HIGHLANDS



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THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE **STARS**

Huge Turner Car Show set for April 22

EVENTS

San Jacinto **River Coalition**

C/H Chamber **Tees-N-Tails Golf**

Commerce 31st Annual Golf Drive, Crosby 77532.

9:00am Breakfast, 10:00am

Early Bird by April 10, \$75 without Games, \$100 with Games. After April 10, \$100 without Games, \$125 with Drive, Closest to the Pin and

Register at 281-328-6984 or

APR. 24, MON. Crosby Library

Friends of the Crosby Llbrary will hold a meeting on Monday,

The program will be a talk on Crosby History "The Swedish

Bagi said that the new store has the latest Wascomat professional washers and dryers, and because of their extra large size can clean 60 lbs of laundry

The new store is now open, and operates 7 days a week, from 8am to 9pm.

APR. 11, TUESDAY

THEA/SJRC Meeting scheduled at Highlands Community Center, 6:30pm. Update on Waste Pits Remediation

APR. 13, WED. **Tournament**

Crosby/Huffman Chamber of Tournament. At Stonebridge at Newport. 16401 Country Club

Starts 8:30am registration, Shotgun Start.

Games.Games include Longest Bubba Drive.

chamber@crosbyhuffmancc.org.

Friends Meeting

April 24 at 6:00pm.

Streets of Crosby"

NOW OPEN New Laudromat opens in Highlands

Well known local businessman Bill Bagi has opened a new Laundromat in Highlands, known as 501Laundromat.

in an hour.

More details and photos on page 2 of this paper, or stop by with some laundry. Located at 501 S. Main Street, Highlands.

BIRTHDAYS

Apr 13-Cameron Hosea Apr 14-Mike Parrott Apr 15-Harry Stewart Cherie Zarsky Maria Cortez-Ochoa Apr 16--Louis Marie Brad-

bury Morgan Little Jason Roffe Diana Weaver

Apr 17-Pat Van Ness Charlie Ward Callen Reese Tittel Apr 18-Monica McKinney

Mark Williams

Apr 19–Benny Clark Magon Hencke Apr 20-April McClelland Apr 22-Robert McDowell Apr 23-Paul Bauer

Apr 24–Casey Gower Amanda Leath Lacy Maness Kaitlyn Kaly

ANNIVERSARIES

Apr 19-Vance & Cecilia Banik Apr 23-Jerry & Jeanette

CROSBY - Automobile fans from all over the area are in for a treat next Saturday, April 22nd when Turner Chevrolet on the Crosby Freeway hosts their 2nd Annual Car

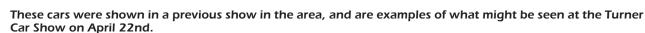
The show will be at the dealership, and runs from 10am to 3pm. Turner General Manager David Mendez says they expect over 100 cars and vehicles of all types, making it a great event for car fans.

Show.

In past shows, there have been classic cars from the 50s and before, lifted trucks, and even non-autos such as golf carts and 4wheel ATVs. The variety is part of the fun, and the unusual experience of seeing all of these in one place at one time. Organizers of the car show have invited

Continued. See Turner Car Show, Page 2









Cody Foundation, KPRC help screen hundreds of kids for heart defects

Nearly 300 student athletes were given free heart screening test for heart defects by Cody Stephens 'Go big, or Go home' foundation and KPRC. The following story is from a TV report.

SPRING, Texas - Close to 300 student-athletes some of the strongest, healthiest-looking, teenagers you could find anywhere, came with their parents this past Sunday to the Harris County ESD 11 Headquarters in Spring to potentially save their own lives.



Students undergo a simple ECG test that finds heart defects that might be fatal. Follow-up treatment will

Students were invited to an absolutely free event that offers every teen an in-depth electrocardiogram heart test that can

identify hidden heart problems that just can't be found with a standard, high school sports exam.

A test that goes light



Scott Stephens lost his son Cody to an undetected heart defect. As a result, he started the Cody Stephens Foundation to provide screening to as many young student athletes as possible. His efforts are now nationwide.

years beyond any standard high school sports exam to spot hidden heart problems that every year kill unsuspecting, young athletes across the country. At the event, every

young athlete has his or her heart tested via electrocardiogram and was asked a series of questions about their heart history.

They were even taught how to do CPR.

The goal here is to uncover hidden heart defects you would never know

Continued. See Heart Screening, Page 5

Wife shoots ex-husband on Wallflower Street



Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez views crime scene.

EAST HARRIS COUN-TY - An investigation is underway after Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez said a woman's ex-husband was found dead outside a home in the 1300 block of Wallflower, near Baytown last Sunday morning April 2.

Harris County Sheriff

Ed Gonzalez said a couple, who was previously married, were involved in an argument when the woman grabbed a gun and shot her ex-husband.

The man, who appeared to be in his 30s or 40s, stepped outside, where he later

collapsed and died, Gonzalez said. The ex-wife then ran toward a neighbor's home, where she was eventually

Continued. See Shooting, Page 5

New Highlands Rotarian



Martha Sutton, center, was inducted as a new member of the Higlands Rotary Club last week. At left, club president Andy Scott sponsored the new member, and at right Past District Governor Bob Gebhard conducted the swearing in ceremony. Congratulations!

RACHEL'S DINER

Southern Cooking Buffet -- Coming Soon 14280 FM 2100 (Across from Walmart) 281-462-7349



State Farm Agent 440 S. Main Street, Highlands, TX 77562 281-426-3512



WESTON G. COTTEN Attorney at Law O. 281/421-4050 F. 281/533-6032 weston@westoncotten.com

STAR-COURIER PHONES: 713-266-3444 • E-MAIL: GRAFIKSTAR @ AOL.COM • FAX: 713-977-1188





FOR DETAILS & DISCLOSURES

*APY=Annual Percentage Yield. Minimum \$100 deposit required. Penalty for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings. APYs, terms and conditions are accurate as of 03/15/23 and are subject to change without notice.**You may add on to your certificate at any time during the term not to exceed \$10,000.0 Certificates of Deposit are non-transferable and non-negotiable The add on does not apply to IRA and **HSA Certificates** NCUA

Turner Car Show set for Saturday, April 22nd,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the owner of an original 1965 Shelby Cobra, a rare and valuable Ford modification not often seen in this area.

Turner Chevrolet owner Robbie Turner will head a panel of judges who will award cash prizes and a smart TV to the best cars in the show.

There will also be food

trucks, and a raffle to win prizes. The top 20 cars chosen by the Judges will win trophies, Mendez said.

The car show entries are open to everyone who wants to compete, and any and all brands and types of vehicles are welcome. Contact Mendez at 281-328-4377 to join the show.



Examples of the types of cars that will be exhibited at the Turner 2nd Annual Car Show on Saturday, April 22nd. Entries are open to all brands, models, and types of vehicles.







501 Washateria is a brand new washateria located in the Highlands Texas Area.

501 WASHATERIA

FRESH & CLEAN LAUNDROMAT! Now Open on Main Street in Highlands



Our Laundromat is fully equiped with Wascomat Professional washers and dryers that are fast, reliable, and deliver the best wash results - saving your time and money!



EXTRA LARGE WASHERS, CLEANING 60 LBS
OF LAUNDRY IN UNDER 1 HOUR
We take laundry to the next level.

Open 7 days a week!
STORE HOURS 8am - 9pm (Last Wash at 8pm)
281-843-8036 email: 501washateria@gmail.com

COMMUNITY WATCH

Retired officer confronts burglar in Highlands, resulting in shooting

HIGHLANDS – According to officials, an ex-Baytown police officer was involved in a shooting with a suspected burglar after chasing and then hitting his vehicle.

Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez said on his Twitter account that Sheriff Deputies responded to an incident at East Wallisville Road and Thompson Road, near Highlands Junior High, at about 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday March 28.

"It was reported a male hit another male with a vehicle and then gunfire may have been exchanged between the two," Gonzalez Tweeted. "Both males

have been transported to hospitals; one of the two was taken by Life Flight." Gonzalez later Tweeted

that, while preliminary, a retired police officer "located a male, he believed to be a burglary suspect. The retired officer struck the male with the vehicle," Gonzalez Tweeted.

Officials said the officer began to follow the suspect after a home in Highlands Crossing was burglarized. A video shown on KRTK-13 shows a suspect kicking in a door and entering through the backdoor. The homeowner was not in the house at the time. The burglar does not take any-

thing and leaves soon after an alarm goes off.

Other surveillance footage captured the suspect walking in the neighborhood after the break-in. The retired officer, who lives on the same street, saw the suspect and reportedly followed him in his vehicle. Shortly after that, the two had a confrontation, which led to a shootout.

Gonzalez added that the former police officer and the suspected burglar were said to be in fair condition.

"An investigation is underway," Gonzalez said.

3 Struck, killed standing on I-10

HARRIS COUNTY – Three men are dead after they were struck by a suspected drunk driver in east Harris County early Friday March 31, deputies with the Harris County Sheriff's Office said.

It happened shortly after midnight on I-10 East near Magnolia.

Deputies said the group was standing outside of

their vehicle on the shoulder of the freeway, for reasons unknown, when a driver, identified as Jonathan Lazo, Jr. veered to the side of the road and struck all three men,

killing them.

Lazo was believed to be intoxicated at the time of the crash, according to deputies.

Deputies do not know the identities of the victims, but it is believed they're all in their mid-20s.

"I just ask the community to pull together. We've got at least two families out here that are going to be changed forever," said Cpl. Anthony McConnell with HCSO. "And another thing I want the community to do is to stop drinking and driving. It's a real simple and easy incident to avoid."

Deputies arrested Lazo, who is now facing three counts of intoxication manslaughter.





Barbers Hill Press

Serving Mont Belvieu, Dayton, Baytown and surrounding communities since 1995

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THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

Paws For a Cause Pet Parade April 15

Help the library raise funds and show off your family friend at the same time! Do they have a trick to show, a favorite costume to wear, or maybe they show up in style riding a float?

There will be winners for each category: Costume, Tricks, and Float. Parade will begin once each catefory winner is announced.

\$15.00 registration fee per pet. All proceeds will benefit library programs, materials, & events.

Location Details
Sam and Carmena
Goss Memorial Branch,
Mont Belvieu

1 John Hall Dr. Mont Belvieu, TX 77580 (281) 576-2245 Saturday, April 15, 2023 10:00am - 12:00pm Featured

Mont Belvieu Mosquito Spraying to Start April 4th

Public Works department staff will spray for mosquitos once a week from April - October 2023 in an effort to keep the mosquito population in Mont Belvieu as low as possible.

Depending on your neighborhood, mosquito spraying will take place on either Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m.

ZONE 1 (TUESDAYS)
Trinity Street
Bridgette Lane
Crown Colony
The Colony
Eagle Creek
Magnolia Landing
Cottonwood Estates
Reserve of Champions

Estates
Lakes of Champions
South Lake
Icet Creek Crossing
Blue Heron

ZONE 2 (WEDNESDAYS)
Wilburn Ranch
Fisher's Landing
Secret Subdivision
Brookstone
Eagle Ridge
Champions Forest
The Villages of Champi-

ons Gate
Cherry Point
St. Augustine Meadows
Cherry Creek Estates
Langston Drive Estates
Uptown (East Winfree,
Earl Porter, Cove Rd.)
Country Creek

ZONE 3 (THURSDAYS)
City Park
Eagle Pointe Golf Course
Eagle Pointe Recreation
Complex

Cotton Bayou Wastewater Treatment Plant Public Works Complex City Hall

WHAT WE USE

The City of Mont Belvieu uses a broad spectrum all-temperature, quick knockdown, low odor, and non-corrosive synergized synthetic pyethroid insecticide for the control of adult mosquitoes in residential, recreational, and other areas. This same product can also help control biting and non-biting midgs and black flies.

Lee College Debate Team Brings Home Four Championships

The Mendoza Debate Society at Lee College struck gold in The Gem State by winning four IPDA National Championships at the 2023 IPDA National Championship Tournament & Convention hosted by Boise State University on March 23-26, 2023. Lee College finished as both the 2022-2023 IPDA Season Long Community College Champions and the 2023 IPDA National Championship Tournament Community College Champions. Lee College was also named the 2023 IPDA National Championship Tournament Team Debate Community College Champions. Team cocaptain Priscilla Guerra, IMPACT Early College High School student, was recognized as the 2023 IPDA National Championship Tournament Junior Varsity Division Champion.

Priscilla Guerra

At the 2023 IPDA National Championship Tournament, Lee College students brought home major awards as individuals as well. Jerry Mc-Cauley was a Professional



Priscilla Guerra

Division Semi-Finalist and was the 5th Ranked Professional Debate Speaker at the tournament. Team Co-Captain Diego Moreno was a Junior Varsity Division Double Octofinalist, while novice debaters Emma Jaramillo, Elias Perry and Carlos Reyes were all Novice Double Octofinalist. Moreno, Jaramillo, Perry and Reyes are all IMPACT ECHS students.

"When some of my opponents and judges from different universities were coming up to me to congratulate me, they were surprised to find out that I was a high school student," said Guerra. "But anyone who adopted my mindset could have done what I did with the right training and motivation, probably even better than me. The goal was never to win a national championship, it was always for my friends and for the team."

Guerra, along with Co-Captain Rebecca Currie were the cornerstone of Lee College's TIPDA program and were instrumental in winning that national title.

For the season, the Mendoza Debate Society at Lee College finished as the 8th team in the nation in the 2022/2023 IPDA Founders' Cup overall standings, in 6th Place in the 2022/2023 IPDA Novice Squad standings, and in 6th Place in the 2022/ 2023 IPDA Junior Varsity standings. Individually, Reyes was the 3rd ranked 2022/2023 IPDA Novice Debater in the nation. Team Co-Captains Currie and Guerra finished in 11th Place and 13th Place respectively in the Junior Varsity Divi-

sion.

Lee College's tradition of debate excellence was in full display in Boise, ID, just as it was in their 2015 showing in Boise; this year's team, despite being the youngest team in the nation, pulled off an impressive 7th Place overall finish against a field of dozens of nationally lauded programs.

This year's field of teams included Tournament Champion Union University (TN), Tournament Runner-Up Abilene Christian University (TX), Southern Methodist University (TX), the University of Florida (FL), the University of Tennessee (TN), University of Arkansas (AR), Mississippi State University (MS), University of Montana (MT), Louisiana Tech University (LA), San Diego State University (CA) and host Boise State University (ID).

The members of the 2023 National Championship Team included Jovani Arellano, Co-Captain Rebecca Currie, Rufina Gonzalez, Caris Gray, Co-Captain Priscilla Guerra,

Emma Jaramillo, Vanessa Jones, Co-Captain Diego Moreno, Jerry McCauley, Nathan Mustapha, Elias Perry, Dax Ramgoolam, and Carlos Reyes. They were accompanied by judges Riyanna Kennedy, Adam Naiser, and Kimberly Truong. Lee College Debate alumni Cody Bijou (University of Arkansas at Monticello), Reagan Bijou (University of Arkansas at Monticello), Linley Brown (University of Texas), and Lacey Gulley (Sam Houston State University) were also in attendance, along with Lee College Debate Assistant Coach Rigoberto Ruiz and Lee College administrator Dr. Marissa Moreno.

Lee College Debate will return to competition in April as an invitee in the prestigious James Madison Cup in Harrisonburg, VA where they will compete head-to-head against a select field of 18 top colleges and universities from across the nation including Cornell University, the University of Texas, George Washington University and Liberty University

Tropical Smoothie Café - Celebrates with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

BAYTOWN - Tropical Smoothie Cafe, located at 6040 Garth Road, celebrated their Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with the Baytown Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors and staff.

Tropical Smoothie Café offers the craveability of the tropics while satisfying the tastes of health-conscious guests. "We offer a balanced mix of smoothies and food, serving multiple day parts: breakfast, lunch, dinner, dessert and snack with options like drivethru, dine-in, delivery and catering". Tropical Smoothie Café has a unique combination of irresistible food, a cool beachy vibe and fun,

friendly service. "People's taste buds have gotten more sophisticated, and bold flavors are in demand!" With bold food flavors like pesto, chipotle, hummus and Caribbean jerk, it's like a party for your taste buds. Fresh fruits and vegetables like spinach, kale, avocado and superfruits like acai are used to revup their smoothies.

For more information, follow them on Facebook: Tropical Smoothie Café Baytown, visit their website: https://locationstropicalsmoothiccafe.com/tx/baytown/6040-garth-road or download their app and start earning rewards now.



Pictured left to right: Mike Nebgen, Jessica Davis, Karina Garcia, Mariah Pollard, Neva White, Juanita Beauxis, co-owner Muhanad (Moe) Rantawi, Jackie Redou, Alyssa Bufford, Valerie Garcia, Jackie McDowell, Carmen Parris, Ravindra Narayan, Karla Opryshek, Erica Rodriguez. Not pictured: co-owner Mansour Hijazi

Houston Methodist Hospital Baytown

The Benefits of Cardiac Imaging

Despite advances in medicine, heart disease remains the leading cause of death in the United States, claiming the lives of almost 700,000 people each year. About 80 million people have some form of cardiovascular disease (CVD), which affect their heart and blood vessels.

That's why doctors like Dr. Pimprapa Vejpongsa, a cardiologist with Houston Methodist DeBakey Cardiology Associates at Baytown, do everything they can to spot CVD early using a growing number of tools that can identify and treat heart disease before it becomes a life-threatening issue.

"The past 20 years have brought big gains in cardiac imaging," Vejpongsa explained. These precise techniques can help your doctor confirm a diagnosis. Common CVD diagnoses include angina, atherosclerosis, coronary artery disease and more.

The main benefits of the new techniques used include faster diagnoses of existing cardiovascular issues, less invasive methods of monitoring, and more detailed heart, blood vessels and structures imagery. The type of cardiac imaging used will depend on your specific symptoms and history. Your doctor can better explain the reasons for each test offered.

Common cardiac imaging includes radiographic imaging techniques that

Dr. Pimprapa Vejpongsa

are more advanced than X-rays and can show detailed information about your heart:

*PET scans: This test measures metabolic activity in tissue and organs. A low-level injection of glucose is given to help doctors identify damaged areas.

*CT scans: This X-ray is 100 times more sensitive

than standard X-rays and creates 2D and 3D "slices" of the body from different angles. Computers assemble these slices into high-resolution images that can reveal clots, blockages or aneurysms.

*Magnetic resonance angiography: This special MRI created highly detailed images of organs and blood vessels.

*Heart angiogram and catheterization: These procedures find and treat blockages in the heart and coronary arter-

Your cardiologist will discuss the right type of imaging for your situation. Some may be more effective for your case than others

Advanced cardiac imaging makes diagnosing heart problems faster and more accurate. Confirmed diagnoses can often lead to more effective treatments. "These imaging methods yield enormous amounts of information about the heart. This information can lead to easier disease management for patients," Vejpongsa said.

If you have a personal history of heart disease or are concerned about potential cardiovascular symptoms, call 281.837.7587 or v i s i t houstonmethodist.org/heart-vascular to schedule an appointment at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital.

★ OPINION PAGE ★

OPINION By Paul Bettencourt, Texas State Senator

Inflation is up, but Homestead ISD Tax Bills are Not! Over 3.5 Million should see savings this Fall

Senator Bettencourt calls on Cities and Counties to adopt the No-New-Revenue-Rate this Fall

Taxpayers should visit the State's New Tax Portal to get their Estimated Property Tax Bill

Austin, TX – Senator Paul Bettencourt (R-Houston) says that while the current National inflation rate is 8.6%, millions of under-65 Texas Homesteads should see their Independent School District (ISD) tax bills cut this Fall.

In May of last year, Texas' Voters overwhelmingly approved Propositions 1 and 2, which provided direct tax cuts to homeowners with homestead tax bills in 2022 and 2023. 2.1 Million over-65 or disabled homeowners will receive the benefits of the state's compressed property tax rate for school maintenance and operations (M&O) in 2023. Proposition 2 increased the statewide school homestead exemption from \$25,000 to \$40,000, meaning that over 3.5 million under-65 homestead homeowners will receive this tax cut this year. My Senate office calculations indicate an actual cut of \$44 on average for an average \$301,000 taxable homestead in Texas despite massive appraised value increases across the state. An office survey of the top 25 ISDs in the state indicates a range of cuts from \$107 to \$8. These calculated cuts comes before Cities and Counties set their tax rates in the Fall, which could save the average taxpayer hundreds of more dollars on their tax bills.

"The Cavalry is coming over the Hill for Texas Homesteads in the Fall, just like in an old John Wayne movie!" said Senator Paul Bettencourt. "Because of the passage of Prop 1 and 2 in May, 3.5 Million homesteads will on average pay less on their school tax bills this year than they did last year. Over-65 homeowners are frozen this year, but will get an actual property tax cut in 2023, too." He added.

Property Appraisals are rising amidst a booming Texas economy, but taxpayers can be assured that property tax rates are on the way down to offset these increases. This is attributed to the significant reforms contained in SB 2 and HB 3 that the legislature passed in 2019, and the additional property tax legislation that was passed in 2021. In fact there are 16 cents of property tax relief, overall a \$482 savings compared to last year's tax rate.

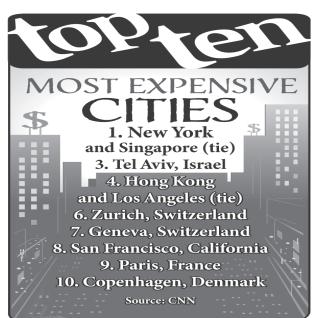
"Lawmakers have given property owners valuable protections against rising tax bills in this red hot real estate market, but there is no substitute for vigilance. Taxpayers must be prepared to weigh in with their local taxing jurisdictions if they believe tax rates are too high," stated Dale Craymer, President of Texas Taxpayers and Research Association. Note: TTARA supplied county and city penny rate reduction estimates.

The no-new-revenue-rate is the rate that provides the same amount of money to a taxing entity this year as last year. As Texans are having to be extra careful with their dollars due to very high inflation, government entities should be doing the same thing or go to the voters for adoption. "I am calling on all Cities and Counties to adopt the no-new-revenue-rate, it will save the taxpayers' money!" concluded Senator Betten-

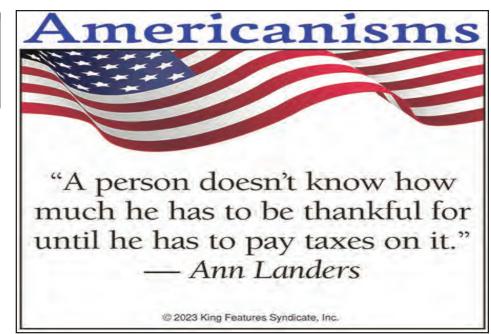
To check on your property tax bill, please visit the Texas property tax database. Click below:

www.texas.gov/living-in-texas/property-tax-directory/

EDITOR'S NOTE: Opinions expressed here are not necessarily that of this newspaper or its staff. YOUR OPINION is welcome. Send a letter for possible publication to Grafikpress Newspapers, 5906 Star Lane, Houston TX 77057 or an email to GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com. Please limit your words to about 200. Letters will be subject to editing. Thank you.



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By Gary Borders House OKs \$302 Billion Budget

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

The Texas House approved a \$302 billion budget last week that included an amendment prohibiting the use of state money on private school tuition — a major setback to Gov. Greg Abbott's plan to establish a school voucher system. The <u>Austin American-Statesman</u> reported that more than 20 Republicans joined nearly all House Democrats to pass the amendment, while 11 lawmakers voted present.

The amendment is seen as a rebuke to Abbott, who has traveled the state pushing what he calls "school choice."

The amendment's sponsor, state Rep. Abel Herrero, D-Robstown, said his proposal to block using public money for private schools boiled down to "public money for public schools."

The House's budget now heads to the Senate, which has passed an education reform bill calling for \$8,000 in state funding a year for a student who attends a private school. Since that funding is not included in the House budget, the issue could lead to tense conference committee negotiations between the two chambers. Some lawmakers have speculated the conflict could lead to a special called legislative session after the regular term ends on Memorial Day.

Among the highlights of the House budget are record funding increases for public schools and highway construction, as well as raises for state employees.

CONTROVERSIAL ELECTRIC GRID PLAN PASSES SENATE

The Texas Senate has passed a controversial plan to build more natural gas-powered plants in the state, despite widespread opposition from critics who say the two bills could lead to billions in added costs to customers. The goal of the bills, according to its sponsors, is to avoid another massive power outage such as the one in the winter of 2021 that killed more than 200 people, the <u>Texas Tribune</u> reported.

H o u s t o n Chronicle columnist Chris Tomlinson reported that 22 out of 24 people who testified on Senate Bill 6 voiced opposition. The plants would sit idle at least 97% of the time.

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

TEXAS PRISONS

The indoor temperature in-

side at least 15 state-operated

jails and prisons exceeded 100

degrees last summer, according

to a report by The <u>Dallas Morn</u>-

ing News. The data indicates

that both inmates and staff are

exposed to dangerous levels of

heat in the state's facilities that

A lack of climate control has

contributed to the deaths of

nearly two dozen inmates be-

tween 1998 and 2012, according

to the Texas Department of

Criminal Justice, as well as the

heat-related illnesses of dozens

state standards say county jails

and animal shelters should get

no hotter than 85 degrees, but

Texas prisons are not required

fund air conditioning for the

state's prisons have failed, the

House budget passed last week

sets aside more than a half-bil-

lion dollars for that purpose. In

addition, two bills to install cool-

ing systems in the prison sys-

tem were approved in

The Texas General Land Of-

fice has awarded \$6 million for

projects across seven coastal

counties with a combination of

part to improve amenities for

greater beach access in a num-

ber of locations, as well as de-

veloping early warning systems

near the coast and lived in

Galveston for more than a de-

cade, preserving our state's pre-

cious shorelines and their

communities is a top priority of

mine," said Land Commission-

er Dawn Buckingham.

TENTATIVE SETTLEMENT IN

TEXAS CHURCH SHOOTING

The Justice Department last

week announced a tentative

\$144 million settlement with

the families and victims of a

2017 mass shooting at a church

in Sutherland Springs,

the Associated Press reported.

More than two dozen people

were killed when a former U.S.

airman opened fire during a

church service. It was later de-

termined that the gunman had

been able to purchase firearms

despite a criminal history.

Three years earlier, while in the

Air Force, he was convicted of

assaulting an ex-wife and step-

son, cracking the child's skull.

He was discharged for bad con-

The Air Force had previous-

ly acknowledged it was remiss

in not putting the felony convic-

tion for domestic violence in into

the FBI database, which could

have prevented the shooter from

buying guns from a licensed fire-

"No words or amount of mon-

ey can diminish the immense

tragedy of the mass shooting in

Sutherland Springs," Vanita

Gupta, associate attorney gen-

eral for the Justice Department,

said in a statement. "Today's an-

nouncement brings the litiga-

tion to a close, ending a painful

chapter for the victims of this

unthinkable crime."

duct

arms dealer.

"As a Texan who grew up

for coastal flooding

The projects are intended in

federal and state funding

LAND OFFICE AWARDS \$6

MILLION FOR COASTAL

committee.

COUNTIES

While previous attempts to

to have air conditioning.

The News reported that

of prison guards.

do not have air conditioning.

Companies of Texas found common ground with the Sierra Club. Texas Competitive Power Advocates agreed with the South Texas Electric Cooperative. Energy giant NRG joined the consumer advocacy group Public Citizen in declaring SB 6 a lousy idea," Tomlinson

By Gary Borders

State Sen. Charles Schwertner, R-Georgetown, the lead sponsor of both bills, said the measures were "in memory of the hundreds of Texans that died and the millions of Texans that suffered."

COURT RULES DEGREES CAN BE REVOKED FOR MISCONDUCT

The Texas Supreme Court reversed previous lower-court rulings and ruled last week that Texas universities can revoke previously awarded degrees for academic misconduct, the Statesman reported. The University of Texas at Austin and Texas State University, in separate cases that were consolidated, argued they should be able to revoke doctorate degrees from students who committed academic misconduct to "protect their reputations and the value of degrees conferred upon their

students."

Both cases involved students accused of fabricating data that was discovered after the degrees had been conferred. Both students sued their respective universities after their degrees were revoked.

"The only difference between expelling a current student for academic misconduct and revoking the degree of a former student for the exact same academic misconduct is one of timing," Justice Debra Lehrmann wrote.



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THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

"Burro in Pants"

I saw the burro wearing pants and carrying a basket filled with paper flowers.

"Oh, my gosh!" I said. "That poor burro."

There are several burros with this job in this Mexican town and, as burro employment goes, it's a pretty easy gig. The burro wears a rustic basket filled with bright paper flowers and is led by a man in a similarly rustic costume, and they follow wedding processions, providing photo opportunities for the guests. The burro is photographed dozens of times and spends the afternoon in the park, doing her best to look picturesque.

On weekdays, when weddings are less common, the burro and her handler park themselves on a narrow bit of cobblestone street with a beautiful view of the old church in the background. Tourists get their photos taken with the burro for a few pesos. I saw no harm in it until the day the burro showed up in pants.

"Oh, my gosh!" And I felt a sense of indignation rising on the burro's behalf.

I mean, it's one thing to carry around fake flowers all day. It is another thing entirely (according to me) to put the poor burro in trousers. To add insult to injury, the pants were not even on her back legs! She was wearing trousers on her front legs that made her look sort of like a little person with a donkey head.

"Outrageous!" I decided in furious defense of the burro's dignity. Making a burro dress up in a silly costume was somehow intolerable, as far as I was concerned. Her handler was making her look comical, a ridiculous punchline to lure more tourists in. She was a joke burro, and I decided—from my vantage point as the Tourist Who Knows Everything—this was unacceptable.

From that moment on, I made it my mission to restore the burro's dignity. On days when she showed up in pants, I shook my head disapprovingly and said, "No pants!" in Spanish. On days she showed up in her natural attire, I indicated my approval. "I am happy the burro has no pants!" I said—a phrase I am unlikely to need on many oth-

er occasions.

My mission was going well,
I thought. The burro was
showing up in pants far less
often and everything was going well—until yesterday.

Yesterday, I actually stopped to talk to the burro's handler.

"I'm glad she is not wearing pants!" I reiterated as if, by now, he might not have gotten my point.

"I will show you," he said in English. And he gestured that I should come near.

The burro had large patches on the back of her legs where the flies had been eating her skin. He told me they hurt her, and he could not keep the insects away. He put poison on the spots, but it did not work well, and it cost 500 pesos for a small bottle. The pants kept the flies away and allowed her poor legs to heal.

And I am an idiot.
"I'm so sorry," I said in
Spanish. "I didn't understand.
She should wear pants if she
needs them!"

And I thought of all the assumptions I make every day, all the opinions I form with no basis but my own ridiculous preconceptions. This man took the time to show me the truth—about one little burro in pants—and I wondered how often I am just so, so wrong.

"Gracias," I told him.
"De nada," he said. "It's

nothing."
But of course, it was some-

thing. It was something very important.

Till next time, Carrie

Check out CarrieClasson-Author on Facebook or visit CarrieClasson.com.

Wife shoots ex-husband,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

found.

Deputies said an argument started inside the home between the divorced couple.

Investigators believe the man was shot inside the home and collapsed outside on the lawn.

"They still cohabitate or live together, is what we are told. We don't know what their living arrangements were," Gonzalez said in a news conference. "We'll have to determine exactly what happened, what led up to the shooting"

Although details are limited, the sheriff said this isn't the first time authorities had to check on the home. He said a previous call for service was issued before an arrest was made at that time, in a case unrelated to Sunday's deadly shooting, but they are working to clarify who was taken into custody.

Gonzalez said the woman was cooperating with authorities. It was not immediately known if she would face any charges.

Heart Screening,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

your children may have.

"There's just no way of knowing what's going on in the heart unless you put it on the

computer, which is basically what this ECG machine is," said Scott Stephens with the Cody Stephens Go Big or Go Home Foundation.

This heart screen was made possible through the hard work of that foundation, teen heart attack survivor Julieta Valdez, Harris County ESD 11, and KPRC 2.

"KPRC and Bill Spencer have been a wonderful Godsend to us. Bill's very passionate about what we're doing, he understands the process, and he knows we're saving lives. We are so lucky to have KPRC on our team," Scott said.

Most of all, parents are grateful, to be able to get these expensive tests for their children absolutely free.

Romano brought his son Nick, a serious baseball player. "This is a great opportunity to prevent sudden cardiac arrest. He's [my son] an athlete. So we want to make sure we're taking every precaution to avoid something that really is preventable," Romano said.

Alexis Garza, a teen athlete, from Tomball saw KPRC's story promoting this heart screen and couldn't wait to come and get tested.

"I was like immediately, was like, 'Mom, I really want to go do this, just to make sure everything is top tier with my heart and my health," Alexis said.

"I'm so thankful they gave us this opportunity. I probably wouldn't have done anything like this had this not been available to us," Romano said. Altogether, 278 student-

athletes were tested.
Of those, medical profes

Of those, medical professionals reported that they found 11 teens with heart ab-

normalities that will require follow-up with a cardiologist.

Five of those had significant heart problems, and three of them were found to have serious heart problems. Additionally, two of them had heart problems that appeared to be critical.

All of those kids were immediately referred to get the help they need.



Walle & Democratic Legislators oppose TEA takeover of HISD



Rep. Armando Walle speaks against TEA takeover, with other legislators.

AUSTIN - After the TEA (Texas Education Commission) formally announced on Wednesday. March 15 that they planned on taking over control of Houston ISD and replacing its superintendent and installing a board of managers, Democratic Legislators led by Aldine's State Representative Armando Walle, Ron Reynolds and several others held a news conference to strongly oppose the move by TEA. Here is the statement that Walle issued:

"Neighbors,
Today, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) announced they are initiating its takeover of the Houston Independent School District (HISD) by appointing a Board of Managers to govern the school district in lieu of the elected HISD School Board.

"For context, TEA notified HISD of their intent to appoint a Board of Managers and new superintendent in 2019, citing Texas law that authorizes a state takeover once a district demonstrates an inability to improve student achievement over time at

low-performing campuses. In response, HISD immediately sought a temporary injunction to prevent the takeover. In January of 2023, the Texas Supreme Court vacated this injunction, and it was formally dissolved on March 1, 2023.

"This morning, State Representatives and Senators of the Harris County Delegation met with Commissioner Mike Morath of the Texas Education Agency to discuss the takeover. During the meeting, many Members — including myself — expressed our disappointment and anger over the decision.

"Make no mistake — I do not support the state takeover of HISD. I believe Texans deserve the right to democratically elect board members to run our neighborhood schools. I acknowledge there's been underperformance in the past at some specific campuses, which can largely be tied to severe underfunding. However, I have voted against proposals in the Legislature year after year that, unfortunately, ultimately passed and have led us to where we are now.

"I will continue to work with my colleagues in the Legislature to support proposals to prevent state takeovers of local ISDs. But those potential changes would be months away, and the HISD takeover is happening now.

"I pledge to work closely with our educators, administrators and the newly appointed Board of Members to support our community schools and ensure our students are receiving the best education possible

I will be a loud advocate for every HISD student and their families to set our neighborhood schools up for success as this takeover is implemented, and speed up the return of our elected ISD board members.

At the end of the day, this is about our kids.

If you have any questions or concerns about this issue, please reach out to my office."

Sincerely,

Representative Armando Walle

House District 140

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17-4140 Notice of Election (2/92) Prescribed by Secretary of State Sections 4.004, 83.010, 85.004, 85.007, V.T.C.A., Election Code

NOTICE OF GENERAL TRUSTEE ELECTION

To the Registered Voters of Barbers Hill ISD, Chambers County, Texas:

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on May 6, 2023, for voting in a general election, to elect two trustees for a full three-year term, electing one trustee each for positions designated as Places 3 and 4.

LOCATION OF POLLING PLACE:

Precincts 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17 and 18

Community Election Center, Entrance 32 Barbers Hill ISD 9650 Eagle Drive Mont Belvieu, Texas 77580

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at:

Barbers Hill ISD, Community Election Center, Entrance 32 9650 Eagle Drive, Mont Belvieu, Texas 77580

between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., beginning on April 24, 2023 and ending on May 2, 2023. On April 25 and May 2, 2022 early voting hours will be extended from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:

Barbers Hill ISD, c/o Lesa Hall P. O. Box 1108 Mont Belvieu, TX 77580 lesa.hall@bhisd.net 281-576-2221

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 25, 2023.

Issued this the 23rd day of January, 2023.

Eric Davis, President, Board of Trustees

AVISO DE ELECCION DE ADMINISTRADOR

A los votantes registrados del Barbers Hill ISD, Chambers County, Texas:

El aviso se da por este medio que los lugares de la interrogación enumerados abajo estarán abiertos de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m. el 6 de mayo de 2023 para votar en una elección general para elegir a dos administradores para un término de tres años completo, eligiendo a un administrador cada uno para las posiciones señaladas como lugares tres (3) y quatro (4).

Precintos Electorales del Candado de Chambers

Lugar de votación

Precintos 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17 y 18

Centro Electoral Comunitario, Entrada 32 Barbers Hill ISD 9650 Eagle Drive

Mont Belvieu, Texas 77580

La votación en adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en:

Barbers Hill ISD Centro Electoral Comunitario, Entrada 32 9650 Eagle Drive, Mont Belvieu, Texas 77580

entre las 7:30 de la mañana y las 4:30 de la tarde empezando el 24 de Abril de 2023 y terminando el 2 de Mayo de 2023. El 25 de Abril y 2 de Mayo 2023 horas de votación temprana se ampliará de 7:00 am a 7:00 pm.

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán enviarse a:

Barbers Hill ISD, c/o Lesa Hall P. O. Box 1108 Mont Belvieu, TX 77580 lesa.hall@bhisd.net 281-576-2221

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el 25 de Abril de 2023.

Emitada este día 23 de Enero, 2023.

Eric Davis, Presidente de la Junta de Síndicos

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property to be sold is Household items and etc

14-2T

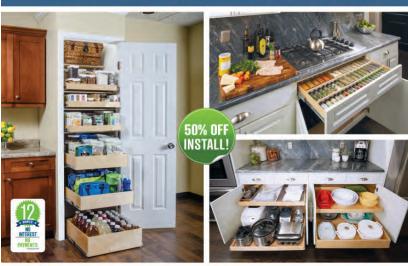
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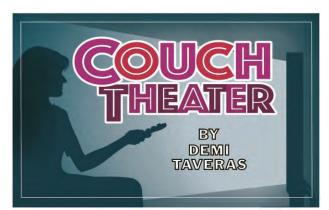
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Abbey Lee and Edgar Ramirez star in "Florida Man."

"The Last Thing He Told Me"

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"Florida Man" (TV-MA)

— Philly ex-cop Mike Val-

entine (Edgar Ramirez)

has lost everything in his

life to gambling. So, to pay

off all his debt, Mike be-

gins working for the gang-

ster he owes all his money

to ... which blurs more

girlfriend, Delly (who

Mike is also fond of), es-

capes to Florida, Mike is

forced to go retrieve her.

But he has only one con-

dition: All his debt is

cleared once he brings

Delly back. Reluctantly

returning to his seedy

home state, Mike at-

tempts to find Delly, but

he hits a few bumps in the

road that turn his quick

rescue into a chaotic, ac-

tion-packed series of

events.

When the gangster's

lines than one.

day. (AppleTV+)

"The Last Thing He Told Me" (TV-MA) — A new limited series premiering April 14 follows the story of a woman named Hannah, who is married to a man named Owen and has become stepmother to Owen's only daughter, Bailey.

One day, Hannah suddenly receives a letter from Owen that instructs her to protect Bailey; then Owen subsequently goes missing. Bailey reveals to Hannah that she was also left a note and a bag full of thousands of dollars, presumably from Owen.

From then on, the mother-and-daughter duo stop at nothing to find out the truth of his mysterious disappearance.

Jennifer Garner, Nikolaj Coster-Waldau ("Game of Thrones") and Angourie Rice (the "Spider-Man" trilogy) star in

This seven-episode crime show produced by Jason Bateman premieres April 13. (Netflix)

"Tiny Beautiful Things" (TV-MA) — In this new series based on the book of the same name by Cheryl Strayed, Kathryn Hahn ("Bad Moms") stars as Clare, a writer persuaded to start an advice column.

But Clare wonders ... can someone really give good advice while their life is falling apart? Her marriage is in a rough place, and her bond with her teenage daughter seems to challenge her more and more every day. But, once Clare begins writing and speaking to her audience as if they were the 22year-old version of herself, she finds powerful heal-

The first episode of "Tiny Beautiful Things" is out now. (Hulu)

"Grease: Rise of the Pink Ladies" (NR) — The original 1978 "Grease" film is one of the most iconic movies in history. "Grease 2" was released a few years later in 1982, but it did nowhere near as well as the first film.

So, will a prequel spinoff series pick up steam? Taking place four years before the events of the first film, this musical series follows four Rydell High students as they band together to create the all-female clique known as the Pink Ladies.

With tons of visually appealing musical numbers and teenage naivety, it does well to capture the charming essence of "Grease."

The first episode is out now. (Paramount+) (c) 2023 King Features Synd.,

by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD - Jane Fonda, 85, finally fulfilled her wish to be a warrior queen when she voiced the Warrior Queen of the Seven Seas in the computer-animated, coming-of-age fantasy "Ruby Gillman: Teenage Kraken," due June 30. She'll first hit movie screens May 12 in "Book Club: The Next Chapter," with Diane Keaton, Candice Bergen and Mary Steenburgen. Hopefully, it will be more successful than "80 for Brady," which, despite having the star power of Fonda, Lily Tomlin, Sally Field, Rita Moreno and Tom Brady, cost \$28 million and grossed just under \$40 million.

*** Twenty-three years ago, "Gladiator" won Oscars for Best Picture, Best Actor (Russell Crowe), Best Visual Effects, Best Sound and Best Costume Design. Now, director Ridley Scott, 85, is finally making his sequel. This time, it'll star Irish actor Paul Mescal (who received an Oscar nomination for Best Actor this year for "Aftersun") and "Banshees Of Inisherin" Best Supporting Actor nominee Barry Keoghan. (Keoghan's up next in "Saltburn," with Rosamund Pike, Jacob Elordi and Carey Mulligan.) Add Denzel Washington (up next in "The Equalizer 3," due Sept. 1) to the mix, which will reteam him with Scott, his "American Gangster" director. You can also expect a Gladiator-style series that is currently in the works, starring Anthony Hopkins, and also a reboot of Starz's "Spartacus" series.

*** Russell Crowe is back with a vengeance, with "The Pope's Exorcist" (due April 14), co-starring Franco Nero. Crowe also has "Kraven the Hunter," with Aaron Taylor-Johnson and Ariana DeBose due October 6, as well as two films still awaiting release dates - first is "The Georgetown Project," with Sam Worthington, David Hyde Pierce and Karen Gillan. The second film is "Sleeping Dogs," also with Gillan, who will star as Nebula in the upcoming "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3," releasing May 5.

*** Cheech & Chong were way ahead of their time when they made the pro-

> **ACROSS** raux pas

5 Spider's creation 8 Smith of Fox News

12 Wood strip 13 Hollywood's Gardner

14 Model

Banks

15 Twistable cookie "Wonder Woman" star 18 Reproductive cell 20 Old Geo models 21 Conceal, in a way 23 Zodiac cat 24 When a



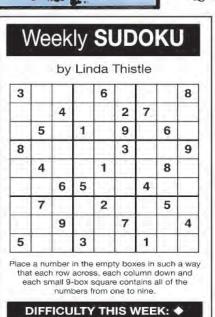
Jane Fonda

marijuana film "Up in Smoke" (1978) for a mere \$2 million, which grossed a whopping \$104 million. Now 76, Cheech Marin has made about 80 films and starred in many TV series, including "Nash Bridges" (1996-2001). Tommy Chong, now 84, has made 21 films and about a hundred TV appearances. But now, the comedy duo are the subjects of an upcoming biopic. What could be more timely?

*** Before winning an Oscar for Best Actress for "Everything Everywhere All at Once," Michelle Yeoh was already the busiest actress in Hollywood. June 9 brings just her voice in "Transformers: Rise of the Beasts," while Sept. 15 brings "A Haunting In Venice," with Kenneth Branagh, Jamie Dornan and Tina Fey. Yeoh's also lending her voice to "The Tiger's Apprentice" and starring as Madame Morrible in "Wicked: Part One," due November 2024, and "Wicked: Part Two," due in 2025. Not to mention, she's already filmed "Avatar 3," releasing December 2024, and "Avatar 4," releasing December 2026. Even before she won her Oscar, she was already yo-yoing between multiple movie sets! (c) 2023 King Features Synd.,

ENTERTAINMENT

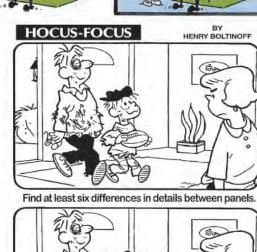




◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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26 in each foot.; 8. Wyoming.; 9. Gatorade.; 10. Eggplant. Francisco.; 7. More than half the bones are in the hands and feet, 27 in each hand and guage developed by twins that only the two children can understand.; 5. 2525.; 6. San 1. Josiah "Jed" Bartlet.; 2. Michigan.; 3. 20500-0001 and 20500-0002.; 4. A lan-

Weekly SUDOKU Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

April 10, 2023 Posting Date King Crossword

12 18 29 30 6 Ms. Longoria 30 Map lines

51 Roof overhang "Got it" 8 53 French article

28 Pvt.'s superi-54 Pitcher Nolan 55 Waller or 31 Historic peri-Domino

52

32 Open a tooth- 56 Inlet 57 paste tube Transmit 34 Consume 35 Beige

5 6 2 3 8 4

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Answer

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6 E L t 8 6 9 8 8

sporting event

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37 Floral wreaths 39 Mao - -tung

41 Coaster 42 Three-note

chords 45 Doohickey

49 Hood

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DOWN

Logan 3 Detail

"Friends" role 5 Betting parlor activity

2 News reporter 24

Trudge

Lip soother lowa and Maine, e.g.

Lightest element 10 Slangy suffix

11 Bits of butter 17 Solidify 19 Ballet wear

22 Community gym sites "Gosh!"

25 Lob's path 26 Strict taskmaster

27 Tea choice 29 Wee bit © 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

44 Ticket half 46 "Mercy Mercy Me" singer Marvin 47 Novelist Hunter 48 Look after

50 Disney deer

(Abbr.)

36 Applications

38 Venomous

snakes 40 Mag. staff

42 End-of-wk.

crv

43 Tabula -

33 Entreaty

Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: What is the name of the president in the drama "West Wing"?

2. GEOGRAPHY: Which U.S. state shares the same name as one of the Great Lakes? 3. U.S. PRESIDENTS: What are the ZIP codes

assigned to the president and first lady? 4. LANGUAGE: What is cryptophasia?

5. MOVIES: What is the number on top of the bus in the movie "Speed"? 6. LITERATURE: What is the setting for Dashiell Hammett's novel "The Maltese Fal-

con"? 7. ANATOMY: Which two parts of the human

body contain the most bones? 8. U.S. STATES: In which state would you find

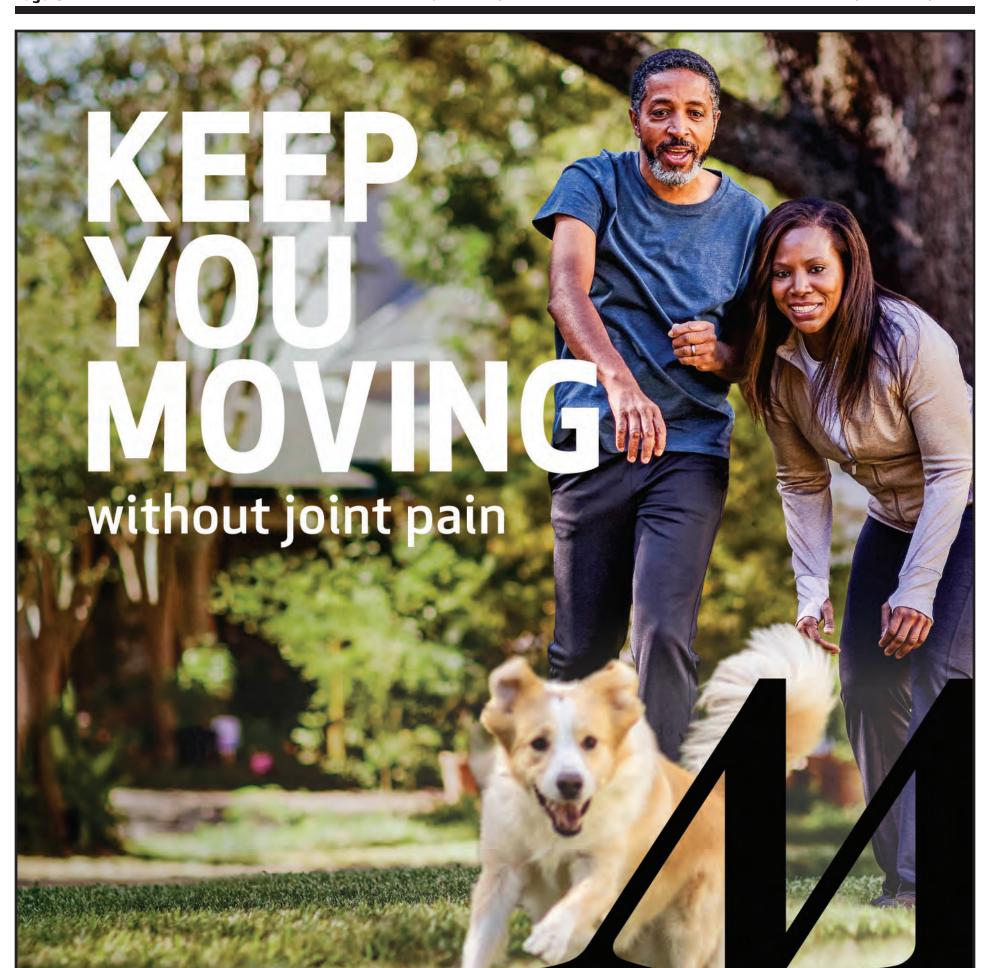
the Grand Teton National Park? 9. AD SLOGANS: Which popular product uses

the slogan, "Is it in you?"?

10. FOOD & DRINK: What is the primary ingredient of baba ganoush?

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