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Growth on tap for local craft brew industry

Beer bars, brewpubs open in Central Austin

By Gene Davis

With a new craft brewery planned for West Oltorf Street, new and existing craft breweries expanding and multiple craft beer bars opening in Central Austin, industry aficionados say Central Austin and the surrounding area are in the midst of a craft beer renaissance worthy of a toast.

Meanwhile, brewers and economists say further growth is expected if the Texas Legislature passes a set of bills that would loosen restrictions on craft breweries and brewpubs. The bills passed the Senate in March and are awaiting House approval.

“The growth of the craft beer industry, even under the current law, has given people an awareness about craft beer that they didn’t have two years ago,” said Davis Tucker, North by Northwest Restaurant and Brewery founder. “I think this legislation would create an even bigger explosion.”

The Texas craft beer industry contributed more than \$608 million to the state’s economy in 2011, according to a study commissioned by the Texas Craft



Assistant Brewer Jacob Passey (left) and Head Brewer Joe Mohrfeld create small-batch beers at Pinthouse Pizza.

Brewers Guild. A craft brewery is defined by the American Brewers Association as a small, independent brewer that produces less than 6 million barrels of beer per year. A brewpub is a restaurant that also brews its own beer.

Industry growth

In March, Pinthouse Pizza doubled the size of its brewing system, Hops & Grain started

canning its third type of beer and Infamous Brewing Co., which was founded by an investment banker and graphic designer, celebrated its launch party. In 2012, Austin Beerworks expanded its brewery system; Austin Beer Garden Brewing Co.—which was founded by former Uncle Billy’s brewers Amos Lowe and Brian Peters—announced its plans to open in June; and the Whip In

began brewing its own beer.

Growth is the norm in the local craft beer industry. In Texas, 92 percent of Texas craft brewers are planning capital expansions, representing upwards of \$30 million invested within the next five years, according to a 2012 TCBG study authored by Scott Metzger, an economist and founder of Freetail Brewing Co. in San Antonio.

See **Beer** | 26

Residents to vote on \$892M AISD bond

Election scheduled for May 11

By Gene Davis and Lyndsey Taylor

On May 11, voters will decide whether to pass Austin ISD’s \$892 million bond, making it the largest bond proposition the district has ever brought to the ballot.

Should voters approve the bond, improvements to more than 30 Central Austin schools would include classroom additions, campus repairs and transportation upgrades. More costly projects would involve building three new elementary schools, upgrading technology and expanding academic initiatives as well as

See **Bond** | 27

Downtown Austin to see changes in parking, use of alleys

Official: Repealed requirements could spur business development

By Peter McCrady

City officials and downtown organizations are looking to make the area more inclusive and public-friendly through parking changes and potentially creative uses for alleys.

Councilman Chris Riley, who sponsored an ordinance to repeal off-street parking requirements for businesses downtown, said the efforts are a way to respond to an

See **Parking** | 29

VOTING INFORMATION

Early voting is April 29–May 7
Election day is May 11

WHERE:

Voters may obtain polling information by visiting www.traviscountyclerk.org.

WHAT TO BRING:

Registered voters should bring one of the following: a voter registration card, driver’s license, official photo ID, birth certificate, U.S. citizenship papers or a passport, a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement or other official documents that list the voter’s name and address.

For questions, contact the Travis County Elections Office: 512-854-4996



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About us

John and Jennifer Garrett began *Community Impact Newspaper* in 2005 in Pflugerville, Texas. The company's mission is to build communities of informed citizens and thriving businesses through the collaboration of a passionate team. Now, with 13 markets in the Austin, Houston and Dallas/Fort Worth metro areas, the paper is distributed to more than 870,000 homes and businesses.

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FROM THE EDITOR



When I made the permanent hop from Denver to Austin two years ago, I was very concerned with leaving behind my favorite craft brewery.

The thought of not being able to go to Denver's Great Divide Brewery after a long workday to gulp down a couple of strong, dark beers and chat with the people who made

them nearly brought a frothy tear to my eye. I knew that it would make more sense to be concerned with Austin's infamous summer heat or rush-hour traffic, but having a favorite craft brewery is like having a favorite band or movie—it can defy logic.

Thankfully it only took about a week for my sadness to turn into excitement upon discovering what turned out to be a burgeoning craft beer scene in Austin. And within

the past year, it has been amazing to watch that scene blossom with new craft breweries, brewpubs and beer bars opening, turning more people into fellow craft beer aficionados.

My front-page article this month looks into the industry's evolution as well as proposed legislation that many brewers say would lead to even more growth. As Pint-house Pizza Head Brewer Joe Mohrfeld sums it up, there is a palpable buzz of excitement in Austin around craft beer that only seems to be growing.

It is easy to forget that by drinking local craft beer, you are supporting local small businesses that create reliable, well-paying jobs. Even for non-craft beer fans, that is a reason to raise your glass.

Gene Davis

EDITOR

gdavis@impactnews.com

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

READER COMMENTS

Paid parking begins in Rainey Street district

"The city is 'considering' sidewalks? This is one of the main problems with traffic on Rainey ... in some places there are no sidewalks, and people walk in the street. But of course the money-generating parking went in first thing. Use the money to pay for ... sidewalks, okay? Jeeze."

— Michele Spainhour Rumohr

City launches design competition for Seaholm Power Plant Intake facility

"I think that this is a brilliant idea allowing anyone who can imagine and draw a chance to [create] the concept for this urban repurposing of a historic structure. I'm sure more cities will copy this program, or they should. I am going to give it a shot."

— Eddie Hurst

Capital Metro touts efficiency

"First and foremost, Capital Metro is providing a chance for people who are unable to drive themselves for whatever reasons to get around Austin to work, doctors' offices and shopping. It's vital that buses continue to go into neighborhoods to pick up people near their homes to get them to these major locations. It gives us some independence and reassurance when we are able to get around Austin. I don't see rail getting into the neighborhoods. It would be so costly ... I'm concerned that Capital Metro will spend all of its money on rail to outside cities instead of focusing on those living in Austin who rely on its service every day. Please keep us movin'!"

— Kathee

TAKE THE POLL

What do you think is the best and/or most interesting use of our downtown alleys?

Take the poll online at impactnews.com/cta-poll

LAST MONTH'S POLL RESULTS

What services would you like to see Capital Metro work on in the near future?

Extended MetroRail service hours

38%

Connecting to more places

33%

More local bus routes

16%

More express buses

13%

Results from an unscientific Web survey collected 3/28/13–4/15/13

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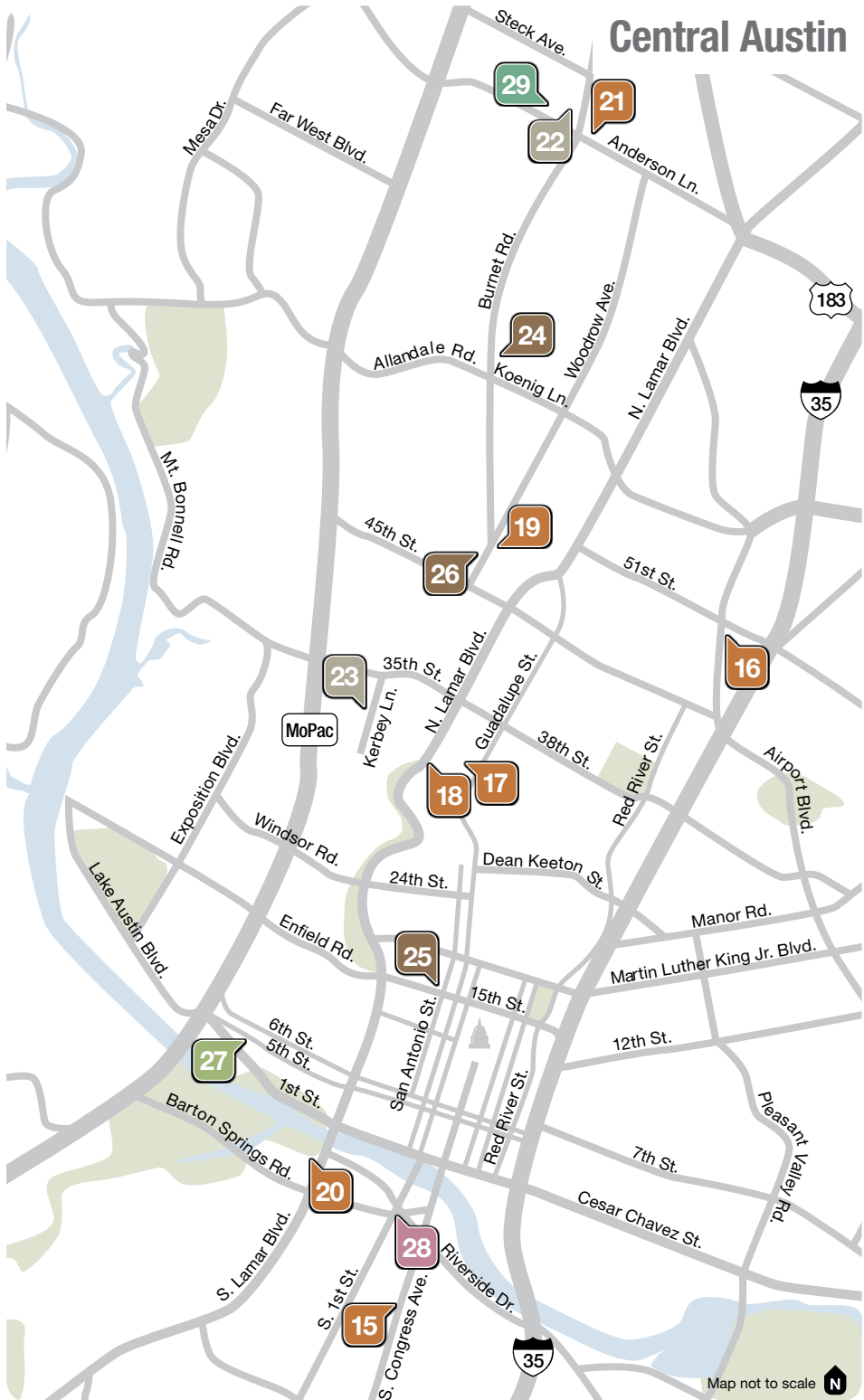
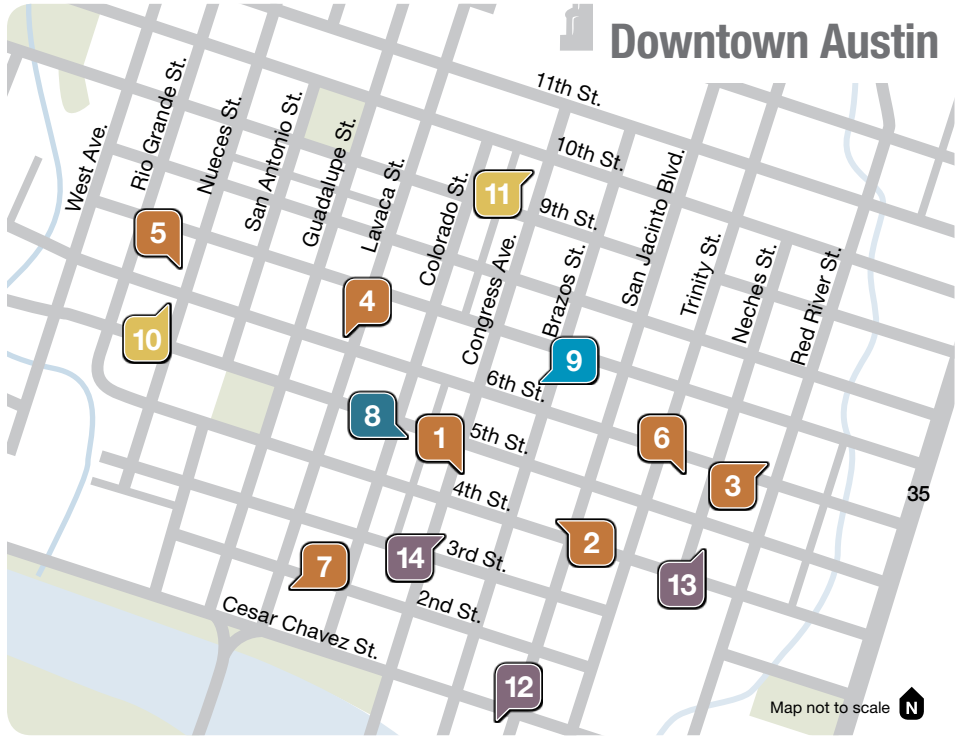


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IMPACTS



Downtown Austin

Now Open

1 A second location of **Houndstooth Coffee** opened in March in the Frost Bank Tower, 401 N. Congress Ave. The coffee shop, owned by Sean Henry, serves coffee beans roasted in small batches as well as beer and wine. The original Houndstooth Coffee is located at 4200 N. Lamar Blvd., Ste. 120. 512-394-6051. www.houndstoothcoffee.com

2 **Dandy's, The Gentleman's Store**, opened in March at 411 Brazos St., Ste. 110. The haberdashery sells custom-made, turn-of-the-20th-century men's clothing, specializing in suits and accessories in styles from the 1870s through the 1930s. Husband-and-wife team Christopher and Wendy Bykowski run the store. 512-999-8196. www.dandysuit.com

3 Named after King's Road in London, which was an epicenter of style in the '60s, **King's Road Vintage** opened in March. The vintage clothing and antique store is located at 522 E. Sixth St. 512-322-9969. www.facebook.com/kingsrdvtg

4 A gastropub at 301 W. Sixth St., **Austin Ale House**, opened at the beginning of March. The menu features an organic brunch served until 4 p.m. along with dishes such as seared sea scallops. 512-480-9433. www.theaustinalehouse.com. Twitter: @austinalehouse1

5 **Valentina's Tex Mex BBQ** opened Feb. 22 behind the Star Bar, 600 W. Sixth St. The food trailer, owned by Miguel Vidal and Michael Lerner, combines Tex-Mex and Texas barbecue. The food truck is named after Vidal's 2-year-old daughter, Valentina. 512-363-8520. www.valentinasaustin.com. Twitter: @valtexmexbbq

6 **Burnside's Tavern** opened in February in the former home of Treasure Island, 413 E. Sixth St. The bar is named after a Civil War general. 512-547-4161. www.facebook.com/burnsidetavern

7 **Francesca's**, a women's clothing and accessories store, opened Feb. 16 at 241 W. Second St. In addition to clothes, the store carries bags, shoes, jewelry and accessories. 512-476-1224. www.francescas.com. Twitter: @shopfrancescas

Cheer Up Buttercups, a parenting service that offers support for Austin parents with children younger than 5 years old, held its launch party April 18. Founded by Monika Burgett and Allison Reyna, who are both mothers, the service

provides help and advice for issues such as child development, sleep training and nutrition. 512-542-3354. www.cheerupbuttercups.com. Twitter: @cubuttercups

Coming Soon

8 **Searsucker**, a restaurant from celebrity chef Brian Malarkey and James Brennan, is scheduled to open in May at 415 Colorado St. The New American restaurant will be the third Searsucker location; the other two are in Arizona and California. www.searsucker.com

New Ownership

9 **The Driskill Hotel**, 604 Brazos St., was purchased in March by the Hyatt Hotels Corp. for \$85 million. Hyatt plans on investing approximately \$8 million to renovate the 189-room historic hotel, according to a news release. 512-474-5911. www.driskillhotel.com

Closings

10 **Haddingtons**, an American-style gastropub at 601 W. Sixth St., closed March 17. The menu focused on traditional American dishes and cocktails. The space is scheduled to become the French restaurant Arro.

11 Analog photography store **Lomography Gallery Store Austin**, 912 Congress Ave., closed March 23. Lomography has stores in other parts of the nation, but the Congress location was the only store in Texas. The store sold products and photos dedicated to analog photography. www.lomography.com

In the News

12 **Four Seasons Hotel Austin**, 98 San Jacinto Blvd., partnered with **Texas Disposal Systems** in February to offer in-room recycling and composting for guests. The compost will be used in the landscaping around the hotel and sold to Garden-Ville, an organic gardening and landscaping company owned by TDS. www.texasdisposal.com

13 Chef Peter Maffei was promoted in March to executive chef of **Finn & Porter**, the steak and seafood restaurant located at the Hilton Austin, 500 E. Fourth St. Maffei began his career more than 14 years ago at Del Frisco's Double Eagle Steakhouse. 512-493-4900. www.finnandporter.com/austin. Twitter: @finnandporter

14 Austin-based WhaleShark Media Inc., 301 Congress Ave., was renamed in March to **RetailMeNot Inc.** The company distributes online coupons. www.retailmenot.com. Twitter: @retailmenot

Central Austin

Now Open

15 On March 7, **Limbo Jewelry** opened a new location at 1604 S. Congress Ave. The jewelry store, owned by husband-and-wife team Anne Rutt-Enriquez and Edson Enriquez, features jewelry lines from local artists such as ZZZ Threaz, Plaid Pigeon, South Austin Gallery and Haley Lebeuf Jewelry. The store also will get a 3D printer in May. 512-994-6878. www.limb jewelry.com

16 Serving a variety of tacos, **Tyson's Tacos**, 4905 Airport Blvd., opened in March. Tyson's Tacos is located in the building formerly occupied by Jalapeno Joe's. 512-451-3326

17 **Mandala Tibetan Shop**, 3204B Guadalupe St., opened March 26. The first retail store owned by Sylvia Smelcer carries meditation products, jewelry and gifts from Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan and India. The store also sells Tibetan singing bowls, prayer flags, prayer beads, Buddhist books and CDs, meditation cushions and rugs. 512-276-2448. www.mandalatrading.com

18 Founded by Michael Airhart and Blossom Braemer, **Posh Coworking**, 3027 N. Lamar Blvd., Ste. 202, is expected to have its launch party May 2 but is currently open for business. A co-working facility is where individuals from different companies work in a shared space. 512-696-1433. www.poshcoworking.com

19 **Sambet's Cajun Roadside Cafe** opened a food trailer at 4801 Burnet Road in February after the original Sambet's burned in a fire in 2011. The trailer serves Cajun-style dishes, including muffulettas, gumbo and po'boys. 512-258-6410. www.facebook.com/sambetscajunroadsidecafe

20 A restaurant and wine bar, **Flour and Vine**, opened March 5 at 300 S. Lamar Blvd. The business features a New American menu with entrees such as short ribs, pecan-crusted ruby trout, and

shrimp and grits along with wine-tasting classes. 512-474-4846. www.flourandvine.com

21 **Fas-Tes** opened Jan. 14 at 2204B W. Anderson Lane. The franchise offers confidential drug testing for commercial and private clients. 512-323-0809. www.fas-tesaustin.com

Relocations

22 **Dragon's Lair Comics & Fantasy** relocated from 6111 Burnet Road to West Anderson Plaza, 2438 W. Anderson Lane, Ste. B1, and had a grand opening celebration April 6-7. The store is 11,000 square feet, almost double the size of the previous store. The shop sells comic books, graphic novels, manga, action figures, hobby supplies, and board and card games, and it hosts regular events. 512-609-0527. www.dlair.net

23 **Social Communications Austin**, a boutique public relations firm, relocated in March to 3404 Kerbey Lane. The PR firm, founded by Tori Tinnon, has clients such as Mel's Meals, Touch of Sass and EventSlice. 512-659-6328. www.socialcommunicationsaustin.com

Anniversaries

24 **Violins Etc.**, 6013 Burnet Road, celebrated its 20-year anniversary in April. The shop sells, rents and repairs string instruments such as violins, violas, cellos and upright basses. 512-452-5617. www.violinsetc.com

25 **The Jalopy**, a sandwich food truck run by Nic Patrizi, celebrated its three-year anniversary in April. The Jalopy, 1502 San Antonio St., makes its own fresh bread daily and does its own pickling. 512-814-8557. www.jalopyaustin.com

26 **Feats of Clay Pottery** celebrated its 37-year anniversary in April. The working pottery studio that holds classes is located at 4630 Burnet Road. 512-453-2111. www.feats of clay pottery.com

Expansions

27 **Jaguar Austin**, 1515 W. Fifth St., is expanding onto land east of the dealership. The expansion will result in a new Jaguar showroom, a parking garage and ground parking for new car inventory, General Manager Alan Cirotta said. The expansion is expected to be complete at the beginning of 2014. 512-236-0000. www.jaguaraustin.com

Renovation

28 **The Business Solutions Center**, which is part of the Small Business Development Program with the City of Austin's Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office, 505 Barton Springs Road, closed April 8 for remodeling and expansion. The center provides information and technology resources for business owners and entrepreneurs. Officials expect the center to reopen by May 20. 512-974-7800. www.austinsmallbiz.org

Name Change

29 In March, **Chen Z**, 2700 Anderson Lane, changed its name to **Shabu**. The homestyle Chinese cooking restaurant was founded by George Chen of Chen's Noodle House, Johnson Ngo of Musashino Sushi Dokoro and Henry Wong of Mikado Ryotei. 512-336-8888. www.shabuaustin.com

Community Service

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin received a \$48,000 donation from the McDonald's Central Texas Operators Association Cooperative on March 12. The money was raised through the Share the Love restaurant fundraiser. The charity supports programs to aid the health and well-being of families and children. 512-472-9844. www.rmhc-austin.org

Compiled by Gene Davis and Peter McCrady



Dandy's, The Gentleman's Store opened in March and sells turn-of-the-20th-century fashion apparel.



The Driskill Hotel was purchased by Hyatt Hotels Corp. in March.



The Jalopy, a sandwich food truck run by Nic Patrizi, celebrated its four-year anniversary in April.



Chen Z changed its name to **Shabu** in March. The restaurant still serves homestyle Chinese food.

News or questions about Central Austin?
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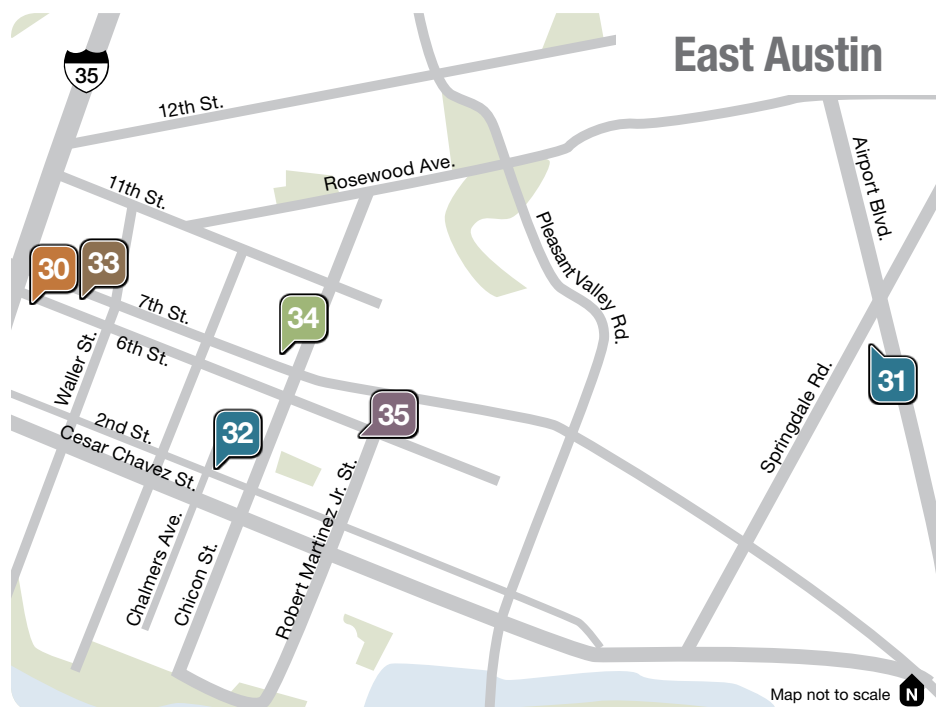
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IMPACTS



Baton Creole opened in March on East Sixth Street.



The Downs-Jones Library and Communication Center reopened in March following renovations.

East Austin

Now Open

30 Offering dishes such as chicken and sausage gumbo and jambalaya on a stick, **Baton Creole** opened in March at 907 E. Sixth St. The cajun food truck is run by Lynzy Moran. 512-434-0671. www.facebook.com/batoncreole

Coming Soon

31 **Austin Eastciders**, a brewery that makes old-style alcoholic cider, is scheduled to open a tasting room at 979 Springdale Road during the summer. The tasting room's interior bar and production space are planned to be a fusion of a vintage soda pop bottling plant and traditional English cider farm. www.austineastciders.com. Twitter: @eastciders

32 **Al Fico**, an Italian trattoria from Vino Vino owner Jeff Courington, is scheduled to open in June at 1700 E. Second St. The restaurant will be located in a historic building that originally served as a chapel before becoming a soup kitchen after World War II. <http://alficoaustin.com>

Anniversaries

33 **Marketing Matters**, a full-service ad

agency located at 1021 E. Seventh St., Ste. 103, celebrated its 10-year anniversary April 18. Marketing Matters clients have included Benold's Jewelers, the City of Sunset Valley and Scott Felder Homes. 512-804-1455. www.mmaustin.com

Expansions

34 **The Downs-Jones Library and Communication Center at Huston-Tillotson University**, 900 Chicon St., reopened March 22. The 16,000-square-foot library renovation includes an elevator, energy-efficient lighting with sensors and additional reading rooms. The new communications center is on the third floor of the Agard-Lovinggood Building and goes along with the reintroduction in fall 2011 of the Bachelor of Arts degree in communication. 512-505-3000. www.htu.edu. Twitter: @hustontillotson

In the News

35 **Hi Hat Public House**, which serves upscale pub food and has 24 taps of local and national craft beer at 2121 E. Sixth St., started serving lunch in March. Steve Schrader, a longtime Austin drummer, opened the restaurant in January. 512-478-8700. www.hihatpublichouse.com

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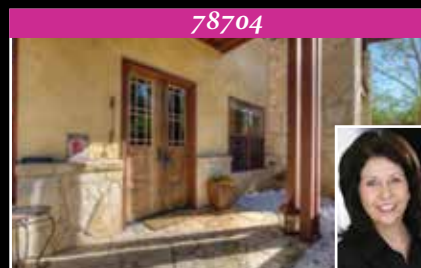


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NEWS BRIEFS

Google Fiber bringing higher-speed Internet and TV service to Austin

By Gene Davis

In what is being called the next chapter of the Internet, Google Fiber is coming to Austin.

City and state leaders joined Google officials April 9 to announce that Austin will be the second city in the world to receive the Google Fiber technology. In short, Google Fiber will provide another option for Internet and TV service that Google officials say is significantly faster than what is currently available in Austin. Google officials say they expect the first homes to be connected in mid-2014.

"Google Fiber will change how we live, how we work in ways we don't even know about yet," Mayor Lee Leffingwell said. "But it will all be for the better."

Google Fiber's Gigabit Internet connection will be about 100 times faster than what is available today, Google Fiber Vice President Milo Medin said. For comparison, broadband Internet was about 100 times faster when it started than a dial-up modem, he said.

"Speed matters because it's the foundation for future innovation on the Web," he said.

Austin was one of more than 1,100

communities that applied in 2011 to be the first city to receive the Google Fiber technology. While Kansas City ended up being the first city chosen, Leffingwell said the Austin community's enthusiasm inspired city leaders to remain persistent in getting the service.

Google Fiber General Manager Kevin Lo said the positive response from Austin's community and city leaders were the major reasons the company chose Austin as the second city for the service.

The cost for Google Fiber TV and Internet service has not been finalized, but Lo said he expects the price to be comparable to Kansas City, which is \$70 per month for Gigabit Internet and \$120 per month for Gigabit Internet and TV service, which includes hundreds of channels and a DVR with the ability to record up to eight shows at once.

Lo said Google will provide free broadband Internet, which will have average Internet speed, for at least seven years for customers who pay a \$300 construction fee. Google will also connect select public institutions to Gigabit access for free.

Following the April 9 announcement, Google officials said they are



From left: Assistant City Manager Anthony Snipes, Google Fiber Vice President Milo Medin, Mayor Lee Leffingwell, Gov. Rick Perry, Councilwoman Laura Morrison and Google Fiber General Manager Kevin Lo are on hand April 9 to announce the launch of Google Fiber in Austin.

immediately working to start building the infrastructure needed for the Fiber network. Google will build the network in the neighborhoods, which will also be known as fiberhoods, where enough people sign up to make it feasible, Medin said.

Austinites can sign up for updates and to say they would like Google Fiber in their community at <https://fiber.google.com/cities/austin>.

"Austin, and Texas as a whole, has a legacy of inspiring other cities and states throughout America, and we know that you will use your creativity and this

Gigabit network to help write the next chapter in the story of the Internet, not just for Texas, but for the U.S. and the rest of the world," Medin said.

What can people do with a Gigabit Internet connection?

- Download a TV series season in 30 seconds
- Stream online videos with no buffering
- Upload a 90-minute concert in 10 seconds
- Upload 300 vacation photos in 12 seconds
- Backup a 1,000-song music library in 30 seconds

Source: Google

Senator talks health care, job growth

Cruz weighs in during Austin Chamber of Commerce luncheon

By Joe Olivieri

Poor economic growth and the Affordable Care Act are hurting families and businesses, U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, told Austin business leaders April 5.

His solutions were to focus on ways to grow the economy through controlling spending and debt, reforming the tax code and lessening regulation.

"If you look at our country's history, when we followed a certain pattern of policy, we see economic growth follow. Economic growth does not come from Washington. It comes from you," he said.

The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce hosted "A Conversation with Senator Ted Cruz on Central Texas Business Issues." John Holmes, vice president of Freescale Semiconductor's legal department, moderated the hourlong dialogue.

After Holmes jokingly introduced him as shy and noncontroversial, Cruz addressed his reputation as an outspoken conservative. Cruz said most of the tension directed at him comes from his stances on free-market principles, liberty and the U.S. Constitution.

Cruz called for the construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline, an oil pipeline



Sen. Ted Cruz speaks at a recent chamber lunch.

from Alberta, Canada, to Nebraska. The senator argued strongly for the repeal of the ACA, commonly known as Obamacare. He said that it was important to stand on principle against the law, which he said was hurting people. He said that he would reform health care by encouraging market competition and untethering health insurance from employment, among other steps.

Cruz said he takes the responsibility of working for 26 million Texans seriously.

"What I try to keep as my North Star is that I don't want to let down the men and women across Texas who have clasped my hand ... and said, 'Don't go to Washington and become one of them,'" he said.

UT offers update on medical school

Officials aim for 2016 opening

By Joe Olivieri

Steve Leslie, provost at The University of Texas, described the next steps for Austin's planned teaching hospital and Dell School of Medicine on April 1.

Seton Healthcare Family and its parent company, Ascension Health, are working on the final phases of funding for its new teaching hospital to replace University Medical Center Brackenridge, Leslie said. The new teaching hospital is expected to be located near Brackenridge on property UT owns. Hospital design and development should begin this year, he said.

For the medical school, one of UT's first tasks is to hire an inaugural dean. UT has launched an 18-member search committee and hired firm Witt/Kieffer to aid in recruitment. Once the dean is hired, UT must recruit faculty.

UT is forming a steering committee to manage establishing the school and has developed working groups on issues such as community engagement.

The medical school will be housed in two buildings: an administrative and



The new teaching hospital is intended to replace University Medical Center Brackenridge.

classroom space and a research area.

UT's board of regents pledged \$25 million a year for 10 years to launch the school. On Feb. 1, the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation announced plans to donate \$50 million over 10 years toward the new school. Leslie said those funds would help UT secure bonds to build the buildings. Construction and implementation will likely take two to three years.

The process of accrediting the new school will take roughly three years.

DEVELOPMENT

I-35 cut and cap plan proposed

Sinking interstate would create land for development and parks

By Gene Davis

As the Texas Department of Transportation solicits ideas for the future of I-35, a vision is being proposed that would radically alter Central Austin.

A plan proposed by urban designer and architect Sinclair Black would sink I-35 underground from Lady Bird Lake to 15th Street, place a cap above the interstate and turn the land I-35 now occupies into mixed-use development, an urban boulevard and parkland. Black, who began seriously discussing the plan with city leaders and groups in March, said the cut and cap plan would be a significantly better alternative to expanding I-35 above ground.

“People need to know that they need to choose between a perpetuation of the barrier that we have in the building of more elevated [I-35] free-way lanes or to take a deep breath and solve the problem once and for all and forever,” he said.

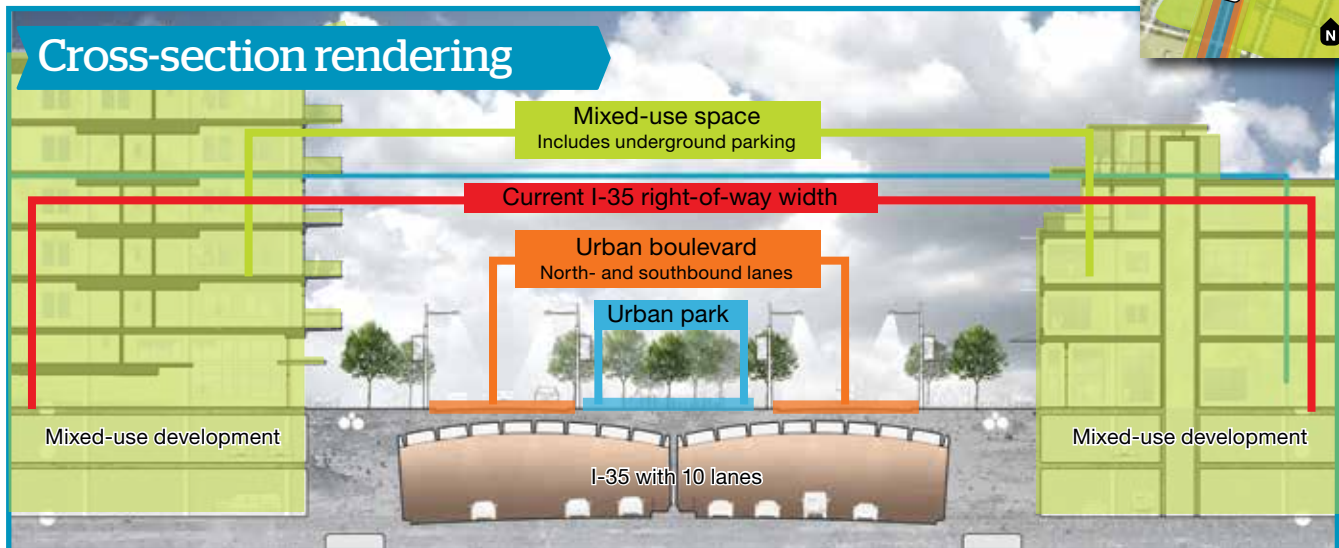
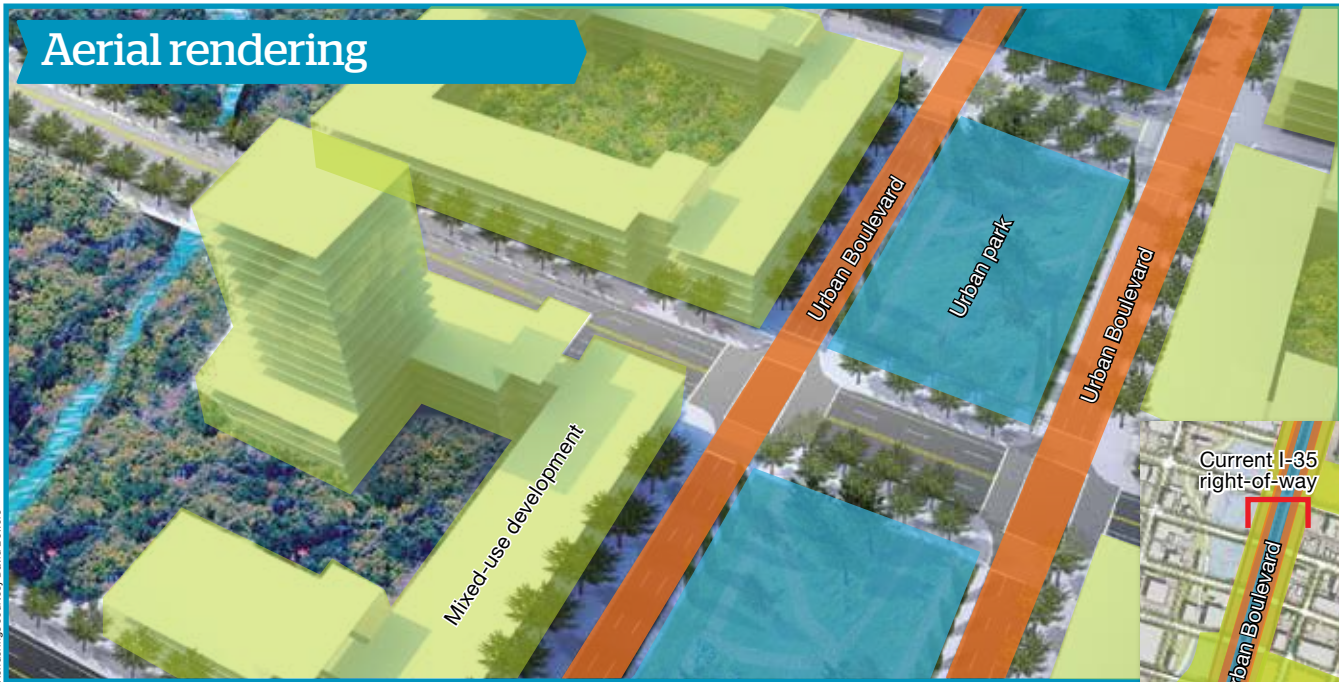
The total cut and cap project cost, which Black estimated at \$550 million, would be more than offset with the revenue generated from up to four new toll lanes and the sale and property tax created from the new land above I-35, he said.

While the proposal would create several more lanes of road through Central Austin, Black said the project has as much or more to do with economic development and urban design than it does with transportation engineering.

“This is building a solution for the next 200 years instead of the next 50 [years],” he said.

TxDOT spokesman Chris Bishop said he was not familiar with the cut and cap plan but said it could potentially be included as a proposal for My 35, a committee that receives community input on how to improve the interstate.

Next month’s issue will feature a detailed look into the logistics of the cut and cap strategy as well as other proposed long-term projects for I-35.



Estimated cut and cap figures

\$929 million New property tax revenue generated over 25 years	10 acres unlocked for urban boulevard and cross streets	It will cost \$150 million to make I-35 underground with 10 lanes
30 acres unlocked for mixed-use development	\$400 million The cost to cover an underground I-35 with a cap and boulevard	4 acres unlocked for new parkland
\$37 billion The estimated new property value created		

Cost estimates based on similar projects completed in Texas. Tax estimates based on current downtown land values: \$100–\$120 per square foot.

Source: Sinclair Black

Glossary

- Cut and cap:** A construction process that is cheaper and provides more flexibility than building a tunnel, according to architect and urban planner Sinclair Black.
- Mixed-use development:** A combination of residential and commercial development would be built atop newly created acres that are created by running I-35 underground. The mixed-use space would have underground parking
- Urban boulevard:** With I-35 underground, a four-lane boulevard would run between the mixed-use developments.
- Urban park:** An urban park would go between the boulevard lanes, creating new green space through the middle of the city. A bicycle path would run through the urban park.

History of I-35

1946

The City of Austin purchases the right of way for I-35

1957

Construction on I-35

1960

I-35 construction in downtown Austin

1971-75

A second deck is added to I-35 for a 2-mile stretch

1973

Construction on I-35 second deck

2011-Present

Mobility 35, a coalition of groups including the Texas Department of Transportation and City of Austin, begins exploring short-term and mid-term mobility improvements

1930

1940

1950

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

1948

Right of way acquisition begins for I-35 north of Austin

1959

I-35 land, before downtown construction

1962

I-35 opening ceremony in Austin

2013

Current view of I-35

1933

Austin before I-35

NEWS REPORT

Austin ISD sees small increases in graduates, college readiness

Education Progress Reports show 2016 STAAR benchmarks pose district achievement challenge

By Kelli Weldon

While Austin ISD has seen slight year-on-year increases in key benchmarks such as graduation rates, post-secondary enrollment, and college and career readiness, progress during the past five years has been relatively flat, a recent report shows.

The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce released its 2012 Education Progress Reports in April, providing business owners, educators and parents with a snapshot of what is happening in local school districts. Kwee Lan Teo Yam, vice president of education and talent alignment for the chamber, said it has partnered with school districts and other Central Texas chambers for the past eight years to compile student performance data relevant to the business community.

“This is the cohort that’s entering the workforce or is already in the workforce,” Teo Yam said. “This is what your businesses and your community can get to hire. Is it a community of students that have generally pursued some form of post-secondary education? How many graduate within four years? And if you hire them, are they going to need remedial math

[refresher classes]?”

Questions such as these matter to businesses and companies considering relocating to Austin, she said, and the reports can be used to gauge the health of a district.

Graduation rates

In AISD, 80 percent of students graduated within four years in the 2010–11 school year, the most recent year for which data was included, compared with 79 percent in 2009–10. AISD’s graduation rate goal for 2011–12 is 93 percent. District officials said to bridge the gap, AISD will emphasize professional development.

Vincent Torres, AISD board of trustees president, said the district has also focused on attendance and offering more activities including athletics and fine arts.

“Those are things that we’re doing to try to get kids to stay in school first, because if they’re not in school, they’re not going to learn, and if they’re not learning, they’re not going to graduate,” he said. “For us, you’ve got to move further back in the pipeline to be able to solve the graduation problem.”

African-American, Hispanic and

AISD students’ college and career plans

- **91%** Percentage of 3,413 AISD seniors surveyed in the class of 2011–12 who said they plan to continue their education after graduating from high school
- **54%** AISD seniors surveyed in 2011–12 who said they plan to attend a four-year college after graduation
- **32%** AISD seniors surveyed in 2011–12 who said they plan to attend a two-year college after graduation
- **28%** AISD seniors surveyed in 2011–12 who said they plan to work part-time after graduation
- **60%** AISD 2010–11 graduates enrolled in a university, community college or technical school immediately after high school (up 2 percent compared with prior year)

- **1,000** Trained volunteer math and reading classroom coaches placed in AISD schools in 2011–12 by Austin Partners in Education

Academically prepared:

Percentage of a school district’s graduating class deemed college- and career-ready based on state performance measures

Students considered academically prepared in 2011–12

- **62%** Students prepared in English Language Arts (compared with 65% in prior year)
- **69%** Students prepared in math (compared with 65% in prior year)
- **53%** Students prepared in both subjects (compared with 53% in prior year)

Source: Austin Chamber of Commerce

economically disadvantaged students saw slight graduation rate improvements during the past five years. To target English language learners, or ELL, the district offered teachers more professional development, Chief Academic Officer Pauline Dow and Chief Schools Officer Paul Cruz said.

College and career statistics

There was a 2 percent increase from 2009–10 to 2010–11 in AISD’s direct-to-college enrollment rate—the percentage of graduates who enrolled in a university, community college or technical school immediately after high school.

“If you look at every report that we have, the direct-to-college enrollment rate has remained pretty flat for the past few years,” Teo Yam said. “We’re hoping to move the needle on this particular indicator because this is extremely important.”

To accomplish this, the chamber invests in Financial Aid Saturdays at high schools to help students complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, she said.

Districts statewide are continuing their transition to the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness, or STAAR, exams.

2016 STAAR standards give challenge

In 2012, the first year of the STAAR phase-in, 87 percent of AISD high school students taking the exam met the phase-in passing standard for biology, 86 percent passed Algebra I, 80 percent passed reading and 67 percent passed the end-of-course writing exam. However, in 2016, the state is expected to implement rigorous standards for college and career readiness. Using 2016 standards, 40 percent met passing standards for biology, 41 percent passed Algebra I, 53 percent passed reading and 42 percent passed writing. The trend of not meeting 2016 standards was also present in fifth- and eighth-grade levels.

Dow and Cruz said that to improve, the district is using a curriculum framework that promotes critical thinking. AISD also reviews STAAR data regularly to ensure curriculum guides are aligned with state test blueprints and offers lessons and campus-level support for struggling students.

The full reports can be accessed at www.austinchamber.com/edureports.

AISD students who graduated in four years

	Class of 2007	Class of 2008	Class of 2009	Class of 2010	Class of 2011	Class of 2012 (Goal)	Class of 2013 (Goal)
All students	75%	74%	76%	79%	80%	93%	94%
African-American	65%	66%	70%	72%	74%	90%	91%
Asian/Pacific Islander	91%	91%	92%	90%	90%	-	-
Hispanic	66%	64%	67%	73%	75%	89%	90%
White	88%	89%	89%	90%	90%	97%	98%
Economically disadvantaged	63%	61%	75%	73%	77%	91%	92%

In Austin ISD, 80 percent of students graduated from high school within four years in 2010–11, a slight increase compared with the prior year.

NOTE: The definition of “dropout” changed in the 2005–06 school year and was phased in over four years. As such, the 2006–09 rates are not directly comparable to each other because not all data

used to prepare the graduation rates for each of those years were prepared under a uniform methodology. However, data released for the class of 2010 is comparable to data for the class of 2009.

Source: Austin Chamber of Commerce 2012 AISD Education Progress Report, Academic Excellence Indicator Systems data (Completion/Student Status Rate: Percent Graduated).

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CITY & COUNTY

News from Austin and Travis County

Compiled by Gene Davis, Peter McCrady and Joe Olivieri

City launches design competition for former power plant intake facility, deadline May 3

AUSTIN The City of Austin is looking to residents to generate ideas for the Seaholm Power Plant intake facility.

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department and Austin Parks Foundation have launched a design ideas competition for the facility, which served as the pump house for the power plant that closed in 1989. The facility is located on the banks of Lady Bird Lake and was decommissioned for reuse in 1996.

Design professionals, students, artists and collaborative teams are invited to submit their vision for what should be done with the facility and the surrounding land. The competition registration deadline is May 3.

The top 10 designs will be picked and displayed online and at City Hall. Following feedback from the public and City Council on the 10 designs, three finalists will be chosen and given \$5,000.

"We feel like the competition gives an opportunity to allow for good public input on the design for this facility," Project Manager Lyn Estabrook said.

The best ideas from the competition



The City of Austin is currently soliciting design ideas for redevelopment of the Seaholm Power Plant intake facility located on Lady Bird Lake.

will help inform the next phase of the project, which will be a request for proposals for public-private partnerships for the reuse of the facility. Public open house meetings will be held at the facility April 26 and 27 to solicit ideas and feedback from community members.

Information on the competition schedule and rules can be found at www.austintexas.gov/department/seaholm-intake.

"It's sort of a once-in-a-lifetime chance to build something like this," Estabrook said.

First step OK'd in utility's independent governance

AUSTIN On April 11, Austin City Council approved 6-0 the first reading of an ordinance that would establish an independent governing board for Austin Energy. Councilwoman Kathie Tovo was not able to attend the meeting.

"I think it is a good thing we're only looking at this on first reading and not any more readings than that," Councilman Bill Spelman said. "I would like to believe we could come to closure on this sooner rather than later, but it may take longer than a couple of weeks for us to come to closure, and I think we have a lot of people we need to talk with and a lot of discussions we need to have, and it's going to be done when it's going to be done. But in the meantime, I think we need to take the first step."

Currently, AE is governed by City Council. After some significant amendments, the ordinance would distribute certain duties and powers to the newly created Electric Utility Board while the council retains all other authorities.

The authority that the EUB will ultimately possess has yet to be decided.

Travis County agrees to split \$102K bill to clear backlog in Austin drug lab

TRAVIS COUNTY On April 16, Travis County Commissioners Court approved \$51,500 to help clear a backlog in the Austin Police Department drug lab.

County documents state that the lab has a backlog of 231 submissions for felony drug cases, and 1,021 felony and misdemeanor blood tests.

Based on existing contracts with private vendors, clearing the backlog would cost \$102,193. Judge Samuel Biscoe proposed hiring private vendors to clear the backlog and splitting the cost with the city. Each entity would pay \$51,500.

Earlier this year, Austin City Council approved adding three positions to the drug lab staff. However, it will take up to several months for personnel to be hired, trained and ready to assist with the workload, Biscoe wrote.

City Council begins discussion of 2014 budget

AUSTIN Austin City Council members could be looking at a \$3 million budget shortfall for the fiscal year 2014 budget after they heard reports April 18 from staff and local economist Jon Hockenyo of Texas Perspectives Inc. about the city's and region's financial states. The April 18 work session started the city's budget development process.

Ed van Eenoo, deputy chief financial officer with the City of Austin, said even though Hockenyo's presentation showed Austin doing well when compared with other regions in Texas and throughout the nation, the city still has some struggles to contend with.

According to a presentation given by van Eenoo, the city is projecting a revenue for fiscal year 2014 of about \$781 million at the current tax rate. Expenditures for fiscal year 2014 are



From left: Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole, Councilman Bill Spelman and Councilwoman Laura Morrison take part in budget talks.

expected to be at least \$784 million. Elaine Hart, chief financial officer with the city, said five-year projections of the city's revenue and expenditures show that shortfall dwindling.

According to staff numbers, expenditures would equal revenue by fiscal year 2015 at about \$811 million dollars.

The budget and tax rate are expected to be adopted in September.

Meetings

► **Austin City Council**
Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second St.
512-974-2210 • www.austintexas.gov/department/city-council

Meets most Thursdays at 10 a.m.

► **Travis County Commissioners Court**
700 Lavaca St., Austin
www.co.travis.tx.us/commissioners_court

Meets every Tuesday at 9 a.m.

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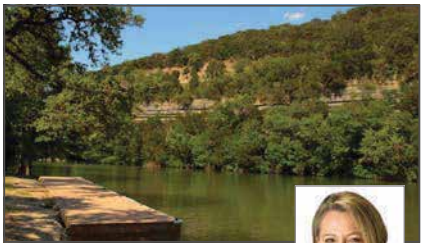
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Tiffany Peters 922-6309



5700 CARRY BACK LN
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Maru Davis 971-3797



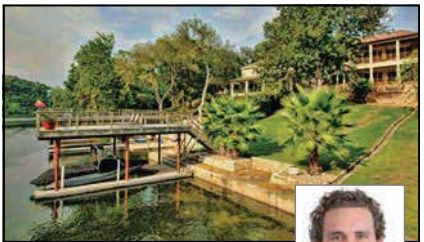
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Dianne Johnson 699-0619



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Mary Briggie 658-8705



3304 BLUE JAY LN
3 Bdrm | 2.5 Bath | \$1,175,000
Doug Roberts 731-5105



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AT THE CAPITOL

News from the 83rd Legislative Session

By Karen Brooks Harper
Capitol Correspondent

Legislators continue discussions on how to fund TxDOT

Texas lawmakers are searching for a path to finding billions of dollars in new annual funding for highway maintenance.

Devising a plan to double the state's highway capacity in the next 50 years has emerged as one of the top priorities of the 83rd Legislative Session, and there has been little debate over funding new projects with the state's healthy rainy day fund.

Ideas vary widely on how to significantly raise the budget of the Texas Department of Transportation, which has said it needs more than \$4 billion in additional funding every year just to maintain highway projects in the face of rapid population growth and infrastructure strain in the coming decades.

If TxDOT does receive new funds, the department would have to work with the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and other regional transportation partners. It would need to redefine provisions in CAMPO's 2035 regional plan, according to Terry McCoy, TxDOT's deputy engineer for Austin.

"The current CAMPO regional plan is financially constrained based upon our understanding of available fund sources at the time of the plan development," he wrote in a statement to *Community Impact Newspaper*.

Bills in the Texas House of Representatives and Senate range from authorizing "century bonds," which would allow 100-year loans at a low fixed rate, to increasing fees for driver's licenses to raising registration fees or fuel taxes for the first

time in two decades.

But halfway through the session, which ends in late May, no clear plan had yet been outlined on how to solve the funding issue in a state that has exhausted its transportation bonding capacity and runs out of bond money in 2014.

New funding source needed

State Sen. Kirk Watson, D-Austin, is pushing for a \$50 increase in annual passenger vehicle registration fees, which currently start at \$50.75 per year. County governments have the power to raise that fee by as much as \$11.50, and several have, including Travis and Williamson counties.

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst has promised to propose an amendment to the budget passed by the Senate Finance Committee in early March that would authorize at least \$1 billion from the state's Economic Stabilization Fund, also known as the rainy day fund, for a revolving loan program for local transportation projects.

Gov. Rick Perry, who held off efforts to use the fund during the 2011 session, has endorsed the use of \$1.7 billion for transportation projects from the fund, which is expected to have a record-high balance of \$11.8 billion in the next two years.

Using rainy day funds

Bills have also been filed in the House to withdraw money from the rainy day fund.

The caveat to using the fund is that it cannot be used for any revolving cash flow to TxDOT, so another funding mechanism for maintenance and other operating

costs must be found.

Leaders, including Perry, have suggested that more than \$1 billion can be found in dedicated fees that are diverted from highway projects, but House Transportation Committee Chairman Larry Phillips has argued that the amount might be closer to \$300 million—nowhere near the more than \$4 billion in additional annual funding TxDOT officials have said the department needs to maintain highways.

Proposed fee increases

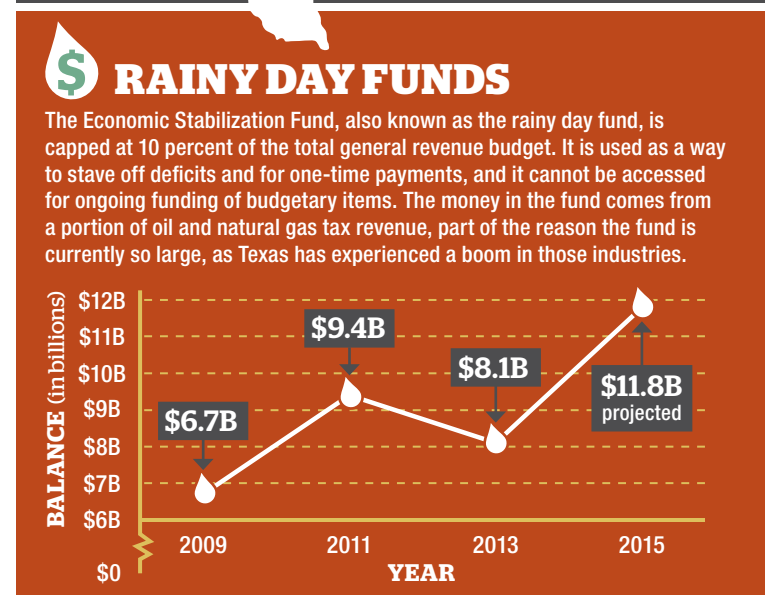
House Speaker Joe Straus has said the \$25 fee paid for driver's license renewals every six years should be looked at as an additional revenue stream, and bills have been filed that would both increase that fee and decrease the amount of time between renewals.

An omnibus bill by Rep. Patricia Harless, R-Spring, addresses several methods of funding in a proposal that would require voter approval for transportation funding and collects nearly \$5 billion annually for highways.

The bill would include a \$50 increase in registration fees, a 10 cent increase in the gas tax and a redirection of some sales taxes from car sales into highway maintenance. The bill also addresses the fee diversion issue described by Perry and others.

Members of the House Transportation Committee say those particular bills may not contain the funding solution, as the bills are likely to be broken into piecemeal bills and approved separately by a subcommittee and budget writers before hitting the floor of the House and Senate.

Lawmakers have proposed several options to increase the budget of the Texas Department of Transportation, which has said it needs more than \$4 billion in additional funding annually just for maintenance of existing highways.



REGISTRATION FEES

State Sen. Kirk Watson, D-Austin, has proposed a \$50 increase in annual passenger vehicle registration fees, which currently start at \$50.75 per year. County governments can increase that fee by as much as \$11.50, and several have.

Travis County charges \$11.50 in additional fees	Current base fee \$50.75 Statewide average \$62 with county, other local fees
Hays County charges \$10 in additional fees	\$50 increase projected to generate \$1.2 billion per year

Sources: Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, Texas House of Representatives, Texas Senate

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To register for this seminar, please call 512.478-3627.

CALENDAR

April

26 Corporate Battle of the Bands

The sixth annual competition is between bands made up of full-time corporate employees who play music on the side. The event benefits the Health Alliance for Austin Musicians, a local nonprofit that provides Austin's low-income musicians with access to affordable health care. A group of celebrity judges names several winners in multiple categories. 6:30–11 p.m. \$10 in advance, \$15 at door. Antone's, 2015 E. Riverside Drive. www.myhaam.org

May

02 through 26 'The Winter's Tale'

Austin Shakespeare presents the dark romantic play about King Leontes, who becomes jealous of his wife and best friend. The production stars Michael Miller and Nancy Eyerhann. Free. Zilker Hillside Theatre, 2201 Barton Springs Road. www.austinshakespeare.org

03 Chris Tucker

The star of films such as "Rush Hour" and "Friday" performs a night of stand-up comedy. 7 p.m. Starting at \$40, limited \$10 student tickets. Bass Concert Hall, 2350 Robert Dedman Drive. 512-471-2787. www.texasperformingarts.org

05 Austin Mini Maker Faire

The event brings together families and individuals to celebrate the do-it-yourself mindset and showcase arts and crafts, science and engineering, as well as food and music. The event is put on by Kami Wilt and Austin Tinkering School. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. \$15 (adults), \$10 (ages 3–18). Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Road. <http://austinmakerfaire.com>
Twitter: @atxmakerfaire



05 Lemonade Day Austin

Now in 31 cities, the experiential learning program helps children start their own lemonade stands in order to teach them entrepreneurial skills such as creating budgets, setting profit-making goals, serving customers, repaying investors and giving back to the community. Participants obtain permission from event organizers to set up a stand. Times vary. Free. Locations vary. 512-974-6797. www.austin.lemonadeday.org

11 Election day in Travis County

Voting includes the AISD bond. A list of polling locations is posted online, and voters must be registered before the election. www.austinisd.org/bond, www.co.travis.tx.us

15 Il Divo

Selling more than 26 million albums, Il Divo, the British group composed of four pop-opera crossover singers, brings their live show to Austin. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show at 8 p.m. \$59–\$137. Moody Theater, 310 W. Willie Nelson Blvd. 512-225-7999. www.acl-live.com

15 through June 16 'Harvey'

The Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy centers on Elwood P. Dowd, a happy-go-lucky chap who has a 6-foot-tall rabbit named Harvey as an invisible friend. When Dowd's social-climbing sister tries to have him committed, the play becomes a tale of madcap discovery, according to the Zach Theatre. Most shows are at 8 p.m. \$25–\$65. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey Road. 512-476-0541. www.zachtheatre.org

16 Body and Soul with Carlos Piñana

The Austin Classical Guitar Society present the concert as part of the Flamenco Austin Concert Series. The performance portrays the theme of the body and the soul with the two main pillars of flamenco, music and dance. Dinner is purchased separately for \$55. 6:30 p.m. flamenco party, 8 p.m. performance. \$27–\$57. The Long Center for the Performing Arts, Dell Hall, 701 W. Riverside Drive. 512-474-5664. www.austinclassicalguitar.org



04 Heart Ball of Austin

The black-tie event includes dinner, dancing, entertainment and a live and silent auction. Funds generated by the event support cardiovascular disease research and educational programs. 6–11 p.m. \$1,000 for two tickets. Hilton Austin, 500 E. Fourth St. 512-338-2434. www.heart.org/austintxheartball

04 Trailer Truck-Off

During the event, prospective chefs compete for a chance to win a six-month contract to operate the Zorro food trailer. The winner of the competition, which is staged by ATX Brands, is decided based on originality, taste and presentation. 2–5 p.m. Historic Scoot Inn, 1308 E. Fourth St.

04 through 05 Pecan Street Festival

The biannual, juried art and craft festival features more than 275 artisan vendors from throughout the world in a variety of art mediums. 11 a.m.–10 p.m. May 4., 11 a.m.–8 p.m. May 5. Free. East Sixth Street between Brazos Street and I-35. 512-485-3190. www.oldpecanstreetfestival.com

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Compiled by Gene Davis and Peter McCrady

Featured **EVENT****MAY 18** 36th Annual O. Henry Pun-Off World Championship

Witty statements and clever turns of phrase fill the air at the annual competition with two main events, Punniest of Show and Punslingers.

Event organizer Gary Hallock said the Pun-Off is one of the events that helps keep the city weird and fits well with the works of the writer O. Henry, who once lived in Austin.

"[O. Henry's] short stories always had a surprise twist at the end, and our favorite form of wordplay twists the words at the end," Hallock said.

The Punniest of Show competition allows contestants to individually present a pun on stage that lasts about 90 seconds. The contestants and their pun will be judged on a scale of one to 10 by a panel of judges.

The Punslinger competition is a tournament-style event that pits two contestants against each other and has them pun back and



Courtesy O. Henry Museum

forth on a particular topic.

The event features live music by The Greatest American Heroes as well as food trailers.

Hallock said although contestants might lunge at the audience, they don't charge audience members.

11 a.m.–5 p.m. Free. O. Henry and Susanna Dickinson museums, 409 E. Fifth St. www.austintexas.gov/event/o-henry-pun-world-championships or www.punpunpun.com

18 through 19 Renegade Craft Fair

The event features a curated independent craft marketplace showcasing bright talents in contemporary craft and design. 11 a.m.–7 p.m. Free. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Road. www.renegadecraft.com. Twitter: @renegadecraft

Worth the **TRIP**

Courtesy Two Hoots and a Holler

19 Buzzard Bump Fest

The Spicewood Lions Club hosts the fourth annual Buzzard Bump Fest. The daylong festival includes live music from Two Hoots and a Holler, food, the Road Kill Car Show, a bird cookoff and the Washer Pitchin' Tournament. Receptacles are in place to donate old eyeglasses as part of the Lions Club's eyeglasses recycling program. Proceeds from the festival go to local charities. 10 a.m.–7 p.m. \$3 or a donation of three canned goods. 9751 E. Hwy. 71. 512-799-3625. www.buzzardbump.com

19 through 26 'Heaven/Earth/One'

Blue Lapis Light, an aerial dance nonprofit, repeats one of its sold-out performances from its 2012 season. The show features aerial skills inspired by classical, interpretive and modern dance techniques using the Austin skyline as a backdrop. 9 p.m. \$18–\$58. The Long Center for the Performing Arts' City Terrace, 701 W. Riverside Drive. 512-288-1929. www.bluelapislight.org



Courtesy Viva Streets!

19 Viva Streets!

The second year of the event aims to promote sports, recreation and fitness activities. Participants are encouraged to do anything active, and potential activities include healthy food demonstrations, soccer, yoga, hula hooping and dancing. Noon–5 p.m. Free. East Sixth Street, between Brazos and Robert Martinez Jr. streets. www.vivastreetsaustin.org

19 9th Annual Downtown Living Tour: Shuttles & Champagne

Presented by the Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association, the tour goes to historical as well as high-rise residences located in downtown Austin, including the Four Seasons Residences, The W Residences, The Whitley and 360 Condos. 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m. \$85 VIP, \$25 general admission. www.atxdl.com

Online Calendar

Find more or submit Central Austin events at www.impactnews.com/cta-calendar.

To have Central Austin events considered for the print edition, they must be submitted online by the second Wednesday of the month.

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Austin's Guide To...

Swimming Pool Maintenance

512-974-2550 | www.austintexas.gov/departments/watershed-protection

Pools and spas provide countless hours of fun and recreation, but if not operated properly, their discharges can contain pollutants that cause water pollution in our creeks, lakes and aquifer. To enjoy your pool and protect the environment follow these tips:

Pool Planning

- Choose a system that does not include plumbing backwash water to a storm drain or waterway.
- Consult with pool experts on the pros and cons of different filtration systems.
- Consider a closed-loop cartridge filter system that does not require backwashing.

Pool Water Discharge

- Never backwash your pool filter to a storm drain, street curb or waterway. It is illegal to do this.
- Filter backwash water may only be discharged to a vegetated area on your property or to the sanitary sewer (discharges to the sanitary sewer require prior approval from Austin Water Utilities Special Services Division).
- Pool water (not filter backwash) may be discharged to a storm drain if it does not contain salt, algae, stagnant water, paint chips or maintenance debris. The water must be free of chlorine and have a pH between 6.0 and 10.5.
- Use a pool test kit to check chlorine levels and pH prior to discharge.


Chemical Storage and Disposal


- Follow label and Material Safety Data Sheet instructions for careful handling.
- Unused pool chemicals can be taken to the City's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility. Contact 512-974-4343 for directions.

For more information, see our Swimming Pool Maintenance Information Packet online at: www.austintexas.gov/departments/pollution-prevention-and-reduction, or call 512-974-2550.

An unauthorized discharge to the street, storm sewer or creek is a violation of City Code, is considered a Class C Misdemeanor, and is punishable with fines up to \$2,000 per day per violation. If you notice illegal pool discharges occurring in your neighborhood, immediately contact the City's 24-Hour Pollution Hotline at (512) 974-2550. Calls are anonymous.









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Becky Heiser
(512) 496-5805



OLD WEST AUSTIN

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2 Beds, 2.5 Baths
\$650,000
Susan Hochderffer
(512) 689-0944



ZILKER

1600 Barton Springs #1507
2 Beds, 2 Baths
\$459,900
Catherine Myers
(512) 423-9349



NORTHWEST HILLS

7216 Chimney Corners
3 Beds, 2 Baths
\$386,250
Mickey Goldwater
(512) 970-7179



PENDING/TAKING BACK-UPS

4204 Cat Mountain Dr.
5 Beds, 3.5 Baths
\$625,000
Joanne Senyk & Lori Galloway
(512) 844-1302



SOCO 78704

2507 Wilson Street
3 Beds, 2 Baths
\$549,000
Nila Williams
(512) 466-1161



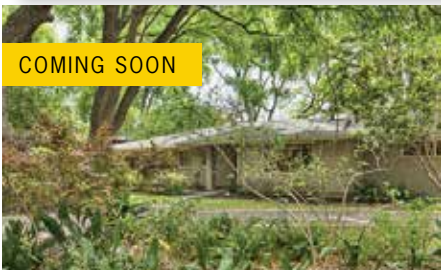
SEVEN OAKS

8800 Capehart
4 Beds, 4.5 Baths
\$1,799,900
Catherine Myers
(512) 423-9349



PEMBERTON

2321 Hartford Road
5 Beds, 4 Baths
\$1,500,000
Stacy Brunson
(512) 626-0733



COMING SOON

3417 Foothill Terrace
4 Beds, 3.5 Baths
\$1,395,000
Wendy Griessen
(512) 431-9502



CONTRACT PENDING

4201 Prickly Pear
4 Beds, 2 Baths
\$529,000
Lori Galloway
(512) 633-3882



COMING SOON

2311 Shoal Creek Blvd.
3 Beds, 2 Bath
\$665,000
Karen Cunningham
(512) 413-2635



WESTLAKE

902 Crystal Creek
5 Beds, 3.5 Baths
\$699,900
Camille Abbott
(512) 413-2635



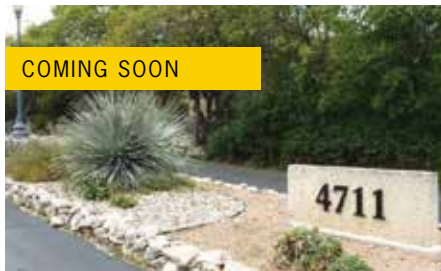
DOWNTOWN

360 Nueces #3805
2 Beds, 2 Baths
\$3,500/ month
Ranae Pettijohn
(512) 422-1526



COMING SOON

2100 Bowman
4 Beds, 4 Baths
\$1,195,000
Kay Andrews
(512) 750-0183



COMING SOON

4711 Spicewood Springs Rd #156
1 Bed, 1 Bath
\$159,000
Jill Turlington
(512) 422-3262



STILLHOUSE CANYON

2800 Deercreek Circle
4 Beds, 3 Baths
\$849,500
Susie Dudley
(512) 497-6332



BUSINESS

ColdTowne Theater

Alternative comedy venue heats up in Austin

By Gene Davis

As two high school boys sit in detention, it is revealed that one of them is a 22-year-old father, before the scene evolves to focus on a chain of restaurants that serve animals dissected in science class.

All in all, it is just another night at the ColdTowne Theater, where improv actors create comedic, sometimes bizarre, situations on the spot in front of an audience. Since opening in 2006, ColdTowne Theater's improv shows have led to too many ridiculous situations to count, laughed co-founder Michael Jastroch.

"Improv is really just grownups playing pretend," he said. "And it turns out, when you put that in front of people, it's extraordinarily funny."

ColdTowne Theater was Austin's first dedicated alternative comedy venue when it opened in 2006, Jastroch said. In addition to improv shows, the venue hosts sketch shows and standup comedy seven nights a week.

ColdTowne is one of Austin's largest training centers for improv actors and sketch comedy writers of all levels. Many of the performances held at ColdTowne are put on by students from the classes.

"It's really fun for me to see people from all different backgrounds come together and excel and put on really funny shows together," Jastroch said.

ColdTowne is the brainchild of Jastroch, Arthur Simone and Justin York, three improv actors who moved to Austin from New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. ColdTowne's brand of improv is inspired by the trio's experience at the iO Theater in Chicago, which teaches character-driven improv and has alumni such as Stephen Colbert, Tina Fey and Chris Farley.

"There wasn't a lot of that [character-driven] style of improv in town at the time [when we started]," Jastroch said. "It's all about finding the moment, playing the comedy of the moment and staying truthful to characters."

Austin's improv community has grown significantly since ColdTowne opened, Jastroch said. While the Hideout Theater was the only other improv facility in town when ColdTowne opened, there are now five improv training schools.

However, Jastroch said he does not see the growth as a threat to ColdTowne.

"Austin's a special place since it's one of the only cities where all the [improv] theaters are friendly and work together," he said. "Because we are all happy with each other's success and not trying to protect our own little turf, we are able to spread the word about a lot of this stuff to audiences."

Funny figures



40

The number of seats in ColdTowne Theater

80-90

The approximate number of students enrolled at ColdTowne Theater at a given time

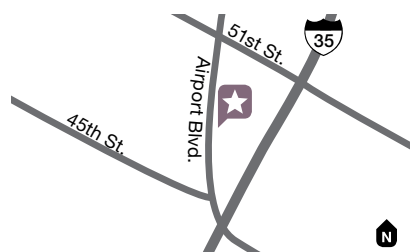
Nearly **5,000**

The approximate number of shows ColdTowne Theater has hosted since opening

\$225

The cost of an eight-week improv or sketch show class

ColdTowne Theater



4803 Airport Blvd.
512-814-8696
www.coldtownetheater.com



Students and teachers at ColdTowne Theater celebrate a prom party at the alternative comedy venue.

Classes at ColdTowne

ColdTowne classes, which cost \$225 and last eight weeks, are run by instructors who have taught and performed at comedy institutions such as Second City, iO Theater and Upright Citizens Brigade Theater.

The sketch comedy writing program teaches students the fundamentals of sketch comedy, while the improv classes teach the basics of long-form improv comedy.

The improv classes are more focused on how to collaborate and develop skills that are useful in the outside world than on teaching students how to be funny, ColdTowne Theater co-founder Michael Jastroch said.

"Improv training allows you to connect with other people in a very powerful way," he said. "The skills that make a good improviser are great listening, unconditional trust in other people and saying yes more than you say no. Those skills, as you start to work them and practice them, start affecting the way you view the outside world."

Austin Sketch Fest

During Memorial Day weekend, ColdTowne Theater is producing a sketch comedy festival that is scheduled to feature performances from multiple sketch comedy troupes.

"Our goal is to build a scene of people doing scripted comedy sketches and bolster that scene," ColdTowne Theater co-founder Michael Jastroch said.

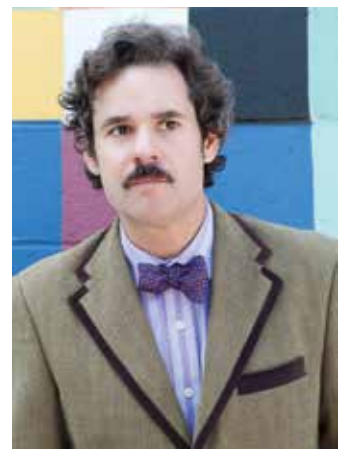
The festival features more than 10 different sketch shows from local and national sketch groups. SuperEgo with Paul F. Tompkins is scheduled to headline the festival with two shows May 24.

The festival's opening day, May 22, is planned for ColdTowne Theater, and the following events are to be held at the Spider House Ballroom.

ColdTowne is selling a limited number of festival passes, which grant attendees entry into the shows happening during the festival. Tickets are also being sold for individual shows.



ColdTowne Theater hosts sketch and improv classes taught by trained professionals.



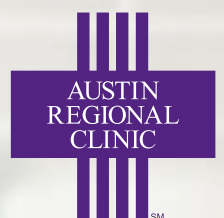
SuperEgo with Paul F. Tompkins headlines the Austin Sketch Fest.



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DINING

24 Diner

'Finer diner' serves chef-inspired comfort food

By Gene Davis

At 24 Diner, Executive Chef and partner Andrew Curren said the customer comes second.

Instead, employees comes first because they are responsible for what goes on inside the "finer diner," he said.

"If you have happy employees, they are going to give better service to the customers that come in," he said.

The diner has been doing things a little differently since opening in 2009. Instead of serving greasy diner dishes, the restaurant, which is open 24 hours most days and serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, uses local and seasonal ingredients and embraces sustainability.

The menu features chef-driven comfort food with entrees such as roasted chicken and meatloaf. The restaurant does not use freezers, and most ingredients are delivered fresh every day.

"It's food people can recognize but see a big difference in when you use local, seasonal products," Curren said.

The diner was an immediate hit when it opened and had to temporarily close after its first four days because it ran out

of ingredients, Curren said. He added that the community's initial embrace of the restaurant using local, seasonal ingredients inspired 24 Diner to start a comprehensive recycling and composting program.

"It's the unknown and the unseen to the guest that makes their experience so fantastic," he said.

The restaurant has seen a double-digit growth in sales every year since opening, Curren said. Customers range from hipsters and college students to professionals in suits, and the restaurant caters to as many people as possible by offering vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free menu options, Curren said.

Curren credited the restaurant's sustained growth with consistently serving good food and offering good service.

"We want to be an institution that Austin embraces," he said. "We are always trying to give people an opportunity to come in and enjoy the atmosphere we have created. We want people to be able to walk into our place and feel like they are home."

Austin to doing the same thing," Curren said.

Curren said he and his partners all bring different skill sets to the table. Hentschel specializes in real estate, investor relations and the overall management of the restaurants, Gillett is responsible for overall operations, Ashwill is in charge of management development and Curren is the chef in charge of the menu.

"We are a group of people with strengths and weaknesses that are transparent, so we can help each other," Curren said.



Photos by Annie Drabicky

Andrew Curren is the executive chef and a partner at 24 Diner.

Popular dishes

- **Chicken and waffles:** The dish combines a yeast-risen waffle topped with brown sugar butter, a chicken thigh and breast marinated in buttermilk and Frank's RedHot sauce and fried to order, served with maple syrup. \$9.95 small, \$13.95 large
- **24 Hash:** The onions and jalapeños are cooked with the potatoes; bacon, sausage and cheese are added, and two eggs are dropped on top. The diner also has a vegetarian hash and seasonal sweet potato hash. \$11.95
- **Cheddar burger:** The burger has a premium Gold Angus Beef patty that is ground in-house the morning it is served along with house-made aioli sauce, red onions, cheddar cheese, roasted tomatoes and comes on a freshly baked bun from Easy Tiger, a sister restaurant of 24 Diner. \$12.95



Chicken and waffles (\$9.95 small, \$13.95 large) is a popular item on the menu at 24 Diner, Executive Chef Andrew Curren said.

Milkshakes

For frequent customer Kevin Crook, 24 Diner's milkshakes are the best thing on the menu.

"They give me pure joy," he said.

The restaurant has nine types of milkshakes on a given day, all of which use fresh and natural ingredients, Executive Chef Andrew Curren said.

All milkshakes start with a vanilla ice cream base. Popular milkshakes include:

- **Roasted banana and brown sugar milkshake:** A case of bananas is peeled, roasted with brown sugar and butter, pureed, cooled down and blended with vanilla ice cream. \$6.45
- **Vanilla milkshake:** Vanilla ice cream is blended with an expensive, pure Tahitian vanilla paste and whole milk. \$4.95
- **Strawberry milkshake:** Strawberries are bought from a local farmer and blended with the vanilla ice cream and whole milk. \$5.95



The Roasted banana and brown sugar milkshake (\$6.45) is served at 24 Diner.

The people behind 24 Diner

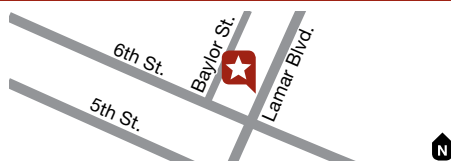
Elm Restaurant Group, the ownership group of Andrew Curren, Robert Gillett, Vince Ashwill and Scott Hentschel, teamed together to open 24 Diner in 2008.

The partners opened Easy Tiger, the beer garden and bakery at 709 E. Sixth St., in 2012 and plan to open Arro, a casual French restaurant, in June at 601 W. Sixth St.

"I much prefer to do different concepts with the same underlying goals and ideals in

24 Diner

600 N. Lamar Blvd.
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www.24diner.com
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NONPROFIT

Blue Lapis Light

Area aerial dance troupe transforms urban spaces into art performances

By Peter McCrady

It is common for audiences to admire the beauty and skill of a ballet dancer's graceful and controlled movements, but Blue Lapis Light, an aerial dance nonprofit, sends dancers into the air to create unique art performances.

"When you see a body fly through space with the backdrop of the sky and the immensity of that moment, it's really profound [and] breathtaking," said Sally Jacques, the founder, executive and artistic director of Blue Lapis Light. "You see bodies move in places we don't traditionally see them move, and with the architecture of the building, the building comes alive."

The nonprofit, located at 6701 Thomas Springs Road, was formed in 2005. Jacques said her transformative, aerial dance works evolved from the social justice, political and theater performances with which she was involved.

"I wanted to transcend that and to see this planet and all the creatures and the environment that we share as a whole and to create works that touched people, along with the collaborators, that touched people in the soul and the heart," Jacques said. "That was not a verbal language, but an imagistic language of beauty and

transcendence that incorporated the human journey."

Jacques said performing outside of a theater is an experience she enjoys and allows the piece to fully connect with the audience.

Classes

To further the connection between the public and art, the nonprofit goes beyond engaging performances to help spread knowledge and experience of the craft through classes. There are four levels of instruction offered by Blue Lapis Light for students of all ages.

Nicole Whiteside, associate artistic director and performer, said classes are a way for the craft and the medium to be passed along and helps to bring out people's creativity.

"I love the uniqueness of all people, and this is a place where we learn how to express ourselves and how to safely explore our creativity and who we are," Whiteside said. "It's a very nurturing environment."

The nonprofit would like to keep that nurturing environment in a new space it is looking to purchase in Southwest Austin. Members are trying to raise \$77,000 by April 27 for the new space. To donate to the nonprofit, visit www.bluelapislight.org.



From left: Jessica Goulding, Eliza Thomas, Karolyn Lehman and Tracy Machalek, harness dancers with Blue Lapis Light, rehearse April 12 for the "Heaven/Earth/One" performance above the Terrace at The Long Center for the Performing Arts.



Jason Brown rehearses at the Long Center for the Performing Arts.

'Heaven/Earth/One'

May 19-26

Blue Lapis Light is reprising one of its sold-out shows from its 2012 performance list.

Sally Jacques, founder of the nonprofit, said the show is about the "miraculousness" of being human and the connection between people, the earthly world and the spiritual world.

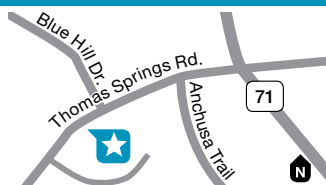
For more details on the show, see this month's calendar on Page 17 of this issue.



Susan Harkey is suspended by aerial silks above the Long Center for the Performing Arts.

Blue Lapis Light

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A LOOK
INSIDE

CAMP★MABRY

≡

Military camp offers public fishing, museum

By Peter McCrady

Although Camp Mabry may be best known for the aircraft angled toward the sky along a small stretch of MoPac, there is a lot that goes on behind the fence for both military personnel and the general public.

Maj. John Davis, Camp Mabry garrison commander, said his charge is to keep the public connected with the post and its storied history.

“Keeping true to our roots is a huge component of what we do,” Davis said. “... We are the connection back to the public.”

The camp, located on the west side of MoPac between 35th Street and Perry Lane, was founded in 1892. Camp Mabry currently serves as the joint headquarters for the Texas Military Forces, including the Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard, Texas State Guard, Domestic Operations Command and Adjutant General’s Department. The Texas Military Forces provide the administrative, logistical and operational support to troops around the state.

TMF serves as the state’s military under



Camp Mabry's 37-acre parade field includes a 1-mile track and fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft displays.

the command of the governor. The role of the Texas military is to provide support and trained personnel to respond to war, national emergencies and natural disasters.

Although the 375-acre camp serves as a military installation, Davis said the camp is open to the public and works to support the local community. There are various activities at the post in which the public can participate, including a museum and fishing, as well as nonprofit events such as

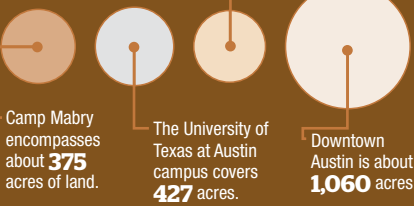
5K races.

“It goes back to our desire to help local nonprofit organizations,” Davis said. “We like to partner with organizations and do things that have an immediate and direct nexus to our veteran population and their families—to the local community—and it’s really those nonprofits that do that.”

Camp Mabry, 2200 W. 35th St., is open to the public during daylight hours but requires photo identification for all adults to gain access to the area.

Camp Mabry: Facts and figures

A land size comparison to other attractions in Austin:



The Texas Military Forces has a strength of about **29,000** service members

Camp Mabry can have up to **10,000** service members on post conducting drills at once

30 permanent residences on Camp Mabry

About **1,300** service members and visitors per day

37 acres size of the parade field

Camp Mabry receives about **30,000** visitors per year

Sources: Camp Mabry, City of Austin, The University of Texas at Austin



1892 - Camp Mabry founded

The original 90 acres for Camp Mabry is donated by a committee of residents and guardsmen to the State of Texas and is named after Army Brig. Gen. Woodford H. Mabry.

1915 - Arsenal constructed

The arsenal is the first permanent building constructed at Camp Mabry, allowing the transfer of military weapons and equipment from the state capital.

1917 - United States enters World War I

The nation enters the global conflict, and the Texas National Guard is mobilized. The Army uses Camp Mabry as a school for auto mechanics during the war.

1943 - Texas State Guard gets its name

The Texas Defense Guard, which was created in 1941 to replace National Guard troops that were being sent overseas during World War II, is renamed the Texas State Guard.

1890

1900

1910

1920

1930

1940

1950

1898 - Spanish-American War

The 1st Texas United States Volunteer Infantry mobilizes under the command of Mabry. Mabry falls ill and dies in Cuba.

1911 - Camp Mabry expands

The camp expands from its original 90 acres to more than 375 acres through land donations from Austin residents and purchases.



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- 1** The **Bluebonnet House** is a craftsman-style house that was built before 1918. Now the house is home for trial defense employees and may be rented for small, executive-level meetings. The building offers a projector, some computer access, a kitchen and bathrooms.
- 2** Camp Mabry has a 1-acre **pond** that is regularly stocked with bass and perch. The public is allowed to fish,

- and a post fishing permit costs \$15.
- 3** The 1-mile **track** that circles and cuts into the parade field is open to the public for running and walking. The track also has a workout station that includes a stationary bike, manual elliptical machine, pull-up bars and dip bars.
- 4** The **Brig. Gen. John C.L. Scribner Texas Military**

- Forces Museum** chronicles the history of the Texas Military Forces, and admission is free.
- 5** The **Lt. Gen. Thomas S. Bishop All Faiths Chapel** was built in the 1970s and provides services during drill weekends. The chapel also hosts weddings, coronations, baptisms and military funerals for service members and their families, but the chapel is available for public tours.

- 6** Around the pond are some **nature trails** on which the public can walk. The camp features various types of wildlife, including white-tailed deer, foxes, squirrels and many species of birds.
- 7** The **Post Exchange**, also known as the PX, is open to active military, their family members and veterans. The PX offers clothing, electronics, a barber shop and health, beauty and kitchen products along with other items. A Subway and smoothie shop in the PX are open to the public.
- 8** Inside the track is a **parade field** that is used for drills and is open to the public. The field is home to the iconic aircraft that can be seen from MoPac and offers visitors a closer look at the planes and helicopters.
- 9** There are three **pavilions** for public use on Camp Mabry. They can be used for wedding receptions, Boy Scout campouts, graduation parties and picnics.



Museum Director Jeff Hunt shows a display of the Texas military's role in the war on terror.

Brig. Gen. John C. L. Scribner Texas Military Forces Museum

The 45,000-square-foot museum, which opened in 1992, features the history of the Texas military and its role in various conflicts throughout the world, including the Texas Revolution, World War II and the war on terror.

"The museum is really the cornerstone of [Camp Mabry's] historical district and really is our showcase facility," said Maj. John Davis, Camp Mabry Garrison Commander.

The museum charges no admission and is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday as well as on most holidays.

"Our feeling is that our citizens shouldn't have to drop a dime to find out what our troops have done for us and what they do for us," Museum Director Jeff Hunt said. "That admission price has already been paid through their service and for some of them, with their blood. As long as we can be free, we will be free."

For more information, call 512-782-5659 or visit www.texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org.

1946 - 36th Infantry Division

The division is incorporated as part of the Texas National Guard. Camp Mabry is the current home of the division that has seen action in conflicts including World War I and World War II and has served as part of the drawdown in Iraq.

1965 - Texas State Guard recreated

After about two decades of inactive status, legislation passes reinstituting the Texas State Guard. Federal legislation authorizing the military force expired in 1947, and its members were placed on the inactive list.

1996 - Camp Mabry added to NRHP

The National Register of Historic Places is the federal government's list of places and objects it deems worth preserving, and Camp Mabry is the third-oldest active military base in Texas, following Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio and Fort Bliss in El Paso.



2010 - 36th Infantry Division deploys

The division, headquartered at Camp Mabry, deploys to Basrah, Iraq, to support Operation New Dawn and provide command for the nation's southern provinces.

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010



1992 - Museum opens at Camp Mabry

Work on the museum began in 1986, and on the 100th anniversary of the creation of Camp Mabry, the museum opens to the public.

2000 - 49th Armor Division takes command

The division, headquartered at Camp Mabry, is the first National Guard division to command active-duty forces in Bosnia as part of the NATO-led SFOR, or Stabilization Force. The force was meant to deter hostilities and stabilize the region.

2001 - World Trade Center attacks

Attacks on Sept. 11 bring down both World Trade Center towers. Four fighter jets from the Texas Air National Guard escort Air Force One, and many entrances to Camp Mabry are shut down to increase security.

Source: Camp Mabry

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Outdoor DINING GUIDE

Compiled by Gene Davis and Annie-Lee Taylor

With spring in full swing in Central Texas, Central Austin residents will be able to once again enjoy dining al fresco.

There are dozens, if not hundreds, of patios in Central Austin, and we have spotlighted a few that we think are worth checking out.

Many of the patios could fall under more than one description, but we have highlighted the category into which we think they best fit.

This list is not comprehensive.

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512-454-7827
www.bluestarcafeateria.com

Chez Zee American Bistro

5406 Balcones Drive
512-454-2666
www.chez-zee.com

Moonshine Patio Bar & Grill

303 Red River St.
512-236-9599
www.moonshinegrill.com

Russell's Bistro

1601 W. 38th Street.
512-467-7877
www.russellsbistro.com/

Taverna by Lombardi

258 W. Second St.
512-477-1001
www.tavernabylombardi.com

CAFFEINATED

Bouldin Creek Cafe

1900 S. First St.
512-416-1601
www.bouldincreek.com

Dominican Joe Coffee Shop

515 S. Congress Ave.
512-448-3919
www.dominicanjoe.com

Jo's Coffee

242 W. Second St.
512-469-9003
www.joscoffee.com

Opa! Coffee & Wine Bar

2050 S. Lamar Blvd.
512-326-8742
www.opacoffeewine.com

Spiderhouse Cafe

2908 Fruth St.
512-480-9562
www.spiderhousecafe.com

Thunderbird Coffee

1401 W. Koenig Lane
512-420-8660
www.thunderbirdcoffee.com

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512-206-1000
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512-538-1991
www.cherrywoodcoffeehouse.com

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512-632-1804
www.elchatosince1958.com

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Phil's Ice House

5620 Burnet Road
512-524-1212
www.philsicehouse.com

Shady Grove

1624 Barton Springs Road
512-474-9991
www.theshadygrove.com

Whole Foods Market

1105 N. Lamar Blvd., Ste. 200
512-391-8400
www.wholefoodsmarket.com

ROMANTIC

Blue Dahlia Bistro

1115 E. 11th St.
512-454-9542
www.bluedahliabistro.com

FoodHeads Cafe & Catering

616 W. 34th St.
512-420-8400
www.foodheads.com

Foreign & Domestic

306 E. 53rd St.
512-459-1010
www.fndaustin.com

Lenoir

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www.lenoirrestaurant.com

Olive & June

3411 Glenview Ave.
512-467-9898
www.oliveandjune-austin.com

Paggi House

200 Lee Barton Drive
512-473-3700
www.paggihouse.com

Winflo Osteria

1315 W. Sixth St.
512-582-1027
www.winfloosteria.com

UPSCALE

FINO Restaurant & Bar

2905 San Gabriel St.
512-474-2905
www.finoaustin.com

Green Pastures

811 W. Live Oak St.
512-444-1888
www.greenpasturesrestaurant.com

Olivia

2043 S. Lamar Blvd.
512-804-2700
www.olivia-austin.com

Perla's

1400 S. Congress Ave.
512-291-7300
www.perlasaustin.com

Willie G's Seafood

401 Congress Ave.
512-236-9600
www.williegs.com

HAPPY HOUR

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612 W. Sixth St.
512-474-2194
www.219west.com

Crown & Anchor Pub

2911 San Jacinto Blvd.
512-322-9168
www.crownandanchorpup.com

Iron Cactus

606 Trinity St.
512-472-9240
www.ironcactus.com

Lustre Pearl Bar

97 Rainey St.
512-469-0400
www.lustrepearlaustin.com

Matt's Famous El Rancho

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512-462-9333
www.mattselrancho.com

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www.botticellisouthcongress.com

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512-448-9181
www.eatdrinkdocs.com

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512-478-6600
www.pizzabistro.com

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512-614-2260
www.contigotexas.com/austin

Easy Tiger

709 E. Sixth St.
512-614-4972
www.easytigeraustin.com

Pelons

802 Red River St.
512-243-7874
www.pelonsaustin.com

Shangri-La

1016 E. Sixth St.
512-524-4291
www.shangrilaaustin.com

Star Bar

600 W. Sixth St.
512-477-8550
www.starbartexas.com

VIEWS

El Alma Restaurant & Bar

1025 Barton Springs Road
512-609-8923
www.elalmacafe.com

Hula Hut

3825 Lake Austin Blvd.
512-476-4852
www.hulahut.com

Rattle Inn

610 Nueces St.
512-373-8306
www.therattleinn.com



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Gloria's Latin Cuisine

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Guero's Taco Bar

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Austin Chronicle, 2012

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Beer

Continued from I 1

Pinthouse Pizza Head Brewer Joe Mohrfeld said the expansions in Austin are just to keep up with demand.

“I don’t feel like there is a mad dash by anybody to be the biggest brewery in Austin,” he said.

Meanwhile, multiple Central Austin bars such as Craft Pride, Banger’s Sausage House & Beer Garden, and The Chicago House have recently opened and are dedicated to serving craft beer. Craft Pride co-owner J.T. Egli said having 54 taps serving craft beer from 23 different Texas breweries, as his Rainey Street bar does, would have been unheard of just a few years ago.

“Texas and Austin are pushing the envelope now,” he said. “I can only see [the local craft beer industry] getting bigger.”

Mohrfeld, who previously worked as the head brewer for Odell Brewing Co. in Colorado, a state considered to be at the forefront of the craft beer movement, said there is an enthusiasm for craft beer in Austin that is unlike any other scene he has seen.

“Whereas in Colorado or Portland or California, where [the craft beer industry] is really well-established, I never felt like there was the same energy that is going on here right now,” he said. “People really want to be a part of it, whether it is as a consumer, a brewer or a fan. That excitement is huge.”

Room for growth

Texas craft breweries produced 4.6 million gallons of beer in 2012, which was more than a 228 percent increase from the 1.4 million gallons of beer Texas craft breweries produced in 2008, according to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

Despite the growth, Texas ranks in the bottom 10 states for breweries per capita, with only 0.7 percent of the beer that is consumed by Texans per year coming from independent Texas craft brewers, according to the TCBG study. For comparison, nearly 16 percent of beer consumed in Oregon annually is produced by independent Oregon craft brewers, the TCBG study says.

However, Metzger and Mohrfeld say they see that trend changing. Texas tied for second place with California in the number of new breweries that opened in 2012, according to Mohrfeld.

The TCBG study projects that the economic impact of Texas craft breweries could reach \$5.6 billion annually in less than a decade if the package of beer bills pass and follow a similar trajectory to Texas’ wine industry. When legislation passed allowing Texas wineries to sell their product on-site directly to consumers, the number of Texas wineries increased from 29 to 200 within two years, Tucker said.

“[The \$5.6 billion projection] sounds astounding, but given what’s happening across the country with craft beer, it’s

not,” the TCBG study says. “It’s actually conservative.”

Legislative action

Tucker said he teared up when he heard that the package of beer bills passed the senate. He said has been working to help loosen the regulations of Texas craft beer laws since 1987.

“It was just a release of pure joy,” he said. “This has been going on so long, and now we are at the precipice.”

To the consumer, the passage of the bills would mean one could buy beer from a brewpub such as North by Northwest at a store such as H-E-B. The current law only allows brewpubs to sell their beer on-site.

“From an individual standpoint, if you are a craft beer drinker, it is providing more choice and opportunity to try more and different beers,” Tucker said.

The bills would also allow customers to buy beer from Texas craft brewers and drink it at the brewery. Tucker said that allowing craft brewers to directly charge for selling their beer on-site would be a boon to the breweries.

“It increases the survivability of these small breweries,” he said. “It generates greater cash flow, and greater cash flow generates more opportunity for success.”

Tell us what
you think.

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Central Austin breweries



Hops and Grain Brewery



Whip In



The Chicago House



Easy Tiger



Craft breweries

- 1 (512) Brewing Co., est. 2007
- 2 Adelbert's Brewery, est. 2012
- 3 Austin Beer Garden Brewing, est. 2013*
- 4 Austin Beerworks, est. 2011
- 5 Draught House Pub and Brewery, est. 1968
- 6 Hops & Grain Brewery, est. 2011
- 7 Independence Brewing, est. 2004
- 8 Live Oak Brewing Co., est. 1997
- 9 South Austin Brewing Co., est. 2012

*Projected opening date

Brewpubs

- 10 Black Star Co-op, est. 2010
- 11 North by Northwest Restaurant and Brewery, est. 1999
- 12 Pinthouse Pizza, est. 2012
- 13 Uncle Billy's, est. 2007
- 14 Whip In, brewery est. 2012

Beer bars

- 15 Banger's Sausage House & Beer Garden, est. 2012
- 16 The Chicago House, est. 2013
- 17 Craft Pride, est. 2013
- 18 Easy Tiger, est. 2012
- 19 Flying Saucer Draught Emporium, est. 2008
- 20 The Ginger Man, est. 1994
- 21 Scholz Garten, est. 1866

Bond

Continued from I 1

athletics and fine arts programs.

School districts use bonds to help fund projects that are not part of the day-to-day operations. If voters approve the bond package, it gives the district the authority to issue the bonds.

The effect of the bond on homeowners would be about a \$70 increase per year, or \$5.83 per month, on property taxes for an Austin resident with a \$200,000 home. If voters approve the bond program, the AISD tax rate would increase by 3.5 cents during the duration of the bond program. Property taxes on businesses would increase at the same rate.

The bond program also includes safety and security improvements, which would include adding surveillance cameras and updating the district's emergency systems. Superintendent Meria Carstarphen said that because of the shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut last December, Austin ISD parents expect the district to update its security.

"No school and no [school] system is doing a great job if safety isn't your No. 1 priority for staff and students and the families that come on our campuses," Carstarphen said.

The bond program includes four propositions that address energy conservation, transportation and food service upgrades, academic initiatives and new infrastructure. Proposition 2 includes building three new elementary schools, which would be determined by population growth, board President Vincent Torres said.

For more information visit impactnews.com

Projects at Central Austin schools

Bond projects are proposed for more than 30 Central Austin schools. For a full list of the proposed projects at the schools, visit www.impactnews.com/cta. Below is a list of some of the proposed bond projects:

Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders:
\$17,841,973

- Renovate library, locker room, weight room and gym
- Build 500-seat theater
- Replace sections of sanitary sewer system

Austin High School:
\$17,487,873

- Renovate library, media space, gymnasium lobby and food lab
- Construct outdoor restrooms
- Improve ADA-compliant accessibility

Burnet Middle School:
\$13,207,466

- Construct 10 classroom additions
- Repair driveway and parking lot
- Replace select windows

Fulmore Middle School:
\$9,311,874

- Renovate gym stage
- Install safety cables on retractable basketball goals
- Repair irrigation and drainage system

McCallum High School:
\$20,470,248

- Build dance studio
- Renovate classroom for computer lab
- Renovate special education classrooms

Pillow Elementary School:
\$10,926,326

- Build eight new classroom additions
- Expand library and administrative offices
- Repair sidewalk

Ridgeview campus renovations to accommodate new School for Young Men:
\$22,146,380

- Renovate and expand facilities to prepare for the School for Young Men
- Replace gym bleachers and repair and refurbish gym floor
- Repair and replace exterior wall panels

Rosedale School:
\$8,932,997

- Build six classroom additions and a library
- Convert existing library space into administrative offices
- Make playground improvements

Travis High School:
\$11,598,590

- Install outdoor bleachers and walk-in refrigerator
- Renovate library to add a conference room, renovate select classrooms for a computer lab and counselor office
- Replace floor in band hall

Zilker Elementary School:
\$9,445,832

- Repair and replace damaged brick walls
- Build new gym, music room and multi-purpose classroom
- Replace sanitary sewer system

AISD's \$892 million bond package

☐ **Proposition 1** Cost: **\$140.5M**

Technology, equipment, maintenance, transportation and energy conservation

- Upgrading technology
- Building new science and technology labs
- Improving energy conservation
- Purchasing school buses
- Addressing food service needs such as expanding cafeterias

☐ **Proposition 2** Cost: **\$233.9M**

Safety and security, new schools and new construction

- Construction of three new elementary schools
- Land acquisition for future campuses
- Safety and security improvements such as surveillance camera installation and upgrades to emergency systems
- Improvements to fine arts, physical education and athletic facilities

☐ **Proposition 3** Cost: **\$349.1M**

Renovations

- Repairs and renovations for aging schools
- Individual campus upgrades
- Library improvements

☐ **Proposition 4** Cost: **\$168.5M**

Academic initiatives and upgrades to fine arts and athletics

- Academic initiatives in fine arts, athletics and special education
- New programs for career readiness and workforce technical skills
- Renovation of the Alternative Learning Center for the Ridgeview School for Young Men

Source: Austin ISD



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Parking

Continued from I 1

already-changing downtown and make the best use of the space.

"There are a few things at play," Riley said. "One is to be able to respond to shifting market preferences. As we see more and more people that are open to [reducing their reliance on cars], it is important we recognize that we no longer need to devote as much of our space to parking as we did in the past."

According to the Downtown Austin Plan that was adopted by Austin City Council in 2011, the vision for downtown includes encouraging an array of "innovative" businesses and establishing a multimodal transportation system.

Downtown parking requirements

At the April 11 council meeting, council members approved an ordinance eliminating off-street vehicle parking requirements for businesses downtown. The ordinance also made loading and unloading in alleys a permitted use.

Before the ordinance, the city required businesses to provide a certain amount of off-street parking, such as parking garages or surface parking, based on various formulas with variables including the size of the business and the type of business. Historic buildings as well as businesses that use less than 6,000 square feet also were already exempted from providing off-street, Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant parking.

Riley said one motivation for the amendments is to bolster small businesses as well as to revitalize older buildings in the downtown area, both of which could see an immediate effect from the resolution. He said those businesses and spaces have a harder time meeting the old parking requirements.

"As a longtime downtown resident, I would be glad to see more activity in those older buildings rather than the alternatives, which include either those buildings sitting vacant, or, in some cases, we have actually lost buildings," Riley said. "... Given the choice between all those possibilities, I like the idea of allowing property owners to bring activity into those existing buildings."

Charlie Betts, executive director of the

Downtown Austin Alliance—an organization that comprises downtown businesses and property owners who aim to promote the value and vitality of the area—said he thinks it is wise for the city to rescind its minimum parking requirements in favor of allowing the market to dictate the amount of parking required for developments.

"We don't think it will have a significant impact on downtown because the marketplace, the developer and the developer's lender are going to determine what kind of parking needs to be furnished in any given development in order for it to be successful," Betts said.

Even though the minimum parking requirements are eliminated, Riley said parking is still a concern, but that it does not correlate to a reduction in available parking downtown.

"There is actually a wealth of parking that is currently underutilized in existing buildings," Riley said. "There are dozens of parking garages downtown that are largely empty for much of the day."

According to city staff, in 2012, the average occupancy rate of existing off-street parking was 26 percent, with peak occupancy reaching about 67 percent. Two reasons Riley pointed out for the underused parking include garages that are not open to the public and drivers having difficulty in finding available parking.

One point of discussion in the ordinance was addressing ADA-compliant parking. In the approved ordinance, businesses may be eligible to pay a fee in lieu of providing accessible parking spaces, or the requirement may be waived entirely.

Councilwoman Laura Morrison said she wanted to make sure that buildings and businesses that qualified for the fee would still be accessible and that funds collected from the fee could go back to making those areas more accessible.

"My only concern would be to make sure that we keep in mind that we're talking about a building that may not have parking close enough," Morrison said.

Betts said that as the city moves ahead, he hopes to see a decreased need in parking downtown.

"We would hope that 10, 15, 20 years



A crowd gathers April 17 in alley No. 111 on Ninth Street between Congress Avenue and Brazos Street for the opening of the art installation 20ft Wide, a project to turn the alley into a public open space.

from today, if and when our city has an exemplary public transportation system, that developers and lenders will recognize that there's not a particular need to build as much parking," Betts said. "That would be the ideal future for downtown."

Re-envisioning downtown alleys

Another point of contention raised by the approved ordinance centered on uses for the city's alleys. At the March 21 meeting, council members passed a resolution for the city manager to develop a Downtown Alley Master Plan, identifying which alleys have the potential for uses outside of loading, unloading and trash collection.

"Alleys have traditionally served as places for trash pickup. Sometimes they are associated with crime," said Councilwoman Kathie Tovo, who sponsored the resolution. "But what some experiments in other cities have shown is that they can be transformed to serve really public uses."

Some of the uses Tovo mentioned that other cities have utilized include opening cafes and small businesses in the alleys, as well as establishing art installations and miniature parks in those spaces. Her concern was that by making loading and unloading in the alleys a right for businesses, the rule could take away the ability

to use those spaces in other ways.

Betts said he believes a balance can be struck between the functional and more creative uses of the alleys.

"We don't think it's in conflict," Betts said. "If the property owners are interested in utilizing the alley in a more unique, interesting way, we certainly don't have a problem with that. We would encourage that."

Tovo said alternative uses for those spaces could allow the city to have more diverse offerings for residents and encourage them to spend time downtown.

"Downtown should be a place where all Austinites feel comfortable and want to come and spend time," Tovo said. "Creating more reasons for them to do so is really a benefit, I believe, to the city."


Riley said the end goal of the initiatives is to make sure downtown remains unique.

"Downtown is never going to be able to compete with the suburbs in providing acres of open parking," Riley said. "But we can compete in providing special places that draw people in and make them want to visit. That's what we're focusing on."



Take the poll online at impactnews.com/cta-poll

What do you think is the best and/or most interesting use of our downtown alleys?



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- May 11 Endangered Ones with biologist (level: moderate)
- May 25 Bugs & Blooms (level: family)
- June 8 Insect Safari (level: family)

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REAL ESTATE

Cherrywood
Austin - 78722

Market Data provided by
Josh Center, REATX
603 Davis St., Ste. 102
Austin, TX 78701
512-236-8898



Overview

Build-out year: 1939
Square footage: 878–2,936
Home values: \$225,000–\$550,000
Nearby attractions: Patterson Park, Hancock Golf Course, Royal Memorial Football Stadium, Mueller Shopping District
Property taxes:
Austin ISD 1.2420
City of Austin 0.5029
Travis County 0.5001
Travis County Hospital District 0.0790
Austin Community College District 0.0951
Total (per \$100 value) **\$2.4191**

Featured homes

3402 Robinson Ave.



3 Bedroom / 2 Bath 1,689 sq. ft. \$415,000
Agent: Sandy Hoffman 512-300-1705

4103 Bradwood Road



2 Bedroom / 2 Bath 1,689 sq. ft. \$369,000
Agent: Sandy Menley 512-963-1113

3211 French Place



3 Bedroom / 3 Bath 2,328 sq. ft. \$525,000
Agent: Aaron Nann 512-923-3355

3307 Cherrywood Road



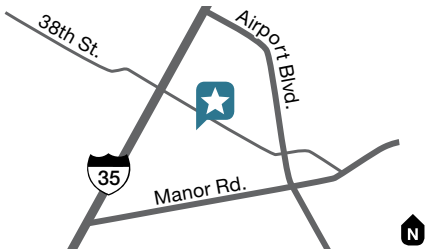
3 Bedroom / 2 Bath 1,173 sq. ft. \$349,000
Agent: Debby Reynolds 512-699-2130

Homes on the market (As of 4/12/2013)

No. of homes for sale	4
No. of homes under contract	11
Average days on the market	11

Annual home sales (1/1/12–1/1/13)

No. of homes sold	49
Square footage (low/high)	878 / 2,936
Selling price (low/high)	\$225,000 / \$550,000



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Market Data

Market Data provided by
the Austin Board of Realtors

On the market (March 2013)

Price Range	Number of homes for sale/Average days on market						
	78701	78703	78704	78731	78751	78756	78757
Less than \$100,000	1/1,284	1/205	1/100	2/10	2/78	3/26	13/78
\$100,000–\$149,999	2/21	2/93	3/26	2/8	1/60	2/13	-
\$150,000–\$199,999	4/24	5/58	10/30	5/85	6/14	3/5	5/39
\$200,000–\$299,999	11/23	5/23	24/22	6/37	8/66	2/73	9/63
\$300,000–\$399,999	8/82	9/128	17/67	5/124	5/23	2/21	5/33
\$400,000–\$499,999	5/59	5/23	13/76	8/108	1/57	3/99	-
\$500,000–\$749,999	11/88	10/75	13/51	16/67	4/50	4/20	-
\$750,000–\$999,999	7/61	9/38	6/89	4/66	1/60	-	-
\$1 million +	16/142	38/90	6/146	17/81	-	-	-

Monthly home sales

Month	Number of homes sold/Average price						
	78701	78703	78704	78731	78751	78756	78757
March 2013	29/\$337,000	37/\$620,000	47/\$355,000	43/\$399,000	11/\$295,000	17/\$370,000	37/\$250,000
March 2012	15/\$300,000	31/\$630,000	56/\$340,205	37/\$475,000	12/\$441,200	18/\$385,000	35/\$245,000
February 2013	15/\$380,000	33/\$525,000	47/\$297,000	12/\$355,400	11/\$340,000	10/\$445,000	25/\$277,000
January 2013	8/\$453,750	16/\$391,925	30/\$254,250	22/\$354,800	7/\$313,500	9/\$321,800	19/\$227,000
December 2012	22/\$381,500	30/\$629,000	55/\$417,000	28/\$570,000	14/\$253,450	6/\$352,225	27/\$279,570
November 2012	15/\$328,000	16/\$548,750	33/\$292,100	29/\$465,693	11/\$220,000	5/\$175,000	35/\$251,000
October 2012	11/\$385,000	21/\$615,000	44/\$360,500	45/\$520,000	13/\$275,000	2/\$241,250	33/\$266,500
September 2012	15/\$325,000	22/\$531,825	41/\$380,000	22/\$515,000	11/\$310,000	10/\$387,850	29/\$252,400
August 2012	17/\$291,000	39/\$487,000	51/\$339,900	28/\$424,600	20/\$327,500	18/\$446,500	28/\$245,000

Recent Property Listings

ZIP code	Subdivision	Address	Bed/Bath	Price	Sq.ft.	Agent	Agency	Phone
78701	Brown Building Lofts Condo	710 Colorado St.	1br/1ba	\$374,900	1,191	Matthew Menard	Keller Williams Realty	512-947-8787
78701	Five Fifty 05 Condo	555 Fifth St.	2br/2ba	\$675,000	1,358	Garrett Hill	Urbanspace	512-587-2876
78701	Posada Del Rey Condo	505 Seventh St.	1br/1ba	\$248,650	615	Annie Bright	Stanberry & Associates	512-627-2969
78703	Austin City Lofts	800 Fifth St.	2br/2ba	\$699,900	1,872	Kevin Burns	Urbanspace	512-848-8722
78703	Deep Eddy Heights	714 Upson St.	2br/1ba	\$365,000	650	Heather Witte	Keller Williams Realty	512-994-4663
78703	Pleasant Run Place	3108 Pleasant Run Place	4br/4ba	\$1,145,000	3,387	Jocelyn Johnson	Moreland Properties	512-480-0449
78703	Spring Condo	300 Bowie St.	2br/2ba	\$585,000	1,061	Diana Zuniga	Investors Alliance Inc.	512-472-8118
78703	Quarry Road Condo	2507 Quarry Road	2br/2ba	\$239,000	1,336	John Valenzuela	Keller Williams - Lake Travis	512-751-3625
78703	Westfield Condo	1404 Norwalk Lane	2br/2ba	\$250,000	1,002	Linda Ramon	Best Agents in Texas	512-587-8750
78704	500 S. Third St.	500 S. Third St.	3br/3ba	\$858,000	2,145	Larry Allen	J.B. Goodwin, Realtors	512-800-1020
78704	Bartonplace	1600 Barton Springs Road	3br/3ba	\$875,000	1,706	Mark Goldman	Austin City Living	512-743-6301
78704	Blue Bonnet Hills	514 Terrace Drive	5br/3ba	\$699,900	2,328	Elizabeth Brooks	Landmark Properties	512-636-4166
78704	Bouldin	700 Annie St.	4br/4ba	\$899,990	3,141	Nicholas Quijano	David Weekley Homes	512-262-8976
78704	Bradshaw	1606 Roberts Ave.	3br/2ba	\$795,000	2,220	Scott Brooks	Pacesetter Properties	512-217-4761
78704	Creeside Terrace Condos	2303 East Side Drive	2br/2ba	\$189,900	1,105	Todd Bailey	Realty Austin	512-289-0653
78704	Forest Wood	2507 Wilson St.	3br/2ba	\$549,000	2,760	Nila Williams	Amelia Bullock, Realtors	512-466-1161
78704	The Crossing at Bouldin Creek	3103 Corbin Lane	2br/2ba	\$379,900	1,584	Ellis Goodwin	J.B. Goodwin, Realtors	512-670-6323
78704	South Terrace	3205 Dolphin Drive	3br/1ba	\$329,000	1,080	Molly Ironmonger	Keller Williams Realty	512-222-9795
78704	Sunshine	2204 Alta Vista Ave.	3br/2ba	\$674,000	3,320	Lisa Munoz	Realty Austin	512-293-5551
78731	Chimney Oaks Townhomes	3986 Far West Blvd.	2br/2ba	\$279,900	1,680	Xuan Redding	J.B. Goodwin, Realtors	512-773-6934
78731	Highland Park West	3507 Lakeland Drive	4br/2ba	\$593,000	2,525	Robert Kenney	Turnquist Partners, Realtors	512-922-4922
78731	Las Colinas	3613 Las Colinas Drive	3br/2ba	\$225,000	1,247	Patricia Fitzpatrick	Keller Williams Realty	512-925-0161
78731	Northwest Hills	4802 RR 2222	4br/4ba	\$1,299,000	4,234	Denny Holt	Denny Holt Realtors	512-694-1103
78731	Stoneledge	5612 Bonnell Vista St.	3br/3ba	\$699,000	3,006	Samantha Hale	StoneHaven Realty	512-771-4681
78751	Hegman	5018 Avenue F	3br/1ba	\$374,000	1,130	Timothy Heyl	Keller Williams Realty	512-330-1047
78751	Mayfair Terrace	1020 44th St.	2br/2ba	\$279,000	1,160	Dave Murray	Coldwell Banker United Realtor	512-751-6060
78756	Lynndale	5103 Woodrow Ave.	3br/2ba	\$565,000	2,174	Peggy Little	J.B. Goodwin, Realtors	512-970-7349
78756	Lynndale	5100 Grover Ave.	3br/2ba	\$325,000	2,996	Tom Amiss	Keller Williams Realty	512-442-8581
78756	Skyland	5409 McCandless St.	2br/1ba	\$289,900	940	Judy Schoening	Coldwell Banker United Realtor	512-797-4422
78757	Allandale	6306 Nasco Drive	4br/3ba	\$450,000	2,227	Chad Goldwasser	Goldwasser Real Estate	512-420-0300
78757	Allandale Estates	8409 Daleview Drive	4br/2ba	\$296,900	1,431	Patricia Smith	Keller Williams Realty	512-637-8277
78757	Allandale North	8010 Bon Air Drive	3br/2ba	\$348,500	1,725	Joel Hueske	Patton & Associates	512-219-0678
78757	Allendale Condo	2104 Cullen Ave.	2br/2ba	\$159,000	802	Samantha Hale	StoneHaven Realty	512-771-4681
78757	Brandywine Condo	1748 Ohlen Road	2br/2ba	\$135,000	1,194	Carolyn Watts	Realty Austin	512-731-4533

ZIP code guide

- 78701 Downtown
- 78703 West Austin
- 78704 South/Central
- 78731 Northwest/Central
- 78751 Hyde Park
- 78756 Brentwood
- 78757 Burnet Road/Anderson Lane

3108 Pleasant Run Place



700 Annie St.



4802 RR 2222



6306 Nasco Drive



Residential real estate listings added to the market between 04/04/13 and 04/17/13 were included and provided by the Austin Board of Realtors, www.abor.com. Although every effort has been made to ensure the timeliness and accuracy of this listing, *Community Impact Newspaper* assumes no liability for errors or omissions. Contact the property's agent or seller for the most current information.

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