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## **Austin's Authors**

This is the fourth of a six-part series highlighting Austin's talented authors. From UT's many exceptional writing courses and The James A. Michener Center for Writers to Austin's Texas Monthly, The Texas Observer and The Austin American-Statesman publications, there are many opportunities for writers to hone their skills.

#### Karen MacInerney By Ashley Moreno

When she is not hanging out in her favorite café or writing away on her iBook to achieve her 1,500 words per day quota, mystery writer Karen MacInerney is a wife and mother to two young children.

MacInerney majored in German at Rice University, and later moved to Austin to attend graduate school at The University of Texas where she planned to study ecology (plant population biology).

"I had my first child and the biologist thing went out the window," she said. "I tried to think of what I could do, and then I remembered I'd always wanted to write a book."

Her first book, "Murder on the Rocks: A Gray Whale Inn Mystery," was published in May 2006 by Midnight Ink and has been nominated for the Agatha Award for best first novel. The novel, which was originally written in longhand, took her only five months to complete.

"Have you ever had that one book that you read, and afterward you think, 'I could do that'?" MacInerney asked. She said that was how she was inspired to write her debut novel.

She has since written the book's sequel "Dead and Berried: A Gray Whale Inn Mystery," which was released this past February, and another book co-authored with Barbara Burnett Smith, "Beads of Doubt." She is currently writing a paranormal series, with the first book presently titled "Howling at the Moon: Tales of an Urban Werewolf." It is tentatively scheduled for release next spring.

MacInerney has learned to divide her time between her family and her writing.

"I try to keep them separate. For example, I just spent most of the morning trying to sign my kids up for as many summer activities as possible, in order to make sure I'd have enough time to write this summer," she said. "I can't write at home with the kids because they start to send me notes under the door, and I have to ask if there's blood."

The writing process used to be a long one for MacInerney. Her pre-writing rituals used to include going for a three-mile walk before she could sit down

and write. Now, she is comfortable sitting at the same table in her favorite café every morning, and it usually takes her only two to two and one-half hours to achieve her word quota for the day.

"I'm a pretty disciplined writer, and most of it comes out clean, which helps a lot," she said.

MacInerney said the key to becoming successful is perseverance. As any author can tell you, "there are always rejections." MacInerney sites the Writers' League of Texas (formerly Austin Writers' League) as a big support in her writing career and also said that the best thing an aspiring writer can do is "read, read, read."

In addition to writing fulltime, MacInerney also teaches informal classes at UT. Her most recent class on "Writing the Mystery Novel" ran from March 26 thru April 16, 2007. Visit her Web site at www. karenmacinerney.com/ for more information concerning upcoming informal classes. Besides writing and spending time with her family, MacInerney enjoys cooking, reading books by Diane Mott Davidson and Janet Evanovich and taking care of the family rabbit, Bunny. For more information about her upcoming books, visit her blog Continued on page 6

### The 'Dillo

### By Marissa DeLisle

Visit 505 Barton Springs Rd. today and you will find One Texas Center, a City of Austin facility. Had you visited the location 30 years ago, you would have found an Austin legend - The Armadillo World Headquarters, where you could have seen Bruce Springsteen play for about five dol-

After the close of the famous concert hall, Vulcan Gas Co. in 1969, it was obvious that there was room for a new music venue. So on Aug. 7, 1970, Eddie Wilson, with the help of Spencer Perskin, Mike Tolleson, Bobby Hedderman, Hank Alrich and local artist Jim Franklin transformed an old National Guard armory into a legendary music venue that hosted artists such as The Clash, Ted Nugent, Journey, Joe Ely and Van Morrison.

"It had an aura about it, the musicians and concerts that happened there are leg-Continued on page 3

### Composer for Blockbuster Films

ly what movie score composer that's just miserable." George Oldziey did.

in New Jersey, Oldziey went to Manhattan School of Music to pursue his lifelong dream of being a professional trumpet player. As soon as this dream began to turn into reality, Oldziev was struck with a devastating nerve problem in his jaw and everything came unraveled.

trumpet – there was no other reason," Oldziey said. "So when this happened I just had to sit down going to do now?""

Oldziey began learning piano

and taking odd jobs.

Not many people can take a "New York is a great place," he he said. "I just never thought I case of bad luck and turn it into said. "But to be doing something would study it formally, but I just movie magic, but that is exact- you don't love in New York, now picked it up and it was great."

Straight out of high school cal career end and decided that a the UT music department after change of scenery would do some only a year in San Marcos at good. That is how he ended up in Austin. Aimlessly trying to find his niche in a new town, Oldziey Texas State University (presently

Texas State). "I couldn't play trumpet any-"I was in New York to play more, and I wasn't experienced enough with the piano, so I decid-

ed to study composition," he said. Oldziey seemed cut out for and ask myself, 'Okay, what am I this music industry role from how to use a computer at that the get-go.

"I've been composing and

arranging since I was twelve,"

Oldziey accepted an assistant-Oldziey refused to let his musi- ship (teacher's assistant job) with Southwest Texas State.

His first step in the professional world of composing was a found himself involved in the job with computer game compajazz department at Southwest ny Origin Systems, for which he composed the music for the game Wing Commander III: Heart of the Tiger. The game was an immediate hit, providing Oldziey with his first taste of successful professional composing.

"It was crazy - I barely knew time and here I was programming Continued on page 7

### **P&K Grocery**

### By Cynthia Houchin

If grocery shopping is low on your list of favorite chores, take a break from the big chains and check out P&K Grocery. A sophisticated update to the traditional "mom and pop" vibe of the past, the store is located in the Bouldin Creek neighborhood, on the corner of Mary and 5th Streets. P&K sells sandwiches, coffee, beer, wine and candy, as well as specially selected produce, meat and dairy products. Soon to celebrate a one-year anniversary, P&K is the brainchild of John and Elizabeth Pecore and Robin Kelley, the respective initials from which the store takes its name.

The store's air of nostalgia is created by its funky décor, which features vintage ice chests, classic signage and simple concrete flooring. Outside is a sandy multi-level terrace with round tables and seating, watched over by a Continued on page 5



Time spent sitting in history class:

Time spent studying for final:

0 minutes

Time spent reassuring parents of an A:

Time spent setting alarm clock on night before final:

Only living four blocks from campus: Priceless



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### LIVING BY LOCATION: NORTH CAMPUS

There are distinct areas in which most students choose to reside while attending the University. This is the third of students seeking a calm escape from campus.

North Campus is close enough to UT to be convenient, yet far enough away to give resistaff, all of whom offer help with everything from bike repairs and accessories to professional advice and bike shipping. The shop offers free consultations to diag-

tinction UTmost French fries several times in a row. The restaurant also features a large bar stocked with an extensive wine and beer selection that is always

blend of bar and pizza joint. Its thick, crusty pizza is topped with the Parlor's own special sauce and pick of toppings from pepperoni and Gorgonzola

of residents, from UT students to senior citizens.

"It's such a mixture. We have people who are 20 years old up to 96 years old," said Liz





 $(Left\ to\ right)\ The\ Peddler\ Bike\ Shop, The\ Parlor\ and\ Kensington\ Green\ Apartments\ are\ examples\ of\ the\ neighborhood\ conveniences and\ the\ neighborhood\ conveniences are\ the\ parlor\ and\ the$ 



a six-part series highlighting student-housing areas in Austin.

#### North Campus

One of most expansive student living areas is North Campus, spreading from Dean Keeton north to Airport Boulevard and sandwiched between Duval and I-35. Because of the size of the area, the student population is less concentrated in North Campus, offering a quiet and peaceful living experience. The low-key neighborhood is often popular with third and fourth year students as well as graduate

dents some space. UT shuttle and CapMetro buses are easily accessed in this area, allowing students convenient transportation to the many points of interest in the neighborhood, from different local eateries and grocery stores to Highland Mall.

For the many students who use bicycles as their primary mode of transportation, The Peddler Bike Shop is the ultimate one-stop shop for biking needs in North Campus. Located on North Loop near 53rd Street, The Peddler opened in May 2005. What makes the shop unique is its friendly and knowledgeable

nose problems with two-wheelers as well as fitting appointments to help customers choose the right bike from its new and used bike

North Campus provides no shortage of interesting places to eat on a budget. Hyde Park Bar and Grill, located on Duval Street, is a popular dining spot for students and residents of the North Campus area. The bistro features classic American dinners as well as a wide array of sandwiches and burgers at affordable prices. Most known for its crispy, seasoned fries, the cozy diner has earned the dispacked with patrons.

Burger Tex is North Campus' supreme hamburger stop. All burgers are cooked to patrons' preferences and placed on fresh homemade buns baked daily at the restaurant. One of its signature burgers is the Bulgoki, thinly sliced beef marinated in Korean-inspired spices. The spacious country Western-style diner also features different dinner platters, such as chicken fried steak, fried catfish and fried chicken.

No student living area would be complete without a pizza parlor. The Parlor is the perfect

to zucchini and soy cheese and is the perfect complement to any of the many cold beers on tap. The Guadalupe location features pool tables, while the North Loop location features different live bands on its stage every evening. Visit www. myspace.com/theparlor for a full list of upcoming acts and booking information.

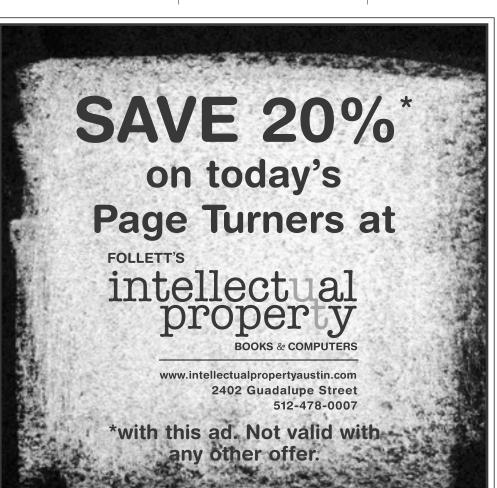
#### **Kensington Green** Apartments

2200 W. North Loop

Kensington Green has a little bit of something for everybody. The complex has an eclectic mix Everette, a Kensington Green leasing agent.

The complex features one and two-bedroom apartments equipped with gas stoves. Onsite amenities include two pools, five laundry facilities, private courtyards for each building and a clubhouse. Residents can take part in free swing dance lessons, arts and crafts sessions and karate classes, as well as

organized potluck dinners. Everette said that the complex's beautiful outdoor landscaping is one of the main points of appeal for its residents.



### Page Turner: 'You Don't Love Me Yet'

By Ashley Moreno

Jonathan Lethem's latest novel takes readers streaming through a world in which love and art mix and mingle, at times becoming one. "You Don't Love Me Yet" is a magnificently written novel following the lives of characters that are both painfully real and beautiful. The story opens with Lucinda Hoekke, the base player in an unnamed alternative band, breaking up with her on-again, off-again boyfriend Matthew Plangent, the lead singer in the band. The two agree to remain friends for the sake of the other band members, and they continue to hold regular practices. When Lucinda begins to work for another ex-boyfriend, taking phone calls on his complaint line, the rants of one complainer in particular get her attention. He calls several times a day and requests to speak with only her. His words move Lucinda, and she finds herself taking notes on everything he says. When she decides to break all the rules and arranges to meet the complainer in person, the two fall into a passionate love affair, with Lucinda prying herself

away from band practice. When the band's talented guitarist and lyricist, Bedwin Greenish, begins suffering from writer's block

Lucinda gives him all her notes from the complainer's phone calls. She tells Bedwin not to ask questions, just to write songs. Thanks to Bedwin's

CORRECTION

Corporation, prior to joining TPG. Longhorn Living regrets the error.

genius and the complainer's lyrics, the fresh new songs earn the band their big break playing at a party thrown by Lucinda's boss. The complainer is the only thing that could ruin their chances of

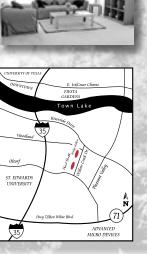
making it big when he happens to be at the show and recognizes his words in the songs. When he requests to join the band, it proves catastrophic for all involved. Lucinda begins to lose control of the world she's created, starting with her newfound relationship. The novel ends on a positive note, coming full circle in this love and art infused story. "You Don't

Love Me Yet," though a short novel, succeeds in brilliantly depicting a romantic comedy within the alternative music scene in contemporary Los Angeles.











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In the April 4 edition of Longhorn Living, the article "Alumni Share Membership Benefits" should have identi-

fied Gary Kusin as a partner at TPG, a private equity firm, and CEO of FedEx Kinko's, an operating division of FedEx

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# Armadillo World Headquarters

Continued from page 1 endary," Mike Gollihar, a frequent visitor to the 'Dillo said.

Anna Borne, a visitor to the AWHQ remembers it as "a large, warehouse-like building."

"Inside it was a big open space, kind of funky and industrial," she said. "There was a big bar at one end and people were always sitting and standing around it. The seating for concerts was folding chairs."

The 'Dillo held around 1,500 people and concert-goers often sat on the floor on pieces of carpet to enjoy the music. The smell of beer and smoke that was often not tobacco permeated the air. Borne also said "you could get high in that place just by breathing and that was definitely part of the appeal[for many]." For those wanting to escape the loud music, crowds and scents, there was a beer garden outside.

AWHQ slowly transformed itself into more than just a place to hear incredible music. Wilson described it as a "cultural arts laboratory."

He said the daily activity level at the 'Dillo was tremendous. Several artists recorded live albums at the venue and live video was shot of several performances. Local artists began an art studio that hosted international art shows, while the Austin Ballet Theatre performed once a month. There was an advertising studio, a bakery, an ice cream shop and a childcare facility. All of these elements combined to spawn a tight community of employees and visi-

According to former employee Tim Boland, the people were what made the 'Dillo unique.

"[We were] a staff of 75, but we really were like a family,"

Boland said. "Nearly 30 years on, and I've never worked another place where it didn't bother me if the wages didn't come."

He said the absence of wages was not a problem for most employees. Some went weeks without payment but accepted food and sometimes a place to sleep as compensation for their

"We looked after one another, and I think that good vibe passed to the musicians, who enjoyed themselves," Boland said.

And the musicians must have enjoyed themselves. Over 300 of them passed through the AWHQ between 1970 and 1980, many of them performing several times. Willie Nelson was a favorite and his first appearance in 1972 helped spawn the "cosmic cowboy" movement in music. Also known as "redneck rock," the movement blended the country

and rock sounds that were so popular during the decade and also incorporated other genres such as Tejano, blues, folk and

"One of my favorite nights was when Vasser Clements and Jean Luc Pointe jammed together - I love a good violin," said Rebecca Dallidis, a bartender at the AWHQ. She added that it was the music and the times that made the place legendary.

"Everyone was just ready to party and be free," Dallidis said. "I loved being able to go backstage at the Willy Nelson Fourth of July picnics, because they hired our security."

According to former employee David Pickens, the "chicano line" had a unique approach to handling troublemakers.

"We would attempt to find potential problem makers when Continued on page 8



(Top left) View from the stage of the crowd at a rock 'n roll show at Armadillo World Headquarters in 1976. (Bottom left) In fall 1976, the staff got together, as it did every year, for a "state of the 'dillo" address by Eddie Wilson and to make plans for the coming year. (Right) Doug Sahm, a major force in the music ene, performing at the Armadillo World Headquarters in 1975.



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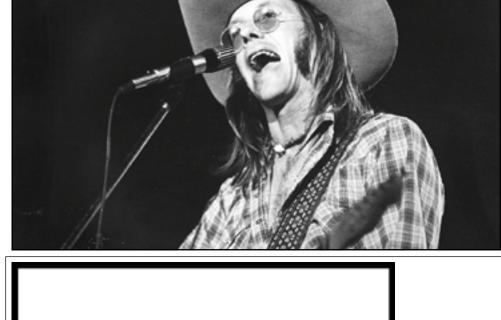
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# from TEXAS(E) EXES



By Rose Thayer

Gary Kelly, vice chairman of the board and CEO of Southwest Airlines, started his career on a whim. Growing up in San Antonio, he wanted to be an oceanographer, but accepted a football scholarship to UT-El Paso instead after graduating from Churchill High

There was not a degree program in oceanography at a school in the desert, so Kelly settled for accounting because his dad was an accountant and he never gave it another thought. After a year in El Paso, Kelly transferred to UT-Austin, where he earned his bachelor's degree in accounting.

"When I transferred I gave up a full scholarship, so I worked my way through the last three years of college," Kelly said, recalling his first job at the American Lung Association. "I was a big, strong 200-pound man with a pick-up truck so I did a lot of manual

Kelly planned to be a tax practitioner until he took a job doing tax returns for a law firm his senior year and found he did not like it.

"My college years were sprinkled with a lot of fun and the tremendous anticipation of what is going to open up," Kelly said.

After graduating in 1977, he took a job in accounting with Arthur Young & Co. He later joined Southwest Airlines, a company he said he always admired, becoming controller in 1986. Kelly worked his way up the ladder and became CEO in July 2004. He looks at business much like a football game.

"It's a competition, so we still want to be number one in all aspects," he said. "Customers want low fares, so we're working hard to keep them under control while keeping our employees with a great work life."

He added that he is extremely proud that Southwest has never had layoffs or pay cuts and that he plans to keep it that way.

"People really are what's important and they come first," Kelly said. "After Sept. 11, our industry shut down for three days and other airlines threatened layoffs. I was part of a company that valued its people and proved it."

Aside from his successful business career, his personal life has also been charmed. Kelly married his high school sweetheart, Carol, also a UT graduate, and they have two daughters, Caroline, 25, and Elizabeth, 22.

Kelly said his wife is the classic soccer mom, but has recently taken on the role of wedding planner. Caroline, also a Texas alumna, married last September, and Elizabeth, a student at St. Edward's University, plans to marry in July.

As for the future, Kelly plans to continue working for Southwest Airlines. He said that the airline industry is one of the most difficult because of the wide variety of risks involved, which is evident looking at the industry's history as a whole, where there are far more losses than profits. But contrary to industry history, Southwest shows only profits each year of its 34-year history. Kelly aspires to maintain the company's strength.

"I'm proud of the fact that my wife and I are still together and that I've continually been with Southwest Airlines, a company I adore," Kelly said. "It's been a charmed life, and I'm grateful

### **Hoover's Home Cookin'**

**By Lindsey Reynolds** 

Head over to Hoover's to satisfy your home-cooking cravings. Located at 2002 Manor Rd., the restaurant is run by Hoover Alexander, a self-described "fifthgeneration Texan" who strives to include all of his multicultural influences in his food. These diverse tastes range from Mama's home cooking and barbecue to spicy Cajun and Tex Mex cuisine. The result is a menu packed with barbecued meats, Southern classics and outstanding breakfast dishes.

I suggest starting with the smoke in this "Smoke, Fire & Ice House". All meat plates come with two house mates (sides) and are guaranteed to tickle your ribs. Also included are pickles, onions, sauce and a breadbasket. Unless you skipped breakfast, leftovers are guaranteed. The Jamaican jerk ribs (\$14.99) are rubbed in an exotic concoction of 15 herbs and

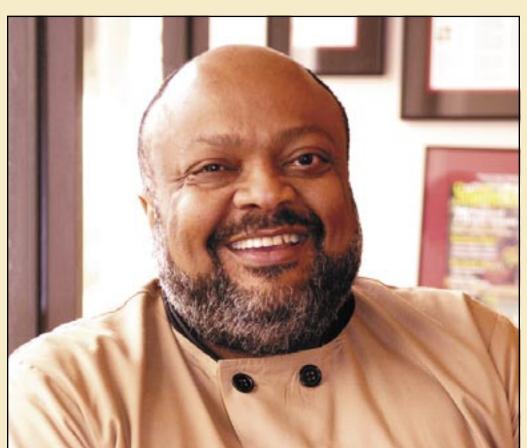
spices, and you can taste every one of them. The only spices Hoover will admit to are garlic, three peppers and allspice. Just know that it's spicy, sweet and calls for a multitude of napkins. Add some fried okra and mustard greens and you are good to go.

As for the Southern pride on the menu, I was intrigued by the ham steak with Jezebel sauce (\$9.99). How on earth can you go wrong when the words "ham" and "steak" are involved. It is a thick, circular slice of ham with the shank bone in the center, glazed and charbroiled in a delicious, homemade sauce. Hoover recommends macaroni 'n cheese and jalapeno creamed spinach with this dish and he is right on the money. The reason it's called "heart attack food" is because it tastes so good.

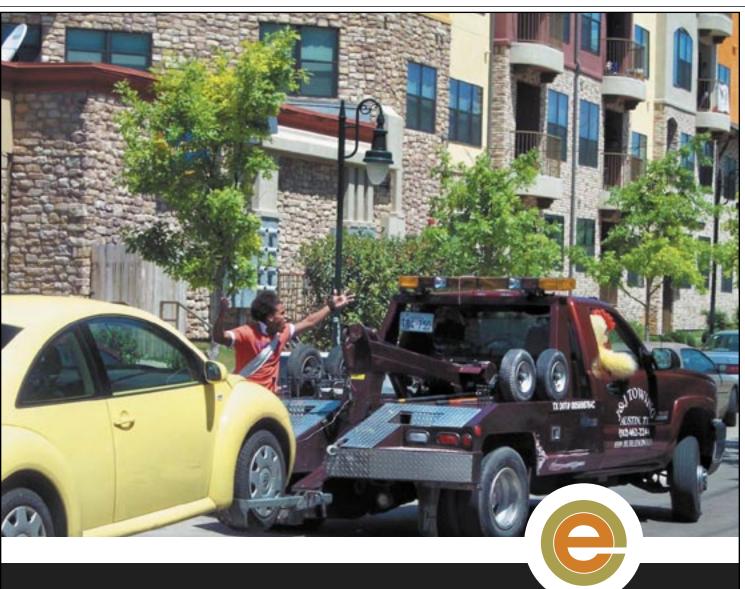
You will need something sweet to top off your spicy, meaty meal,

so be sure to sample something from the "sweet house." Since all of his pies are baked from scratch, the dessert selection changes daily. If you are lucky, sweet pecan or coconut cream pie will be on the menu. The peach cobbler with Blue Bell vanilla ice cream is also guaranteed to knock your socks

As you waddle out the door, be sure to check out the breakfast menu, because you will be back. Hoover promises that Southern girls will love the sweet potato pancakes (\$4.99), and that the eggs Cajun-holla (\$6.99) will indeed make you holler. The two poached eggs on top of sliced Cajun ham smothered with a smoked red bell pepper hollandaise sauce are scrumptious with garlic cheese grits on the side. Hoover's is a gastronomical dream just down the road from UT's campus.



Hoover Alexander strives to include all of his mulitcultural influences in his food. These diverse tastes range from Mama's home cooking and barbecue to spicy Cajun and Tex Mex cuisine.



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### **North Campus**

Continued from page 2

"We have lots of trees, a lot of nature around the complex," she said. "There are birds and all kinds of residents, but gives a squirrels everywhere. It's a real Southwestern feel to it."

She added that students most enjoy the relaxing atmosphere of the apartment complex.

"They feel like it's like a hotel," Everette said. "I hear that from a lot of students. That it feels like a hotel in Mexico and they are going on vacation."

According to Everette, the most popular floor plans for students are the one-bedroom, which leases for \$650, and the two-bedroom, one-bathroom, which leases for \$775. Kensington Green also offers two floor plans for two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartments and pays for gas and trash.

March through July are the best months to lease with Kensington Green, Everette said. The complex typically does not accept leases shorter than four or five months, but will try to work with residents who need shorter leases. Contact their office at (512) 459-5393 for more information.

**Cameron Greens** 5700 Cameron Road

count to students," said Maria Gutierrez, Cameron Greens property manager. "We also have mini, six-month leases available."

Students may save a lot of

green by moving to Cameron

Greens. The complex welcomes

little extra incentive to students

"We give a five percent dis-

who sign leases.

The complex has one and two-bedroom apartments spread across nine buildings. On-site amenities include a pool, barbecue areas, two laundry facilities and optional covered parking.

Gutierrez describes Cameron Greens as a "quiet community" and said students are attracted to the convenience of the com-

"The location [is most attractive]," she said. "We also help them [residents] connect the utilities, even though they have to pay them on their own. We also offer free extended cable."

There are five different apartment floor plans. Rent for onebedroom apartments ranges from \$505-565, and \$695-705 for two-bedroom units. For more information, call their office at (512) 454-7007.

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Photo courtesy P & K Grocery

P & K Grocery sells sandwiches, coffee, beer, wine and candy, as well as specially selected produce, meat and dairy products. Candy Corner, a must-stop for any sweet tooth, is filled with enormous lollipops, licorice laces, Swedish fish and organic chocolates.

# **Nostalgic Grocery**

Continued from page 1 large, friendly tin rooster sculpture. A bright orange door welcomes customers into the front coffee bar and deli. Candy Corner, a must-stop for any sweet tooth, is filled with enormous lollipops, licorice laces, Swedish fish and organic chocolates.

Kelley first became aware of the Pecores when she read about their first attempt to open a similar store in the paper. Having contemplated opening a corner store herself in Galveston, it was a serendipitous match when she returned to Austin and just happened to move down the street from the couple. John Pecore is a UT law alumnus, and Kelley had 20 years of experience in retail, so things fell into place quickly when the partners met, joined forces and the building came up for sale.

"The amount of energy required to get it off the ground meant we had to quit our jobs and spend many months with no income, which was stressful since we both have children," Kelley said.

The concept was a tough sell to investors, with the store situated in what some considered a risky area of town and facing the fact that groceries are not known for having a high profit margin. P&K differentiated itself by being grounded in old school merchant service, offering a unique blend of goods and design services. P&K also caters events,

designs logos and promotions for local businesses and even does some interior work, redecorating and helping prep houses for photo shoots and parties. In addition, P&K provides private label products for the San Jose Hotel, and creates thoughtful, personalized corporate gifts for local businesses like Austin Outhouse and the Live Oak Group.

"We do all of our own promotions, and found that as a start up company, we could push our brand forward by helping do the same for other companies," Kelley said.

Open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., the store strives to provide a high level of convenience to a large cross section of customers. With a small staff of only 12 to 15, it is common for them to know regulars and even their dogs by name.

"I started at the cash register, then did inventory, and am now a buyer," said Jeff Mills, a P&K employee. "There were a lot of interesting hurdles getting a new company underway, but I really believe in what we're doing."

P&K also specializes in event planning, with such themes as the "Heck of a Hotdog Party," complete with carts, mouthwatering grilled dogs and homemade condiments. With the arrival of spring, they will soon have a lemonade stand open on weekends.

"Our niche is about yummy interpretations of old classics," Kelley said.

# Big Bend Spring Break

By Cynthia Houchin

Every spring break, UT's RecSports department offers an eight-day trip canoeing the lower canyons of Big Bend, guided by husband and wife team Jill Harding and Pat Goodman. Starting in Mexico, a group of eight to twelve beginning to experienced paddlers head 83 miles down the Rio Grande.

Here is a brief account of this year's adventure.

#### Day 1

Saturday, March 10

After careful sorting and some frantic last minute packing, I managed to stuff all my gear into my waterproof bag. At 5 a.m., we piled into two SUVs, and headed west. Hours later, grey, blue and green hills are on the

never looked so big or blue as white clouds roll across it.

#### Day 2

Sunday, March 11

This morning we put in the water at Outlaw Pass in Black Gap, pairing off two to a canoe in our six boats. Vivek, my rowing partner, is in the stern steering, and I'm the motor in the bow. The goal is to avoid the big rocks and shallowest spots, aiming for the 'v' the current cuts in the water. I'm still learning the ropes over the rapids. I pull to either side as Vivek angles us in the right direction, trying to avoid a cane ride as we shoot most inconvenient spots, it arches over the water and threatens to whip us

along the banks of the river, either peering at us suspiciously or lowing like sirens, randomly interrupt our quiet glide. At night we camp in the open air, without tents, watching millions of stars twinkle and shoot across

#### Day 5

Wednesday, March 14

Today we stopped at the hot springs. It's a natural spa with several cascading pools of bubbly warm water, allowing us to soak off days of dirt and dust. Across the river on the Texas side is an old cistern, once pumped by the springs and used in extracting a special tomed hot tub. A great hike to the top of the canyon revealed the leftover pipes and machinery towering above us. Note to self: Stop touching the cacti.

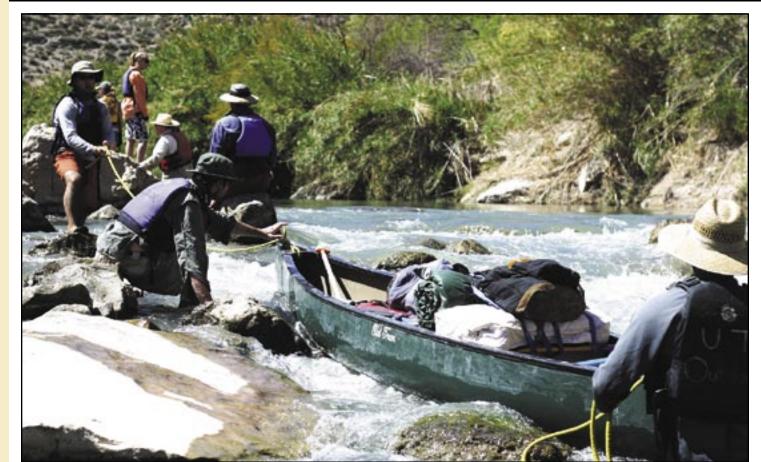
#### Day 7

Friday, March 16

We have gone about 50 miles so far, so 33 more to go. I'm perched on a rock by the water's edge sipping Cowboy coffee. The caffeine junkie's camping solace, Cowboy coffee is boiled with the grains directly in the water, which can then be filtered through a strainer.

Yesterday was a tough day. We had to get out at Rodeo





(Top) UT law professor Jim Harrington and UT finance senior Jeffrey Schwartz paddle down Big Bend's lower canyons. (Bottom) UT students Jeffrey Schwartz, Mike Cooper and student guide, Vivek Sakhrani help line canoes down the rough water of the Rodeo Rapids.

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Why do I love my apartment...

# **Austin Home to Novelists and Freelance Writers**

at http://karenmacinerney. blogspot.com/.

#### Katherine Tanney By Jocelyn Ehnstrom

Continued from page 1

Katherine Tanney is not out of place among the earthy patrons in Austin's eclectic Food Heads sandwich shop, even though the author spent most of her life in sunny Los Angeles, Calif. It was in the city of angels that Tanney received her bachelor's degree in fine arts and wrote art reviews for LA Weekly. She has been in Austin now for 11 years and enjoys the uniqueness of the little city.

"Austin is much smaller, so you get to feel kind of like a bigger fish in a smaller pond," Tanney said. "But Austin is also getting to be more and more like LA every day and although I moved here I don't feel like I brought those things with me. I feel like I left them

Tanney's freelance work ranges from contributing articles to the "Modern Love" section of the Sunday New York Times, to her regular monthly column "Please Don't Feed the Writer's" in the Austin American-Statesman where she chronicles the happenings at book-related events in the Austin area.

Tanney's debut novel, "Carousel of Progress" was released in July 2001, and told the story of a Californian family. Unfortunately, being released two months before the events of Sept. 11 meant the novel was overlooked, though it did recieve a prize from the Texas Institute

"No one was reading fiction at that time," Tanney said. She later heartily joked about the novel's one-cent price tag on

The themes Tanney enjoys writing about, whether in her fiction or non-fiction, are psychological issues pertaining to relationships. Another issue she enjoys delving into is the relationship between the public self versus the private self.

"I try to write as well as I can," she said. "As honestly as I can."

In 2004, after working for The University of Texas as office manager for The Daily Texan, Tanney landed a script-writing job with UT's distance education center, turning high school social studies classes into online animated films. The films were used to help kids who did not do well in traditional classroom settings, such as immigrants or those who were incarcerated.

"I was delighted and shocked to find such a great job so fast after leaving UT because it's such a secure place to work," Tanney said. "You get so many benefits."

Austin seems to be an ideal fit for Tanney as its growing film scene parallels her next project perfectly. She is currently finishing a screenplay and hopes to expand it into a second novel once it is completed.

"A screenplay is sort of like the blueprint of a story," she said. "It's very streamlined and economical."

Tanney said that this method is not necessarily her recommendation because writing a screenplay before a novel might force the author to have some idea of what is happening later in the

"The best novels are written by people who don't necessarily know where they're going while they're writing, and it becomes a form of discovery," she said.

Julie Lake

By Ashley Moreno

When she is not busy caring for her two children, reading books by Laurie Hales Anderson or playing with the family greyhound, Julie Lake can be found in her home office either working on her latest novel or finishing up a freelance article.

Originally from Dallas, Lake first came to Austin to finish her last two years of college at The University of Texas. Upon receiving her bachelor's degree in journalism, she was granted an internship with Austin Magazine that later turned into a permanent position.

"I stayed with Austin Magazine for about five years," Lake said. "I then followed my managing editor to the Texas Insurer, where I worked for another five years."

She said that after having her first child, she began to freelance and write everything from Web site content to articles on car insurance. Lake's first novel, "Galveston's Summer of the Storm" published by TCU Press hit shelves in May 2003. Lake has since been working on a new project, "Welcome to the Crazy House," a young adult novel set in 1960's Dallas.

While Lake did not begin her writing career as a novelist, she

is a firm believer that her journalism education and experience played an important role in her writing success overall.

"I heard about the internship with Austin Magazine through the College of Communication at UT," Lake said. "I hadn't written a lot of articles at that point, so during my

interview I showed them a final project from my magazine editing class."

Earning the position at Austin Magazine gave Lake the opportunity to form life-long friendships that would soon become important in the world of freelance writing. Like many authors, Lake continues to write and edit freelance pieces in order to pay the bills.

Lake cites the Writers' League of Texas (www.writersleague.org), as well as The Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators (www. austinschwi.com) as major supporters in her career as an author and freelance writer.

"I am very active with groups like the Austin SCBWI, and was their regional advisor from 2004 to 2006," Lake said.

The writing process is a fairly simple one for Lake. She mainly writes at home in her office with a large cup of hot tea by her side, and prefers to write first thing in the morning. With her family obligations and immediate article deadlines, working on her novels is sometimes pushed back.

"For me, the hardest things about writing are actually finding the time to sit down

and start, and then the revision process after I'm done," Lake said. She said she also frequents various critique groups that aid in the revision process.

"I'm also not a big outliner," Lake said when asked about planning her novels. "I think more in terms of scenes and characters."

Lake advises aspiring writers to read as much and as often as

"If you want to become a writer, it's also important to be a good reader," she said. "Reading lots of different books will help you learn how to shape a story, develop the plot or action and bring characters to life."

For more information on Lake and her work, visit her Web site at www.julielake.com.





Photos by Barbara Kierewicz (bottom) and courtesy Julie Lake (top)

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(Top)Julie Lake, novelist and freelance writer, lives in Austin with her family and is working on a new young adult novel, "Welcome to the Crazy House," set  $in 1960's \ Dallas. \ (Bottom) \ Katherine \ Tanney's \ freelance \ work \ ranges \ from \ contributing \ articles \ to \ the \ "Modern \ Love" \ section \ of \ the \ Sunday \ New \ York \ Times,$ to her regular monthly column "Please Don't Feed the Writers" in the Austin American-Statesman

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Kevin Peroni is Wiretree: The guitar, the keys, the bass, the harmonica, the drums, the vocals and the programming and production.

## **Soundbytes: Wiretree**

Any Shins fans, Sparklehorse fans, Raconteurs fans, heck, Beatles fans, Dylan fans... consider yourself lost without the new album from Wiretree, "Bouldin."

Wiretree is Kevin Peroni. Kevin Peroni is Wiretree: The guitar, the keys, the bass, the harmonica, the drums, the vocals, the programming, the production. Other than some rhythm assistance from mixer Mark Hallman on two tracks and some "collar-shaking" by a dog named Sydney, Peroni is as much a solo artist as you can imagine.

Sadly placed in the singer/ songwriter genre, the instrumentation, however simple, is deep with layers, smooth harmonies

and samples — it all feels right. "Big Coat" with its bouncy lyrics, finishing in a vocal melody is as catchy as an acoustic guitar and piano can get. In "Travelin' On" more bright guitar is added as the story takes a positive turn. "Summercity" has a harmonica chorus and I wonder how the person feels for whom "Dragon Cigarette" was written.

Wiretree doubles not only as Peroni's name, but also as the term he feels defines his musi-

"A 'wiretree' would be a mix, mechanical and organic," Peroni explained. "Mixing acoustic guitars and piano with deep sounds and samples."

Peroni learned his own version of basic music theory through his years working at a music store, and then coupled that knowledge with his love for "older sounding British bands" like The La's and a more modern acoustic rock, citing Elliot

"Bouldin" is a product from the inner workings of Peroni's home, apparently a very cool house, further remixed and mastered at local studio The Congress House by Mark Hallman. Peroni described the studio as "the big version" of his own quarters with artists Ani DiFranco, Dexter Freebish, Eric Johnson and Robert Earl Keen all on Hallman's client list.

"Bouldin" is available at Waterloo Records and on iTunes and other Web sites. See wiretreemusic.com for more information.

# Oldziey, Composer

Continued from page 1

music for this big game," he said. "I just sort of taught myself as I went and realized that I was pretty good at it."

After working with Origin for a few years, Oldziey branched out on his own and created a demo reel to gain work on other projects. With his amazing talent and a bit of networking, he soon found himself creating music for blockbuster films.

"I gave my reel to a friend at a recording studio that Robert [Rodriguez] frequents and one day when Robert was checking out the studio he just asked my friend if he knew anyone that could orchestrate," Oldzeiy said.

The loyal friend handed over Oldzeiy's demo reel and his future all of the sudden looked much brighter. Oldzeiy waited for his phone to ring for many months. It was not until he began to forget about his brush with luck that he received the long awaited phone call from Rodriguez.

"I quickly learned how Robert worked," he said. "He called me that day and wanted to meet up that night. Not much of a preparation period."

Oldziev went to Rodriguez's studio that evening to begin building one of the most beneficial relationships of his life. After collaborating with Rodriguez for the first time on

the film "Spy Kids II", he went on to compose the scores for all of Rodriguez's subsequent films including "Sin City", "Once Upon a Time in Mexico" and "Spy Kids III". Oldziey also worked with Quentin Tarantino on the film "Kill Bill Vol. II".

"You can't ever try to guess where your life is going to take you," Oldziey said. "If you do, you're sure to be proven wrong."

These are inspiring words from a man who found his success in a career he stumbled upon. Oldziey has just completed work on the Rodriguez and Tarantino joint project, "Grindhouse" and is looking forward to "Sin City II".



George Oldziey composed scores for Robert Rodriguez's "Spy Kids II," "Sin City," "Once Upon a Time in Mexico" and "Spy Kids III," as well as  $the score for Rodriguez\ \&\ Quentin\ Tarantino's\ joint\ project, "Grindhouse"\ and\ Tarantino's\ "Kill\ Bill\ Vol.\ II."$ 







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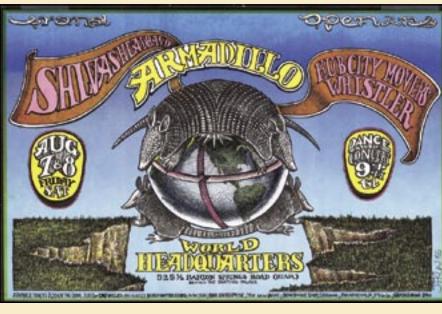
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#### $Photos\,by\,Jim\,Richardson\,and\,courtesy\,Armadillo\,World\,Head quarters$ (Clockwise from top left) Interior view of AWHQ in 1975 from the sound booth facing the stage. 1970 Grand Opening poster for AWHQ created by Jim Franklin. Freddie King, one of the major and most frequently performing musicians at the 'Dillo in 1975. Poster created by Jim Franklin in 1970 advertising a concert with Captain Beefheart and Ry Cooder.









### 'Dillo: A Cultural Arts Laboratory

Continued from page 3

they entered, buy them a beer and talk with them," he said. "When they did screw up, we would be viewed 97 percent of the time as the problem makers' friend."

He continued that it was a very good way to talk people into being peacefully ejected when they tripped over the line from time to time.

For those not fortunate enough to have visited the

AWHQ during its decadelong tenure, it may be difficult to understand why those who were there still cling to the memories. Perhaps the answer lies in the fact that many employees and visitors discovered themselves at the

"I helped build the place," said Sonny Oard, a former employee. "It helped build

Borne said it still makes her

sad when she think about the demise of AWHQ.

"The art and music scenes were, like us, coming of age with great passion and excitement," Borne remembered. "Little did we know the demolition of the AWHQ was a true sign of the not-so-groovy things to come."

The 'Dillo held its final concert on the last night of 1980 featuring the sounds of Commander Cody and His

Lost Planet Airmen, Asleep at the Wheel, Maria Muldaur and Kenneth Threadgill, but the legacy lives on. The popular PBS show, "Austin City Limits," which began at AWHQ continues production today and The Armadillo Christmas Bazaar, which began at the AWHQ on Dec. 17, 1976 as an attempt to culturally expand the venue, still occurs annually. The 2007 bazaar will be held Dec. 13-24 at the new Austin Music Hall.

### RecSports Trip

Continued from page 5

Rapids, unload, carry the boats over land and then reload again. We even skipped lunch, which was fine because we have been eating like royalty the entire trip. The things our guides can make in a Dutch oven are incredible. One of my favorites, chocolate chip pancakes, is on the menu for breakfast.

#### Day 8

Saturday, March 17

The last couple of rapids today were tough since my sore arms decided to stop working, but I made it to the end of the line where our cars were waiting for us. We got a flat tire bouncing back down the gravel road, but finally went on our merry way to our last campsite, for one final night under the stars.

and the remoteness.

include hiking and exploring caves at Colorado Bend State Park on April 14, and rock climbing at Reimers Ranch Park on April 21. Go to www.utrecsports.org/outdoor/about. php for more infor-

for Austin after stops for break-

fast tacos and some new tires.

I was shocked to realize after a

week in the wilderness that there

wasn't anything I really needed

or wanted to buy at Wal-mart.

knew what was around the next

bend. It was almost like being an

ancient explorer, pressing relent-

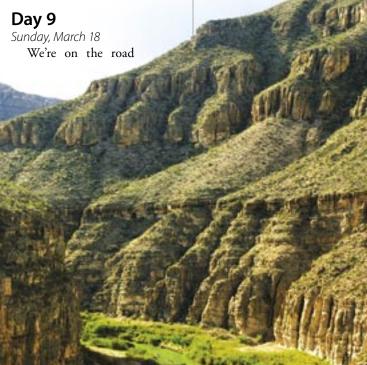
lessly down the river with spectacular canyons rising up on either

side. I loved the space, the stars

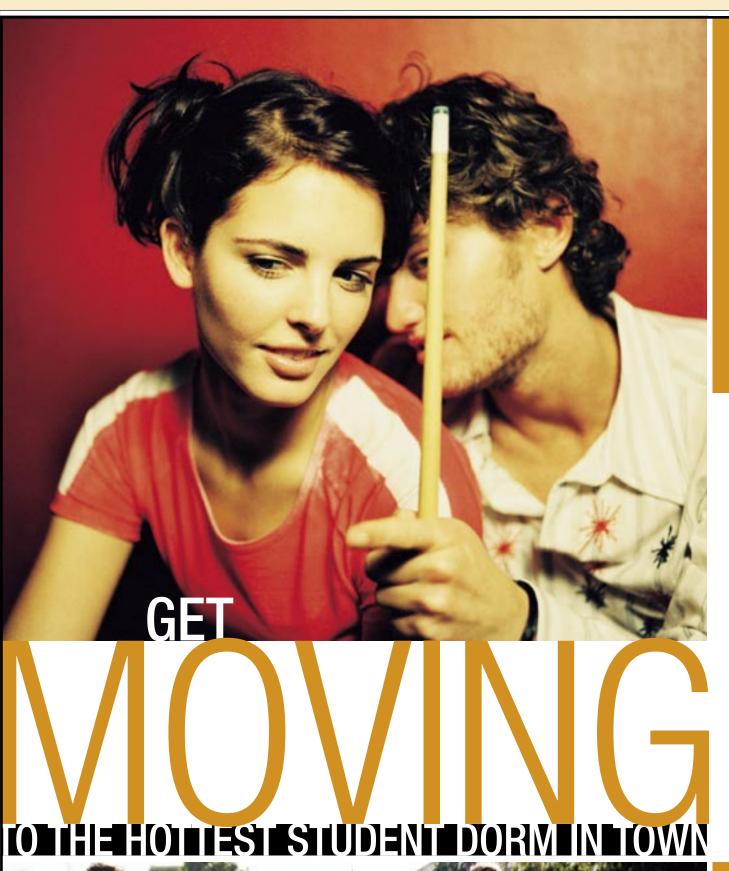
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Canoes make their way toward a rapid as they wind their way down the river, dwarfed by





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