

keyword

[ARCHIVES](#) [CALENDAR](#)

[HOME](#) [NEWS](#) [ARTS](#) [BOOKS](#) [FOOD](#) [SCREENS](#) [MUSIC](#) [CALENDAR](#) [CITY GUIDE](#) [CLASSIFIEDS](#) [PERSONALS](#) [PROMOTIONS](#)

[restaurant guide](#) [featured stories](#) [food-o-file/news](#) [event menu](#) [reviews](#) [wine of the week](#) [restaurant poll](#)

CLICK HERE! **Menopause The Musical** **June 8 - 11**
 (512) 474-LONG (5664) www.TheLongCenter.org
 THE ART & SOUL OF AUSTIN Long Center

The Austin Chronicle **PRIDE GUIDE 2010** On Stands June 3

HOME: MAY 2, 2008: FOOD

TEXT SIZE - / + / ++

Food-o-File

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

The trend of customizing desserts that started with mix-ins or crush-ins in flavors of ice cream has spread to cupcakes and cookies. **Lori Schneider**, owner of **Figs Catering** (www.figscatering.com), included a cupcake bar in a catered event last year, and the concept proved so popular, she ultimately had to create a new business entity to handle the demand. Now party-givers can share this charming retro concept by booking the **Cupcake Bar** (www.thecupcakebaraustin.com), Schneider's newest venture – where "entertaining takes the cake." The two-tier menu offers a per-person charge for various flavors of cupcakes, fillings, frostings, and toppings, plus beverages, ice cream, and a cupcake bartender to set up, serve, and clean up. I sampled a selection of Schneider's cupcakes after her recent launch party and was especially fond of the "nuts about chocolate" variety. Look for another new business with this same kind of groove to open in the West Campus area this summer. Pastry chef **Mark Chapman** is busy getting the **Cookie Lounge** ready to debut in the street level of a new high-rise on Rio Grande. We're told the new spot will feature several varieties of cookie batter with add-ins of your choice. Cookies are baked to order and served warm on the spot. Custom cookie orders will be available for parties, corporate gifts, and special deliveries along with many of Chapman's signature small desserts. Sounds delightful... If you happen to run into Fredericksburg Pastry Queen **Rebecca Rather** while she's in town serving desserts at two high-profile charity events in the coming week, be sure to congratulate her on winning an **International Association of Culinary Professionals** Cookbook Award for her second book, *The Pastry Queen Christmas* (Ten Speed Press)... Three lady friends who live in Southwest Austin joined me at the VIP opening party for the newest **Chuy's** (4301 W. William Cannon, 899-2489) outlet in the **Arbor Trails** shopping center recently. The newest addition to the successful homegrown chain features the same good food and drinks, colorful decor, and boisterous Chuy's atmosphere Austinites have embraced for years. My guests are very pleased to have them in the neighborhood... Folks in Northwest Hills welcomed an eagerly awaited Mexican restaurant to their neighborhood when the second outlet of **El Chile Cafe y Cantina** (3435 Greystone #112, 284-7863) opened last Friday night. The new location is casual and comfy with both a spacious terrace and a sit-down bar area in which to enjoy El Chile's enticing menu and signature cocktails... And speaking of drinks on a great patio, the folks at **Fino** (2905 San Gabriel, 474-2905) are very eager to share their refreshing new happy-hour offerings for summer. Drop in any weekday between 5 and 7pm for half off on all pink and sparkling wines, \$2 off on cocktails, \$1 off on beers, and tantalizing small plates for less than \$4.

[CLICK TO ENLARGE](#)



Cupcake Bar

- COMMENT ON THIS STORY
- WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
- PRINT THIS STORY
- EMAIL STORY TO A FRIEND
- DIGG IT
- DELICIOUS

FURTHER READING

More about desserts

Top 9 Sweet Bites of 2009 January 1, 2010
 BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD
 Cacao and cake balls and pie, oh my!

Keywords for this story

- desserts
- cupcakes
- cookies
- Lori Schneider
- Figs Catering
- Cupcake Bar
- Mark Chapman
- Cookie Lounge
- Rebecca Rather
- Pastry Queen
- El Chile
- Chuy's
- Fino

CALENDAR TODAY

Forum on Science and Technology

BLOGS

- "I'm Not Going Anywhere"
- The Sunday Survey, 5/30/10
- Poverty Knocks

FORUMS

- TCEQ Under Sunset Review
- Shake Appeal
- Environmental Cage Match

ARCHIVES

- More from **May 2, 2008**
- News
 - Arts
 - Books
 - Food
 - Screens
 - Music
 - Columns
 - Sports

Browse the **Archives** by

PROMOTIONS

- Hot Sauce Festival
- Online Contests
- Chrontourage
- Chronicle Merch

[VIEW ALL PROMOTIONS](#)

classifieds

SEARCH
 BROWSE

ad INDEX

[VIEW PRINT EDITION ADS](#)

- Arts & Entertainment (84)
 Services (120)
 Civic (17)
 Retail (41)
 Food & Drink (51)
 Coupons (9)
 Jobs (7)

Lovers Lane



TallDrinkofWater
 I'm into country musc, but not the kind on the...
[MEET ME!](#)

BARENAKED LADIES
 SPECIAL GUEST **SERENA RUDER**

MAY 31
BASS CONCERT HALL
[CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS](#)

FREE PRESS HOUSTON AND PEGSTAR.NET PRESENT



MORE than a list **ADS OF THE DAY**

LOST CAT On the morning of May 17th around 1 am, my cat went...
MERCEDES CROSSFIRE SRT6 2005 • \$14,900 SRT-6

Share

POST A COMMENT

UserName: Password:

Headline (optional):

Don't have an account?
[Create an account](#)
[Forgot your username/password?](#)
[Why should I create an account?](#)

Comment:

Permission to Print. Letter to the editor.

[Issue](#)
[Author](#)
[Column](#)
[Review](#)
[Section](#)

Recently In
Food-o-File
May 28, 2010

Half-price appetizers at American spots old and new this week

May 21, 2010

The month of May is mighty busy

May 14, 2010

Making sure 'Food-o-File' better serves you

[Food-o-File archive](#)

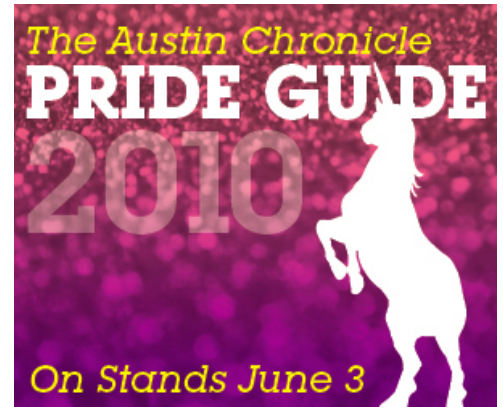
CROSSFIRE!!!! 2005 Crossfire SRT6 64,900 miles-Aero Blue Pearl Ext with Black...

CENTRAL AustinCool.com COOL CENTRAL APARTMENTS, LOFTS & CONDOS...

FREE SHREDDING BBB is offering FREE shredding of your sensitive documents on Saturday, May...

SOUTHWEST • \$449,900 • 2 BR Incredibly unique opportunity. Gently lived in 1430 SF residence plus 2800 SF...

classifieds



Copyright © 1995-2010 Austin Chronicle Corp. All rights reserved.

[HOME](#) | [NEWS](#) | [ARTS](#) | [BOOKS](#) | [FOOD](#) | [SCREENS](#) | [MUSIC](#) | [CALENDAR](#) | [CITY GUIDE](#) | [CLASSIFIEDS](#) | [PERSONALS](#) | [PROMOTIONS](#)

[best of austin](#) | [find a paper](#) | [submit an event](#) | [info](#) | [advertise with us](#) | [national advertising](#) | [contact](#) | [privacy](#) | [oops!](#)