

ON THE HUNT

Looking for a gift for that book lover in your life? Here are seven local bookstores in Austin to find the perfect tome.

AUSTIN360, E1



LANDMARK FOR SALE

Built around 1890, the Wilkins-Heath House was restored to its former glory in the early 2000s and is back on the market for $2.595 million.

BUSINESS, F1

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Are city's buses getting less safe?



Photos by Mikala Compton/Austin American-Statesman

CapMetro bus operator Tamara Easley, who was attacked with an unknown substance, says assaults have gone up.

Analysis finds sharp uptick in security-related calls even as ridership fell, CapMetro launched police force

By Meredith Roberts and Alex Driggars
STAFF WRITERS

Tamara Easley had been driving buses for Capital Metro for a little more than a year when a late January assault sent her to the hospital.

Easley said the attack occurred after she asked a woman on board to stop vaping. The woman then doused Easley with an unknown liquid that caused her eyes to burn and skin to peel.

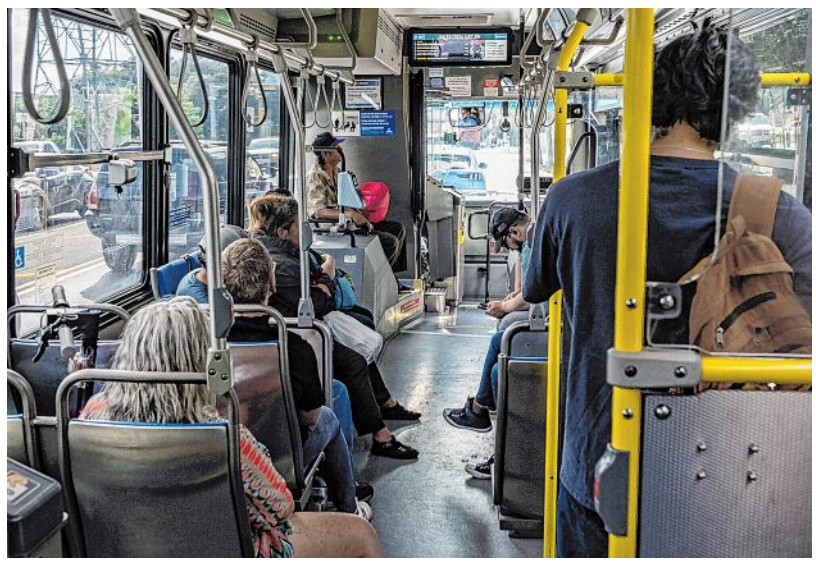
Doctors later identified the substance as antifreeze.

"Within the next two or three days, my skin started scarring up and peeling off," she said. "I started losing vision in my eyes. I was out on workers' comp for maybe six weeks."

Easley said the assault was one of at least five she has experienced since she began driving for CapMetro in 2024. Two required medical care.

When an assault or other se-

Buses continues on A17



People ride a CapMetro bus in June. From April 2022 through August 2026, dispatchers logged more than 31,500 security-related calls.

"It does look like the numbers are going up, but I think it's because we're having more reporting in the field and better response."

Darryl Jamail, the agency's senior director of public safety and emergency management



With the election victories of Gina Hinojosa and Xavier Becerra, Texas and California will have Latino Democratic governors for the first time ever.

Alliance may pose problems for Trump

Texas and California, both led by Dems, could team up

By Raheem Hosseini
STAFF WRITER

The same day he helped flip Texas blue by becoming its next attorney general, Nathan Johnson said something that resonated with California Attorney General Rob Bonta.

Johnson, a corporate litigator serving in the Texas Senate, told the Texas Tribune he would end his predecessor's practice of suing out-of-state abortion doctors with Texas patients.

In February, Attorney General Ken Paxton sued a California doctor who allegedly sent abortion pills to a woman impregnated by the man she said beat her. Paxton, who lost his U.S. Senate race to Democrat James Talarico, accused the doctor of violating Texas bans on most abortions and all medication abortion, laws that antiabortion states have enacted as they seek a Supreme Court reckoning with states such as California, where abortion is legal for physicians to practice and patients to obtain.

Alliance continues on A6

Nationalists see GOP losses as opportunity

By Jesse Bedayn
ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRVING — Christian nationalists once celebrated President Donald Trump's return to the White House as a victory for their movement. Now they see the Republican Party's recent election losses as an opportunity to supplant his "Make America Great Again" movement with their extremist vision.

Many gathered in Texas this month for a three-day conference where Nick Fuentes, an avowed white nationalist, was the surprise special guest. The way he sees it, the midterms effectively dethroned Trump as the party's leader.

Movement continues on A9

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