

BLAH BLAH

By Bellicose Bullfeather

KNON WILL HOLD ITS 19TH Annual Bluesfest at Poor David's Pub and January 27 and 28. The show will feature **Jackie Don Loe & Lou Hampton, Dylan Bishop, Paul Harrington & Junior Clark, Ann Armstrong, Holland K. Smith, Blues Boy Bo, and E-Flat Poarch Band** on January 27. The January 28 event will feature **Zac Harmon, The Bnois King Band, Leo Hull, Miss Marcy & her Texas Sugar Daddys, EJ Matthews and Those Guys**.

Events

Bobby Patterson WILL HOLD a CD release for his new *Nuttin But The Blues* featuring his artistry on 13 tracks January 20 at Poor David's Pub. Patterson's professional recording career began in 1957 after winning a talent contest and recording on Liberty Records. His 55-year pedigree spans every facet of the music business, including singer, record producer, promoter, A&R rep, and disc jockey. Patterson produced records for **Fontella Bass, Chuck Jackson, Ted Taylor, Shay Holiday, Roscoe Robinson, The Montclairs, Tommie Young and Little Johnny Taylor.** Albert King recorded the song "That's What the Blues is All About", which Patterson co-wrote. He was awarded several Gold Records as a Producer and Promoter. He was also the 2015 *Living Blues Magazine* Critics' Choice Award recipient for Most Outstanding Blues Singer.

On February 3, **Tony Ramey** and **Brad Davis** are combining their songwriting, film and television, and all entertainment talents to conduct a "Music Makers' Clinic and Workshop" in North Texas. Subjects to be included are: Taming the commercial beast; Lyric and Melody theme and composition, The collaborative process, The Industry speak on publishing, copyrights, and streaming, and finally production value, cost efficiency and more. To sign up for this clinic, go online to tonyramey.com/music-makers-clinic. And members of Songwriting Associations can receive a discount on the tuition.

The annual **Rusty Weir** singer/songwriter contest begins, after weeks of try-outs, at 4 p.m., January 7, at Love & War in Texas. Organizer for Love & War in Texas, KHYI's on-air personality **Brett Dillon**, has narrowed down the three dozen or so musicians who tried out to 24, eight of which will be performing each of the three Sundays. Making the cut were, in alphabetical order, **Towne Adams, Shelby Ballenger, Harley Dale Brown, Brandon Bush, Byron Dowd, Kevin Edwards, Peggy Houlihan, Bryan Adam Joyner, Dillon Leffel, Larry Martin, Joseph Wayne Miller, James Nored, Shaun Outen, Justin Pickard, Brad Purdom, John Wesley Shelton, Shotgun**

Josephine, Bill Sibley, Tanner Sparks, Mr. Troll, Parker Twomey, Stephen Valenzuela, Town Walsh, and Grady Yates. There is no cover charge for these Sunday afternoon contests.

"The (February 10) 2018 awards show will mark a new milestone for the genre," says renowned musician **Dale Watson**. "Austin has been great to us, but when we first started the awards, the dream was to take the Ameripolitan Music Awards to different host cities." To accomplish that, the Ameripolitan Awards will be held in 2018 at Graceland in Memphis, Tennessee. "Moving to Graceland seemed like the permit fit," Watson, who coined the word "Ameripolitan" to describe his own brand of original roots music, said. That celebration begins February 10. For more information, go online to ameripolitan.com Watson is headlining the Golden Cleaver showdown, a live music series that also includes **White Ghost Shivers, Will Van Horn Trio, and Vinyl Ranch.** This is being held on October 15, at the 2nd Butcher's Ball, Rockin' Star Ranch in Brenham. It's a fundraiser for various food needs and an award competition for ranchers.

New Releases

MIKE & THE MOONPIES ARE scheduled to release *Steak Night at the Prairie Rose* February 2. The band has already released a video for "Road Crew," the first song on their forthcoming album. Powered by electric twang and runaway pedal steel, the autobiographical track was written by frontman Mike Harmeyer within five minutes and is an ode to the unsung heroes of the band's past and present "road crew." *Steak Night at the Prairie Rose* has already earned early praise from *Rolling Stone Country* for its "propulsive" single, "Beaches of Biloxi." Recorded at Yellow Dog Studios in Wimberley, Texas, 'Steak Night at the Prairie Rose' was produced by Adam Odor and is the band's fifth studio album.

The Austin-based frontman, songwriter and guitar aficionado **Andy Macintyre** announced his new EP, *Melomania*. Andy approached Grammy-nominated mixing engineer **Tim Palmer** (Pearl Jam, U2, Tears for Fears, Blue October) in 2016 with a batch of demo songs and was ecstatic when Tim agreed to work with him on this new project. Recording at Wire Recording studio with **Stuart Sullivan** (Jimmie Vaughan) and **Eric Harrison** at Studio 601. Andy captured what he feels is the best album of his career.

Dallas-bred rock trio **From Parts Unknown** released its third album *Trucker Speed* recently with a full house at Three Links. From Parts Unknown is a rock 'n' roll trio made up of singer/guitarist **Ben**

McCracken, drummer **Kyle Owen** and bass guitarist **Chris Parrish**. *Trucker Speed* features seven rambunctious tracks tackling topics like substance abuse, tumultuous relationships, transient life as a traveling musician and poverty. The band melds rock, punk and metal in a high-energy live show.

Heralded Austin-based blues/roots musician and songwriter **Johnny Nicholas** released a reissue of his long out-of-print 1977 album, *Too Many Bad Habits*, along with a special bonus disc of previously unreleased performances, on The People's Label imprint. The two-disc set has been completely remastered and includes the liner notes from the original Blind Pig LP release in 1977. A new set of liner notes written by acclaimed author/music critic **Ed Ward** will also accompany the CDs and vinyl. Featured artists on the original sessions included blues legends **Big Walter Horton** on harmonica and vocals, **Johnny Shines** on guitar and vocals and **Boogie Woogie Red** on piano and vocals.

Screaming Thieves released a new single "Wandering Feet" recently. The single is a painfully honest account of a recurring character in the singer's life. Exploring darker, brooding themes, the single focuses on "the girl that's hell-bent on bringing down everyone around her," said Callies.

The **Screaming Thieves** embrace a harder sound than that of his Americana-rock group *The American Revival*. It's a band of hooligans, ruffians, heathens, and ne'er-do-wells that were formed in early 2014. The group's third album *Eagle Eye* serves as the group's third release after their EP, "Demo," and LP "Hooligans, Heathens, and Crafty Devils."

The Rotten Mangos are scheduled for a Dallas showcase, January 17 at Three Links. Sun-drenched-surf-psych is a description that only scratches the surface. Be your own judge after listening to their latest EP, *Couldn't Find a Word*, released on December 1. All recording efforts were done on analog equipment by guitarist, **Ramiro Verdooren**, and drummer, **Christian Sigler**.

In Memoium

TEXAS SONGWRITER, Richard J. Dobson, passed away at age 75. Dobson, who wrote songs recorded by **Johnny and June Carter Cash, Guy Clark, Nanci Griffith, David Allan Coe, Carlene Carter and Dave Edmunds, Steve Young** and many others, died December 16 in a Swiss hospital. While he was an accomplished songwriter, he was also an author, having written three memoirs, including *Gulf Coast Boys*, which chronicled his life on the road with **Townes Van Zandt** as well as the early music scene in Austin.

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TONAL TINCTURES

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Happy New Year!!!

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