If you just make it only about what happens when you blow everything up, that is a really depressing story, but Townes also brought this music to the world in a very singular, individual way. So, it's more complicated."

– Margaret Brown

The flip side of Brown's personality is a somewhat incongruous, heels-dug-in assertiveness, spring-loaded for the unwary who might intentionally or inadvertently exploit her uncertainties, as one unsuspecting but attitudinous New York reporter learned during a recent press interview. "This woman was making me feel really uncomfortable," Brown recalls. "She was just spitting questions at me and was so mean, making me feel really awkward around her, and I kept freezing. I felt like I was sounding like an idiot, so I told her I wanted to stop the interview." Don't mess with Margaret.

But do go see the film that Brown made when it opens at a theatre near you. (Full disclosure: My husband, *Chronicle* Editor Louis Black, is one of the film's executive producers.) This film was Margaret's baby: Just ask cinematographer Lee Daniel (*Slacker, Dazed and Confused, Before Sunset)*, her boyfriend and the guy who shot the lion's share of the film (and who has joined us for a plate of huevos and some Townes talk).

continued on p.64





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Brown, who grew up in a songwriting milieu – her dad, Milton, co-wrote "Any Which Way But Loose," among many others – tuned into the music of Townes Van Zandt while going to school in New York, and it was then that she began to incubate the idea of doing a doc about him. Preliminary research revealed that the task would not be a straightforward one. Van Zandt, who died of a heart attack in 1997 at the age of 52, was, during his all-too-short life, a songwriter's songwriter. Brown does not like "genius" testimonials in a documentary, preferring to have the subject's work speak to the viewer for itself, but her cutting-room floor was covered with hosannas for Van Zandt from fellow musicians of all stripes. Talking heads that made it into the film with more substantive recollections included everyone from Willie Nelson – who, with Merle Haggard famously turned Townes' "Pancho and Lefty" into recording gold, as did Emmylou Harris (also in the film), who recorded "If I Needed You," as well – to Joe Ely, Steve Earle, and Lyle Lovett.

But this lyrically productive life had a dark, tragic side to it. Hailing from an upper-crust Fort Worth family, Townes was on a prep-school-to-law-school trajectory when he grabbed the wheel from mom and dad and executed a stunning U-turn. Glue-sniffing at military school at age 16, drinking, even shooting up bourbon and coke were only a few of the more outlandish early indications that young Townes was probably not going to end up at the Texas law school with a building named after his grandfather. When he backed himself out the window of a four-story building – "just to see what the fall would feel like" – the Van Zandts had him committed at a Galveston Island medical center, where he underwent shock treatment. The 30 years following this memory-erasing "cure" would be characterized by alcoholism, substance abuse, three failed marriages, and three children: a daughter, Katie Belle, and two sons, J.T. and Will, who, with different mothers, each bear a remarkable physical resemblance to their dad.

Brown realized that sussing out the "truth" of this life on film or any medium would be impossible. And, all too easily, it could become overwhelmingly depressing. She wanted the film to be emotionally true above all else, and it would take several passes, over the four and a half years it took to produce, to get it right.



COURTESY JEANENE VAN ZANDT

"I thought, 'Do you know what you're getting yourself into?' I knew the stories and that it was dangerous material, if you're going to dive in and make a true story – or what you think is a true story – you're going to spend three years of your life in a pretty dark place. I wondered, was she ready for that and was this for real?" – Director of photography Lee Daniel

Margaret Brown: My only agenda was to do something that I felt emotionally represented what Townes brought to people, as well as what he did to his family. After all, if you just make it really depressing and only about what happens when you blow everything up and abandon your family, that is a really depressing story, but Townes also brought this music to the world in a very singular, individual way. Hardly anyone I know actually does what they want to do in life, but he did – and that was not depressing. So, it's more complicated. It would have been easy to go the dark, heartstrings route, to show only the effects on the family, but not to show the more complicated vision would not have been right. In fact, the first few cuts of the film were so dark that I knew they weren't telling the overall story I wanted to tell, so we changed it. There had been a few previous attempts at films about Townes that had been these huge downers, and when I first approached Guy Clark, who was Townes' best friend, about being in this film, he was worried that I, too, was going to tell a story that would have been just like the Townes song "Waiting Around to Die." Guy felt it was really important not to leave out all of Townes' humor and lightness.

As it turned out, Brown discovered that portraying Van Zandt's life on film would devolve into a more universal question, with personal application for the filmmaker, as well, namely, "what does it take to be an artist?"

MB: Kris Kristofferson says in the film that you couldn't be a songwriter and stay home – you had to go out for six days at a time, not sleep ... that's a really romantic idea of what it takes to be songwriter. All those guys did that, and I think when people see that in the film, that romantic view of what life could be like walking away from the 9-to-5 world, that sounds great. I want people to watch the film and think about what they would do in their own lives, given those circumstances. I think for me, it was a really personal journey. I had a really stable childhood, and my dad was a songwriter. He's written some amazing songs, but he didn't write a million great songs, he was more of a family man and he was always there for us and he sacrificed a lot for us to be a dad. Townes wrote a lot of really great songs and he had this kind of mythic life and, I guess, when I started the film, I wondered – in this really romantic, naive way – if that's really what it took. I wanted to find out. I think I always knew that was not the right path, but I think part of me wondered, well, maybe it was the right path; all these great artists went down that path, maybe that is what it takes. And, if that's true, do I really want to be an artist? So, on a personal level, why I wanted to make this film wasn't really about Townes, it was more, "Is this what it takes to be an artist? Do I have to do that? Do I want to do that?"

Austin Chronicle: *And you concluded?*

MB: [laughing] No fuckin' way.

continued on p.66

spark/06

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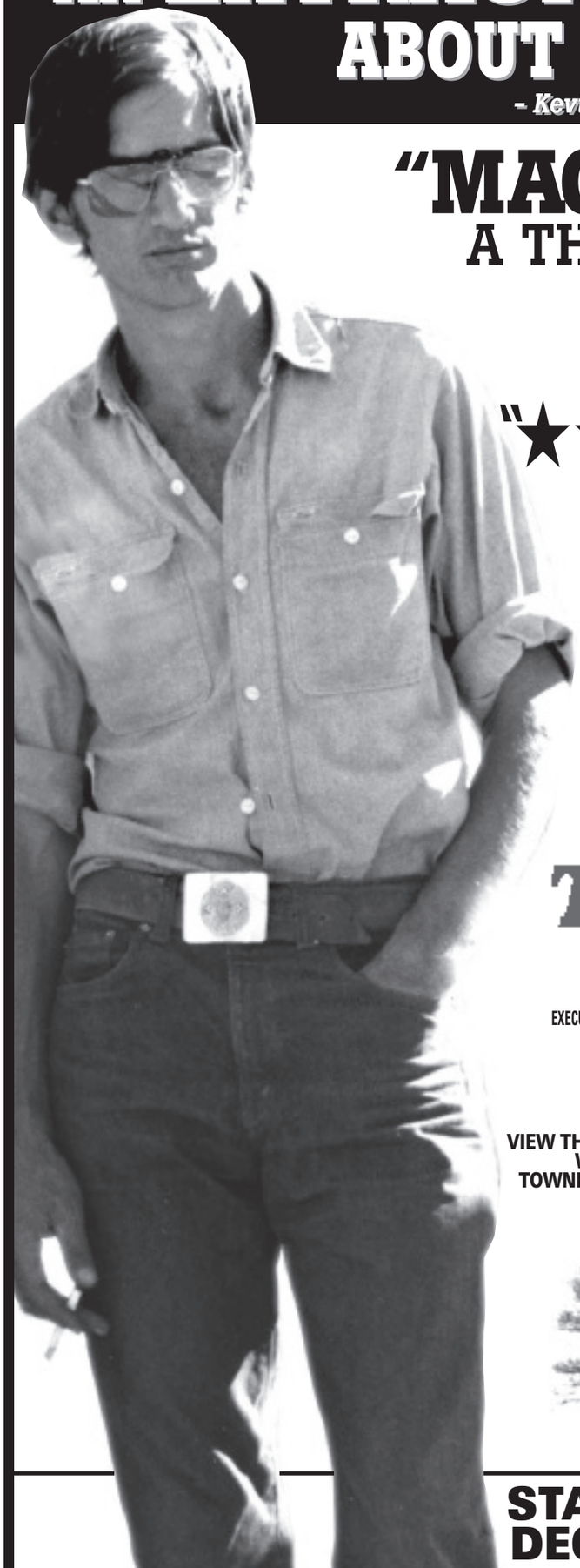
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Lee Daniel: Personally, I don't think Townes pondered all that much about what he had to give up to be an artist. I think he just did it; it was in his DNA. It was almost predestined. Sometimes, there's just a need: You have to, you don't have a choice, you just do it because you think you need to. You know the consequences are going to be tough on the people who love you, but I don't think that Townes had a whole lot of choice in the matter; it all added up to one thing because of the whole package, including the addictions.

Be Here to Love Me has drawn rave reviews both for the way it tells the story – "not just a true and moving portrait of an artist – [the film is] a work of art itself," in the words of *Rolling Stone* – and for the visual, impressionistic poetry of Daniel's cinematography, shot with what the same review called "an enormous sense of place, not only physically but internally."

AC: *So, how did Margaret get you attached to her project?*
LD: About a year before she started filming, I got a call from Margaret – I get a lot of calls like that. When she told me she was doing a film about Townes, I thought, "Do you know what you're getting yourself into?" I had seen him a thousand times in Austin; I knew the stories and that it was dangerous material, if you're going to dive in and make a true story – or what you think is a true story – you're going to spend three years of your life in a pretty dark place. I wondered, was she ready for that and was this for real? I didn't ask her that specifically ... it was conveyed through long pauses in the conversation. I knew the music really well, had the records, had seen Townes at the Cactus Cafe or the Austin Outhouse, at lots of places that are gone now. Townes and others from his era were always playing open mic – you could just go to the Cactus and hear them for a few bucks. I remember going to play pool at the Austin Outhouse, buying a pitcher of beer, and, if you happened to be there on a Tuesday night, Townes would be there playing. Half the people in the bar weren't even paying attention to him. This was in the mid-to-late Eighties, when I think he was just beginning to get a following in Europe, in Scandinavia and Ireland. His material was what was so dark. I knew a little about his reckless lifestyle and that he drank a whole lot and I heard stories about him falling off bar stools in the middle of a show, but never saw it myself – I think that was happening later on, in the Nineties. I loved his music and I was surprised that no one had made a film about him before, though Margaret told me that someone in New York had done a film called *Heartworn Highways* in 1976 that shot a lot of Townes and his friends in Austin. I was intrigued, but I didn't take it that seriously.

MB: You thought I was some dumb New York girl.
LD: [laughs] Well, you know, NYU. This conversation took place about 2000, and about a year later, she'd started production.
MB: He never called me back.
LD: She claims I never called her back. I never said no. I get lots of calls, but this one really intrigued me, because it was about Townes. It was always in the back of my mind, but I never heard back from her or "her people."



COURTESY JEANENE VAN ZANDT

Van Zandt with wife Jeanene, daughter Katie Belle, and son Will

MB: Well, since I'd called a few other times, and you never called back ...
LD: She'd already done about seven or eight interviews ...
MB: When I talked to Lee about Townes the first time, I could tell that he got it. He knew how I wanted to tell the story. I felt like I connected with the way he talked about Townes and I knew that he was the right person to do the film without ever having met him, just by that conversation. I felt, well, I've found the cinematographer. But then – since he never called me back – I hired someone else. Frazer Bradshaw, a really good shooter who was the son of my mother's best friend. But he was in San Francisco. Then, after we'd started shooting, I secured an interview with the Flatlanders and was coming to Austin to film it, but Frazer wasn't able to be here in time to shoot, so I just went over to Lee's house and asked him if he would do it and he agreed.
AC: *So, what did Lee shoot in the film?*
LD: I did probably 30 of the film's 40 interviews, all over Colorado, Kentucky, Georgia. Townes traveled a lot between Nashville and Austin. So, for example, when Margaret and I went to Kentucky to shoot an interview, we'd just shoot out the window. I have this old pickup truck that could have been the same as then, and I had this unopened Lone Star beer can; it was a freshie, so we threw it on the dash. You could just sort of hear it out of the frame rolling around on the dash. Sometimes we'd go on road trips where all we'd shoot was B-roll.
MB: We tried to shoot stuff that was evocative of Townes' road trips that wasn't tied to modern times, to get some quasi-period stuff. The first day we shot, we just drove around Austin and a lot of the stuff we shot from Lee's truck ended up in the film. Lee knows every back road in Texas. I'd say, "I want to shoot something with this feeling," and he'd say, "Oh, we can go down this road or there's something 10 miles or 10 hours that way." I knew what I wanted the film to feel like, so we just went driving around and shooting forests and trees. Those shots of birch trees are from Colorado, where Townes spent a lot of time; he'd go live in the mountains, he and Cindy, his second wife, who was an equestrian. They'd ride horses through the snow up there.
LD: Those roads we drove around and shot were probably the same roads that they'd traveled, around Crested Butte ...
MB: Everyone up there knew him. He played at all these little places in Colorado. Everyone we'd meet would say, "I've got a Townes story!"

Of course, making a film about someone who's no longer with us without lapsing into cliched biopic mode has its challenges. *Be Here to Love Me* has the eerie feel of Van Zandt's presence, thanks to the enormous video and picture archive that Brown was able to access from the artist's third wife, Jeanene, the mother of two of his children. Another major coup was scored early on, when Brown fortuitously contacted and then decided to travel to Georgia to see William Hedgepeth, a writer whose work she'd come across in the course of her preliminary research.

MB: After we'd talked for a while – it was a little awkward at first – when Hedgepeth warmed up to me, he said, you know, "I have these interviews with Townes and, if you want, you can listen to them and keep them." These turned out to be a gold mine – interviews he'd done with Townes over a five-year period – they became the spine of the film. Townes would call Hedgepeth in the middle of the night and talk about the songs he'd just written, and this is where I got that famous Townes quote: "I don't envision a very long life for myself, I think my life will run out before my work does. I've designed it that way." I've always believed that you make your own luck; I knew that what Hedgepeth had written about Townes was the best I'd come across and I just felt I needed to go visit him. I certainly didn't know what would come of it.
AC: *Some of the most visually intriguing footage is what you paired with the voiceover segments from these Hedgepeth interviews with Townes. How did you go about setting these up?*
LD: These were re-creations to make it feel quasi-period. We used old film stock and we used an optical printer to manipulate and slow down the outtakes and work print footage that was given to Margaret from *Heartworn Highways*. We also took old film stock and shot it through old lenses and cameras to make it seem like it was old. Not all of it worked; re-creations are the hardest things to pull off – sometimes you can end up with an *America's Most Wanted* kind of feel – you know, these dramatic shadows used to trigger a memory or a repressed memory. They're very difficult to pull off, and what will work is always a mystery. There's no magic formula. But it's still good to try, because sometimes the hokiest thing may turn out to be just the right thing, once you get into the editing room.
MB: The scene that we shot to go with Townes' voiceover about how he got neurotic when he smoked pot and psychotic when he drank alcohol was in Galveston. I wanted it to feel like he's in a hotel room, either drying out or writing, the way someone might look out on the world from this interior space when he's hiding from the world. I wanted it to be in this dark room, and you can see the feet under the door in the lit hallway outside the door. I wanted it to feel like a suspended moment.
LD: There were lots of experimental shots that came out beautifully, but there was no place in the film for them, so we had to let them go. They'll be on the DVD.
AC: *The film has garnered wildly positive reviews from all quarters. You've clearly touched a nerve with this doc, something that doesn't happen that often in this genre. Do you feel like people have "gotten" the film, as well as liked it?*
MB: Yes, it seems like they have gotten the film. A few reviewers have complained that the film endorses drugs and that lifestyle and that it should have taken more of a Mothers Against Drunk Driving position. In Rotterdam, there was this long newspaper review, a rant about how dangerous the film was, and another one to similar effect in Minneapolis. I like that in a way, because it shows the film made a strong impact on the viewer.

Having negotiated the gratifying, if nerve-racking waves of the past year's film-festival travails and weathered the withering glare of the spotlight that's inevitably trained on filmmakers who make well-received films, Brown pauses, on the eve of her film's national release, to take stock. She notes, much to her surprise, that she's still standing and "not (so) nervous anymore." She's come a good long way from that first interview she did for the film, the one with the Flatlanders.

MB: You'll notice that interview did not make it into the film, the reason being that it was the worst interview. I'd never interviewed anyone before and I was really shy and terrified. I'm not as shy anymore. I'm still afraid, but maybe more confident about being able to articulate my thoughts.

Of course, that just-out-of-the-gate stumble occurred well before she would undergo the character-building experience of having to ask Willie Nelson in person to be interviewed for the film. Mustering the moxie to jump into Willie's truck (yes, you read that correctly)

while he was on a camping trip can only be a powerful confidence booster.

MB: J.T. [Van Zandt's oldest son] said we had to get Willie for the film and, since he wouldn't return our calls, we had to simply go find him in person. J.T. arranged for us to show up at one of Willie's camping trips. We were all standing around trying to decide how to proceed when J.T. told me that what I needed to do was go jump into Willie's truck and ask him – right then. So, I ran over and got into his truck. It was so embarrassing and so forward. I said I'm doing this movie about J.T.'s dad and it would be great if you could give an interview – and he said sure. And I said, well, do you mind doing it right now? The crew was waiting down the road.

One senses that today's Margaret Brown would have no problem at all with last year's SXSW premiere at the Paramount; today's Brown would never have worried, like the old Brown did, that some disgruntled "hometown" Townes fan would bring a gun to the screening. There remains just one final question to ask.

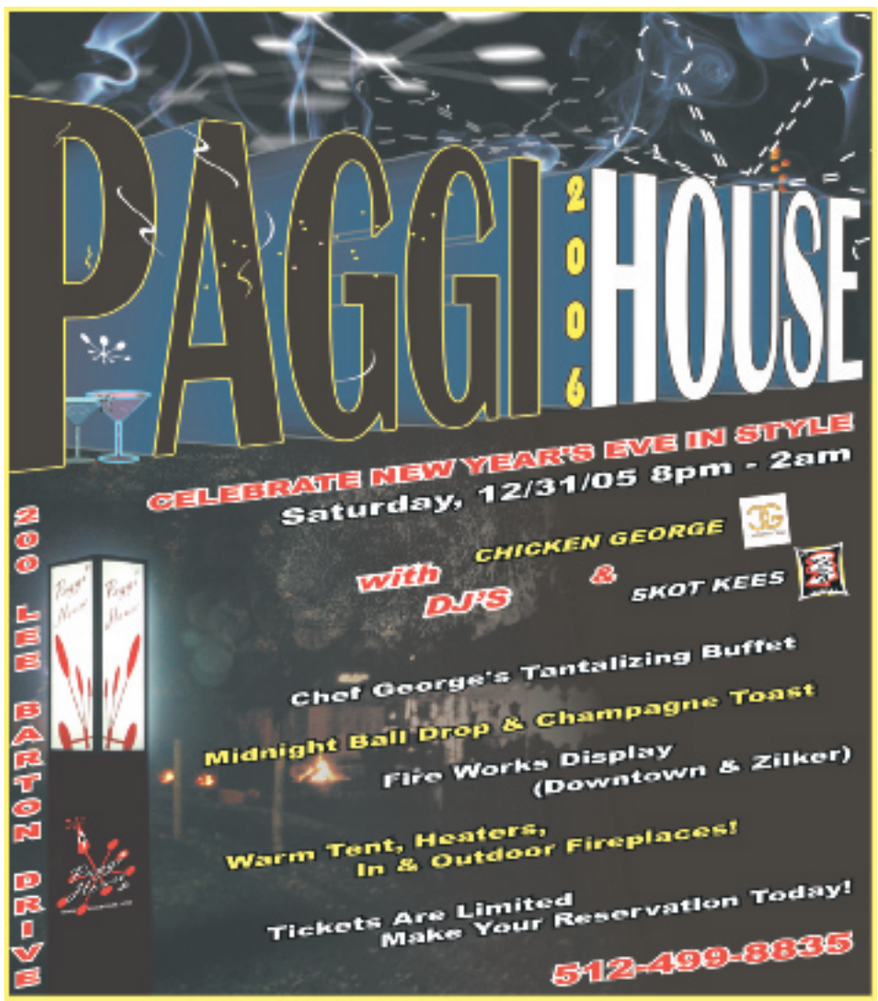
AC: *Why have you named your production company RakeFilms? I get the reference to Townes' song "Rake" and to Townes himself, but why RakeFilms?*

MB: Well, a "rake" is a male archetype; there aren't many female rakes. I got to thinking, why can't there be a female that's a rake? Why can't women be rakes?

So, she appropriated the term for herself. You know, her caffeine-in-the-decaf-carafe days might be so over. ■

Be Here to Love Me: A Film About Townes Van Zandt *opens in Austin on Friday, Dec. 9. For a review and show times, see Film Listings, p.94.*


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BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD: THE MIKE JUDGE COLLECTION, VOL. 1

MTV Home Entertainment, $39.98

"I've often said that there's about a third of *Beavis and Butt-head* that I think is great and am really proud of, another third that is okay, and then another third that's really, really awful and embarrassing," writes Mike Judge, the creator of the terminally idiotic, animated 14-year-olds. Forty cartoons are included in this three-disc set, more than half of which are director's cut episodes, but a good starting point is "Taint of Greatness: The Journey of Beavis and Butt-head, Part 1." The featurette outlines the head-spinning ride from when Beavis and Butt-head were just sketches in a notebook, then featured in an animated short shown at a Spike & Mike's Sick and Twisted Animation Festival ("Frog Baseball"). From there, MTV came calling, and the rest is pop-culture history. Included in the genesis story is information on the creation of various supporting characters — clueless Mr. Anderson, Daria, nerdy Stewart, Todd the bully, and the Great Cornholio (Beavis on a sugar buzz).

Additional goodies include 11 music videos sweetened with the pair's droll observations (Pantera, the Beastie Boys, Wilco, and others are among the featured bands). Cringe-worthy, yet off-the-wall funny, is the "Beavis and Butt-head Thanksgiving Special With Kurt Loder." Loder's half-reluctant, half-resigned role as straight man to two cartoon characters alongside an emptiness that belies the festive set takes the special to absurd heights. Irreverent comments from Beavis and Butt-head (both voiced by Judge) make the special fun house hilarious: the perfect antidote for someone seeking escape from the faux cheer of their dysfunctional family gathering when the booze has run out.

While enormously entertaining, *Beavis and Butt-head* is best viewed in small doses. Watching episodes in succession leaves the brain gummy and the appetite with a hankering for convenience-store nachos.

– *Belinda Acosta*

EVERYTHING ELSE: VOL. 1

HomestarRunner.com, $12

In 2002, brothers Mike and Matt Chapman quit their day jobs, all thanks to a leggy but armless white blob with an underbite and a propeller hat: Homestar Runner. He was the main character in the Chapmans' Flash-animated shorts, giving rise in 2000 to HomestarRunner.com. When his foil, Strong Bad – growly voiced, ill-tempered, and perpetually clad in a Mexican wrestling mask – became the site's most popular draw, the Chapmans introduced the Strong Bad e-mails. His irreverent and silly responses to fans' questions produced the most brilliantly funny shorts on the site, which led to snowballing, word-of-mouth success. Then Strong Bad outdid himself with his own pencil-drawn, notebook-paper comic, *Teen Girl Squad*. Featuring Cheerleader, So and So, Whats Her Face, and The Ugly One, *TGS* brought us such classic lines as "Okay, girls. Let's go get ready to look sooo good!" and "Oh, a gift card for fashion! How did you know?" Last year's Homestar DVD release sadly lacked this ode to the gentler sex through Strong Bad's eyes (though it included the first 100 of his e-mails), which is why this year's *Everything Else: Vol. 1* is sooo good; that, and its inclusion of puppet skits, videos, Marzipan's answering-machine messages, and great shorts like "Looking at a Thing in a Bag" and "20X6 vs. 1936" (in which "20X6" is pronounced "twenty-exty-six"). It also features a few extras not available online, but you don't need these novelties as an excuse for buying the disc. Homestar inspires clump watching; you need the DVDs so your friends won't have to stand awkwardly around your computer every time you take part in spreading the word. – *Nora Ankrum*

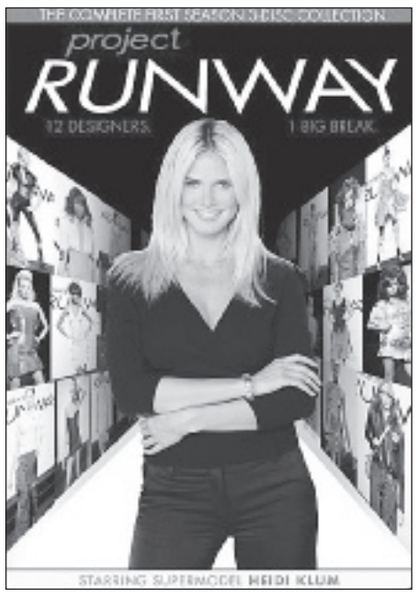




RAN

Criterion, $39.95

Ran is a singular masterpiece, relative more to its visionary director Akira Kurosawa, perhaps, than the neophyte cinephile. A Shakespearean tragedy about a warlord who retires too soon, *Ran*'s staging is largely representative, Kurosawa's continued use of traditional Noh theatrics still acting as a shorthand for realism. The film's lush locations, the epic battle sequences and castle torched on Japan's Mount Fuji – those are real. Kurosawa's dazzling, watercolor storyboards come to psychedelic life both in a second DVD of extras and the film itself; proclaiming *Ran* one of the great achievements in cinema since the advent of color is like saying Kodak had something to do with film. Noh's ghastly make-up and acting histrionics will try anyone without a 160-minute attention span, yet fans of the director's unparalleled oeuvre will swoon. Though Kurosawa made three more films after this 1985 effort, it bookends a career that took international root in 1951 with *Rashomon*. Kurosawa's opening here flashes back on his *Seven Samurai*, while *Rashomon* is evoked every time the camera looks straight into the sun. *Throne of Blood* is everywhere: *Ran*'s Lady Kaede, the torrent of arrows, the bloodbaths. "Man is perfectly alone," Kurosawa summarized *Ran*. What a way to go. – *Raoul Hernandez*



PROJECT RUNWAY: THE COMPLETE FIRST SEASON

Miramax, $39.99

Just as one generation had the Kennedy assassination forever seared in its memory, another may never forget exactly where it was when the chilling, Teutonically inflected words first fell upon its ears: "You ah either *een* or you ah *out*." Seismic cultural impact aside, it's possible you suspect there's no need to revisit the corn dress, the AWOL models, the apparent contractual obligations requiring the use of Kara Saun's full name at all times, or the long demise of one Wendy Pepper, 39, who appeared to be guilty primarily of getting old-people cooties on everyone.

But that is where you would be wrong. No doubt fans spent half the season thinking they were watching another *America's Next Top Model,* which exists mainly so we can laugh at lazy eyes and watch Tyra Banks build a long-overdue bridge between the worlds of S&M and sketch comedy. A repeat *Runway* viewing reveals, to the contrary, the ways in which it might (maybe) actually have something to do with the industry it purports to be about. Extras underline the point; "WEAR Are They Now" (yes, really) features Jay's *Elle* shoot, the reality of which smacks up rather harshly against his vision of it, but also shows him making careful, wise-seeming decisions about what might be a real design career. Follow-up bits explore options available to designers unsuited to or unqualified for the pages of *Vogue*, capturing Kara Saun's private, celeb-studded L.A. show and Wendy's apparent success in marketing to a Southern, gown-oriented clientele. Proving, one supposes, that you can be sort of in and sort of out at the same time. Sorry, Heidi. – *Cindy Widner*

THE MUPPET MOVIE: KERMIT'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

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THE MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL: KERMIT'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

WDV, $19.99







It was many years after my first introduction to Jim Henson's Muppets that I finally clued into Henson and company's inherent subversion-by-comic proxy. Who else would have the temerity, or chance the sheer imaginative leap, to christen a rattus norvegicus puppet after *Midnight Cowboy*'s consumptive pimp: Rizzo the Rat. Genius and nothing but. This quartet of theatrical releases from Jim Henson Studios is chock-full of nuts – and gems – like that, many of which will have gone unnoticed if the last time you watched the felt players spin their wonderful, all-too-humanistic magic was when your age mirrored your Stride-Rite size. Henson and longtime co-conspirator Frank Oz (later to cameo in *An American Werewolf in London*, of all things) hit their post-television stride immediately with *The Muppet Movie*; their perfectly dreamy ditty "The Rainbow Connection" is still sung and revered by everyone from your 3-year-old niece to punk rockers Me First and the Gimme Gimmes, and the perpetual romance between Kermit and Miss Piggy still smacks of porcine 'n' green purity. Follow-ups *The Great Muppet Caper* and *Muppet Treasure Island* are only slightly less heavenly, trading some of the latent hippyisms for hipster in-jokes (admittedly not much of a stretch for a former TV show that once featured Alice Cooper, Orson Welles, and Vincent Price). Of these four releases, though, it's the ambitious *Muppet Christmas Carol*, with Michael Caine as Scrooge and Kermit the Frog as Bob Cratchit, that really transcends the whole idea of puppetry and manages to add new, unforeseen layers to Dickens' classic, including perpetually aged hecklers Stadtler and Waldorf as Scrooge's late partners in parsimony, and Gonzo (the Great!) as no less than Dickens himself, helpfully explicating the meaning of big words like "omniscient" and generally keeping things moving at a painfully funny pace. All four DVDs arrive with minor bells and whistles, including a series of Muppet profiles by Pepe the Shrimp and some seriously warped (and real) gag reels that reveal the voice talent to be just as pleasantly daffy off-screen as on. – *Marc Savlov*

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TV EYE

Chaos Scenario

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

Apparently, I got it all wrong. I thought the idea of network sweeps was to entice viewers. However, this past November sweeps underwhelmed with lukewarm remakes (*The Poseidon Adventure*); annoying pre-emptions (*Felicity: An American Girl Adventure* instead of *Gilmore Girls*); irritating schedule scrambling; or worse, removing shows entirely (*Threshold*, for instance, replaced with *The Ghost Whisperer*). In addition to these irritations was the concurrent increase in product placements, as reader Brian G. of South Austin wrote in to complain about.

"I just turned off *CSI: NY* after a blatant product placement: Coldplay on an investigator's cell phone. The next commercial break advertised – take a guess? The new Coldplay CD. Unreal! How much do the TV networks think we can take? They hit my limit tonight on CBS."

I had a similar experience during an episode of *Medium* when Alison Dubois (**Patricia Arquette**) and husband Joe (**Jake Weber**) happen upon a newspaper ad for *Memoirs of a Geisha*. "We should go see that," Allison says. Joe holds up the full-page ad. Lo and behold, the next commercial break featured a trailer for the film. Wow. Didn't see that coming.

All of this got me to thinking: When does jarring product placement become witty pop culture reference? Shows like *The OC*, *Gilmore Girls*, *Veronica Mars*, and others known for their repartee are filled with pop-culture references that are deemed cool and sometimes astute: The literary, film, and music references in *Gilmore Girls* alone are enough to keep a cultural studies student nodding in recognition for weeks.

The obvious response is when an item is not being sold, but it's also a matter of timing. When something is introduced onto the pop cultural landscape (say, *Memoirs of a Geisha*) there is an incubation period to see if it will take. By either being exceptional or abysmal, films, celebrities, TV series, pieces of music, and other items of cultural production graduate to pop cultural references. The sell, then, moves beyond whether the public will spend cold cash and on to whether they will keep the piece of cultural production alive by using it as a reference. In other words, there are probably more people who would prefer to invoke Pauly Shore's name than to drop $10 to see him on screen.

As I mentioned in a previous "TV Eye," TV and other media are in flux. Technology and other changes have enabled audiences to reform their expectations and seek what they want to see elsewhere if the existing formats don't please them. I don't take a "the sky is falling" attitude toward it. Rather, since TV is my particular interest, I'm waiting for when those in the TV industry will make the paradigm shift and realize, as *On the Media* host **Bob Garfield** recently said at a Ball State University lecture, "that the media as it exists is headed for extinction due to a fragmented audience and a significant loss of advertising dollars." Furthermore, according to a *Ball State Daily News* report by Sean Bueter published Nov. 30, Garfield calls this time of change a "chaos scenario" and says that the "existing media giants will give way to less expensive outlets ... small specialized operations will become the dominant forces in media." (*On the Media* airs locally Saturdays at 6am on KUT.)



"The media as it exists is headed for extinction due to a fragmented audience and a significant loss of advertising dollars."
– *On the Media*'s Bob Garfield to the *Ball State Daily News*

While none of this is happening or will happen in an orderly fashion (resistance to change rarely does), the good news in all of this is that audience desire will drive this change and that it has the potential to create a more democratic media landscape. If you're not finding what you want, you can look elsewhere or – as the existing behemoths of media culture fear – create your own media content. The social implications of this are fascinating: On the downside is a universe of small media communities unaware of those outside their own, making for a sheltered view of the world. But I prefer to look at the upside and think that the truly curious will be led by their desire to click in and see what's out there. There's still the issue of access: Tech toys and accoutrements are not cheap, but prices are falling, and it's up to media advocates to make sure no community gets left behind.

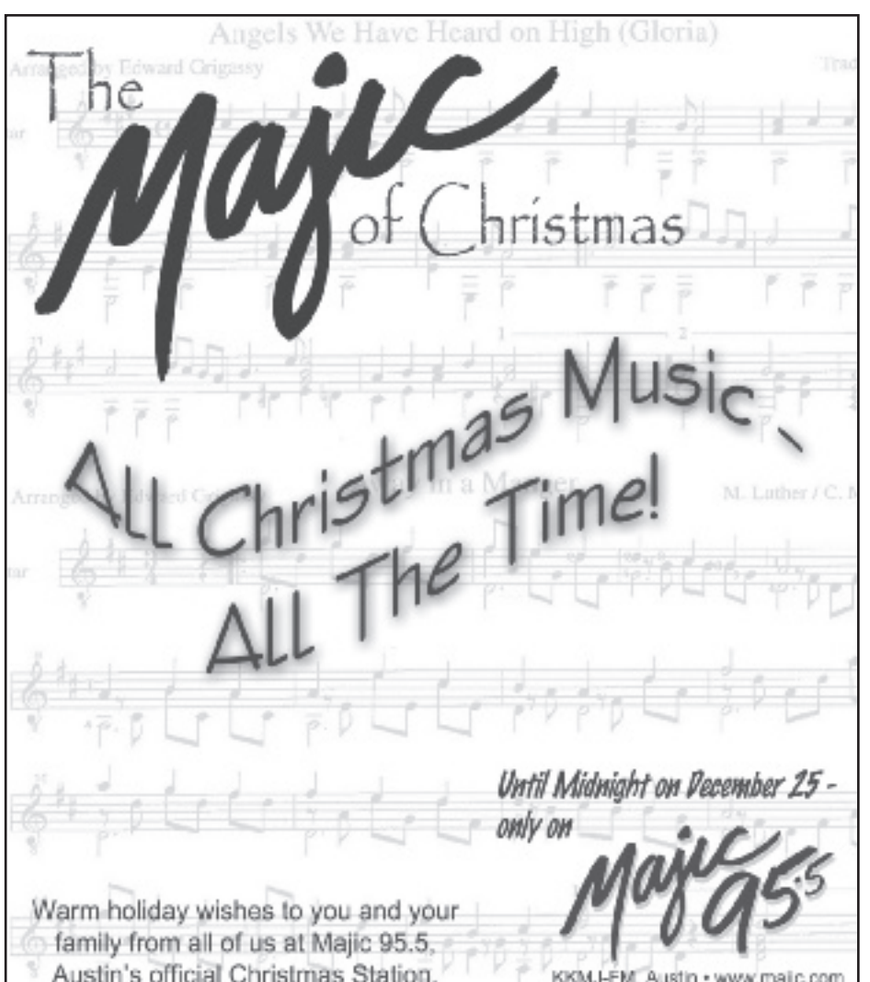
As always, stay tuned. Or not. Really, it's up to you.

Chappelle Alert

Speaking of alternate media sources, Comedy Central recently announced that a "sneak peek" of sketches from the third season of *Chappelle's Show* – left in limbo when host **Dave Chappelle** went MIA – will be offered prior to *Last Laugh '05*, airing Sunday, Dec. 11, at 8pm. The sneak peek repeats on Comedy Central's online broadband channel, Motherload (**www.comedycentral.com/motherload**) on Dec. 12.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at **tveye@austinchronicle.com**





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HOT CHIP
Coming on Strong (Astralwerks)
Hot Chip is London's twisted electronic pop up and coming band whose influences range from the Beach Boys, Stevie Wonder, Neil Young, and Prince to Ween, Madlib and Devo. "Coming on Strong" is like a 21st Century electronic version of Bob Dylan's Basement Tapes.

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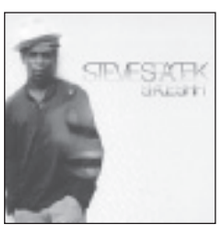
COLE GUERRA
Scarves and Knives (Cleave)
"Moonlit symphonic sweep" - No Depression

"Darkly beautiful debut" - Performing Songwriter

"Guerra has urbanized the Americana sound with great results" - All Music Guide

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STEVE SPACEK
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"...gives new meaning to the phrase space funk." - Rolling Stone

"the most futuristic soul group of our modern age" - Fader

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PRINCE PAUL
Hip Hop Gold Dust (Antidote)
Prince Paul has amassed a formidable collection of unreleased tracks in his home basement. With tracks by De La Soul, Biz Markie, Stetsasonic, the Gravediggaz and plenty more, some might call these undiscovered gems "Hip Hop Gold Dust."

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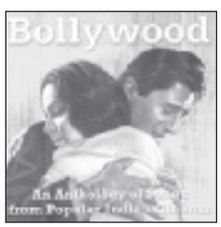
KELLEY POLAR
Love Songs of the Hanging Gardens (Environ)
"'Love Songs of the Hanging Gardens' is yet another surprising, ambitious release whose primary intent is the pursuit of songform, all other genre trappings aside." - Pitchfork

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various/NEXTMEN
Blunted in the Back (Antidote)
Brad Baloo and Dom Search have been rocking parties as the Nextmen for the best part of a decade. This mix contains some clever hip hop style mash-ups as well as two of their own original tracks.

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various artists
BOLLYWOOD: An Anthology of Songs from Popular Indian Cinema (Silva Screen)
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BALKAN BEAT BOX
Balkan Beat Box (JDub)
Blending electronic music with hard-edged folk music from the Balkans, North Africa, and the middle east, the exciting and internationally acclaimed collective Balkan Beat Box is out to prove that all the world is, indeed, a stage – and that we are all gypsies.

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Camp Holiday (Kitchen Table)
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THE GREENHORNES
Sewed Soles (V2)
Championed by rock and roll luminaries and showered with glowing reviews by publications all over the world, the Greenhornes have been tapping into the true soul of rock and roll since 1996. Today, they bring a breath of fresh air and much needed authenticity to the world of rock.

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soundtrack
PRIME (Varese Sarabande)
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Celebrating the magnificence of American soul music. All-new contemporary soul recordings done in a classic mode, from some of the genre's greatest living legends.

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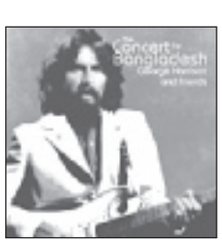


DEAD CAN DANCE
Memento: Very Best Of (Rhino/ Warner)
Spanning two decades of groundbreaking music, first-ever single-disc retrospective from the legendary band and its visionary leaders, Lisa Gerrard and Brendan Perry.

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GEORGE HARRISON & FRIENDS
Concert for Bangladesh (Apple)
Ravi Shankar planted the seed, but it was George Harrison who turned this historic benefit concert into reality. All artist royalties go to UNICEF, or, as Harrison notes in his band introduction, "nobody's gettin' paid for anything."

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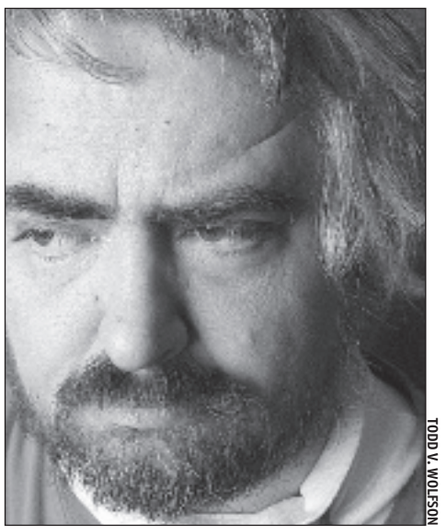
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music

74 GIRL GROUPS BOX SET **76** GIFT GUIDE: BOX SETS

TCB music news

BY CHRISTOPHER GRAY



TODD V. WOLFSON

FEAR YOURSELF

Daniel Johnston, eccentric singer-songwriter, gifted artist, and Austin folk hero, remains in critical but stable condition in Houston's **Ben Taub Hospital**, his family said Monday. Johnston, 44, was taken to the **Tomball Regional Medical Center** near his home in Waller Nov. 25 after becoming incoherent and unable to walk, according to a report on the Web site **RejectedUnknown.com**, and transferred to Ben Taub last weekend. "No change," his father **William** said. "He's still in the hospital, still not communicating with us." The elder Johnston told the Web site last week he believed Daniel suffered from **lithium** poisoning – the singer, diagnosed as manic-depressive, has been taking lithium since the late Nineties – but added Monday that although Daniel's initial infection had cleared up, a subsequent battery of tests had yet to yield any conclusive results. "We're working on the assumption there's something there we hadn't seen," he said. "We've given him a lot of antibiotics and a lot of CAT scans, and an MRI, everything we can think of. Just give us time." Johnston's hospitalization comes at a high tide of career activity: His artwork will be featured in New York's famous **Whitney biennial** exhibition next March, and **Jeff Feuerzeig**'s penetrating *The Devil and Daniel Johnston* documentary, which premiered at **SXSW 05**, made the final cut of potential **Oscar** nominees and will be released nationwide by **Sony** on March 31. Back in Houston, avant-garde theatre company **Infernal Bridegroom Productions**' plans to collaborate with Johnston on a rock opera, scheduled for next spring, have been postponed. "We're all just pulling for Daniel to get better," said Artistic Director **Anthony Barrilla**. So are we.

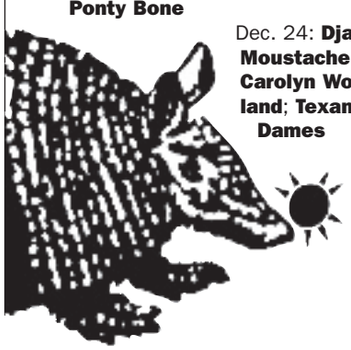


NATHAN JENSEN

BAZAARO WORLD

Satisfying Austinites' blown-glass, Navajo-rug, and handcrafted-pottery holiday needs for 30 years, the **Armadillo Christmas Bazaar** was keeping it weird long before the T-shirt. Again in the **Austin Music Hall**, admission is $3 weekdays before 7pm and $5 weeknights and weekends. Live music at 12:30, 3:30, and 8pm weekends; 8pm weeknights.

Dec. 10: **The Resentments**; **Chip Taylor & Carrie Rodriguez**; **Eliza Gilkyson**
Dec. 11: **Ruthie Foster**; **Redd Volkaert & the All-Stars**; **South Austin Jug Band**
Dec. 12: **The Eggmen**
Dec. 13: **The Greencards**
Dec. 14: **Slaid Cleaves**
Dec. 15: **Toni Price**
Dec. 16: **Jimmy LaFave**
Dec. 17: **Sara Hickman**; **Terri Hendrix**; **Van Wilks**
Dec. 18: **Cyril Neville & Tribe 13**; **Marcia Ball & Sarah Elizabeth Campbell**; **W.C. Clark**
Dec. 19: **Austin Lounge Lizards**
Dec. 20: **Rick Trevino**
Dec. 21: **Ray Wylie Hubbard** & friends
Dec. 22: **Albert & Gage**
Dec. 23: **Shelley King** (3:30pm); **Ponty Bone**
Dec. 24: **Django's Moustache**; **Carolyn Wonderland**; **Texana Dames**

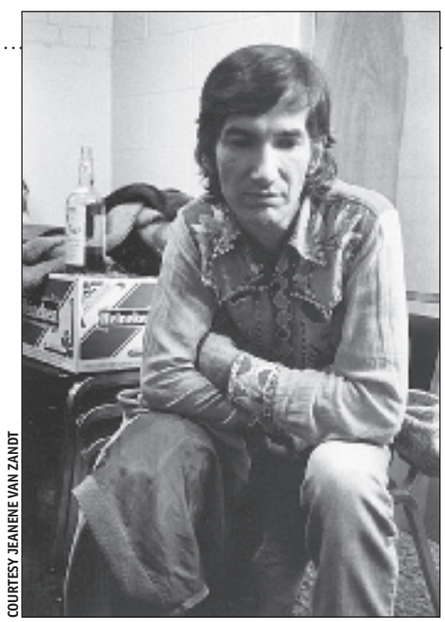


AISLE BE THERE

Snoop Dogg's impending line of foot-long hot dogs, announced last month – "Long and skinny, just like Snoop," his brother told the *Boston Herald* – opens up broad new avenues of celebrity branding possibilities. A glimpse inside the **Whole Foods** of the future:

BRITNEY PICKLE SPEARS: Handy for third-trimester midnight cravings
GREEN DAY GREEN VEGETABLES: Helps American idiots grow strong from eating **Bush**-detested broccoli
WILCO WHEAT GERM: Relieves stress caused by migraines, constantly auditioning new band members
DIXIE CHICKS WHOLE FRYERS: **Dick Cheney** won't go near 'em
COLDPLAY COLD CUTS: Sensitively sliced turkey, ham, and bologna, made with 100% tofu and fair-trade practices
LIL' FLIP'S GRAIN GRIPPIN' GRIDDLE: Dash-mounted device cooks pancakes right in the turnin' lane
MICROWAVE POPKORN: Just add hot air.
PETE DOHERTY POWDERED SUGAR: Looks, tastes exactly like cocaine. One endorsement the bad-boy Brit's embattled girlfriend **Kate Moss** had no problem keeping.
HOLD STEADY HEADACHE POWDERS: For help with hangovers, lingering Catholic guilt, both
ARCADE FIRE BALLS: Hard candy that tastes like a funeral
FIERY FURNACES HOT SAUCE: Inflames mouths, latent sibling sexual tension
NEUTRAL MILK HOTEL 2%: Won't go bad in the airplane over the sea
WHITE STRIPES STRAWBERRIES & CREAM: Scrumptious dessert goes better with Coke
IRON & WINE MERLOT: One bottle brings out the bearded balladeer in you.
BUN B STICKY BUNS: With purple codeine glaze and "Free **Pimp C**" file inside

NO LONESOME TUNE



COURTESY JEANENE VAN ZANDT

In his eventful, rambling, star-crossed life, **Townes Van Zandt** made some interesting fans. **Guy Clark**, **Steve Earle**, and **Willie Nelson** you know, but the **Cowboy Junkies** covered two songs on 1992's *Black Eyed Man* album, **Mudhoney** cut "Buckskin Stallion" with **Jimmie Dale Gilmore** for Sub Pop in 1994, and now **... And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead** swear by *Heartworn Highways*. (First the **Band**, now Townes ... it's like **Wilco** in reverse.) "When we were on tour this year, we watched it for a couple of days nonstop," Trail keyboardist **David Longoria** says of **James Szalapski**'s 1975 tour film starring Van Zandt, reissued on DVD in 2003. "It would be on all the time." The connections don't stop there: **Margaret Brown**, whose Townes doc *Be Here to Love Me* screens at the Alamo Downtown tonight (see "Screens"), personally asked Trail to play the afterparty at **Antone's** alongside **Bill Callahan**, **Knife in the Water**, **Will Sexton**, **Kimmie Rhodes & Joe Gracey**, and Townes' son **J.T. Van Zandt**. Gilmore, the tribute's emcee, has his own store of Townes memories, starting with the mid-Sixties day Lubbock acquaintance **Joe Ely** picked up Van Zandt hitchhiking. Van Zandt had only the clothes on his back and a knapsack full of copies of his first album, one of which he gave Ely, who in turn invited future **Flatlanders** mate Gilmore over for a listen. "That was when we started really hanging out together," Gilmore says. Despite their longtime friendship, Gilmore and Van Zandt only appeared onstage together once. They were on tour in Belfast, Ireland, when Gilmore broke into Townes' "White Freight Liner Blues," from 1988's *Fair and Square*. "He didn't sing a word of it, he just started howling," Gilmore says. "It was just such a typically weird Townes thing."

UNDERCOVER OF THE NIGHT

TCB called it: **Ronnie Wood**, fresh from the **Rolling Stones**' sold-out *Bigger Bang* at Houston's **Toyota Center** last Thursday, made his way just up the street to the **Continental Club** to sit in with **Faces** bandmate and Austin hero **Ian McLagan & the Bump Band**. Stones backups **Chuck Leavell**, **Blondie Chaplin**, and **Bernard Fowler** were also in tow, with the latter two joining Woody onstage for a handful of numbers. For a full account and pictures see **austinchronicle.com**.

Chris Whitley, 45, the erratic, enigmatic guitarist who explored the outer fringes of blues-rock on albums like *Living With the Law* and *Din of Ecstasy*, died of lung cancer Nov. 30 near his native Houston. A frequent visitor to Austin, Whitley's final appearance at the **Saxon Pub** last year was "brilliant," according to general manager **David Cotton**. Kyle-based PR firm **Propaganda Media** handled Whitley's publicity for several years in the mid-Nineties. "He was an incredibly nice guy," says Propaganda's **Vickie Lucero**. "I remember one time there was a line around **Antone's** for his SXSW show, and he walked us all in with him."

Preceding a banner weekend for the Class of '05 (**Glass Family**, **Secret Weapons**, **Casting Couch**, **Pompeii**, **Ghostland Observatory**, **Lomita**), **Moonlight Towers** host an unofficial covers night tonight (Thursday) at **Beerland** with the **Vacation Gold**, **Youngmond Grand**, and the **Early Tapes**. It's MT drummer **Richard Galloway**'s birthday, so listen for the return of their well-received *Abbey Road* suite.

I'd Much Rather Be With the Girls

'Girl Group Sounds' in a Hat Box

BY MARGARET MOSER

Nothing ever conveyed the exuberant joy and bitter heartache of young love like a heavenly choir of girls' angel voices. *One Kiss Can Lead to Another: Girl Group Sounds Lost and Found* is a fresh take on the girl-groups theme, and Rhino delightfully avoids the hackneyed da-doo-ron-ron in favor of the long-forgotten bop-bop-suki-doo-wah dah.

The inspired packaging tucks the 120-song, 4-CD set into a black-and-white striped hatbox. The digipak covers resemble the accessory no girl would be caught dead without: the powder compact, complete with foil mirrors. The four discs are designed as powder puffs; lift the CDs and underneath are the powder trays. The bow on the bouffant is the exhaustive 200-page booklet, created diary style.

This is the real thing, what a box set should be. It's your mother's taffeta prom dress whispering sweet nothings in the back of the closet, layered in pastel tissue paper and still iridescent. It's the dried white carnation corsage pressed between the pages of a dusty diary, its spicy scent and ribbons yellowed by time. It's the poem of everlasting love, written in blue ink during class and ripped from the spiral notebook, folded and forgotten in an old purse. When the set's producer Sheryl Farber writes that "60s girl group music was considered a mere footnote of rock history," she's not kidding.

Therein lies the intricacy of the genre. Most such collections focus on labels or genres, but *Girl Group Sounds* crosses the ocean to bring Brit birds such as Lulu, Sandie Shaw, Cilla Black, Julie Driscoll, Petula Clark, and Dusty Springfield in line with their American sisters including Brenda Lee, Little Eva, Lesley Gore, Mary Wells, Connie Francis, and Cher. Those are names familiar to music lovers, but Farber and co-producer Gary Stewart spotlight lesser-knowns, regional favorites, and one-hit wonders. Hence, we get Twinkle, Twiggy (!), Nita Rossi, Sylvan, Mally Page, and Little Frankie from the other side of the pond, and Yvonne Carroll, Cathy Saint, Gayle Harris, Dawn (not Tony Orlando's), Dorothy Berry, and Alder Ray on this side.

Yes, the Ronettes ("He Did It"), Shirelles ("Please Go Away"), Chiffons ("I Have a Boyfriend"), and Supremes ("When the Lovelight Starts Shining Through His Eyes") hop aboard this train of love, but the steamy secondary hits stop your heart in its tracks. The Exciters shouted the incendiary "Tell Him" on the charts, but here's "He's Got the Power," overlooked and smoking. The Velvelettes told us "He Was Really Sayin' Something," but "Needle in a Haystack" is sharp pop embroidered with velvet harmony. Chris Clark's "Love's Gone Bad" owes its shimmering beat to composers Holland-Dozier-Holland, but how did the Supremes let this one get away? Clark was a white girl signed to Motown, belted better than Diana Ross, yet was consigned to obscurity.

Artists like Clark and the Exciters make you wonder what became of these glittering treasures, gems fallen deeply between the cracks. The mysteries of *Girl Group Sounds* are many and intriguing. Just who *were* the Bittersweets, doing their Shangri-La-ish "What a Lonely Way to Start the Summertime"? Why did a British DJ dub the husky vocalist of the nonsensical "Peanut Duck" with the moniker Marsha Gee? How were the Starlets robbed of "I Sold My Heart to the Junkman," while Patti LaBelle & the Bluebelles got the credit? What possessed the Fabulettes to record a song about weight loss? Where did these girls come from? Where did their love go? Baby, baby.

The Velvelettes were one of Motown's early girl groups, five young women from Flint, Mich., who got together at Western Michigan University. Millie Gill Arbor and Bertha Barbee McNeal were founding members; Millie's sister Cal Gill Street sang lead, while Bertha's cousin Norma Barbee and future Vandella Betty Kelly also joined. Millie, Bertha, and Cal share glowing memories of Motown in its glory days.

"When we first met, we'd just put on a little lipstick and go out the door," Bertha recalls. "But at Motown, we had a person teaching us how to walk and talk, how to sit in a chair, the correct way to get in a car. Maxine Powell came with great credentials and her job was to not only teach us how to talk and perform, but how to socialize and walk with kings and queens. Her favorite saying was to call us 'diamonds in the rough' and she was there to shine us. It was like a school – Motown University."

Cal chirped up, "When we weren't on the road singing, we had to be in class, learning etiquette and also how to sing, how to be onstage. Motown artists had a reputation. 'You can tell those Motown artists,' they'd say. We had vocal coaches like Maurice King and [the Moonglows'] Harvey Fuqua. Marvin Gaye would help us too. I was so young, I had to take my dinner in the dressing room because I wasn't allowed in the club. When I look back on it now, it was almost surreal."

"We were in college or high school when we started singing with Motown in 1962," explains Millie. "We continued our education, worked, got married, had kids, and quit singing for a while. In 1986, the Velvelettes got back together and we're still doing it, tours and shows. Bertha and I collect retirement and Social Security right now. Cal and Norma still have to work."



The Velvettes



GIFT GUIDE

This is the real thing, what a box set should be. It's your mother's taffeta prom dress whispering sweet nothings in the back of the closet, layered in pastel tissue paper and still iridescent.

In one of the set's essays, author Gerri Hirshey notes that what made the girl-group genre remarkable was that "Not since the late '20s when Southern blueswomen were top sellers of 78 rpm records had so many women been at the fore (and on the charts) of popular American music." Yet they came from many places and went many more. Marie Knight, whose "Hey, Tell Me Boy" gleams, fills in one gap, having duetted with Sister Rosetta Tharpe. The Honeys were girl surf group: Marilyn Novell married Brian Wilson. When the high gloss of girlhood wore thin, many of these crooning, mooning young women found their way into country music: Skeeter Davis, Dolly Parton, Sadina, and Wanda Jackson.

This isn't artificial emotion. Maxine Brown's version of "Oh No, Not My Baby" pulses with pain. Dee Dee Warwick's "You're No Good" is muscular, soulful, and outweighs Linda Ronstadt's lightweight version, though not everything here is as stellar. Many tracks are imitative and derivative, like "Dream Baby" by Cher, never a great vocalist anyway, or the Pin-Ups' "Lookin' for Boys," which sounds like "My Boyfriend's Back" because it was supposed to.

For many of the black girl groups, these songs were one step out of the church pew and into sin, with all its attendant gospel ache. "The fortune teller told me my love with you was doomed," the Ikettes call under the dark of the moon on "I'm Blue (The Gong-Gong Song)." The moaned response: "I hope her reading was wrong." Still, the black girl groups here are generally "good" girls. Almost. The Satisfactions warn Daddy, "One of Hell's Angels will be knocking at the door tonight." That likely suggestion of interracial romance is badass stuff in 1966 for the group otherwise known as the Blossoms. The Whyte Boots' "Nightmare" was about a deadly girl fight, and their un-retouched photo shows them brandishing ropes. "I'm Gonna Destroy That Boy" is a rough threat by the What Four. "Chico's Girl" by the Girls has the Spector specter, but the Goodees "Condition Red" cops the death chant of the Shangri-Las' "Leader of the Pack" with suburban panache.

Few of these songs would pack their pink punch without the songwriters. Cynthia Weil, Barry Mann, Valerie Simpson, Nick Ashford, Gerry Goffin, Jeff Barry, Kenny Gamble, Norman Whitfield, Brian Holland, Lamont Dozier, Eddie Holland, Tony Hatch, and Shadow Morton turn up repeatedly, but who expects Keith Richards, Ike Turner, Neil Diamond, Van McCoy, Cat Stevens, or Chip Taylor? And songwriters-cum-singers Carole King, Jackie DeShannon, Syreeta Wright, and Ellie Greenwich did their thing on both sides of the microphone.

The heyday of girl groups is traditionally considered the early Sixties, yet *Girl Group Sounds* proves some of the strongest music was made after the British Invasion. The Flirtations' "Nothing but a Heartache" from 1968 throbs joyously. The Luv'd Ones and Goldie & the Gingerbreads were actual performing bands. Just think, the Lovelites' "How Can I Tell My Mom & Dad" came out in 1969; a scant five years later Blondie was born.

But where would Blondie, the Go-Go's, and Bananarama have been without the girl groups? Or for that matter, where would En Vogue, Sleater-Kinney, Destiny's Child, or the Donnas be? *One Kiss Can Lead to Another: Girl Group Sounds Lost and Found* is where it all comes together. From ratted beehives, sequins, and spike heels to white patent leather go-go boots prancing the Pony 'til dawn, it's all you ever wanted to know about the girls, the songs, and the sound, wet with teardrops and sealed with a kiss.

Doo wah doo wah dah. ■

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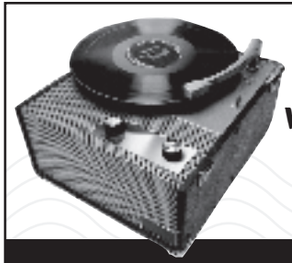
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and a few surprise guests

PHOTO BY MARGARET BROWN

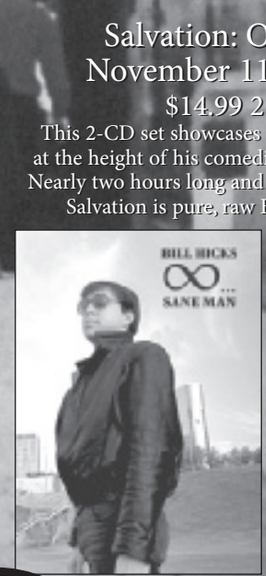
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WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS



JELLY ROLL MORTON

***The Complete Library of Congress Recordings by Alan Lomax* (Rounder)**

Around 1900, jazz became an independent form of music, growing from earlier styles including ragtime and marches. One of the genre's most important early innovators was pianist, composer, arranger Jelly Roll Morton, whose career began as a teenaged pianist in the brothels of the red light district, Storyville. A Creole with a middle-class background, Morton was interested in everything from gutbucket blues to high-quality classical, musical forms that influenced him in his transition from ragtime player to jazz pioneer. Unfortunately, he didn't record until 1923, so the exact nature of his earliest efforts remains somewhat obscure, though as early as 1910, he was recognized as a serious innovator of the form. Morton's style of music was not in fashion when the discs on this set were cut by famed folklorist Alan Lomax. They consist of seven CDs recorded in 1938 for the Library of Congress on which Morton plays, sings, and speaks, and are issued here for the first time in their entirety. An eighth CD, recorded in 1949, records impressions of him by some of his New Orleans contemporaries as well as demonstrations of music by them. What's made clear here is that Morton's being called one of jazz's most important founders is fully justified. Actually, during his 1923 sessions, he's ahead of his time. Check him out on "Ain't Misbehavin'," where his complex single-note lines are reminiscent of Art Tatum's work. As for Morton's compositions, his "King Porter Stomp," said to have been written as early as 1905, was still popular with swing bands when he cut it here. And his "Pep," with its impressionist influence, is modern in some respects even today. Morton was ridiculed in the latter part of his career because he claimed, "I created jazz," and he was not always charitable about other musicians. Nevertheless, his oral history here is provocative, and his playing bears out some of the hard-to-believe statements that have been made by (and about) him.

★★★★★ *– Harvey Pekar*

RAY CHARLES

***Pure Genius: The Complete Atlantic Recordings, 1952-1959* (Rhino)**



Most box sets are assembled with the idea of gathering together a particular legacy. A few actually achieve said goal, like John Coltrane's *The Heavyweight Champion* and *The Complete Hank Williams*, which combine music and packaging in a way that enhances the listening experience. Add Ray Charles' *Pure Genius* to the list. Over the course of seven CDs and a DVD, the late Brother Ray proclaims his skill as singer, pianist, saxophone player, songwriter, arranger, and producer. As biographer David Ritz writes in the 80-page book included in the set, "These are the historic years of his creative explosion, the time when he reinvented himself as a musical revolutionary." Amazingly, Charles was still in his 20s at the time of these recordings, yet he blazed a path for soul music, moaning the blues unlike anyone else and proving his mastery of jazz with the likes of Milt Jackson and David "Fathead" Newman while exhibiting a taste for country music. Presented chronologically, *Pure Genius* naturally collects the hits ("I've Got a Woman," "What I'd Say," "Drown in My Own Tears"), but there's almost an hour of previously unreleased material as well. The last disc is a bonanza of mostly unissued solo performances that range from a lengthy 1953 rehearsal to a few hotel room demos from 1959. The DVD contains a sensational, never-before-seen performance at the 1960 Newport Jazz Festival as well as an interview recorded earlier this year with Atlantic Records co-founder Ahmet Ertegun conducted by Taylor Hackford, director of the motion picture *Ray*. Equally imaginative is the set's packaging: an imitation, Fifties-style portable record player that includes a hardbound book, which includes original LP liner notes from Nat Hentoff, Billy Taylor, Leonard Feather, and more. Pure delight.

★★★★★ *– Jim Caligiuri*

GIFT GUIDE

THE COMPLETE MOTOWN SINGLES VOL. 3: 1963

(Motown/Hip-O Select)



The first thing to do after peeling the shrink wrap off the purple-coded third volume of Hip-O Select's march through Motown: Play the vinyl 45 slipped into the cover. Martha & the Vandellas' "Heat Wave" is the joy of human existence in 2:39. After that, there's the franchise label's entire singles output for 1963, 117 songs in a 5-CD bound volume. Heat wave. Berry Gordy and company are still firing globs of vinyl against the wall, jazz, gospel, blues, country, lounge, comedy, and kitsch, with early singles by the Marvelettes and Supremes scaling the heights of divahood. Martha Reeves, meanwhile, kicks heiny on "Come and Get These Memories," while Amos Milburn sings out for his own high-profile reissue. Smokey Robinson and Marvin Gaye came to life in *Vol. 2* and here are in full bloom, as is the killing Temptations' doo-wopper "I Want a Love I Can See." Little Stevie Wonder's "Fingertips (Part 1 & 2)," twice, help balance *Vol. 3*'s hit-and-miss era; the Supremes still can't mortgage a hit. Then, suddenly, on the last two discs, there's no looking back. "Heat Wave," "Mickey's Monkey," Mary Wells' swooning "You Lost the Sweetest Boy," and Marvin Gaye's tawny "Can I Get a Witness" set the stage for "When the Lovelight Starts Shining Through His Eyes." Fifteen discs into this ongoing Internet-only endeavor, the Supremes finally hit with their stamp and clap and its pigtailed B-side, "Standing at the Crossroads of Love," encored by the Miracles' hopping "I Gotta Dance to Keep From Crying" and the Vandellas' 100% "Heat Wave" follow-up, "Quicksand." The vinyl, by the way, plays like ice cream. **www.hip-oselect.com**.

★★★ *– Raoul Hernandez*

DOO WOP: VOCAL GROUP GREATS

(Shout! Factory)



Considering the rabid pace of today's information society, creating attention spans so short that romance becomes an untimely inconvenience, a nostalgic trip back to simpler times is a necessity. By flux capacitor or Shout! Factory retrospective, Fifties era doo wop wafts saccharine-speckled fumes across any thoughts of forgoing a warm embrace for cold digitalia. When Nolan Strong of the Diablos croons, "I know she has gone, but my love lingers on in a dream that the winds bring to me," his proto-Motown falsetto reminds us that life is far too sublime to be defined by binary code. Imagine Cooley High crushes so intense that knife-wielding street hoods turn to robins, orioles, and cardinals harmonizing their way toward consummation. The complete obliteration of innocence reflected by modern rap and R&B loses itself in the pleas of Frankie Lymon, who'd rather not be labeled a "Juvenile Delinquent." Where the twain shall meet, busied men and women alike should slow their rolls long enough to relate to the Shirelles wondering, "Will You Love Me Tomorrow." Listen to the Cleftones foreshadowing the Jamaican rock steady of groups such as the Wailers and Melodians with 1961's "For Sentimental Reasons." Behold "I Count the Tears" by the Drifters as its "na na na's" set the stage for the Grass Roots' Aquarian anthem "Let's Live for Today." Catch Dion and Barry Mann shedding white light on an already-bright idea. With three CDs spanning 60 classics, *Doo Wop: Vocal Group Greats* augments Rhino's previous offerings with a heavenly companion to an upcoming PBS documentary.

★★★ *– Robert Gabriel*

BILLY JOEL

***My Lives* (Legacy/Columbia)**



A box set of rarities and demos demands patience from even the most dedicated fan, and luckily, "Piano Man" Billy Joel has enough faithful followers anxious to scoop up material from the once-prolific hit-maker. Everyone else will have a hard time sifting for gems in the 4-CD/1-DVD *My Lives*, 70 assorted demos, covers, live cuts, and the occasional studio hit. It begins with tracks from Joel's early Sixties bar bands the Lost Souls and the Hassles, and continues with a glimpse into Joel's songwriting process, as demos such as "The Prime of Your Life" give way to future hits like "The Longest Time." It's hard to argue against Joel's talent as a songwriter, but his body of work lacks the kind of studio tinkering or mystery that warrants a retrospective of rough drafts or forgotten B-sides. *My Lives* doesn't start unearthing treasure until disc three, when covers ("All Shook Up," "Hard Days Night") yield some of the set's better moments, and solo live versions of Joel classics such as "I Go to Extremes" beat out timid duets with the likes of Steve Winwood ("Getting Closer"). As the years pass, the collection concludes with Joel's more recent classical compositions. The DVD, a repackaged live show from his River of Dreams tour, only reinforces what we spent four discs learning: The "Piano Man" has his classics and his followers, but he rarely challenges either.

★★ *– Matt Dentler*

DONOVAN



Try for the Sun: The Journey of Donovan **(Sony BMG)**

In the liner notes for Donovan's new velvet-encrusted box set, John Mellencamp notes that, at one time, the Scottish hippie-folk icon was regarded as equal to Dylan. There's a reason that's laughable today, and it's not just because Dylan took the piss out of him in the documentary *Don't Look Back*. Paring this 3-CD/1-DVD set down to a tight collection of Donovan's singles from "Catch the Wind" through "Atlantis" reveals well-honed pop instincts, solid backing from the future Led Zeppelin, and an airy playfulness befitting the Aquarian Age before Altamont. Nonhits like the swinging travelogue "Sunny South Kensington" and jazz-tinged B-side "Preachin' Love" are eye-opening baubles in their own right. After a while, though, the wondrous whimsy overdoses into gratingly fey piffle. Before playing "The Tinker and the Crab," one of several unreleased live tracks, Donovan announces he wants to give the children of the world something better for their imagination than Superman or Batman. His fawning audience applauds, then he puts them to sleep with a but-it's-good-for-you dose of acoustic castor oil. The clueless Vietnam love song "To Susan on the West Coast Waiting" is smug enough to turn Quakers into rampaging hard hats. As the Sixties end, Donovan gamely tries to find a cozy place in the singer-songwriter pantheon next to Cat Stevens, but he never quite gets there. Ditto for the DVD, a stale toast documentary of Donovan's 1970 Greek Islands getaway. For all the evocation of era one feels when "Sunshine Superman" or "Hurdy Gurdy Man" crackle to life, this overview lends little weight to the notion that Donovan is due a critical reassessment.

★★ *– Greg Beets*

YES



The Word Is Live **(Elektra/Rhino)**

There's no question that punk was a reaction to the bloated rock of the Seventies, with Yes being perhaps *the* group most cited for the decade's grandiose quagmire. Yet it's equally true that Yes' orchestrated rock was itself a reaction to the trouble-free pop of the Sixties, coupled with an embrace of technology and virtuosity. The British band – 14 members in 17 lineups over 35 years – has done it all, from free-love psychedelica to contemporary symphonic rock. It's hard for a band with such history to top earlier work, and even though Yes demonstrated recent inventiveness in 2001's *Magnification*, most of their credibility arises from an immense catalog and vibrant live show. *The Word Is Live*, their 31st release, presents both. Nearly all the 26 tracks are fresh issue, some coming from guitarist Steve Howe's secret stash. Not as holistic as their live, 1973 three-LP *Yessongs*, this 3-CD compilation spans more time, from John Peel's 1970 BBC show to a 1988 Houston concert, from "Yours Is No Disgrace" to "Owner of a Lonely Heart," forsaking a few classics for rarities ("Go Through This") and improvs ("Hello Chicago"). Then again why should anyone care about Yes' fifth compendium of live material, with the youngest composition being two decades old? Because the music resonates, witnessed by liner endorsements from Matthew Sweet, Rush, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Duncan Sheik, Foo Fighters, and the Posies. Scratchy tracks exist for historical completeness, making it a fan must-have. *The Word Is Live* helps cement Yes' place in modern rock, just don't expect it to change any punk minds soon.

★★★ *– David Lynch*

continued on p.78

THE BAND

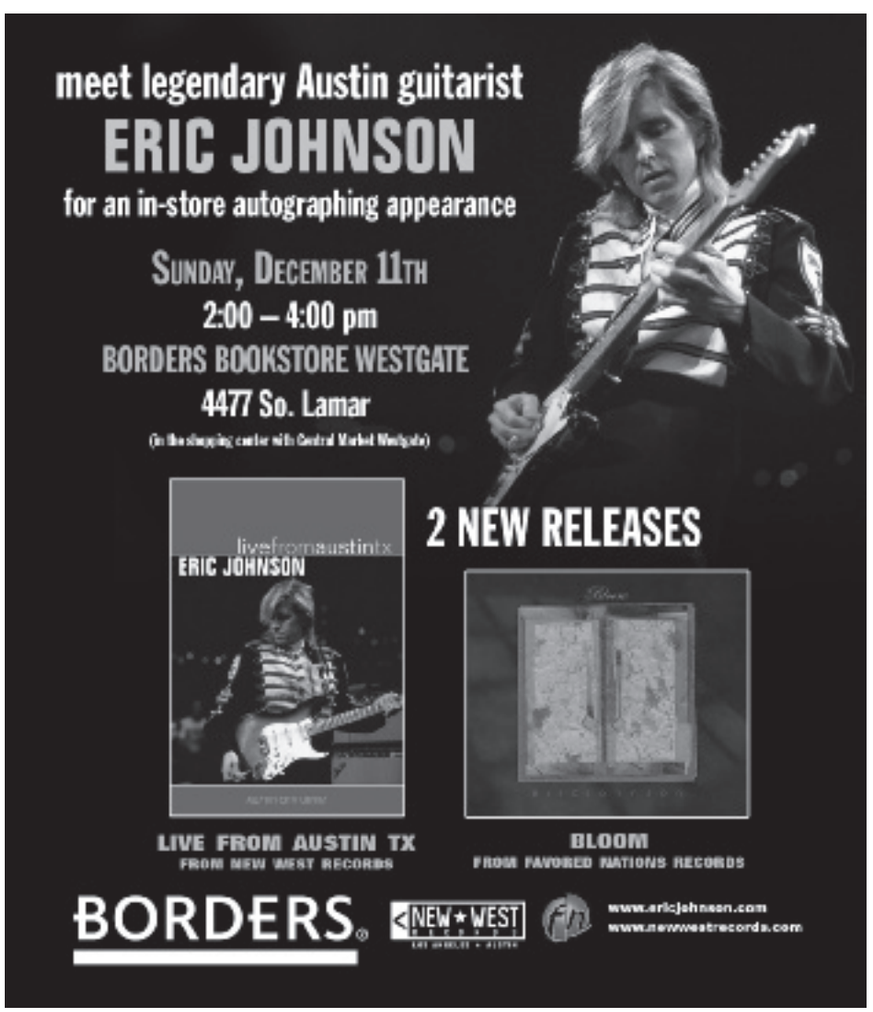


A Musical History **(Capitol)**

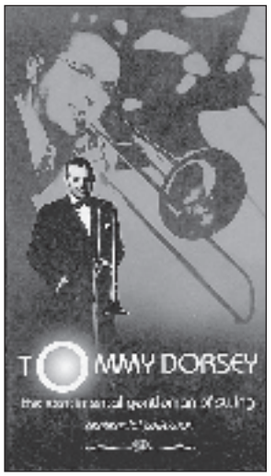
Sizable, hardbound, with MOMA-quality visuals, novella-style liner notes, and high-gloss, Madison Avenue layout, *A Musical History* is a beloved volume of literature. Each successive cast of Capitol's reissue net has expanded the Band's pioneering blueprint for modern Americana, and following 2000's estimable catalog upgrade and 2002's *The Last Waltz* expansion, this 5-CD/1-DVD overview enriches the tale further. Previously unissued on CD or otherwise are 33 of the set's 102 tracks, almost doubling 1994's previous *Across the Great Divide* box, a 2-CD overview with a rarities disc not necessarily made redundant here. A cache of "song sketches" (aka demos) is particularly mouthwatering, like Richard Manuel's raw vocal on early era blues "Bacon Fat" and Rick Danko's lithe, bobbing "Move Me." The overall pacing is expert – Band leader Robbie Robertson produced – and while some later numbers might not be considered essential (Garth Hudson's seven-minute space intro, "The Genetic Method"), each cut builds to a greater whole: four Canadians and an Alabama howler named Levon Helm. Disc one slays, morphing early-Sixties bar rockers the Hawks into Bob Dylan & the Hawks, whose live "Tell Me, Momma" is fire water from the 1966 wellspring. Disc two mostly devotes itself to the Band's 1968 debut LP *Music From Big Pink*, sprinkled with lost tracks like Dylan and the Band revving up Woody Guthrie's "I Ain't Got No Home." Disc three follows suit with the majority of Pink's follow-up, *The Band*, and tracks from subsequent albums on which the luster begins fading. An unreleased collaboration with Van Morrison, "4% Pantomime," and all is forgiven. At the heart of disc four is 1971 live essential *Rock of Ages*, and disc five rounds up the group's final LPs, more Dylan gems, including a scabrous "Highway 61 Revisited," and *The Last Waltz* closers. A scrappy, 41-minute DVD, centered around three performances from *Saturday Night Live* in 1976 – the best of which, Richard Manuel crooning "Georgia on My Mind," went unaired – is a bonus rather than a well-chosen video compendium. That comes later, hopefully.

★★★★½ *– Raoul Hernandez*





JAZZ SIDES



TOMMY DORSEY

***The Sentimental Gentleman of Swing* (Bluebird/Columbia Legacy)**

Although white bands were the most popular during the swing era, it's now recognized that African-American bands like those of Fletcher Henderson, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, and Jimmy Lunceford were the best in this genre. What's happened since this opinion has been accepted is that white big bands have often been lumped together and generally forgotten. That's unfortunate in that some were quite good, and it's still a pleasure to hear their music. Certainly this Tommy Dorsey 3-CD set is welcome. Dorsey had a fine all around band, doing flag wavers like "Marie" and ballads featuring a young Frank Sinatra. Dorsey was well-stocked with admirable soloists, including himself on trombone, Bunny Berigan and Charlie Shavers on trumpet, Johnny Mince and Buddy de Franco on clarinet, and Bud Freeman on tenor sax. In Dave Tough, Dorsey had not only a drummer who was outstanding in the Thirties, but a precursor of the be-bop style. The first disc spotlights Dorsey as a soloist, with various studio orchestras between 1925 and 1934. His improvising is notable here, but so is the work of other stars of the era, guitarist Eddie Lang, violinist Joe Venuti, and the marvelous though still underappreciated vocalist Connee Boswell. The second CD includes 1935-1955 studio sessions by his band and illustrates that Dorsey was willing to make some accommodations for changing times, as on Ernie Wilkins' modern "Flagler Drive." Air checks are featured on the third disc, including a number of vocals. The gifted Dick Haymes can be heard as well as Sinatra, and the disc ends with a 1956 Dorsey-Elvis Presley version of "Heartbreak Hotel." The set is substantive and difficult not to enjoy.

★★★½ – *Harvey Pekar*

BILLIE HOLIDAY

***The Complete Verve Studio Master Takes* (Verve)**

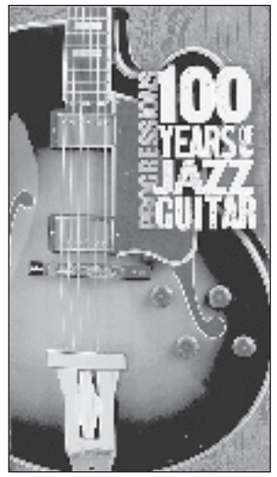


Reflexive dismissal of Billie Holiday's final recordings is well and truly tested by *The Complete Verve Studio Master Takes*. Legacy's 10-CD *The Complete Billie Holiday on Columbia (1933-1944)* remains a singular human accomplishment, but as with another endnote, 2003's *Charlie Parker: The Complete Verve Master Takes*, the opposite end of the spectrum is also essential to Lady Day addicts. Metal-bound like *Parker*, this 6-CD compilation unfolds accordion style, stringing together Holiday's final LPs, 1952 through 1959, the year of the singer's death. *Master Takes* means no alternate takes, which makes for a better listen, Holiday cutting the cream of the great songbooks in stereo for the jukebox generation. Ellington, Gershwin, Rodgers & Hart, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, etc., are covered by sextets alternately led by trumpets Charlie Shavers and Harry "Sweets" Edison, ivory traders Oscar Peterson and Jimmy Rowles, and featuring giants Ray Brown, Benny Carter, and Ben Webster. Productionwise, the bands are muted (by hiss early in the run), Holiday's voice not just in the foreground, but in 3-D. She's *right here*. As such, there's a timelessness to these sides. They *were* recorded in a vacuum; there's nothing except that otherworldly voice. Early 78s like a particularly poignant "Autumn in New York" give way to 1955's balmy *Stay With Me* and middle-of-the-roadsters *Music for Touching* and *Velvet Mood*. Disc four pairs '56's popular *Lady Sings the Blues* and flickering *All or Nothing*, the former's title track one of the few songs Holiday wrote, with jazz scientist Herbie Nichols, followed by her immortal reading of "Strange Fruit." The last disc adds strings to dull the druggy blur Holiday's voice had become. Jimmy Cleveland's trombone and girlish "There'll Be Some Changes Made" shine, but otherwise, a sad finale. Even then, you hate to hear it end.

★★★½ – *Raoul Hernandez*

PROGRESSIONS: 100 YEARS OF JAZZ GUITAR

(Columbia/Legacy)



This 4-CD box is loaded with name guitarists, as well as some who were or are merely popular. *100 Years of Jazz Guitar* though? Not quite. The first track (1906) features banjoist Vess Ossman, but the next track wasn't cut until 1921. That said, almost everything here has something to recommend it, particularly the Hawaiian guitar work on the first CD. You have some of the fathers of jazz guitar playing on this disc, Lonnie Johnson, Eddie Lang, Django Reinhardt, and Charlie Christian, all of them demonstrating why they were innovators. The second disc contains the work of 1940s and 1950s bop and post-bop guitarists, such as Bill de Arango, who was arguably the best bop guitarist until he elected to drop off the national scene and return to Cleveland in 1948. You've also got great cats like Jimmy Raney, Tal Farlow, Chuck Wayne, Jim Hall, Kenny Burrell, Wes Montgomery, Grant Green, and Joe Pass appearing on the disc. Disc three covers rock-jazz fusion and features such classic tracks as Jimi Hendrix's "Manic Depression" and Pat Metheny's "Bright Size Life." Other significant work by George Benson, Pat Martino, Derek Bailey, John McLaughlin, and Mick Goodrick also appears. As for the fourth disc, it includes too much undistinguished pop fluff by Santana, Phil Upchurch, Eric Gale, and others. There are fine cuts by Marc Ribot, Bill Frisell, James Blood Ulmer, and Mike Stern (with Miles Davis), but it's still the least important side. The box also contains a 148-page book with an introduction by John Scofield, photos of every player, 25 guitar heroes speaking about their heroes, solo transcriptions and analyses, photos of vintage guitar models, amps, ads, and more. There's plenty of *Progression*, even if it's not 100 years' worth.

★★★ – *Harvey Pekar*

KING CRIMSON

***The 21st Century Guide to King Crimson Volume Two: 1981-2003* (Discipline Global Mobile)**

"King Crimson is one of the few gigs in rock & roll where it's even remotely possible to play in 17/16 [time] and stay in a decent hotel." KC skin-beater Bill Bruford's liner-note quote is all you need to know about this sonic institution: rock & roll in odd time signatures, yet successful enough to tour frequently. *Volume Two* bests last year's highly regarded *Volume One: 1969-1974*, because, frankly, the music's even better.



Like a second-stage rocket, the 1981-onward KC took their esteemed reputation and intrepid instrumentation to new heights, in their classic 80s quartet, 90s double trio, 00s double duo, and ProjeKct offshoots. Like the first volume, *Volume Two* has a gig chronology, complimentary and caustic press reviews, posters, memorabilia, and candid pictures. The music, two live and two studio discs, is like nothing else: would-be Stanley Kubrick soundtracks, angular Beatles-esque pop, well-orchestrated aggro-industrial noise, and heart-squeezing ballads. It's easy to see why this collective raised the bar for Dream Theater, Tool, Radiohead, etc. A cookbook for adventurous listening, *V2* also includes studio and/or live versions of faves "Elephant Talk," "THRAK," "Three of a Perfect Pair," "Sartori in Tangier," "Lark's Tongue in Aspic: Part IV," and "Dinosaur." Crimson's fearlessness justifies multiple song renditions, in no small part thanks to Austin's own drumming maestro Pat Mastelotto, along with founder Robert Fripp, senior melodist Adrian Belew, touch guitarist Trey Gunn, and low-end surgeon Tony Levin. And what other prog outfit would adjoin the self-deprecating barbershop quartet "The King Crimson Barbershop"? Thankfully, time has finally caught up with King Crimson's avant-garde.

★★★★ – *David Lynch*

TALKING HEADS

(Rhino)



Packaged in a white plastic block with song titles cut into it, *Talking Heads* has earned the unofficial title of the "Brick." While 2003's multidisc *Once in a Lifetime* was a greatest hits/career retrospective, the Brick contains all eight of the band's studio LPs on eight DualDiscs, and musically speaking, it's an imposing monolith. Each disc contains a CD side with the original album newly remastered, plus relevant bonus tracks, and a DVD side with new Surround Sound mix produced by Jerry Harrison and extra audio, video, lyrics, and photos. That's a lot of the Heads' off-kilter punk and funk to sprawl through, and with a list price of $150, it's not for the casual fan. Listening to the albums in the order they were made, it's fascinating to hear the New York quartet build into an innovative, polyrhythmic orchestra from their meager beginnings as geeky art school students singing about buildings, warning signs, and psycho killers. The albums produced with Brian Eno, particularly 1980's *Remain in Light* and 1983's *Speaking in Tongues*, adapt especially well to the new expanded mixes where listeners can in essence wrap themselves in the band. Of the Brick's videos, a live shoot from 1976 at New York performance space the Kitchen is eye-catching as are the four songs from a 1980 German television appearance including a searing "I Zimbra." Audio extras like an early, acoustic "Psycho Killer" and a spunky version of "Papa Legba" featuring Pops Staples are also noteworthy. Points are shaved for packaging each CD in a white jewel case with no identifying markings. While fitting in with the overall look of the Brick, it's more than a little irritating not having at least the track listing readily available while listening to Talking Heads' exquisitely appealing noise.

★★★★ – *Jim Caligiuri*

JUST SAY SIRE: THE SIRE RECORDS STORY

(Rhino)



Sire was, at its best, Seymour Stein's whims and hunches on Warner Bros.' dime. However much the albums did or didn't sell, only Stein's splendid ears ever governed Sire's sizable roster. Several acts didn't even make Rhino's 3-CD/1-DVD set, but these did: Ice-T, Lou Reed, Debbie Harry, Seal, Wilco, Replacements, Pretenders, Ramones. Some gal from Detroit named Madonna, who kicks off disc one with 1982's "Everybody," precedes your neighborhood retro night's greatest hits: "Oh L'amour," "Tainted Love," "People Are People," "Kiss Me," "Genius of Love." Stein's more singular signings (Ofra Haza, Brian Wilson, Little Jimmy Scott, the Cult) bring up the rear. The second disc rocks and rolls through "Blitzkrieg Bop," "Back on the Chain Gang," and (yay!) Uncle Tupelo's

More 2005 BOX SETS

Count Basie
austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-05-27/music_phases8.html

Johnny Cash
austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-08-26/music_phases.html

Eagles
austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-05-27/music_phases12.html

The Complete Motown Singles Vols. 1-2
austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-05-27/music_phases13.html

Children of Nuggets
austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-10-21/music_phases3.html

Charlie Poole
austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-05-27/music_phases11.html

Ramones
austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-08-19/music_phases3.html

Doug Sahm
austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-04-15/music_phases.html

Whatever: The '90's Pop & Culture Box
austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-08-19/music_phases4.html

"Give Back the Key to My Heart," plus period pieces like Laid Back's "White Horse," Dead Boys' "Sonic Reducer." and Ministry's "Jesus Built My Hotrod." Choice cut: the Flamin' Groovies' "Shake Some Action." Ignited by the Undertones' eternal "Teenage Kicks," disc three is an Anglophile's delight: Smiths, Cure, Echo & the Bunnymen, Morrissey's gloriously glum "Everyday Is Like Sunday." Before My Bloody Valentine and Ride close out the audio portion in a shoegazer fog, you'll remember why you loved Plastic Bertrand, Bomb the Bass, the Rezillos, and most of all the Normal's hilariously stoic "Warm Leatherette." The DVD has priceless videos from Depeche Mode, Talking Heads, Belly, Madonna, and many more. Thanks to Stein, *Just Say Sire* is rich with something sorely missing among today's bean-counting record men: personality.

★★★ – *Christopher Gray*

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LEAD STORY

The Official Shoe of Illegal Immigrants: Artist Judi Werthein's high-top sneaker "Brinco" went on sale recently ($215 a pair) at boutiques in San Diego and New York City, with tiny accessories (compass and flashlight on the shoelaces, secret pocket in the shoe's tongue), but she also gives away many pairs in Tijuana because she actually designed the shoe for Mexican migrants to wear when they sneak across the border into the United States. (The back of the shoe has a drawing of the country's patron saint of migrants, and a removable foot support has a crude map of the U.S.-Mexico border, according to a November Associated Press report.)

CAN'T POSSIBLY BE TRUE

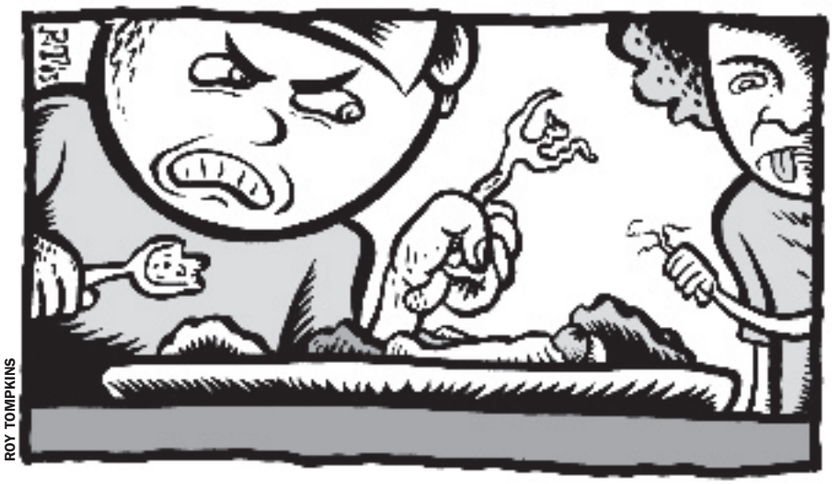
• Blond twins Lamb and Lynx Gaede, age 13, of Bakersfield, Calif., sing professionally as Prussian Blue at white-supremacy concerts and rallies and on the white-nationalist Resistance Records label (with songs like "Sacrifice," which is a tribute to Hitler's deputy Rudolf Hess), according to an October ABC News story. The girls' parents home-school them and are active in the Aryan movement (rancher-dad Ted Shaw's cattle brand is a swastika). Said Lynx, "We want our people to stay white. (W)e don't want to just be, you know, a big muddle."

• According to more than 50 alleged witnesses in 30 pending lawsuits, former Seattle-area gynecologist Charles Momah, 48, not only sexually abused patients but also permitted his twin brother, Dennis (a doctor but not a gynecologist), to stand in for him during some patient appointments, during which he, too, sexually abused the women. Examples of suspicion-provoking behavior, according to witness statements: Sometimes their doctor was talkative, sometimes confused and nearly silent; sometimes he spoke English clearly, sometimes broken; sometimes he walked with a limp, sometimes not; sometimes there were scars on his face, sometimes not. The Momahs deny everything, but Charles was convicted in November of sexually abusing four of the patients.

• In November, to calm down a growing number of apparently horrified Australians, the Food Authority of the state of New South Wales issued a statement assuring people that meat in their refrigerators that appears to glow in the dark is actually harmless. Said the authority's director, the light-emitting bacteria responsible for the glow "is not known to cause food poisoning" and, actually, is naturally present in most meats and fish.

NEWS of the WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



Until the policy was changed in October, cafeterias in the 18 schools of the North Penn School District (northwest of Philadelphia) had been supplying as eating utensils only plastic cutlery that was washed after each meal and reused, even though students had long expressed disgust at spoons and knives riddled with bite marks and had, defensively, taken to eating foods like yogurt and applesauce with their hands. (The district admitted that this recycling saved only $15,000 a year.)

UNCLEAR ON THE CONCEPT

• In October in Evansville, Ind., Terrence L. Mackey, 63, was sentenced to 29 years in prison for a May 2005 bank robbery, but not before he tried to defend his behavior to Federal Judge Richard L. Young, blaming the robbery on federal corrections officials. He would have turned his life around before now, Mackey said, if officials had just sent him to a prison close to his mother's home in Florida when he was locked up for a 1982 crime. And as to the charge that he shot at police as he fled the bank robbery, he claimed self-defense: "The police were shooting at me."

• David Duvall and his 2-year-old daughter were hospitalized with burns on the head suffered during the Maryland Renaissance Festival in Crownsville in October after a female acrobat mishandled a flaming wand. The woman, seeking a volunteer from the audience, asked Duvall, in front of his family, if she could set fire to his bald head, and Duvall said, "Sure." Said Duvall's wife, later, "We thought they knew what they were doing."

• Cary, N.C., software developer Brian T. Schellenberger, 43, told FBI agents in December 2003 that he had been influenced by a workplace motivational poster, "Achieve Your Dreams," that energized him to fulfill his own dreams. His major life transformation, unfortunately, was that "I decided to get rid of the obsolete idea of morality." Specifically, he told the agents that he was inspired to move beyond his mere passive collecting of pornography and to begin creating his own child pornography to satisfy long-held fantasies about young girls. (He also later enlisted a man, unsuccessfully, to kill his wife in exchange for pornography from his collection.) In October 2005, Schellenberger, though subsequently remorseful, was sentenced to 100 years in prison.

LEAST COMPETENT PEOPLE

• Jim Porcellato endured about 30 seconds of excruciating pain in October in Sooke, British Columbia, when he attempted to shut off a Bobcat construction vehicle but accidentally stepped on the floor lever that raises and lowers the vehicle's bucket, at the same time that he was, unfortunately, straddling the bucket. Porcellato, with one foot and his body's weight on the lever, had no leverage to stop the bucket, which as it moved, trapped his head and other leg. A co-worker rescued him, but the result was "many" lost teeth and the need for "hundreds" of stitches in his face, according to the *Sooke News Mirror*.

• In Fargo, N.D., in September, Justin W. Fraase enthusiastically called the police to tell them that he had a videotape that would prove that the woman who had a judicial stay-away order against him actually wanted him back. The tape was of the two having sex, and when authorities viewed it, they realized that, for one thing, the sex itself violated the judicial order and, second, the woman appeared not to be enjoying herself at all. (Indeed, she later said that Fraase had coerced her, and he was charged with three felony counts relating to the assault and the violation of the stay-away order.)

READERS' CHOICE

The body of a 36-year-old woman was found stuck halfway through a rear window in a house in St. Louis in October, the result (according to police) of an unsuccessful burglary attempt; she had asphyxiated, and in the course of her struggle to break free, her pants had somehow come off. And a 42-year-old woman in Frederica, Del., hanged herself from a tree on the Tuesday before Halloween, and though she was spotted at a distance soon afterward, neighbors did not call police for 10 hours, figuring at first that the body was just a Halloween decoration.

POLICE BLOTTER

From the newspaper *The State* (Columbia, S.C., Nov. 14, 2005), regarding fugitive Rodney Dane Higginbotham, wanted for criminal domestic violence: "Alleged Crime: Police said Higginbotham argued with his wife because she had not cooked anything. When she began cooking, he started making spaghetti while eating crackers and squeeze cheese. They argued, and he squeezed cheese on the kitchen floor. She squeezed the cheese on his truck, and he squeezed the cheese in her hair before fleeing in his truck. The wife said she washed her hair before the officer arrived to take her complaint."

Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or **weirdnews@earthlink.net**.

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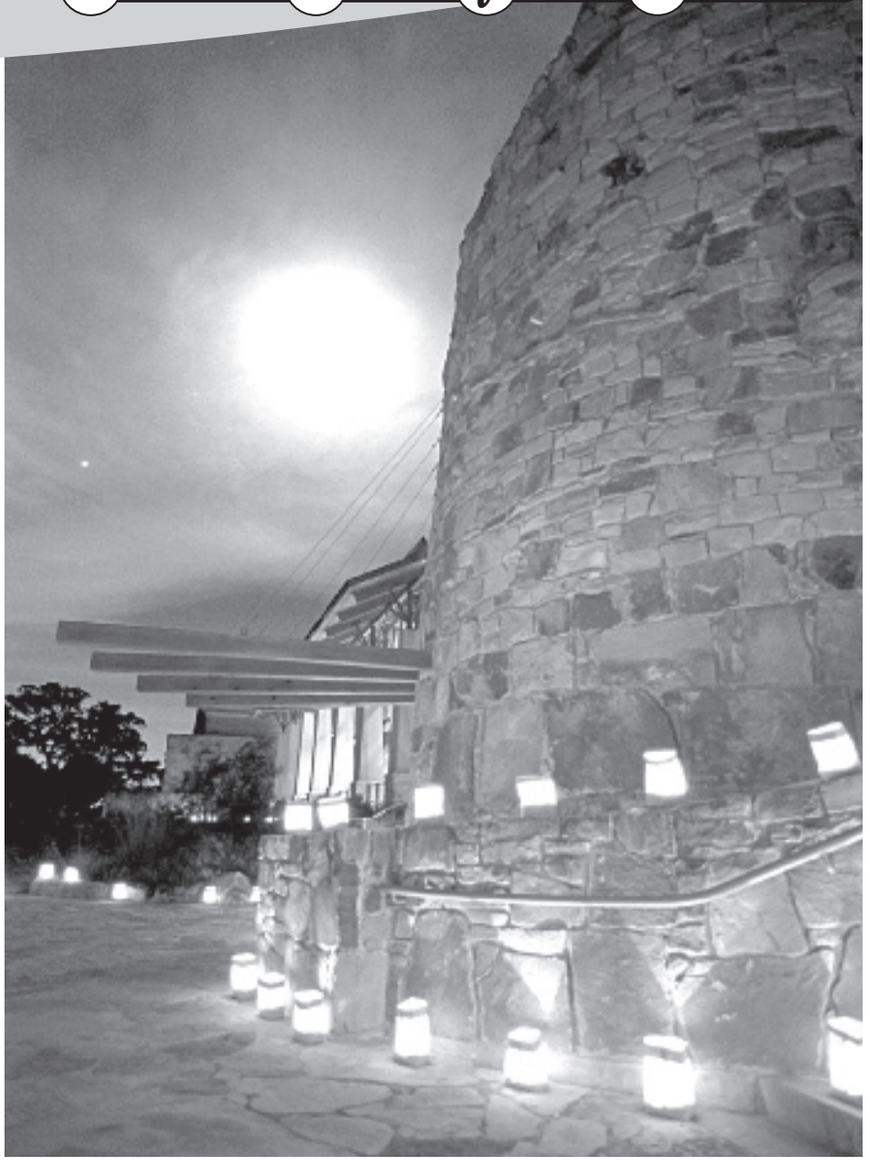


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COMMUNITY LISTINGS

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



Thursday 08

A TRIBUTE TO TOWNES VAN ZANDT is the after-party to the sneak preview of the new Townes biopic, *Be Here to Love Me*. A portion of the door goes to the SIMS Foundation. (See Special Screenings & Club Listings) *10pm. Antone's, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424. $15.* **simsfoundation.org/home**.

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

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

CENTRAL EAST AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING PUBLIC MEETING University Hills and Windsor Park residents, business owners meet with city of Austin planners. *6:30pm. Winn Elementary School, 3500 Susquehanna, 974-3564. Free.* **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.* **choavolunteers@seton.org**.

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.*

FAMILY FUN HOLIDAY DESSERTS *7-9pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2276. $45, $22.50 for accompanying friend.* **www.naturalepicurean.com**.

HOW TO WRITE GRANTS AND PROPOSALS *9am-4pm. AGE Building, 3710 Cedar, 451-5315. $140.*

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

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**, **www.edenadayspa.com**, **www.sassyconference.com**.

Get lit at Lady Bird

(SEE "LUMINATIONS," ONGOING)

SECULAR ORGANIZATIONS FOR SOBRIETY/ SAVE OURSELVES MEETING *7:30pm. Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church, 3315 El Salido Pkwy., Cedar Park, 512/219-9008.* **sos_austin@yahoo.com**.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY HOLIDAY SOCIAL Bring a canned food item for the Round Rock Food Bank and rub elbows with a slew of candidates: for Texas Lieutenant Governor, Maria Louisa Alvarado; for Texas Attorney General, Davis Van Os; for U.S. Congress, Texas District 31, Mary Beth Harrell; for Texas House of Representatives, District 20, Jim Stauber; and for Texas House of Representatives, Karen Felthauser. *6:15pm. Mesa Rosa, 15515 RR 620, 512/671-VOTE. $20.* **www.williamsoncountydemocrats.org**.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
***Saved by the Bell* After-School Experience** @ *Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm*

MUSIC (See Music Listings)
Japanther *Emo's*
Ana Egge *Flipnotics Coffeespace*
Invincible Czars *Flamingo Cantina*
King's X *La Zona Rosa*
The Glass Family CD Release *Continental Club*

Friday 09

CARITAS OF AUSTIN BENEFIT CONCERT Caritas, Travis County's largest nongovernmental source of assistance, assists Austin's working poor with basic needs in times of crisis. (See Club Listings) *7:30pm. Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church, 3315 El Salido Pkwy., Cedar Park, 219-9008. $15.* **www.caritasofaustin.org**.

MINDFULNESS AND THE BODY: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HAKOMI METHOD for counselors, bodyworkers, and medical practitioners. Come to today's free intro to see if you'd like to sign up for the course. Call or e-mail for location information. *6-9pm. 347-9564. $225, course.* **rlincoln-lpc@sbcglobal.net**.

NATURAL SURFACE TRAIL TECHNIQUES CLASS *6-9pm. Wild Basin Preserve, 805 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 394-9998. $10.* **planning@trailtamers.org, www.trailtamers.org**.

TIBETAN FIRE PURIFICATION CEREMONY & DREAM YOGA *7-9pm. Austin Shambhala Center,*

the young ones

NATURAL EAR MUSIC SCHOOL is looking for kids ages 8-13 to join rock & roll bands forming in January. In addition to kid bands, they also offer lessons and rock & roll camps during the winter and summer. *447-5910. $575, semester.* **april@naturalearmusic.com, www.naturalearmusic.com**.

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**.

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**.

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**.

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**.

THE AUSTIN CHILDREN'S NUTCRACKER (See Dance Listings) *Fri.-Sun., Dec 9-18. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 989-3363. $17 ($12, kids ages 3-10).* **www.austin-conservatory-arts.com**.

POWERZONE SELF-DEFENSE CLASSES FOR WOMEN AND TEEN GIRLS Call to register. *9-10am. The 4th Degree Martial Arts, 2013 Wells Branch Pkwy. #307, 833-9008. Free.*

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 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**.

THE DANCE-ALONG NUTCRACKER presented by Wicked Cricket Dance Theatre and featuring live music by the Invincible Czars, this performance invites, but doesn't demand, audience participation. *Sat., Dec. 10, 8pm (2pm, children's show). Boys & Girls Club of Austin & Travis Co., 900 Neal, 444-7199. $12 ($5, children's show; free, kids).*

TAMALADA Building up to the day of the event, Travis Heights families celebrate the Mexican tradition of making tamales together before the holidays. See for yourself how the fruits of their labor pair with Mexican hot chocolate, breakfast tacos, nachos, and the like. Plus, check out the short play *Too Many Tamales*, and enjoy performances by the THES Thunderband and choir. All funds go to the THES PTA. *Sat., Dec. 10, 9am-noon. Travis Heights Elementary, 2010 Alameda, 414-4495. Free.*

MITCHIE'S STORY TIME *Wednesdays and Saturdays, 1-2pm. Mitchie's Fine Black Art & Gift Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901.*

RUTA MAYA KIDS presents a kids show weekly with entertainers like Mr. and Mrs. Mays, the Telephone Company, Col. Josh and his Cowboy Pals, and Drumming With Mr. Steve. Drinks and breakfast items available for sale. *Sundays, 10:30am. Ruta Maya Cafe, 3601 S. Congress, Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free.* **www.rutamaya.net**.

CELEBRATIONS OF LIGHT Storyteller and songwriter Sue Young presents stories and songs of Christmas, Las Posadas, Hannukah, Divali, and Kwanzaa to kids older than 4 and their parents. *Sun., Dec. 11, 3pm. Rolling Hills Yoga Studio, 2520 Longview #412, 323-2414. $5.* **www.sueyoungmusic.com**.

TALL TALES FROM CANDY ROCK MOUNTAIN Tap your toes and sing along with the storyteller and his banjo as he travels the countryside, sharing tall tales from across the land. *Sun., Dec. 11, 3:30-4:30pm. Congregation Beth Israel, 3901 Shoal Creek Blvd., 371-0224. $8 ($5, advance).*

OPEN HOUSE AFTERNOON OF KARATE Ages 4 and older. Call for specific times. *The Hills Fitness Center, 4619 Bee Caves Rd., 327-2900 x4. Free.* **www.austinmartialarts.com**.

TINY TIGERS KARATE PROGRAM: MARTIAL ARTS WITH MOM! Ages 2-4. Call for specific times. *327-2900 x4. Free.* **www.austinmartialarts.com**.

PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS ON DYSLEXIA Learn about dyslexia and the resources available in your community. *Mon., Dec. 12, 11:30am-1pm. Scottish Rite Learning Center, 1622 E. Riverside, 472-1231. Free.*

REGAN JOHNSON Local author and illustrator reads from *Little Bunny Kung Fu*, her first published book. Very exciting. Pow! *Wed., Dec. 14, 11am. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.*

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. 23 issue is Monday, Dec. 12**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

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

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

Mark Fagan (Sports): **gameplans@austinchronicle.com**.

Diana Welch (everything else): **calendar@austinchronicle.com**.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor, 454-5766 or **brenner@austinchronicle.com**.

1702 S. Fifth, 773-8702. Free (donations appreciated). **jbg@texasdata.net**.

TOTES FOR HOPE: A HARMONIOUS HOLIDAY CONCERT Bring a nice duffel bag to this Austin Wind Symphony performance and spare a local foster child the embarrassment of carrying his or her belongings around in a trash bag. *7pm. Bethany Lutheran Church, 3701 Slaughter, 532-7944.* **www.austinwindsymphony.org.**

THEATRE (See Arts Listings)
The Best Salvage Vanguard Holiday Ever *Little City*

COMEDY (See Arts Listings)
Tom Rhodes *Velveeta Room*

VISUAL ARTS (See Arts Listings)
Ars Ipsa: Temporary Dividers

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts)
Art on 5th, **D Berman Gallery**, **Diaz Gallery**

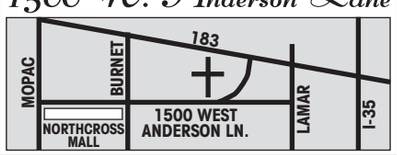
SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Sinus Christmas Show @ *Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45pm*

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Christmas Concert
with Orchestra & Choirs
in our gymnasium
in front of our 20' x 50'
Lighted Mural.

Saturday, December 17
5:30pm
Sunday, December 18
3 performances
8am ♦ 9:30am ♦ 10:45am

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A special event in which Julia Sweeney performs a one-hour condensed version of the her award-winning monologue, "Letting Go of God" after which Julia Sweeney and Ira Glass, ("This American Life") come together onstage and Ira interviews and hosts a second hour of conversation to more deeply discuss the themes of the evening.
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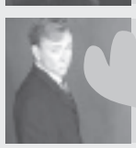
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& KENTUCKY THUNDER
FEB 10


Valentine's Day!
BOBBY CALDWELL
FEB 14

JUMPIN' JIVE: AUSTIN JAZZ WORKSHOP	JAN 21
COWBOY JUNKIES	FEB 16 & 17
MAYNARD FERGUSON & HIS BIG BOP NOUVEAU BAND	FEB 24
R. CARLOS NAKAI & NAWANG KHECHOG	MARCH 3
THE DOOBIE BROTHERS BENEFIT CONCERT	MARCH 4
JUDY COLLINS	MARCH 17
SPYRO GYRA	MARCH 24
THE GYPSY TRAIL: RAJAMANI	MARCH 25
BUGLISI/FOREMAN DANCE	APRIL 2
NRITYAGRAM DANCE ENSEMBLE	APRIL 30

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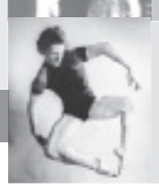
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& LUNA NEGRA
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LARRY GATLIN
JAN 13


STANLEY JORDAN
JAN 27


BALLET STARS OF NORTH AMERICA
Dancers from the Joffrey Ballet, ABT, & National Ballet of Canada
JAN 29

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

Saturday 10

ALL AUSTIN HOLIDAY SALE Give some pieces of Austin history to your out-of-town favorites. *Noon-5pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 499-7480. Free.*

AN ART SHOW WITH AMELIA OZYCK raises money for Wonders and Worries, a counseling and support group for the children of parents suffering from serious illnesses. *10:30am-5pm. Castle Hill Specialized Fitness, 1112 N. Lamar Ste. B, 478-4567.* **www.ozyckart.com**.

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET *9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, Fourth & Guadalupe, 236-0074. Free.* **www.austinfarmersmarket.org**.

AUSTIN FREE-NET TECH GARAGE SALE The sales of used computers, peripherals, PC/Mac components, game consoles, MP3 players, and more go to raise badly needed funds for this community organization that helps the underserved communities of Austin access and effectively use the Internet and computer technologies in public spaces. *8am-1pm. Trinity United Methodist Church, 600 E. 50th, 459-5835.* **www.austinfree.net**.

CHRISTMAS AT THE NEY The museum will be open for a special nighttime viewing. *5-9pm. Elisabet Ney Museum, 304 E. 44th, 458-2255. Free.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/elisabetney**.

FOOD NOT BOMBS feeds people delicious, healthy, and free food. Volunteers are always needed for prep. Cooking: *11am-2pm. House of Commons, 2610 Rio Grande;* serving: *3-5pm. Wooldridge Square Park, Guadalupe between Ninth & 10th.* **fnbaustin@gootside.net**.

GUIDED HIKES Cover about 4 miles of rugged terrain in Austin's only state natural area. *9-11am. Bright Leaf State Natural Area, 4400 Crestway, 459-7269.*

HOME MANNERS CLASS FOR DOGS *10am-noon. Hearts and Paws, 13033 FM 2769, 249-7255. Free.*

LISTENING TO GOD: HOW TO BRING THE 11TH STEP TO LIFE *10am-noon. Austin Recovery, 8402 Cross Park, 697-8600. Free.* **www.austinrecovery.org**.

MEDICINE BUDDHA EMPOWERMENT *1-3pm. Austin Shambhala Center, 1702 S. Fifth, 773-8702. Free, donations appreciated.* **jbg@texasdata.net**.

SOUTH MANCHACA ART MARKET *9am-2pm. 11800 Manchaca Rd..* **www.soaustin.com**.

WEST SIXTH STREET ARTISTS' MARKET *10am-6pm. 709 W. Sixth, 698-8099.* **www.6thstreetmarket.com**.

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

NATURAL SURFACE TRAIL TECHNIQUES CLASS *9am-3pm. Wild Basin Preserve, 805 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 394-9998. $10.* **planning@trailtamers.org, www.trailtamers.org**. (See Friday)

VISUAL ARTS (See Arts Listings)
Creative Research Laboratory: Heydays
Creative Research Laboratory

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts)
Camp Fig Gallery

Sunday 11

A TASTE OF THE SEASON The winner of the Center for Child Protection Luxury Car Raffle will be announced at this annual holiday event. Who knows? You could peel out in a 2006 Lexus! And if not, chin up. Enjoy the food and a fine performance by the Austin Children's Choir. *5-8pm. Lexus of Austin, 9910 Stonelake Blvd.. $30.* **www.centerforchildprotection.org**.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL GROUP 500 MEETING *4-6pm. Central Market Cafe, 4001 N. Lamar, 206-1000; 899-4300.* **www.amnestyusa.org**.

AUTIN CHORD RANGERS CONCERT SING-ALONG *Noon. Texas State Capitol, 1100 Congress, 477-SONG. Free.* **www.chordrangers.org**.

CENTRAL AUSTIN COHOUSING MEETING & POTLUCK Call for location and time. *478-7321. Free.* **austincohousing.org**.

CHRISTMAS VESPERS *5pm. St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th, 476-6757. Free.* **www.tlu.edu**.

CHURCH OF CRAFT MEETING *2-6pm. The Work*Shop, 1211 W. Sixth #400. Free.* **charlene@churchofcraft.org, www.churchofcraft.org/doors/austin/index.html**.

DIAMOND WAY BUDDHISM MEDITATION MEETING *7pm. 5900 Dunbury, 371-9803.* **www.diamondway.org/austin**.

ESPERANTO CLUB MEETING *3pm. Texpresso, 2700 W. Anderson Ln., 467-9898.* **www.esperantoaustin.org**.

FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS recounts the story of Christ's birth and incarnation through scripture and song. *6pm. First United Methodist Church, 1201 Lavaca, 478-5684. Free.*

GREEN PARTY MEETING *New member orientation, 2:30-3pm; general meeting, 3-4pm; business meeting, 4-5pm. Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 472-8954.* **traviscountygreens.org/calendar**.

HAPPY LIVING WITH JUSTICE offers a free yoga practice, followed by a meeting to increase awareness on environmental, peace, and justice issues. Locations vary. *4-6pm. 292-8093. Free.* **happylivingwithjustice@gmail.com**.

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**.

NO KIDDING! SUPPER *Threadgill's World HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304.* **www.austinnokidding.com**.

PAW MATCH BENEFIT Help raise money for this Austin-based nonprofit that matches rescued animals from area shelters with loving homes. (See Club Listings) *2-5pm. Opal Divine's Penn Field, 3601 S. Congress Ste. K-100, 707-0237. $12 suggested donation.* **www.pawmatch.org**.

SINGLE PARENT RESOURCE NETWORK MEETING *1pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 694-5272. Free.* **www.sprn.org**.

VAJRAYOGINI Get some empowerment from the female buddha. *1-4pm. Austin Shambhala Center, 1702 S. Fifth, 773-8702. Free (donation of food for the teacher requested).* **jbg@texasdata.net**.

ALL AUSTIN HOLIDAY SALE *Noon-5pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 499-7480. Free.* (See Saturday)

AN ART SHOW WITH AMELIA OZYCK *10:30am-5pm. Castle Hill Specialized Fitness, 1112 N. Lamar Ste. B, 478-4567.* **www.ozyckart.com**. (See Saturday)

GUIDED HIKES *9-11am. Bright Leaf State Natural Area, 4400 Crestway, 459-7269.* (See Saturday)

WEST SIXTH STREET ARTISTS' MARKET *10am-6pm. 709 W. Sixth, 698-8099.* **www.6thstreetmarket.com**.

LITERA (See Arts Listings)
Senator John McCain *BookPeople*

Monday 12

AUSTIN AGAINST WAR MEETING *7pm. 2107 San Antonio, 323-9778.* **aaw@austinagainstwar.org, www.austinagainstwar.org**.

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**.

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 from Volunteer Legal Services & Texas RioGrande Legal Aid 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, www.intuitivestudiesaustin.com**.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS MEETING Call for location. *327-2802. Free.* **www.oa.org**.

VISUAL ARTS (See Arts Listings)
Chip Kidd

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Britcoms: Steve Coogan @ *Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm*

day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

Hot Damn, Tamales! of Fort Worth serves good luck. Like eating black-eyed peas on New Year's Day, eating tamales during the Christmas season is said to bring good fortune for the year to come.

Of course, Ione Stavron, proprietress of the little tamale shop with a national clientele, thinks that it is good luck to eat her nine varieties of gourmet tamales and three kinds of dessert tamales year-round. "Our busiest season is between Thanksgiving and Christmas," she says, "but tamales are good anytime."

The corn-husk-wrapped finger food provides a quick snack or a hearty meal that can be heated in a microwave, steamed, or boiled in a bag. If not for their labor-intensive preparation, tamales might have replaced the sandwich as a lunchtime favorite years ago. Without a large family to share in the chore of cooking the filling, preparing the masa, and wrapping it all in a corn husk, most of us prefer to buy our tamales off the grocery-store shelf.

In 1996, Ione Stavron's daughter Angele decided that not only could she make tamales available to the masses, but that she could spice up the traditional recipes. While a student at the University of Texas at Austin and a local musician, Angele began selling her Hot Damn, Tamales! to Austin-area grocery stores to rave reviews.

"Her father gave Angele a tamale machine for Christmas one year," Stavron says. About five years later she pulled it out of the closet and began experimenting with different fillings. The black bean with Oaxacan cheese tamale was her first commercial success, and it is still a big seller, Stavron says.

Using vegetable shortening instead of lard, Angele Stavron offered Central Texas tamale lovers such nontraditional flavors as smoked chicken poblano, wild mushroom and Texas goat cheese, and ancho pork. Vegetarians could also enjoy red pepper, carrot and serrano, or fresh corn poblano versions. The offerings were worthy of recognition in the *Chronicle*'s 1998 "Best of Austin" as the Best Gourmet Tamales.

A year later, Angele relocated to Fort Worth where her mother helped her operate a gourmet Tex-Mex restaurant at various locations around the city. "This is home," Stavron says of her daughter's return to Cowtown, where Angele grew up. The opportunities to expand the business led to a thriving business on the Internet.

"We get orders from all over the U.S.," Stavron says. "We probably ship more to the East Coast from Maine to Florida, with California a close second." Orders also come from as far away as Hawaii.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

Not too long ago, a couple driving from New Jersey to Arizona made a detour to Fort Worth just to buy an ice chest full of Hot Damn, Tamales! "It's interesting to hear how far people come just to pick up a package of tamales," Stavron says with a laugh.

The business focuses mainly on the Internet business these days. Angele has moved to the Washington, D.C., area, where she is enjoying being a housewife, Stavron says. "I think she was kind of surprised that her hobby really took off," she says. "But she knew she had a good product."

If you want lunch at Hot Damn, Tamales! you had better get there early. The four tables fill up fast during the lunch hour. The *tamal* plate, with three tamales of your choice, a large serving of black beans, rice, and a terrific salsa, is the best item on the limited menu. Don't forget to pick up a half-dozen or so to put in your freezer for later.

Hot Damn, Tamales! is south of downtown Fort Worth at the corner of Magnolia and Hemphill streets at 713 W. Magnolia. Hot food is served or frozen tamales can be obtained Monday through Friday, 10am to 5pm, Saturday, 10am to 3pm, and Sunday (in December only) 11am to 3pm. For information call 817/926-9909.

Tamales can also be shipped anywhere in the U.S. and will arrive the next day frozen in a reusable container if ordered by 2pm. For a list of flavors or to place an order call 888/385-0125 or visit their Web site at **www.hotdamntamales.com**.

756th in a series. **Day Trips, Vol. 2**, *a book of Day Trips 101-200, is available for $8.95, plus $3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.*

out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

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**.

TEXAS TALL TALE exhibits folk art and curiosities from the Lone Star State. *Dec.8-Feb. 18. Webb Gallery, 209 W. Franklin, Waxahachie, 972/938-8085.* **www.webbgallery.com**.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS fills the glass pyramid greenhouses with thousands of twinkling lights, plus ice skating and holiday music. *Dec. 1-Jan. 7, including Christmas and Christmas Day, 6-10pm. Moody Gardens, Galveston, 800/582-4673.* **www.moodygardens.org**.

THE LIVING NATIVITY PAGEANT uses actors and animals from the community. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 9-10, every half-hour from 6:30-8:30pm. First United Methodist Church, Johnson City, 830/868-7414.*

RENAISSANCE FAIRE relives folklore, crafts, history, and the magic of bygone days with artisans, actors, and musicians from around the world. *Sat.-Sun., Dec. 10-11. Live Oak Park, 1874 Port, Ingleside. 888/899-2906.* **www.renfaireingleside.org**.

LLANO COUNTY OPRY features Moe Bandy & the Americana Band. *Sat., Dec. 10, 2:30 and 7:30pm. LanTex Theater, Llano, 325/247-5354.* **www.llanotx.com/LanTex.html**.

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

COWBOY HOLIDAY BALL has Chris Wall & the Rhythm Wranglers heating up the old dance hall. *Sat., Dec. 10, 9pm. Luckenbach, 888/311-8990.* **www.luckenbachtexas.com**.

BAZAAR SABADO is a unique international shopping experience with ponchos from Ecuador, hats from Peru, batik silk scarves from Malaysia, textiles and jewelry from Guatemala and India. *Sat., Dec. 10, 10am-4pm. San Antonio Museum of Art, 200 W. Jones, San Antonio, 210/978-8100.* **www.samuseum.org**.

LUCIA DAY CELEBRATION & YULE BAZAAR offers crafts, gifts, Swedish goods, food, and beverages. *Sat., Dec. 10, noon-4:30pm. King of Glory Lutheran Church, 6411 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, 214/526-6468.* **www.chapters-swea.org/dallas**.

CHRISTMAS TOY SHOW brings out the vintage cars, old toys, and dolls from the days before video games. *Dec. 11-Jan. 1, noon-5pm. Shooting Star Museum, Castroville, 830/931-3837.*

A WINEDALE CHRISTMAS returns the old farmstead to the days of yore with horse-drawn stage coach rides, craft demonstrations, plays, music, food, and more fun. *Sun., Dec. 11, 11am-4pm. Winedale Center, Round Top, 979/278-3530.* **www.winedale.org**.

Tuesday 13

AUSTIN CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS TO MILITARY TAXATION These guys have it all figured out. Why should you be paying for war? Learn what you can do to divert your money away from evildoing. Call for meeting confirmation and location. *467-2946. Free.* **peacetax-tx@ev1.net, www.acomt.org**.

AUSTIN IONS MEETING with Spiritual Cinema Club Founder Don Switlick. *6:30-8:30pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 258-9878. Free.* **www.ions-austin.org**.

AVATAR INTRODUCTORY EVENINGS *7-9:30pm. RSVP for location details, 294-7511.* **www.avatarepc.com**.

DIAMOND WAY BUDDHISM MEDITATION MEETING *7pm. Texas Union, UT Campus, 24th & Guadalupe.* **www.diamondway.org/austin**.

FREE GUIDED MEDITATION *6:30pm. Milwood Branch Library, 12500 Amherst. Free.* **www.artoflivingaustin.org**.

GUIDED-IMAGERY MEDITATION *7-8pm. Wellness by Design, 4701 Westgate Ste. C-301. Donations accepted.* **www.wellnessbydesign.us**.

HILL COUNTRY NUDISTS INTRODUCTORY MEETING *7pm. Yarborough Branch Library, 2200 Hancock.* **www.hillcountrynudists.com**.

IGNITE YOUR INVENTIVENESS *7-9pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. $95, supplies included.*

JOBS WITH JUSTICE MEETING *Texas State Employees Union, 2700-C S. First, 448-4225. Free.* **www.jwj.org/LocalCoal/TX.htm**.

LONESTAR MENSA OPEN MEETING *7-8:45pm. North Village Library, 2139 W. Anderson, 291-4677. Free.*

MAKING AMASAKE *7-9pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2276. $45, $22.50 for accompanying friend.* **www.naturalepicurean.com**.

MEDITATION WORKSHOP *6:30-8pm. NiaSpace, 3212 S. Congress, 443-3013. $20.* **xephyr@helios-consulting.net, www.helios-consulting.net/Illumination**.

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS *7pm. Wild Basin Wilderness meeting room, 805 N. Capital of Texas Highway.* **www.npsot.org/Austin**.

PAST LIVES, PRESENT LESSONS – HOW TO FIND DIVINE LOVE *7-8:30pm. Austin Eckankar Center, 223 W. Anderson Ste. B-206, 453-0331.* **www.eckankar-texas.org**.

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING SEMINAR RSVP. *Noon-2pm. Texas State University Small Business Development Center, 314 E. Highland Mall Blvd, 225-9853. Free.*

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



SPECIAL SCREENINGS

(See Film Listings)

Audible Picture Show *@ Alamo South, 7:30pm*

The Strange Woman *@ Alamo Downtown, 7pm*

Wednesday 14

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**.

AUSTIN SINGING INSTITUTE VOCAL LIBERATION CLASS RSVP *7-10pm. Music Lab, 1306 W. Oltorf, 554-8771. $50.* **guy@guymonroe.com, 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**.

CENTRAL TEXAS MOUNTAINEERS MEETING *7pm. Whole Earth Provisions, 2410 San Antonio, 478-1577.* **www.ctmrocks.com**.

EASTSIDE ARTISANS MARKET *7pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. Free.*

FALL TRAIL WORKDAYS *8:30am-noon. Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail, 920 W. Riverside Dr., 974-6700.* **volunteers@townlaketrail.org**.

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.*

FREELANCE AUSTIN HOLIDAY PARTY Bring a dessert to share with Houston comedian Dick Kendall. *12:30-1:45pm. The Work*Shop, 1211 W. Sixth #400. Free.* **sue@durio.com, www.freelanceaustin.org**.

HOW FOODS AFFECT YOUR HEALTH AND EMOTIONS *Cooking demo, 6:15-6:45pm; lecture, 7-9pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2535. Free.* **www.naturalepicurean.com**.

METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB: WHY ENERGY COSTS MORE with Roger Mitchell, president, Texas Gas Service Company. *7-8:30am. UT Club, Darrell Royal Memorial Stadium, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman, 479-9460. $15.* **mbcaustin@mbcaustin.org, www.mbcaustin.org**.

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

ALLGO WRITING & PERFORMANCE WORKSHOPS There's still time to sign up for ALLGO's January 2006, workshop series featuring **D'Lo** from L.A. Actors, writers, get on it! And even beginners: The workshops are intended for you, too. *ALLGO's Tillery Street Theater, 701 Tillery, 472-2001 x106.* **sharon@sharonbridgforth.com**.

CHEAP DATE A night of rock & roll for the ladies. Come. Because chicks do indeed like to rock. Because the best things in life are free. Because **DJ Linda** and **DJ whatthe hellareyoulookingat?** will be spinning all that shit you like. Because Jesus wants you to. You know, Jesus ... you mighta' heard of him ... he wants you to get down. Do it for the Boss. *Thu., Dec. 15, 9pm. The Peacock, 515 Pedernales. No Cover.*

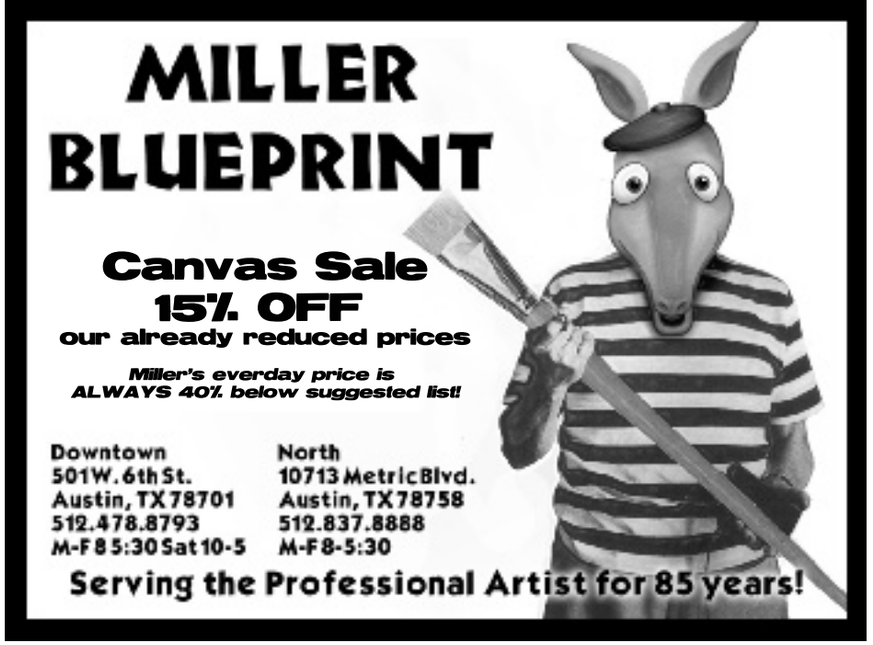
FOODIES Yup. **Women Who Love Women Who Love Food**. This e-mail-based social network holds weekly meet-ups, private house parties, and special events for the lay-deez. What better time than the holidays to scootch yourself up next to some fine, warm Kitty? (We mean the Kitty who runs Foodies, you nasty, nasty girl.) E-mail Kitty to get on the list. Oh! And sign up now to find out about the wild weekend trip plans out to **Onion Creek Kitchens at Juniper Farms**! **foodiesaustin@ultraultra.net**.

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. *Thu.-Sat., Dec. 8-Jan. 28. 8pm. Arts on Real Theater, 2826 Real, 472-2787.* **www.artsonreal.com**.

CCMC'S HOLIDAY CONCERT For 17 years, the fabulous boys of the **Capitol City Men's Chorus** have kept the holiday season merry and the tidings as gay as ever with an enticing blend of the many traditions. The yuletide is flowing, for all. Harp accompaniment, puppets, and sing-alongs, to boot. *Sat., Dec. 10, 8pm; Sun., Dec. 11, 4pm. Central Christian Church, 1110 Guadalupe, 477-7464. $15, advance; $18, door.* **www.ccmcaustin.org**.

VIRGIN DAY Celebrate the fabulous feminine with quirk and style, with the ladies from **BookWoman,** featuring special guests, a virgin cake, altar making, and the "virgin toss" that has the whole town talking. A virgin toss, kids. Do the math. Then do some shopping. *Discussion/signing with Cheri Lomonte, 2-3:30pm. Signing with Nivia Gonzalez, 3:30-5pm. Sun., Dec. 11, noon-9pm. BookWoman, 918 W. 12th, 472-2785.* **www.ebookwoman.com**.

For more gay stuff, see Calendar online: **austinchronicle.com.** ***Send gay bits to*** **gayplace@austinchronicle.com.**





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**.

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**.

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-deductable 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 Street & Guadalupe.* **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.*

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. 800/621-FEMA.* **www.fema.gov**.

PROJECT HOLIDAY HELP CAMPAIGN Though the goose may be getting fat, 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 particiapte in the Gift Card Drive and Backpack Drive. 'Tis the season, guys. *Lifeworks, 1800 Lavaca #110, 735-2222.* **holidayhelp@lifeworksweb.org**, **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 available resources, get childcare, and find work. Volunteers are also needed to participate in Housing Fresh Start and Financial Fresh Start. E-mail for more info. **april.watkins@foundcom.org**.

PASO ADELANTE is currently seeking caring and consistent adult volunteers to mentor Austin area students. No special skills required. *454-3900.* **www.pasoadelante.org**.

NW SERIES PEACE PROGRAM needs caring people to host English-speaking high school exchange students for the upcoming school year. *442-0379.*

AUSTIN GI RIGHTS HOTLINE is in urgent need for some office space (we're talking just a desk and a filing cabinet, here) from which to operate the hotline, beginning in February. Folks who are willing to donate space to help the anti-war movement should contact Liz, *663-9352*.

LUMINATIONS The Wildflower Center gets lit-up this holiday season with thousands of luminaries, torches, lanterns, and twinkle lights. Caroling, storytelling, and craftmaking round out this weekend-long event. *Fri., Dec. 9-Sun., Dec 11, 6-9pm. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse, 292-4100. $9 ($7, seniors/students; $3, kids; free, kids younger than 3).*

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**.

KEEP AUSTIN BEAUTIFUL is accepting applications for the KAB Awards, which recognize those who are makng a difference in their community's environment. So, if you know of an individual or organization worthy of some props (or if you're looking for a little boost yourself), check out the Web site or give a call before the nomination deadline of *Fri., Dec. 9. 391-0622.* **www.keepaustinbeautiful.org**.

SEXUAL ASSAULT & ABUSE SERVICES Hays-Cladwell Women's Center is starting free and confidential daytime and evening support groups for women who have experienced childhood sexual abuse. Ask for Laura Dupont or Kristen Pearson. *512/396-3404.* **www.hcwc.org**.

ARMADILLO CHRISTMAS BAZAAR The Austin market that supplies its shoppers with live music every night (and on weekend afternoons) turns the big 3-0 this year. Spend it like you've got it, folks. (See Club Listings) *Through Dec. 24. 11am-11pm, daily. Austin Music Hall, 208 Nueces, 447-1605. $3 (weekdays, 11am-7pm); $5 (evenings & weekends); free (children younger than 12).* **www.armadillobazaar.com**.

BLUE SANTA NEEDS HELPERS to sort toys, gather packages, and wrap presents for about 14,000 kids in the Austin area. In preparation for Delivery Day, the pace really picks up this week, and Blue Santa is specifically asking fraternities and corporate groups to get involved. *Delivery Day, Sat., Dec. 17. Through Dec. 17. 220-BLUE.*

HUMAN POTENTIAL CENTER This South Austin nonprofit has a myriad of classes and workshops, from yoga and reiki to art classes and dream interpretation, just waiting to maximize your potential. Check out the Web site for more info. *Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988.* **www.humanpotentialcenter.org**.

SMALL ISSUES BUSINESS FORUM: 2006 ECONOMIC FORECAST hosted by the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce. *4:30-6pm. Hyatt Regency Austin, 208 Barton Springs Rd., 322-5619. $35 ($25, members).* **lbarrera@austinchamber.com**, **www.austinchamber.com**.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Plagues and Pleasures of the Salton Sea *@ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm*
Ruthless *@ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm*

Thursday 15

AUSTIN NEWCOMERS CLUB MEETING *11am. Barton Creek Country Club, 8212 Barton Club Dr., 314-5100. $23.* **www.austinnewcomers.com**.

GOURMET HOLIDAY DESSERTS AND GIFT IDEAS *7-9pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476.2276. $45, $22.50 for accompanying friend.* **www.naturalepicurean.com**.

THIRD THURSDAY ON GUADALUPE Music, food, and shopping. *Third Thursday, 6-10pm; fashion show, 9pm. Guadalupe between 28th & 38th.* **www.austinthirdthursday.com**.

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

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

COMMUNITY DINNER *Volunteer prep, 4-6pm; community dinner, 6-7pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free.*

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

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Open Screen Night @ the Alamo *@ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm*

Sports BY MARK FAGAN

THE MAIN EVENT

AUSTIN ICE BATS The Bats definitely got off to a slow start this season but have been steadily attaining points thanks in no small part to goalie Miroslav Kopriva. Kopriva was recently named the CHL Goaltender of the Week, and his numbers have been more than impressive: 4-0-0 win/loss record, 1.25 GAA and a .960 save percentage. Basically, he's given up five goals in four games, all victories. Following Friday's game, fans will be treated to a free live concert from Reckless Kelly. Vs. Bossier-Shreveport: *Fri., Dec. 9, 7:30pm.* Vs. Rio Grande Valley: *Sat., Dec. 10, 7:30pm. Travis County Expo Center, 7311 Decker Ln., 977-PUCK.* **www.icebats.com**.



THE HOME TEAMS

AUSTIN TOROS The 1-2 Toros host the 3-1 Florida Flame for a pair of games this weekend. Vs. Florida: *Sat., Dec. 10, 7:30pm and Sun., Dec. 11, 3pm. Austin Convention Center, 236-8333. $8-27.* **www.nba.com/dleague/austin**.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. East Central: *Thu., Dec. 8, 8pm.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. East Central: *Thu., Dec. 8, 6pm.* Vs. Tarleton State: *Thu., Dec. 15, 8pm.* **www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm**.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Women's Basketball Vs. Stephen F. Austin: *Thu., Dec. 8, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center.* **www.texassports.com**.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Women's Basketball Vs. Sterling College: *Mon., Dec. 12, 7:30pm.* **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 at Burnet Middle School and all interested women are invited. Rugby is a fun, intense, full-tackle sport. Learn how to play with the Valkyries! *Burnet Middle School, 3000 S. I-35, 841-8289.* **www.austinvalkyries.com**.

THE AUSTIN LONESTARS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB is Austin's inclusive men's rugby team, welcoming new players regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, athletic experience, or rugby experience. Want to learn rugby, get fit, and have lots of fun in the process? Stop by practice and see what you think. *Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:45pm. Burnet Middle School, 3000 S. I-35, 841-8289.* **www.lonestarsrugby.org**.

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**.

AUSTIN ROCK GYM has a free ladies' night climbing clinic. *Mon., Dec. 12, 7:30pm. Both locations. Austin Rock Gym, 4401 Freidrich, 416-9299. Free.* **www.austinrockgym.com**.

TEAM TEXAS ADULT SWIM TEAM Swimming training for adults for fitness or preparation for competition, open water swims, or triathlons. *Mon., Wed., Fri., 7:30am, 8:30am, and noon on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Dell Jewish Community Association of Austin, 327-1280.* **www.swimttex.com**.

THUNDER HILL RACEWAY There are races every Saturday night at this paved oval racetrack in South Austin. *Saturdays, 7pm. 24801 I-35, Kyle, 512/262-1352.* **www.thuderhillraceway.com**.

THE FRIENDS OF BRIGHT LEAF will offer two interpretive hikes at Bright Leaf Nature Preserve this month. Bright Leaf is only open to the public through guided hikes. *Sat.-Sun., Dec. 10-11, 9am. Bright Leaf Nature Preserve, take 2222 to Creek Mountain Road, the park entrance is on the left-hand side of the road through the metal gate.*

WEEKLY CHESS TOURNAMENT All are welcome at this weekly tournament. Cash prizes, yo. *Mondays, 7pm, Dobie Mall, second floor food court. $1 entry fee.*

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.*

CHAPARRAL ICE offers free first lessons every Saturday for those age 6 and up. And check out their men's, women's, and youth hockey leagues. *Sat., Dec. 10, 11:30am. Chaparral Ice, 14200 N. I-35, 252-8500. Sat., Dec. 10, 1pm. Northcross Mall. 451-5102. Free.* **Free Hockey Try-It Class** The sport of hockey has been growing steadily in Texas for years; here's your chance to get in on the fun with this free 30-minute class. *Sun., Dec. 11, 4pm. Northcross Mall, 451-5102. Free.* **www.chaparralice.com**.

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**.

JINGLE BELL 5K FOR ST. JUDES 13th annual 5K run helping to support the St. Judes Ranch for Children, a program which provides shelter for young children. *Sat., Dec. 10, 9am. Landa Park, New Braunfels, 830/708-2991.* **www.nbrunclub.com**.

REINDEER RUN 5K A fun run with tear-tag timing. *Sat., Dec. 10, 8am. LifeTime Fitness Center on 620, Round Rock.* **www.runtex.com/events/moreinfo.asp?key=909**.

REI LECTURES & CLINICS Ride Like a Girl The Austin Ridge Riders and Race Like a Girl mountain bike team are hosting a summer program of 15 weekly women's mountain bike rides, plus five weekend rides at local mountain bike trails/parks. This is an opportunity to ride with other women, learn new trails, new skills, build rider's abilities and much more. *Mondays, 6pm. For more info and directions see* **www.austinridgeriders.com**.

WILD BASIN WILDERNESS has a plethora of available walks, hikes, and more. **www.wildbasin.org**.

TRAIL OF LIGHTS This year the Trail of Lights Festival will include a 5K event. The course runs through Zilker Park and the beautiful Trail of Lights. *Sat., Dec. 10, 6:30pm. Zilker Park, 472-3254.* **www.active.com/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1265336** .

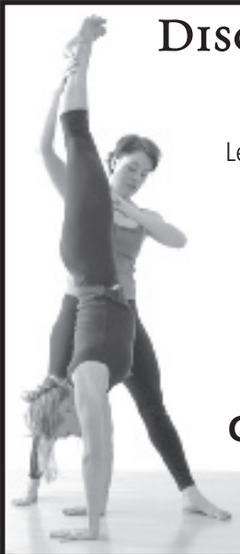
Soccer WATCH

The University of Portland won the NCAA Women's championship Sunday in College Station, with a 4-0 dismantling of a UCLA team that had only given up eight goals all season. Once again, Canadian national team star **Christine Sinclair** was the engine for the Pilots, scoring two and being named tournament MVP. This weekend it's the **Men's** turn in Cary, N.C. – again with a Texas flavor, as unseeded **SMU**, who've already knocked off two top-five squads in UCLA and North Carolina, take on top-ranked Maryland, and Clemson faces No. 2 New Mexico. The final is Sunday, Dec. 11, at 1pm on ESPN2.

Manchester United got bounced out of the **European Champions League** with an embarrassingly lackluster loss to Portugal's Benfica as group play concluded this week. Overall, England, Spain, and Italy shared honors with three teams each in the final 16, while **Glasgow Rangers** became the first Scottish club ever to make it that far. Full results at "Soccer Watch Online"; knockout stages begin in February.

The seedings for the **2006 World Cup** were announced Tuesday, with the final draw to follow this Friday, Dec. 9. Along with host **Germany** and top-rated and defending champ **Brazil**, top seeds went to **England**, **Spain**, **Mexico**, **France**, **Argentina**, and **Italy**. The **United States** barely missed the cut, placing ninth in FIFA's rating system, a slim point back of Italy and Argentina. *– Nick Barbaro*

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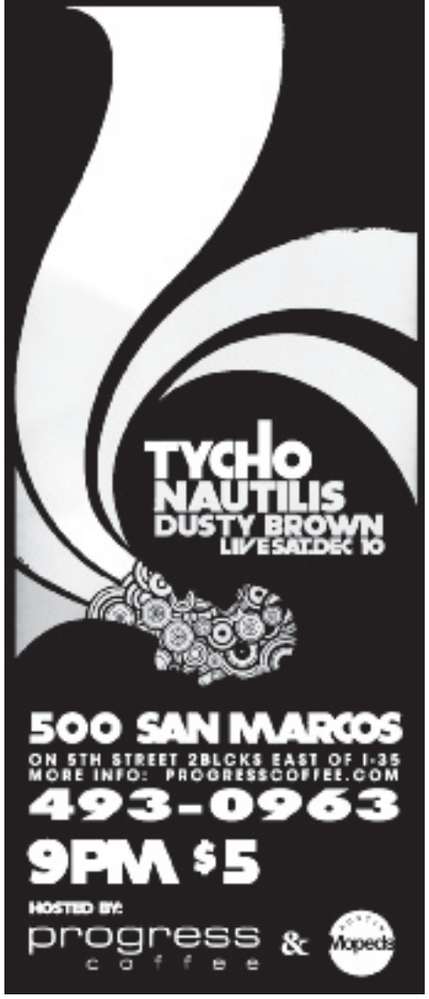
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SPECIAL **ADVANCE** SCREENING

Monday, December 19, 7:30pm, at Regal's Gateway 16



Opens December 25

To sign up to win a pass to this screening, go to www.austinchronicle.com/contests by 4pm Tuesday, December 13.

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THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com SXSW CONFERENCES + FESTIVALS

SAMSUNG AUSTIN SEMICONDUCTOR

SAMSUNG PRESENTS
FIRST NIGHT AUSTIN

A city becomes a canvas.
Saturday, December 31, 2005

80+ local artist groups, the downtown cityscape, and festival goers converge to bring in the New Year.

New Year's Eve, you're invited to play a creative role in transforming downtown Austin. Come together to help launch a new tradition – the annual New Year's Eve Celebration of the Arts called First Night Austin.

From 9th & Congress to Town Lake, Cesar Chavez to Austin City Hall, 1ST Street Bridge to Auditorium Shores, experience the visual and performing arts created "in" and "on" the fabric of our downtown.

2:00-5:00pm	Family Festival
5:30-6:30pm	Grand Procession down Congress Avenue
7:00pm	Family Finale at Austin City Hall
7-11:30pm	Evening Programming
Midnight	Grand Finale over Town Lake

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2006 Commemorative Button
and show your support! For detailed
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www.firstnightaustin.org

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Pale Idiot

The Off Center, through Dec. 17

Running Time: 1 hr 20 min

What is an idiot? Who has the authority to label identity and intelligence? When does the application of logic and deductive reasoning become an idiotic experiment? An outcast is born from profane or malignant behavior. She is an illness in the group, one that must be extracted for the group to be healthy. Somebody – say a health inspector – must evaluate, test, scrutinize, question, and determine the conditions causing a disturbance in the communal peace, as shown in the 10th-anniversary revival production of playwright Kirk Lynn's *Pale Idiot*.

From a backdrop of jagged blue mountains snakes a long trail that empties onto the stage floor, where it's flanked by benches of concrete, motionless and immutable. A figure wearing a golden half-mask creeps into the expansive space of the Off Center. Frail, dirty, and beaten down, this moribund creature stares at us knock-kneed, waiting Beckett-like in droopy absurdity. Then this glum, silent idiot expands into an entrancing weaver of words, a vibrant moralist. Articulate and glowing as played by Adriene Mishler, she recites resounding stories of fairy-tale passion and mythic wonder. Opposing her are characters representing the moral and political gist of their contained community. A timid Altar Boy in neat sweater and buttoned shirt (Brock England) secures a Bible tightly between his arms. On the trail he meets his Mother's Maid (Jodi Jinx), who wears a frilly apron and hat. The Mayor's Assistant (Robert S. Fisher) in his clean suit stands in stark contrast to the Blacksmith's Apprentice (Lowell Bartholomee), with scruff and grime on his uniform and face.

It is this Blacksmith's Apprentice who, screaming as he enters, announces with an energy worthy of Paul Revere that the Health Inspector (Heather Hanna) is coming. The town wishes to be rid of their idiot problem, but the inspector must first verify who is an actual idiot. To that end, she subjects each member of the community to the "idiot test," a series of questions asked while the subject is attached to a retractable dog leash. With each question, a point of origin is located on the stage and from there the subject's movement in irregular geometric patterns map the space in ghostly diagram, the leash extending and pulling with umbilical elasticity. Hanna's Inspector smiles like Lewis Carroll's Cheshire cat, ready to pounce on wrong answers. But while her dogmatic interrogations hold tension, the constancy of their tone works us more into a stupefied trance, the clever puns and wordplay in Lynn's text washing over our attention. After each test, idiocy appears to be everyone and everywhere.

Director Michael Mergen smartly unsnarls a taut knot of text and form. The accelerated pace, a trademark of Rude Mechanicals shows, seems to clash with this play's darker, more vulnerable moments. This may be the intention of the word "pale," defined also as a process of fencing in, shown here as IQ pressure-tests that enclose bodies within boundaries of language. This theatre eludes a literal pale idiocy by collapsing lucid realism into the irrational and absurd humanism of heart. – *Heather Barfield Cole*

The Jingle Belles bring their titillating talents to Hyde Park Theatre with *Xmas Unwrapped*.



Theatre

OPENING

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**.

ENDGAME How can one *not* like a play that concerns, in part, a character named Clov? This one was written by Samuel Beckett – duh – and is thus harrowing and darkly comic. Produced here by a new troupe yclept, of all things, Kadigan & Mountweazel. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 9-10, 10:45pm. The Hideout Theater, 617 Congress, 443-3688. $7.* **www.kmtheater.com**.

THE BEST SALVAGE VANGUARD HOLIDAY EVER has become quite the solsticey tradition here in town, and Neulander & Company try to up the ante every year, with the city's best writers and directors and actors presenting extremely short holiday-themed plays in the packed-in-like-sardines ambience of Downtown's Little City Coffeehouse. This night of theatrical hijinks warmed by the annual sing-along, with your emcees Ray Colgan (12/9) and L.B. Deyo (12/10), is highly recommended. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 9-10, 9pm. Little City, 916 Congress, 476-2489. $7-35.* **www.salvagevanguard.org**.

DEBBIE REYNOLDS The Hollywood legend, yes, in a lively performance celebrating her life, music, and greatest triumphs on and off the stage and big screen. *Fri., Dec. 9, 8pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. $34-65.* **www.austintheatre.org**.

4 GUYS NAMED JOSE ... AND UNA MUJER NAMED MARIA From Carmen Miranda and Desi Arnaz to Tito Puente and Ricky Martin, this hit Latino musical by Dolores Prida takes audiences on a nonstop song-and-dance celebration as four guys named Jose find themselves in Nebraska and very homesick for their Latin heritage. Directed by Amparo Garcia-Crow for Play! Theatre Group. *Dec. 9-11. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. 1204 Cedar, 589-8994. $20-25 ($15, seniors, ACoT).*

MY THREE ANGELS is Sam & Bella Spewack's comedy about a 1910 Christmas amid the sweltering heat of French Guiana, wherein three kindhearted convicts intervene in a dysfunctional family crisis. Directed by Michael Stuart for the Onstage Theatre Company, and featuring the ever-delightful Lana Dieterich. *Sat., Dec. 10, 2pm; Mon.-Wed., Dec. 12-14, 7:30pm; Sat., Dec. 17, 7:30pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 445-9866.* **www.onstagetheatreco.org**.

CLOSING

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**.

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**.

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. *Through Dec. 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 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. *Through Dec. 10. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Scottish Rite Theatre, 207 W. 18th, 469-SHOW.* **www.scottishritetheatre.org**.

ONGOING

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 sharpest 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**.

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. *Through Dec. 18. Sat., 10am; Sun., 2:30pm. Austin Scottish Rite Theatre, 207 W. 18th, 472-7247. $8 ($7, seniors; $5, children younger than 12).*

THE DUCK VARIATIONS by David Mamet, yes, from the new Bravura Theatre Company. *Through Dec. 18. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3:30pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY.* **www.hydeparktheatre.com**.

XMAS UNWRAPPED: A HOLIDAY BURLESQUE Looking for a way to warm your cockles this

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. 23 issue is Monday, Dec. 12**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

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

Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy. **brenner@austinchronicle.com**.

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical. **dance-classical@austinchronicle.com**.

Ric Williams, litera. **litera@austinchronicle.com**.

Benné Rockett, visual arts. **art@austinchronicle.com**.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor. **brenner@austinchronicle.com**.

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King Kong

The Hideout, through Dec. 10

Running Time: 1 hr, 30 min

You can't see the jungle on this remote, uncharted Indonesian island. You can't see the Tyrannosaurus rex crashing through the tropical undergrowth to make a meal of the starlet from New York City. And you certainly can't see the colossal ape – easily the size of a four-story building – who stands as the young woman's lone defender before this monstrous predator. But you can hear them, can hear the heavy tread of the thunder lizard as he approaches the gigantic gorilla, can hear its prehistoric reptilian roar, can hear the beastly bellow of the ape in reply, can hear their titanic struggle to the death.

Now, this aural duel of behemoths isn't exactly ear-splitting, the kind of sonic assault in the cineplex where you can feel the sound pressing hard on your chest and rattling your brain pan. To be honest, it's a little tinny, which may be partly due to the fact that it's being produced by a pair of actors growling and grunting into small megaphones. That's what you see as this battle takes place, which provides an amusing disconnect to the scene these performers are enacting, especially considering that the T. rex is being voiced by a performer in a vintage evening gown. But then that's part of the charm of this Violet Crown Radio Players adaptation of *King Kong*. It's *so* low-tech – downright primitive in the way it achieves its effects: shoes thumping on a table to make footsteps, a glissando on a slide trombone to suggest a diving biplane, descriptive words to make an ape they call the Eighth Wonder of the World. In that respect, it's like the 1933 film, which brought Kong to fierce, tender life with something as simple as stop-motion animation.

The Kong-sized challenge facing VCRP in its new old-school radio version is the 72 years we've had of hearing *and seeing* the big ape. Those visuals and the way they were delivered by directors Merian C. Cooper and Ernest Schoedsack and animator Willis O'Brien have a lot to do with what made this Big Apple *Beauty and the Beast* tale a classic. Mark Finn's script, drawn from a novelization that Delos W. Lovelace based on the original screenplay, leans heavily on prose descriptions put in the mouths of the main characters to "show" us what's happening. That leads to the occasional creak of Old Man Exposition, but fortunately the production's leads are nimble enough with narration to make it fly by. Deneen Frazier makes a winning Ann Darrow, intelligent and resourceful with a kind of Midwestern pluck that serves her well on this adventure. You can see how she draws the attention of Jack Driscoll, voiced by Christian Huey as an intrepid straight arrow, wading into danger when necessary because it's the thing to do, but with a shy streak where women are concerned. Roger Frazier lacks some of the edgy drive that propelled Robert Armstrong's Carl Denham on film, but he has more than a touch of Barnum in him, the smooth flourish of the showman with an attraction to end all attractions.

Although Finn as director keeps the show moving along briskly, there isn't much urgency in this *Kong*. The sense of danger – and wonder – that pervades Skull Island is underplayed; on opening night, it had an almost casual feel. Still, when the company hits one of the show's action set-pieces, it comes to life like O'Brien's animated ape. The Foley work by Monica Ballard, Abbey Windham, and Lisa Jasak – the aforementioned begowned dinosaur vocalist – grows lively and rises to the challenge of creating jungle throwdowns and a skyscraper's last stand. There's nothing quite like watching Finn roar in his megaphone as Kong, then grab the slide trombone to sound the biplane shooting down the ape he's portraying. If you need surround sound to feel this story, you'd best forego this for Mr. Jackson's new screen version. However, if you can appreciate a mammoth moon-struck monkey with a slightly tinny growl, you might stretch your ears in VCRP's direction. – *Robert Faires*

season? We daresay the Jingle Belles – Monika Bustamante, Olivia Jane Ellis, Hildreth England, Shannon Grounds, Kelsey Kling, T. Lynn Mikeska, Sharon Sparlin – will provide all the stripalicious, holiday-song-filled heat required. With Mical Trejo as your emcee. *Through Dec. 17. Thu.-Sat., 10pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY, 695-7405. $15 ($10, Thursdays).* **www.hydeparktheatre.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**.

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**.

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. *Through Jan. 7. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. (No shows on Dec. 24-25.) The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. $10-30.* **www.vortexrep.org**.

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 MccCall 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**.

ROCKIN' CHRISTMAS PARTY ZACH's annual, wintertime, Motown-inflected musical spectacular comes a-jingling and a-tinseling and a-sha-la-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**.

DINNER THEATRE

HOW TO MURDER A MERRY MILLIONAIRE Gary Payne's Capital City Mystery Players offer this interactive comedy whodunit to put the tinsel on your tree, know what we mean? And a big ol' pastalicious dinner accompanies the sleuthy shenanigans that *you* help to solve. *Dec. 8, 13, 17, 22. 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. $29.95.* **www.meatballs.com**.

AUDITIONS

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*. **johnsmithatx@hotmail.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**.

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**.



Action like this, as choreographed by dance students and faculty at ACC, livens the Rio Grande stage this weekend.

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research Blvd. #100, 467-2333. **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 humorwise for your benefit (and to benefit the Austin Children's Shelter). *Sundays, 8pm. $2 (free, college students).*

J.R. Brow It's the return of the Brow, as this fall-down-funny feller of local extraction takes the Cap City stage to places it's seldom been. After, of course, Mario DiGiorgio opens. *Dec. 13-17. Tue.-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*, and Jimmie Roulette opens for him. *Dec. 8-10. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. $4.50-12.*

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. **www.esthersfollies.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 Threefer 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.*

Tom Rhodes Out of Holland and into the hills, so to speak, comes this international bastion of hilarity, ready to unwind the post-autumnal city. David Hunstberger and Maggie Gallant open. Recommended? Yes! *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 9-10, 9:30 & 11:30pm. $5.*

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

THE WAR ON CHRISTMAS Austin's reigning Friday Night Improv cage-match champions, the ColdTowne Heroes, present a multimedia sketch show that explores the true meaning of Christmas. And when they say "true meaning" they mean, it seems, "Hey, uh, St. Nicholas? Fuck you." *Tue., Dec. 13, 8pm. The Hideout Theater, 617 Congress, 443-3688.* **www.coldtowne.com**.

Dance

PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE: SEMBRANDO HERENCIA – PUERTO RICO MI PATRIA The rich heritage of Puerto Rico is on display again in this debut of the group's newest "mini-musical," featuring traditional dance, music, and song that tells the story of the British Invasion of 1797. This lively celebration of Spanish, Taino, and West African roots was created in collaboration with Teatro Vivo Director Rupert Reyes and features students from Texas Empowerment Academy. *Sun., Dec. 11, 3pm. Journey Theatre, Akins High School, 10701 S. First. 474-TIXS. $10 ($5, ages 12 and younger; free, ages 2 and younger).* **www.austix.com**.

ACC DANCE DEPARTMENT: CHOREOGRAPHERS SHOWCASE A semester of dance and choreography training comes to fruition as the students and faculty of ACC unveil new works. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 9-10, 8pm. Mainstage Theater, 1212 Rio Grande. 223-3384. $6 ($3, students).*

BALLET AUSTIN: THE NUTCRACKER Choreographed by BA artistic director, Stephen Mills, and set to the music of Tchaikovsky as performed by the Austin Symphony Orchestra, *The Nutcracker* continues to delight children of all ages. More than 150 area schoolkids are involved in the onstage antics, as is this year's crop of celebrity guest Mother Gingers. Arrive 75 minutes early for the free "Footlights" program, during which the night's ballet gets an informal preperformance discussion. On matinee days, arrive early (12:45pm) for the Kids Corps program about the company and the ballet. *Through Dec. 23. Fri.-Sat., Dec. 9-10, 7:30pm; Sun., Dec. 11 & 18, 2pm. Fri.-Sat., Dec. 16-17, 7:30pm; Sat., Dec. 17, 2pm; Tue.-Thu., Dec. 20-22, 7:30pm; Fri., Dec. 23, 2pm. Bass Concert Hall, UT Campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 469-SHOW. $17-75.* **www.balletaustin.com**.

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.*

SAHARA NIGHTS Sabaya Bellydance Collective presents divine belly dancing upstairs, while the Brew plays live salsa music downstairs. Middle Eastern food, music, and ambience round out this senses-stimulating regular, second-Thursday event. Dress code in effect: no sneakers, T-shirts, or torn jeans, please. *Thu., Dec. 8, 9pm-2am. Copa Bar & Grill, 217 Congress. $5 (includes both shows).* **www.sabayabellydance.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**.

MORE ON THE FLOOR Phone the danceline 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**.

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**.

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**.

SECOND FRIDAY ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING At this fragrance-free event, dances are called by expert teachers Dave Maceman and/or Cynthia Stenger, with live music by the English Country Band. No experience required. Bring a snack for intermission. *Fri., Dec. 9, 7:30-10:30pm. First Unitarian Church, 4700 Grover, 341-8023, 266-9949. $6.* **www.austinuu.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**.

AUSTIN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS Come alone or with a partner; beginners always welcome (kilts optional). *Thursdays, 7-9pm. Quicksilver Dance Studio, 8711 Burnet. First session free.* **www.austinscd.org**.

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.austinswingsyndicate.org**.

NOTES & ENCORES

AUSTIN CHAMBER MUSIC ACADEMY: SPRING SESSION AUDITIONS School-aged students and adults (piano, strings, woodwinds, brass, classical guitar, and voice) may enroll in the academy, which includes chamber music coaching, music theory classes, social events, master classes, and recitals. Spring session for school-age students are on Saturdays, starting Jan. 14. Adult classes follow a more flexible schedule. Call for appt. Auditions: *Sun., Dec. 11. Ascension Lutheran Church, 6420 Hart, 454-7562.* **www.austinchambermusic.org**.

Classical Music

UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC

UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC Among the highlights of UT's School of Music's great classical program this week: **Holiday Choral Concert** The seasonal spirit takes hold at the big university with this outing by the fine voices of the School of Music. *Sat., Dec. 10, 8pm. Bates Recital Hall. $10 at the door.* **www.music.utexas.edu**.

NOTES & ENCORES

THE AUSTIN LYRIC OPERA presents "Opera on the Town" with ALO Director of Education Margaret Perry discussing Shostakovich's *Lady McBeth of Mtsensk*, which the ALO performs Jan. 7-8 and 14-15 at Bass Concert Hall. Audience members receive a 15% discount on tickets to the ALO performance. A great deal and highly recommended. *Sun., Dec. 11, 3pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.*

OPENING

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 Carrillon. Sat., Dec. 10, 2:30 & 8pm. First English Lutheran Church, 3001 Whitis. Sun., Dec. 11, 2:30pm & 8pm. The Carillon. Wed., Dec. 14, 7:30pm. St. Mary's Cathedral, 10th & Brazos. 476-5775.* **www.conspirare.org**.

STRINGS ATTACHED WITH ELIZA GILKYSON Gilkyson's songs connect the worlds of folk and modern storytelling, and her lyrics range from dark and lonely to hopeful and edgy. Check out this inductee to the Austin Music Hall of Fame as she strums some of her best-known tunes backed by Will Taylor and his chamber musicians. Two shows. *Fri., Dec. 9, 7:30 & 10pm. St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. Seventh, 477-9837. $15-35 ($8, seniors, students; $5, ages 11 and younger).* **www.stringsattached.org**.

AUSTIN CIVIC ORCHESTRA: HOLIDAY CONCERT Celebrate the holiday season with ACO and special guest trumpeter Bob Cannon. Family-friendly seasonal fare plus a sing-along of yuletide faves. Lois Ferrari conducts. *Sat., Dec. 10, 7:30pm. St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa, 301-7370. $10 ($8, students; $3, under 12).* **www.austincivicorchestra.org**.

CHRISTMAS AT FIRST The First Baptist Church is hosting a slew of seasonal events, among them: **Christmas anthems** from Handel's *Messiah*. This concert is performed by the Sanctuary Choir with orchestra and soloists. *Sun., Dec. 11, 11am (during worships service).* **Cantamos Women's Ensemble** A concert of sacred and secular Christmas music. *Wed., Dec. 14, 6:15 (preceded by dinner at 5:15). First Baptist Church, Ninth & Trinity, 476-2625.* **www.fbcaustin.org**.

CANTAMOS CHRISTMAS One of Austin's most beloved and accomplished ensembles features some 20 women under the direction of Louise Avant, singing a wide repertoire encompassing the religious, the secular, and the seasonal. *Sun., Dec. 11, 9:20-10:30am. First Baptist Church, East Ninth & Trinity. Mon., Dec. 12, noon. Northwest Hills United Methodist Church, 7050 Village Center. Mon., Dec. 12, 6:45pm. Continental Retirement Center, 4604 S. Lamar. Wed., Dec. 14, 6:15pm. First Baptist Church. Thu., Dec. 15, 6:45pm. Park Bend Health Center, 2122 Park Bend. Sun., Dec. 18, 6pm. Westminster Manor Dining Hall, 4100 Jackson. 476-2625.*

AUSTIN CHORD RANGER CHORUS: FREE SING-ALONG The 45-man chorus performs well-known holiday favorites and inspirational songs, including a seven-part arrangement of *Ave Maria*. *Sun., Dec. 11, noon. Rotunda of the Texas State Capitol. 477-SONG. Free.* **www.chordrangers.org**.

AUSTIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG Guest conductor Carlton Dillard leads you and the symphony and guest chorus through holiday favorites for all ages. Besides getting the chance to carol with a thousand or so of your neighbors, expect guest appearances by the Grinch, Frosty, Rudolph, and that jolly old elf himself. *Tue., Dec. 13, 8pm. Riverbend Centre, 4214 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 476-6064, 888/4-MAESTRO. Free (tickets are required for admission, first-come first-served, at the Symphony Box Office, 11th & Red River, 9am-5pm).* **www.austinsymphony.org**.

JOHN LONGHURST: HOLIDAY ORGAN Two decades at the pipes of the organ of the Mormon Tabernacle means this organist knows the ins and outs (stops and starts?) of tracker organs. Hear him in a seasonal recital on UT's mighty organ. *Thu., Dec. 15, 8pm. Bates Recital Hall, 27 E. Campus Dr., 477-6060, 800/687-6010. $28.* **www.utpac.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: Schola Cantorum from St. Mary's Cathedral, directed by Jeffrey Ragona-Jones. *Thursdays, 12:05pm (lunch at 12:30pm). Through Dec. 22. St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. Seventh, 472-1196. Free concert ($6, with lunch).* **www.stdave.org**.

CLOSING

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 E. Eighth. Sun., Dec., 11, 8pm. Hope Presbyterian Church, 11512 Olson. 326-2575. Free.* **www.austinhandbells.org**.

Visual Arts

EVENTS

ART OFFICIAL INTELLIGENCE Sarah Wentworth, Liza Camille Thomson, and Roxanne Jo Mitchell welcome guest artist Anna Sundrud to their group show of photographic portraits at the Stash. With wine, cheese, and music. *Sat., Dec. 10, 7pm. 2209-J S. First.*

BARRY GEORGE'S STUDIO SALE Silver jewelry, fine textiles and ceramics, and more, from local artists, complement George's own display of metal garden sculpture in this one-day show. *Sat., Dec. 10, 9am-4pm. 204 Attayac, 480-0267.*

CHIP KIDD takes a brief vacation from redesigning the stately Wayne manor, instead spending an evening talking to the denizens of *this* gotham about what he does so well vis-à-vis the covers of books and so on. The man, the legend, the gamely sprite himself: in the flesh! As presented by the American Institute of Graphic Arts. *Mon., Dec. 12, 7pm. UT Communications Bldg. B, 2504 Whitis. $20 ($10, AIGA; $5, AIGA students).*



Sydney Yeager unveils "Billow & Fold," her latest series of paintings, at D Berman Gallery.

ARMADILLO CHRISTMAS BAZAAR celebrates 30 years of art and music. All collectors, gift givers, and music lovers are invited to shop and bop amid eclectic displays that range from the sophisticated to the funky. *Dec. 10-24, 11am-11pm.* Live Music: *Mon.-Fri., 8-11pm; Sat.-Sun., 12:30-2:24pm and 3:30-6pm.* $3 (weekdays to 7pm); $5 (evenings and weekends); free, ages 11 and younger. *208 Nueces, 263-4146.* **www.directevents.net**.

BLUE GENIE ART BAZAAR Just in time for all your holiday shopping – if you're the sort of person who buys gorgeous, original *art* for your cherished others, that is. Here's an entire warehouse full of it, from some of the city's most creative talents, with the Blue Genie space all decked out and featuring (on weekend nights) live music for your entertainment. *Dec. 8-24. Sun.-Thu., 10am-10pm. Fri.-Sat., 10am-12mid. 916 Springdale, 444-6655.* **www.bluegenieart.com**.

CREATIVE RESEARCH LABORATORY: HEYDAYS is a multifaceted series of events and participation opps presented by students at UT's Department of Art and Art History for the Austin public. Definitely check their Web site! (See "Heydays (Again): Everybody Paint Now," p.43, for more.) 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.* **www.uts.cc.utexas.edu/~crlab**.

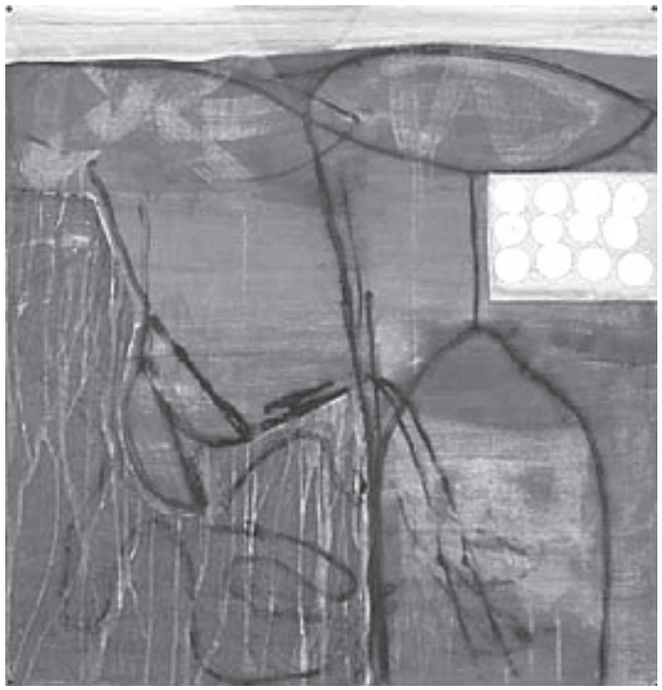
OPENING

DIAZ GALLERY presents new works by local artists Davis, Filz, Fitzgerald, Friedman, Van Dyke, and Yantis. Reception: *Fri., Dec. 9, 6-9pm.* Exhibition: *Dec. 9-Jan. 31. 3507 S. First, 444-0013.*

ART ON 5TH: CRITTER ART This popular space gets its animal on for the holidays, with 10 artists and their creations conjuring up a veritable bungle in the jungle. *Through Dec. 31. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111.* **www.arton5th.com**.

Andy St. Martin: Outside the Grooves

Bolm Studios Gallery, through Dec. 16



An East Coast artist with interests in choreography, dance, and performance, Andy St. Martin has explored new approaches to abstract expressionism in his paintings for the last six years. The combination of formal structure and gestural impulse is carefully designed in these modestly scaled works. There is no referencing to political, religious, or social cause. These are controlled compounded symbols happily reordering themselves in harmonious disjunction. Confused yet? Imagine Franz Marc (expressionist), Fernand Leger (cubist), Carlo Carrà (futurist), Andy Warhol (Pop art), and Miriam Schapiro (pattern and decoration) cooking in the same kitchen, and you might get a sense of St. Martin's works. What a fabulous hybrid meal to digest. These oil and acrylic works on birch panels have much to do with early modernism yet seem to find their place in a post-postmodern moment. The mark-making is congruent yet divested enough to be fluidly individual between images. And if you miss the exhibition, St. Martin can be found working in his studio with the Splinter Group on Springdale. He is engaging, funny, and absolutely honest. – *Benné Rockett*

D BERMAN GALLERY presents "Billow & Fold," a series of new paintings by Austin artist Sydney Yeager, whose vividly hued paintings continue to evolve and delight. Reception: *Fri., Dec. 9, 6-8pm*. Exhibition: *Dec. 9-Jan. 2. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877.* **www.dbermangallery.com**.

ARS IPSA: TEMPORARY DIVIDERS features assemblage, printmaking, and installation by Logan Hill, Heather Johnson, Laura Latimer, Ted Ollier, Clif Riley, and Emilio Villarruel. Reception: *Thu., Dec. 8, 7-11pm*. Exhibition: *Through Dec. 31. Second & San Antonio, 633-2282*. **www.arsipsa.com**.

CAMP FIG: BILL IVEY VS. THE FUTURE See what happens when four artists (Tim Brown, Lance McMahan, Josh Rios, and Enoch Rios) challenge Bill Ivey, conceptual sage and professor of art at Texas State, to a duel at sundown. Hint: It'll *fill* this downtown space. Reception: *Sat., Dec. 10, 7-11pm*. Exhibit: *Saturdays, 1-5pm, through Dec. 31. 305-B E. Fifth, 698-0327.* **www.campfig.com**.



WAYNE ALLAN BRENNER

Put down that cheese, monkey, and grab you an assful of chair from which to hear the remarkable Chip Kidd spiel about his craft on Monday.

ONGOING

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and sometimes (in rotation) others. *12400 Amherst #102. 825-8577.* **www.eyecontactart.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.austinartglass.com**.

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS 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 nonprofit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix Ave., 385-3591.* **www.serieproject.org**.

CULTURAS DE ARTE is a new gallery featuring Mexican folk art (statues, paintings, home decor, masks, and more) as well as unique works by proprietor Julian Orozco. *3311 N. I-35 Ste. C, 473-2302.* **www.artcultures.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.*

JULIA C. BUTRIDGE GALLERY presents "Contained," an exhibition of new works by Kat Dewees and Colleen Sommers, examining the delicate balance of being contained and of being unrestrained. Boxes, vessels, figures, and containers in various media are used to juxtapose this confinement and conformance with boundless freedom. *Through Dec. 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 fairytale images. *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 LOMBARDI'S XMAS EXPO offers the unique wares of fine art from more than 50 area artists, including Alejandra Almuelle, Tom Besson, Nancy Lay, Sharon Smith, and Rick Van Dyke. *Through Jan. 7. 910 W. Third, 481-1088.* **www.gallerylombardi.com**.

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/HRHRC**.

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 video tapes of Richard Linklater's 1991 film, *Slacker*. Reception: *Sat., Dec. 10, 6-8pm*. Exhibition: *Through Jan. 7. 300 West Ave. #1318, 215-4965.* **www.lorareynolds.com**.

MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM presents the many wonders of "Collecting Latin American Art." *Through Dec. 31. 419 Congress, 480-9373.*

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**.

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"). *Through Dec. 16. 5305 Bolm #10, 385-1670.*

OSWALD GALLERY presents Jerry Uelsmann, legendary pioneer of photomontage and multi-negavite printing, and Maggie Taylor, renowned contemporary photo collage artists. 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**.

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 the Scarbrough 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. *Through Dec. 31. 509 W. 18th, 469-5901.*

STUDIO 107 presents "Holiday Punch," featuring the work of Bennie Flores Ansell, Candace Briceno, Jonas Criscoe, Leona-Scull Hons, Brian & Stella Alesi, and many more in this highly recommended show. *Through Dec. 31. 411 Brazos #107, 477-9092.* **www.studio107.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**.

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. *Through Dec. 23. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064.* **www.womenandtheirwork.org**.

YARD DOG FOLK ART presents oodles of new drawings by Jad Fair, co-founder and frontman for the legendary punk rock band Half Japanese, whose paintings and paper cuttings have been exhibited throughout the world. Reception: Exhibition: *Through Dec. 31. 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613.*

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 GW Clark. *1214 W. Sixth, 472-1550.*

AUSTIN-BERGSTROM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT presents award-winning Mexican-American artwork and children's books. *Through Jan. 31. 3600 Presidential Blvd., 369-6600.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/newairport**.

CAFE JOSIE displays the innovative photography of Bruce Hop. *1200-B W. Sixth, 322-9226.*

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of an, we guess you might say, average South Austin home. Hours: *Sundays, 11am-2pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413.* **www.keepaustinweird.com**.

CROFTS ORIGINAL presents new jewelry in gold and silver by local artist Michelle Podell of Zahava Kala. *1714 S Congress, 445-6308.*

LAS AMERICAS FINE ARTS GALLERY presents new works by Peruvian painter and sculptor

Augusto Brocca. Current Hours: *Weekends and by appt. 1103 E. Sixth.*

LA PENA: RUG HOOKING PROJECT Hooked rugs from the Mujeres en Cambio group of San Miguel de Allende decorate the walls of this downtown eatery. Through Dec. *23. 211 Congress, 472-9357.*

MAIKO SUSHI LOUNGE presents paintings and sculpture by Augusto Brocca, Rachel Koper, Drew Randall, M. Raja, Shekar Roy, Douglas Brown, Jose Perez, and Youryoni Mylingham. *Through Jan. 31. 311 W. Sixth, 236-9888.*

NORTH HILLS GALLERY Reception: *Sun., Dec. 4, 12:15-1:30pm*. Exhibition: *Through Jan. 1. 7050 Village Center Dr., 345-1743.*

ROADHOUSE RELICS is a vintage-neon gallery and studio where artist Todd Sanders creates neon signs, eye-popping carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture. *1720 S. First, 442-6366.* **www.roadhouserelics.com**.

PSYCHEDELIC RELICS is a collection of posters, prints, and paintings by R. Thies. *Through Jan. 4. 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* **www.rutamaya.net**.

WET SALON presents portraiture and figurative work of women by David de Lara. *Through Dec. 31. 1109 S. Congress, 444-7375.*

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 inquires should be addressed to Harold McMillan via e-mail, and specify "Volunteer" in the subject line. *1705 Guadalupe #234, 477-9438.* **info@diversearts.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**.

JORDAN GALLERY & STUDIOS Located in the retail section of Main Street in Smithville, Texas, this 1909 building has been completely remodeled and is now available for studio rental. Contact the proprietors via e-mail. *512/657-2491.* **jordangallery@austin.rr.com**.

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

PEGGY KELLEY, brilliant and intense, is the final poet in ACC's student gathering of the semester. An open mic follows. Highly recommended. *Mon., Dec. 12, 7pm. Austin Java Cafe & Bar, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829.* **www.austinjava.com**.

SENATOR JOHN MCCAIN signs copies of his *Character Is Destiny*. What can you say when this clearly conservative apparatchik becomes the lone sane institutional voice against the clearly fascist power urges of a Dick Cheney? Somebody come and be real with this man who could well be president in 2008. *Sun., Dec. 11, noon. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.* **www.bookpeople.com**.

CHERI LOMONTE presents her *The Healing Touch of Mary: Real Life Stories From Those Touched by Mary. Sat., Dec. 10, 2-4pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985. Sun., Dec. 11, 2-3pm. BookWoman, 918 W. 12th, 472-2785*.

WRITING ON THE AIR presents an interview with Bryce Milligan, author, poet, and publisher of Wings Press out of San Antonio. Interviewed by Dillon McKenzie. *Sat., Dec. 10, 4-4:30pm. KOOP 91.7FM*.

KIM O'NEILL, psychic and teacher, presents her *How to Talk With Your Angels. Sat., Dec. 10, 10am-noon. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.* **www.bookpeople.com**.

MARVIE ELLIS presents *Taco's Anyone* and *Keisha's Doors. Sat., Dec. 10, 1-3pm. Mitchie's Fine Black Art & Gift Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901.* **www.mitchie.com**.

JOHN HARTIGAN JR. presents his *Odd Tribes: Toward a Cultural Analysis of White People*. He examines the "tangles of privilege, debasement, power, and stigma that constitute white identity." How, he asks, does "the historical uses of degrading images of poor whites ratify lines of color [culminating] in performers such as Eminem and Roseanne Barr [who] challenge stereotypical representations of *white trash* by claiming the identity as their own?" *Thu., Dec. 8, 8pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925.* **www.monkeywrenchbooks.org**.

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/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**.

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.mozartscoffee.com**.

THE WINDSOR PARK BRANCH CLUB reaches *The Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell. *Tue., Dec. 13, 7-8:30pm. Windsor Village Library, 5833 Westminster, 928-0333.*

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

WINSTON G. WILLIAMS conducts the last of this year's workshops, *Write on, Austin!*. Williams and his recently published memoir, *Now That I've Told You All That, Would You?*, has been featured on National Public Radio's "In Black America." *Thu., Dec. 8, 7-8:30pm. Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 974-7528.* **www.cityofaustin.org/library**.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

THE BALCONES POETRY PRIZE is accepting submissions. The $1000 award recognizes an outstanding book of poetry published between Jan. 1, 2005, and Dec. 31, 2005. Books must be 42 pages or more. Send three copies; books must bear a publication date. Reading fee: $20. Checks payable to Austin Community College. Address: *John Herndon, Associate Director, Balcones Center for Creative Writing, Austin Community College, 1212 Rio Grande, Austin, Texas 78701.* Deadline: *Jan. 31.*

FARFELU is a new nonprofit magazine devoted to the work of Austin writers and artists, seeking submissions for its first 2006 issue. Editors Elisabeth McKetta, Kim Pyle, and Michelle Lee seek work in all genres, including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, paintings, drawings, cartoons, and photographs. Check their Web site for more. Deadline: *Jan. 1.* **www.farfelumagazine.com.**.

OPEN MICS

NEO-SOUL LOUNGE is hosted by B. Fran. *Wednesdays, 8:30pm. Antonio's Tex Mex, 7522 N. I-35.* **www.southflavas.com**.

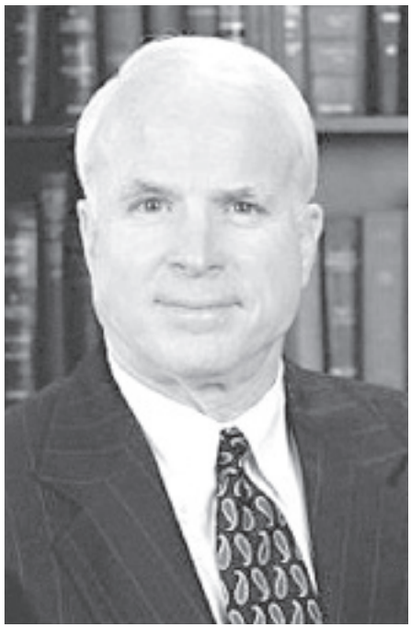
AUSTIN JAVA COMPANY features open mic poetry and spoken word with your hosts, Rhiannon and Christopher Robin. *Thursdays, 6-10pm. Austin Java Cafe & Bar, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829.* **www.austinjava.com**.

CAFFEINATED POETRY (with added live music) is a new open mic venue open to musicians and poets for improvisation. Hosted by Thom the World Poet. *Wednesdays, 7-9pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473.*

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry captains the crew that has all the best of stand-up, performance art, theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one electrifying evening. $100 in prizes every week; open mic precedes the main event. *Wednesdays, 8pm. Ego's, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091.* **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**.

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**.



Sen. John McCain, who may singlehandedly disprove the equation that Republican = Idiot, stops in at BookPeople this Sunday.

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. *Fri., Dec. 9, 8-10pm. La Tazza Fresca, 519 W. 37th, 653-9140.*

URBAN POETRY SLAM features guest Brian Francis. Always an open mic, hosted by Reggie Goodwin, to test your slammin' chops. Refreshments served. *Sat., Dec. 10, 3-5pm. Mitchie's Fine Black Art & Gift Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901.* **www.mitchie.com**.

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**.

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**.

MISCELLANEOUS

MONSTER BOOK SALE is the Friends of the Austin Public Library's annual fundraiser. Every week until they stop. $1 for paperbacks and children's books, $2 for hard covers, with hundred 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! *a captain captains a cat cats. what is the value of a cloud & what of a dream like clouds ephemeral the rain of their passing may or may not register with the roots of the land still rain rains & i dreamed last night that i could weigh a summer shower in tons. i repeat myself myself & you & max & how the world repeats itself everyday in beauty in suffering & i follow myself like a man in love with a ghost that circles round & round that far cold moon. how i see it in your eyes & there inside that cluttered room in the screams of a madman in the whispered song of a child & i go into the field every day & wait & some* thing *always walks up to say hello & i listen & watch as it draws me in & i breathe out poems* Namaste. Vaya con dios.

POEM OF THE ISSUE

I love Rush Limbaugh
when he smokes a cigar
and lifts the thick brown rolled leaf to his lips
it's like watching a turd leap
into the ass from which it came

- Michael Gilmore, "Brown Trout"

Bravo Celotto.

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Be Here to Love Me: A Film About Townes Van Zandt

D: Margaret Brown. (NR, 99 min.)

Vivid yet impressionistic, Margaret Brown's film tribute to the singer-songwriter Townes Van Zandt brings the late musician and his career into rare focus. The documentary's point of view can be as broad and rambling as one of Van Zandt's story songs (Van Zandt is probably most well known for his song "Pancho & Lefty," which was memorably recorded as a No. 1 hit by Willie Nelson and Merle Haggard), but as acute and direct as one of his distinct turns of phrase. Brown does not seek to analyze the reasons for the prolific musician's abbreviated life (he died in 1997 of a heart attack at the age of 53), though she does look at his prodigious drinking (without ever using the word alcoholic) and talks with his three successive wives and now-fatherless children, as well as many other family members and friends. Even devotees of his songs may be surprised to learn some of the details of his early life: He was born a child of privilege in Fort Worth, sniffed airplane glue in high school, and later overdosed. One of his sisters off-handedly asks the filmmaker if anyone has yet told the story of how Townes fell out of a four-story window on purpose, just to see how it felt. After that incident he was hospitalized for shock treatment. At another point, Van Zandt's first wife recounts how he locked himself in a closet immediately after their wedding in order to teach himself how to write a song and emerged with his first authored tune, titled "Waiting Round to Die" rather than some love ballad or other romantic fodder. *Be Here to Love Me* will intrigue newcomers to Van Zandt's music as well as longtime fans. The film is rich with his songs, and the flavorful sampling is enhanced by lots of interviews with colleagues and cohorts as well as family. Insights are provided by musicians including Joe Ely, Kris Kristofferson, Steve Earle, and Guy Clark (who, with wife Susannah, offers pleasantly drunken commentary in an attempt to stay true to the spirit of his dead friend). Brown strikes it rich with the wealth of archival material she found to include: photos from all stages of his life, clips from his television appearances, Super-8 home footage, audio recordings, and more. Brown's real secret ingredient, however, is the cinematography of Lee Daniel, whose camera often picks up the slight details that others neglect to see and whose contemporary roadside traveling footage is continuously used throughout the film as an evocative editing link. (It should be noted that both Brown and Daniel are Austin filmmakers, and also that Louis Black, one of the film's producers, is the editor of *The Austin Chronicle*.) Despite all this material, *Be Here to Love Me* never becomes an ordinary biopic. The conclusion is never in doubt: The movie opens with Van Zandt prophetically stating, "I think my life will run out before my work does. I think I've designed it that way." It's the latter half of this statement that forms the crux of the movie. Brown seeks to learn the price paid and the happiness earned by living as Van Zandt did, in total devotion to his muse, his music. This songwriter's songwriter gave it all up for "the sake of the song," as he might say. Rejecting normality for nomadism, Van Zandt's life was difficult, but, man, what a legacy of music he left. *(See interview with Margaret Brown and Lee Daniel on p.60 of this week's Screens section.)*

– *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★½ Alamo Drafthouse South



New Reviews

AEON FLUX

D: Karyn Kusama; with Charlize Theron, Marton Csokas, Jonny Lee Miller, Sophie Okonedo, Frances McDormand, Pete Postlethwaite, Amelia Warner. (PG-13, 95 min.)

Aeon Flux may be a mess, but it's a beautiful mess, full of the sort of far-futurist thinking that might be mistaken for the extreme edge of Bruce Sterling and William Gibson's cyberpunk. Like the work of those authors, it doesn't lack for nifty (and often depressing) ideas of where mankind is currently heading. Based on Peter Chung's mid-Nineties animated MTV series, the film is set 400 years in the future, after a killer virus has wiped out 99.9% of the world's population, leaving the remaining 5 million ensconced in what appears to be a better-irrigated version of *Logan's Run*'s backlot. A utopian society headed by Csokas' Trevor Goodchild and his duplicitous brother Oren (Miller, looking and acting like the evil twin of his now oh-so-quaint *Hackers* character) has grown up in the shadow of the apocalypse. As in all utopian societies, there's trouble afoot and rebels on the hoof, the former consisting of suddenly missing citizenry and the latter arriving in the form of Theron's title character, an ultra-chic assassin possessed of an Anna Sui-meets-Richard Kern fashion sense and legs that appear lengthy enough to constitute an entire Rockettes chorus line by themselves. And then it's kick, one, two, kick into Aeon's adventures through the proverbial looking glass, as her non-rebel sister is snuffed out in her place and Aeon goes on a revenge bender (guided, it must be said, by McDormand's Handler, who shows up in her noggin every time Aeon ingests a little white capsule and looks altogether too much like the Red Queen on a very bad hair day), seeking to save what little remains of life as we know it. The story, with its obvious references to the current state of our own none-too-utopian affairs, i.e., rampant surveillance, non-transparent officialdom, and the sudden re-emergence of Lycra in places not specifically reserved for personal displays of athleticism, speaks to the current zeitgeist of paranoia and distrust while attempting to be a sort of feminist counterweight to mainstream Hollywood kickassery. Theron, for her part, looks like she's having a ball, and her slinky, huggy, neo-B&D costumes – occasionally adrift amidst all the Bauhaus-on-acid production design – are the *ne plus ultra* of high fashion appropriated for low culture: She's the anti-Tank Girl and then some. The film falters, however, when it comes to the script (by Phil Hay and Matt Manfredi), which forces its Oscar-winning actors to gnaw over pronouncements of such mock gravitas that at moments it's all you can do not to giggle. What worked on *Liquid Television* doesn't translate as well to the world of flesh and blood. While its heart is in the right place, *Aeon Flux*'s head is just a little too high to make much sense.

– *Marc Savlov*

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

BALZAC AND THE LITTLE CHINESE SEAMSTRESS

D: Dai Sijie; with Zhou Xun, Chen Kun, Liu Ye, Cong Zhijun, Wang Shuangbao. (NR, 110 min., subtitled)

In adapting his eponymous novel to the screen, Dai Sijie retains its breezy, amiable mien, complemented here by pretty Szechuan peasant scenery from Jean-Marie Dreujou *(The Girl on the Bridge)*. Amidst the verdant countryside of Phoenix Mountain, circa 1971, *Seamstress* presents an uncharacteristically romantic look at the Chinese Cultural Revolution; compared to 1998's *Xiu-Xiu: The Sent-Down Girl*, it makes rural bourgeois re-education look like a stint at summer camp, replete with skits, movie nights, and spying on the nubile village maidens as they bathe. The movie, like its source, is not apolitical – it's just simply more interested in the workings of the heart and the power of art to transform and impassion the human spirit. Luo and Ma (Chen Kun and Liu Ye) are two citified intellectuals sent to learn practical skills and be purged of their reactionary upbringing (one is the son of a dentist, which will prove useful if politically inexpedient). Ma brings his violin but barely saves it from a bonfire, claiming that his favorite sonata is a Party anthem: "Mozart Is Thinking of Chairman Mao." Enter the village seamstress (Zhou Xun), a sardonic girl of 18 who inflames the boys' Pygmalion complexes: When they discover a suitcase full of banned Western novels, they set about "transforming" her with beauty and culture, specifically *Cousin Bette* and *Ursule Mirouët*. Their political resistance otherwise takes the form of pranking the local Party chief (Wang Shuangbao) and re-enacting socialist movies for the villagers. The film's satire is gentle – until its present-day coda, added in the screenplay, which is tonally at odds with the feel-good first two acts – painting the government with broad, buffoonish strokes. (The novel is banned in the People's Republic not because its heroes consistently outsmart the Party but because its depiction of literature as life-changing is anathema.) It's a charming work but not too deep; the love story is not terribly profound, just sun-dappled, sentimental, and nostalgic. Even a mine collapse is but as a temporary setback for the characters, and it provides a greater opportunity for reading. Cute and toothless as a kitten, *Seamstress* doesn't inspire the same kind of fervent devotion its principals feel when confronted with art, but it does make a pleasant enough diversion.

– *Marrit Ingman*

★★½ Arbor

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

D: Andrew Adamson; with Georgie Henley, Skandar Keynes, William Moseley, Anna Popplewell, Tilda Swinton, James McAvoy, Jim Broadbent; with the voice of Liam Neeson. (PG, 135 min.)

To recap: This is fusillade No. 1 in Disney's presumed seven-film adaptation of C. S. Lewis' beloved children's tales, in which the four Pevensie children – tiny, hopeful Lucy (Henley); put-upon younger brother Edmund (Keynes); sweet, maternal Susan (Popplewell); and brave lad Peter (Moseley) – are sent by their mother to the

English countryside to escape the German Blitz. There they encounter a magical wardrobe that functions as the portal to the miraculous land of Narnia, currently ruled by the White Witch (Swinton, costumed in a decidedly unwitchy outfit that makes her look like a cross between the Pillsbury Doughboy and Björk on Oscar night). The White Witch is a vicious, thoroughly evil character intent on enslaving the more sun-dappled areas of Narnia, currently held by the wise and noble lion Aslan (voiced with appropriate solemnity by Neeson). My question is, if all the fauna, and even the flora, in the fantasy world of Narnia are sentient, what on earth (or, you know, wherever) does anyone eat? If I recall my C.S. Lewis, he didn't bother with the digestive systems of his characters either, so director Adamson *(Shrek)* and his co-screenwriters Ann Peacock, Christopher Markus, and Stephen McFeely are apparently off the hook. Still, the whole issue of food and the lack thereof left me feeling a bit peckish. There's much to dine on visually, as you'd expect from a reported $150 million Disney outing, but the fact of the matter – whether you fell in love with the seven *Narnia* books as a child or not – is that $150 million big ones no longer seem to add up to very convincing special effects anymore, and in a world populated by a hodge-podge of mythic beasties ranging from centaurs to satyrs (here called fauns) and from the legendary flaming Phoenix to Aslan, the talking lion *and* Lewis' four-legged metaphorical Christ figure, that's a huge problem. Shots of the Pevensie girls riding atop Aslan's bunching and tawny musculature look as phony as the traveling mattes of RKO yore, and many members of the White Witch's ogre-inclusive army appear to be sporting nothing more than cheap latex masks. Did all the talented effects mavens in this film's home base of New Zealand end up in Peter Jackson's pocket already? It would appear so. (*Kong* triumphs yet again.) The film's rapid, almost video-game sense of narrative (and I don't recall the books having this problem) means it leaps and cavorts from serious situation to *very* serious situation like a Super Mario Jesus leaping over the waters. There's no sense of calm before the gathering storm because the film is *all* storm, and so when the thunderheads of the White Witch finally crash down atop the outnumbered army of Aslan, it comes almost as an afterthought: oh, yes, *the battle*. We'd almost forgot. Pacing and dodgy CGI work aside, *Narnia* is nearly saved by those immensely likable and altogether stiff-upper-lippy Pevensie kids. Moseley's pre-King Peter, in particular, and wee Henley, all doe-eyed, gape-mouthed wonderment, are more real than anything else on the screen. Their inter-sibling battles, presaging the "real" thing later in the film, have a ring of truth to them that Frodo would kill for. But still, as a broadside across the bow of Lord Jackson and his rampaging WETAns, this is a puny shot. And I'm still hungry. – *Marc Savlov*

★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

Openings

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress (NR)

Be Here to Love Me: A Film About Townes Van Zandt (NR)

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (PG)

Ellie Parker (NR)

Juarez: Stages of Fear (R)

King Kong (PG-13)

Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic (NR)

Syriana (R)

Ratings

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

La bomba


Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic

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Downtown

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Thurs, 12/15, Downtown

DOWNTOWN - 4TH AND COLORADO

THU, DEC 8	TOWNES VAN ZANDT: INVITE ONLY SAVED BY THE BELL AFTER-SCHOOL SPECIAL	7:00 9:45
FRI, DEC 9	THE SINUS XMAS SHOW OBSCURE HOLIDAY SPECIALS WITH THE SINUS BOYS	7 & 9:45
SAT, DEC 10	BUTT-NUMB-A-THON 7 THE GREATEST FILM EVENT IN THE WORLD	12:00
SUN, DEC 11	MOULIN ROUGE W/ FRENCH FEAST THE MOULIN ROUGE SINGALONG	7:00 9:45
MON, DEC 12	BRITCOMS: STEVE COOGAN NIGHT VULCAN VIDEO KNOWS BRITISH COMEDY	7:00
TUE, DEC 13	AFS ESSENTIAL: STRANGE WOMAN TOMORROWS PARTIES: VELVET UNDERGROUND	7:00 9:45
WED, DEC 14	PLAGUES & PLEASURES ON THE SALTON SEA AFS: RUTHLESS WEIRD WED (FREE) BLACK ANGELS	7:00 9:45 MIDNIGHT
THU, DEC 15	A*P*E: GIANT HORNY GORILLA IN 3D OPEN SCREEN NIGHT	7:00 9:45

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BE HERE TO LOVE ME◆	200*	430*	725*	955*	1020*
HARRY POTTER		1145*	315	705*	1025*
JESUS IS MAGIC◆	100* 300	500	730	930*	1130*
LION WITCH & WARDROBE◆		1215*	330	700	1010*
WALK THE LINE		1230*	345	715	1015*
KING KONG (Starts Weds)◆		230	630	1025	1130*
NARNIA FEAST		700 (Mon)			
AUDIBLE PICTURE SHOW		700 (Tues)			
A*P*E: HORNY GORILLA 3D		955 (Wed)			
MOULIN ROUGE SINGALNG◆		945 (Wed)			

VILLAGE - ANDERSON LANE WEST OF BURNET

GOOD NIGHT&GOOD LUCK	110*	355	710*	945
HARRY POTTER	1200*	330	650*	1020
LION WITCH & WARDROBE◆	1200*	330	700	1005
WALK THE LINE	1220*	345	700	950
KING KONG (opens Wed)◆	255	655	1050	1155*
ALAMO APPRENTICE	700 (Thurs)			
NARNIA FEAST	700 (Tues)			
NAPOLEON EXPLOSIVE	MIDNIGHT (Fri & Sat)			
VIDEOKE	MIDNIGHT (Fri)			
ROCKY HORROR	MIDNIGHT (Sat)			

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Opening Wednesday, December 14th

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PRESENTED IN DLP DIGITAL
Fri. - Tue. 10:00 10:30 1:00 1:30 4:00 4:30 7:00 7:30 10:00 10:30

★ SYRIANA (R)
Fri. - Tue. 11:05 1:50 4:35 7:25 10:10

★ AEON FLUX (PG–13)
Fri. & Sat. 10:15 12:40 2:55 5:20 7:35 9:50 12:05
Sun. - Tue. 10:15 12:40 2:55 5:20 7:35 9:50

WALK THE LINE (PG–13)
Fri. - Tue. 10:00 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00

RENT (PG–13)
Fri. - Tue. 10:15 1:15 4:15 7:20 10:20

JUST FRIENDS (PG–13)
Fri. & Sat. 10:05 12:20 2:35 4:50 7:05 9:25 11:40
Sun. - Tue. 10:05 12:20 2:35 4:50 7:05 9:25

YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG)
Fri. & Sat. 10:20 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:15 11:20
Sun. - Tue. 10:20 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:15

★ HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG–13)
Fri. - Tue. 12:00 3:30 7:15 10:30

★ CHICKEN LITTLE (G)
Fri. - Tue. 11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00

SAW II (R)
Fri. & Sat. 9:20 11:30
Sun. - Tue. 9:20

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Showtimes

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9 – THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE DOWNTOWN *409-B Colorado, 476-1320.* Seating begins one half-hour before showtime. Admission is 18 and up. AFS events are all ages.

A*P*E*: Attack of the Giant Horny Gorilla in 3-D: Thu (12/15), 7:00pm
All Tomorrow's Parties: The Velvet Underground Story: Tue, 9:45pm
Weird Wednesday: ***The Black Angels:*** Wed, 12mid
Britcoms: Steve Coogan: Mon, 7:00pm
Butt-Numb-a-Thon: Sat, 12:00pm
Moulin Rouge **French Feast:** Sun, 7:00pm
Moulin Rouge **Sing-Along:** Sun, 9:45pm
Open Screen Night @ the Alamo: Thu (12/15), 9:45pm
Doc Tour: ***Plagues and Pleasures on the Salton Sea:*** Wed, 7:00pm
AFS: ***Ruthless:*** Wed, 9:45pm
Sinus Christmas Show: Fri, 7:00, 9:45
AFS: ***The Strange Woman:*** Tue, 7:00pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK *13729 Research, 219-8135.*

***Aeon Flux:** 12:00, 3:25, 7:35, 10:05
***Derailed:** Fri-Sat, 3:35, 7:25, 10:20; Sun-Mon, 12:35, 3:35, 7:25, 10:20; Tue, 7:25pm; Wed-Thu (12/15), 12:35, 3:35, 7:25, 10:20
Die Hard: Fri-Sat, 12mid
Kids Day: ***Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas:*** Sat, 12:00pm
The Ice Harvest: 12:45, 3:10, 7:30, 10:35
Jarhead: Fri-Wed, 12:05, 3:00, 7:05, 10:10; Thu (12/15), 3:00, 7:05, 10:10
Just Friends: 12:40, 3:45, 7:20, 10:30
Rent: 12:20, 3:40, 7:00, 10:00
***Syriana:** 11:50am, 3:05, 7:10, 10:25pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH *1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320.*

A*P*E*: Attack of the Giant Horny Gorilla in 3-D: Wed, 9:45pm
Aeon Flux: Fri-Sun, 12:00, 2:20, 4:45, 7:40, 10:05; Mon, 4:45, 7:40; Tue, 12:00, 2:20, 4:45, 7:40, 10:05; Wed, 2:20, 4:45; Thu (12/15), 2:20, 4:45, 10:05
Audible Picture Show: Tue, 7:30pm
Be Here to Love Me: A Film About Townes Van Zandt: Fri-Sun, 2:00, 4:30, 7:25, 9:55; Mon, 4:30, 7:25; Tue, 2:00, 4:30, 7:25, 9:55; Wed, 4:30, 7:40, 10:20; Thu (12/15), 4:30, 7:25, 10:20
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Fri-Sun, 12:15, 3:30, 7:00, 10:10; Mon, 3:30, 7:00; Tue, 12:15, 3:30, 7:00, 10:10; Wed-Thu (12/15), 3:30, 7:00, 10:10
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Fri-Sun, 11:45am, 3:15, 7:05, 10:25pm; Mon, 3:15pm; Tue, 11:45am, 3:15, 10:25pm; Wed, 3:15, 7:05; Thu (12/15), 3:15pm
King Kong: Tue, 11:30pm; Wed-Thu (12/15), 2:30, 6:30, 10:25
Narnia **Feast:** Mon, 7:00pm
Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic: Fri-Sat, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30; Sun, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:30, 9:30; Mon, 3:00, 5:00, 7:30; Tue, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:30, 9:30; Wed-Thu (12/15), 3:00, 5:00, 7:30, 9:30
Walk the Line: Fri, 12:30, 3:45, 7:15, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 3:45, 7:15, 10:15; Mon, 3:45, 7:15; Tue, 12:30, 3:45, 7:15, 10:15; Wed-Thu (12/15), 3:45, 7:15, 10:15

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE *2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320.* Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old. AFS events are all ages.

The Alamo Apprentice Boardroom: Thu (12/15), 7:00pm
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Fri-Sun, 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:05; Mon, 3:30, 7:00; Tue, 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:05; Wed-Thu (12/15), 3:30, 7:00, 10:05
Good Night, and Good Luck: Fri, 1:10, 3:55, 9:45; Sat, 3:55, 7:15, 9:45; Sun, 1:10, 3:55, 7:15, 9:45; Mon, 3:55, 7:15, 9:45; Tue, 1:10, 9:45; Wed-Thu (12/15), 9:45pm
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Fri-Sun, 12:05, 3:35, 6:55, 10:20; Mon, 3:35, 6:55; Tue, 12:05, 3:35, 6:55, 10:20; Wed-Thu (12/15), 3:35, 6:55, 10:20
King Kong: Tue, 12mid; Wed-Thu (12/15), 2:55, 6:55, 10:50, 12mid
Napoleon Explosive: The Chinese Napoleon Dynamite: Fri-Sat, 12mid
Narnia **Feast:** Tue, 7:00pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
Videoke: Fri, 12mid
Walk the Line: Fri-Sun, 12:20, 3:45, 7:00, 9:50; Mon, 3:45, 7:00; Tue, 12:20, 3:45, 7:00, 9:50; Wed, 3:45, 7:00, 9:50; Thu (12/15), 3:45pm

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS *9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742.* Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesdays.

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress: 11:50am, 2:40, 5:10, 7:35, 10:10pm
AFS/SXSW: ***Brokeback Mountain*** **Preview:** Tue, 7:00pm
Capote: 1:00, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50
Christmas in the Clouds: 12:10, 2:50, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
Good Night, and Good Luck: 12:50, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 9:55
Pride & Prejudice: 12:40, 3:45, 6:45, 9:30
Rent: 12:30, 4:00, 6:55, 10:00
Shopgirl: 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05
The Squid and the Whale: Fri-Mon, 12:20, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:15; Tue, 12:20, 2:20; Wed-Thu (12/15), 12:20, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:15

BARTON CREEK CINEMA (CINEMARK) *Highway 360 and Walsh Tarlton, 306-1688.* Discounts daily before 6pm. Call theatre for showtimes on Wednesday, Dec. 14, and Thursday, Dec. 15.

***Aeon Flux:** Fri, 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Tue, 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10
Chicken Little: Fri, 1:30, 2:20, 3:40, 4:25, 7:00, 9:15; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 12:00, 1:30, 2:20, 3:40, 4:25, 7:00, 9:15pm; Mon-Tue, 1:30, 2:20, 3:40, 4:25, 7:00, 9:15
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Fri, 2:40, 3:20, 6:05, 6:30, 7:25, 9:40, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 11:30, 2:40, 3:20, 6:05, 6:30, 7:25, 9:40, 10:00pm; Mon, 2:40, 3:20, 6:05, 6:30, 7:25, 9:40, 10:00; Tue, 2:50, 3:20, 6:05, 6:40, 7:25, 9:40, 10:10
Pride & Prejudice: Fri, 3:30, 6:50, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 3:30, 6:50, 9:45; Mon-Tue, 3:30, 6:50, 9:45
Shopgirl: Fri, 2:25, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:25, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15pm; Mon-Tue, 2:25, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15
Walk the Line: Fri, 3:00, 3:50, 6:40, 7:10, 9:50, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 12:10, 3:00, 3:50, 6:40, 7:10, 9:50, 10:20pm; Mon, 3:00, 3:50, 6:40, 7:10, 9:50, 10:20; Tue, 3:00, 3:50, 6:40, 7:10, 9:50
Zathura: Fri, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55pm; Mon, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55; Tue, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20

An asterisk (*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted.

Changes may sometimes occur; viewers are encouraged to call theatres to confirm showtimes.

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) *Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360), 306-9190.* Matinee discounts before 6pm.

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Fri-Sat, 11:45am, 12:30, 1:15, 3:00, 3:45, 4:30, 6:15, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:15, 11:00pm; Sun, 11:45am, 12:30, 1:15, 3:00, 3:45, 4:30, 6:15, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:15, 2:15, 3:15, 4:30, 5:15, 6:15, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30
Derailed: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 2:55, 5:25, 10:40; Sun, 12:15, 2:55, 5:25; Mon-Thu (12/15), 2:55, 5:25, 8:05
Dreamer: Inspired by a True Story: Fri-Sun, 11:50am, 5:05pm; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:25, 4:10
Good Night, and Good Luck: Fri-Sun, 12:25, 2:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:25; Mon-Thu (12/15), 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:25
The Ice Harvest: Fri-Sat, 1:50, 4:05, 6:30, 8:40, 10:50; Sun, 1:50, 4:10, 6:30, 8:40; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:50, 4:05, 7:20, 9:35
Jarhead: Fri-Sat, 7:35, 10:25; Sun, 2:25, 7:35; Mon-Thu (12/15), 3:45, 9:20
Just Friends: Fri-Sat, 12:40, 3:05, 5:30, 7:55, 10:20; Sun, 12:40, 3:05, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:45
Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang: Fri-Sat, 1:00, 3:55, 6:20, 8:35, 10:55; Sun, 1:00, 3:55, 6:10, 8:30; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:35, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50
The Legend of Zorro: Fri-Sun, 2:10pm; Mon-Thu (12/15), 7:55pm
Prime: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 2:25, 5:10; Sun, 12:00, 5:10; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:20, 7:00
Rent: Fri-Sat, 1:45, 5:15, 8:05, 10:55; Sun, 12:55, 4:05, 7:10, 10:05; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:45, 5:00, 8:15
Syriana: Fri-Sat, 11:45am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:45pm; Sun, 11:45am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40
Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit: Fri-Sun, 12:05, 2:15, 4:15; Mon-Thu (12/15), 2:10, 4:15, 6:30, 8:45
Yours, Mine & Ours: Fri-Sun, 12:45, 2:50, 4:55, 7:05, 9:15; Mon-Thu (12/15), 2:50, 4:55, 7:05, 9:15

DOBIE THEATRE LANDMARK *2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.*

Capote: Fri, 7:10pm; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 7:10; Mon-Thu (12/15), 7:10pm
The Constant Gardener: Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; Mon-Wed, 7:00, 10:00; Thu (12/15), 10:00pm
Ellie Parker: Fri, 4:10, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:10, 7:20, 9:50; Mon-Thu (12/15), 7:20, 9:50
Naked in Ashes: Fri-Sun, 4:20, 9:30; Mon-Thu (12/15), 9:30pm
Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic: Fri, 4:30, 7:30, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:40; Mon-Thu (12/15), 7:30, 9:40

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 *North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305.* Call theatre for showtimes on Wednesday, Dec. 14, and Thursday, Dec. 15.

***Aeon Flux:** Fri-Sat, 10:15am, 12:40, 2:55, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50, 12:05am; Sun-Tue, 10:15am, 12:40, 2:55, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50pm
***Chicken Little:** Fri-Tue, 11:00am, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00pm
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe **(in DLP digital):** Fri-Tue, 10:00am, 10:30, 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:30pm
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Fri-Tue, 12:00, 3:30, 7:15, 10:30
Just Friends: Fri-Sat, 10:05am, 12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:05, 9:25, 11:40pm; Sun-Tue, 10:05am, 12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:05, 9:25pm
Rent: Fri-Tue, 10:15am, 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 10:20pm
Saw II: Fri-Sat, 9:20, 11:30; Sun-Tue, 9:20pm
Syriana: Fri-Tue, 11:05am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:25, 10:10pm
Walk the Line: Fri-Tue, 10:00am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00pm
Yours, Mine & Ours: Fri-Sat, 10:20am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:10, 7:10, 9:15, 11:20pm; Sun-Tue, 10:20am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:10, 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.* Call theatre for showtimes on Wednesday, Dec. 14, and Thursday, Dec. 15.

Aeon Flux: Fri-Tue, 11:45am, 12:15, 2:15, 2:45, 4:50, 5:15, 7:25, 7:55, 9:55, 10:25pm
Chicken Little: Fri-Tue, 12:10, 2:25, 4:30, 7:05, 9:10
Chicken Little **(in digital 3-D):** Fri-Tue, 12:40, 3:00, 5:10, 7:35, 9:40
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Fri-Sat, 9:15am, 9:45, 10:15, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45, 11:15pm; Sun, 9:15am, 9:45, 10:15, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45pm; Mon, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45; Tue, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45, 6:30, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Fri-Mon, 11:35am, 12:05, 3:10, 3:40, 6:45, 7:15, 10:20, 10:50pm; Tue, 11:35am, 12:05, 3:10, 3:40, 6:45, 7:15, 10:20pm
Just Friends: Fri-Tue, 11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:50, 10:10pm
King Kong: Tue, 12mid
Syriana: Fri-Tue, 11:50am, 12:25, 2:50, 3:25, 6:50, 7:20, 9:50, 10:30pm
Walk the Line: Fri, 12:20, 2:40, 3:30, 6:40, 7:10, 10:00, 10:35; Sat, 11:30am, 12:20, 3:30, 6:40, 7:10, 10:00, 10:35pm; Sun, 12:20, 2:40, 3:30, 6:40, 7:10, 10:35; Mon, 12:20, 2:40, 3:30, 7:10, 10:00, 10:35; Tue, 11:30am, 12:20, 3:30, 6:40, 7:10, 10:35pm
Walk the Line **(open captioned):** Fri, 11:30am; Sat, 2:40pm; Sun, 11:30am, 10:00pm; Mon, 11:30am, 6:40pm; Tue, 2:40, 10:00
Yours, Mine & Ours: Fri-Tue, 11:55am, 2:20, 4:35, 7:40, 10:05pm

IMAX THEATRE *Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress), 936-IMAX.*

Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3-D: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 2:00, 6:00pm; Sun, 2:00, 6:00; Mon-Thu (12/15), 10:00am, 2:00, 6:00pm
The Polar Express: An IMAX 3-D Experience: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 3:00, 7:00, 9:00pm; Sun, 3:00, 7:00, 9:00; Mon-Thu (12/15), 11:00am, 3:00, 7:00pm
Texas: The Big Picture: 1:00, 5:00

LAKELINE STARPORT *Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620, 335-4793.* Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday. Call theatre for showtimes on Wednesday, Dec. 14, and Thursday, Dec. 15.

Chicken Little: Fri-Tue, 12:20, 2:20, 4:30, 6:40, 9:35
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Fri-Tue, 9:45am, 11:30, 12:30, 1:00, 2:45, 3:45, 4:15, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45pm
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Fri-Tue, 11:40am, 12:40, 3:20, 4:05, 6:50, 7:50, 10:20pm
King Kong: Wed-Thu (12/15), 11:00am, 3:00, 7:10, 11:00pm
Pride & Prejudice: Fri-Tue, 12:00, 3:10, 7:10, 10:05
Walk the Line: Fri-Tue, 11:50am, 3:00, 7:20, 10:30pm
Yours, Mine & Ours: Fri-Tue, 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:40, 10:00

METROPOLITAN *South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101.* Call theatre for showtimes on Wednesday, Dec. 14, and Thursday, Dec. 15.

Aeon Flux: Fri-Tue, 12:00, 12:30, 2:30, 3:00, 5:00, 5:30, 7:30, 8:15, 10:00, 10:45
Chicken Little: Fri-Tue, 12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:15, 9:30
First Descent: Fri-Tue, 12:15, 4:35, 7:20, 10:20
Get Rich or Die Tryin': Fri-Tue, 12:35, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25
Good Night, and Good Luck: Fri-Tue, 12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:25
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Fri-Tue, 11:45am, 12:50, 1:35, 3:25, 4:25, 5:10, 7:00, 8:00, 9:40, 10:30pm
The Ice Harvest: Fri-Tue, 12:20, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:15
In the Mix: Fri-Tue, 2:15, 4:55, 7:40, 10:35
King Kong: Tue, 12mid; Wed-Thu (12/15), 10:30am, 11:00, 12:00, 2:30, 3:00, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30, 11:00pm
Walk the Line: Fri-Tue, 12:05, 12:40, 3:10, 4:10, 6:45, 7:20, 10:10, 10:40
Zathura: Fri-Tue, 11:50am, 2:25, 5:20, 8:05, 10:35pm

MILLENNIUM THEATRE *1156 Hargrave, 472-6932.* Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.

The Gospel: Fri-Sat, 6:00, 8:30; Wed-Thu (12/15), 3:15, 5:15
Roll Bounce: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 1:00, 3:15pm; Wed-Thu (12/15), 10:30am, 1:00pm

ROUND ROCK 8 *2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848.* Discounts daily before 5pm. Call theatre for showtimes on Wednesday, Dec. 14, and Thursday, Dec. 15.

***Aeon Flux:** Fri, 1:45, 5:00, 8:00, 10:20; Sat, 11:10am, 1:45, 5:00, 8:00, 10:20pm; Sun, 11:10am, 1:45, 5:00, 8:00pm; Mon-Tue, 1:45, 5:00, 8:00
Chicken Little: Fri, 2:00, 4:40, 7:40, 9:40; Sat, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:40, 9:40pm; Sun, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:40pm; Mon-Tue, 2:00, 4:40, 7:40
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Fri, 1:10, 3:45, 4:20, 7:00, 7:30, 10:10, 10:30; Sat, 10:00am, 12:15, 1:10, 3:45, 4:20, 7:00, 7:30, 10:10, 10:30pm; Sun, 10:00am, 12:15, 1:10, 3:45, 4:20, 7:00, 7:30pm; Mon-Tue, 1:10, 3:45, 4:20, 7:00, 7:30
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Fri, 3:00, 6:30, 9:50; Sat, 11:00am, 3:00, 6:30, 9:50pm; Sun, 11:00am, 3:00, 6:30pm; Mon-Tue, 3:00, 6:30
Just Friends: Fri, 1:30, 4:10, 7:50, 10:00; Sat, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:10, 7:50, 10:00pm; Sun, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:10, 7:50pm; Mon-Tue, 1:30, 4:10, 7:50
Walk the Line: Fri, 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:15; Sat, 10:00am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:15pm; Sun, 10:00am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:10pm; Mon-Tue, 1:00, 4:00, 7:10
Yours, Mine & Ours: Fri, 2:40, 4:50, 7:20, 9:30; Sat, 10:10am, 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:20, 9:30pm; Sun, 10:10am, 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:20pm; Mon-Tue, 2:40, 4:50, 7:20

TINSELTOWN NORTH *North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville), 512/989-8540.* Call theatre for showtimes on Wednesday, Dec. 14, and Thursday, Dec. 15.

***Aeon Flux:** Fri-Tue, 9:25am, 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:40, 10:25pm
Chicken Little: Fri-Mon, 9:35am, 10:50, 12:05, 1:30, 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 7:35, 10:10pm; Tue, 9:35am, 10:50, 12:05, 1:30, 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 7:35pm
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Fri-Tue, 9:00am, 9:30, 10:00, 11:50, 12:20, 12:50, 1:20, 3:10, 3:40, 4:10, 4:40, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:15, 9:50, 10:20, 10:50pm
Derailed: Fri-Tue, 7:05, 10:00
First Descent: Fri-Tue, 10:45am, 1:45, 4:25pm
Get Rich or Die Tryin': Fri, 6:55, 9:50
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Fri-Tue, 9:10am, 10:10, 11:40, 12:40, 1:40, 3:20, 4:20, 5:20, 6:55, 7:55, 9:00, 10:25pm
In the Mix: Fri-Tue, 6:30, 9:15
Jarhead: Fri-Tue, 6:50, 9:45
Just Friends: Fri-Tue, 9:40am, 12:10, 2:40, 5:05, 7:40, 10:05pm
Pride & Prejudice: Fri-Mon, 9:00am, 12:35, 3:50, 6:50, 10:10pm; Tue, 9:00am, 12:35, 3:50, 6:50pm
Rent: Fri-Tue, 9:00am, 12:20, 3:40, 7:05, 10:20pm
Syriana: Fri-Tue, 10:15am, 10:45, 1:15, 1:45, 4:15, 4:45, 7:15, 7:45, 10:15, 10:45pm
Walk the Line: Fri-Mon, 9:05am, 9:25, 12:15, 12:45, 3:30, 4:00, 6:45, 7:10, 9:55, 10:30pm; Tue, 9:05am, 9:25, 12:15, 12:45, 3:30, 4:00, 6:45, 7:10, 9:55pm
Yours, Mine & Ours: Fri-Mon, 9:20am, 11:55, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 10:00pm; Tue, 9:20am, 11:55, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25pm
Zathura: Fri-Tue, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:20pm

TINSELTOWN SOUTH *South I-35 at Stassney, 326-3800.*

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 10:50, 11:30, 1:00, 1:35, 1:55, 3:30, 4:00, 4:40, 5:00, 6:50, 7:10, 7:45, 8:05, 9:55, 10:20pm; Sun, 10:30am, 10:50, 11:30, 1:00, 1:35, 1:55, 3:30, 4:00, 4:40, 5:00, 6:50, 7:10, 7:45, 8:05, 9:55pm; Mon-Wed, 1:00, 1:35, 1:55, 3:30, 4:00, 4:40, 5:00, 6:50, 7:10, 7:45, 8:05, 9:55; Thu (12/15), 1:00, 1:35, 1:55, 3:30, 4:00, 4:40, 5:00, 6:50, 7:45, 8:05, 9:55
Derailed: Fri-Sun, 10:40am, 1:40, 4:25, 7:25, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:40, 4:25, 7:25, 10:05
Jarhead: Fri-Sun, 10:55am, 1:10, 1:50, 3:55, 4:40, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:10, 1:50, 3:55, 4:40, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:10
Juarez: Stages of Fear: Fri-Sun, 11:25am, 1:40, 4:25, 7:15, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:40, 4:25, 7:15, 9:30
Just Friends: Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:30, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00
The Legend of Zorro: Fri-Sun, 10:35am, 1:35, 4:35, 7:55pm; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:35, 4:35, 7:55
Pandippada: Sun, 3:00pm
Pride & Prejudice: 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:40
Rent: Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 1:45, 4:35, 8:00pm; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:45, 4:35, 8:00
Saw II: Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 1:20, 3:45, 7:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (12/15), 1:20, 3:45, 7:40, 10:20
Syriana: Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 11:10, 1:15, 2:00, 4:15, 4:50, 7:05, 7:55, 10:05pm; Mon-Wed, 1:15, 2:00, 4:15, 4:50, 7:05, 7:55, 10:05; Thu (12/15), 1:15, 2:00, 4:15, 4:50, 7:55, 10:05
Yours, Mine & Ours: Fri-Sat, 10:35am, 11:20, 12:45, 1:55, 3:30, 4:45, 7:05, 8:00, 9:30, 10:10pm; Sun, 10:35am, 11:20, 12:45, 1:55, 4:45, 7:05, 8:00, 9:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (12/15), 12:45, 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. Call theatre for showtimes Wednesday, Dec. 14, and Thursday, Dec. 15.

***Aeon Flux:** Fri-Sun, 9:30am, 11:50, 2:30, 5:05, 7:35, 10:25pm; Mon-Tue, 11:50am, 2:30, 5:05, 7:35, 10:25pm
Chicken Little: Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 12:35, 2:40, 4:45, 9:55pm; Mon-Tue, 12:35, 2:40, 4:45, 9:55
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Fri-Sun, 9:15am, 9:45, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45pm; Mon-Tue, 10:45am, 12:00, 12:30, 2:00, 3:15, 3:45, 5:15, 6:30, 7:00, 8:30, 9:45, 10:15pm
Derailed: Fri-Tue, 7:20pm
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Fri-Tue, 11:30am, 3:00, 6:45, 10:05pm
Just Friends: Fri-Sun, 9:35am, 12:05, 2:35, 4:55, 7:25, 9:50pm; Mon-Tue, 12:05, 2:35, 4:55, 7:25, 9:50
King Kong: Tue, 12mid
Rent: Fri-Sun, 9:25am, 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:10pm; Mon-Tue, 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:10
Syriana: Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:30pm; Mon-Tue, 10:50am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:30pm
Walk the Line: Fri-Sun, 9:20am, 12:20, 3:40, 7:10, 10:20pm; Mon-Tue, 12:20, 3:40, 7:10, 10:20
Yours, Mine & Ours: Fri-Sun, 10:05am, 12:15, 2:25, 4:50, 7:05, 9:25pm; Mon-Tue, 12:15, 2:25, 4:50, 7:05, 9:25

FOR UPDATED SHOWTIMES, SEE

austinchronicle.com/film.

ELLIE PARKER

D: Scott Coffey; with Naomi Watts, Rebecca Rigg, Scott Coffey, Mark Pellegrino, Chevy Chase. (NR, 95 min.)

After spending nearly a year on the top-flight festival circuit, it's probably not coincidental that this Naomi Watts performance showcase has just recently been slipping into theatres that are presently readying themselves for the onslaught of *King Kong*, starring Watts as the woman who would be Fay Wray. Although the Aussie-born actress caught some nice breaks with her roles in *Mulholland Drive* and *The Ring* and has a list of film credits that's already longer than the number of years she's been alive, she has yet to connect in a major way with the American audience. *Kong* will probably change all that, but if you harbor any doubts about the breadth of her skills, *Ellie Parker* is the film to see. Lord knows there's no other reason to see this movie. The first feature of actor-turned-director Coffey (and produced by Coffey and Watts), *Ellie Parker* has little to recommend it other than Watts' mercurial performance. Having begun life as a short film, *Ellie Parker* was mistakenly expanded to feature length. The film's episodic nature and lack of any functional storyline are no doubt results of this history. Watts stars as the titular character, a struggling actress with a particular flair for accents. We watch as she goes from audition to audition morphing from a Southern belle into a Brooklyn whore in the course of a frantic drive across town, tossing articles of clothing in the air as she does a quick change while driving and rehearsing over and over lines like, "I sucked his cock. I sucked it good." Watts' chameleonlike abilities are on full display, but there's little more to this tired Hollywood rant than this. The film has nothing new to tell us about life on the lower rungs of Tinseltown, and when it pauses in front of a theatre marquee advertising a double bill of *Play It Like It Lays* and *Day of the Locust*, the reminder only makes us notice *Ellie Parker*'s failings all the more. Coffey's nervous, fidgety DV camerawork grows increasingly irritating as the movie wears on, and the score by BC Smith is downright intrusive. There are small pleasures to be had in brief scenes with Chevy Chase, who is cast against type as Ellie's agent, and Keanu Reeves in a pointless cameo with his band Dogstar. Watts is in nearly every frame of the movie, so if you're a fan (and you should be) that's the reason to see this. – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★ Dobie

Juarez: Stages of Fear



JUAREZ: STAGES OF FEAR

D: César Alejandro; with Chris Penn, María Rebeca, César Alejandro, Elizabeth Cox, Jose Solano, Rick Bornemann, Sergio Chacon, Denise Bonilla.
(R, 87 min., subtitled)

It's not to every taste – and more on that in a bit – but it's hard to argue with this cri du coeur from director-producer Alejandro, a transplanted El Pasoan who's donating proceeds from the film's soundtrack to charitable organizations benefiting the survivors of the kidnapped and murdered women of Juarez, Mexico: a silent epidemic of as many as 450 crimes in the last 10 years, according to the film's intertitles. Alejandro, a native of Chihuahua who's worked as an actor and a filmmaker on both sides of the border, has himself been kidnapped, according to the UT-Brownsville *Collegian*, and his film lambasts the apathy and corruption that predominates among local law enforcement. The film advances two intertwined theories: that a significant portion of the murders are being committed by a serial killer, possibly an American citizen (a modus operandi Alejandro attributes to El Paso's FBI unit), and that the remainder are associated with the lucrative enterprise of kidnapping for ransom. You might expect a documentary approach to the subject, but Alejandro is more of a pulp-fiction storyteller. Thus the film follows an American businessman (Penn) on a pleasure trip to Juarez that turns ugly when he's abducted by a sadistic gang. Meanwhile, an unseen driver cruises a *maquiladora*, following one of the young women drawn there by the promise of steady work and a possible way north, and a kidnap survivor who's been trying to put his ordeal behind him contemplates reporting it to the Juarez police. Alejandro's oeuvre is the low-budget actioner *(Down for the Barrio)*, and *Juarez: Stages of Fear* is crafted in this tradition: swish pans, big mirrored sunglasses, florid montage, and clunky dialogue. Aside from Penn and Rebeca (who's had a long run as a TV star in Mexico, including a stint on *Simplemente María*), the actors are nonprofessionals, and a few of them (such as Bornemann as a pinche-gringo corporate executive) push the film almost into camp. To be plain, this is not an exploitation movie, but its aesthetic is similar. There's a skein of dark humor in it (largely through the device of shock-jock banter overheard on the unseen driver's radio), and sometimes the movie feels over-the-top on purpose, but it's too close to call. Certainly the film aspires to promote awareness of its subject, and it merits attention for this fact alone. – *Marrit Ingman*
★½ Tinseltown South

KING KONG

D: Peter Jackson; with Naomi Watts, Jack Black, Adrien Brody, Andy Serkis, Jamie Bell.
(PG-13, 187 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. The King is back, and by that we mean Peter Jackson, not necessarily Kong. After three films with the wee Hobbits, what's left for Jackson to conquer but the Eighth Wonder of the World: King Kong? *(Opens Wednesday.)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*
Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Westgate

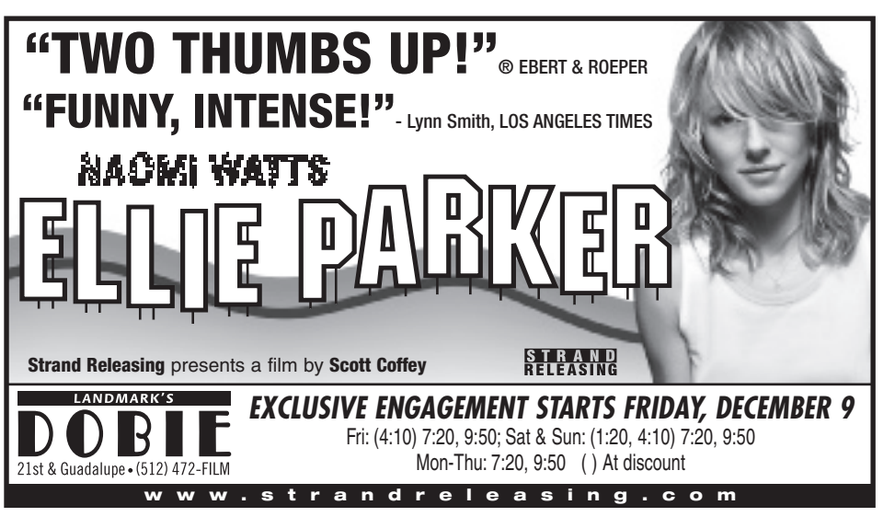
SARAH SILVERMAN: JESUS IS MAGIC

D: Liam Lynch; with Sarah Silverman, Brian Posehn, Bob Odenkirk, Laura Silverman.
(NR, 72 min.)

Comedian Sarah Silverman's jokes are eminently quotable, though to repeat them in a review would be to deflate her act and the experience of watching this movie. Silverman says the most outrageous things – dirty, profane, solipsistic, and offensive – but she gets away with it again and again because her delivery is so sly. Her stage presence has the demeanor of a well-bred Jewish girl who delights you with her company until she lets loose with a vivid punchline that you can't see coming and suddenly that presumptively nice young woman has turned into a stealthy potty-mouth. And with topics such as rape and 9/11 as part of her recurring repertoire, she had best have a deft delivery in order to escape the theatre without getting mugged. Silverman doesn't play it safe, which makes her a good comic although not necessarily a good filmmaker. On the heels of her devastating turn in *The Aristocrats* (the comedians' who's-who movie about the life of one particular dirty joke) and her appearance in the only non-singing role in *Rent*, the promise of *Jesus Is Magic* is an unadulterated 72 minutes of Silverman by herself. Be careful what you wish for though: The movie delivers on its promise of Total Silverman, but that turns out, in this instance, to be not such a good thing after all. *Jesus Is Magic* is a muddle that combines onstage performance with fantasy song sequences and little reality vignettes at the opening and close of the film. She's with two friends (Posehn and Laura Silverman) at the beginning of *Jesus Is Magic*, and as they talk about their recent accomplishments, we watch Sarah Silverman squirming over her sense of failure. This leads to her onstage performance in an auditorium before a live audience, which is preceded by a rant at her manager (Odenkirk) over the procurement of the wrong bottled water and is then interrupted by ill-conceived song sequences. One has her dressed in a modish Marlo Thomas look singing politically incorrect things about race, another places her in her grandmother's retirement home strumming a guitar and singing lyrics about how the old people are all going to die soon. Director Lynch (who makes his feature debut here after working with Tenacious D and some other musical endeavors) helped compose the tunes, but they are as off-key as his direction. The performance sections of the movie maintain such a tight focus on Silverman that they could have been filmed with no audience in attendance for all we see. The transitions from performance to song and to reality are strained and awkward. Rather than creating something that might help launch Silverman into greater notoriety, Lynch has done the comic a disservice and helped mold something that's really for the fans only. *(See interview with Silverman on p.59 of this week's Screens section.)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★½ Alamo Drafthouse South, Dobie











SYRIANA

D: Stephen Gaghan; with George Clooney, Matt Damon, Jeffrey Wright, Christopher Plummer, Chris Cooper, William Hurt, Alexander Siddig, Amanda Peet, Tim Blake Nelson, Mazhar Munir, Jamey Sheridan, Peter Gerety, Robert Foxworth. (R, 128 min.)

Like the saying about the butterfly flapping its wings on one side of the world and affecting currents on the other, *Syriana* shows how the multitentacled quest to control oil supplies in one part of the world can affect (both intentionally and inadvertently) people, lives, and decisions in another. *Syriana* is the most challenging and uncompromising movie to come out of Hollywood in a long time. Its subject matter has an urgent topicality, and its storytelling technique demands that attention be paid. The rewards are substantial, and all the sweeter for having been earned. Like writer-director Gaghan's Oscar-winning adapted screenplay for *Traffic* in 2000, *Syriana* is a complexly structured narrative that follows several different characters and storylines that only begin to cohere into one larger story as the movie draws toward its climax. (Steven Soderbergh, who directed *Traffic*, serves as a producer of *Syriana*.) Loosely based on Robert Baer's book *See No Evil: The True Story of a Ground Soldier in the CIA's War on Terrorism*, *Syriana* is more diffusely focused than *Traffic*. There are at least four distinct storylines in *Syriana*, but the characters seem more numerous than in *Traffic*. You'll probably never feel completely clear about the activities of and relationships among all the characters, but it's exactly this tangle that gives *Syriana* a true-to-life feel. Clooney (also a producer) pudges up and drops the matinee-idol sheen to play Bob, the story's veteran CIA operative in the Middle East, who is left out to dry by his company handlers. An uncommonly subdued Wright portrays an ambitious D.C. lawyer investigating a proposed merger between two U.S. oil companies, and the venerable but vaguely sinister Plummer plays his boss. Damon is an energy analyst based in Geneva, whose marriage to Peet grows rocky after one of their young sons is accidentally electrocuted in the swimming pool of a powerful Gulf emir, and who is then viewed by his wife as profiting from his son's death after forming a business alliance with the emir's reform-minded son (Siddig). The final storyline follows the fate of a young Pakistani migrant worker whose job in the oil fields is obliterated when the emir and one of the U.S. companies seeking to merge sell the field's drilling rights to the Chinese. It's a lot to absorb, but no more challenging than following the money trail while reading the morning newspapers, and it's refreshing to be in the midst of a movie that regards its audience as up to the task. There's little room for emotion in *Syriana* (although some small but telling moments are nevertheless there for the taking), but more demonstrable human connections between various characters might have potentially drawn in some of the film's more reluctant viewers. As a political thriller *Syriana* has several good moments, plus a torture scene that's guaranteed to make you wince. One of the most exciting movies of the year, *Syriana*,is like a living tableaux composed from all the stories that lurk just behind the news, the stories that put human faces on the ever-more-precious commodity of oil. – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★½ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

First Runs

***Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.**

CAPOTE

D: Bennett Miller; with Philip Seymour Hoffman, Catherine Keener, Clifton Collins Jr., Chris Cooper, Bruce Greenwood, Bob Balaban, Amy Ryan, Mark Pellegrino. (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*

★★★½ Arbor, Dobie

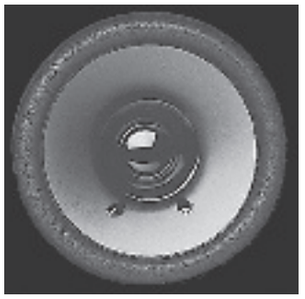
CHICKEN LITTLE

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*

★½ CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

Audible Picture Show



Audible Picture Show A unique cinema experience, the Audible Picture Show presents audio-only "films" that have been specially composed for this experience. Presented in complete darkness (all Alamo food service will conclude before the show starts), the Edinburgh-produced show draws on a library of 55 works including some by the animators Brothers Quay, Berlin artist/musician Momus, UK feature director Andrew Kotting, British architect and filmmaker Tony Hill; French visual artist Marcel Dinahet; radio producers/audio artist Mark Vernon; and Scottish composer Max Richter. The presentation will also include work submitted by local artists. The program is curated by Matt Hulse. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, Tuesday, 7:30pm.

CHRISTMAS IN THE CLOUDS

D: Kate Montgomery; with Timothy Vahle, Mariana Tosca, Sam Vlahos, M. Emmet Walsh, Sheila Tousey, Rosalind Ayres, Graham Greene. (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. The resort, too, is something to behold: The film was shot on location at the Sundance Resort, here called the Sky Mountain Resort. 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. But there's an abounding sweetness to it all that only a real grump could deny. *(12/02/2005)* – *Kimberley Jones*

★★½ Arbor

DERAILED

D: Mikael Håfström; with Clive Owen, Jennifer Aniston, Melissa George, Vincent Cassel, RZA. (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, soggily assured, but for some reason *Derailed* never fully engages our sympathies. *(11/18/2005)* – *Marc Savlov*

★★½ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate



Syriana

FIRST DESCENT

D: Kemp Curly, Kevin Harrison. (PG-13, 110 min.)

In this vertiginous documentary about snowboarding, the five subjects – 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. 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. *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. *(12/02/2005)* – *Marc Savlov*

★★★½ Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN'

D: Jim Sheridan; with Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson, Terrence Howard, Adewale Akinnouye-Agbaje, Joy Bryant, Tory Kittles, Ashley Walters, Serena Reeder, 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 thuggish 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*

★★ Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

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 rigueur in the workplace. As the revered Murrow, Strathairn delivers the performance of his career. *(10/21/2005)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Metropolitan

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*

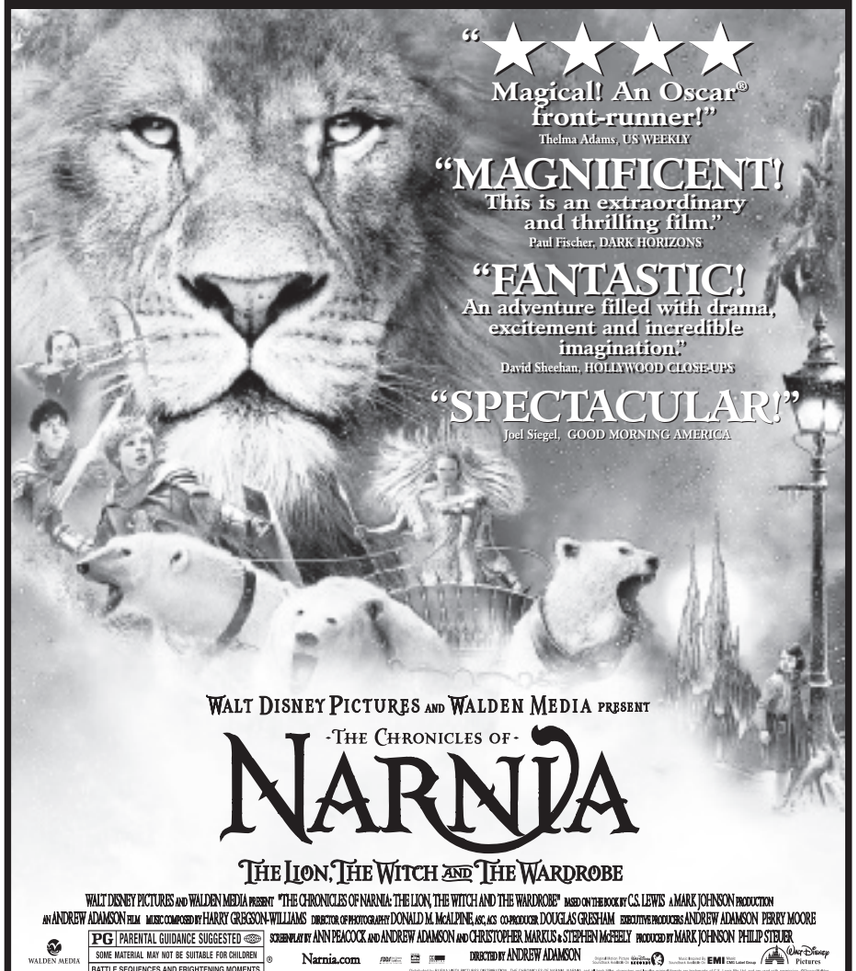
★★★½ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

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 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

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Plagues and Pleasures on the Salton Sea



***Plagues and Pleasures on the Salton Sea* (2004)** *D: Chris Metzler and Jeff Springer. (NR, 86 min.)* **Texas Documentary Tour.** Documentary about the hardy, eccentric residents who live in the Salton Sea area of southeastern California, who are a reflection of their environment. The Imperial Valley's Salton Sea was created by California's turn-of-the-century engineering of the Colorado River in Arizona to irrigate the crops of California. By midcentury it had become a resort lake, but then runoff, floods, and re-engineering further eroded the Salton Sea, making it a fascinating if disappearing piece of ecological history. (Chris Metzler will be present following the screening for a Q&A. See p.59 of this week's Screens section for more on the film.) The Texas Documentary Tour is co-sponsored by the Austin Film Society, the UT Department of RTF, and *The Austin Chronicle*. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Wednesday, 7pm; $6 general admission, $4 for students and members of AFS; members may reserve online at **www.austinfilm.org**.

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*
★★½ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Metropolitan

IN THE MIX

D: Ron Underwood; with Usher Raymond, Chazz Palminteri, Emmanuelle Chriqui, Robert Costanzo, Robert Davi. (PG-13, 95 min.)

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. 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. *(12/02/2005) – Marc Savlov*
½ Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

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, 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, AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South



Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress

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 spieling 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*
★½ 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 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 Lew 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-skewering 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-jokey 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*
★★★½ AMC Barton Creek Square

Ruthless



***Ruthless* (1948)** *D: Edgar G. Ulmer; with Zachary Scott, Louis Hayward, Diana Lynn, Sydney Greenstreet, Lucille Bremer, Raymond Burr. (NR, 104 min.)* **Austin Film Society: Hollywood Detour – The Independent Mind of Edgar G. Ulmer.** Perhaps Ulmer's best film after *Detour*, *Ruthless* stars Austin native Zachary Scott, who appears as something of a cousin to Charles Foster Kane in this study of an American tycoon. The title about says it all as we witness the life story that made the man the unscrupulous billionaire he was. He seduced wealthy women to get to their even wealthier fathers and husbands, and used his money to foster the illusion of his beneficence. For more info see **austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-11-25/screens_feature2.html**. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Wednesday, 9:45pm; AFS members free, $4 general admission (online reservations at **www.austinfilm.org**).

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 Joaquin 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 puling, 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 – Che with a bullwhip – this new take is something akin to *Leave It to Zorro*. *(10/28/2005) – Marc Savlov*
★ AMC Barton Creek Square, 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

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

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*
★★½ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

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*
★★★½ 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 Benger. (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 Berkmans 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 Berkmans 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. (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*

★★★½ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

YOURS, MINE & OURS

D: Raja Gosnell; with Dennis Quaid, Rene Russo, Linda Hunt, Sean Faris, Katija Pevec. (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 interrupt any potential flights of comic fancy. Of the 18 child performers, only Pevec and Panabaker as rival step-sisters show any real gift for acting. *(11/25/2005)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★½ 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. (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*

★★★½ CM Barton Creek, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

Also Playing

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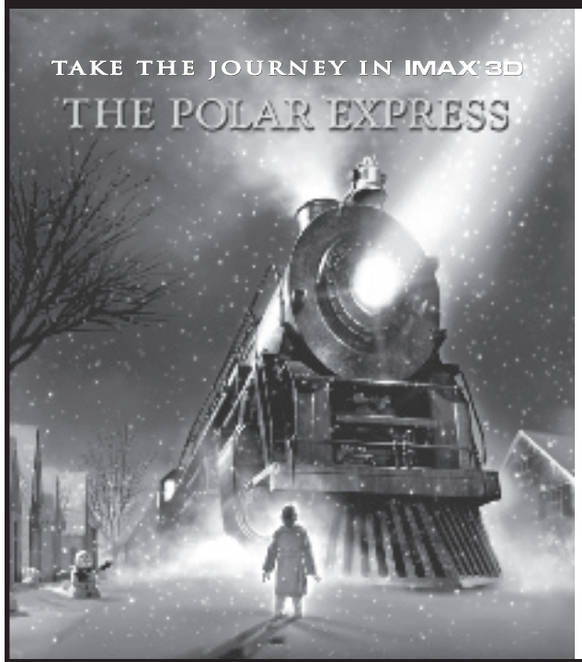
PRIME ★★★½ AMC Barton Creek Square

ROLL BOUNCE ★★★ Millennium

SAW II ★★ Highland, Tinseltown South

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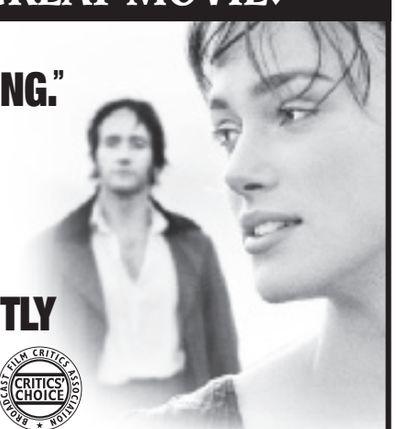
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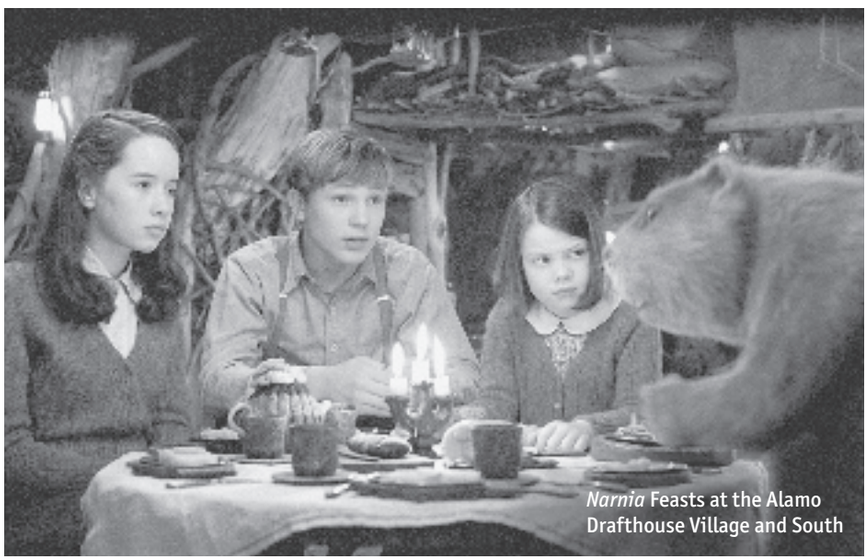
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Special Screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: **austinchronicle.com/film.**



Narnia Feasts at the Alamo Drafthouse Village and South

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 Austin FilmWorks. This is the fourth installment of screenings of projects made by students at Austin FilmWorks. Screening tonight are final projects of Fall 2005 Production One and Two classes. For more info see **www.austinfilmworks.com**. (*) @Arbor, 7pm.

***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.

FRIDAY 09

***Die Hard* (1988)** *D: John McTiernan; with Bruce Willis, Alan Rickman, Bonnie Bedelia. (R, 131 min.)* Superb action movie casts Willis as an Everyman Hero who is coincidentally visiting a high-rise at the same time terrorist thieves are taking it over. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 12mid.

***Napoleon Explosive: The Chinese Napoleon Dynamite* (2004)** *D: Jared Hess; with Jon Heder, Efren Ramirez, Jon Gries. (PG, 106 min.)* The Alamo introduces their new adventure in film-viewing: Chinavision. They're showing a *Napoleon Dynamite* DVD from China that was subtitled in Chinese and then translated back into English subtitles, making for some truly bizarre dialogue. Napoleon becomes "Napoleon Explosive" and Pedro is "Virtuous Shell," and the PG film is now laden with lots of expletives. A "Vote for Virtuous Shell" T-shirt will be given away at each screening, the kitchen will serve tots with sweet-and-sour sauce, and there will be special Chinese-themed glamour shots in the lobby. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

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, 7, 9:45pm.

Videoke Act out scenes from various movies and win prizes. See **www.originalalamo.com** for details. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SPACES

***The Shawshank Redemption* (1994)** *D: Frank Darabont; with Tim Robbins, Morgan Freeman, Bob Gunton, William Sadler, Clancy Brown, Gil Bellows, James Whitmore. (R, 142 min.)* Prison drama with standout performances by Freeman and Robbins. (*) @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1608 Barton Springs Rd.), 8pm; free.

***The Shawshank Redemption* (1994)** @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1206 Parkway), 8pm; free. (See above)

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. 23 issue is Monday, Dec. 12**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): **specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com**; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): **calendar@austinchronicle.com**.

SATURDAY 10

Butt-Numb-a-Thon *D: Various. (NR)* **Ain't It Cool News.** Sold-out is the key phrase for the now-annual 24-hour film fest/birthday party thrown by *Ain't It Cool News* head geek Harry Knowles. The proceeds fund the yearlong Saturday Morning Film Club. You never know in advance what will be on hand, but it's always well-programmed, and friends come in from around the world to help Harry celebrate. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12pm.

***Die Hard* (1988)** @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 12mid. (See Fri., 12/09)

***Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (2000)** *D: Ron Howard; with Jim Carrey, Clint Howard, Taylor Momsen, Jeffrey Tambor, Christine Baranski, Molly Shannon, Bill Irwin; narrated by Anthony Hopkins. (PG, 102 min.)* **Kids Day.** Dr. Seuss, Ron Howard, and Jim Carrey make fine screen translation. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 12pm; admission free for children under 6.

***Napoleon Explosive: The Chinese Napoleon Dynamite* (2004)** @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid. (See Fri., 12/09)

***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. For more info see **www.austinrocky.org**. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SUNDAY 11

***Moulin Rouge* French Feast (2001)** *D: Baz Luhrmann; with Nicole Kidman, Ewan McGregor, Jim Broadbent. (PG-13, 128 min.)* Chef James Holmes prepares a special meal. See **www.originalalamo.com** for complete menu. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm; $50.

***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, 9:45pm.

***Pandippada* (2005)** *D: Rafi-Mekartin; with Dilip, Navya Nair, Prakashraj.* **Greater Austin Malayalee Association.** Malayalam comedy. @Tinseltown South, 3pm.

MONDAY 12

Britcoms: Steve Coogan Vulcan Video. Featuring episodes of Coogan's TV spoofs, *I'm Alan Partridge* and *Dr. Terrible's House of Horrible*. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm; $1.

***Narnia* Feast (2005)** *D: Andrew Adamson; with Georgie Henley, Skandar Keynes, William Moseley, Anna Popplewell, Susan Pevensie, Tilda Swinton. (PG, 140 min.)* Chefs John Bullington and James Holmes have sampled from the best meals from the *Chronicles* series to create the ultimate C.S. Lewis-inspired feast. For those not up for a four-course Narnian culinary experience with matching wine pairings, there will also be à la carte options during the regular screenings of *Narnia*. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm.

SPACES

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.

***Winged Migration* (2001)** *D: Jacques Perrin. (G, 89 min.)* Aviary rapture. (*) @Cafe Mundi, 8pm; free.

TUESDAY 13

***All Tomorrow's Parties: The Velvet Underground Story* (2005)** *D: Kier-La Janisse. (NR, 80 min.)* This made-in-house Alamo documentary focuses on the late Sixties touchstone group for all today's rock & rollers. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm; $1.

Audible Picture Show See p.98.

***Brokeback Mountain* Preview (2005)** *D: Ang Lee; with Heath Ledger, Jake Gyllenhaal, Michelle Williams, Anne Hathaway, Randy Quaid, Linda Cardellini. (R, 134 min.)* Benefit screening with screenwriters Larry McMurtry and Diana Ossana in attendance. Sold-out. @Arbor, 7pm.

***Narnia* Feast (2005)** @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 7pm. (See Mon., 12/12)

***The Strange Woman* (1946)** *D: Edgar G. Ulmer; with Hedy Lamarr, George Sanders, Louis Hayward, Gene Lockhart. (NR, 100 min.)* **Austin Film Society: Hollywood Detour – The Independent Mind of Edgar G. Ulmer.** Working with an A-list cast, Ulmer made one of his best films. Lamarr stars as a 19th-century woman in Bangor, Maine, who maneuvers her ways into polite society after being born into poverty. The movie recounts the effects she has during her life on three separate men and her philanthropic deeds that impact the community. For more info see **austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-11-25/screens_feature2.html**. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm; AFS members free, $4 general admission (online reservations at **www.austinfilm.org**).

SPACES

A Film From the Spiritual Cinema Circle Institute of Noetic Sciences. For more info see **www.ions-austin.org** or **www.spiritualcinemacircle.com**. @Austin History Center (810 Guadalupe), 6:30pm.

Documentaries and Short Films Screenings on the back patio every Tuesday. @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1206 Parkway), 8pm; free.

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 and Joe Gracey. *Thu., Dec. 8, 9:30pm. Antone's, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424. $15.*

Movie Tickets for Books? The Gateway Movie Theatre, celebrating the opening of *The Chronicles of Narnia*, will be accepting book donations for the Austin Public Library. Enter to win free movie tickets and the movie soundtrack with every donation. *Sat., Dec. 10, 11am-8pm. Gateway Theatre, 9700 Stonelake Blvd.*

Reel Women International Film Festival RW's second international festival 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**.

Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a new, state-of-the-art screening room, and, lucky you, they're opening it up on a rental basis to the public, which means you can finally toss out that old Sony Watchman you've been thrusting in potential distributors' mugs for the past three years. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, a surround sound system, and supports Super 35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Handicap accessible, restrooms – the works. They also have a "break room" suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. *322-0145.* **www.austinstudios.org**.

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**.

IMAX Theatre

For ticket prices and showtimes call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see **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 Scolari, 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.

WEDNESDAY 14

***A*P*E*: Attack of the Giant Horny Gorilla in 3-D* (1976)** *D: Paul Leder; with Rod Arrants, Joanna Kerns. (PG, 87 min.)* Eager to cash in on the success of King Kong, the South Koreans offered their own monkey mayhem. Not only is their ape horny but he's also in 3-D. Glasses will be provided. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 9:45pm.

***Plagues and Pleasures on the Salton Sea* (2004)** See p.100.

***Ruthless* (1948)** See p.100.

***The Black Angels* (1970)** *D: Lawrence Merrick; with Des Roberts, John King III, Linda Jackson, James Young-El. (R, 87 min.)* **Weird Wednesday.** When bikers go bad. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

SPACES

***The 40-Year-Old Virgin* (2005)** *D: Judd Apatow; with Steve Carell, Catherine Keener, Paul Rudd, Romany Malco, Seth Rogen, Elizabeth Banks, Leslie Mann, Jane Lynch, Gerry Bednob, Shelley Malil. (R, 116 min.)* Summer comedy hit. Free popcorn and doughnuts. (*) @Beerland, 7pm; free.

THURSDAY 15

***A*P*E*: Attack of the Giant Horny Gorilla in 3-D* (1976)** @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm. (See Wed., 12/14)

Open Screen Night @ the Alamo Two Note Solo. Something along the lines of an open-mic night, the Alamo's long-running Open Screen invites people to come and show their best videos (under 10 minutes in length) on the big screen. These can be self-made movies, favorite moments from home videos, bloopers, training films, or whatever you'd like to share with an audience. Any entry may be gonged after the first three minutes, but a $100 cash prize will be awarded for the favorite clip of the night. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

The Alamo Apprentice Boardroom See **www.originalalamo.com** for more info. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 7pm.

Check film listings online for full-length reviews, up-to-date showtimes, archives, and more!

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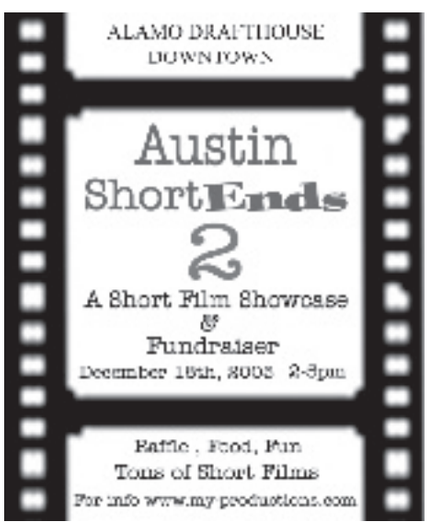
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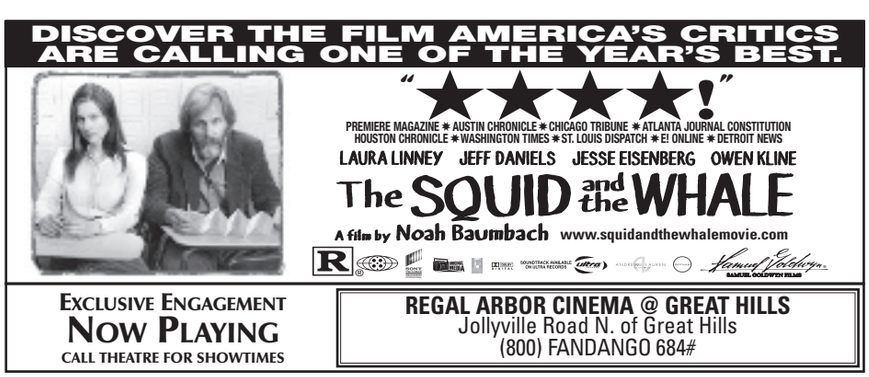
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SHOWTIMES FOR FRI, DECEMBER 9 – THUR, DECEMBER 15
Bargain Showtimes in ( )
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Tribute to Townes Van Zandt

ANTONE'S, THURSDAY 8

... And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead, Bill Callahan, Jimmie Dale Gilmore, Colin Gilmore, and more. See "TCB," p.73, for more info.

Orange Mothers CD Release

CONTINENTAL CLUB/CAROUSEL LOUNGE, FRIDAY 9/SATURDAY 10

Sometimes tenacity will get you everywhere. Orange Mothers are like the character actor whose singular presence gradually sneaks up on you. Having amassed a compelling toy box of folk-pop nuggets like "Traditional Love" and "Kids (Don't Know)," the Vermont-rooted Austin quartet celebrates the release of its *Greatest Hits* album on I Eat Records with two shows this weekend. The Damnations and Paul & Jordan gird Friday's Continental Club gig. Saturday's Carousel show features I Eat labelmates the Casting Couch. – *Greg Beets*

Rogue Wave THE PARISH, SATURDAY 10

With the recent *Descended Like Vultures* (Sub Pop), Rogue Wave has finally made a buzz album worth buzzing about. Following the disappointment of 2003's debut, *Out of the Shadow*, Zach Rogue brings the goods on the second attempt. *Descended Like Vultures* is epic and ragged, like any good rock show should be. The birds will just have to keep circling. Philly's psychedelic popsters Mazarin bring their textured and sweet Flaming Lips-schtick to the stage first. – *Matt Dentler*

Soundcheck BY DARCIE STEVENS



▲ GHOSTLAND OBSERVATORY
Flamingo Cantina, Friday 9
Local electronic duo gets down on the "Edge of Town."

GLURP HOLIDAY BASH
Emo's, Friday 9
Glurp's last stand: Grand Champeen, Deathray Davies, Li'l Cap'n Travis.

BENEFIT FOR AMPLIFIED HEAT
Room 710, Friday 9 & Saturday 10
Grady, John McVey, the Rockland Eagles, and more help raise funds for the brothers' hospital bills.

BRUCE ROBISON
Broken Spoke, Saturday 10
Kelly's hubby croons some holiday tunes.

HIGH SCHOOL CAESAR, DEVIL DOLL
Continental Club, Saturday 10
A rockabilly evening with psychobilly, a seductive siren, and the local Hotrod Hillbillies.

OTTMAR LIEBERT & LUNA NEGRA
One World Theatre, Tuesday 13
The nouveau flamenco guitarist returns with two more sold-out shows on Friday, Dec. 16.

RALPH WHITE
Red Eyed Fly, Wednesday 14
One Bad Liver, one banjo, one man band.

CLAP!CLAP!
Beerland, Wednesday 14
The San Marcos collective shakes, rattles, and rolls.

JOHN LONGHURST HOLIDAY ORGAN
Bates Recital Hall, Thursday 15
A talented man on a beautiful organ in the perfect hall to dreck.

THINGS THAT GO POP!
Whisky Bar, Thursday 15
Local dance-punks shimmy with Chicago's Locks and DJ Orthopedic. Free as always.

live music VENUES ▸ p.106
CLUB LISTINGS + roadshows ▸ p.108

Freakwater

CACTUS CAFE, WEDNESDAY 14



Don't call it a comeback. Chicago-by-way-of-Kentucky's Freakwater has just released *Thinking of You* (Thrill Jockey), its first album in six years, but that doesn't mean they ever really went away.

Singer and songwriter Catherine Irwin, who with Janet Bean is one of the band's mainstays, expressed surprise at the notion that they had broken up.

"None of us really thought about it that much until we started doing these interviews," she declares with a chuckle. "We had set up studio time at some point to make a Freakwater record, and then stuff happened and we couldn't. It wasn't like we weren't planning on doing it."

While retaining the duo's disheveled vision of what country music sounds like, *Thinking of You* marks a sonic expansion thanks to producer Tim Rutili and his bandmates in Califone. Freakwater's subject matter remains distinctive as they match heartbreak and sadness with their most political song to date, "Buckets of Oil," as well as a tune about one of Woody Guthrie's children, "Cathy Ann."

"It's the most overtly political," she details. "There are other songs that I've written that I think are just as political, but it's timely and going to retain its relevance a little longer than I hoped it would."

Catherine also answers to Cathy at times, hence she was attracted to Guthrie's daughter for a couple of reasons, though mostly because "Anne is also my middle name. I'm just a big Woody Guthrie freak. I thought maybe someone in his family would hear it and invite me over to dinner." – *Jim Caligiuri*

Jim Elkington's Chicago quartet the Zincs open the show with their Thrill Jockey debut, Dimmer.

DJ Drez, Fat Jack

FLAMINGO CANTINA, SATURDAY 10

With proper song selection becoming a lost art for DJs who seem more apt to align themselves with pre-established norms than create their own, Fat Jack and Drez make the trip from Los Angeles with nothing short of impeccable taste on their palettes. Eliciting constant cries of "rewind, selectah" from their fans, the two Project Blowed affiliates craft fiery sets of oft-overlooked rap and reggae that are guaranteed to keep heads intrigued. Joined by Abstract Rude on the mic, Flamingo Cantina gwon erupt. – *Robert Gabriel*

DJ Jester the Filipino Fist vs. Prince Klassen WHISKY BAR, SATURDAY 10

If you haven't been immersed in this San Antonio native's wickedly eclectic mélange of irresistibly found samples, backed by oh-so-booty-moving hip-hop beats and the occasional Ennio Morricone passage, you're so out of the loop. Texas turntablists are blowing up – see stalwart genius DJ Mel – but Jester's playful mixing abilities and obscurantist drop-ins are genuinely breathtaking. This tag-team mash-up with Prince Klassen should be one for the books and possibly the ages. Go now or forever dog-paddle in a lake of mediocrity. – *Marc Savlov*

The American Analog Set

THE PARISH, SUNDAY 11



MARY SLEDD

The time has come. Sunday marks what's being billed as the American Analog Set's last show ever. After perfecting the art of mellow love, the decade-old Austin quintet is pulling off the tour circuit (**austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-09-16/music_feature.html**). This year's *Set Free* (Arts & Crafts) is the high note to go out on, and as Andrew Kenny's delicate voice bounces off those wooden walls, find solace in the hope that we'll hear from them again. Former Codeine drummer Chris Brokaw opens this celebration of a decade of *The Golden Band*. – *Darcie Stevens*

Lovemakers, She Wants Revenge

STUBB'S, TUESDAY 13

Anyone who saw the Lovemakers opening for Veruca Salt at La Zona Rosa recently witnessed something special. The Oakland trio, Scissor Sisters meet Erasure, made a crowd of 30 feel like a sell-out of 3,000. Their anthemic dance-pop was pitch perfect. Supporting *Times of Romance* (Cherrytree), the band's club presence is all love. Opening up, She Wants Revenge is in a race to be the new buzz band of the new year. And they're in the lead. – *Matt Dentler*

Mommy & Daddy ROOM 710, TUESDAY 13



Did you ever wish your parents were cool and had a band and let you have a tattoo and eat cereal for dinner? Mommy & Daddy understand. Vivian Sarratt and Edmond Hallas are Brooklyn's power-pop couple, and earlier this year they released *Fighting Style Killer Panda*, a vexing hex of electro-skronk. Most recently they put out *Duel at Dawn*, an album that screams "Mommy and Daddy are so proud of your tribal tattoo." Chicago "sex rock" band Bang! Bang! opens. – *Audra Schroeder*

Zom Zoms FLAMINGO CANTINA, THURSDAY 15

The primary-color-loving Zom Zoms have a new CD coming out in February called *Yellow Rainbow*, so you know what that means: Zom Philmapster, Zoms Frenchman, and Philip Philmapster are gonna get synth pop on yo' ass. It means dance beats, asymmetrical haircuts, and pizza delivered right into your eardrum in five minutes or it's free. The jittery trio sets off on tour in January, so this may be your last chance to hear their cover of Bananarama's "Cruel Summer." – *Audra Schroeder*

IN-STORES

Friday: **Ethereal Planes Indian**, End of an Ear, 7pm

Saturday: **DJ Hobo D** Holiday Bizarre, End of an Ear, 7pm

Sunday: **Chris Brokaw** [4pm], **Cory Allen** [6pm], End of an Ear

Thursday: **Widow Song**, **Handshake Murders**, **Oceanus**, Snake Eyes Vinyl, 5pm



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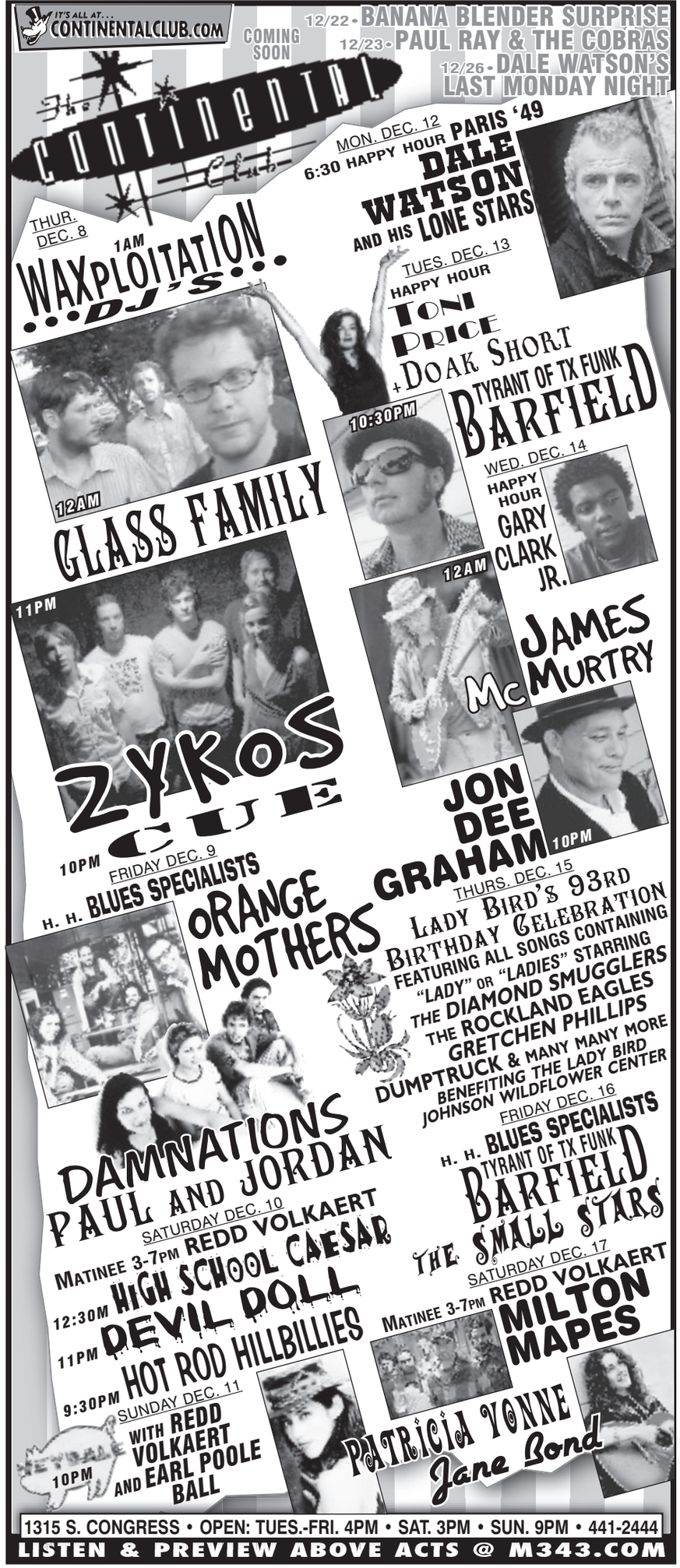
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Mon ★ Dec 12 — SIGN UP @ 7:30pm
hosted by ABIA TAPIA & GRAHAM WEBBER
OPEN STAGE!

Tue ★ Dec 13 — FREE SHOW @ 8pm!

PSYCHEDELIC HOOT NIGHT!
with the COFFEE SERGEANTS & special guests

Wed ★ Dec 14 — direct from chicago...
special guests ZINCS
FREAKWATER


Thur ★ Dec 15 — holiday show!

TISH HINOJOSA

Fri ★ Dec 16 — special guest SAM BAKER
SLAID CLEAVES


Sat ★ Dec 17 — live at the cactus...

HOT JAZZ CARAVAN & PARIS 49


Tue ★ Dec 20
tix @ HEBs, Erwin Center, 477-6060 or TEXBOXOFFICE.COM
JANE SIBERRY

8pm

CACTUS CAFE 2006

1/13	★ MONTE MONTGOMERY	2/3	★ DAVE ALVIN
1/14	★ DARDEN SMITH	2/8 & 9	★ TOMMY EMMANUEL
1/19	★ ERIC TAYLOR	2/16	★ MELISSA FERRICK
1/26	★ DUNCAN SHIEK	2/18	★ ELIZA GILKYSON
1/27	★ BRANDI CARLILE	2/23	★ HAPA
1/28	★ CHRIS THILE / MIKE MARSHALL	2/25	★ TERRI HENDRIX

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. www.utexas.edu/student/txunion/ae/cactus

THE TEXAS UNION

Saxon Pub

1320 South Lamar 448-2552
www.thesaxonpub.com

Thurs. Dec. 8
Carolyn Wonderland

8pm
GEORGE DEVORE
11pm
James Hand
Happy Hr. 6:00 - 7:30pm No Cover


Fri. Dec. 9
Chip Taylor & Carrie Rodriguez
8pm

HHr. 6pm
The Regulars
SOUTH AUSTIN JUG BAND
11pm

Sat. Dec. 10
Jon Dee Graham
11pm

Wendy Colonna 9:30pm
8pm SAN SABA COUNTY

Sun. Dec. 11
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. 12
Ray Benson
8:30pm

7pm **Greezy Wheels**
The Monther Truckers 11pm

Tues. Dec. 13
Will Sexton 11:30pm
HHr. Austin Songwriter Group 6pm
MONTE MONTGOMERY
8:30pm & ORANGE KITTY

Wed. Dec. 14
White Ghost Shivers
11:30pm
8pm

Seth Walker
Pauline Reese HHr; 6pm

COMING TO THE SAXON:
12/16 - **The Damnations**
12/19 - **Bob Schneider**
New Years Eve - **Guy Forsyth**

FROM TEXAS' OLDEST INDEPENDENT BREWERY



SPOETZL

SHINER TOP TEN TEXAS ARTISTS

WATERLOO

1) VARIOUS ARTISTS
KGSR Broadcasts V13

2) JAMES McMURTRY
Childish Things

3) GREENCARDS
Weather & Water

4) ELIZA GILKYSON
Paradise Hotel

5) RODNEY CROWELL
Outsider

6) WILL TAYLOR & STRINGS ATTACHED
Collaborations

7) GUY FORSYTH
Love Songs for and Against

8) ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO
Room of Songs

9) VARIOUS ARTISTS
Big Sweet Life: Songs of Jon Dee Graham

10) JIMMIE DALE GILMORE
ComeOnBack

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THE AMERICAN SIDESHOW

SAT 12-10 / 10PM

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26' HUGE SCREEN ON OUR DECK
16' & 65"
BIG SCREENS DOWNSTAIRS
MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL PARTIES
$2 DOMESTICS DURING THE GAME

FEEL FREE TO SMOKE ON OUR ENORMOUS DECK!!!

SEASON 05/06

PARAMOUNT

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- www.AustinTheatre.org
- (866) 4GET-TIX



ROCKAPELLA HOLIDAY SHOW

Friday, December 16th - 8 pm (DOORS/BAR - 7 PM)

Back by popular demand, the undisputed kings of contemporary a cappella music, bring you the holiday gift of music. They have recorded jingles for Folger's, Mounds and Almond Joy, and were on the tv hit *Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?* Rockapella's signature all-human, all-vocal sound will be a holiday experience not to be matched.

90 Years of Legendary Entertainment

Season Sponsors: AAA, Austin American-Statesman statesman.com, Equity Office, GetTix, kut 90.5 Austin Texas, Velocity











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startickets plus.com
In person at Albertsons & Waterloo Records
by phone at 469-SHOW or 800-585-3737
startickets plus
Albertsons

club listings

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, Lonesome Heroes (7:00)
ANTONE'S A Tribute to Townes Van Zandt w/ ...And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead, Bill Callahan, Jimmie Dale Gilmore, Colin Gilmore, Kimmie Rhodes, Joe Gracey, J.T. Van Zandt, Will Sexton (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
BACK ROOM Rend, Warryor, Adrian & the Dickness, Lucid Dementia
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)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Grant Ewing Band
CLUB ONE 15 Rock en Español w/ Haydn Vitera (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Onion Creek Crawdaddies (6:30), Cue, Zykos, the Glass Family CD Release, Waxploitation (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE The Grooves (9:15)
COPA BAR & GRILL Sahara Night w/ the Brew (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)
ELYSIUM Rescue Mission, Lust Murder Box
EMO'S Corruption Is King, Vitamins, Daniel Francis Doyle, Japanther
FADÓ DJ Gerry (10:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA La Mancha, *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
HEADHUNTERS Daddi, Shawn Fussell Band, Matador, Hyver, Forty Thieves
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 Larry Lange & the Lonely Knights (8:00)
LA ZONA ROSA Mardo, King's X (9:00)
LONGBRANCH INN The Ridgetop 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

DUE TO OUR ABBREVIATED HOLIDAY SCHEDULE, PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING DEADLINES:

FRIDAY, DEC. 23 ISSUE: DEADLINE: FRIDAY, DEC. 16 (LISTINGS FOR DEC. 22-29)

FRIDAY, DEC. 30 ISSUE: DEADLINE: MONDAY, DEC. 26 (LISTINGS FOR DEC. 29-JAN. 5)

VENUES PLEASE SEND NEW YEAR'S EVE LISTINGS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AS WELL AS HOLIDAY CLOSINGS AND/OR INTERRUPTED RESIDENCY GIGS.

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**.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

roadshows

DECEMBER

THU 8

David Wilcox, Cactus Cafe
Japanther, Emo's
King's X, **Mardo**, La Zona Rosa
The Nadas, Momos
Subrosa Union, Red Eyed Fly
DJ Nu-Mark, Red Fez
Trifecta, Redrum
Radiant, **Isola**, Stubb's Bar-B-Q

FRI 9

deSol, Antone's
The Deadly Companions, Beerland
Glen Phillips, **Judd & Maggie**, Cactus Cafe
Iris, Elysium
Deathray Davies, Emo's
The Veldt, Flamingo Cantina
Debbie Reynolds, Paramount Theatre
Chip Taylor & Carrie Rodriguez, Saxon Pub
Sugar & the Raw, Trophy's

SAT 10

deSol, Antone's
Chip Taylor & Carrie Rodriguez (Armadillo Christmas Bazaar), Austin Music Hall
Bless the Broken, Back Room
Ian Moore, Cactus Cafe
High School Caesar, **Devil Doll**, Continental Club
Abstract Rude, **Fatjack**, **DJ Drez**, Flamingo Cantina
Rogue Wave, **Mazarin**, the Parish
Max Cady, Red Eyed Fly
Dryline, Redrum
The Hourly Radio, Black Tie Dynasty, Stubb's Bar-B-Q
DJ Jester the Filipino Fist, Whisky Bar

SUN 11

Chris Brokaw, End of an Ear
Caesar Brothers' Funk Box, Flamingo Cantina
Roger Clyne & the Peacemakers, Gruene Hall
Chris Brokaw, the Parish

TUE 13

The Greencards (Armadillo Christmas Bazaar), Austin Music Hall
Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra, One World Theatre
Mommy & Daddy, **Bang Bang!**, Room 710
The Lovemakers, She Wants Revenge, Rock Kills Kid, Astra Heights, Stubb's Bar-B-Q

WED 14

Clap!Clap!, Beerland
Freakwater, the Zincs, Cactus Cafe
Spiderwebs, **Friday Group**, End of an Ear

THU 15

Gaynelle Neville, ABIA: Highland Lakes Bar
John Longhurst, Bates Recital Hall
Cave In, **Doomriders**, **Lorene Drive**, Emo's
DJ Nu-Mark, Red Fez
Widow Song, **Handshake Murders**, **Oceanus**, Snake Eyes Vinyl
Locks, Whisky Bar

See **austinchronicle.com** *for complete listings.*

603 RED RIVER
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Emo's
alternative lounging
OPEN FOR HAPPY HOUR FROM 8-10PM

ThursdaY, December 8
JAPANTHER
DANIEL FRANCIS DOYLE
VITAMINS•CORRUPTION IS KING

FridaY, December 9
EARLY SHOW DOORS 5, SHOW 5:30
LONELY STATE RECORDS PRESENTS:
DANNY MALONE (CD RELEASE PARTY)
KEVIN SLATER • K. DEHAN
LATE SHOW
GLURP HOLIDAY BASH WITH
GRAND CHAMPEEN
DEATHRAY DAVIES
LIL' CAP'N TRAVIS

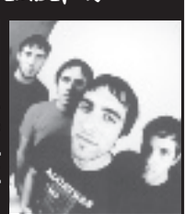
SaturdaY, December 10
CRUISERWEIGHT
KISSINGER
SEAN NEIL (OF DYNAMITE BOY)
O'DOYLE RULES

SundaY, December 11
HITCHHIKE
TRANSGESSORS
THE PAPER SOUTH (EX WINSLOW)

Mon & Tue, December 12&13
closed

WednesdaY, December 14
101X PRESENTS... NEAR MISS
DRIVER FRIENDLY•ETHAN DURELLE
9:30PM / ONLY $1

ThursdaY, December 15
CAVE IN
DOOMRIDERS
LORENE DRIVE
TICKETS AVAILABLE



FridaY, December 16
THE SWORD
CARDINALE
GOD'S TEMPLE OF FAMILY DELIVERANCE
LIONS OF TSAVO

SaturdaY, December 17
EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT
HANDSOME CHARLIES
THE BLACK•HAPPY BULLETS

Sun - Tue , Dec 18 - 20
closed

WednesdaY , Dec 21
MASONIC
AUX•SECRET WEAPONS

ThursdaY , Dec 22
1986
FACELESS WEREWOLVES
THE VAIN

FridaY , Dec 23
EVERYONE KNOWS EVERYONE –
HOLIDAY BASH MUSIC BY:
STREETCAR
LAX•MARS WARS
GABE HASKELL (FROM SLOWREADER)
VISITORS
PLUS DJ SHANE KEEPING THE HOUSE POPPIN'
WITH ART BY:
CARLOS ROSALES-SILVA • BEN TIPTON • CASEY DUNN • KYLE TWEEDY • WES ROSE • JUSTIN COX • CHRISTA PALAZZOLO • CRISTINA MANN-GARC

Sat - Thu , Dec 24 - 29 closed

FridaY, Dec 30
APPLICATORS
TBA•TBA

SaturdaY, Dec 31
FLAMETRICK SUBS
NEW YEARS EVE SHOW
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
SLICK57
BASIN STREET
TICKETS AVAILABLE

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1/3-1/10 FREE WEEK FEATURING ZYKOS/AT ALL COST/STEPBROTHERS/WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS/CRACK PIPES/GORCH FOCK/THE ARM/GLASS FAMILY/CARDINALE/UGLY BEATS AND MORE
1/21 CENTRO-MATIC* • 1/23 HIGH ON FIRE/THE BRONX/BIG BUSINESS* • 1/24 SOME GIRLS* • 1/25 AKRON/FAMILY* • 1/27 EXPLOSIONS IN THE SKY/OCTOPUS PROJECT*

*TICKETS ARE SOLD ONLINE THROUGH www.emosaustin.com OR YOU CAN BUY THEM AT WATERLOO RECORDS

CLIFFORD ANTONE'S
BLUE XMAS
Lou Ann BARTON
John Dee GRAHAM
Malford MILLIGAN
Derek O'BRIEN
DECEMBER 15
SHOW AT 7 PM
Lloyd MAINES
Terri HENDRIX
Alvin CROW
Earl Poole BALL
KGSR 107.1
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The Blind Boys Christmas Tour
NEXT FRIDAY | FRI DEC 16 8PM
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H-E-B

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speakeasy
BOOK YOUR EVENTS NOW! 47-PARTY
NEW YEAR'S EVE TICKETS ON SALE NOW! 47-PARTY
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8 PilGrum 9:30PM
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9 BLIND DATE 9:30PM
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 THE BREW 9:30PM
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12 JAMES GOSSETT FREE SHOW 9:30PM
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13 JAZZ NIGHT KKQ 9:30PM
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14 LATIN WEDNESDAY THE BREW 9:30PM
FREE SALSA LESSON @ 9PM, $5 @10:30PM
412-D CONGRESS AVE. • 476-8017 (entrance in the alley) • speakeasyaustin.com
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THU 12/8 > FORTY THIEVES, HYVER, MATADOR (Patio), SHAWN FUSSEL BAND, DADDI
FRI 12/9 > DIXIE WITCH, ELVIS ON SPEED, BOX SPRING HAWGS (Patio), 4205 & FRIENDS SAT 12/10 > BY ANY MEANS NESSARY, COURSE OF RUIN, BLACKHOLICUS (Patio), PEYTON GIN, LIONS OF TSAVO (Patio), ABYTHOS, BLOOD OF PATRIOTS, HIT BY CAR SUN 12/11 > KAOS RADIO 95.9 BENEFIT: WAR WITHIN, ILLITERATI, JOLLY GAROGERS, CHICANO HITLER, STUN GUN, SCHLONG DADDY, BEDLAM, CROW MON 12/12 > HIT BY CAR, MN FOOTBALL w/ C.HOLT TUE 12/13 > LOS RIVERSIDES, SURFING STANDING STILL, INDOFIN WED 12/14 > CATHETER, PANTHER ZORA, KING VULTURE (Patio), MALA SUERTE

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THURSDAY-DECEMBER 8 MUFFS HAPPY HOUR
SUBROSA UNION, INDOFIN THE DAZE, HEAD PANIC

FRIDAY-DECEMBER 9 HAPPY HOUR W/ JESSE ELLIS
SPIRITUAL MACHINES TAMMANY HALL MACHINE BETA VALENTINE, CHE ARTHUR

SATURDAY-DECEMBER 10 STEVE'S SUPER HAPPY HOUR
BROKEN TEETH BIG BALLS DRIFTER, MAX CADY

SUNDAY-DECEMBER 11 In The Lounge/No Cover
LEFT OUT, NOBODY GETS WORSE

MONDAY-DECEMBER 12 In The Lounge/No Cover
DROSS, ROBBIE DOYEN, KING ORBA

TUESDAY-DECEMBER 13
RED EYED CHRISTMAS PARTY

WEDNESDAY-DECEMBER 14
MIDNIGHT IN THE LOUNGE W/ RAIPH WITHE OF THE BAD LIVERS
CHRIS GATES & GATESVILLE UNCLE LUCIOUS TOUGH SHIT ELIOT

THURSDAY-DECEMBER 15 MUFFS HAPPY HOUR
CORRUPTION IS KING RUINS OF BROADWAY, SCARY MONDELOS

FRIDAY-DECEMBER 16
BLACK EARTH THE ADDICITONS SLIDER THE GUEST

SATURDAY-DECEMBER 17
LIONS ROCKLAND EAGLES TAH DAHS THAT'S MISTER TO YOU

UPCOMING SHOWS
12.20 SOUNDS UNDER RADIO, SATELLITE, OTIS
12.22 THE APSE AFFINITY 8 SYSTEMS, EVERY OTHER RATE
12.29 SUPER HEAVY GOAT ASS, DEWOLA
12.30 SSIK, SHANDON SAHM, FULL STRIDE
12-31 NEW YEARS EVE W/ HONKY DIXIE WITCH, BLACK LAMB

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Thu 12.8
THE HOT AS SHITS SADO-MASSACHUSETTS RED X RED M ORGI SOCIAL SAN ANTOKYO

Fri 12.9
Amplified Heat Benefit Show Night 1
JOHNNY GOBBS LIONS TIA CARRERA JOHN McVEY & the STUMBLE 00 SPIES PRETTY PRETTY
Show Starts @ 8pm

Sat 12.10
AMPLIFIED HEAT BARFIELD BLACK EARTH SHANDON SAHM DUKE TRASHCAN BAPTISM
Amplified Heat Benefit Show Night 2
Show Starts @ 8pm

Sun 12.11
WEEDEATER MALA SUERTE JUMBO'S KILLCRANE SUPERHEAVY GOATASS

Mon 12.12
FREE POOL
HEART & SOUL SOUND SYSTEM
PINTS $2.50

Tue 12.13
WELLS $2
MOMMY & DADDY BANG! BANG! MISGUIDED LEMMINGS

Wed 12.14
RUBBER ROBOT TRANSMOGRAPHY LIKE DOGS
8pm: Bearded Clam Diggers

UPCOMING SHOWS
12.15 Black Irish, Honey Ref 12.16 The Soldiers, Free Range Bastards, Mike Nicolai w/ Grand Champeen 12.17 Pleasant Valley 12.20 Hickoids, Slickpony 12.21 Fang

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ELYSIUM
705 RED RIVER ST.

THU LIVE! DEC 8
LUST MURDER BOX
Rescue Mission
with a photo exhibition by Fawn

FRI LIVE! DEC 9
IRIS
BizaRRe muSik MaChinE

SAT DEC 10
HAVEN
DJ Argo NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS
SPECIAL EVENT!
MASQUERADE BALL

SUN retro 80's DEC 11
REGRESSION
DJ Pumpkin Spice

TUE lesbian night DEC 13
SAPPHO'S ISLE
DJ Amerykah & DJ Doja
Double Elimination Pool Tournament!
(Must sign up by 11pm)

WED NO COVER DEC 14
MID-WAVE
dark 80's retro & old school goth
DJ Pumpkin Spice

UPCOMING EVENTS
Thu Dec 15 * *Live! Vacation Gold, Secular End, Kazki*

21+ only, doors @ 9:30 PM unless specified more detailed information available at:
www.elysiumonline.net * (512) 478-2979

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live music — arcade

BEERLAND TEXAS

No tickets for smokers!

th 8 — Moonlight Towers, Vacation Gold, Youngmand Grand, Early Tapes
Magician's Open Mic 7-9pm

fr 9 — Apeshits, Hotrails, Sparkle Motion
It's Bob's Birthday!!!@ 7pm
Bad Rackets, Deadly Companions and more!!

sa 10 — closed for private party

su 11 — Poor Posture, Fire Vs. Extinguisher, Prom Nite, The Troublemen

mo 12 — Rock & Roll Karaoke
1000+ songs--no cover!
Twin Peaks/Carnivale Happy Hour@ 7pm

tu 13 — closed for private party

we 14 — Clap! Clap!, Tran Tram, The Interest Kills, Always Already
40 Year Old Virgin @ 7pm

th 15 — Flametrick Subs, Satan's Cheerleaders, Basin Street Infant of Prague Happy Hour@ 7pm

fr 16 — Concombre Zombi, Livends, Hell's Town Rebels, Texas Wrecking Crew
the Biltzens Happy Hour @ 7pm

sa 17 — Black Novas, The Ends, Black Furies (S.F.), Small Town Massacre

check M343.com to preview bands
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beerlandtexas.com

Start your New Year with best music of 2005!

RADIO 107.1 KGSR AUSTIN

The 2005 KGSR MUSIC POLL

RADIO AUSTIN

What were your favorite songs, CDs and live performances during the past year?

We want your help in choosing the best, most eclectic mix of music to bring in the new year...and then we'll play your choices on the radio!

In return, we'll register you for some great prizes:

The Top 107 CDs of 2005 from Waterloo Records, and a personal CD player to listen to them on!

All you have to do is simply vote in the **2005 KGSR MUSIC POLL.** You can vote online at www.kgsr.com or use the entry form below. Write down your Top 3 personal favorite songs, CDs, and also your favorite show of the past year. We'll tally your votes, and **on New Year's Eve we'll play your Top 107 Songs of 2005.**

On New Year's Day we'll play selections from your Top 107 CDs of 2005.

Deadline to enter is Monday, December 26th at midnight. The Grand Prize Winner will be drawn January 2nd at 7:30am with Kevin Connor on KGSR in the Morning.

Your Favorite Songs of 2005 (Title, Artist)

1.

2.

3.

Your Favorite CDs of 2005 (Title, Artist)

1.

2.

3.

Your Favorite Live Show of 2005

1.

Log onto the NEW KGSR.COM to jog your memory about the great music we played over the past year.

WATERLOO

RADIO 107.1 KGSR AUSTIN

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Phone _____ Age _____

Fill out this form and mail to:
2005 KGSR Music Poll
8309 N. IH35 Austin, TX 78753
Fax your vote to: (512) 908-4902
Vote online at www.kgsr.com

club listings ◂◂ FROM THURSDAY

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)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Texas Renegade
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Jamie
OSLO The Bumps (11:00)
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Ryan James
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Al
RADISSON Winton Reynolds (5:30)
RANDY'S ICE HOUSE Karaoke (8:00)
RED EYED FLY Head Panic, the Daze, Indofin, Subrosa Union
RED FEZ Strangetribe w/ Jeff Strange, DJ Nu-Mark, DJ Manny
RED'S SCOOT INN The Nortons (8:30)
REDRUM Kryonik, Silenced, Trifecta, Kinetik, One Trick Monkey
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Quartet (6:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Karaoke
ROADHOUSE Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Hillbilly Parker
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
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Isola, Dynah, Radiant
TAMBALEO DJ Starsign, John Angle (10:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Henry Craft
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)

Fri 09

219 WEST DJ Trace
311 CLUB 21 Black, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Eve & The Exiles (3:30)
ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR George Ensle (3:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Al Sato, Dixie Beal & the Group W Bench, Convict Hill Gang
ANTONE'S deSol, Los Super Vatos, Del Castillo (9:00)
ARTURO'S UNDERGROUND CAFE gfire (7:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sieker Band
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Acoustic Happy Hour (6:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Dr. Zog
BACK ROOM Macava, Condemned Unit, Blood of Patriots, Force Fed, Meet Fist
BARCELONA Blakk w/ DJ J.A.M.O.N.
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Neo Trio (8:00)
BEERLAND The Deadly Companions, Bad Rackets (7:00), SparkleMotion, Original Blackouts, HotRails, Apeshits (9:30)
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL Clay Harrell
BOOMERZ Pauline Reese
BORDERS ARBORETUM India Taylor Trio (8:00)
'BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks
BROKEN SPOKE Gary P. Nunn
BROWN BAR DJ Gray, Late Night w/ mr.ripley (9:00)
CACTUS CAFE Judd & Maggie, Glen Phillips (8:00, 10:30)
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Cheryl Murdock, the Transgressors
CEDAR STREET Sean Phillips (6:00), the Spazmatics (9:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Shelley King
CONTINENTAL CLUB The Blues Specialists (6:30), Orange Mothers, the Damnations, Paul & Jordan (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE Bret Boyer, Wall Street (6:45)
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa w/ DJ Fabian (10:00)
COTTON CLUB People's Choice
DAN MCKLUSKY'S Bobby Doyle (7:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
THE DRISKILL Kirk Hale, Suzi Stern, George Oldziey (6:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Lucky Strikes (8:00)
EGO'S Ray Cashman & Gabby Brown, Jungle Rockers, Eric Hokkanen (6:30)
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Guitarras del Meson (7:30)
ELEMENT DJ 2DQ (10:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Lara & Reyes (9:30)
ELYSIUM Iris
EMO'S Early: K. Dehan, Kevin Slater, Danny Malone CD Release; Later: Glurp Holiday Bash w/ Li'l Cap'n Travis, Deathray Davies, Grand Champeen (5:30)
END OF AN EAR Ethereal Planes Indian (7:00)
EVANGELINE CAFE Hi-Flyers (10:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA DJ Erin, the Mercers, Haunting Oboe Music, the Veldt, Ghostland Observatory
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Shane Bartell, Matt the Electrician (9:00)
GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE Open Mic (7:30)
GIDDY UPS Just Plain Trouble
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Pedernales Playboys (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Tish Hinojosa (8:00)
GÜERO'S TACO BAR Los Texmaniacs (6:30)
HANOVER'S Jay Price, Kelly Doze
HEADHUNTERS 4205 & Friends, Boxspring Hawgs, Elvis on Speed, Dixie Witch
HOLE IN THE WALL Pompeii, Experimental Aircraft, Midori Umi (10:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL ROUND ROCK Byrd & Street (7:00)
JC'S STEAKHOUSE Adam Donmoyer, Bill Forrest (7:00)
JOVITA'S Harry Bodine, Clay Jeffrey & Kevin Smith, Two Tons of Steel (5:30)
LA CABANA GRILL Blues Jam w/ Li'l Steph (8:00)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim
LIVE OAK COFFEEHOUSE Caritas of Austin Benefit w/ Austin Lounge Lizards (7:30)
LONGBRANCH INN White Ghost Shivers
LUCKY LOUNGE Mike Rosenthal (8:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)
MOMOS 5591 (9:00)
MOONRIVER Doc Pointer
MR. NATURAL Will Dunlap (7:00)
NORTH BY NORTHWEST A Band Named Sue (6:30)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Alter Boys, Trent Turner (8:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Grassy Knoll Boys
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Fusion
OSLO DJ Kunal M (10:00)
PAGGI HOUSE DJ Skot Kees (9:00)
THE PALLADIUM Vibe
PARAMOUNT THEATRE Debbie Reynolds (8:00)
PARDNERS DJ Dancin' Don (7:00)
PLUSH Micasa Tu Casa w/ Tarek, MC Flint (10:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Texas Renegade, Ray Wylie Hubbard
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Glen Collins (7:00)
THE PUB KneeDeep (8:00)
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
RADISSON Cassie (5:30)
RAGGEDY ANNE'S Karaoke
RED EYED FLY Beta Valentine, Tammany Hall Machine, Lomita
RED FEZ Thrill Night w/ Chicken George
REDRUM Cynical Visions, Evildoers, Paperwork, Sybil, Last Call Casualty LP Release
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Blue Mist (8:30)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Swindles
ROADHOUSE The Balls
ROOM 710 Amplified Heat Benefit w/ Rockland Eagles, John McVey, Grady

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SATURDAY DEC 10 8PM

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TUESDAY DEC 13 11PM

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WEDNESDAY DEC 14 9PM

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THURSDAY DEC 15 6PM

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LATER:
10PM

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DIMEBAG DARRELL TRIBUTE!
75¢ WELL DRINKS 8-10:30
$5.50 BUD ICE PITCHERS
FREE SHOW 7-9p: FORTY THIEVES

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10
POWDERBURN
KRITICKILL
BLESS THE BROKEN
TRANSPARENCY

$1 WELLS, $1 DRAFTS 8-10:30

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J. DEAN PRODUCTIONS presents
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PLUS... A LAFFY TAFFY CONTEST
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$1.75 ICEHOUSE, $5.50 BUSCH PITCHERS

12/12: MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL!
4 GIANTSCREENS! 50¢ HOT DOGS
$1.75 HIGH LIFE, $5.50 BUD ICE PITCHERS

TUE, 12/13: $1.75 BUD/BUD LT., $5.50 COORS PITCHERS
POOL TOURNAMENT NIGHT!

WED, 12/14: $1.75 LONE STAR, $5.50 ZIEGENBOCK PITCHERS

THU., 12/15: ELVIS ON SPEED, BLACKHOLICUS, HEADPANIC

FRI., DECEMBER 16 (8pm doors)
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DEVIN THE DUDE & THE ODD SQUAD

12/17: HATCHETWORK, SIX PAST HELL, SHRAPNEL, WAJA, PRIME ELEMENT

NEW YEAR'S EVE:
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EVERY TIME I DIE, FIRST TO LAST, HE IS LEGEND (tix here or Star Tickets Plus!)
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RACHEL LOY 9:30
STEPHEN CLARKE 8
SUN OF SULTANS 12:30

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DOORS AT 8 / SHOW AT 9

SATURDAY DECEMBER 10
GINGER LEIGH
CD RELEASE PARTY 10PM
ECHOSET 12
BON TERRA 8

SUNDAY DECEMBER 11
NEW START TIME! 9PM-12MIDNITE!
WARREN HOOD & THE HOODLUMS
TUCKER LIVINGSTON 8 RICH RUSSELL 12

MONDAY DECEMBER 12 / STARTS @ 8
UT ETHNOMUSICOLOGY DEPT. ENSEMBLES

TUESDAY DECEMBER 13 / $5
AMY ATCHLEY 8
WENDY COLONNA 10

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14 / $5
THE HEATHENS 9:30
FEAT BRIAN KEANE, COLIN BOOOKS, ELDRIDGE GOINS, GORDY QUIST, ED JURDI & MORE
KACY CROWLEY 8
KEVIN MCCOLLOUGH 12:30
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PUSHMONKEY 12/17
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Thu 8 An Evening with Anna Egge 8pm
Fri 9
Matt the Electrician
Shane Bartell 9pm


Sat 10
Billy Harvey
Graham Wilkinson 9pm
Sun 11 Mark Ambrose 8pm
Mon 12 David Newbould 8pm
Tues' Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory 8:30pm
Wed 14 The Family Jewels ~ Woody Russell 8pm
thur 15 Abi Tapia ~ Molly Venter
fri 16 Boxcar Preachers ~ Giff Metcalf
sat 17 Amanda Leggett ~ The Hudson's
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su 12/11 12-3PM JOIN US FOR OUR ALL NEW IRISH SUNDAY BRUNCH FEATURING
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club listings ◂◂ FROM FRIDAY

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies
RUTA MAYA Avenue Elle, Amy Atchley, Julie Bosshart, Chelle Murray, Pink Nasty (7:30)
SABA BLUE WATER CAFE DJ Rhythmic (10:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Theo Alexander (9:30)
SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:30), Chip Taylor & Carrie Rodriguez, South Austin Jug Band (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Johnston Brothers
ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Strings Attached w/ Eliza Gilkyson (7:30, 10:00)
STARDUST CLUB Lost John Casner
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q The Gourds
TEXAS BAR & GRILL The Extractors
TRAVIS COUNTY EXPO CENTER The Ice Bats w/ Reckless Kelly
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Susanna Sharp & Catavento (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Dancin' Bare, Scott H. Biram
TRIUMPH CAFE Stonecastle Family Band (7:00)
TROPHY'S Noise Revival, the Normans, Things That Go Pop, Sugar & the Raw
VUE Mumbojumbo w/ DJ Supafly, Nathan Castle, Mike C.
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ R.J.
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE The Deweys
WHISKY BAR DJ Hannibal, DJ P.O.W., the Flying Club
Z'TEJAS Mark Goodwin Trio (7:00)

Sat 10

219 WEST DJ Trace
311 CLUB Altar Boys, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Kim Townsend, Funny Ha Ha Band, Damn Finos, Graham Wilkinson
ANTONE'S deSol, Los Super Vatos, Del Castillo (9:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Kimberly McCarver
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Christina Roberts (8:00)
AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ the Resentments, Chip Taylor & Carrie Rodriguez, Eliza Gilkyson, (12:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Doak Short
BACK ROOM Transparency, Bless the Broken, Kritickill, Powderburn
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Slim Richey & Kat's Meow (8:00)
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL Marshall Ford Swing Band
BOOMERZ Jay Thomas, Tim & the Time Bombs
'BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks (9:00)
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF AUSTIN & TRAVIS CO. *The Nutcracker Suite* w/ the Invincible Czars (2:00, 8:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Bruce Robison
BROWN BAR mr.ripley (10:00)
BUSTER'S BBQ Paul Cox Open Mic (7:00)
CACTUS CAFE Ian Moore (8:30)
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Casting Couch, Orange Mothers
CENTRAL MARKET CAFE Atash (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Jimmy LaFave
CLUB ONE 15 Uptown Saturday w/ Cut Creator (9:30)
COMMON GROUNDS COFFEE HOUSE India Taylor Trio (8:00)



CONTINENTAL CLUB The Hotrod Hillbillies, Devil Doll, High School Caesar (9:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE Kent Mayhew, Lipservice (6:45)
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa w/ DJ Alvaro (9:00)
COTTON CLUB Cotton Pickers
DAN MCKLUSKY'S Mac Bynum (7:30)
DONN'S DEPOT Nash Hernandez Orchestra
THE DRISKILL Pat Griffin, Suzi Stern, George Oldziey (6:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Lucky Strikes (8:00)
EGO'S Jay Thomas (8:00)
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Chinampa (7:30)
ELEMENT DJ 2DQ (10:00)
ELYSIUM Nightmare Before Christmas Masquerade Ball w/ DJ Argo
EMO'S O'Doyle Rules, Sean Neil, Kissinger, Cruiserweight
END OF AN EAR DJ Hobo D Holiday Bizarre (7:00)
FADÓ The Blaggards (10:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Dubvilla w/ DJ Drez, Fatjack, Abstract Rude
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Graham Wilkinson, Billy Harvey (9:00)
GALAXY CAFE Paul White Quartet (7:00)
GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE John Kuhns (10:00)
GIDDY UPS Sam Bentley
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Moonhangers (9:00)
GRUENE HALL South Austin Jug Band (1:00), Houston Marchman (9:30)
HEADHUNTERS Hit By a Car, Blood of Patriots, Abythos, Lions of Tsavo, Peyton Gin, Blackholicus, Course of Ruin, By Any Means Necessary
HOLE IN THE WALL Chris Brecht, Happy Families, Ultraviolet Index, Pocket Symphonies (8:00)
IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE Holiday Sing-Along (7:00)
JOVITA'S Jesse Ellis, Colin Gilmore, Eve Monsees & the Exiles (6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Primm (8:00)
MIDNIGHT RODEO Kevin Fowler
MOMOS Bon Terra, Ginger Leigh CD Release, Echoset (8:00)
MOONRIVER Dixon Younger
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS Byrd and Street (8:30)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Black Irish, the Burners (8:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Lisa Tingle



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VALLEJO
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TRUTH FOR LEO · TYRONE VAUGHN
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JEREMY SCOTT ECHOLS

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LA ZONA ROSA

TONIGHT! DOORS 8 • SHOW 9
KING'S
WITH MARDO

WED DEC 21 DOORS 8 • SHOW 9
7TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS 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
WITH SHIBBOLETH

SAT DEC 31 DOORS 8 • SHOW 9
JOE ELY'S ELECTRIC BAND
NEW YEARS EVE!
FEATURING:
JIMMIE PETTIT
DAVID GRISSON
DAVIS MCCLARTY
RECKLESS KELLY
PATRICIA VONNE

THU JAN 19 DOORS 8 • SHOW 9
ACOUSTIC SHOW
LOS LOBOS

MON JAN 23 DOORS 7 • SHOW 7:30
AVENGED SEVENFOLD
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101X

SAT FEB 11 DOORS 8 • SHOW 9
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club listings ◂◂ FROM SATURDAY

THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke with Mr. K
THE PARISH Mazarin, Rogue Wave
PLUSH Turntable Manners w/ DJ Tats, Dirty Harry
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Josh Grider Band
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Fat Dog (9:30)
PROGRESS COFFEE Tycho, Nautilus, Dusty Brown (9:00)
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Billy D.
RED EYED FLY Max Cady, Drifter, Big Balls, Broken Teeth
RED FEZ DJ Kurv (10:30)
REDRUM We Left the Roman Empire in Ruins, Dryline, Capt Bringdown and the Buzzkillers, Air Tight Alibi, Born to Lose, Natchet Taylor (8:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Blaze (8:30)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Li'l Bit & the Customatics
ROADHOUSE Rhythm Dawgs
ROOM 710 Amplified Heat Benefit w/ Barfield, Black Earth, Shandon Sahm, Duke, Trashcan Baptism, Amplified Heat
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Son Geezinslaw & Glen Collins (7:00)
RUTA MAYA Austin Poetry Slam, Bargain Basement Music (8:00)
SABA BLUE WATER CAFE DJ Sugar (10:00)
SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM Dr. Billy & Acoustic Therapy (8:00)
SAXON PUB San Saba County, Wendy Colonna, Jon Dee Graham (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Mojo
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Firewall
SHOOTING STARS COFFEE Obatallah (1:00)
STARDUST CLUB Kim & Her Blues Boys
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Black Tie Dynasty, the Hourly Radio, the Lord Henry
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Capitol Suspects
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Rick Glascock (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Subtle Creeps, Apse Affinity, Strong Rock
TROPHY'S La La Land, the Visitors, Secret Weapons
VIVO DJ Tomas (7:00)
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ R.J.
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Strumero
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Mike Austin
WHISKY BAR DJ Hannibal, DJ Jester the Filipino Fist vs. Prince Klassen
Z'TEJAS Mark Goodwin Trio (7:00)

Sun 11

219 WEST DJ Trace
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Slim Richey's Dream Band, Jelly Jar, Gypsy Maintenance
ARTZ RIB HOUSE John McCarver & the Tone Rangers
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Jazz Brunch (11:00 am)
AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Ruthie Foster, Redd Volkaert & Friends, South Austin Jug Band (12:30)
B.B. ROVERS Jollyville City Limits Open Mic w/ Billy Goerdt; Austin Songwirters Group Open Mic w/ Polk Shelton (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tune Session (8:00)
BACK ROOM DJ Pat Love, Laffy Taffy Contest
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Bonnie Whitmore (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 Kalico Kings (9:30), Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE The Ash Family
CINDY'S GONE HOG WILD ICEHOUSE Open Mic w/ DavidJohn (3:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Heybale! w/ Redd Volkaert & Earl Poole Ball (10:00)
COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (5:00)
THE DRINK SHU (9:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mac Bynum (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Mitch Watkins Trio (9:30)
ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice
EMO'S The Paper South, the Transgressors, Hitchhike
END OF AN EAR Chris Brokaw, Cory Allen (4:00)
FADÓ Prize Mic
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Industry Night
FLAMINGO CANTINA Nawlins Ya Ya Jam w/ Caesar Brothers Funk Box, Hot 8 Brass Band
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Mark Ambrose (8:00)
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)
GRUENE HALL Christmas Gospel Brunch w/ a Texas Twist, Bret Graham (10:30 am), Roger Clyne & the Peacemakers (4:00)
GÜERO'S TACO BAR Gulf Coast Playboys (3:00)
HEADHUNTERS KAOS Benefit w/ Crow, Bedlam, Schlong Daddy, Stun Gun, Chicano Hitler, Jolly Garogers, Illiterati, War Within
HIGHLAND MALL Lucky Strikes (2:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL Rebecca's Ragtime Revue, Black Joe & the Cool Breeze, Stickpony (9:00)
IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE Mobius Q (2:00)
JO'S HOT COFFEE Sinner's Brunch: Tina Rose & the Jo's House Band (12:30)
JOVITA'S Brother T. Jubilee Gospel (12:30), Jerry Sires Band (6:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Hunki Dori (10:00)
MANUEL'S Brunch w/ Rick Glascock (11:30 am)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers (10:30 am)
THE MEAN EYED CAT Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (7:30)
MOMOS Tucker Livingston, Warren Hood & the Hoodlums w/ Mike Keller, Rich Russell (8:00)
MOONRIVER Karaoke w/ Magnolia (9:30)
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Irish Brunch w/ the Tea Merchants (6:00)
MUNCHIES The XProphets (noon)
NUEVO LEON Mariachi Relampago (1:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz
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SUNDAY DEC 11 12 - 2:30 PM
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DEC 30 - Deep Edward

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DEC 18 - Combo Mahalo
DEC 30 - Eastside Kings

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monday, dec 12
8p at Nasty's

Come preview the new Ludacris CD/DVD "Disturbing tha Peace" before it's released on Dec. 13.

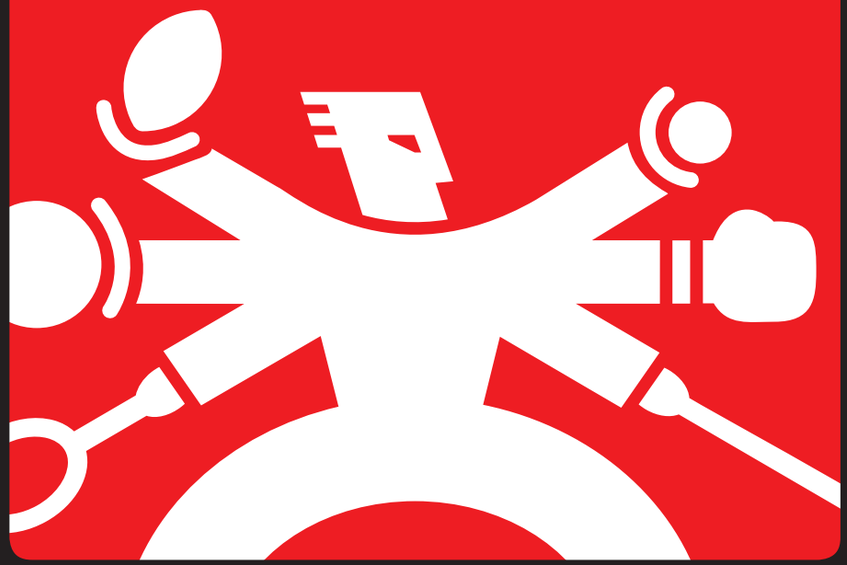
With Dru Fay, host of ME's hip-hop show "Smash" (airs every day 11am and 1pm) followed by DJ Mel and Jah Mighty

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club listings ◂◂ FROM SUNDAY

OPAL DIVINE'S PENN FIELD Paw Match Benefit w/ the White Ghost Shivers, Brian Keane, Colin Gilmore, the Possums, Sleazy Cherub (2:00)
THE PARISH Chris Brokaw, American Analog Set (9:00)
PLUSH Car Stereo Wars
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Sunny Sweeney (8:30)
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Big Al
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
RED FEZ DJ Kurupt
REDRUM [adult swim], Cap City Presents, Troy Dillinger (8:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Sterling Finlay
ROADHOUSE Open Mic w/ Josh
RUTA MAYA The Invincible Czars, Golden Arm Trio (8:00)
SAXON PUB The Resentments, Jay Thomas, Summer Wardrobe (7:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D
STARLIGHT TERRACE AT THE OASIS The Brew
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Gospel Brunch w/ the Durdens (noon)
TAMBALEO MC Mirage w/ Soul Expression
TAZ COUNTRY Karaoke w/ Big Al
TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz & Holly Aiken (9:00)
TROPHY'S Hip Hop for Humanity Benefit
THE WATER TANK Open Mic w/ Patrick
WHISKY BAR DJ Kon Karne

Mon 12

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Teye (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
AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ the Eggmen (8:00)
'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 The Hudsons
CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Rich Demarco (6:30)
CLUB ONE 15 Groove Attack w/ DJ Skorcha D. (9:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Paris '49 (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Earl Poole Ball
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mac Bynum & Joe Morales (7:15)
ELEPHANT ROOM Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE David Newbould (8:00)
FRIENDS Eric Tessmer (7:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Uranium Savages Birthday Party (8:30)
HEADHUNTERS W.C. Holt, Hit by a Car
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Open Mic Poetry & Reading (7:00)
HYDE PARK THEATRE Eddy Hobizal (7:30)
JACK'S BACKYARD Karaoke w/ Stars Across Texas (9:00)
LONGBRANCH INN Singer-Songwriter Night
MOMOS UT Ethnomusicology (8:00)
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)
POODLE DOG LOUNGE The Stepsiders (9:30)
RED FEZ Motown w/ DJ Inverse
REDRUM The Bloodhorse, Demonio, Dog and Pony Show, Malcontent Party (7:30)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Meatwood
RUTA MAYA Carolyn Wonderland & Matt Hubbard (8:30)
SAXON PUB Greezy Wheels, Ray Benson, Mother Truckers (7:00)
SPEAKEASY James Gossett (9:30)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Elizabeth McQueen & Jason Roberts (8:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Pat Pankratz & Gerry Burns (6:00)
TROPHY'S The Meshbanes
THE WATER TANK Acoustic Jam Open Mic w/ Tony Fant
WHISKY BAR DJ Tako

Tue 13

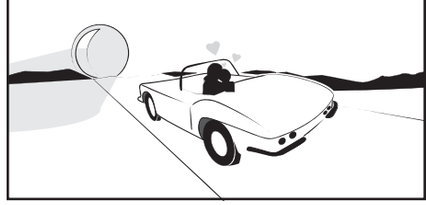
1920S CLUB Mac Bynum (7:00)
219 WEST Crucial Prophet
311 CLUB Murphy (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Gordy Quist (3:30)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Olde Time Fiddlers Jam
AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ the Greencards (8:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open Mic (7:30)
BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Burke Ingraffia (8:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Marshall Ford Swing Band
BROWN BAR DJ Gray (9:00)
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Randy Miles, Mike Runnels
CEDAR STREET Super Fantastic Duo w/ Seela Green (6:00), Trent Durham Band (9:30)
CHARLIE'S Margaret Wright
CLUB ONE 15 Reggae Night (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, Mother Truckers (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), Alex Coke Quartet (9:30)
ELYSIUM Sappho's Isle w/ DJ Amerykah & DJ Doja
EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh, Gene Taylor (6:00)
FADÓ Tea Merchants (8:00)
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Deep Sessions w/ DJ Toddy B

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THE WALKING CONTRADICTIONS
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THE DEWEYS
★SAT., DECEMBER 10★
MIKE AUSTIN
★FRI., DECEMBER 16★
THE GREEN LETTERS
★SAT., DECEMBER 17★
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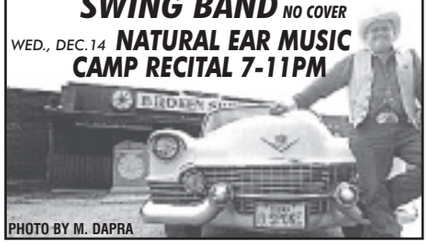
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WED., DEC. 14 NATURAL EAR MUSIC CAMP RECITAL 7-11PM


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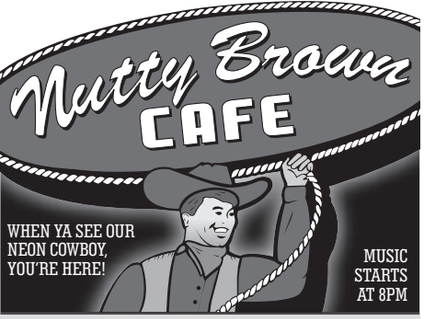
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HARRY BODINE 5:30-6:30PM

SATURDAY 12/10
9:30PM-11PM
EVE & THE EXILES
COLIN GILMORE
8:00-9:00PM
NO COVER!
JESSE ELLIS 6:30-7:30PM

SUNDAY 12/11
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NO COVER!
JERRY SIRES BAND
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NO COVER!
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WEDNESDAY 12/14
8-10PM
JELLY JAR
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club listings ◂◂ FROM TUESDAY

FLAMINGO CANTINA Sex Machines, DJ Robbie Spanxxx, DJ Soviet Sex Experiment (8:30)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory
FRIENDS Erin Jaimes & Her Bad Habits, Alan Haynes (7:30)
GIDDY UPS Knaak Attack
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 Indofin, Surfing Standing Still, Los Riversides
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Josh (8:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL Claire Hamilton, Billy Harvey (9:00)
IT'S ITALIAN "Frankly Singing" w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
JOVITA'S Ethan Azarian, Grassy Knoll Boys (6:00)
LA PALAPA Avenue C
LOVEJOY'S Militant Babies (10:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa, John Pointer (11:00)
MOMOS Amy Atchley, Wendy Colonna (8:00)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Jeff Banks, Randy Pavlock & 24/7 (8:00)
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Billy D
ONE WORLD THEATRE Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra Holiday Special (7:00, 9:30)
OSLO Lucy's Wild w/ DJ Shane
PLUSH Mentalnote
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Troubadillos
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Justin
RADISSON Murphy's Inlaws
RANDY'S ICE HOUSE Karaoke (8:00)
RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:15)
RED'S SCOOT INN Li'l Steph & the Chromatics
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Denia Ridley w/ Marc Devine (6:30)
RHINOS & JOCKS ROUND ROCK Karaoke w/ Mr. K.
RIVERBEND CENTRE Austin Symphony Orchestra's Christmas Sing-Along (8:00)
ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Dragon
ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)
ROOM 710 Bang Bang!, Mommy & Daddy
ROPER'S NIGHTCLUB Open Mic w/ Cory Michael (9:00)
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)
SAXON PUB Monte Montgomery & Orange Kitty, Blondless, Will Sexton (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae Rae
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Larry Lange & the Lonely Knights (7:30)
SPEAKEASY KKQ (9:30)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Astra Heights, Rock Kills Kid, She Wants Revenge, the Lovemakers
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 Higher Crackers, Chancla
TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ RJ
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Brian Kremer
WHISKY BAR D-Madness, DJ Aquaman

Mike Bunnels & Randy Miles
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TUESDAY
DEC 13 * 630-9
NO COVER

Wed 14

1920S CLUB Liz Morphis (8:30)
219 WEST The SG Project (7:00)
311 CLUB Devren (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Tommy Spurlock (3:30)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH Byrd & Street (1:00)
AGAVE Eric Tessmer (9:00)
APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL Marty Linville
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland
AUSTIN MUSIC CO-OP Laydeez Open Mic
AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Slaid Cleaves (8:00)
AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Joe Gee & the Gee-Men (noon)
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Parker Worsham (8:00)
BEERLAND The Interest Kills, Tran Tram, Ready Set Go, Clap!Clap!
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BROWN BAR DJ Manny
CACTUS CAFE The Zincs, Freakwater (8:00)
CAFE MUNDI Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Muppletone
CEDAR STREET Trent & Dave (6:00), 80's Party w/ the Spazmatics (9:30)
CHAIN DRIVE I'm Gorgeous Inside, Baby Girl, the Heart Project
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle
CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Jacinta (7:00)
CIRCLE COUNTRY CLUB Karaoke (8:00)

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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
Su 11	Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly or Nate
Mo 12	Pat Pankratz & Gerry Burns 6pm
Tu 13	Higher Crackers 6pm Chancla 10pm
We 14	Scott Wood 6pm Invincible Czars, Golden Arm Trio, Attic Ted 9pm
Th 15	RC Banks 6pm Echo's Orbit Room, I Am 9pm
Fr 16	Bill Jerram 6pm Newborn Dance Conspiracy, Heroes 9pm
Sa 17	Pink Nasty, Fluffers Union, Moonlight Towers 10pm

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TUESDAY DEC 13
BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM
GENE TAYLOR 8PM
WEDNESDAY DEC 14
COWBOY JOHNSON 6PM


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TUESDAY DEC 13
Larry Lange and the Lonely Knights 7:30

WEDNESDAY DEC 14
THE NORTONS 8:00

THURSDAY DEC 15
The High Flyers 8:00

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club listings ◂◂ FROM WEDNESDAY

CLUB ONE 15 Way Back w/ Cut Creator (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 Cadaques (8:00)
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Jam Night w/ Dennis Lee
DONN'S DEPOT Cameron Road
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 Pharoahs (6:00), Crying Monkeys (9:30)
ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice
EMO'S Ethan Durelle, Driver Friendly, Near Miss
END OF AN EAR Friday Group, Spiderwebs (8:00)
EVANGELINE CAFE Cowboy Johnson (6:00)
FADÓ Patrick Fleming (9:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Cochino, War Against Sleep, Bletzung, Balistica (8:30)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE The Family Jewels, Woody Russell (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)
HANOVER'S Common Wealth
HEADHUNTERS Mala Suerte, King Vulture, Panther Zora, Catheter
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Woode Wood & Beth Lee (noon)
HILLTOP TAVERN Open Mic
HOLE IN THE WALL Roger Wallace, Ridgetop Syncopators, W.T. Special (7:00)
JC'S STEAKHOUSE Adam Donmoyer
JOVITA'S Jodi Adair, Jelly Jar (6:00)
LA PALAPA Bobby Fuente & the Flames (8:00)
LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Eliot Wayne (9:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem
MOMOS Lisa Hayes, the Dishonorables, Texcentrics (8:00)
MOONRIVER Karaoke w/ Magnolia
MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Alter Boys, Li'l Steph (8:00)
OILCAN HARRY'S Allan T.
PLUSH Original Block Party w/ DJ Tats (10:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones the Singing Bartender
THE PUB Jam Session w/ Frank
RADISSON Winton Reynolds
RAGGEDY ANNE'S Karaoke
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
RED EYED FLY Ralph White
RED FEZ Glam Rock w/ DJ Shane, DJ Linda
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Trio (7:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN The Gougers
ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Glenn Collins Open Mic
RUTA MAYA Jimmy George Band, Clusterfunk (9:00)
SAENGERHALLE Back Porch Wednesday w/ Ryan Bales
SAKÉ ON SIXTH Get Broke Wednesdays w/ Merrick Brown
SAM'S TOWN POINT Ramsey & the Scientists (9:00)
SAXON PUB Pauline Reese (6:00), Seth Walker, White Ghost Shivers (8:00)
SHOAL CREEK SALOON The Nortons (8:00)
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Shooting Star Karaoke (8:00)
SNAKE EYES VINYL Mala Suerte, Catheter, Panther Zora (3:00)
SOUTH FORTY Karaoke w/ J.R. the DJ (9:00)
SPEAKEASY The Brew
TAMBALEO Krunkaoke w/ DJ Mel (10:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Scott Wood; Attic Ted; *The Nutcracker Suite* w/ Golden Arm Trio, the Invincible Czars
TROPHY'S Ray Cashman, Crack in the Wall, Every Other Fate, Subnaturals, Mayra Eels
VENTANA DEL SOUL Amara Grace (7:00)
VICTORY GRILL The Blues Specialists (5:30)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan
Y BAR & GRILL Singer-Singwriter Night w/ Jenni Lord
Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster, Will Sexton & Friends (6:00)

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MANEJA BETO
DJ STARSIGN
TIX ONSALE
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TIX ONSALE
TIX @ WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM + WATERLOO RECORDS

2/16/06 ..WWW.TINOCORP.COM..TIX ONSALE NOW
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+TINO BREAKS in DUB
DALEK
DJ MIGGY
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2/25/6 ..TIX ONSALE @ 12/10 10AM
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3/7/06 ..... TIX ONSALE @ 12/10 10AM
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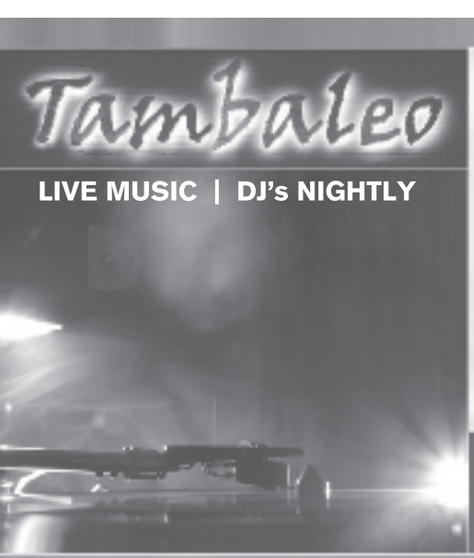
Thursdays, December 8, 8:00 P.M.
One Trick Monkey, Kinetik, Tafreta (Killeen, Tex.), Silenced, Kryanik
Friday, December 9, 8:00 P.M.
Last Call Casualty (Album Release), Schil, Paperwork, The Soldiers, Cynical Vision
Saturday, December 10, 8:00 P.M.
Natchet's Irish Wake/Last Show
Natchet Taylor, Born to Lose, Air Tight Alibi, Captain Ringdown and The Buzzkillers, Skyline (Dallas, Tex.), We Left the Roman Empire in Ruin
Monday, December 12, 7:30 P.M.
The Malcontent Party, The Dog and Pony Show (Hollywood, Calif.), Demonic, The Goodbyes
Thursday, December 15, 8:00 P.M.
Label Me This, Camisade, People Skillz, Killer Lords of Uganda, Happening
Friday, December 16, 8:00 P.M.
Redrum/Music Lab Battle of the Bands Finals
A Pocketful Of Dog, Fly By, Fire, Here's to Rolling, Leaving July, Bad Advice, Still Life, Kitsch
Saturday, December 17, 8:00 P.M.
Grey Haven, Longshade Serenade, Temperation, Smokin' Gun, Exeter
Monday, December 19, 6:30 P.M.
Jeanne the Red, Scary Kids Scaring Kids, June, Just Surrender, The Panic Division, His Side Up
Thursday, December 29, 8:00 P.M.
The War Against Sleep, Vitalis, Carbon Omega
Friday, December 30, 8:00 P.M.
Hatewreck, Course of Ruin, Exit the Sun, Wes Hart, Ohm, King Vulture
Saturday, December 31, 8:00 P.M.
Slider, Snailer, Firekills, Consider the Source, The Artillery
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Thu 15

311 CLUB Murphy, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Gaynelle Neville, the Hummingbirds (1:00)
ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR Stephen Doster (3:30)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH Bob Rose (12:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Flying $ Bunkhouse Band, Scott Wilson
ANTONE'S Jeremy Scott Echols, James Speer, Hallow (9:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE The Hummingbirds
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Poetry Karaoke Open Mic (8:00)
AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Toni Price (8:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Altar Boyz
BATES RECITAL HALL John Longhurst Holiday Organ (8:00)
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Brennen Leigh (8:00)
BEERLAND Infant of Prague, Basin Street, Flametrick Subs (7:00)
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 Tish Hinojosa (8:30)
CAFE CAFFEINE Southpaw Jones
CAFE MUNDI Avenue Elle (5:00)
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Bee vs. Moth
CEDAR STREET Gaila Trickey (6:00), Sauce (9:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Gary Nicholson, Jessi Alexander, Jon Randal
CLUB ONE 15 Rock en Español w/ Haydn Vitera (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Onion Creek Crawdaddies (6:30), Lady Bird Johnson's Birthday w/ Greg Beets & Chepo Pena, Daylight Titans, Hilary York, Fire Marshalls of Bethlehem, Summer Wardrobe, Dumptruck, Texas Sapphires, Rockland Eagles (10:00)
COTTON CLUB Chris Brade
CREAM VINTAGE DJ fStar
DARWIN'S PUB J.T. Coldfire
THE DETOUR Open Mic w/ David John, Big Steve, Easy Dave (8:30)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Bobby Doyle w/ Tammy Sommerville (7:30)
EGO'S Li'l Bit & the Customatics, 2 Hoots & a Holler (8:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Paul White Quintet (9:30)
EMO'S Lorene Drive, Doomriders, Cave In
FADÓ DJ Gerry (10:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Cry Apache, Science, Zom Zoms CD Release (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Molly Venter, Abi Tapia (8:00)
THE FOUNDATION Coy West
FOX & HOUND Danny Britt (6:00)
FRIENDS Randy Pavlock & 24/7 (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)
HANOVER'S Karaoke
HOLE IN THE WALL Alice Spencer & Her Monkey Butlers; Mike Nicolai Andrew Duplantis, & Colin Sweitek, Eve & the Exiles (8:00)
JC'S STEAKHOUSE Adam Donmoyer, Bill Forrest (7:00)
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA PALAPA Larry Lange & the Lonely Knights (8:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Anagen (10:00)
MAMBO KINGS CLUB Recon Thursday w/ Loki, Secret Agent, Durhdy, Jungle Jim, B-1, DJ Mattis
MIDNIGHT RODEO Cory Morrow
MOMOS Stephen Clarke, Rachel Loy, Ryan Desiato, Sun of Sultans
MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson
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 The Bumps (11:00)
PARAMOUNT THEATRE Clifford Antone's Blue XMas w/ Lloyd Maines, Alvin Crow, Lou Ann Barton, Jon Dee Graham, Derek O'Brien, Terri Hendrix, Earl Poole Ball (8:00)
THE PEACOCK DJ Linda (9:00)
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Don Turnley
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Al
RADISSON Kent Mayhew (5:30)
RANDY'S ICE HOUSE Karaoke (8:00)
RED FEZ Strangetribe w/ Jeff Strange, DJ Nu-Mark, DJ Manny
RED'S SCOOT INN The Nortons (8:30)
REDRUM Happening, Killer Crocs Of Uganda, People Skillz, Camisade, Label Me This (8:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Quartet (6:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Karaoke
ROADHOUSE Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)
RUTA MAYA Instruments for Orphans w/ Carolyn Wonderland, Matt Hubbard, Darrin Brown & Speedy Sparks, Wayne Sutton (8:00)
SAENGERHALLE Jason Boland & the Stragglers
SAXON PUB James Hand (6:00), Trish & Darin Murphy Christmas Show, Carolyn Wonderland (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy D
SHOAL CREEK SALOON The Hi-Flyers (8:00)
SKY LOUNGE Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M
SNAKE EYES VINYL Oceanus, Handshake Murders, Widow Song (5:00)
TAMBALEO DJ Starsign, John Angle (10:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Henry Craft
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Tres Lunas (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN RC Banks, I Am, Echo's Orbit Room
THE VELVET SPADE Topaz (10:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE The Walking Contradictions
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH The Hudsons (6:00)
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See **austinchronicle.com** *for complete listings.*



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Blonde or Brunette
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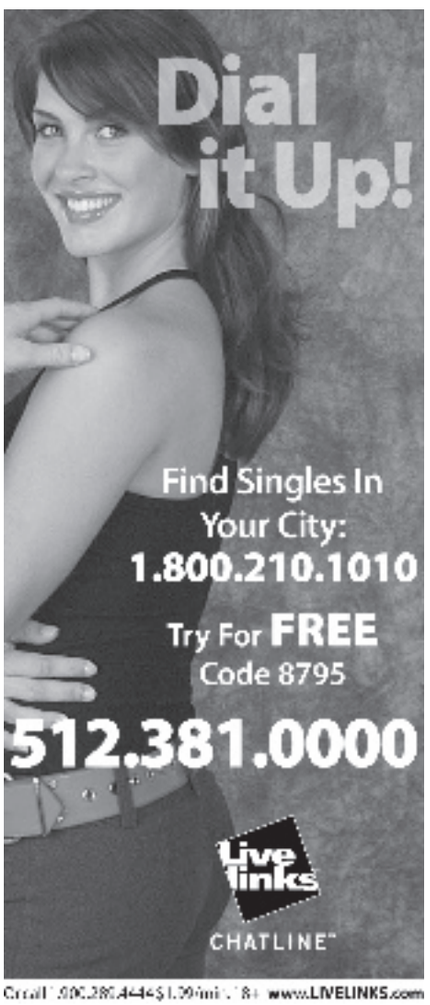
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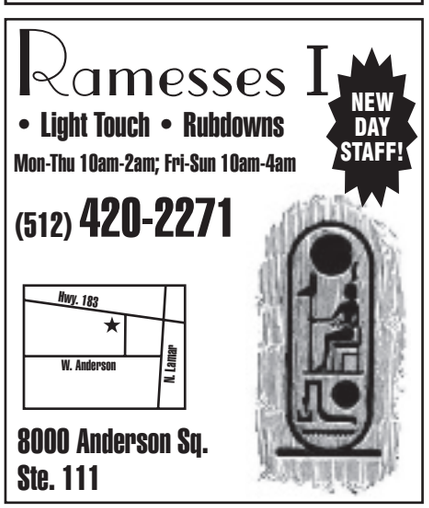




















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COMICS

Too Much Coffee Man

by Shannon Wheeler





Troubletown

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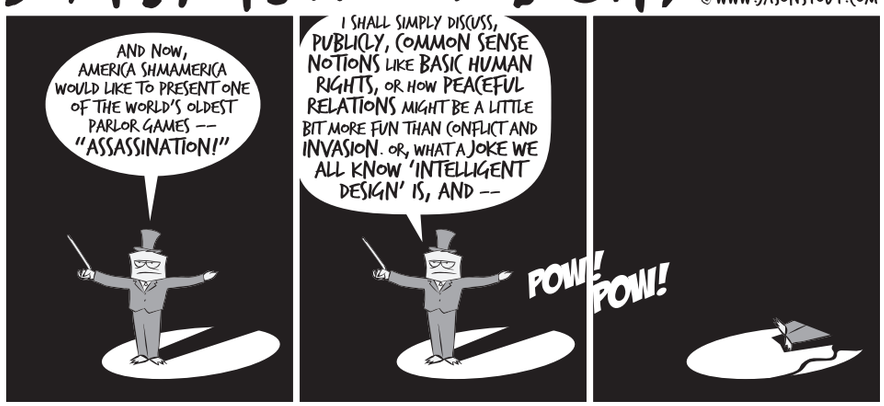


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www.troubletown.com

Bitter Yeti in the City

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WWW.JASONSTOUT.COM



MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS



Under a recently enacted policy, Weavers School in Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, allows pupils to swear at teachers, as long as they don't do so more than five times in a lesson.

Some scientists believe we have a hibernation gene.

In 1995, fewer than 60% of Taiwan's residents had health insurance; by 2001 the number was 97%. Yet this huge expansion in coverage led to little if any increase in overall health care spending beyond normal growth due to rising population and incomes.

According to *San Francisco Gate* columnist Gregory Dicum, one American baby equals 310 Ethiopian kids in terms of lifetime energy use.

The penguin credo is "Never Swim Alone."

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**.

CLASSIFIEDS

454-5767
austinchronicle.com/class

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 Activites
515 Classes/Workshops
520 Discussion Groups
525 Events
530 General
535 Lost & Found
540 Volunteers
545 Legal Notices

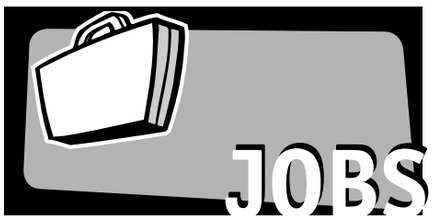
600 MOTOR
610 Cars
615 Trucks
620 SUV's
625 Motorcycles
630 Recreational
635 Parts
640 Repairs

700 MUSIC
710 Equipment for Sale
715 Music Instruction
720 Musicians Available
725 Musicians Wanted
730 Recording Studios
735 Rentals/Services
740 Shameless Promotion

PERSONALS
Lovers Lane
Easy Street
Shot in the Dark
Messages

Please check your ad for accuracy the first time it runs. *The Austin Chronicle* is not responsible for copy errors after the first week of publication. *The Austin Chronicle*'s liability for errors is limited to the cost of the space occupied by the error, with a maximum liability of republication. Corrections must be submitted by Tuesday, 1pm.

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-6pm
Deadlines: Tuesday, 1pm
Phone: 512-454-5767
Email: classifieds@austinchronicle.com



110 ART/DESIGN

ART
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$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

115 BEAUTY SALON/SPA

HAIR STYLISTS Beauty Escape, a 4500 sf salon, upscale hair-nail-tan-massage salon, pre-hire 8 exp hair stylists. Georgetown Downtown. Pd vacation; High comm. For immediate consideration please fax or email resume ASAP to 512-260-2723 or "beaustin@hotmail.com"

HAIRSTYLIST 2 weeks Free Rent! Urban Betty Beautique, located in the upscale 26 Doors Shopping Ctr. Close to UT & Dwtn. Chair rental is $225/wk with 15% commission on retail. PureOlogy, Wella, Loma, & Matrix. Call 371-7663 or email chelle@urbanbetty.com

HAIRSTYLIST Start your dream now in old S. Austin. Hairstylist needed full or part time. Chair Lease. 1704 Evergreen Ave. 576-4683

HAIRSTYLIST- Upscale salon in NW (across from North-cross Mall). Chair lease $100/wk, or comm. 1st week free. Call Lee 791-6186

HAIRSTYLISTS / NAIL TECHS Lease $130/wk. Downtown location. Lots of walk-ins. 320-5907.

INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT Unlimited Income Potential as a Business Builder with Arbonne International. Incredible Swiss Skin Care and Wellness Products. Free Training, NO MEETINGS. Ashley Ammons, 996-9304

MASSAGE THERAPIST Massage Therapist wanted at Anti-Aging & Wellness Center. Call Dr. Hall 407-9595.

MASSAGE THERAPIST Space for shared rent.$237/mo. call 228-8781. Central

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 represenatives as well as all other SalonSpa positions. Only Day Makers need apply. employment@avantsalon.com http://www.avantsalon.com

STYLIST Take 5 is hiring full time stylist for our 2nd location opening in January and our 3rd location opening in March. Take 5 is an Austin original hair salon with Big Screen TV's, x-box and play station. We cater to men but have many women customers. We offer a fun, exciting environment with management potential for stylist. We are looking for stylists who are enthusiastic and responsible. We offer a guaranteed hourly rate plus commissions. No Clientele is needed. All of our stylists are currently making good money. Please call Chrys at 554-3044 or at 506-9055 to schedule an interview.

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

ALL 30 individuals needed in campus area copyshop for various positions including copy clerk, binding, computer help, and cashier. From $7/hr. Call 478-0871

APARTMENT LOCATORS Needed for expanding Downtown groovy office. Real estate license required. Call 472-9100, or fax resume to 472-1723

FREE ADS Got a car you need to sell? Looking for a roommate? Want to unload that old refrigerator? Got a great idea for a band, but missing some musicians? All you need to do is go online to **www.austinchronicle.com/classifieds** and post your ad for FREE. Make it stand out with pictures! Highlight it by making it a featured ad! You can even run it in print! Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately. After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

ASSOCIATES $1000 per day/ptnl. Returning phone calls, no selling, Not MLM, Call Mike 618-355-1761

ASST. MANAGER

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

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Austin, TX 78752

CHILD CARE- INFANT Babysit 6 mo. old close to UT.Tues./Thurs.8-5 Jess 762 1474

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.

COPY OPERATORS High speed copier operators wanted. Must have experience. 3 shifts available. Call 472-5353

DEVELOPER ASP and ASP.NET, SQL, and great skills! 512-257-9348 gohara@retailup.com

DISTRIBUTORSHIP AVAILABLE in the Dynamic, Golf Industry. Well-known national manufacturer of high quality specialty products for the golf, lawn-care and sports turf industries has a distributor territory available in Austin, San Antonio and surrounding areas. The right individual could generate significant income and be self-employed with one of the industry's most respected product lines. Significant marketing support is part of the package. Experience in turf maintenance is beneficial. Please call Don Spier, Precision Laboratories at 847-596-3005 or email dspier@precisionlab.com

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Earn up to $37,000
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FREELANCERS Wanted. The Association of Alternative Newsweeklies is hiring freelance writers for its Web site, aan.org. If interested, please send a cover letter, work experience and writing sample to amyg@aan.org. (AAN CAN)

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HOME BUSINESS PAID IN ADVANCE!! $1000+/WK stuffing envelopes from home. Earn $4./envelope. Guaranteed! 100% legit. www.stuffingformoney.com

HOME CARE Woman Friday (Robinson Caruso) Multi talented person needed Wed.-Sun. 1-6pm. hours may be flexible. Cleaning, errands, cooking, & file papers. Must be honest, hardworking, intelligent, & logical, with good personality. No drugs, alcohol, or family problems. Starting at $11/hr. Must have own auto, be a U.S. citizen. Call 480-9788 after 1pm. leave message & phone # clearly. Calls returned within 12 hrs. Women encourgaed to apply.

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

MYSTERY SHOPPERS Earn up to $150/per day. Get PAID to SHOP. PT/FT. CALL NOW! 888-720-1127 (AAN CAN)

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NANNY for 15-month old. M-F PM, 15-20 hrs/wk. Req: Exper w/1-2 year olds, car. 632-8073.

PART TIME

Extend-A-Care for Kids

People shouldn't be paid to have so much fun, but you could!

Apply today to be a role model working with elementary age children in the afternoons. Starting pay $8.75-$9.35/hr. EOE. Sites at 61 elementary schools. Apply at Extend-A-Care for Kids, 55 North IH 35, www.eackids.org, or call 472-9929 x408.

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

SITTER livein sitter,over 18,$945 per month plus car,and educational assitance,nonsmoker,full/part-time 214 432 6151

TOW TRUCK DRIVERS needed, must have experience and good driving record. Call robert, 452-9843.

VET. TECHNICIAN Vet. Tech. needed, full time, exp. in emergency/critical care dept. for south Austin Specialty Hospital. Highly skilled and motivated ind. Salary based on exp. Benefits incl. Fax-892-7811

EMPLOYMENT Tired of the daily grind? The rat race? Working for the man? Well, we can't help you with that ... but we can help you find a job where they have casual Fridays. *Austin Chronicle* Employment section. It's a start.

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.

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EEO

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ALL

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ALL

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10-11am, 2-5pm.

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ALL

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Just In Time For The Holidays We Are Now Hiring Front Counter Help & Delivery Drivers!

Starting at $7/hour

AM/PM, PT/FT Shifts Available!!!

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We Offer A Cornucopia Of Opportunities With Advancement Into Training, Mgmt & even Corporate Positions!

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FOR SALE Your boyfriends huge neon "Miller Genuine Draft" sign not complimenting your new Pottery Barn spring floral sleeper sofa? Sell it with *The Austin Chronicle*'s For Sale section. Call 512-454-5765. Call it. Today!

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ALL

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ALL

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Pluckers is hiring Servers, Cashiers, Bartenders, Cooks & Delivery Drivers

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2222 Rio Grande or 9070 Research Blvd Apply in person

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BANQUET MANAGER Prestigious downtown private club seeks experienced banquet manager. FT with benefits. Apply in person only, 2-4pm, M-F, at the Austin Club, 110 E. 9th St.

BAR Looking for Bartenders & Bar Manager with experience and emphasis on P.R. booking & promotions.

Call Chad at 391-0397

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 stongly encouraged to apply. Call 218-0813.

Apply in person. TABC

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Graham Central Station

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Please apply in person.

1719 Grand Avenue Parkway

Call 252-0664

Also, taking applications for all other positions.

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576-7223

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IRS IS HIRING FULL & PART TIME TEMPORARY CLERKS

IRS has made it easier to apply for jobs. No more standing in long lines.

REGISTER & APPLY ONLINE NOW! https://careerconnector.jobs.irs.gov

APPLICANTS MUST ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS TO THE ONLINE ASSESSMENT IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED.

ALL APPLICANTS:

- Must be a U.S. Citizen
- Must have at least one year of full time clerical experience
- ***OR*** 60 completed semester hours
- ***OR*** a combination of experience and education

***Weekend Shifts**

***Part-time Day & Night Shifts**

***Paid Training**

***Free Parking**

***GS-4 starting pay $11.81 per hour**

Need more help with the IRS application process?
Contact the Austin Recruitment Office at Austin.Recruitment@irs.gov or call 512-477-5627.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE VIA EMAIL

Quality of Life. Time for us. Time for you. It's an enlightened approach to work and life. **Stability.** We're not an "up and coming" employer. We're a proven commodity. **Career Progression.** We provide outstanding training and advancement opportunities. **Location.** The options are as wide as the U.S. **Benefits.** They're simply outstanding. It all adds up.

IRS

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

www.irs.gov

The IRS is an equal employment opportunity employer

RESEARCH STUDIES



Men and Women with High Blood Pressure

A clinical research trial is being conducted to study the blood pressure lowering effect of an investigational medication.

To Qualify You Must Be:
- 18 years or older
- Willing to make up to 11 visits over 14 weeks

Qualified Participants May Receive:
- Study-related investigational medication or placebo
- Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- Compensation for time and travel

Contact us for more information ...

Phone: (512) 732-2444
FAX: (512) 732-2446
studies@metaclin.com

WWW.METACLIN.COM

METACLIN



Do you have Asthma And Seasonal Allergies?

A research trial is being conducted to study the effectiveness of the investigational use of an FDA approved asthma and allergy medications.

To Qualify You Must Be:
- Currently have symptoms of both asthma AND seasonal allergies
- 15 years or older
- Willing to participate for up to six weeks

Qualified Participants May Receive:
- Study-related investigational medication or placebo
- Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- Compensation of up to $400.00 for time and travel

Contact us for more information ...

Phone: (512) 732-2444
FAX: (512) 732-2446
studies@metaclin.com

WWW.METACLIN.COM

METACLIN

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

BENCHMARK RESEARCH
www.benchmarkresearch.net

Herpes Prevention Study Female Volunteers Needed

Benchmark Research needs women who are 18 to 30 years of age and in general good health to participate in a clinical research study to evaluate an investigational vaccine for genital herpes.



In order to be eligible to participate in this study, participants must not have previously been diagnosed with either oral or genital herpes.

Compensation up to $450 will be available to eligible participants for their time and travel. Participation in a research study is always at no cost to the participant.

CALL
1-800-369-2875
FOR MORE INFORMATION

BENCHMARK RESEARCH
www.benchmarkresearch.net

Does Overactive Bladder Keep you on the Go, Go, Go?

Millions of women suffer from overactive bladder (OAB). It's common for women who have OAB to make many trips to the bathroom due to the frequent urge to urinate. OAB can be very disruptive to your lifestyle, and can cause some personal embarrassment.



If you are a female, age 18 or older, and typically urinate 8 or more times a day, you may qualify to participate in a research study of an investigational medication for OAB. In order to participate you must have a minimum of 3 month's history of overactive bladder.

Qualified participants in this study will receive a study–related physical examination and medication.

Compensation up to $250 will be available to qualified participants for their time.

For more information
Please call Benchmark Research

1-800-369-2875

BENCHMARK RESEARCH

www.benchmarkresearch.net

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 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



ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM GENERAL ANXIETY DISORDER?

Millions suffer with General Anxiety Disorder (GAD) - constant worry for no reason, often with no apparent cause. This constant anxiety can interfere with daily life and is hard to control. If you are 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:

- Study medication and medical evaluations 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

CCR COMMUNITY CLINICAL RESEARCH

www.communityclinical.com

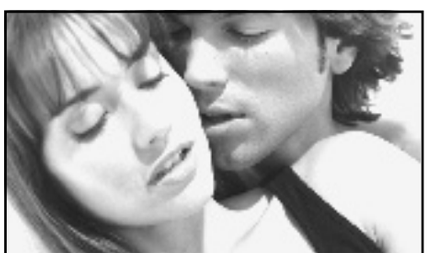
CONTINUED

135 HOSPITALITY

WAIT PERSON Dirty Martin's Hamburgers FULL or PT, Exp. required, Current TABC certificate needed & Exc. references. Apply 3-5 M-F, 2808 Guadalupe

145 OFFICE/CLERICAL

OFFICE PERSON needed. Be computer literate. $8.50/hr, 20-40 hours/week, flex. Call 444-2100.



A University of Texas at Austin research group is conducting a study on female sexual dysfunction. If you are currently experiencing sexual difficulties, including difficulties with low sexual desire and/or low sexual arousal (mental sexual arousal or physical sexual arousal), please call for more information

(512)232-4805

All calls will remain strictly confidential.
Compensation is provided!

150 NON-PROFIT

ACTIVISM • 512-326-5655

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Grassroots Citizens' campaign now hiring dedicated people to make the difference.

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M-F 2:30-10:30pm
College/Exp. Pref'd.
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155 PROFESSIONAL

CASE MANAGER "WIA YOUTH CASE MANAGER" - Outreach through high schools to enroll youth age 14-21 for WIA services. Provide case management, teach job readiness and provide follow- up services. Performs other duties as assigned. A BA or BS and 2 years exp. in Case managment/ work with at - risk youth required. Experience with WIA programs and TWIST preferred. Work Source Funded Program. Equal Opportunity Employer / Program - Auxiliary Aids and Services are available upon request to Individuals with Disabilities. $12.50-14.00/ hr, 40 hrs, benefits. Work-Source Funded Program. Equal Opportunity Employer / Program - Auxiliary Aids and Services Are Available Upon Request to Individuals with Disabilities. Send resume with cover letter to 512-637-7432 or mail to Goodwill Industires 1015 Norwood Park Blvd. Austin,TX 78753 Attn. Laura Griebel Application and job description avaiable on web site - www.austingoodwill.org / EEOE

CLERKS

IRS IS HIRING
OVER 200 FULL & PART TIME TEMPORARY CLERKS

IRS has made it easier to apply for jobs.
No more standing in long lines.
REGISTER & APPLY ONLINE NOW!
https://careerconnector.jobs.irs.gov

Applicants must answer all questions to the online assessment in order to be considered.

ALL APPLICANTS:
- Must be a U.S. Citizen
- Must have at least 1 year of full time clerical experience

OR

- 60 completed semester hours

OR

- A combination of education and experience

*** Weekend Shifts**
*** Part-time Day & Night Shifts**
*** Paid Training**
*** Free Parking**
*** GS-4 starting pay $11.81 per hour**

Need more help with the IRS application process? Contact the Austin Recruitment Office at Austin.Recruitment@irs.gov or call 512-477-5627.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE VIA EMAIL

The IRS is an equal employment opportunity employer

INTERFACE DEVELOPER Develop programs and implement interfaces to assist clients in the mortgage and lending industries with automated loan processing. Send resume to ARC Systems, Attn: Alexis Jones, 2600 Via Fortuna, Suite 500, Austin, TX 78746

MENTOR DIRECTOR "Mentor Program Specialist" Goodwill Industries of Central Texas in looking for the best You will be coordinating the mentor Program for youth participants. Work with volunteer coordinator and area businesses to secure mentoring relationships focused on career development and job retention for at -risk youth. A BS or BA and 1 year experience work with at -risk youth required. Experience with WIA programs and TWIST preferred. $12.50-14.00/hr, 40 hrs, benefits. WorkSource Funded Program. Equal Opportunity Employer/ P

160 RESEARCH STUDY

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
BENCHMARK RESEARCH

BLOOD PRESSURE
MEN AND WOMEN WITH HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE
A clinical research trial is being conducted to study the blood pressure lowering effect of an investigational medication.
To Qualify You Must Be:
- 18 years or older
- Willing to make up to 11 visits over 14 weeks

Qualified Participants May Receive:
- Study-related investigational medication or placebo
- Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- Compensation for time and travel

For information call or visit our website
MetaClin Research
http://www.metaclin.com
studies@metaclin.com
(512) 732-2444
METACLIN

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

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
BENCHMARK RESEARCH

OVERACTIVE BLADDER
DOES OVERACTIVE BLADDER KEEP YOU ON THE GO, GO, GO?
Millions of women suffer from overactive bladder (OAB). It's common for women who have OAB to make many trips to the bathroom due to the frequent urge to urinate.
OAB can be very disruptive to your lifestyle, and can cause some personal embarrassment. If you are a female, age 18 or older, and typically urinate 8 or more times a day, you may qualify to participate in a research study of an investigational medication for OAB. In order to participate you must have a minimum of 3 month's history of overactive bladder.
Qualified participants in this study will receive a study-related physical examination and medication. Compensation up to $250 will be available to qualified participants for their time.
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL
1-800-369-2875
http://www.benchmarkresearch.net
BENCHMARK RESEARCH

HERPES VACCINE
HERPES PREVENTION STUDY, FEMALE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Benchmark Research needs women who are 18 to 30 years of age and in general good health to participate in a clinical research study to evaluate an investigational vaccine for genital herpes. In order to be eligible to participate in this study, participants must not have previously been diagnosed with either oral or genital herpes. Compensation up to $450 will be available to eligible participants for their time and travel. Participation in a research study is always at no cost to the participant.
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL
1-800-369-2875
http://www.benchmarkresearch.net
BENCHMARK RESEARCH

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

Are you worth
ONLY
min. wage or a little more?
IF NOT
call 203-0835
Need to fill 10 opening entry level positions
NO EXP. NEC. • $2250/mo. min. • If qualified

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

ASTHMA/ALLERGIES

DO YOU HAVE ASTHMA AND SEASONAL ALLERGIES?

A research trial is being conducted to study the effectiveness of the investigational use of FDA approved asthma and allergy medications.

To Qualify You Must:

• Currently have symptoms of both asthma AND seasonal allergies

• Be 15 years or older

• Willing to participate for up to six weeks

Qualified Participants May Receive:

• Study-related investigational medication or placebo

• Study-related laboratory and physical examinations

• Compensation of up to $400 for time and travel

Contact us for more info

MetaClin Research

http://www.metaclin.com

studies@metaclin.com

(512) 732-2444

FAX (512) 732-2446

METACLIN

WOMEN'S HEALTH

Researchers at the University of Texas are conducting a study on exercise and sexual function in married, pre-menopausal women over the age of 25. If you exercise on a regular basis, or if you do NOT exercise on a regular basis, you may qualify to participate. Please call 232-4805 for more information and ask about the exercise study. All calls are confidential. www.mestonlab.com

SEXUAL DYSFUNCTION

A University of Texas research group is conducting a study on FEMALE SEXUAL DYSFUNCTION. If you are currently experiencing sexual difficulties, including difficulties with low sexual desire and/or low sexual arousal (mental sexual arousal or physical sexual arousal.) Compensation is provided. For more information

please call:

(512)232-4805

All calls will remain strictly confidential.

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

BENCHMARK RESEARCH

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

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

ENTRY-LEVEL MNGMNT

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 If you're upbeat, focused & well organized, come join our team! No experience necessary, no layoffs, company training provided. Local well-established company now expanding in N. Austin area. $2,250 guaranteed monthly. Call now! 512-203-0835. Mon-Fri, 3PM - 11PM & Sat, 8:30AM - 6PM

RETAIL CASHIER/STOCKER Central. Experience req. Apply in person at Nau's Drug. 1115 West Lynn. call Laura 476-1221

SALES A FAST TRACK TO A SALES CAREER. Travel the USA as you develop skills in Outside Sales. Paid training, transportation, lodging furnished. Call Success Express Sales, Inc today. 1-877-646-5050. (AAN CAN)

SALES Learn from the best. CEO income. 100% support. No commute. 800-615-7854 milliondollarminds.net

SALES REPRESENTATIVE Whlsl. Floral Sales Rep needed. For info call 928-0033. Experienced only need apply.

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

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.**

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

TEACHERS

WORK WITH THE BEST RECEIVE PAID BENEFITS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Austin's leading Comprehensive Child Development/Early Education Program is accepting applications for the following positions:

• 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

TEACHER Want to become a teacher? Teach math,science, Bilingual & Specialeducation in Austin. Go to texasteachingfellows.org to apply.

TEACHERS EUROPE OR ASIA? YOU DECIDE! International TEFL Diploma cert. course for teaching English abroad. 4-wk training program in Czech Republic or China with FULL JOB PLACEMENT! www.boland-china.com or www.boland-czech.com or call us at 859-648-0047 (AAN CAN)

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 or call 416.544.9642

180 TECHNICAL

FLOORING MECHANICS

Commercial carpet store needs experienced floor mechanics for Baton Rouge, New Orleans and surrounding areas. Vinyl, VCT, ceramic, wood and carpet. Hourly or subcontract work avail. Potential signing bonus. 225-275-3933.

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

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/netselectjobs

pin # 521032651

FAX RESUME & COVER LETTER TO 512.989.8993

APPLY IN PERSON AT MANPOWER. located on the NE corner of I35 and Parmer Ln.@ TechRidge Center behind Chili's

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MANPOWER

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

Or fax to: 512-334-7697

For additional information and to see all available positions go to: www.multimediagames.com

Equal Opportunity Employer

RESEARCH *The Austin Chronicle*'s Research Studies Page. Better than a loan shark named Vinny.

WIA YOUTH CASE MANAGER

Outreach through high schools to enroll youth age 14-21 for WIA services. Provide case management, teach job readiness and provide follow-up services. Performs other duties as assigned. A BA or BS and 2 years exp. in Case management/work with at-risk youth required. Experience with WIA programs and TWIST preferred. Work Source Funded Program. Equal Opporunity Employer / Program - Auxiliary Aids and Services Are Available Upon Request to Individuals with Disabilities. $12.50-$24.00, 40 hrs., benefits. Send resume with cover letter to 512-637-7432 or mail to Goodwill Industries 1015 Norwood Park Blvd. Austin, TX 78753 Attn. Laura Griebel

Application and job description available on Web site www.austingoodwill.org

Mentor Program Specialist

Goodwill Industries of Central Texas is looking for the best - You will be coordinating the mentor Program for youth participants. Work with volunteer coordinator and area businesses to secure mentoring relationships focused on career development and job retention for at-risk youth. A BS or BA and 1 year experience work with at-risk youth required. Experience with WIA programs and TWIST preferred. $12.50-$14.00/hr, 40 hrs, benefits. WorkSource Funded Program. Equal Opportunity Employer / Program - Auxilary Aids and Services Are Available Upon Request to Individuals with Disabilities. Fax resume with cover letter to 512-637-7432 or mail to Goodwill Industries 1015 Norwood Park Blvd. Austin, TX 78753 Attn. Laura Griebel

Application and job description available on Web site www.austingoodwill.org

Rake In The Cash At Jason's Deli Just In Time For The Holidays

Jason's deli

We Are Now Hiring Front Counter Help & Delivery Drivers! Starting at $7/hour AM/PM, PT/FT Shifts Available!!!

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

We Offer A Cornucopia Of Opportunities With Advancement Into Training, Mgmt & even Corporate Positions! Makes A Great Second Job!!! Delivery Drivers Must Be 18yrs Or Older, Have a Valid D.L., Proof Of Insurance, Good Driving Record and Have A Reliable Vehicle.

Tell A Friend & Apply In Person At : 3300 Bee Caves Rd. or call 512-328-0200

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 postitions:

- **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

Company-Paid CDL Training

WWW.OTRDRIVERS.COM



$1,000 Student Sign-On Bonus

No Experience Needed

Earn up to $37,000/1st yr

P.A.M. TRANSPORT

Driver Training Hotline

1-877-825-8645

Apply Online at: www.otrdrivers.com

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****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 at

www.us.manpower.com/netselectjobs

pin # 521032651

FAX RESUME & COVER LETTER TO

989.8993

APPLY IN PERSON AT MANPOWER

located on the NE corner of I35 and Parmer Ln.@ TechRidge Center behind Chili's

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MANPOWER

HOUSING

215 APT/CONDO TOWNHOME

78701 http://austincool.com 693-7231 Dwntn Loft experts, all options, best deals, Cool!

78704 http://austincool.com 693-7231 $800 Huge SoCo unique prop. all bills paid!

78704 http://austincool.com 693-7231 $695 travis heights, gas cooking, charming find.

78704 http://austincool.com 2 bdrm stone floors, granite, walk dwtn, $795, 693-7231,

78704 http://austincool.com 693-7231 $675, walk dwtn, creekside, balcony, most bills.

78704 http://austincool.com 693-7231 Zilker studio, small prop. priv. balcony $475,

CENTRAL http://austincool.com Greenbelt trail at doorstep W/D in unit $560 693-7231

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 FashionAire Apartments @ 1405 W. North Loop 1/1's starting at $525, & 2-1's at $650. Apartment homes beautifully situated around courtyard w/sparkling pool. Approx. 700 SF. 452-2245 for appt. (Beck & Co. R.E.S., Inc.)

CENTRAL #1 Greenbelt trail access. W/D in unit. Walk to shops/restaurants! Large balcony, $560 (+$200 off!) 693-7231 http://Austincool.com

CENTRAL

Austin Apartment Store

SEXY DOWNTOWN LOFTS in the heart of the warehouse district, hardwoods/stained concrete floors, 16ft ceilings, great views.

See narrated video tour and pictures/floorplans for this property @ http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com or call 828-4470 for current availability.

CENTRAL Holiday Special! $200 off 1st month! 1 block to UT! All Bills Paid! Cute 1-1, large windows, covered parking, all appliances, CA/CH, pool, no indoor smoking or pets. $595 1800 Lavaca (Greenwood Towers). Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollotex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Holiday Special - $200 off 1st month! Pre-lease for Spring - Walk to UT! Cute 1-1, large windows, covered parking, all appliances, CA/CH, pool, no indoor smoking or pets. $595 All Bills Paid! 1800 Lavaca. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollotex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Shoal Creek area, on Capitol Metro bus, 1bd $625, 2bd $725. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

CENTRAL Los Colinas Mopac & 2222 Huge 2-2.5 Townhome 1200 Sq ft. Big open patio. Carport. Wet bar. Secluded community. Ready NOW Call Alan Marcus Realtor 923-5620

CENTRAL HydePark bungalow$650 incl.cable internet,laundry 663-4305

CENTRAL Travis Heights 1/1, $99 move-in, free cable call 413-7983

CENTRAL http://austincool.com Zilker 2Bed, wooded view, W/D con. $745, 693-7231

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CENTRAL Downtown Living. 1/1 700sft. $1075 atxrelo.com 444-0505

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Stained concrete floors, amazing ammenities. 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.

CENTRAL Hyde Park - Small 1 BR w/ 2 patios, vaulted ceilings, stained concrete floors. 4205 Speedway. Paid Water. CACH. 450 sf. $575. 451-0414.

CENTRAL Overlook Condo - Spacious 1/1 custom fireplace W/D Reserved parking pool , hot tub , Avail 1/1 $695 call John at PMT Broker 476-2673

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 No Deposit/App. Creative floorplan featuring dry bar, private deck, W/D. Hidden and quiet! 1 BR from $490, 2BR $700. APP 474-4900. http://www.bestaustinproperties.com

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- We can email pictures & floor plans to the hottest specials in town.

Give us a call at 828-4470.

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$99 TOTAL MOVE-IN VINTAGE TRAVIS HEIGHTS

Creekside Flats in wooded setting.
1BDRM FLAT... $550
2BDRM/2BA...$799!
Huge private decks!
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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 Zilker Park 1BDRM, huge deck... $659! 2BDRM FLAT... $739! Large pets welcome. Team Leasing, 416-8333.

CENTRAL East 6th! New affordable! 1/1 $440, 2br $500, 3br $563. Call today! Apartment Specialists, 512-241-1111, 800-791-0019, lease@aptsaus.com, agent.

CENTRAL Quaint, wooded setting. Giant, private deck hidden by trees. Garden tubs, cathedral ceilings. Studios $405, 1/1 $465, 2/2 $625. APP 474-4900. http://www.bestaustinproperties.com

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

$200 OFF FIRST MONTH!

Preleasing 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)
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WAUGH PROP, INC
(512) 451-0988

CENTRAL Desperate Hyde Park/Campus owners seek tenants. From $450. LSL 326-5757.

CENTRAL

WALK TO SOCO

Restaurants, Shopping District & Town Lake!
Two Units, Rarely Available!
2BD FLAT... $775
3/2... $945
Most Bills Paid!
1 Month Free for Immediate Occupancy!
TEAM LEASING
(512) 416-8333

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 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 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

78704

•Treasure. Small Apt. community with views of dwtn. Starting @ $450, 2 weeks FREE! Woohoo!

•Townhomes w/ backyards, secluded Apts. dogs ok, $700!

•Hip neighborhood, mins. from dwtn. small pool, long term residents, starting @ $475!

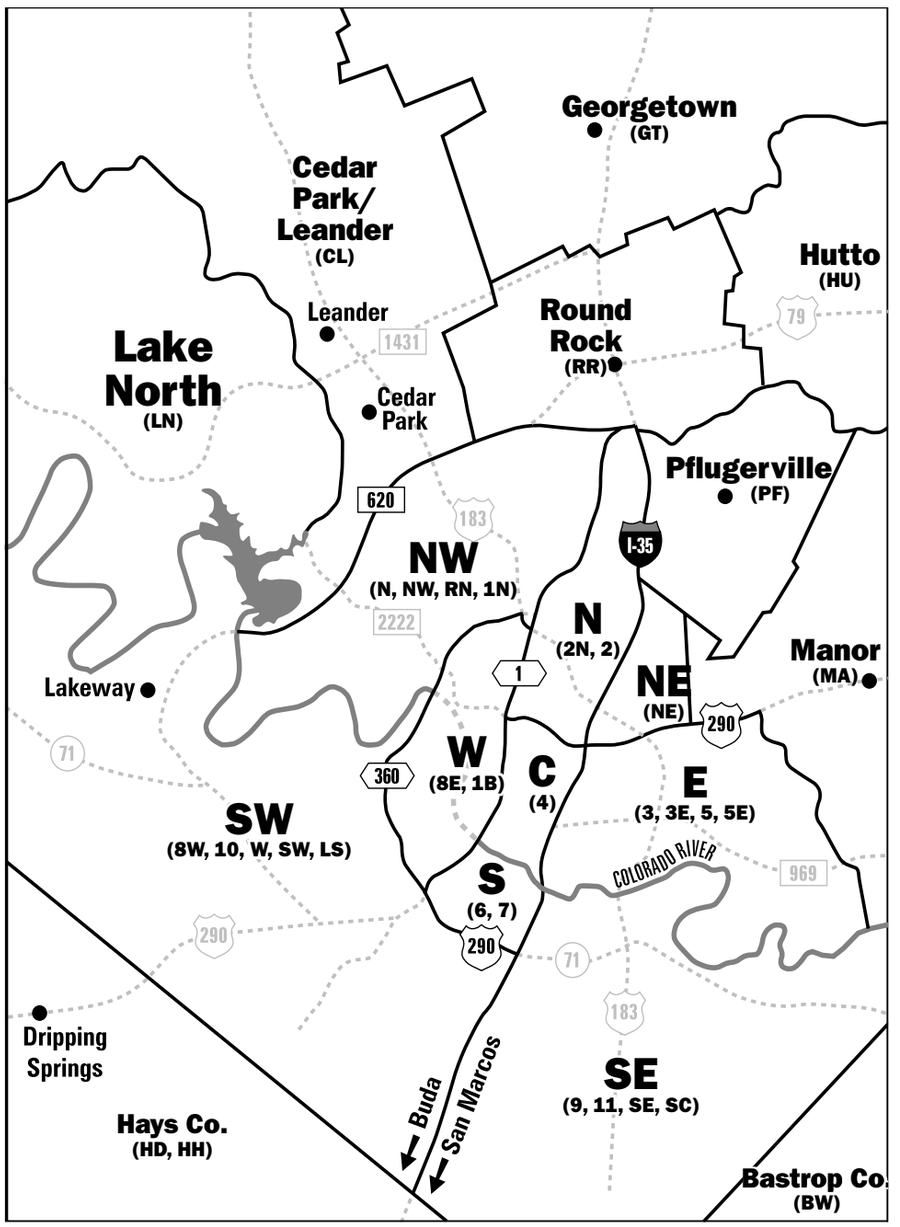
•Cool little Apt. bldg. close to dwtn/bus stops/neighborhood bar, long term residents. Starting @ $469!

Broker, *Call 512-293-0297* ronjontheapartmentmon@hotmail.com

CENTRAL Wedgewood Condo 2802 Nueces great 2-1 with pool and parking available NOW $850 cal PMT 476-2673

CENTRAL http://Austincool.com Barton Hills studio, small prop. $510 693-7231, broker

CENTRAL Hyde Park - Small 1 BR w/ patios, vaulted ceilings. 4205 Speedway. Paid Water. CACH. 450 sf. $575. 451-0414.



CENTRAL

$200 OFF FIRST MONTH!

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
(512) 451-0988

CENTRAL http://austincool.com 693-7231, $750, cool west dwntn loft, unique floorplan.

CENTRAL On 6th street, FREE gas/cable, wood floors, pets ok, 1bd $575. Chris 236-1116, avignonrealty.com.

CENTRAL ENFIELD - TARRYTOWN. Huge 2/2, 1,300 sqft. $925. LSL 326-5757.

CENTRAL Best Deal, Eff $479, 1bd $569, 2bd $719, water/gas paid. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

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 FREE CABLE 1/1 $525 2/2 $700 atxrelo.com 444-0505

CENTRAL Completely remodeled apartment with tile upgrades. Modern appliances & free cable. South Central neighborhood. 1BDRM... $495, 2BDRM... $605. Lowest price in years! Team Leasing (512) 416-8333.

CENTRAL Barton Skyway 78704. Huge T/H with w/d $725. atxrelo.com 444-0505

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.

CENTRAL Cornerstone Place Condo 24 & Rio Grande. Super 1/1 Washer /Dryer Covered Parking Avail Now call PMT 476-2673.

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com Downtown studio 693-7231 $910, walk Whole Foods

CENTRAL Whitis Place 3-2 condo next to campus coved parking walk to everything Washer/dryer available now $895. Call PMT 476-2673

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com Walk dwntn, pool view, most bills paid, $655, 693-7231,

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.

CENTRAL

LOFTS & TOWNHOMES
1/1 Zilker Loft $605.
S. Congress Loft $565.
2/1.5 Travis Heights Townhome $750
2/1.5 South Central Townhomes $699.
W/D connections

LSL, 326-5757.

Lone Star Leasing

CENTRAL

$99 TOTAL MOVE-IN VINTAGE TRAVIS HEIGHTS

Creekside Flats in wooded setting.
1BDRM FLAT... $600
2BDRM/2BA...$825!
Huge private decks!
TEAM LEASING
(512) 416-8333

CENTRAL Split level 1-1 by Zilker, S. Lamar. Small community. Tranquil tropical courtyard. Huge private patios, built in bookselves. $530. Mandy, agent 468-7891, austinapartmentsguide.com.

CENTRAL Studio Flat 78704, washer/dryer included, private deck... $450! Call Team Leasing 416-8333

CENTRAL,hdwd floors, 2 in. blinds, dshwsh, w/d conn.Kara Kay Skaggs KW 470-8855

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

WALK TO SOCO

Restaurants, Shopping District & Town Lake! Two Units, Rarely Available!

2/2... $825

3/2... $945

Most Bills Paid! 1 Month Free for Immediate Occupancy!

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(512) 416-8333

CENTRAL $99 Total Move-in! 78704 neighborhood and creekside! Huge 1BDRM... $599, 2BDRM/2BA... $825. Call Team Leasing 416-8333.

CENTRAL http://austincool.com Huge SW 2 brm condo with W/D $698, 693-7231

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 http://Austincool.com 3.5 acre estate setting, 100 yr oaks, 693-7231 $575

CENTRAL #1 Zilker STUDIO, courtyard. Walk to Springs/ trail. Cable paid! $525! 693-7231 http://Austincool.com

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CENTRAL

HUGE DECKS!
DOWNTOWN VIEWS!
Lots of Trees!
Garden Tub!
Great Prices Too!

From $435
2/1 $650.
LSL 326-5757.

LoneStar Leasing

CENTRAL Central - Quiet complex in old Austin residential neighborhood. 650 sf 1/1. Paid Water. On-site Pool & Laundry. $625. 451-0414.

CENTRAL Park-Like Setting. 1/1 for $585, 2/2 for $980 atxrelo.com 444-0505

CENTRAL Georgian Condo 22nd & Pearl Great 2/1.5 Two parking W/D Avail Now till Jul 31 @ $795 Call PMT 476-2673

CENTRAL eff. condo block from south congress $650

CALL Sweet Rachel 653.1523 Rachel_Carter@texasapt.com

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CENTRAL AWESOME LOCATION ON BARTON CREEK! King size bedroom and endless walk-in closets. 1/1 from $560, 2/2 $865 W/D INCL! APP 474-4900. http://www.bestaustinproperties.com

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GATED COMMUNITY
5 Mins to Dwntn
Cable Paid
Ceramic Tile
1-1 $495; 2/2 $595
3/2 $695. LSL 326-5757

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CENTRAL http://Austincool.com Newly remodeled TH, wood floors, $750 693-7231

CENTRAL Hyde Park Village Bargain! 2/1 & 2/2 's from $700. Pool & covered parking, 451-2343

CENTRAL http://Austincool.com Townlake large bdrm Dwntn access, $445 693-7231

CENTRAL http://Austincool.com Huge SW condo, W/D creek view 693-7231 $698

CENTRAL Washer & Dryer Included. Eff, 1/1's, 2/2's from $427. atxrelo.com 444-0505

CENTRAL #1 Downtown elegance. City views, hardwoods, rooftop deck, W/D. Lofted ceilings. 693-7231 http://Austincool.com

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HYDE PARK
Lowered Prices

Studio $450
Lg 1/1 $550
2/1 $799
LSL 326-5757.

LoneStar Leasing

CENTRAL Holiday Special! $200 off 1st month! 1 block to Engineering! Spacious efficiency, CA/CH, reserved parking, outside storage, laundry on-site, very quiet neighbors! Cats welcome - NO dogs! No indoor smoking. Gas, water, garbage paid! $550. 502 Elmwood. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollotex@yahoo.com

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CENTRAL Holiday Special - $200 off 1st month! Very close to Engineering & Law School. Spacious efficiency, CA/CH, reserved parking, outside storage, laundry on-site, very quiet neighbors! Cats welcome - NO dogs! No indoor smoking. 502 Elmwood. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollotex@yahoo.com

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CENTRAL 360 VIEWS! hardwoods, yards, granite countertops. $811+ Call today! Apartment Specialists, 512-241-1111, 800-791-0019, lease@aptsaus.com, agent.

CENTRAL http://AustinCool.com Large decks overlooking greenbelt $544 693-7231

CENTRAL Lg 1/1 $565 on UT shuttle near Hyde Park Mike 512.769.6413 miked@atxrelo

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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

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EAST NEW COMPLEX! 2/2 875sqft $619 3/2 1089sqft $719. LOW MOVE IN!

Call John 659-5339

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NORTH 0 DEP, $300 off. W/D incl. 1-1 from $499, 2BR from $699. LESA 567-4276. www.gimmeshelterlocators.com

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NORTH I'll pay you $400 to take my lease! Have to move, rather give you the money! Nice apt in Balcones w/fireplace. Email lease@tungstencoil.com or 512-757-1142 for details. Serious only!

NORTH 1/1 550sqft $470 Near IH-35. 24hr LNL gets ´ mo. Free on a 12mo. lease john@atxrelo.com 659-5339

RonJon the Apt Mon

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Keeping Austin weirder one day at a time



- Eff - $415 free cable, bus line
- 1br - $445 free cable, bus line
- 2br - $535 free cable, bus line
- 2br thome - $595 free cable, bus line
- 3br - $460 1st month's rent Lofts - 1br: $515
- 2br: $650 with small back yard & w/d conn.

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North West	1Bd $519 plus 1 mo. free, 2Bd $672, pool, w/d con
North	Near Dell, gas paid, w/d con, 1Bd $471, 2Bd $564
Central	1Bd $550, 2Bd $650, wood floors ($25 extra),
South	Water, Gas, & Cable Paid! Eff $480, 1Bd $504, 2Bd $645
South West	1Bd $495, 2Bd $640, 3Bd $959, pool, Mopac Access

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78704 lofts/ townhomes. $565+

Townlake Living Hike & Bike $565

Travis Heights $99 TMI Wooded Retreat 1 br $500, 2br $680, 3br $1200

360 Views! Hardwoods, yards, big dogs, any breed! Pitts & Rotts OK

5th Street/Whole Foods! Industrial lofts $900 Garage

Canoes, Ducks, Views Faux granite countertps. eff, 1s, 2, 3s $579+

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78704 - 2 bdrm Townhome $895. 1 + Study $710.

GREENBELT ACCESS - w/d incl. 1/1 $585, 2/2 $890.

SOUTH CONGRESS - Loft $540, 1/1 $475, 2/1.5 condo with free cable $875. All have w/d incl.



Enfield - Excellent location. Small property. 2/1 $899. Water free!

Gated Community next to TOWN LAKE Huge floor plan. Cable paid. 1/1 $475, 2/2 $565.

Vintage TRAVIS HEIGHTS Neighborhood. Cable paid. 1/1 $450, 2 bdrm. townhome $750.

LONESTAR LEASING
326-5757

PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK!

CENTRAL

- **Big and cheap apartment, with free cable! Efficiency $415, 1 bedroom $475, 2 bedroom $515.**
- **Close to Central Market, small community with gas cooking. 1 bedroom $529, 2 BDRM $699**
- **78704 District, Studio $490, 2 bedroom $700, W/D in all units!**
- **Heavily wooded hilltop 1 bedroom, huge 16 ft. private porch, oversized garden tub, $485, utilities paid!**
- **Walk to SoCo restaurant, shopping district, and Town Lake. Studio flat $495, 2 bedroom $825.**
- **4th and Colorado, warehouse district flat, $910**

SOUTH CENTRAL

- **Warehouse-style apartments, concrete floor, 1 bedroom $539, 2 bedroom $649, 4 bedroom $1099. Artist and musician friendly.**
- **Zilker Park on Hike & Bike Trail. Studio $475, 1 bedroom, $659. 2 bedroom, $740 (large deck). 50ft. from entrance to trail.**
- **On Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail, 1 bedroom $495, 2 bedroom $595. Ceramic tile and free cable!**
- **Studio flat, Barton Springs/Lamar area, rare find ... $410!**
- **Historic Travis Heights, 1 bedroom $599, 2 bedroom $825, $99 Total Move In.**

TEAM LEASING CALL FOR SHOW! **416-8333**

CONTINUED

215 APT/CONDO TOWNHOME

NORTH Half mo. free, newly remodeled, gas paid, 1bd $445, 2bd $650. Chris 236-1116, avignonrealty.com.

NORTH 3/2 1250sqft, $865 $500 off 1st mo. Close to Dell, Samsung, IBM. ATX RELO call Richard 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

NORTH Huge 1-1 loft, 1063 s.f. Only $619, W/D Conns. $100 Off 1st mth 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

NORTH Low rates include 1-1's from $470. 2-2's from $650, WD conns in all units! ATX call 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

NORTH 2/1 located in Fourplex, Large Kitchen & new Appl., W/D incl, large deck, near great parks and schools Rent $600 + S/D call 470-1421

NORTH Are you looking for an eclectic home in an up and coming neighborhood? Then you need to join our community at Capitol Village. We have spacious floor plans with newly renovated interiors that need you! We are offering efficiency, 1 and 2 bedroom homes with loads of amenities. We are conveniently located to all the major employers in North Austin and a hop, skip and a jump away from downtown. Prices starting at $429 and one month free on a year lease! Call Capitol Village today at 928-0384

NORTH Wooded property, gas paid, eff $410, 1bd $450, 2bd $625. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

NORTH Cheap deals on apartment news blog! http://austinapartments.blogspot.com

NORTHEAST 7255 Creekside, 3/2.5 condo, $795, near 290 & 183, 2 story, large open living room, carport in back, storage room, cloistered community 474-1470 Beck & Co.

NORTHWEST Stunning Hilltop condo, pool,cabana, garages,$885+. 413-7983

NORTHWEST Pool/spa, playground, picnic areas, 1bd $439, 2bd $699. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

NORTHWEST 2BD, 2BTH only $599. W/D & Microwave incl.. Only $99 dep 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

NORTHWEST Huge 2-2, 1059 sq ft. $755. WD conns. Free Cable, Incl. 2 HBO channels! ATX call 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

NORTHWEST Fabulous 1 & 2 bedrm apts in quiet area. Close to 183 & employment/shopping centers. Building is freshly renovated & landscaped. Apts have attached garage, wood burning FP, laundry rm. New countertops, appliances, ceramic flr tile, carpet, tubs, toilets, A/C, & walk-in closet. Hurry won't last!! 8707&8801 Schick Rd. Contact Karen Borders (512) 659-1113

NORTHWEST SPORTS & LUXURY. LAP POOL & INDOOR COURTS. 2/2 1070sqft $930 John-659-5339 ATX

NORTHWEST 2-2, Luxury, Huge 1124 sq. ft. for $840! W/D included! ATX RELO call Richard 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

NORTHWEST Arboretum, daily rent specials, 1bd $530, 2bd $665. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

NORTHWEST Jollyville Road. Columbia Oaks Condos 2/2s starting at $700.00. Large bedrooms, high ceilings, fireplace, W/D Connections, balcony. Short term leases available. Call Lakequest Enterprises 512-481-8600.

SOUTH

BIG AND CHEAP APARTMENTS!
Remodeled, Free cable!
STUDIO FLAT... $415
1BDRM... $475
2BDRM... $515
* * * * * * * * *
HISTORIC TRAVIS HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD
$99 TOTAL MOVE-IN!
(Incl. 1st mo's rent & dep!)
1BDRM...$600
2BDRM... $825
3BDRM DUPLEX... $1200
TEAM LEASING
(512) 416-8333

SOUTH SoCo Flats- $445, Lofts- $545, 2/1s- $600, low dep. pets ok, 694-3899 http://www.urbanaustinliving.com

SOUTH $99 MOVE IN! Central Market South. FREE Cable.1/1 $525, 2/1 $625. Call Sharon ATX Agt 512-786-7328

SOUTH 360/MoPac, Washer and dryer in all units! Studio Flat... $450, 2BDRM... $635. Huge private decks. Call Team Leasing, (512) 416-8333.

SOUTH Barton Hills Eff & Lofts, Small Courtyard. Trees, Pool, Zilker Park. $525 - $605. Apt Experts. 416-8100

SOUTH Central 2 weeks free! Eff $450, 1BR $550, Small attractive complex, pool, fitness. Apt Experts 416-8100

SOUTH Duplexes, T/H's, Condos 2/2's As Low as $595 atxrelo.com 444-0505

SOUTH Move-in specials, 1bd $469, 2bd $589, pools, basketball crt, water pd, avignonrealty.com, 236-0002

SOUTH

TOWN LAKE HIKE & BIKE TRAIL
Completely remodeled with ceramic tile upgrades, modern appliances and free cable! Huge 1BDRM... $495!
Large 2BDRM/2BA... $595!
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SOUTH ABP except elec. eff. $465, 1 bdr $495. 472-9100 www.texasapt.com

SOUTH 1/1 water paid, UT Shuttle. Hot tub sauna, W/D conns. $490, $0 dep, $0 app. john@atxrelo.com 659-5339

SOUTH Free Apt., House & Duplex Locating! Buying a house? I can do that also. Jason 512-947-5089 ATXRelo

SOUTH Most bills paid. Hot water & water paid. 1BR $445, 2Br $585, 3BR $650. Pool, basketball, gated. Apt Experts 416-8100.

SOUTH #1 Cool 2/2, Central Market South, walk to grocery/shopping, two decks, cable paid, $690. 693-7231 http://Austincool.com

SOUTH 2/1.5 twnhm sublet thru March.$775 cable/water incd. Wshr/Dry incd. 925-1276

SOUTH-Sherwood Apartments @ 710 Oltorf Rd. HUGE 1/1 and 2/1 starting at $495 and $595. Pool, attentive management, courtyards, tranquil living creekside! Ann 441-3174 Beck and Company R.E.S., Inc.

SOUTH CENTRAL BIG DOG friendly apartments right behind Zilker Park and Barton Creek Hike and Bike Trails. HUGE private deck. 1 bedroom $639. 2 bedroom $739, Call Team Leasing 416-8333.

SOUTH

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, minutes to downtown and university, great access to hike and bike trails, move-in special. See narrated video tours and thousands of pictures/floorplans for this property @ http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com or call 828-4470 for current availability.

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.

SOUTH #1 Huge Town Lake 2/2. Hike/Bike trail, cable, big bdrms $595 693-7231 http://Austincool.com

SOUTH CENTRAL $99 Total Move-In - 78704. Most Bills Paid. 600 sqft, $500/month. 587-5090 greg@atxrelo.com

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SOUTH water/gas/cable pd, up to $300 off, Eff $480, 1bd $504, 2-1 $645, 2-2 $680, avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

SOUTH CENTRAL W/Ds + walk to Central Market. Eff.-$427, 1 BD-$447, 2 BD-$687. 587-5090 greg@atxrelo.com

SOUTH R U looking? Free service! Locate an apt, townhome, condo, duplex or house. Greg 587-5090 ATX

SOUTH

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SOUTH Art deco, concrete floors, Jacuzzi bathtubs, 1bd $559, 2bd $659. Chris 236-1116,avignonrealty.com.

SOUTH No rent til 2006, 3 bdr T/M, $99 total Move-in! 472-9100. www.texasapt.com

SOUTH Huge patios, great views, some bills paid, eff. from $398, 1BR from $463, 2BR from $595, 567-4276, LESA http://www.gimmeshelterlocators.com

SOUTH 2/2 TOWN HOME! Pool, hot tub, w/d conn. 930sqft $695 ATX RELO Richard 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH Most Bills Paid. Gated Community. $200 off 1st mth. Eff, 1, 2 BDs. $465-645. greg@atxrelo.com 587-5090

SOUTH CENTRAL 2-2 $625 1,000 sf, W/D, Fireplace, Walk-In Closets, Patio, Built-In Shelves, All Appliances, Immed Move-In. 657-3005

SOUTH CENTRAL 3/2 1240sqft. $763, $100 dep Short drive to St. Ed's, & DT, john@atxrelo.com 659-5339

SOUTH 1 bdrms starting @ $460, 2 bdrms starting @ $599. $200 off 1st month. 587-5090 greg@atxrelo.com

SOUTH Art-Deco, concrete floors, Jacuzzi bathtubs, Activites Rm Pool Tables, Big Screen 1BR $539, 2BR $639 Apt Experts 416-8100

SOUTH Central $99 Total Move In, Minutes from D/T, courtyard Community, large pool, trees. 1BR $500 Apt Experts 416-8100

SOUTH Reduced Rates & Deposits. Water Paid, Fitness, Gates, 1BR $490 2BR $700. Apt Experts 416-8100.

SOUTH 2/2, 910sqft, $629, easy Access to IH-35 & DT. W/D conns 2x balconies. john@atxrelo.com 659-5339



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SOUTHEAST SE UT BUS, FREE CABLE. 1/1 $445, gated access, pool john@atxrelo.com 659-5339

SOUTHEAST FREE CABLE! 1/1.5, 904sqft $535 john@atxrelo.com 659-5339

SOUTHEAST 2/1 Move in Special $599/mo Mike 512-769-6413 miked@atxrelo.com

SOUTHEAST Lake Art-deco 1st Mo. Free 1BR $499, 2BR $614, Stained concrete floors, Apartment Experts 416-8100.

SOUTHEAST No Deposit & App Fee.Most Bills Paid, W/D conns. 1BD $460, 2BD $640 587-5090 greg@atxrelo.com

SOUTHEAST 2/2 Condo, 1060 sq. ft., Oltorf/Pleasant Valley. Gated community, pool/spa, W/D, DW, FP, large deck, vaulted ceilings, water paid, cats OK, Metro/UT Shuttle. $850 mth. $300 cleaning dep. 473-0491

SOUTHEAST Most Bills Paid. Free Cable, H2O Paid, Small Complex, Metro, UT Shuttle. 1BR $450, 2BR $599. Apt Experts 416-8100

SOUTHEAST Free Cable! 1BD 700 sqft. $495, 2BD 900 sqft. $535, 3BD 1300 sqft - $775. Greg @ 587-5090 ATX

SOUTHEAST IH35 DOWN TOWN ACCESS. 1/1, 600sqft $449, $399 total. 13mo lease ATX RELO 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

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SOUTHWEST 2/2- 1025 sqft. $725/month. W/D conns., $300 off 1st month. ATX 587-5090 greg@atxrelo.com

SOUTHWEST High On the Cliffs. $99 Deposit Special, splendid area, lux amenities, covered parking. Apt Experts 416-8100

SOUTHWEST $0 deposit, fitness ctr, shops, w/d con, eff $605,1bd $678,2bd $811, 3bd $959. 236-0002.

SOUTHWEST 3/2 $760. $0 dep. $0 app. Only 4yrs old. Major employee discount. john@atxrelo.com 659-5339

SOUTHWEST Near downtown/park/mall, eff $470, 1bd $540, 2bd $640. Chris 236-1116,avignonrealty.com.

SOUTHWEST New Luxury Apts. Hill Country Views. 1/1 $775, 2/2's starting @ $929. 587-5090 greg@atxrelo.com

SOUTHWEST Westlake Hills. Loft-style one-bedroom w/ study. Stacked W/D Conn, walk-in closets, vaulted ceilings. Close to schools & shopping. Available NOW. $750. Call The Taylor Company, Inc. 512-481-8600.

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SOUTHWEST Greenbelt views, w/d incld, balconies, eff $585, 1-1 $720, 2-2 $890. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

SOUTHWEST 1.5 Mos. Free, near park/downtown, pet ok, 1bd $655, 2bd $920, avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

SOUTHWEST On Zilker Greenbelt. Unique 3-story townhouse w/private garage entry, $980. Call Team Leasing, 416-8333.

220 DUPLEX/HOUSES

CENTRAL Pemberton 3 or 4 BR 1 bath home 2321 Newfield Move-in NOW!!!All pets WELCOME Large fenced yard with nice deck. $1250 Call PMT Broker 476-2673.

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 78704: 2/1.5 dplx $795. 2/2 dplx $825, fncd yrd both. 1/1 $595 cble pd, sm. cmplx. pets ok. 627-6374

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

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Laura Croteau, 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 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, rollotex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Great 1/1,hdwds,storage,pets ok,fenced,$695,203-9471

CENTRAL 1131 Salina, close to downtown. 3/2, recently remodeled, new countertops and fixtures. Ceramic tile, $850. Call, MRG - 443-2526.

CENTRAL SOCO Unique 2-2 duplex hardwood floors 409B E. Annie Available January 1st $850 Call PMT Realtors 476-2673

CENTRAL TRAVIS HEIGHTS CLASSIC COTTAGE! Half off 1st month's rent! Fully remodeled 1947's cottage. Swanky kitchen, hardwoods, Private Fenced yard, 2-1, office, 1 large open living, CACH, pets considered. Total $1495/mo. Owner/Agent, 565-2855 Sharon/agent.

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, rollotex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Available Now. 4005 A Maplewood, new hardwood floors, interior paint, cent. Hvac, WD conn. 1 car garage, nice yard, very eclectic neighborhood. Rent $800.00 Call New Management 497-8282 or 476-6616

CENTRAL Best Deal in Tarrytown + $200 off 1st month! Gigantic 1/1 in 4-plex, lots of windows, good closet space, quiet neighbors. Large shared backyard for your garden or hammock. Plain outside - cute inside! Cats welcome - NO DOGS! No indoor smoking. $750. 2304-C Enfield. Matthews Properties 454-0099. Rollo 731-6799, rollotex@yahoo.com

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, rollotex@yahoo.com

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 608 B Kawnee 2-1-1 CACH, W/D connect, fenced and maintained yard $650. www.cbimanagement.com 658-9493.

CENTRAL Holiday Special! $300 off 1st month! Immaculate 3-2 house - excellent condition, two living areas, additional bonus office, CA/ CH, covered patio, garage, fireplace, built-ins, large fenced yard, DW, disposal. Most pets welcome! No indoor smoking. $995. 7006 Priscilla. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rolando 731-6799, rollotex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL 1211 E. 52nd St. 2/1, hrdwds. $750/mo. Most util pd. Avail Jan. 1st. Lease/deposit. Call 472-1077

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554-2920 cell

- **501 TEXAS AVE -** Hyde Park, large, unique, rustic 2nd floor 1BD, 1bath apt in cool house. Oversized windows, 10 foot ceilings, gas stove, central gas heat, window air unit. Bike or shuttle to UT. $550 rent, $550 dep. Avail. Jan 1st
- **934 E. 54th STREET-** 51st & Airport. Cool 40's stone house w/ fridge, stove, DW, W/D. Detached garage. Lot is 200 ft. Hardwoods, FP. Save $$$ on utilities; new CACH, on-demand water heater. $1350 rent, $1350 deposit
- **5207 ROBINSDALE LANE -** WINDSOR PARK- off east 51st by old airport & movie studios. Large 3/2/2 house with huge fenced backyard. New carpet & ceramic tile. CACH, fridge, gas stove, DW, W/D conns., Fresh interior paint, cute 50's tile bath. Great band house! $1300 rent, $1300 dep.

CENTRAL SPACIOUS 2-1, near 35th & Jefferson (3907 Idlewild Rd.) Great neighborhood, hrdwds, CACH, LG YRD. $1400/mo. 300-9703, broker.

CENTRAL Travis Hts. hdwd floors,storage, sec. syst, 2in.blinds, w/d conn, dwsh,bus st. KaraKay Skaggs KW 470-8855

CENTRAL Holiday Special - $200 off 1st month! Rosedale, 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, rollotex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Holiday Special! $300 off 1st month on both units! Best deal in wonderful neighborhood! Spacious (1,000+ sf) 2/1 in 6-plex, 1 covered parking, new stove & refrigerator, excellent carpet, laundry onsite, no indoor smoking. Very quiet neighbors.! Small pets welcome. $850. Also, spacious, bright 1-1 for $675. 1504 Windsor Rd. (at Enfield Rd.) Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollotex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL $***$500 MOVE IN BONUS***1713 Brentwood, 3 bed/2ba with Wa/Dry, 1600 sqft. Call Terry, Realtor, 512-789-8064

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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• 1003 E. 45th
3-1 $1295
• 619 W. 35th
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CENTRAL HOLIDAY SPECIAL 4bdrm, 2.5 ba house, near campus, $1150,no pets, great 4 roomates, 636-2675

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.

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CENTRAL Tarrytown, large quality classic home, 3/1, CACH, ceiling fans, new hardwood & paint, great yard-a hidden garden oasis, garage & lots of storage, Exposition at Windsor, walking to coffee, post. & shopping. $1200. Call 512-947-6059

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
Properties for Lease
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3-3 $1300 Available NOW
• 103 Blue Ridge Trail
1-1 $595 Avail. Jan.
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CENTRAL Holiday Special! $300 off 1st month! Rosedale, spacious 2-1 duplex nestled under gigantic oak tree, new carpet, CA/CH, indoor W/D connections, one covered parking space, outdoor storage, quiet neighborhood. No indoor smoking. Cats welcome - NO dogs! $850. 4706-A Shoalwood. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollotex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Central - Quiet complex in old Austin residential neighborhood. 650 sf 1/1. Paid Water. On-site Pool & Laundry. $650. 451-0414.

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 ROSEDALE, charming spacious 2-1.5 in 4-plex, CACH, windows galore! Balcony & patio. Non-smoking, onsite laundry. Cats ok, $750mo ($300 off first month!) 5005 Lynnwood, Call (512) 899-8383.

DRIPPING SPRINGS Cypress creek cottage, stone and cedar 2-2-2 1800sqft on 4.4 acres, near Hamilton Pool, nature lover's delight, DSISD, stairway down limestone bluff to beautiful deck on boulder, overlooking small waterfall on Cypress Creek. $1800. 830-825-3900, or 956-992-0554.

EAST 1178 Ridgeway-2BR/ 1B, hardwood floors, vaulted ceiling, new appliances & large yard. Minutes from ACC Eastview, parks & downtown entertainment. $750/month. Call Terry Parr for more information. 512-825-4803.

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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www.EanesProperties.com
263-7333 or 293-0276

DUPLEX/HOUSES

HILL COUNTRY / WIMBERLEY Artist's Retreat: Wimberley panoramic riverfront furn. handmade house on 5 ac. $1400/mo. 512.847.6548 Incredible photos at http://www.birdsong-guitars.com/frankshouse.htm

MANOR Beautiful new 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home for rent. W/ backyard, pool membership, 2 car garage, stainless steel fridge, laundry room with new Maytag washer/dryer. 652-8796, or adc@austin.rr.com

METRO

EANES PROPERTIES

North

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South

• Brand new home in Olympic Heights. 2 story. 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths. 2 Living Areas. Lots of windows. Fenced Yard. Neighborhood Pool. $1200 mth 2 FREE Weeks Rent w/Nov. 15th move in or sooner.

BUDA

• 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

METRO

EANES PROPERTIES

North

• 8139-A Ceberry Dr. Great NC location duplex. 4 BD, 2.5 Bath. 1 car garage. Fenced yard. $1150 mth.

South

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BUDA

• 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.

Kyle

• 166 Ruidoso Kyle. Brand new 3 BD, 2 Bath house. Comes with all appliances W/D, fridge and sprinkler system. $995 mth.

Look under Property for Lease at http://www.EanesProperties.com for photos

263-7333 or 293-0276

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 4 Rent 2/1 duplex $700-fen. yard, W/D hookup, store room, Cprt, Many pets ok 203 Northcrest Cr 632-3652

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 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 HUGE 3-2 duplex near Highland Mall 7204 Carver Vacant and ready to move in TODAY!!! $1250 Call PMT 476-2673

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.

NORTH 3/2, in great area, lease or purchase, move in today, like new. $1195 www.yourark.com 917-0061

HOME GALLERY



78704 Near Greenbelt

50s classic in Barton Hills. Original 3/2 now has office or mother-in-law suite added. Two living areas, vaulted ceilings, big windows. Beautiful lot w/ tall trees. $315,000.

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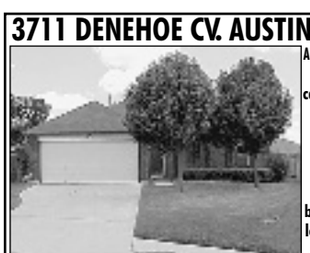


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AREA 5E, MLS#5469201 3/2 with new carpet & paint.very open/gas FP/2 din., lrg. master w/ atch. sitting & roomy bth. Private lot backs to park. Grt. loc. near new I-30 & mins. to dwtn.

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3,312 total square feet. Owner currently uses this unique home as a residence with a huge separate artists studio. Would also make a great office or MIL plan. Across the street from the lake! Walk to marinas! $259,900. Visit LiveOnLakeTravis.com or call Daniel Pope at 779-POPE.

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NORTHEAST Furnished 4 BR House w/ 2 car garage & lg yard. Be the first to live in this 2342 sq ft house near Parmer & Dessau.

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NORTHWEST Arboretum area, beautiful 4/2.5, 3, 2, 3 FPs, granite countertops, new paint, big lot, beautiful trees, huge master. $1950/mo.

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NORTHWEST Duplex. Dec. paid for! Move in Now! 956-245-0050

NORTHWEST 2/2 with loft, garden home, 8330 Fathom Circle #401. Master bedroom up & down, fireplace, $895. Call today MRG (512) 443-2526.

NORTHWEST Hills 4-2.5. 2 huge liv. rms, 1 study, huge deck over double garage. $2235/mo Call 480-9576 or 779-4994

NORTHWEST Duplex for rent - $900 a month, 2 bed/2 bath Great Location close to 183, Parmer and Lakeline Mall. Tile Throughout, Upgraded Fixtures , Designer Colors, Ceiling Fans, Garage and Large Trees on a corner lot. Call Kyle 512-663-2925 or go to www.787homes.com for pictures and more details.

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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, RRISD Janette 257-0748

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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! $795mo. Water paid, Parker Lane. Owner, (512) 441-0941.

SOUTH CENTRAL 4414 Dudley 3-2-2, CACH, W/D connect., fenced yard. Avail. 1-1 $1100. 658-9493 www.cbimanagement.com

SOUTH 3 bdr/2bath, 2 car garage, fenced, CACH, $895, $600 deposit. 1012 Stoneoak. Call Ronnie 447-5323

SOUTH TRAVIS HEIGHTS CLASSIC COTTAGE! Half off 1st month's rent! Fully remodeled 1947's cottage. Swanky kitchen, hardwoods, Private Fenced yard, 2-1, office, 1 large open living, CACH, pets considered. Total $1495/mo. Owner/Agent, 565-2855 Sharon/agent.

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, office, 1 large open living, CACH, pets considered. Total $1495/mo. Owner/Agent, 565-2855 Sharon/agent.

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 6801 SHIRE COVE, 3/2, near William Cannon/ Manchaca, $725 474-1470

Beck & Co.

SOUTHWEST For Rent: 3,2,2 8109 Cattle Drive, (near Brodie and Wm.Cannon)Great shape, good neighborhood. 950.00/month, call 301 3213.

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. $1,795. Call MRG 443-2526.

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 4-Plex, walking to everything. 2/1 W/D conns, $525 +2nd mth FREE. 587-5090 greg@atxrelo.com

SOUTHWEST 3619 Leafield Dr. #A, 2/1, 695-0070: $725, duplex, carport, charming fenced backyard, patio/overhang, shed/storage, new appliances, pet friendly

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WEST REPO! Attention Hunters! 100 acres approximately 200 miles west of San Antoinio city limits near Del Rio/Pandale area. Small down. Low monthly payments. Long-term financing by owner. Good brush coverage for deer, turkey, quail, and dove. Additional acreage available. 210-654-2476.

230 COMMERCIAL

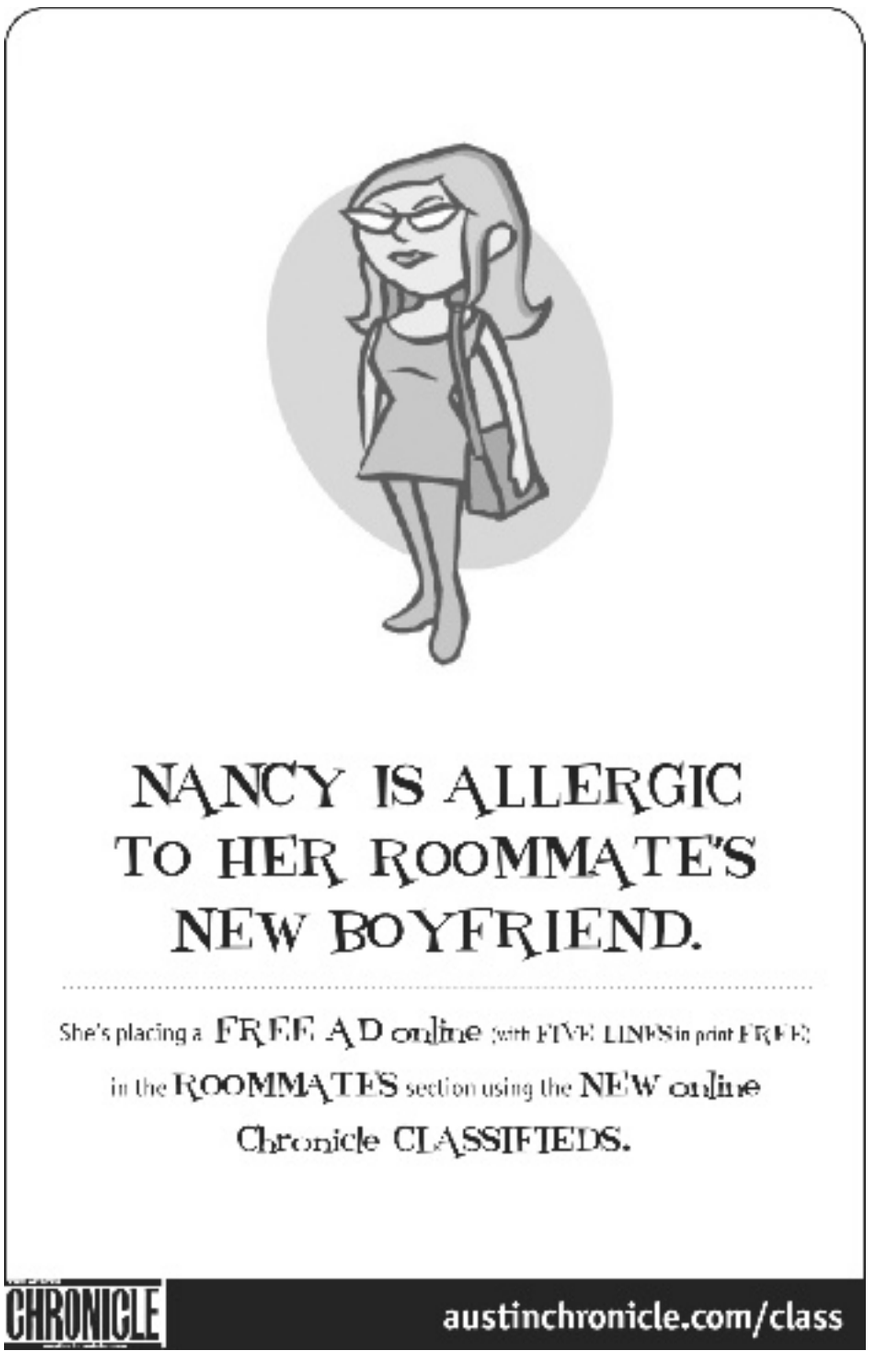
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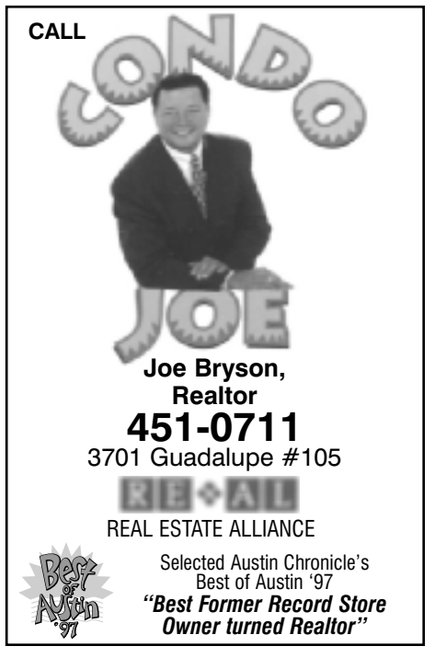
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CENTRAL Roommate wanted at House of Nuts 1801 Nueces Street beginning Jan 1. Cheap rent, good location, interesting house. Come by and see it, maybe introduce yourself. willwise@mail.utexas.edu 475-6095 494-9662

CENTRAL WESTLAKE 5 minutes to Dwntn, 4/2.5, pool, near schools, on bus route. $395(includes most utilities), non-smoker, 347-1671.

CENTRAL looking for a room to rent in CENTRAL austin january 27student $500ABP monroedrewster@bellsouth.net

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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.

CENTRAL Orange Tree Condo Roomate Needed Spring Semester Share Huge 2/2 Big bedroom with Private entrance covered reserved parking $595. Call PMT 476-2673

CENTRAL Room has ceiling fans. Possibly reduced rent for a month. Prefer young male. Phil@220-7966, preece@grandecom.net.

CENTRAL 2 female students looking for a good roommate. Guys are fine, don't have to be a student.Call my cell 602-957-6400, thanks amber

CENTRAL Female roommate for spring sem! Walk to UT! 1100 sq ft, washer /dryer in garage. Cable and internet inc. $525. Abby (512)653-8846!

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EAST 2/1 cute home with quiet considerate vegetarian near Airpt & 12th., w/yard, dogs ok. $275 plus 1/2 util. 928-9235 Anita

EAST Bedroom avail. $350. 40's style 3-1 in hip eastside. hardwoods, central air. Pref female 24-30. no pets. avail now. 917-3684.

EAST New house, 9.6 miles east of U.T. campus. Nicely furnished w/ washer, dryer, cable, internet. Neighborhood is new and comforatable. Feel free to ask questions-Aaron 947-0117, $375+1/3 bills.

GEORGETOWN Clean/sober employed female in recovery furnished four bedroom house $400 month ABP 627-9772 frenchp13@yahoo.com

METRO ALL AREAS - ROOMMATES.COM. Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: www.Roommates.com. (AAN CAN)

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NORTH Seeking mature female to share my home in quiet northside neighborhood. Frn Bdrm, pvt bath, Easy going, pet friendly, non smoking preferred. call 922-4273.

NORTH Parmer & Metric area $400.00 a month 1/3 utilities,pets ok,no smoking,DNorcross@Austin.rr.com, phone 507-8909 leave message

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

NORTH You are looking For a room? 1000s of rooms & roommates. From $200/Mo www.easyroommate.com

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 You are looking For a room? 1000s of rooms & roommates. From $200/Mo www.easyroommate.com

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

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 prefered.young profesional.$300 investinaustin@hotmail.com 512-825-3102

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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.

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CENTRAL Sage Creek Loop - Coolest new community on the edge of **Travis Heights**, last 3 of 18 homes available. Prices 399,900 to 445,000; Inviting front porches,Open family/dining/kitchen,oak floors&custom cabinets, granite galore, main floor mstr suites, great entertaining spaces. For more information contact: **Nancy Taute w/ Carol Dochen Realtors,Inc.**

512-497-5940, nancy@dochen.com, http://www.billtaute-homes.com, Open weekends 2-5; Dir: S. on Congress, E on LiveOak, N on Sage Creek Loop

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CENTRAL 3711 Denehoe Cv. Austin Colony. Area 5E, MLS 5469201. Extra nice 3/2 with new carpet & paint. Very open, gas FP, 2 din. lrg. master with attached sitting & roomy bath. Private lot backs to park. Great location near new I-30 and mins. to dwtn. $115,000. Agent 258-6677

CENTRAL 2500 Steck Ave. -The Palm Condominiums BEST BUY!! Live close to it all, Roomy one & two bedroom condos - Cool new finishes, all appliances incl. washer/dryer, gated parking, two pools, lush landscaping, MOVE IN NOW - Starting at $108,900! Leave your landlord behind! 380-9889 www.thepalmaustin.com

CENTRAL Small 10 unit cmplx near UT. Very large master bedrm with high ceiling down. 2nd bed and study in loft. Concrete floors. Very good space for creative individual. $127,700 Condo Joe 203-4100

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CENTRAL District 51 An alternative for design driven buyers. Hyde Park living start at 379,900. www.district51.com Urbanspace Realtors Will Steakley, VP Residential will@urbanspacerealtors.com (512) 799 3777

CENTRAL 2001 Alguno, Exceptional Deal in the Crestview area! Beautiful remodel. 2/1.5, TCAD say over 1500 sq ft. Large open kitchen, three living spaces, great storage; wonderful covered porch over looks a private nature lovers yard. Must see now! $249,900 Carrie, Broker 801-0436 Austin REAL Pros, REALTORS 458-3730

CENTRAL WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN BUY A CONDO? Spaces 2525. Live Less Ordinary. Hip 78704 Lofts starting at $184,900 www.spaces2525.com Urbanspace Realtors Will Steakley, VP Residential will@urbanspacerealtors.com (512) 799 3777

CENTRAL Agent-David Lotspeich RE/MAX Capital City Real Estate Consultant, for all your Real Estate needs. Contact me at 636-8801 houseishome@yahoo.com www.austinhouseishome.com

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CENTRAL 428 Ridgewood - Original A.D. Stenger home, extensively remodeled and expanded by The Muskin Company. 3BR/2.5BA, with master down, study, family room, Convenient to Stratford and MOPAC. Westlake Schools. Great Yard. Call Matt at 371-0037. $539,500.

CENTRAL 5601 Woodrow #106 $68,000, 1 bed/1 bath condo in central Austin, 1 block from metro/UT bus stop, Tile kitchen/living; berber carpet in bedroom. Walk in closet. Well cared for complex with new roof in 2005. Pool to be resurfaced this winter. Washer/Dryer/Refrigerator convey. Call Moreland Properties Colleen Lockwood: 825-6503

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.

EAST 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.

EAST $250 Move In Bonus**House w/large lot. East Austin Charmer, backs to small greenbelt. Hardwoods throughout. 2Bd/1Ba, approx 900 SqFt. Awesome location, ACC, UT and downtown. 1176 Ridgeway, $699 Mo, $400 Dep, $35 App Fee, Call Terry, Realtor, 512-789-8064

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LA VACA COUNTY 74 acres, Molten County Rd 293- vinyl sided 3B-1BA frame house. $4000/acre. 979-793-6534.

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NORTH Close to Metric. 1-1's $479+, 1- study $569+ and 2-2 T/H's $699+. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

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NORTH 3/2, 1286sqft, $875. Cable & Gas paid. $250 off 1st mo. Near 183 & Mopac. john@atxrelo.com 659-5339

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

NORTH 98K 2/2 House 1144sq ft lg backyard Miked@atxrelo.com 769-6413

NORTH CENTRAL Steck Ave Condo. Tastefully remodeled. Starting at $108900. Sharon 512-786-7328, ATX Agt

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TELEVISION Used 27' Zenith - rather fuzzy picture. 5 yrs old. Would be great on cable. $40 OBO. Gary. 236-0160

TELEVISION Zenith Color TV approx 20 inch Works great. Avail 12/15 $65 OBO call 453-5194

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350 GARAGE ESTATE SALES

BABY CLOTHING Sale, 3809 Tattershall Ln., 78727 - lots of baby clothing,maternity and womens clothing all in good condition; toddler bed and toys- Friday and Saturday dawn until dusk.

GARAGE SALE Sat.Dec.10, 8-4.Trendy clothing-size 3-5 or 16-20; children's clothes, toys; household items; pool table; etc. 2403 Trafalgar Drive



to YOUR HEALTH

by **James Heffley, Ph.D.**

Q. As a 55-year-old male, I'm not sure if I need a calcium supplement. Because I have passed a couple of kidney stones, I'm even more unsure. I drink lots of water and have not had any kidney problems for more than six years, but I don't want to take any chances. What's the thinking about calcium supplements for someone like me?

A. Calcium is needed for many important body functions, including blood clotting, transmitting nerve impulses, and regulating heart rhythm, not to mention maintaining strong bones and teeth, where almost all of the calcium in the human body is found. Because most kidney stones are composed of calcium oxalate, it is commonly assumed that a high intake of calcium increases the risk of formation of such stones. The situation is just the opposite: Limitation of dietary calcium intake promotes formation of kidney stones. There are several dietary factors that can promote stone formation, such as excessive dietary protein, but calcium intake should not be restricted.

Most people think of calcium deficiency as a woman's problem, and that men are "immune" to osteoporosis. However, of the 25 million Americans with osteoporosis, every one in five is a man. A recent study estimates that 3-6% of non-Hispanic white American men 50 years of age or older have osteoporosis, and almost 10 times that number have osteopenia, the thinning of bones that comes before osteoporosis. While women tend to begin to lose bone density about 10-15 years earlier in life than men, after age 65 the rate of bone loss in men and women is about the same.

As is true for most chronic diseases, prevention works better than any cure. It is not necessary to avoid calcium supplements just because you have experienced kidney stones, but you should be careful to combine calcium supplements with magnesium. Since both magnesium and citrate work to keep calcium in solution, your calcium and magnesium supplements should be in the form of citrate salts. A combined dietary and supplemental calcium intake between 1,200 and 2,400 milligrams per day should be safe and beneficial.

Most Americans, when they think of good dietary sources of calcium, immediately think of milk and milk products. Despite heavy promotion by dairy interests, milk is not the best calcium source for everyone. The diets of many people around the world may supply as little as 300 milligrams of calcium per day, yet their incidence of bone fracture is quite low. Factors other than calcium consumption evidently come into play. For instance, calcium found in green leafy vegetables is naturally combined with magnesium and vitamins such as vitamin K that are helpful in maintaining bone health. In addition, many Americans of black, Asian, and Native American lineage are lactose intolerant and only tolerate fermented milk products, or require a pill that digests milk sugar when they use regular milk.

Adequate lifelong calcium intake along with adequate magnesium, potassium, zinc, vitamin D, vitamin K, moderate protein intake, avoidance of caffeine, and a reasonable amount of weight-bearing exercise seem to be the recipe for keeping bones healthy.

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.

CONTINUED

350 GARAGE ESTATE SALES

COFFEE&END TABLES, STEREO, LG COMPUTER HUTCH, PICTURES, PURSES, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AND MORE NW Garage Sale @ 4904 Smokey Valley 78731 Sat(12/10)& Sun(12/11) 9am - 4pm. Lots of good stuff for cheap.

HUGE GARAGE SALE Saturday only. 4709 Airport Blvd. 8-3pm. Everything imaginable!!

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SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): "If they can get you asking the wrong questions, they don't have to worry about the answers," wrote novelist Thomas Pynchon. Between now and the end of the year, Sagittarius, please gaze into a mirror and tell yourself that advice regularly. You can't afford to let anyone – authorities, experts, enemies, or even friends – set the ground rules or define the contours of your quest for the truth. Your driving passion should be to frame the unique questions that will lead you inexorably to what you need to know next. (p.s. The answers you receive will be wrong until you frame those crafty questions.)

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): "If in the last few years you haven't discarded a major opinion or acquired a new one, check your pulse. You may be dead." So said the humorist Gelett Burgess, and now, just in time for your Shedding Season, I'm offering his advice to you. It's high time for you to get rid of all the old stuff you possibly can, including not only the major opinions that you've outgrown, but also mementoes that have lost their meaning, clothes that no longer match your self-image, and once-exciting adventures that have succumbed to numbing habit.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): Writing in November's *Esquire*, Chuck Klosterman described the National Football League as one of the most successful socialist institutions in the world. As evidence, he notes that rich teams in the biggest markets are required to share their revenue with poor teams in small markets. The league's best franchise in recent years, the New England Patriots, has won so many games because its star players have volunteered to accept reduced salaries, making more cash available for the team to assemble the best possible collection of second-line players. I recommend a similar approach to you, Aquarius. It's a propitious time to bring the NFL's brand of communalism to the group or business or tribe that's so important to you.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): "There are two tragedies in life," said George Bernard Shaw. "One is to lose your heart's desire. The other is to gain it." If we satisfy our deepest longings, in other words, we lose our primary reason for living. We love to feel our yearnings so much that we're devastated if they're ever quenched. Or so the argument goes. But I'm here to tell you, Pisces, that you have a good chance of refuting this theory in 2006. I think you'll get exactly what you've wanted and then thrive in the aftermath. A crucial key to this potential success story will be offered to you in the coming week.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): Science writer Carl Sagan liked to say that "Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence." He often invoked that idea in his crusade to debunk theories he considered outlandish, like the proposition that extraterrestrials are visiting our planet. While I think Sagan's measuring stick is usually quite useful, you should be careful about applying it too fanatically in the coming week. Surprising and marvelous possibilities are headed your way, and at least one of them will be very real but impossible for your rational mind to validate.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): In Sicily, the word "mafia" once meant beauty, charm, excellence, or boldness. In its modern usage, both in Italian and English, none of the old senses of the word have survived. It refers to organized crime and conveys a sinister mood. I encourage you to identify a comparable thing in your own life, Taurus: a situation, influence, or relationship that was formerly a blessing, but that has now degenerated into a source of darkness. Is there anything you can do to resurrect its original glory? If it's even remotely possible, now is the time you're most likely to accomplish it.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): About 149 light years from Earth, astronomers have discovered a planet in a solar system with three stars. If you lived on that world, you'd regularly see three different sunrises, one each by a yellow, orange, and red sun. I think that happens to be an apt metaphor for your current state of affairs, Gemini. Several potent sources are competing to be your lodestar; you can't decide which one you want to be your wellspring of meaning. I'm not saying that's bad. In fact, it could be very interesting. But if you choose to keep indulging in this division of your attention, you will have to work hard not to become scattered.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): Have you seen the TV show *Lost*? One of the tales it tells is about a character named John Locke, who has been confined to a wheelchair for years. When the plane he's riding on crashes on a Pacific island, he is not only unhurt, he recovers the use of his legs. The accident itself is somehow the mysterious cause of the miracle. I predict that you will be the beneficiary of events that have a metaphorical or mythic resemblance to Locke's story. Luckily, the triggering experience will be nowhere near as scary or dangerous as Locke's. And while the resulting transformation may also be less spectacular, it will fix a knotty problem or restore a lost capacity.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): You have gone through feline phases before, Leo, but your current resonance with catlike energy is extraordinary. I wouldn't be surprised if you felt desires to undulate when you move, scratch furniture, sleep more than usual, rub yourself against people you love, act downright inscrutable, and get lots of high-quality alone time. I also suspect you'll need to find a way to express a pressing urge to hunt. My advice? You might want to seek guidance in some of those horoscope books for cats, like *Cat Astrology* by Michael Zulio or *Starcats* by Helen Hope.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): To convey the dirt-simple oracle you need to hear, I'm going to steal a line from the poet William Kulik: "You can't *get it* because you've already got it." In other words, Virgo, your only hope for enjoying the lovely experience you're wistfully fantasizing about is to register the fact that the lovely experience is available to you right now. It's already yours for the taking.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): "Dear Rev. Brezsny: I had a dream that I was inside a drawing by M.C. Escher. Every time I reached the top of a stairway I found myself again at the bottom of the same stairway. I couldn't tell which way was up and which was down. Depending on how I turned my head, the sky was above me and full of swimming fish or it was below me and full of flying birds. I kept seeing a snake swallowing its own tail. What does it all mean? -Puzzled Libra." Dear Puzzled: I believe your dream points to three experiences that a lot of Librans are having right now: 1) Opposites are not only starting to attract; they may even be flowing into each other. 2) Beginnings and endings are not merely overlapping; they may both be contained in the same situation. 3) An influence now entering your life has arrived here from eternity.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): George III was King of England from 1760 to 1820. During the last years of his reign, he gradually became more and more insane, talking to himself for hours on end and addressing trees as if they were people. When he first began losing his mind, his servants and assistants decided they would try to make him feel more comfortable by acting crazy themselves. Their collusion with George's pathology is an extreme example of a situation that all of us are at risk of. Our associates and loved ones may fall into a rhythm of going along with our odd ideas and bad habits, encouraging us to continue doing what we probably shouldn't do. I think this could be a potential problem for you in the coming days, Scorpio. Your allies may not bust you or call your bluff, which means you'd better do it yourself.

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535 LOST & FOUND

SCOUT BOOK left behind at Reimer's Ranch 10/15. mpatino@mac.com Thanks!

545 LEGAL NOTICES

366842

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 299th District Court of Travis County, on the 18th day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 366842, wherein Travis County, State Tax, Lago Vista Independent School District, City of Lago Vista, County Education District, Lago Vista MUD and FM Road are plaintiffs, and Barbara Fields, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Barbara Fields, Clarence W. Fields, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Clarence W. Fields and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$14,937.98** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 299th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on November 10, 1999.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 9083, Highland Lake Estates, Sec. 9, Plat No. 51/78 as described in Volume 6709, Page 1203 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$14,937.98** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

404233

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 299th District Court of Travis County, on the 18th day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 404233, wherein Travis County, City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista MUD, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, FM Road and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Sandra S. Dunn, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Sandra S. Dunn, Charles Dunn and Lago Vista Property Owners Association (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$15,147.48** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 299th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 25, 1996.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 9100, Highland Lake Estates, Sec. 9, Plat No. 51/78 as described in Volume 6919, Page 565 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$15,147.48** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

404234

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 331st District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 404234, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District NO.1, City of Lago Vista, County Education District, FM Road and Lago Vista Municipal Utilities District are plaintiffs, and Nancy E. Woods (In Rem Only), Lago Vista Property Owners Association (In Rem Only) and Hilton A. Ryder, Trustee for Consolidated Garage Door Co. of Fresno, a partnership (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$11,666.43** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 331st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on May 12, 1998.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 9104, Highland Lake Estates, Sec. 9, Plat No. 51/78 as described in Volume 7588, Page 248 and Volume 7617, Page 678 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$11,666.43** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

421512

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 421512, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Specialty Underwriters, Inc. are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$7,716.57** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 21, 2001.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 5148, Highland Lake Estates, Sec. 5, Plat No. 51/75 as described in Volume 5482, Page 2203 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$7,716.57** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

421516

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 18th day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 421516, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and FM Road are plaintiffs, and Donald K. Kitchen and Marjorie O. Kitchen are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$9,053.93** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 6, 1992.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 32043, Highland Lake Estates, Section 32, Plat No. 68/9 as described in Volume 5521, Page 770 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$9,053.93** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

424355

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 167th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of August, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 424355, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Lago Vista Municipal Utilities District, City of Lago Vista, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Doug Paddock are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$5,937.60** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 167th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 14, 2001.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 2027, Bar-K Ranches Plat 2, Plat No. 57/14 as described in Volume 7616, Page 783 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$5,937.60** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

425240

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 425240, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, City of Lago Vista, Travis County Emergency Services District NO. 1, Water Control Improvement District No. 15, FM Road and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Mary Louise Bassham aka Mary Y. Bassham, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Mary Louise Bassham aka Mary Y. Bassham are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$5,045.46** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on January 3, 2001.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 33, Block C, Lago Vista, Section 2, Plat No. 11/45 as described in Volume 4912, Page 2015 and Volume 6362, Page 1596 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$5,045.46** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /a/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

429839

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 167th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 429839, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Lago Vista Municipal Utilities District, Travis County Emergency Services District NO. 1, City of Lago Vista and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Edwin M. King, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Edwin M. King, Robert D. Dentino, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Robert D. Dentino, Lester D. Rathjen (In Rem Only) and Cynthia A. Rathjen (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$7,451.59** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 167th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 19, 1997.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 21175, Highland Lake Estates Sec. 21, Plat No. 55/59 as described in Volume 8787, Page 872 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$7,451.59** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

431695

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 431695, wherein Travis County, Lake Travis Independent School District, Water Control Improvement District No. 17, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6 and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Chula Vista Development Co., if active and if inactive, the unknown officers, directors, shareholders and owners of Chula Vista Development Co. are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$4,897.14** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 8, 2002.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 26, Block 9, Mountain View, Plat No. 4/243 as described in Volume 1955, Page 61 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$4,897.14** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

445992

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 445992, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista, FM Road, Water Control Improvement District No. 15 and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Gay Nell Campise, Individually and as Administratrix of the Estate of Joseph Campise are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$6,029.24** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 6, 2000.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 2069, Lago Vista Estates, Section 9, Plat No. 52/98 as described in Volume 9248, Page 674 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$6,029.24** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR

LEGAL NOTICES

SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

485662

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 331ST District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 485662, wherein Travis County, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Austin Community College and County Education District are plaintiffs, and J.W. Howeth, United States of America, Internal Revenue Service (In Rem Only), Travis County, Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin and County Education District (In Rem Only), City of Austin (In Rem Only), W.J. Howeth and Helen Howeth are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums:

Tract Number One: Billing Number 77828 = $5,153.30

Tract Number Two: Billing Number 88282 = $57,869.72

Tract Number Three: Billing Number 90923 = $184,775.07 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 331ST District Court of Travis County, Texas, on July 25, 2003.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT ONE: BILLING NO. 077828

.477 of an acre out of the J. C. Tannehill Survey #29, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 4686, Page 2339 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

Parcel No. 02-0724-03-4-0000

Location: Hudson Street

TRACT TWO: BILLING NO. 088282

Lot 16, Block 2, University Park (Olt. 29, Division C), Plat No. 3/125A, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 4290, Page 946 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

Parcel No. 02-1509-0230-0000

Location: 3500 Robinson Avenue

TRACT THREE: BILLING NO. 090923

Lot 3, Block 2, Lakeview Addition (Olt. 77, Div. O), Plat No. 2/199, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 4648, Page 867 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

Parcel No. 02-1803-0603-0000

Location: 505 West 38th Street of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums:

Tract Number One: Billing Number 77828 = $5,153.30

Tract Number Two: Billing Number 88282 = $57,869.72

Tract Number Three: Billing Number 90923 = $184,775.07 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

91-10389

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 91-10389, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista, County Education District are plaintiffs, and Robert R. Browning (In Rem Only), and H. Alice Browning (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$6,821.77** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on May 1, 2001.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 5, Block E, Lago Vista, Section 3, Phase 3, Plat No. 30/40 as described in Volume 5391, Page 297 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$6,821.77** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

91-10405

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 91-10405, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and Richard C. Dinsmore and Thelma Dinsmore are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$9,349.94** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 25, 1999.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 2537, Country Club Estates, Section 9, Plat No. 48/30 as described in Volume 8766, Page 754 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$9,349.94** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

93-00437

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 93-00437, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Eddie Walker (In Rem Only 1996-1998 & Individually 1999-Present), Carrie Walker (In Rem Only 1996-1998 and Individually 1999 - Present) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$7,087.70** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 31, 2000.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 3146, Bar-K Ranches, Plat 3, Plat No. 57/15 as described in Volume 13337, Page 490 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$7,087.70** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

94-05906

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 147TH District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 94-05906, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Jeffrey B. Koinm and Sandra L. Koinm are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$11,315.86** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 147TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 16, 2002.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 15143, Highland Lake Estates, Section 15, Plat No. 55/55 as described in Volume 11260, Page 1118 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$11,315.86** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

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.

10% BUYER'S PREMIUM

BLUEMOON AUCTION

M. RACKEL #10846

512-627-2583

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 28th 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.

Rae Chapman, Melba Favors, Edward Kaye, Dan Seeds, Sarah Connolly, Jill Ford, Hazel McCullough, Tracy Zeletz, Carlos Delrosario, Maureen Garnett, Tamera Powell.

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.

10% BUYER'S PREMIUM

BLUEMOON AUCTION

M. RACKEL #10846

512-627-2583

Big Lips, LLC, Jason Reece, Manager, President, Secretary, and Treasurer, DBA Beauty Bar is making Application with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit, Mixed Beverage Late Hours Permit and Beverage Cartage Permit on the Address of 617 E. 7th Street, Austin, Travis County, Texas.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

Cause No. GN504038

To: DERRICK B. DORN Defendant(s), in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the 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

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE

OF FAUSTINO SANCHEZ

SEGURA, Deceased, No. 83971 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. CAROLINA SEGURA alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 30th day of NOVEMBER, 2005, an Application for Determination of Heirship & Appointment of Dependent Administrator of the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said FAUSTINO SANCHEZ SEGURA, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 1st day of December, 2005.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
By Deputy:/s/RoxAnne Torrez

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - DIVORCE

CLERK OF THE COURT
BONNIE J. WOLBRUECK
406 M.L.K. ST. P.O BOX 24
GEORGETOWN, TX 78626
PETITIONER(S) ATTORNEY
MARGO AHERN FOX
312 WEST UNIVERSITY
GEORGETOWN, TX 78626
THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: CHARLES R LEPLEY -- and to all whom it may concern, Respondent(s) Lepley, Charles R "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment for the relief demanded in the petition may be taken against you."

The NOTICE OF HEARING of L'TANYA GERNAYNE LEPLEY, Petitioner(s), was filed in the said Court of Williamson County, Texas, on the 22ND day of NOVEMBER, 2005, against Lepley, Charles R. Respondent(s), numbered 05-489-FC2 and entitled IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF L'TANYA LEPLEY AND CHARLES R LEPLEY, AND IN THE INTEREST OF SOREN RHYS LEPLEY, CAMDEN BRIGGS LEPLEY AND JACK RANDOLPH LEPLEY, The suit requests THAT THE COURT GRANT RELIEF REQUESTED IN THIS NOTICE.

The date and place of birth of the child (children) who is (are) the subject of the suit: JACK RANDOLPH LEPLEY, BORN IN AUSTIN TEXAS

11/24/98

CAMDEN BRIGGS, LEPLEY, BORN IN AUSTIN TEXAS

01/18/97

SOREN RHYS LEPLEY, BORN IN AUSTIN TEXAS

05/04/94

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's (children's) interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's (children's) adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Georgetown, Texas, this the 23rd day of November A.D. 2005.

Attest:
BONNIE J WOLBRUECK
DISTRICT CLERK
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS
By:/s/ Elizabeth Bell Deputy

GV-103402

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-103402, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Beatrice Louise Anderson Dean Living Trust, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Beatrice Louise Anderson Dean Living Trust are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums:

Tract Number Three: Billing Number 50465 = $1,889.23 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 24, 2003.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT 3: Billing No. 50465

Lot 11, Block K, Emerald Bend, Section 1, Plat No. 36/2 as desc. In Vol. 11673, Pg. 918 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract Number Three: Billing Number 50465 = $1,889.23** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-204251

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-204251, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Leo James Hoecker and Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$2,594.08** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 24, 2003.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 31177, Highland Lake Estates, Section 31, Plat No. 66/90, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 7904, Page 148 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$2,594.08** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-300077

AV1222 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY. THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.
I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

DECEMBER 22, 2005 @ 10:00 AM @ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 220 RALPH ABLANEDO, AUSTIN, TX 78748

1.	053040399	1995	MITS	2DR	VVG42W	TX	JA3AA21AXSU027561
2.	055060289	1994	GEO	LL	8NXD18	TX	2CNBE18U7R6953120
3.	055060765	1992	MAZD	2DR	IBW310	LA	JM1EC4325N0130221
4.	055060766	1995	TOYT	CP	SDR32N	TX	JT2EL55D2S0055941
5.	055060767	1979	MERC	2DR	D41BGM	TX	9F16F632139
6.	055060771	1993	CHEV	4DR	S46KPV	TX	2G1WL54T8P9244135
7.	055060772	1991	FORD	2DR	W60NRS	TX	1FACP45E9MF171374
8.	055060773	1991	FORD	VN	T029JD	FL	1FDEE14H5MHA77088
9.	055060776	1990	CHEV	LL	579CJF	TX	1GNER16K7LF144549
10.	055060777	1990	TOYT	4DR	V51WDN	TX	JT2VV22E6L0121642
11.	055061379	1990	ISUZ	LL	XLH53H	TX	JACCH58R78904776
12.	055061625	1992	MAZD	4DR	M49RZX	TX	JM1EC4314N0103292
13.	055061626	1995	FORD	PK	8CXV79	TX	1FTDF15Y7SLB69132
14.	055061629	1986	NISS	4DR	N45LMZ	TX	JN1HU11S9GT112983
15.	055061630	1990	CADI	4DR	V01MPF	TX	1G6CD5330L4260077
16.	055061638	1991	FORD	2DR	L31DTZ	TX	1FACP40M3MF133394
17.	055061650	1994	CHEV	LL	AKH9373	GA	1GNCS18W5R0108849
18.	055061651	2004	MAZD	PK	7S98230	CA	4F4YR12D24TM06257
19.	055061652	1963	FORD	PK	2FFV40	TX	F10CD370658
20.	055061699	1989	MAZD	2DR	R61LFJ	TX	1YVGD31A3K5208918
21.	055061700	1977	OLDS	4DR	L19TPR	TX	3X69K7E163352
22.	055061701	1989	EGIL	SW	L49TSM	TX	VF1FF48K9K2100447
23.	055061705	1978	GMC	VN	7KRF35	TX	TPL258504210
24.	055061707	1987	NISS	2DR	582BND	TX	JN1PB24S0HU014021
25.	055061709	1985	CADI	4DR	S54KNW	TX	1G6JG69W3FJ512478
26.	055061710	1979	CHAM	BT	5723WZ	TX	TSB01480M79H
27.	055061862	1983	CHEV	LL	RU0567	TX	1G8EK18H9DF112597
28.	055061890	1992	MAZD	VN	YCV91W	TX	JM3LV5220N0416980
29.	055061894	1986	DODG	LL	27CDX1	TX	2B4HB11T6GK525842
30.	055061897	1987	HOND	4DR	B78VRR	TX	JHMCA5639HC100843
31.	055061899	1990	PONT	4DR	771CJC	TX	1G2JB54K2L7527495
32.	055061902	1991	TOYT	4DR	F70YCB	TX	4T1SV24E9MU313828
33.	055061917	1989	CHEV	4DR	P60WTJ	TX	1G1AW51R9K6252870
34.	055062030	1991	FORD	LL	K40BBJ	TX	1FMDA11U7MZB57463
35.	055062113	1985	VOLV	SW	D19SKR	TX	YV1FX885XF1005269
36.	055062115	1995	MERC	4DR	W91FGN	TX	1MELM65LXSK638642

CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-300077, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Sammy Lee Owens (In Rem Only 1997 and Individually 1998-Present) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$6,039.48** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 10, 2004.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 2630, Lago Vista Country Club Estates, Section 11, Plat NO. 48/42 as described in Volume 11167, Page 552 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$6,039.48** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-300201

CONSTABLE'S
NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-300201, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin and Travis County are plaintiffs, and Henry L. Gomez and City of Austin (In RemOnly) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$5,277.38** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 6, 2004.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 84, Block A, Village South, Phase 1, Plat No. 62/4, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in document number 2001188126 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$5,277.38** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NO: 05-1515AD

IN RE: THE ADOPTION OF RYAN TYRONE WILLIAMS

DATE OF BITH 10-28-88

BY: WILLIE LEWIS TERRELL AND HELGA TORONTO TERRELL PETITIONERS, vs. RONALD SMITH, BIOLOGICAL FATHER RESPONDENT

To: RONALD SMITH

Order of Publication

It appearing from the bill in this cause, which is sworn to that the residence and current address of the Defendant, RONALD SMITH, is unknown and cannot be served with process, It is ordered that publication be made for four consecutive weeks in The AUSTIN CHRONICLE, a newspaper published at AUSTIN, Texas in Travis County, requiring the said defendants, Ronald Smith, to appear before the clerk of said Court on or before thirty days after the last publication hereof and make defense to the bill filed in the above cause, which seeks ADOPTION or otherwise said bill be taken for confessed and cause proceeded with exparte.

This the 23rd day of November, 2005.

John A. W. Bratcher, Clerk of said Court

By : Lori Finch

Deputy Clerk

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. 168 for more info.

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 Shadiina Lee and Ramon Franklin petitioning the Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County to award Guardianship over Reneka Madison.

NOTICE Superior Court of New Jersey, Atlantic County, Chancery Division, Docket No. ATL-C-63-04

THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO DEFENDANT: YOU ARE SUMMONED and required to serve on Jeffrey H. Sutherland, Esquire of Schweller & Sutherland, P.C., plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 2106 New Road, Linwood Commons, Suite E-5 Linwood, NJ 08221, an Answer to the Complaint filed in a civil action, in which Lucien, Inc. and Bruce E. Feldeisen are Plaintiffs and The Estate of E. Clarence Miller and "Unknown Owners, his or her heirs, devisees and Personal Representatives and his, hers, their or any of their successors in right title and interest" potential other interested parties include; Fred Arnold Miller, Catherine L. Miller, Carla Martha Miller and Gunnar K. Miller all of Texas; Barbara M. Miller Brown, New Jersey, Donald M. Beardwood, Pennsylvania and Michael J. Galante, P.L.S. and Galante Associates, P.C. are captioned defendants, in the Superior Court of New Jersey, within 35 days after the date this notice is published. You must file your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Court at the Atlantic County Courthouse, Superior Court of New Jersey, 1201 Bacharach Boulevard, Atlantic City, New Jersey, 08401, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

The above-mentioned action has been filed in order to quiet title to certain properties described as:

BEGINNING at a stone monument set at the intersection of the center lines of Leeds Avenue at a certain un-named Road, North 77 degrees 53 minutes West 2402.51 feet from a stone monument set at the intersection of the center lines of Leeds Avenue and Wrangleborough Road and extending by true meridian Courses thence (1) North 4 degrees 25 minutes East along the center line of said un-named Road 912.33 feet to a stake which is the end of said Road: thence (2) North 80 degrees 13 minutes West 331.46 feet to a stake set in the center of another n-named Road, which stake is at the end thereof; thence (3) South 1 degrees (25) minutes West along the center line of the last un-named Road 899.3 feet to a stone monument set at the intersection of the center lines of the last un-named Road and Leeds Avenue; thence (4) South 77 degrees 58 minutes East along the center line of Leeds Avenue 332.94 feet to the place of beginning. CONTAINING, after excepting thereout and therefrom a certain 2 1/2 Acre tract from near the middle of the above described plot, and running of a width of 330 feet between parallel lines from middle to middle of the two un-named Roads, (which exception is shown on the above mentioned Map or Tract No. 9) Four and thirty-six one hundreths Acres.

BEING FARM LTO #1521, as shown on a map or plan or Farm and Villa Lots of Gilbert & O'Callaghan, and known as tract #9, a copy of which is on file in the Clerk's Office of Atlantic County at May's Landing, New Jersey.

This action concerns real estate located at Galloway Township, New Jersey. You are made defendant because the persons above described may have a claim to an interest in the property.

NOTICE
OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Native Harvest Seeding and Planting Services, IFB B060055-DR

Opens: December 27, 2005 @ 10:00 a.m.

Bids 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. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp.

Bidders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Texas Holdings, LLD., 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 **28th of DECEMBER, 2005** at each self-storage facility at which it is described below: NO CHILDREN PLEASE.

9:00 a.m. 28 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 7200 S. First St., Austin, TX 78745

T596 JIM COAK DRYER, BOXES, CHAIR

T601 JEFF HOUSE ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

T598 JAMES COAK SR. BOXES, LAMPS, SHOVELS

D115 REGINAL PAIGE MATTRESS, SOFA, LOVESEAT

I237 SHELIA ANN JONES CHAIRS, BOXES, BAGS

V714 CHANTAL WILLIAMS TV, SUITCASE, BED

B059 LARRY BIRD FUTON, TABLE, BOX

L365 JAMES DANIEL VCR, CAR PARTS, CHAIR

Q507 LEO BARRETT CLOTHES, SHOES, TOTE

J254 JEANETTE ROSS DRESSER, BEDS, BAGS

W783 JOHN HANSON ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

L334 LAUREN CRISP DRESSER, VCR, GRILL

V753 HAYLEY EDWARDS ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

L326 JOHN BOONE BIG SCREEN TV, BED, BIKE

I247 JASON BRATTON TOOL BOX, DRESSER, WET VAC

B055 EDWARD MATA BOXES, BUCKET, WEEDEATER

9:30 a.m. 28 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 7112 S. Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78745

M67 JIM MAHER JR. BOXES, SHOES

M51 PHIL CARTER CHAIR, BOXES, CLOTHES

F6 SCOTT HARVEY SOFA & BOXES

D19 KENYATTA HUTCHINSON BED & BOXES

10:00 a.m. 28 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 4202 Santiago. , Austin, TX 78745

551 RICK GREEN BED, BOX SPRING, WARDROBE CARRIER

388 KAREN SHINGLEDECKER TOTES, BOXES, CHAIR

319 CARLOS RIVAS BED, LAMP, COMPUTER

212 BARBARA BANISTER SOFA, BOXES, CLOTHES

318 DEBBIE CHAPMAN ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

10:30 a.m. 28 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 5016 E. Ben White, Austin, TX 78741

D002 ELEANOR THOMPSON DESK, END TABLE, CHAIRS

C161 TAMMY WILSON SOFA, COFFEE TABLE, CHAIRS

11:00 a.m. 28 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 1213 W. 6TH ST., Austin, TX 78703

4050 ESTEBAN SHERIDAN ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

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 BATCHELLOR, 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 BUENTELLO, 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

4:30 p.m. 20 DECEMBER, 2005 Public Storage @ 10931 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759

E050 SHON SCHAEFER, 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 Top Hat Self Storage, pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives notice of a public sale.

On December 28, 2005, Top Hat Self Storage located at 4500 South Congress Ave., Austin, Texas 78745, will conduct a sale. Delinquent rental spaces will be auctioned off to the highest bidder for cash at 10 a.m. on the premises. The public is invited to attend. The contents of 11 rental spaces containing misc. items, furniture, office furniture, antiques, estate boxes, bicycles, electronics, appliances, washers, dryers, tools, yard tools, musical instruments, and TV's will be sold to satisfy Landlord Liens. All items will be sold "as is" to the highest bidder. CASH ONLY, NO CHECKS. All items are subject to prior redemption. Tenants included in this sale are: Ashley Montgomery, Starlette Petrosky, Gary Wise, Matthew Tamayo, Eloy Davila, Kimberly Carlson, Ellen Fields, Samantha Fayson, Oscar Lucio, Melanie Moore, Ricardo Calzadilla.

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, Kandaswami Sukumoran, Brien 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 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 immediately following at Absolute Stor-N-Lok 1607 Matthews Lane, Austin, Texas 78745. 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" for CASH to the highest bidder. 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; Renulfo 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, 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.

BANKRUPTCY

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the COMMON LAW

by **Carl Barry**

The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

WHAT IS DEFERRED ADJUDICATION?

I was arrested and have been given deferred adjudication as a possible option. What is deferred adjudication?

Deferred adjudication is in essence what it seems: the deferral of a judgment against you for a charged criminal offense. Basically, it is a plea bargain between you and the court. When you are arrested and formally charged with violating a Texas criminal statute the prosecutor may give you the option of deferred adjudication, whereby, you enter a plea of either "guilty" or "nolo contendere" ("no contest") to the charged criminal offense and the court places you on probation. For reasons not discussed here, generally it is wiser to plea "no contest" (especially if there is any threat of subsequent civil litigation arising out of the same conduct).

During this probationary period the court withholds judgment. The length of the probationary period assigned by the court will depend upon the seriousness of the charged criminal offense. If you successfully complete the probation and any other conditions assigned by the court, the charges are dismissed and there is no conviction on your record (Caution – this "dismissal" is not exactly what it seems and will be discussed in greater detail in next week's column.)

Typically, you will be required to pay a fine and court costs. However, should you violate the terms of the probationary period, either by not completing all the conditions assigned by the court or by being arrested and/or charged during the probationary period for anything other than a minor traffic violation, the court has the authority to impose the maximum penalty allowed by law for the offense originally brought against you. You must understand that by agreeing to deferred adjudication you forever waive your right to trial by a jury of your peers. Thus, you have given the judge complete autonomy and control of your fate should you fail to successfully complete any of the terms and conditions of the probationary period.

Be sure to read next week's column, which will discuss more of the implications of agreeing to deferred adjudication. This is important information. According to the Texas Department of Public Safety, as of Feb. 10, 2005, there were almost 2 million Texans who had been placed on deferred adjudication.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to **thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com**. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.

LEGAL NOTICES

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 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 SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF TRAVIS

BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE DATED November 28, 2005, and issued pursuant to a judgment decree of the District Court of Travis County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date in the hereinafter numbered and styled causes, and to me directed and delivered as Constable, Pct. 5, of said Court, I have on November 28, 2005, seized, levied upon, and will on the first Tuesday in January, 2006, the same being the 3rd day of said month at the Courthouse door of said County, in the City of Austin, between the hours of 10:00 o'clock A.M. and 4:00 o'clock P.M. on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Travis and the State of Texas, to-wit:

No. 99-13081, Leander Independent School District vs. Jimmy Cantwell, Jodi Cantwell, Marilyn Holder (In Rem Only) and Conseco Finance Servicing Corporation, (In Rem Only)

a 1994 28 ft. X 48 ft. Mobile Home located on Lots 69-71, Jonestown HIlls #7, (11626 Travis Street, Jonestown) Travis County, Texas, Serial CHVM059485207786A/B, Label TRA0204761/2

No. GV402418, Leander Independent School District vs. Johnnie L. Morgan, III. AKA Johnnie Lee Morgan AKA Johnnie Lee Morgan, III., Karen Morgan AKA Karen K. Morgan, Green Tree Servicing, L.L.C. (In Rem Only) and Conseco Financial Servicing Corp. (In Rem Only)

2.28 Acres, being Lot 3-5, Leander Hills, Phase V, (14202 Gillum Creek Drive, Leander) Travis County, Texas and a Mobile Home, Model: Broadmore, 1983, 14 Feet X 76 Feet, Label #TEX0283622, Serial #TXFL1AD511209016 being that property more particularly described in Volume 11767, Page 514 of the Deed Records, Travis County, Texas;

2.15 Acres, being Lot 4-5, Leander Hills Addition, Phase V, (Gillum Creek Drive, Leander) Travis County, Texas being that property more particularly described in Volume 11767, Page 516 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

No. GV500820, Leander Independent School District vs. Peggy A. Hill

Lots 182 and 199, Block 57, Trails End Resub Addition, (17400 East Darlene Drive, Leander) Travis County, Texas and a Mobile Home, Serial #7165120405 being that property more particularly described in Volume 11329, Page 334 of the Deed Records, Travis County, Texas or upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion thereof to satisfy said judgment for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interest and costs of suit and sale; subject, however, to the right

of redemption, the defendants or any person having an interest therein, to redeem the said property, or their interest therein, within the period of time and in the manner provided by law, and subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interested

therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interest rendered in the above styled and numbered cause, together with interest thereon and costs of suit and sale, and the proceeds of said sale to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

DATED November 28, 2005, at Austin, Texas.

By /s/ Bruce Elfant

CONSTABLE, Pct. 5, Travis County, Texas

/s/ Alan Redd

DEPUTY

You may contact the Plaintiff's attorney at 512-943-1645

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

State of Texas

County of Travis

Cause: 04201C26

By virtue of an Writ of Execution issued by the clerk of the 26 DISTRICT Court of WILLIAMSON County, Texas, November 09, 2005, in cause numbered 04201C26, styled GRANGER NATIONAL BANK versus C. HARDIN CAMP II, LAVERN CAMP & CAMP EXCAVATION & CONTRACTING INC. on a judgment rendered against C. HARDIN CAMP II, LAVERN CAMP & CAMP EXCAVATION & CONTRACTING INC.; I did on November 22, 2005, at 1:00 p.m., levy upon as the property of C. HARDIN CAMP II, LAVERN CAMP & CAMP EXCAVATION & CONTRACTING INC. the following described real property:

1.289 acres of land, out of the Peter Conrad Survey, number 71, abstract number 200, Travis County, Texas, meaning all that certain 5.21 acre tract described in deed recorded in volume 13074, page 1067, official public record of Travis County, Texas, save and except, that certain 3.825 acres described in document number 2003177212, official public record of Travis County, Texas, said 1.289 acres tract of land being more particularly described in document number 2004084998, official public records of Travis County, Texas, and being locally known as 19292 Wilke Lane Pflugerville, Texas.

Tract 2:9.999 acres, out of the Edward Flint survey, number 11, in Travis County, Texas, being described in deed recorded in volume 8193, page 315, deed records of Travis County, Texas and in document number 2004051767, official public records of Travis County, Texas and being locally known as 3715 Kelly Lane Pflugerville, Texas of the map or plat records of Travis County, Texas.

On January 03, 2006, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of C. HARDIN CAMP II, LAVERN CAMP & CAMP EXCAVATION & CONTRACTING INC. in and to the real property described above.

Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, December 02, 2005

Bruce Elfant,

Constable Precinct 5

Travis County, Texas

/s/ by SENIOR DEPUTY ALAN REDD

Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately.

Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015, Tax Code, showing that the Travis County Assessor-Collector has determined that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addition, an individual may not bid or purchase property in the name of any other individual.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF

KATHERINE GORDON McCARLEY, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Katherine Gordon McCarley, deceased, were issued on November 22, 2005, in Cause No. 83,878 pending in the Travis County Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to Clarence W. Utley as Independent Executor. The residence of the Independent Executor is in Travis County, Texas. The post office address for claims is:

Estate of Katherine Gordon McCarley

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: December 2, 2005

Gilman & Associates, P.C.

1411 West Avenue, Suite 100

Austin, TX 78701

Attorneys for the Executor

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA TALTON JANSEN, DECEASED, NOTICE is hereby given that Letters Testamentary in the Estate of PATRICIA TALTON JANSEN, DECEASED, were granted to ERROL VEREEN JANSEN on November 30, 2005, by Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, Cause No. 83,874.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present same within the time prescribed by law, and before said estate is closed, in care of ATTORNEY RICHARD W. CHOTE, 3305 Northland Drive #500, Austin, Texas 78731-4962.

ERROL VEREEN JANSEN

Independent Executor

Estate of PATRICIA TALTON JANSEN, DECEASED

By: RICHARD W. CHOTE

Attorney at Law

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ROBERT GEORGE BURIAN, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ROBERT GEORGE BURIAN, Deceased, were issued on December 6, 2005, in Cause No. 83,913, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: JOHNNY DUKE as Independent Executor. The residence of the Independent Executor is Watauga, Tarrant County, Texas. The post office address is: Estate of ROBERT GEORGE BURIAN

Law Office of Diane Hebner

507 West 7th Street

Austin, Texas 78701-2817

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 6th day of December, 2005.

Law Office of Diane Hebner

507 West 7th Street

Austin, TX 78701-2817

(512)477-4158 Telephone

(512)477-2126 Fax

By: /s/ Diane Hebner

Attorney for Independent Executor

State Bar No.: 09367300

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF NORMA L. HALL, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary in the Estate of Norma L. Hall, Deceased, were issued on November 29, 2005, in Cause No. 83,869 pending in Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to Linda Hall, Independent Executor.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows:

Linda L. Hall

Independent Executor, Estate of Norma L. Hall, Deceased

c/o Don E. Walden

7200 North Mopac, Suite 300

Austin, Texas 78731

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated this 2nd day of December, 2005.

/s/ Don E. Walden

State Bar No. 20672800

7200 North Mopac, Suite 300

Austin, Texas 78731

(512) 349-9595

(512) 795-8079 Fax

Attorney for Executor

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF KAREN JANET TURNER, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of KAREN JANET TURNER, Deceased, were issued on December 6, 2005, in Cause No. 83,912, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: JOHNNY DUKE as Independent Executor. The residence of the Independent Executor is Watauga, Tarrant County, Texas. The post office address is: Estate of KAREN JANET TURNER

Law Office of Diane Hebner

507 West 7th Street

Austin, Texas 78701-2817

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 6th day of December, 2005.

Law Office of Diane Hebner

507 West 7th Street

Austin, TX 78701-2817

(512)477-4158 Telephone

(512)477-2126 Fax

By: /s/ Diane Hebner

Attorney for Independent Executor

State Bar No.: 09367300

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JAMES ALBERT BROWN, Deceased, were issued on November 15, 2005, in Cause No. 83739, pending in the Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Texas, to: Beverley W. Brown.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Karl A. Shackelford

Attorney at Law

1608 West 34th Street

Austin, Texas 78703

DATED the 5th day of December, 2005.

/s/ Karl A. Shackelford

Attorney for Estate

State Bar No.: 00795838

1608 West 34th Street

Austin, Texas 78703

Telephone: (512) 474-1678

Facsimile: (512) 236-9227

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Walter F. Woodul, Jr., Deceased, were issued on December 6, 2005, in Docket No. 83,893, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Paul Woodul. The residence of the Independent Executor is in Tulsa, Tulsa County, Oklahoma, 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 6th day of December, 2005.

Scofield & Scofield, P.C.

Attorneys for the Estate

By: /s/ Janice Pierce

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Frances Emmaline Doyle, Deceased, were issued on November 9, 2005, under Docket No. 83706, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to Mary Francis Doyle a/k/a Mary Frances Doyle.

Claims may be presented in care of the representative of the estate, addressed as follows:

Mary Doyle

Representative, Estate of Frances Emmaline Doyle

P.O. Box 133

Woody Creek, CO 81656

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 November 29, 2005.

The Law Office of Anne C.M. Wood

1002 West Avenue

Austin, Texas 78701

By /s/ Anne C.M. Wood, Attorney for Applicant

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On November 30, 2005, Ernest Raymond Helfrich was appointed Independent Executor of the Estate of Leona M. Helfrich, Deceased, in Cause No. 83894, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of Independent Executor is

c/o Andrew C. Friedmann, Attorney & Counselor at Law, 4408 Spicewood Springs Road, Austin, Texas 78759, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Paul W. Gudgell, Deceased were issued on November 15, 2005, in Cause No. 83,768, pending in the Probate Court No. One (1) of Travis County, Texas, to: Dorothy S. Gudgell.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Brent R. Caldwell

Attorney at Law

16852 Royal Crest Drive

Houston, Texas 77058-2529

DATED the 6th day of November, 2005.

Caldwell Law Firm

Attorneys for the Independent Executrix

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 294 of the Texas Probate Code that original letters testamentary for the ESTATE OF MAURICE F. DEGROOT, deceased, were issued on August 2, 2005, in Cause Number 83,189, ESTATE OF MAURICE F. DEGROOT, deceased, were issued on August 2, 2005, in Cause Number 83,189, ESTATE OF MAURICE F. DEGROOT, deceased, being pending in Probate Court

Number One Sitting In Matters Probate, Travis County, Texa, to MAURICE F. DEGROOT, JR., also known as "Maurice F. DeGroot," Independent Executor. The address is: MAURICE F. DEGROOT, JR., Independent Executor, c/o Rob V. Robertson, Attorney at Law, 13740 Research Blvd., Suite H-3, Austin, Texas 78750-1837. All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED: December 2, 2005.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

On December 1, 2005, Daniel M. St. Andre qualified as Independent Executor of the Estate of Juanita A. St. Andre, Deceased, in Cause No. 05-0487-CP2 pending in the County Court at Law No. 2 of Williamson 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.

Daniel M. St. Andre, Independent Administrator of the Estate of Juanita A. St. Andre

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PUBLISHED NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of

EVELYN LAVERNE SPEARS were issued on November 30, 2005 in Docket Number 83845, pending in the Probate No. One, Travis County, Texas to WILLIAM FRANKLIN DISHONGH, Independent Executor. The address of record for WILLIAM FRANKLIN DISHONGH is 2704 Azzuro Way, Cedar Park, Texas 78613. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims to the foregoing address within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

S/ William Franklin Dishongh, Independent Executor of the Estate of EVELYN LAVERNE SPEARS

X96-00216

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered X96-00216, wherein Travis County, City of Manor, County Education District, Manor Independent School District, Travis County Rural Fire District No. 9 are plaintiffs, and Benito Mendieta, Lucia Mendieta, Tammie L. Grider (In Rem Only), The Office of the Attorney General of the State of Texas [Child Support Litigation Division] (In Rem Only), City of Austin (In Rem Only) and Walter R. Schroeder (In Rem Only) if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Walter R. Schroeder are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$4,195.28** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 8, 1997.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

South 57 1/2 feet of Lots 1 and 2, Block 39, Town of Manor, Plat No. V/796 as described in Volume 10888, Page 195 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$4,195.28** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X96-00220

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered X96-00220, wherein City of Austin, Austin Community College, Travis County and Austin Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Rosie Perez Molina, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Rosie Perez Molina, Comptroller of Public Accounts (In Rem Only) and United States of America (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$7,937.16** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 27, 1997.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 16, Block 1, Chernosky Subdivision No. 16, Plat No. 5/97 as described in Volume 12036, Page 865 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$7,937.16** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X98-07996

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered X98-07996, wherein Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County, Austin Community College, FM Road and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Thomas Perkins, Bailey Pink, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Bailey Pink, Florence E. Lorenz (In Rem Only), City of Austin (In Rem Only), Texas Employment Commission nka Texas Workforce Commission (In Rem Only), United States of America (In Rem Only) and Orville A. Lorenz (In Rem Only) if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Orville Lorenz are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums:

TRACT NUMBER ONE: BILLING NUMBER 83328 = $8,598.00

TRACT NUMBER TWO: BILLING NUMBER 83327 = $6,715.29

TRACT NUMBER THREE: BILLING NUMBER 83325 = $6,132.14 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on May 16, 2000.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder,

all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT 1: Billing No 83328

Lot 6, Block 1, Lincoln Gardens No. 2, Plat No. 5/3 as desc. in Volume 7937, Page 387, Volume 9489, Page 420 and *Volume 10166, Page 849 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas,

TRACT 2: Billing No 83327

Lot 5, Block 1, Lincoln Gardens No. 2, Plat No. 5/3 (SAVE AND EXCEPT that portion as desc. in Volume 7774, Page 254) as desc. in Volume 7937, Page 387 and Volume 9489, Page 420 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

TRACT 3: Billing No 83325

Lot 3, Block 1, Lincoln Gardens No. 2, Plat No. 5/3 (SAVE AND EXCEPT that portion as desc. in Volume 7774, Page 254) as desc. in Volume 7937, Page 387 and Volume 9489, Page 420 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums:

TRACT NUMBER ONE: BILLING NUMBER 83328 = $8,598.00

TRACT NUMBER TWO: BILLING NUMBER 83327 = $6,715.29

TRACT NUMBER THREE: BILLING NUMBER 83325 = $6,132.14 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X99-00668

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 23rd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered X99-00668, wherein Travis County, Pflugerville Independent School District, City of Pflugerville and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 are plaintiffs, and Scott G. Hickman and Lorraine Youngquist (In Rem Only) if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Lorraine Youngquist are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$14,366.69** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 23, 2003.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 1, Block 1, Lisso Subdivision, Plat No. 30/42 as described in Volume 11697, Page 723 and

Volume 12284, Page 1719 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$14,366.69** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X99-09346

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 22nd day of November, 2005 in a certain cause numbered X99-09346, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, Travis County and City of Austin are plaintiffs, and Ramona Rivas, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Ramona Rivas and Standard Mortgage Co. Inc. (In Rem Only), if active and if inactive, the unknown officers, directors, shareholders and owners of Standard Mortgage Co., Inc. are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$6,482.45** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on July 31, 2002.

I, on the 28th day of November, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 3rd day of January, 2006, at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

North 40' of Lot 13 and the East 35' of the north 40' of Lot 14, Pope's Resubdivision (Olt. 48 & 59, Div. O), Plat No. 3/57 as described in Volume 5420, Page 817 and Volume 7666, Page 265 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

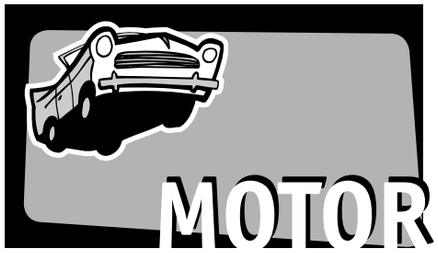
THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$6,482.45** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.



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HONDA CIVIC 1996 EX, black, 5spd, 127k, 30+mpg, a/c, 4000obo 694-4432

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TOYOTA SIENNA LE 2004 30Kml(maint.done)Exc.cond. $23250 OBO 342 2595(Sergio)

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CHEVROLET CONVERSION VAN 1987 1600obo 326-5004

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– Jason Nesbitt, Hyde Park

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WEBSITE Looking to join a local Austin band? Find more great musicians wanted ads online at **austinchronicle.com/classifieds**

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BASS sadowsky bass,aguilar 112,swr sm 500,fender jazz, great prices a.ferrer@hotmail

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BASS AMP Carvin R1000 bass amp and 4x10" cab w/cover. $500.00 832-5558

BASS CABINET Ampeg SVT410HLN $500.00. 512-791-1559

CLARINETTE for sale hardly used.Asking $200 o.b.o. Call Jessica at 576-0171

DRUM SET 7 piece black pearl export.Rack.Very nice. 299-0066.kennof@hotmail

DRUM SET Premier XP professional grade 5 piece drumset; emerald pearl finish,stool, Sabian ride, Zudjan high hat $400 480-0532

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40YO SINGER/ SONGWRITER SEEKS lead guitarist for duo. add bass/drums later? gigs/ rec Infl: Earle, Supersuckers rickywaynetrain@hotmail.com 203-3095 Lakeway area

BASS PLAYER WANTED... Must know scales, techniques, and play a varied variety of music 512-693-2131

BASS+KEYS WANTED. CLASSIC Rock/Variety(1972-87)Startup.No multibanders 335-0035 Aero,Rush, VanH,ZZ, Queen,Police. Rehearsal. Pro Gear & Skills.Healthy. Age~ 30-40ish

BASSIST WANTED FOR Indie Rock Band,orig material,NO BLUES! 5127997708/wgolding@austin.rr.com

BASSIST W/17 YRS.EXP. looking to form a group. Infl:TheJesusLizard,Mars Volta,Interpol,Ratatat,The Smiths...but,don't want to sound like any of them. Serious musicians please. Jerry 577-8076

BLUES/ROCK BAND SEEKS bassist. Willing to rehearse 1x per week. No drugs. jberler@austin.rr.com or 512-484-5084.

CELLO PLAYER NEEDED for a low-fi rock band. If intrested call 740-5461.

DO YOU KNOW what a BbMaj7#11 is? This is the band for you! Contact Dave at rudiger02@hotmail.com

DJ/ELECTRONICS NEEDED TO colaborate with a guitar player to create layers of atmosphere/trip hop/sonic/shoegaze/trance etc. infl. Ladytron, DJ Shadow, Swervedriver, Kraftwerk, Massive Attack, Underworld, Slowdive. Call 282-0022

DRUMMER FOR BLUES & R&B/Rock/Jazz. Semi-pro gigs booked. Transport, rehearsal, attitude required. austinmusicians@yahoo.com

DRUMMER NEEDED FOR pop/rock trio. Samples at www.robstarmusic.com. We are ready to gig!!! rob@robstarmusic.com

DRUMMER NEEDED FOR touring psycho/ cowpunk trio no part timers 512 743 6405

DRUMMER WANTED FOR Austin power pop group. 2/4 with rimshots your style? Love Ringo, Jim Keltner, Simon Kirke, Phil Rudd? We are your band. Call Steve McCarthy at 512-657-8127.

ESTABLISHED SPEED METAL band seeks fast, technical double bass player. Lazarus@whoreofbabylon.net 512-565-1573

ESTABLISHED SPEED METAL band seeks a massive synth attack. You should be a real keyboard PLAYER! 512-565-1573 Lazarus@whoreofbabylon.net

FANS OF HORROR, sci fi films. play your instrument while werewolves murder the audience. 771 7617

FRONT MATURE FEMALE wanted for serious variety band. Versatile styling needed. Reply dubieone1@yahoo.com

INDUSTRIAL ROCK BAND w/gigs & mgmt. seeks M or F 2nd guitarist. Rehearse 1/week, Gig 1-2/month. AustinElectro@yahoo.com

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LIKE ALICE IN Chains,STP,GNR,Tool etc? Have pro-gear, pro-attitude, transportation? Serious about playing/ gigging? Age 21-30? 512-300-8001 madhatterq @yahoo.com -Joe-

LOOKING FOR A Guitarist. In vein of In Flames, Dark Tranquillity, Converge, 108, Lamb of God. If interested, call Vijay at 680-9359.

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NEED LEAD GUITAR player. Spacey blues/melody maker. Infu:Built to Spill,Modest Mouse,Interpol, Neil Young. Ages 23 to 35. Call 339-6132

NEW BAND LICK LICK (members of middlefinger, lessaucypants, 30ftFall, Sprawl) seeks DRUMMER momatt@alumni.rice.edu.

SCARY CHRONIC JR. is looking for a drummer email scarychronicjr@yahoo.com check out the songs www.myspace.com/scarychronicjr

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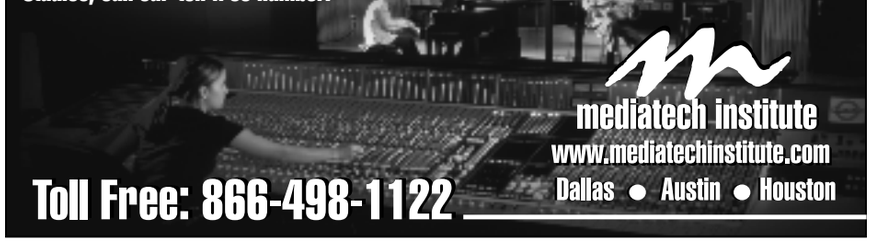
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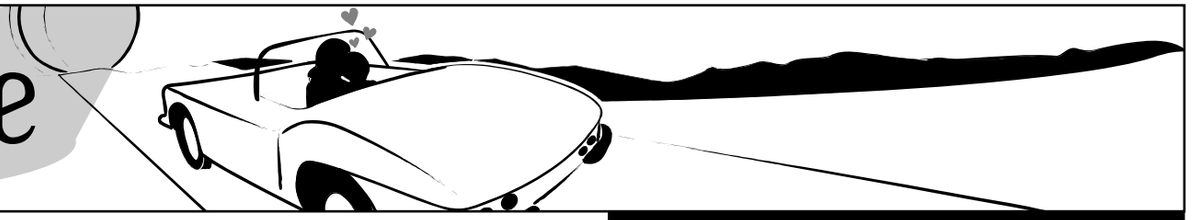


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women SEEKING men

HELLO TEXAS!
Looking for a man between 45-52 to help me learn my way about Austin! I am outgoing, low maintainence, love dancing, have all my own teeth, quirky sense of humor. **Cookie**, 47, **#114957**

THINGS I LOVE
God, mountains, water, open range, animals, thunderstorms, sunshine, good "herb", smiling eyes, music, road trips and you if you're the one. I'm young 49, pretty, natural blonde, tall, Christian, funny. **codyodyo**, 49, **#114955**

COUNTRY FRIED WHAT?
MOST SUPER CHICK you will EVER MEET!! New to Area Just looking for someone that loves trashy bars, loud music, beer, and good times. **dwn_n_cntry_hell**, 26, **#114918**

GENIILOCI SEEKS SOULMATE
Single, free-spirited, fun/music loving, young in heart and body gal seeking friend/partner who can make me laugh; not one-night stands. I like to hike, dine out, cook, converse & travel. **GENILOCI**, 44, **#114886**

EASY-GOING, FRIENDLY, ATTRACTIVE
I am out-going and laid back. I love movies, music, dining out, anything outdoors. I'm looking for a man who is kind, intelligent, out-going, active, and treats women with respect. **lively**, 54, **#114874**

RESPONSIBLE, EDUCATED, GEEKY
Healthy, active and adventurous. Novice foil fencer, dancer, camper. Like the finer things in life and to be spoiled, but like to keep things simple. Quality is better than quantity. **Tao_Belle**, 26, **#114872**

AIR INSPIRES FIRE
Honest, Active, Liberated, Peaceful, Knowledgable Native seeks kind, humorous, gentle, emotionally mature, physically toned, communicative, two-legged being for friendship based on compassion and committment to living with the violet flame. **MayanRose**, 40, **#114858**

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 Carribean 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**

men SEEKING women

PRECOCIOUS YOUNG ADULT.
18; 6 ft about 172lbs hispanic male. Optimistic, open-minded, passionate, & articulate. Yet, I'm bored. Seeking a 18-25 year old woman who's sweet, ambitious, passionate, and caring for serious dating. **Chi_guy**, 18, **#101276**

NATURAL MAN
1957 model,exterior good,few nicks on interior,dependable,deserves loving owner. **phytojo**, 48, **#114956**

CURIOUS AND LOOKING
Open minded, mature and easy going SHM, 28 looking to meet interesting woman 24-30. **TxzSldr**, 28, **#114935**

LONG HAIRED ,COUNTRY,TOKER
original ,honest, be yourself. **jinx**, 31, ☎, **#114943**

EASY DRIVING MAN
easygoning honest love music spontaneous looking for krazy honest ladies who want to have fun today before we get old. Someone to enjoy traveling, music,dining,movies. **driver5748**, 46, ☎, **#114929**

SOFT AND AFFECTIONATE
I am an older man seeking younger ladies interested in no strings relationship. I may be older but I am not dead. **hugone4u**, 65, **#114928**

FUNNY ATHLETIC
i am a athlitic musechion. **tc_6969**, 20, **#114920**

CRAZY HOCKEY FAN
Kind of shy, when meeting new women, but like to bowl,go to the movies, watch hockey.. **dhpaulson1262**, 43, **#114912**

ROBIN SEEKS MARIAN
Corny headline but at least you are reading it! Regularly visit and ultimately see my future in Austin. Would be great to hear from someone on the same wavelength. **robinhood**, 48, **#114902**

BAD ELF WANTED
I'm completely new to Austin. I just relocated here from Houston and would love to find some interesting people to get to explore Austin with. Please be spunky and mischevious. **xtc_any1**, 35, **#114885**

REAL PERSON LOOKING
I am a laid-back, down to earth man. I have varied interests that include Conversation, Food, Gardening, Movies, Music, and Reading. **BadGoodGuy**, 46, **#114881**

COUPLE FOR FUN
We are a couple 41-41. Looking other couples and single for play in and out the bedroom.D&D free UB2. **couple-fun**, 41, **#114861**

women SEEKING women

ATTRACTIVE FEM PROFESSIONAL
45 year old attractive fem professional seeks attractive fem, height/weight fairly proportionate, for fun and possible long-term relationship. No excessive drug, alcohol or mental health problems. **bambi1**, 46, **#114961**

PRETTY BI-CURIOUS FREAK
I am looking for someone who can teach me new things. Let me be your guinea pig. I'm open to whatever. I'll behave, I promise. XOXOXO. **thaichick**, 24, **#114880**

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**

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**

men SEEKING men

OPEN, WORTH IT
Looking for friendship or dating. I like travel, dogs, Book People, South Congress Cafe, running, weekends with friends. Music? Andrea Bocelli, Kenny Chesney, Cher, George Bush is a baffoon. **Runner**, 48, **#114896**

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**, 44, ☎, **#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 friends with. Let's give it a try! **Austinpax**, 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**

JUST friends

27, HISPANIC LATINA
.....not used to this...:). **lorena78704**, 27, **#114965**

10IS ANY1
Just curious mainly, wouldn't mind a new friend (with beni's) also looking for a tennis partner. **countryboy**, 34, **#114914**

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 have recording studio, guitar, harp, keyboards. **LisahnG**, 56, **#114843**

NATURE
35 yo looking for a woman who worships nature. **taylor2005**, 36, **#101325**

SUPER-LOVELY FUN TOES
i'm overwhelming, sarcastic, obnoxiously playful sometimes, occasionally overly-serious, somewhat manic, lactose-intolerant,addicted to caffeine, bitchy and tender. **badkitty**, 27, **#101250**

FUN, SMART, STRONG
Looking for someone that is easygoing, and wants to just enjoy life for a while(within reason.). I love to play, and try new things. Looking to explore life a little. **LilacRose**, 31, **#101218**

LAUGHING MEDICINE MAN
6 foot tex-mex who knowz how 2 have fun regardless of the situation ,know when 2 be serious,everydayz a holiday ,every mealz a feast!!!!!! **whynotme**, 29, ☎, **#101216**

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 baloons fly. **wingbt-trfly**, 32, **#101084**

messages

BEST WURST - Tall man with long blond hair and goofy smile. Cant wait to get your sausage again.

GEORGOUS, LOVE YA-TINKYWINKY

GOLDEN LEAF ACHING to fly...

HANDSOME JOEL~HAPPY BIRTHDAY ! Love, Jenfuzzedout-mama

HEY BECK--IT'S BEEN fun and I think I deserve an A. It's very "imporant" to me!--Rose

I GUESS WE both totally rule! Duh, Bagel?

I STILL LOVE you, but I need to get over you. I just don't know how.

I'M SORRY YOU'RE wrong. It was my time that you wasted.

JOHN BENNETT- I made mistakes. I know this. Second chance...please?-T

MAIKON! WHERE ARE you? Look on Thor's day. Time waits till midnight.

NEED A DATE for Christmas? http://www.flamingoflings.com/

PONEY-BOY, I L-O-V-E you. Here's to tomorrow. Yours always, your monk-monk.

ROGRMUMSJ&G-U R FAB rock stars2me.Sorry 4da no sleep.3+fo'drinks17th-18,24/7

SONYA, HAVE YOU found yourself? If so, find me. J

SWEETY I DO love you!Let's go paintballing!...and I'm sorry, please forgive me.

U ASKED Y I LUV U SO MUCH.. u'r my DADDY & BABY GIRL misses DADDY'S KISSES the most..

UT BEN BLDG AM– You: handsome dude with forearm tattoos. ME: girl admiring you

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a Shot in the Dark

WHITE ROSE O'YORK
I think you're the bee's knees. I'll have green curry if you please. No my dog does not have flees. Oh, what a crush I'm having! blueberryblueberryblueberry **When: Monday, Dec. 5. Where: Downtown. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900105**

WANTED: MY MRS.DARCY
Sat in your row w/my friend; I had to move car. You, I: cried at same scenes. Wanted to meet, credits rolled, you split. Seeking Mr.Darcy? See if magic's there? **When: Saturday, Nov. 26. Where: Arbor 8 Cinema, Pride & Prejudice 4:10 show. You: Woman. Me: Man.** ☎ #900104

SCHLOTSKY'S S. LAMAR
i was using the computer. you were with your son. i guess i left too soon. anyways, i'm looking! **When: Friday, Nov. 11. Where: schlotsky's s. lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900103**

JENNIFER BUS#5
We talked of cultural ethinity. Let's talk and party soon. **When: Wednesday, Nov. 30. Where: 45TH STREET. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900102**

OLTORF CONGRESS HEB
Tues 8:30ishp.m. You, one line over, short dark hair, dark jacket... and a red box? Me... dark hair, pale scarf, leather jacket. Hoped you'd catch me outside... maybe somewhere else? **When: Monday, Dec. 5. Where: HEB. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900101**

SOLDIER /WENDYS/ N.CAMERON
Saw you eating w/buddies.Me, brunette with the carry-out bag feeding the office, with girl in the blue smock. Our eyes met, twice. Thought you were a hottie. Please contact me. **When: Monday, Dec. 5. Where: Wendys on N. Cameron Rd.. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900100**

CELEBRATION
Celebration at Guadalupe/32nd on 12/4/05 The music lifted my soul and your UV gaze made me smile indefinitely. Join me for coffee or drinks? **When: Sunday, Dec. 4. Where: Celebration. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900099**

ROCK STAR
You,Joan Jett looking super star last seen at 7-11 s lamar.Your witt and charm amazed me.Me,5'1 346lbs,eye-patch and startrek tshirt.I-held-the-door-and-made-the-whoosh-sound-you-said"like-in-startrek.I don't have a chance I am JUST ANOTHER GUY. (Sivart) **When: Friday, Dec. 2. Where: 7-11. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900098**

BLONDE CUTIE: SPIROS
friday night, you cute blonde, male, you said you were from kentucky, i would like to talk to you again, and continue what we started, your friend has my number. **When: Friday, Dec. 2. Where: spiros. You: Man. Me: Woman.** ☎ #900097

JH AT BANK
Parmer Metric You could not find my account but I found your beautiful blue eyes (and your ring week before) You are on my mind. Get together? **When: Wednesday, Nov. 30. Where: Bank. You: Woman. Me: Man.** ☎ #900096

BY GEORGE AURORA!
saw you at polvos saturday night and then again at barflys. i was to drunk to tell you i'm in love with you. Mexican martini's? **When: Saturday, Dec. 3. Where: polvos. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900095**

BEAUTIFUL BROWN GIRL
you: beautiful brown skin, eyes and smile, with some friends on 6th and lamar sitting in the grass by waterloo record. me: fundraising for texas 4000 to alaska drinks sometime. **When: Saturday, Dec. 3. Where: 6th and lamar outside waterloo records. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900094**

JH AT CHASE
You could not find my account Metric Parmer the other day but I found your beautiful eyes (and your pretty ring last week). Can't get you out my mind. Dinner? **When: Wednesday, Nov. 30. Where: bank. You: Woman. Me: Man.** ☎ #900093

KAT, YOU'RE BREATHTAKING!
You'd hang out at the pink house and your pretty face always left me speechless. Was always too shy to approach you. I've relocated. I'd love to get in touch...David **When: Thursday, October 20. Where: Boldin. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900092**

RACETRAK ASHLY
Met at the RaceTrak in August. Enjoyed our conversation. Lost touch. Where are you? **When: Thursday, August 25. Where: RaceTrak. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900091**

WAITER AT GUEROS
Friday night Gueros restaurant. You: tall with glasses--kept smiling at me and my five other girlfriends. Me: brown suede jacket and glasses--couldn't stop smiling back. Hope to see you again! **When: Friday, Dec. 2. Where: Gueros. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900090**

GREEN TOWEL/BIG DOG
You came out in a green towel trying to get your dog to listen. I told you to break a leg at your perfomance. You are HOT! Your Neighbor **When: Friday,**

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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**

KRAZIELADIE
SWF Bi fun loving outgoing red head, adventurous risk taking, willing to try anything once. **krazieladie**, 29, **#101155**

LETS PLAY
Im 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**

JUST FOR FUN!
Im a Female looking for intelligent, funny, good looking male 18-25 years of age to become e-mail buddies. Maybe something more. E-mail me. **sunflower**, 18, **#101035**

ADCTD2LUV
Looking for sensuous, uninhibited woman for 1 on 1, dating, etc. Should be 38 or older, experienced, married or single, plump ok. Good legs, pretty face. **jderryberryadd**, 51, **#114963**

MULTIMAN
Young looking middle aged man: seeking women;one or two or more at at time;with or without partners. **Multiman**, 59, **#114954**

ORALPLEASER
I am a lonely married guy who is looking to have some fun. I am attractive and am looking for somone who is up for almost anything. **lonelyguy06**, 31, **#114952**

SO MANY OPTIONS
I'm pretty open minded, though my schedule can be a bit tight at times. **libran29**, 29, **#114950**

LONGHAIRED MEXICAN
wet,wet,wet. **jinx31**, 31, ☎, **#114945**

AFTERNOON MUNCHER
mhm,35, seeking discreet sexual encounters with married w/h/a females. no strings no bs not looking for a relationship. **roggee**, 35, **#114940**

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE
43 M looking for some erotic adventure and discreet fun. **lookinforfun**, 43, **#114917**

SLOW AND EASY
Just wondering how the other half lives. If your interested in showing me, drop me a line. **cuntryboy**, 34, **#114913**

HOT HOT HOT
SHM 30 looking to explore all things sexual with different types of women,from19-40. I am discreet and would appreciate the same.open to multiple partners or couples. **td1970**, 35, ☎, **#114910**

FINE2OYRFREAK
looking for a female who is attractive in her own way who could help me turn nothing into something. I am good looking and down for anything. **southaus20**, 20, ☎, **#114905**

FUNTOUCH
Sensual male looking for fun times with sensual female. Discrete and open minded. **Conrad**, 40, **#114899**

LATIN LOVE
Special female friend sought for discreet encounters with 35 y.o. half breed fit latino/italian who wants to please females. Race and age unimportant, just be attractive and clean. **cav35**, 35, **#114887**

CALLING SOCCER MOMS!
Turn downtime into playtime. I'm a married white male looking for a height-weight proportionate married white soccer mom who would enjoy discreet, passionate afternoon rendezvous. Your satisfaction is guaranteed. **austintxmwm**, 45, **#114883**

REALMAN
looking for sexually adventurious attractive women,who wont kill me or maim me in my sleep,its my preference to wake up with all my digits. **realman**, 30, **#114882**

INTERESTED IN BDSM?
Attractive, educated, professional man likes seeking women interested in exploring BDSM. I am 34, attractive, 5'10", 150lbs, dark hair and eyes, clean shaven. Please respond if you have an interest. **austindom1**, 33, **#114875**

SHY SEX TOY
mwm looking for afternoon encounters with discreet females.would like to fulfill fantasy with older or full figured women.I love giving and receiving oral sex. **MC_delight**, 35, **#114873**

SEEKING HONEST FEMALE
I am 6'6", divorced after 22 years of marriage, seeking open minded honest women for friendship, and maybe more. **tallblondtexan**, 44, **#114867**

HOT LATIN LOVER
Hi ladies, i'm looking for hot, sexual encounters with ladies interested in having an attractive latin lover. I'm 5'8", 160lbs, blk hair, brown eyes, in shape, DDF, nicely endowed. **markaustin**, 30, **#114857**

SEXY OPENMINDED SAFE
i am a goodlooking young man seeking discreet encounters. **josh**, 28, **#114854**

EXPLORER NEW JOURNEY
Looking to meet for some dicreet activity. Am new be gentle. Willing to try new things. **wildtiger**, 42, ☎, **#114936**

ATTENTION HUSBANDS
want to watch this sweet, handsome latino fellow touch & fondle your pretty wife while you watch or participate. I'll only do what you want me to. My place or yours. **Bond007**, 34, **#114968**

ON MY KNEES
LOVE to service either sex, want to massage you and get you off. fascinated with TS/TV/CD's. watching and participating with couples is cool too. **chainsaw94**, 45, **#114900**

DIVER DOWN
New to Austin and looking to explore the diverse culture here. Ready for a night out on the town followed by an evening of passionate romance. **xtcany1**, 41, **#114890**

PLEASURE LOVING COUPLE
We are looking for another couple to share wide open, straight adventures. Double penetration for me. Another woman for both. Being taken from behind by you. **annie_b**, 47, **#114930**

AUSTIN COUPLE SEARCHING
Looking for bisexual lady that can love and be loved, that would like to move to the country with us and be our full time friend and part time lover. **CowgirlGypsy**, 33, ☎, **#114903**

COULPE2PLAY
We are F41/M41 looking 4 same. We are DDF UB2. 5'1 @150, 46D and he is 6'4 @ 195 8 1/2 inch. We looking for couples for the same. **2Fun4Morefun**, 41, **#114897**

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* Package does not include airfare. You must fill out a free profile and upload a picture to enter.

Dec. 2. Where: 30th @ Whitis. You: Man. Me: Woman. ☎ #900089

COINCIDENCE BY LAKE?
TownLake Sunday 11/27. You: brown sugar in yellow muscle. Me: light, green shorts & hat only. Our paths & eyes met twice, "sup" plus smile on bridge. Your smile HOT! **When: Sunday, Nov. 27. Where: Town Lake Trail. You: Man. Me: Man. #900088**

STRAYED ACROSS YOU
UT SEAy building Dec 5th, straight black hair reading Tim O'Brien. interesting choice Looked at your book through sunglasses in brown leather jacket. Meant to chat, but was hurrying. Coffee/tea? **When: Monday, Dec. 5. Where: UT-Austin Seay Building 1st floor. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900087**

YO'RE THE ONE!
To the pretty girl at Shoal Creek Saloon - Adell from McAllen. I am the WW2 veteran who talked with you on 11/27. Call me, I specialize in bedtime stories. **When: Sunday, Nov. 27. Where: Shoal Creek Saloon. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900086**

KATE THE TEACHER
Extremely cute, blonde kindergarden teacher at Alligator Grill on Nov. 20th. Sorry I had to leave so quickly. Let's meet for a drink sometime, Derek **When: Sunday, Nov. 20. Where: Old Alligator Grill. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900085**

CUTIE MILTO'S CASHIER
At the counter, dark hair... Make my greek salad any day! Please be single!?! making me dream **When: Thursday, Dec. 1. Where: Milto's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900084**

HOT HOT SAUCE
12/01 La Feria u: sitting in corner, writing in journal. me: reading chronicle, drinking mex-tini. u smiled and i choked on chips. Please put me in your journal. salsa sometime? **When: Thursday, Dec. 1. Where: La Feria S.Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900083**

IHOP, CEASAR CHAVEZ
Cheryl ? Cute little irish waitress, me with wife, swing? like the tattoos, and body...kink much? call us so We can serve YOU. **When: Saturday, Nov. 19. Where: IHOP ceasar chavez and IH35. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900082**

STUNNINGLY SEXY COUPLE
Fit so well together, same age, turning heads as we went! Fun times were ahead! You need space, i'll scoot over. I miss your purring! Talk Sometime? Another first date? **When: Sunday, Nov. 27. Where: South Congress. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900081**

AMY'S EMPLOYEE@VISTA
You:Bandana girl, sparkly brown eyes, hated my friend, kiss me on the lips. it was over. Me:hair in the face, tight jeans, nerdy glasses, lovestruck fool along for the ride. **When: Wednesday, Nov. 30. Where: Slater's Birthday. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900080**

DOG PARK DIALER
You:Kevin sexy voice, lots of dogs barking in the background, using my friends phone! Me:jessica confused, trying to help, real hot! j/k e-mail me...i need that phone! woof! **When: Tuesday, Nov. 29. Where: dog park. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900079**

4THSTREET THIS WEEKEND
Fado on Saturday. Your engaging-eyes captured me, but your cheeky-smile was great - my friends left before I said hi. Me-Boy with the British accent wearing a dark shirt, smiling. **When: Saturday, Nov. 26. Where: Fado 4th street. You: Man. Me: Man.** ☎ #900078

THE luv doc

Trail of Lights 5K

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Nobody likes a health nut. Nobody wants a sinewy, sportive, high-on-life, idiot-grinning endorphin junkie getting all up in their chili, talking about waking up at 5am so they can get in their hour and a half of high intensity cardio. On the conversational thrill meter the workout recap raps up somewhere between shop talk and church chat, which is to say the needle barely twitches above zero. If you have a problem with needing to share the mundane details of your unexceptional existence, learn to hold them inside – like a dirty, shameful secret or maybe a deep, expansive bong hit. You're not doing anyone a favor by recounting your neurotically obsessive fitness regimen – no matter what wonders it's done for you. In fact, while it may seem that you're engaged in a mutually beneficial dialogue, the net result is something more like Narcissus gazing into the reflecting pool. You might even find that the recipient of your self-absorbed soliloquy will lose focus and wander off to the smoothie bar. Consider it a sign. Maybe the cocktail party invites have been tapering off since right about the time you personally took it upon yourself to share with the world the wonders of the low-carb diet. Good for you, Sparky, but realize that the self-help section is only a small part of the bookstore – the part most people avoid like a bloody-eyed Ebola monkey. Fitness, like religion, is something you do instead of talk about. If you're bored shitless exercising so that you'll be healthy enough to be bored shitless exercising later in life, cut your losses and check out now. If however you're one of those people who view their bodies as simply a means to engage the world and all its wonderment, then you'll probably want to show up for the Trail of Lights 5K, a nighttime fun run that winds its way through the Zilker Park Trail of Lights Saturday night. Finally a workout you can talk about…

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