

**ESCAPES**

AROUND THE GLOBE

# What's the deal?

• **Singapore Airlines** is offering sale fares of \$799 round-trip, including taxes, for travel through early 2017 from Houston's IAH to destinations in Asia, including Bali, Bangkok, Hanoi, Jakarta and Singapore. The sale applies to travel Aug. 16, 2016 through March 31, 2017. Restrictions include a one-month maximum stay. Savings vary by destination; flights go through Moscow en route to Asia. Book by June 30. Info: singaporeair.com.

• Six **Kimpton hotels** in Florida are offering room discounts for stays through Sept. 30. Receive 20 percent off stays of five nights or longer, 15 percent off stays of three or four nights and 10 percent off one night. For example, five nights in early June at Hotel Zamora in St. Pete Beach starts at \$984, including \$188 taxes, a savings of \$225 with taxes. Sunday-Thursday rates are typically cheaper. Info: 800-546-7866, kimptonhotels.com.

• Save at least \$550 per person on select Mis-

issippi River cruises with **American Queen Steamboat Co.** Starting rate, after discount, is \$1,599 per person double, including taxes, on six cruises departing July 3 through Aug. 21. For example, a Life on the Mississippi cruise from St. Louis to Red Wing, Minn., departing July 24 and Aug. 7, includes a pre-cruise one-night hotel stay in St. Louis and seven nights aboard the American Queen, with daily shore excursions. Book by June 30. Info: 888-749-5280, americanqueensteamboatcompany.com.

• The newly renovated **Hilton Tucson El Conquistador Golf & Tennis Resort** in Tucson, Ariz., has a trio of low rates and package deals for visitors in the off-peak summer season. Valid Memorial Day through Labor Day, standard room rates start at \$109 per night; the Leisure Escapes Package starts at \$129 per night and includes \$50 resort credit for dining, shopping or spa services (use code



Jeffrey Hartono

**Singapore Airlines is offering bargain fares to Bali.**

RPTVS1); and the All-Inclusive Resort Dining Package includes breakfast, lunch and dinner for two at any of the resort's five restaurants (from \$179 per night, use code 2T). All guests can use the resort's revamped pools (including a

main pool and kids' pool with waterslide) and participate in complimentary programming, such as morning fitness classes and dive-in movies. Info: hiltonelconquistador.com or call 800-325-7832.

*From staff and wire reports*

# New hotels heading to College Station

By Diane Cowen

Things are about to get more interesting for Aggie parents and alums who routinely are in need of a place to stay on campus.

The Valencia Group and Midway Companies, whose portfolio includes Houston's Hotel Sorella among other properties in Texas, will open two boutique hotels this fall in College Station, both right on campus and loaded with Texas A&M University history.

Two Georges — President George H.W. Bush and George Mitchell — are the inspiration for The George (thegeorgetexas.com), a 162-room hotel described as “refined rustic.” Bush's presidential library is on the west campus of the college, of course, and Mitchell is the late Houston businessman who pioneered fracking

and was one of A&M's most generous alums.

The more casual, 141-room vintage-military-inspired Cavalry Court (cavalrycourt.com) will pay tribute to the college's Corps of Cadets and its Parsons Mounted Cavalry. Rooms will overlook a central communal courtyard with a pool.

Both hotels are expected to open in the fall.

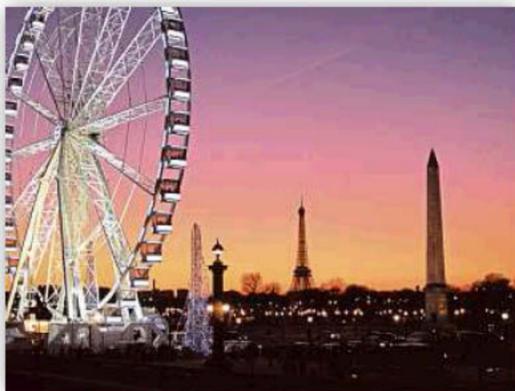
They're part of the Century Square mixed-use development on 60 acres of A&M-owned land and are directly across from the college's Bonfire Memorial and the School of Engineering. Other businesses recently signing on to the Century Square project include Berryhill Baja Grill, Zoes Kitchen, Tiff's Treats and Mo's Irish Pub.

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Midway

Artist's renderings of Cavalry Court, top, and The George boutique hotels, both of which are under construction in College Station.



## POSTCARD FROM... Paris, France

By C. Fischer, Houston

On my first trip to Paris in 1993, the first glimpse of the city was this view when I popped up from the Metro at Place de la Concorde. A dozen trips and thousands of photos later, this view always gives me the same thrill.

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